

Foliage Plants Last for Months in Heated Homes

They Endure Even Super-Heated Apartments and Need Little Care, Say Cultivators.

Modern fashion in decoration places greater stress than ever upon the effective use of plants in the home. In rooms which have walls of a solid tone, the graceful leaves of a foliage plant stand out in delightful contrast. No decoration in the winter home will more delight the eye and uplift the spirits than a living plant.

Foliage plants will serve well to dress the decorative pot stands and containers which should be filled throughout the winter. They will provide perfect backgrounds for the flowering plants which may be enjoyed from time to time during the winter. The foliage plants are more lasting and may be much larger. Florists have developed a large variety of plants with remarkable endurance, capable of enduring the atmosphere even of superheated houses and apartments, with very little care.

The dracaena family provides three handsome foliage plants of varying size and appearance. The commonest is sanderiana, with its upright growth and yellow-edged leaves. Its graceful leaves arch in a perfect half circle from the stiff stem. This plant grows no higher than 12 to 18 inches. The massangeana type grows taller and must be reported as it increases

in size. The same general appearance with the exception of a strip of yellow running through the center of the leaves is evident. The fragrans type has solid colored green leaves. The three dracaenas are oftentimes called corn plants because of their resemblance to field corn.

An unusual foliage plant is the aurocaria excelsa, or dwarf Norfolk highland pine. It has everything of the forest pine except the fragrance. Give it plenty of room to display itself. It wants to be transplanted often as it grows in size. Although a healthy, hardy looking pine, it cannot stand outdoor life in most communities.

There are a variety of rubber plants and fall is a fine time to start one. They have extremely long life indoors if reasonable care is given them, and have become traditions in some families where a whole generation has grown up during its lifetime. They have thick, glossy leaves which need to be washed occasionally. Keep the soil moist, but not wet.

It is difficult to keep the many leaves of the fern all in health, so the large types are often unsightly. Some of the smaller table ferns can be kept with ease and are very attractive.

The pothos aurea has a gold-dotted, heart-shaped leaf which is very attractive. It is sometimes called the variegated philodendron, but is not so fast growing. There are of course many philodendron plants this time of the year, and they are probably the most satisfactory of all vine plants indoors, as they are always presentable, and require little attention. The sansevieria is another standby, as are the many ivies.

Phone news items to No. 6.

TO HELP BALANCE BUDGET

Washington.—Pledges of co-operation with President Roosevelt in efforts to balance the budget came from many members of the senate and house as they digested the estimates of income and outgo for the 1928 fiscal year.

Asserting that "congress has the courage of the president's convictions," Senator Ashurst (d., Ariz.) predicted that "the senate will go along with him 100 percent." "Serious question" that the budget could be balanced was expressed, however, by Senator Bone (d., Wash.), who said that "the one reasonable hope for a balance is for industry to re-employ those men now out of work." Speaker Bankhead said the budget "speaks for itself."

Representative Taber (r., N. Y.), ranking member of the house appropriations committee commented: "He has given us a third promise of a balanced budget. I propose to do everything possible to hold him to that promise." Representative Snell, the republican floorleader, declined to discuss the estimates, saying he wished to study them first.

SAY HAVE GIVEN UP HOPE

Vatican City.—Pope Pius is making "progressive improvement," an official bulletin said, but a reliable source declared his physician had given up hope of curing his fundamental illness. The physician, Dr. Amintore Milani, is concentrating on "symptomatic cures" for local manifestations of the holy father's heart disease and hardening of the arteries, and is seeking mainly to reduce the pontiff's suffering as much as possible, this person asserted.

Move for Better Livestock Aided by Experiments

Research Results Described in the Annual Report of Dr. John Mohler, Chief of Bureau

External appearance of animals in livestock judging has some value as a basis of selection, but research by the bureau of animal industry, department of agriculture, has indicated more accurate ways of selecting breeding stock. In his latest annual report, Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of the bureau, formerly of Kansas, describes many lines of experimental work contributing to the improvement and health of livestock and the welfare of that industry.

In experiments with beef and dual purpose cattle, rapid gains in weight of steers were correlated with economic gains. There was a positive relationship also between economy of gain and grade of steers at time of slaughter. At market values prevailing at the time of the study, about 90 per cent of the profit resulted from the combined influences of economy of gain and of slaughter grade.

In breeding investigations with swine, outbred litters of Chester Whites fed according to the record of performance methods gained 10 per cent faster and required 6 per cent less feed to the hundred pounds of gain than inbred litters involving fifth and sixth generations of brother-sister matings. In experiments with Poland China and Duroc-Jersey pigs fed individually, the results revealed direct relationships between birth weight and rate and economy gains. Differences of 1 pound in weight at birth resulted in 0.1 pound more average daily gain in favor of the heavier pigs.

Poultry breeding is being placed on a more scientific basis than formerly thru the recently developed national poultry improvement plan. Records of production are an important feature of selective breeding under this plan which is capable of establishing superior flocks of poultry throughout the entire country within a few years.

In poultry feeding, evidence was obtained of the existence of a previously unrecognized nutritional factor which improved the hatchability of hens' eggs and which is relatively abundant in dried pork liver and green peas.

Livestock Health Safeguards

The federal-state campaigns carried on against Bang's disease made especially noteworthy progress. The effectiveness of tuberculin testing of cattle and the removal of reactors is shown in a decrease in condemnation of bovine carcasses as compared with former years. Cattle carcasses which failed to pass federal inspection in 1936 numbered 9,968 as compared with 28,225 in 1935. A reduction in tuberculosis was likewise observed in swine, though in less degree. These figures, the report points out, reflect progress in eradicating tuberculosis.

In the campaign against Bang's disease, agglutination blood tests were applied to approximately 6,600,000 cattle. Of this number, about 7 per cent were declared to be reactors. The corresponding number a year ago was 11 per cent. In both instances some retests were included.

Improved swine husbandry practices, resulting from research for control of parasites, have aided swine growers to get higher prices for their hogs. In the western drive against liver flukes in cattle and sheep, many wet and boggy pastures were drained to destroy the snail host of the fluke. As a further benefit many of the drained areas have been converted into more valuable pasture land.

Supervision of Marketing

The report records several noteworthy developments in administration of the packers and stockyards act. Three cases in which the secretary of agriculture had ordered reductions in stockyards charges and commission rates at Chicago and St. Joseph, were reviewed and upheld by the supreme court of the United States. Decrees entered in the lower courts directed the return to shippers of excess commissions and charges expected to exceed a million dollars. The supreme court decisions also upheld the procedure in determining reasonable stockyard charges, and established precedents in handling future cases. Congress amended the packers and stockyards act to include poultry marketing. This amendment provides for the licensing of persons engaged in rendering services or furnishing facilities in the marketing of live poultry in interstate commerce, in cities and places designated by the secretary of agriculture.

BITS OF HISTORY

Belleuve Gazette, Thursday, January 7, 1858:

"Emigration to the West"

"At no time, in the history of western emigration, were there so many eyes turned toward this great and glorious west, as at present. Not only the farmer in his quiet home, who has gathered the members of his household band around the hearth stone, and in these long winter evenings is debating whether he had better dispose of his worn-out lands, and push on towards the setting sun, where nature is more generous to the tiller of the soil,—filling his store house with the products of an exuberant land, but he who had met with a reverse of fortune, in the late financial crash, is now extending his vision out over the broad and fertile prairies of the west, which are offering homes to those of small means, where he can eat the bread of his own industry, and in a few short years can repair his broken fortune, enabling him to spend his declining days in affluence and luxury.

"In former years, before the productivity of the western prairies became generally known, those that were engaged in mercantile pursuits when a revolution in the monetary world caused their bankruptcy, became desponding, and often sought to drown their troubles in dissipation; and in a short time, many who once counted their gains by thousands, became daily patrons of the corner grocery, till at last they end a life of wretchedness, and find their last resting place in the potter's field. In late years, a relief is found in the cheap homes of the west. Instead of despair and dissipation, those that have been unfortunate, quietly pack up at the earliest moment, and with the courage of a true philosopher resolve to brave the storms of adversity, and go forth to the free and mighty west, where industry, virtue and integrity, are always crowned with success.

"We confidently believe, that Nebraska, holds out greater inducements to the settler than any portion of the west. At the present time, there is more cheap and fertile land, to be had at Government price, in Nebraska, than in any State or Territory bordering on the States, while its climate is rarely surpassed. In no part of the west can one enjoy better health than here. There are no marshes, so common in portions of Iowa, Illinois, and Wisconsin, to generate a noxious malaria, which is so destructive to human life. There are always a few diseases incident to a new country, often-times caused by negligence and dissipation; but as a general thing, those that are temperate and pay a proper regard to diet and cleanliness, are seldom attacked by any disease. Owing to an unprecedented rise in the Missouri last spring, which overflowed part of the adjoining bottoms, there has been quite a number of cases of ague here the past season; but not as many as often occur in many of the oldest western States. This is a fact admitted by all that are conversant with the different sections of the west. In a few years, we predict that Nebraska will be universally acknowledged to be the healthiest State in the Union.

The winters, as a general thing, are short and mild. The past two winters were very severe, as they were in fact, throughout the country; but at the present time, we are enjoying a soft and balmy atmosphere, that is more befitting the genial days of October, than that of almost mid-winter. We are informed by those that have spent upwards of ten years in Nebraska, that this is a fair average of the winters experienced here during that time. Surely, who can desire better?"

"The past summer was very warm. At one time in July, the mercury rose to 110 degrees in the shade; but notwithstanding, the nights are, hardly without an exception, cool and refreshing. So much so, that even quite thick bed-clothing is almost indispensable. Sleep under such circumstances, is indeed invigorating; bringing back, as it does, the deep and quiet sleep of childhood."

SICKNESS STILL CONTINUES

The epidemic of flu and colds that has prevailed here for the past two weeks seems to continue to grow, altho fortunately a large number are recovering and are able to resume their usual functions. The number of the cases have kept the members of the medical profession very busy trying to serve all those who are ill. The malady seems to be nation wide and in many press reports indicate that almost entire populations of smaller towns are gripped by the spread of the flu.

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New Navy Chief Takes Office



When Admiral William D. Leahy, right, new chief of naval operations, took over his position, the first to wish him well was his retiring chief, Admiral William H. Standley, left. This photo was taken in Washington as the navy's new commander was inducted.

CLUB NEWS

Parties have been the main features of the extension clubs during the past two weeks. Christmas and New Year celebrations often included the families of the members.

A New Year's eve party was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. David Rutherford. Cards were played. Paul Heil and Mrs. Earl Iske held high score. Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Kaffenberger held low score. At midnight the ladies of Eight Mile Willing Workers served an oyster supper.

The Christmas party of the Eight Mile Willing Workers was held December 29 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Kaffenberger. The appearance of Santa Claus with gifts for everyone was a feature of the social evening.

Mrs. J. B. Kaffenberger also entertained the club at its regular December meeting. Mrs. C. B. Newburn and Mrs. Ulrich served. The lesson on Decorative Objects One Can Make, was presented.

A Farmers Formal was given by the Pleasant Hill club for their husbands and families at the home of Mrs. George Rockenbach Tuesday evening, December 29. Card games, stunts and an exchange of gifts made the evening a merry one. Mrs. H. A. Rockenbach, social leader, appointed a committee composed of Mrs. Herbert Umland, Mrs. Henry Wulf, and Mrs. George Rackenbach to be in charge of entertainment.

River View club held their Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Harry Goyer. A Christmas program with a number of songs started the evening of entertainment. Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus came to distribute bags of candy and gifts to the children with a grab bag for the older folks. The remainder of the evening was spent in playing pinocle and dancing.

The December meeting of the club was held at the home of Mrs. F. G.

Hull with Mrs. Ben Hull assisting.

Avoca Woman's Club

Influence of the Bible was used as the topic of study in the Avoca Woman's club January 6. The program opened with ensemble singing of hymns. Panel discussions upon the influence of the Bible in art and music; in literature and drama; and in law and ethics was led by Mrs. Marion Sisco, Mrs. Albert Sill, Miss Ruth Ruge, and Mrs. Fred Marguardt. The women met at the home of Mrs. Martha Ruge.

WONT DROP THE NEEDY

Washington.—President Roosevelt gave direct assurance that no individual in need of relief will be dropped from works progress rolls and that any who have been eliminated will be reinstated. The assurance was contained in a letter to Representative Sirovich, (d., N. Y.), who had protested reductions on WPA projects, especially the four WPA arts programs.

"I have discussed that matter with Mr. Hopkins," the president wrote, "and I am advised that instructions have been issued that no persons are to be dropped from this program who are in need of relief at the present time and that any who may have been dropped prior to the issuance of this order will be reinstated."

"I believe that this policy will eliminate any difficulties which your constituents may have been experiencing."

CHILD WELFARE IS TOPIC

Omaha.—Child welfare will be the theme of a nine state conference to be held here Jan. 15 and 16 under sponsorship of the American Legion and allied organizations. The conference, which is open to the public, will bring together child welfare workers from Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Banner Year in Prospect for 4-H Clubs

Organization Devoted to Benefit of Rural Youth Plans Extended Program of Activities for 1937



Here are some representative boys and girls who as members of the 4-H club organization constitute the backbone of America's rural youth.

By CHARLES GRENHAM, International Illustrated News Feature Writer:

Sioux City, Iowa.—One of the major youth projects which the government will undertake this year will be the extension of the 4-H clubs throughout the United States.

Founded in 1899, this movement has grown steadily through the years until it now numbers more than one million members, whose clubs are located in some 50,000 farming communities thruout the United States, Alaska and Hawaii.

Despite the size of the organization, it still fails to reach thousands of youngsters in rural areas. Because of this, the government this year proposes to extend the organization to bring in as many as possible of the 11,000,000 boys and girls in rural districts who are not now club members.

Age limits for membership are 10 and 18, and the average length of active participation by a member is about three years.

National Show in Chicago Launched in Illinois just before the turn of the century as a means

of educating youth in modern agricultural methods, the plan was so successful that it was made a part of the department of agriculture program in 1914 under the Smith-Lever act. Through county extension agents, experimental stations, state colleges and departmental agents, active supervision over the various 4-H projects is maintained.

Highpoint of the year for 4-H clubbers is the annual national show at Chicago in conjunction with the International Livestock exhibit. At this time the state winners in the various 4-H club activities show their exhibits in competition for the national awards.

There are incalculable advantages to the work done by the 4-H club organization in addition to the practical benefits of instruction which members receive. Social and cultural affairs bring to many remote communities the only interests of that kind available. Through lectures and contacts with the outside world, the isolated boy and girl living in some backward district is made aware of a new and greater world.

Teamwork Primary Aim

Senior advisers attached to each club give the boys and girls practical advice and aid in their work as junior farmers. For the boys, this means instruction in raising poultry and livestock, improving the quality of seed, raising a garden in the most efficient manner and learning the approved methods of farming generally.

Of primary interest to the girl members is the field of home economics. Cooking, canning, sewing and home care are subjects in which they are instructed. This instruction is enlivened by the healthy competition, carried on on a local, county, state and national scale, spurring the members to do their best.

In all this work one of the primary principles stressed is the need and value of teamwork, following the objectives of the organization as stated in its pledge: "I pledge my HEAD to clear thinking, my HEART to greater loyalty, my HANDS to larger service and my HEALTH to better living for my club, my community and my country."