

Indoor Gardening



By KATHERINE B. WALKER
 Begonias have always been among our most prized plants. Ranging in size from miniatures that can grow comfortably in an egg-cup to veritable giants that attain five feet or more in height, there is a begonia to fit every preference and every purse. In fact, there are so many different begonias available that to select only a few from any list becomes a major chore!

Porous Potting Soil
 For best results, give begonias a good porous potting soil. You can start with equal parts of soil, peatmoss and sand, then adjust the mixture if need be until you end up with a soil that is slightly acid, very loose, and which will drain rapidly, yet retain enough moisture for the plants' fine roots. Water only when the top soil is dry, but provide extra humidity if the plants continually drop their old leaves while forming new ones. Give begonias enough light and sun so that their stems are compact and sturdy, not lanky and leaning toward the light source. Above all, give begonias good air circulation and as much fresh air as is reasonable. If plant food is used, be sparing with it, and remember that since the plants prefer a slightly acid soil, they must have an acid-type plant food.

Begonias are usually divided into four classifications. The fibrous-rooted begonias include

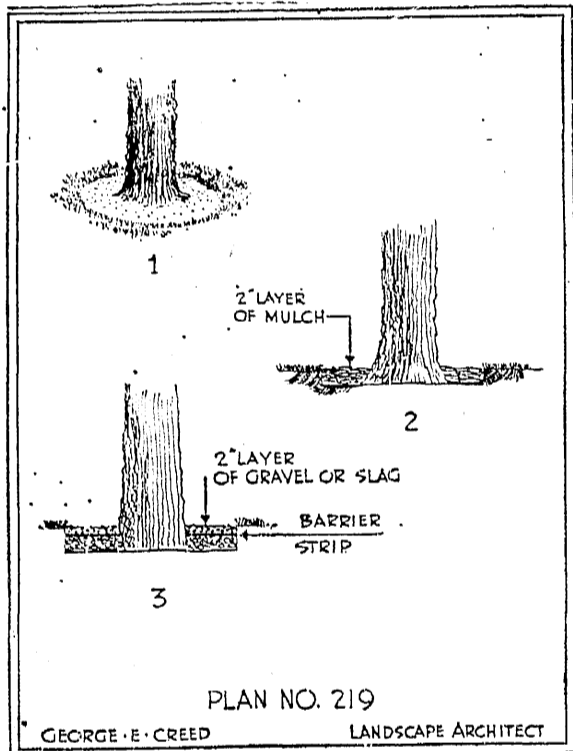
the "wax" or semperflorens begonias, "angel wing" or crane-stemmed begonias, and some "odd ones" that don't fit very well into any other classifications. The rhizomatous begonias include those with horizontal as well as vertical rhizomes. Rex begonias, also rhizomatous, are all fancy hybrids and thus are given a separate classification from the other rhizomatous types. Tuberos-rooted begonias include both summer blooming and winter blooming plants, plus some unusual and rare species.

For use in the indoor garden, the fibrous-rooted and the rhizomatous types, including the Rexes, are most suitable. If the local selection of begonias is limited, as is often the case, do send for our Source Sheet, then write to No. 13 for their catalog. Making your selection from the five pages of begonias they list won't be easy, but guarantee it will be fun!

The Indoor Gardening numbered source sheet is available without charge. For your copy write to Katherine B. Walker, in care of The Springfield Republican, enclosing a long stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Mrs. Walker welcomes reader mail. Just address her in care of The Springfield Republican, Springfield, Mass. Be sure to include your name and address.

It's Your Landscape



By GEORGE E. CREED
 Considerable damage is done to trees by lawn mowers. In attempting to cut grass close to the trunk in order to avoid hand trimming, it is easy to strip bark and otherwise injure the tree. Such injuries become vulnerable to attack by disease if they are not promptly and properly treated.

Save Hand Clipping
 One way to avoid damage to trees and also to save yourself the trouble of hand clipping is to cut the sod in a neat circle around their bases and then keep this area free from growth. Sketch No. 1 illustrates how this is done.

Another way is to follow the details suggested in sketch 2 and then, instead of leaving the ground barren, to cover it with mulch such as straw, wood chips, ground corn cobs, or ground sugar cane. This will effectively control the spread of grass or weeds in the barren area. (Shown in Sketch No. 2.) A still more permanent and more satisfactory way is to excavate to a depth of two inches and to cut a collar from roofing paper, or better still, thin plastic sheeting that fits the area you have stripped and fill over this with slag or gravel. With the plastic acting as a barrier, you will have no growth in the gravel. If you have small children, it is a good idea to use fine slag or gravel more than 1/2 inch in diameter. If you use larger gravel

than this, it becomes throwing size and will probably soon disappear. Sketch No. 3 shows how the collar and gravel are put in place.

One word of caution: If the tree you want to ring is shallow rooted or has large surface roots extending out from the base, follow the methods suggested in Sketches No. 1 or No. 2 and limit your excavation to a minimum.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
 Q. What is the best time of year to plant tulips?
 A. If there is a "best" time, it would probably be in October. It has been demonstrated that the later you plant tulips the shorter their stems will be.

Q. How long does it take a peony to bloom after it has been transplanted?
 A. Usually from two to four years.

Mr. Creed welcomes reader mail. Just address him in care of The Springfield Republican, Springfield, Mass. Be sure to include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Essays On Race
 BALTIMORE, Md. (AP)—"What is Racism Doing to America Today?" That is the topic for a nation-wide essay contest, with scholarship awards, being sponsored by the Josephite Missionary Fathers here. It is open to students in all Catholic high schools.

Educational Radio Network Serves Valley as Cooperative Endeavor

Four Colleges Linked in Operation With TV As Goal

By FOSTER L. SPENCER
 An educational radio station which experienced a long term of growing pains is now reaching maturity in this area. Radio station WFCR-FM began full-scale broadcasting last May from its huge transmitter at Mount Lincoln in Pelham as the first step in a long-range program which will eventually bring educational television into Western New England.

Cooperative Endeavor
 WFCR (four-college radio) is a cooperative endeavor of Amherst, Mount Holyoke and Smith Colleges and University of Massachusetts which broadcasts daily, Monday through Saturday, over 88.5 mc. Programs, both educational and cultural, are made available to listeners over a 75-mile radius of Pelham and even further under given conditions.

According to Horace W. Hewlett, secretary of Amherst College and president of the Western Mass. Broadcasting Council, Inc., the station relies chiefly on WGBH-FM in Boston for most of its programming right now. This is due principally to the fact that there are no originating broadcasting studios for the Western Mass. station yet.

However, WFCR does some programming of concert music and lectures. These are all previously recorded on tape and can be heard on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 1 to 4 p. m.

The history of the educational radio station goes back to 1953 when the Western Mass. Educational TV Council, Inc. was formed. This body consisted of people from all over the western sector of the state who banded together in hopes of bringing educational TV to the valley.

As time went on, it was found that television equipment was too expensive. This endeavor then was abandoned. In 1957, representatives of the four colleges (which were just beginning their broad cooperative program) got together with the council and contributed funds for an FM radio station.

The council entered an agreement in 1958 with the Springfield School System and operated at Trade High School radio station WEEB. This station picked up programs from WGBH in Boston and had some programs originating from Trade High. It lasted more than a year.

Industrial interference with broadcasting, plus the fact that the station was fairly low-powered caused this plan to be abandoned mutually by the council and the Springfield School System. It was at this time that the Western Mass. Broadcasting Council was founded.

Under re-organization, Amherst, Mount Holyoke and Smith Colleges agreed to contribute funds to buy and install a transmitter and necessary equipment to initiate a large, educational radio station, University of Massachusetts, which is unable to contribute funds without legislative approval, did its part in the foundation of the station by contributing land on Mount Lincoln in Pelham. The university also agreed to maintain the site and the roads leading to it.

Ideal Location
 According to Mr. Hewlett, the Mount Lincoln site is ideal. It is the highest in the area and makes it possible for programs to be heard in such faraway places as northern Vermont and as far south as New Jersey.

Programs now largely originate from WGBH, Boston, which hold the license to WFCR. Hewlett stated that the reason Boston held the license to the Western Mass. station was contingent upon the location of broadcasting studios in this section. Hopefully, WFCR will have studios in the near future.

The general public can hear educational courses, lectures on current events and even news and musical programs. According to Hewlett, one of the most popular shows which originates from Boston in the evening news report at 6:30 by Louis M.



Gilbert Mottla, seated, and Horace W. Hewlett of the Western Massachusetts Broadcasting Council look over some of the equipment of the council's station, WFCR, at Mount Lincoln in Pelham. WFCR is an educational radio station which operates on 88.5 mc over FM. The radio station is a cooperative endeavor of Amherst College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and University of Massachusetts.

Lyons, well-known journalist and news analyst who is curator of the Nieman Fellows at Harvard.

Local programming has been necessarily restricted to date, but recently, WFCR carried poet Robert Frost's address at the University of Massachusetts live for all stations on the growing Educational Radio Network. This was done by using facilities of UMass FM radio station and transmitting it to the very powerful 24,400-watt WFCR transmitter.

Closed-Circuit Radio
 Just recently, the council received permission from the Federal Communication Commission to experiment with multiplexing equipment which, in effect, is closed circuit radio. This equipment allows simultaneous broadcasting. That is, for instance, a Harvard professor could be "piped" into an Amherst College classroom without interrupting scheduled broadcasting. According to Mr. Hewlett, under the above conditions, students could converse with the professor as they would on a telephone hook-up.

There are many variations to this multiplexing process. For instance, all the stations on Educational Radio Network could tune in a lecture from Harvard for one of their classes. That is, students from perhaps eight colleges could listen to the same lecture.

Educational Radio Network is a group of stations who have banded together to provide a vital link which will soon unite the entire northeastern United States by radio. At present, members of ERN include WGBH, Boston; WFCR, Amherst; WRVR, New York City; WAMC, Albany; WHYI, Philadelphia; and WAMU in Washington, D. C. "All we need now is a station in Central Connecticut to make this link continuous," Mr. Hewlett explained. "Presently, it is too big a jump from Amherst or Boston to New York City. A transmitter in Central Connecticut will unite the entire northeast. And later, if we can get a station in Central Pennsylvania, we would be open to hook-up with the Midwest which is already building a vast network. Our future is unlimited."

Program coordinator for WFCR is Prof. Vincent Brann of Smith College and Francis Dresser of Goshen is engineer. Officers of the council include,

Your Health

Glaucoma Most Dangerous Of Major Eye Diseases

By DR. EOLINE C. DUBOIS
 Due to the increasing number of elderly people, the changes which age invites, and which progress from lack of treatment, serious eye defects and blindness are a major sociological problem. The most prevalent disease which threatens the sight and is in fact responsible for 20 per cent of all cases of blindness in this country and 50 per cent of the blindness occurring in adults, is glaucoma. This is the most treacherous of eye diseases curable, if discovered early, hopeless, if early warning signs are ignored.

Slight Symptoms
 The symptoms in the beginning are not significant of any serious condition, perhaps a slight redness of the eyeball or a slight accompanying blur or after a movie and seeing colored rings around the street lights; stronger and stronger glasses are resorted to.

After a few hours these symptoms may have entirely disappeared and the eye feel perfectly normal. In the course of days, weeks or months the symptoms recur and again disappear without causing any undue anxiety until finally there is a noticeable dimness of vision. This chronic form of glaucoma builds up slowly and with succeeding episodes of blurred vision after getting up or after a movie and seeing colored rings around the street lights; stronger and stronger glasses are resorted to.

There is an acute type of glaucoma which may follow the first symptoms of redness and blurring, characterized by excruciating pain in the eye and over the face and head. Immediate treatment must be given for delay of even a few hours means irretrievable loss of sight whereas an immediate operation relieves the pain and saves the sight.

The cause of pain and inflammation, no matter how slight, is a sudden increase of the eye fluid which has entered through normal channels but finds its way of escape blocked by narrowing of the normal exit. In chronic cases, the gradual accumulation of excess fluid little by little, compresses the nerve fibres of the retina and shuts off side vision, but not until the direct view is clouded is the patient aware of how little sight remains.

In early cases discovered by an eye specialist, if there are adhesions which block the escape of fluid, medical treatment is of value, otherwise surgery is necessary. Drops are given for the purpose of contracting the pupil and keeping the outflow canal open. These must be frequent visits to the doctor to note progress are also necessary, but as long as the drops keep the pressure within the eye at normal limits (about 20 millimeters of mercury), no further loss in the visual field will occur. There is no way of knowing how efficacious the drops will be without regular

visits to the eye specialist, since it may be necessary to increase or change the medication. If the case is one that lends itself to surgery in the hands of an expert and the blocked angle can be permanently opened by a simple operation, this is the treatment of choice.

Whatever the treatment decided upon, it cannot restore damage that has already taken place, though it should preserve whatever vision remains. The early diagnosis of this disease is possible only by a registered physician who specializes in diseases of the eye who tests the fields of vision, takes a place, though it should preserve with a tonometer, looks for structural defects and examines the optic nerve. By consulting this specialist routinely after one is 65, or whenever there is pain, redness of the eyes or clouding of vision, the catastrophic results of creeping glaucoma can be prevented.

ARCHITECTURE KEY TO JAPAN GROWTH

HONOLULU (AP)—Architecture is playing a leading role in Japan's social passage "from feudalism to industrialization," an American architect believes. Antonin Raymond, who first went to Japan in 1919 to assist the late Frank Lloyd Wright in designing Tokyo's Imperial Hotel, told a conference of architects in Honolulu:—

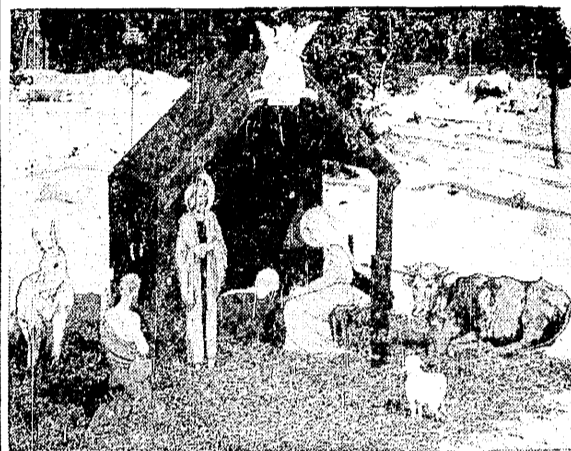
"Structures in Japan are huge today. The architects who design these buildings seem to be carried away by a vision of permanence, solidity, power and enormity of scale as an end in itself.

"They have opened the door for a number of social changes in Japan and have helped bring the country into the industrial age."

Raymond has designed a number of buildings in Tokyo, including the U. S. Embassy, St. Luke's Hospital, Women's Christian College, St. Anselm's Church and Gunman Music Hall.

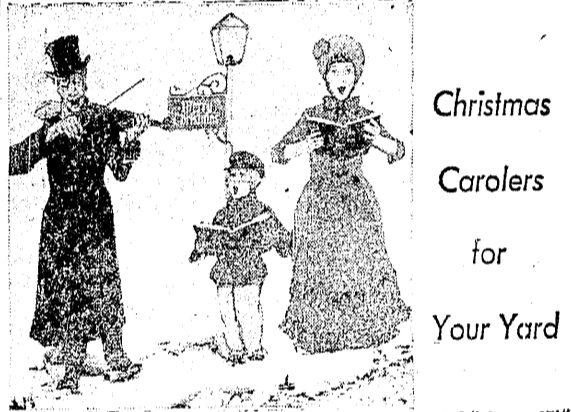
Since the end of World War II Dallas has constructed more office buildings than any other United States city except New York.

Craft Patterns



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* In response to many requests, we have added a cow to the characters available for our Nativity Scene. She is 19" high and 9 1/2" long, printed in life-like brown with black shading. Add her to your Nativity Scene, or, if you do not already have the other figures, you can start a scene this year and add to it annually. Mary, Joseph, the Christ Child, shepherd and lamb are on Craft Pattern 1226. The three wisemen, a lamb and stable details are on Pattern 1227. Order Pattern 1245 for the camel, 1246 for the donkey, #6 for an extra lamb, #7 for an extra sheep, 1248 for the angel, 1249 for "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" banner, and Craft Pattern 1242 for the cow.

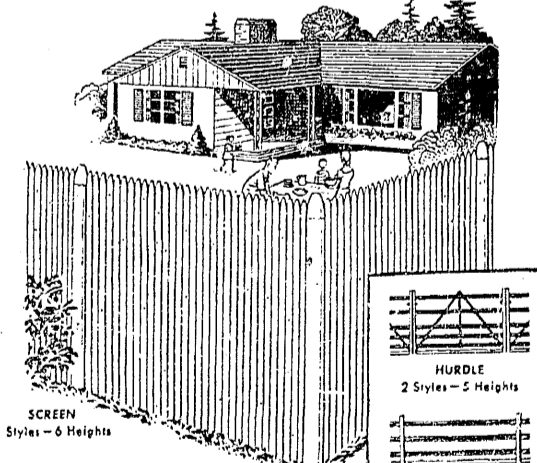


Christmas Carolers for Your Yard

* You will want this colorful group of carolers upon your lawn to greet your friends this holiday season. It is so easy to make them with Craft Pattern 1222.

Send \$2 for No. 1222, 75 cents for No. 1242, 50 cents for No. 1248, \$2 for No. 1226, \$1.25 for No. 1245, 50 cents for No. 1249, \$2 for 1227, 75 cents for No. 1246, 35 cents for No. 6 and 35 cents for No. 7. Enclose a four-cent stamp for brochure of Christmas decorations projects; 35 cents for "Home Ideas," an illustrated catalog of over 900 patterns and add 45 cents for special delivery for fast mail service to The Springfield Republican, Craft Patterns, Elmhurst, Ill. Be sure to include your name and address.

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Shop for Your Christmas Tree, Plant It Now

The earliest Christmas shoppers should be those who want to establish their own living Christmas tree this season. The best time to shop for the tree—and plant it—is now.

Usually, the desire to embellish the outdoor decor with a living, lighted tree during the Christmas festivities flourishes and wanes in mid-December unless promptly acted upon, warns C. M. Serpe, field representative of the Davey Tree Expert Co.

Spruces, firs and many of the pines possess the spike-like form generally preferred. But such trees become too large for many home lots. For rather small properties such landscape assets as the upright larch, some of the junipers, as well as certain kinds of sheared hemlock or American holly will work out well.

Snagging the right greenery is only part of the job. The rest is in the planting—which means digging a very special kind of hole. This hole should be deep enough to accommodate the burlap-wrapped earth ball and wide enough to give a one-foot leeway around the ball. This will allow for adequate root development.

Heavy clay or compacted subsoil will require even more precise ground work. Pits must be dug deeper and bottoms filled with layers of combined top soil and peat moss. While filling the hole, let water trickle from the hose. Purpose is to wash in the soil and eliminate air pockets that may dry out the roots. Good drainage is the key to success and this may require the use of drain tile.

To give the outdoors a happy glow ahead, plant your living Christmas tree now.

MAYOR PAYS FINE AS TICKET FIXER

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—Mayor Dominick J. DeLuca has a system for fixing parking tickets for other people—he pays them himself. He tells people at every state and national convention he addresses that he'll take care of any tickets they get in Hartford. He says he sympathizes with their parking problems. He figures the policy has cost him more than \$140 since he put it into effect last January.

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Informative Programs

A diversified and informative schedule of programs is offered over the non-commercial, non-profit educational radio station, WFCR in Amherst.

For the music lover: Daily recordings, Monday through Saturday, of great masterpieces. Also, frequent live recordings of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the New England Conservatory of Music.

For the jazz buff: Jazz with Fr. O'Connor 7:30 Friday evenings and Fr. O'Connor's Jazz Anthology at 7 on Saturday evenings.

For the lover of literature: Lectures by such eminent writers as Archibald MacLeish and Robert Frost. Discussions and lectures on great authors from Leo Tolstoy to Sinclair Lewis are also offered from time to time.

For doctors: A special seminar in modern medical practices each Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at noon from Albany, N. Y., Medical Center.

For historians: A host of interesting and incisive lectures on incidents of history.

For those interested in current events: Direct hook-up with the United Nations during important sessions and the evening news reports, Monday through Friday at 6:30 p. m., with Louis M. Lyons, distinguished news analyst.

For the devotees of art or philosophy: Lectures and discussions scheduled each day.

For the sociologist: Special programs dealing with social problems facing the United States and the world.

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