

MAKING HOME BEAUTIFUL

Suggestions for a Summer Setting of Lawns and Flowers.

NATURE'S COLORS REWARD INDUSTRIOUS

Pleasure and Comfort Secured at Trifling Expenditure of Money and Energy—What to Do and How to Do It.

If "Clothes Make the Man," as sartorial artists proclaim, how much more does the home surroundings proclaim the taste, skill and energy of the family.

The season for making a start in beautifying home surroundings is at hand and a few suggestions in that line will prove helpful.

L. C. Corbett, government horticulturist at Washington, responding to requests from civic improvement clubs for advice on lawn beautification, says: "Every device should be employed when working with small areas of ground to give the lawn as great extent as possible."

In general, because of the varied conditions of shade and moisture existing upon a lawn as the result of trees, shrubs and architectural objects, mixtures are more desirable than pure grasses. The different degrees of shade and moisture maintained in the soil, which result from the presence of trees, shrubs and buildings afford a variety of conditions under which a single species would not produce a uniform lawn.

"In procuring seed for establishing a lawn too great care cannot be exercised. Pure seed, of high germination, is of great importance in securing a good stand of grass. Pure seed in the hands of a dealer, however, provided the work of preparing the land has been efficiently done. Through preparation involves not merely the mechanical treatment of the soil to reduce it to a proper seedbed, but the use of weed-free manure and the adoption of a course of treatment designed to prevent the growth of weeds."

"Climbing Nasturtium. This variety of the nasturtium has come into much popularity during recent years and its popularity is merited. In raising plants much better progress can be made by starting the seeds in the garden early in the season when all danger of frost has passed and the weather has become steadily warm. They will do well, however, if sown in the garden where the plants are to remain. The seed should be sown early; that is, as soon as the ground is warm enough. The plants grow very rapidly in good soil and striking the ground occasionally with a hoe will greatly encourage them. If sown thickly in a line and given a string trellis to run on they will make a fine screen, showing a mass of brilliant colors. They also make excellent pot plants, and by starting plants at different times and proper management they may be had in bloom the year round. A heat of sixty degrees is sufficient, as too high a temperature is undesirable. Plenty of air is also one of the requisites for strong, healthy growth, for if kept close and in a high temperature the plants become drawn and poorer both in foliage and flower."

Plea for Garden Walls.

There are two ways of getting outdoor privacy at home. If your house is placed on a hillside, say the Atlantic Monthly, you may build a retaining wall, and so provide yourself with a terrace which lifts you above the surrounding country, but such roofless outdoor rooms will be few compared with those obtained by building a wall or planting a hedge on the level ground.

The mere mention of a wall disturbs the equilibrium of many Americans; one or two actual walls have stimulated the pen to action, and fears of the "revival of feudalism" have appeared to warn us that such treatment of our grounds would place us in a most precarious condition; but there is the hedge, and if the difference between mineral and vegetable matter will produce such a calamity as "feudalism," let us by all means keep to the vegetable and have the hedge.

If your hedge is properly planted, with the trees not more than one foot apart, your boundary will, in time, be almost as protecting as a wall. The evergreen is preferable, for then you may have a winter garden. Nothing can exceed in beauty the deep green hemlock.

The desire for a garden is too old, even though comparatively new in our country, to be called a fad. You can leave a part of your grounds open to the public gaze, and there indulge in a lawn and such flowers as will give education and pleasure, but if you want a garden to live in and enjoy, and not to show to the world as a rare exotic, the first thing to do is to enclose your space. The garden should be quite as personal an affair as the house.

Flowers Easily Grown by Amateur. The beginner should try to grow a few varieties of flowers and learn their habits thoroughly, for in thoroughness lies success. He should not construct a garden in fancy out of highly colored plates in a seed catalogue and expect to produce it in reality. But he should choose his plants with regard to the place he will grow them and study their needs carefully.

There is a wealth to choose from. For early spring flowers, for instance, there are bulbs of tulips, jonquils, narcissi, hyacinths, crocuses, snowdrops and squills. It is best to plant them in the fall, then, as soon as spring begins they begin to bloom and produce a surprising amount of color.

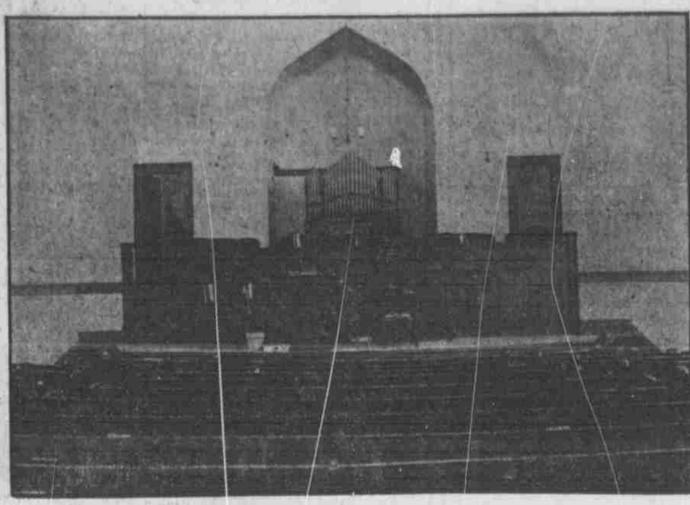
The crocuses, snowdrops and squills may be planted in the lawn and mowed down, for they flower very early and will continue to bloom for several years. Jonquils and narcissi may also be left in shrubbery or in grass where they are not cut, and they will bloom many years.

The bulbs may also be planted in the early spring. Few persons are acquainted with the merits of the gallardia, or blanket flower, which is a hard perennial and blooms in the summer in great profusion. It is about a foot high and has good stems for cutting. For an old-fashioned garden the new hybrids of French marigolds and annuus,

Beautiful New Dietz Memorial Methodist Church on South Tenth Street



EXTERIOR VIEW OF CHURCH DEDICATED LAST SUNDAY.



INTERIOR VIEW OF CHURCH.

larkspur and fringed petunias are beautiful and furnish a wealth of bloom for cutting.

Gardens of Annuals.

The National Council of Horticulture, through its press committee, discussing good plants for a garden of annuals, says: "There are places around many homes that look dark and vacant all summer, when at little expense they can be transformed into places beautiful to look upon. The easiest way to decorate these lone spots is by growing some of the easily cared for annuals from the seed."

"Of the tall-growing annual plants, the cosmos, nicotianas and cleome are among the most deservedly popular. The better way to plant these is between scattered shrubbery, although they can be used in beds. Cosmos blooms in the fall. It grows gracefully to the height of five feet, spreading out rich, green feathery foliage and bears an abundance of delicately colored single flowers on long stems. It is well suited for cutting. It may be planted close to some unsightly building or fence and will form an excellent screen. If trained against a support, the young growths should be pulled gently to the supporting piece of wood and fastened with short pieces of rubber or cloth."

"The nicotianas are useful in obtaining subtropical effects. Their rich foliage and numerous sweet-scented tuberos flowers are attractive because of their long green stems, reaching up to five feet high and bears great numbers of pure white flowers. Nicotiana glauca is three to four feet high, with rich carmine flowers. "Climbing pinks are useful between shrubbery along fences. Its flowers are attractive because of their long green stems, reaching up to five feet high and bears great numbers of pure white flowers. Nicotiana glauca is three to four feet high, with rich carmine flowers."

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Culture of Crimson Rambler.

If you have a Crimson Rambler which has not been doing well outdoors, try it as a pot plant for late winter or Easter blooming. Cut it back well in the spring, and grow it in a pot until the freezing time in the fall, then take it up and put it in a pot suitable to its size. Sink the pot to the brim in the garden, and about the holidays cut the canes back two feet, twining them in open form, and cover them with an empty mail bag. Six weeks before you want it to bloom bring into a warm room or conservatory where it will have sixty-five degrees at night, and water freely for the first week, after that only when needed. You will be surprised at the wealth of bloom you will get. Keep off the red spider by spraying.

RUSSIAN MONARCHISTS MEET

Declare Czar Has No Right to Surrender Powers Should He So Desire.

MOSCOW, April 21.—The congress of monarchists, which assembled here yesterday, was opened with a prayer by the Metropolitan Vladimir. The gathering was chiefly notable for a remarkable speech made by a priest, Father Vostorgoff, in which he declared that the emperor, even if willing to do so, had no right to abdicate his autocratic power, adding: "The true Russian people, who heretofore will be proud of the name of 'Black Hundreds,' cannot consent to it."

ST. PETERSBURG, April 21.—In reply to a message from the member of Parliament of Samaria province, protesting against the further infliction of the death penalty, Premier Witte has telegraphed that in order to secure the pacification of the country the daily round of murders committed by revolutionists must cease. Only then would the government be delivered of the necessity for administering the death penalty.

Stock Forgers Convicted.

NEW YORK, April 21.—Sentences were passed yesterday on three of the men convicted of forgery of the Norfolk & Western stock certificate awarded in hundreds of thousands of dollars was distributed. T. C. P. Culney was sentenced to five years and \$10,000 fine; Samuel J. Humphries to six years and \$10,000 fine; and Douglas E. Smith to one year. Sentence was deferred on Charles Augustus Selton, the fourth man convicted in this case. He was, however, given an eight-year sentence for grand larceny in connection with the promotion of the Houston & Galveston Interurban railway, a Texas corporation.

Humorous Side of Sam Davis' Life.

H. PERKINS, not Ell, has collected and prints in the April number of Success an entertaining bunch of stories about Sam Davis, insurance commissioner of Nevada, whose deft to the big insurance companies of New York earned for him the sobriquet, "The Sagebrush Ajax." Mr. Davis is a newspaper man first of all. Offhounding is incidental to the profession he adorns. He did considerable reportorial work in the Missouri valley towns in the early '70s and swapped condensations and copy with Dr. Miller when the Omaha Herald was "the only religious daily" in the great west. The doctor agrees with Ell that Davis is a man of great personal worth.

Mr. Perkins says, in part: "Mr. Davis was born in Branford, Conn., in 1850. He is, as was the late Matthew Stanley Quay and is the late E. H. Hartman, the son of an Episcopal clergyman. Early in life Mr. Davis manifested such a sensational leaning toward jocularity that he was led from a theological school by the ear. Subsequently he turned up at Racine university in the same class with Paul Morton, president of the Equitable. As editor of the college paper in Racine, Sam Davis got a taste for journalism, and moved from the university at the request of the faculty after editing three numbers. He went to Brownsville, Neb., where he took, by force, a reportorial position on the Democrat at 24 a week. The audacity of his attacks upon crooked politicians attracted the attention of Ed. Miller, publisher of the Omaha Herald. There was a fight on at Lincoln, from which the Herald's correspondent had been driven by a gang of infuriated corruptionists. Mr. Davis took the vacancy and went into the thick of it. He felt foul of a senator from Nebraska City who threatened to kill him if he did not retract certain statements by noon the next day. Mr. Davis wired to Nebraska City for a delegation of the irritated senator's constituents and repeated his charges to them, as soon as they arrived in Lincoln. They threatened a lynching unless the lawyer lived up to his platform pledges. Davis at once be-

came the best known legislative correspondent in the state, and went on the staff of the Lincoln Statesman, where he continued to stir up trouble. "A Paying Compromise. One afternoon a stranger dropped into the Statesman office, and with a bland smile informed Mr. Davis that he had been engaged by a local politician to punch his head. "How much are you charging him?" inquired Mr. Davis. "I've tapped his pocket for a hundred," was the reply. "Have you got it with you?" "I surely have," said the herring, preparing to remove his coat. "Ah!" exclaimed Mr. Davis, rising and extending his hand, "you are a man of discernment. I should like to go into partnership with you. A fight, at best, is always an uncertainty, and it is a good idea for us to split the purse. Give me fifty. I'll send a man down to your friend with the news that you came in here and beat me to a pulp; that'll satisfy your backer, and then, tomorrow morning, I'll print an item to the effect that a stranger waded in on the quiet of the Statesman and without rhyme or reason pounded a printer nearly to death. You can explain that you made a mistake, and let it go at that."

The partnership was effected and the program was carried out. Later Mr. Davis drifted to St. Louis, where he went to work on the Republican. In an effort to live on the river bottom he was admitted as a member of the Republican building and was discharged. His next move was in the direction of Chicago, where he applied for a position on the Times.

"Any credentials?" inquired the city editor. "None." "Where were you last employed?" "St. Louis Republican." "That'll do. Any man qualified to work on that sheet can't get a job here."

"But I was discharged inside of a week," observed Mr. Davis, as he was being escorted to the door. "The Open Letter." It described an engineer who took his train through a snowstorm in the Sierras, dying at his post.

From the Atlantic to the Pacific the poem was copied. "Binley and 46" was given a full page in "Leslie's Weekly," with a portrait of Bret Harte, and described as the "best short poem of the decade."

It was many years before Mr. Harte denied its authorship. The poem has since been incorporated in several books of popular recitations, notwithstanding Binley freezes to death beside a roaring locomotive with one hundred and fifty pounds of steam up and two cords of wood within reach.

Another famous joke from Sam Davis was a yarn about a Nevada boy who was supposed to have a telescopic eye. The particular charm about the youngster was his ability to fix his magnifying optic upon a haystack or a barn located at a distance of one mile and, by focusing the sun's rays in the retina of the said eye, produce a conflagration in the said haystack or barn with the same facility that one may make flame from a burning glass. Mr. Davis used his mythical incendiary in a speech in which the boy was made to devastate the farming districts because of his hatred for agricultural life. A sufficient air of verisimilitude was given the story by Mr. Davis to entice the San Francisco Academy of Science to indulge in some correspondence on the subject.

Jolly Time With Bernhard. In the '90s he went to Carson, Nev., and assumed the editorship of the Carson Appeal, which, before he went actively into state politics, was one of the most widely copied country papers in the United States. When Sarah Bernhard first passed through Nevada on her western tour the Examiner of San Francisco wired Davis to board the "divine Sarah's" train at Reno and escort her into California—also to get a good interview report. Mr. Davis made himself so agreeable to the entire company that Bernhard insisted that the "romantic monsignor of the press" be assigned by the Examiner to escort her through the mazes of western life. Mr. Davis turned San Francisco upside down for her entertainment, and even arranged a number of attractions to show her a sample of western activity under the stress of strong emotion. When the company left San Francisco, and farewells were being said, Bernhard walked up to Davis in the presence of the admiring throng and kissed him on either cheek and on the lips.

"On his cheeks," she exclaimed, with a naïveté of her head, "for the Examiner and the Appeal; on the lips for yourself."

Sam Davis, for the second time in his life, blushed, but recovered himself in time to remark that there were a lot more unromantic reports Mr. Davis represented, all of which would like to have him return to Nevada with similar tokens.

Some Famous Stories.

As a story-teller he is famous in the west. He has written a great many short stories, one of which, "The First Piano in Camp," is included in a recently prepared edition of "Classical American Humor." He hasn't the slightest objection to a joke on himself—in fact, he appears to like it. Several years ago, when he was spending more time in editing his newspaper than in running the politics of Nevada, an advertising agent wandered into the "Appeal" office and requested information concerning the rates. "What do you want to advertise?" inquired Davis. "A cure for the drink habit."

"Habitual intoxication?" "Yes," replied the advertiser; "I have a remedy that will positively cure drunkenness in its worst form." "Don't go any further. Sit right down here and sign this contract. I've got the medium you need. Every inebriate in town takes my paper."

"But do they read it?" asked the advertising man, anxiously. "Certainly they do. That's their only reason for staying intoxicated."

Mr. Davis is a man who has not lived in vain. He is married, has two daughters and gets all the peace out of life that is to be had on a comfortable farm two miles from the capital at Carson. He is not disposed to the strenuous life, nowadays, though some who know him best are of the opinion that his attitude toward insurance companies who confess the use of a corruption fund in politics is not especially friendly.

Making a Stir on the Coast.

From Chicago Mr. Davis drifted to California and at once became identified with the newspapers and magazines of San Francisco. He joked with everybody and wrote fiction and biography so true to life that much of it has gone into historical work subsequently published. Endowed with tremendous energy and considerable physical strength he was able to cope with any and all conditions of western society. When he was not writing for half the publications in San Francisco he was occupied with the schemes and enterprises that involved a capital several thousand times greater than he was able to lay his hands on. The only man who was able to separate his serious hopes from his practical jokes was Davis himself.

He once made a wager that he could successfully imitate the style of any living or dead poet and do it so thoroughly that the difference was not discernible; and that the public, the press and the critics would not detect the fraud. As a result he wrote "Binley and 46," to which he signed F. Bret Harte's name. The joke was put out in a publication known as "The Open Letter." It described an engineer who took his train through a snowstorm in the

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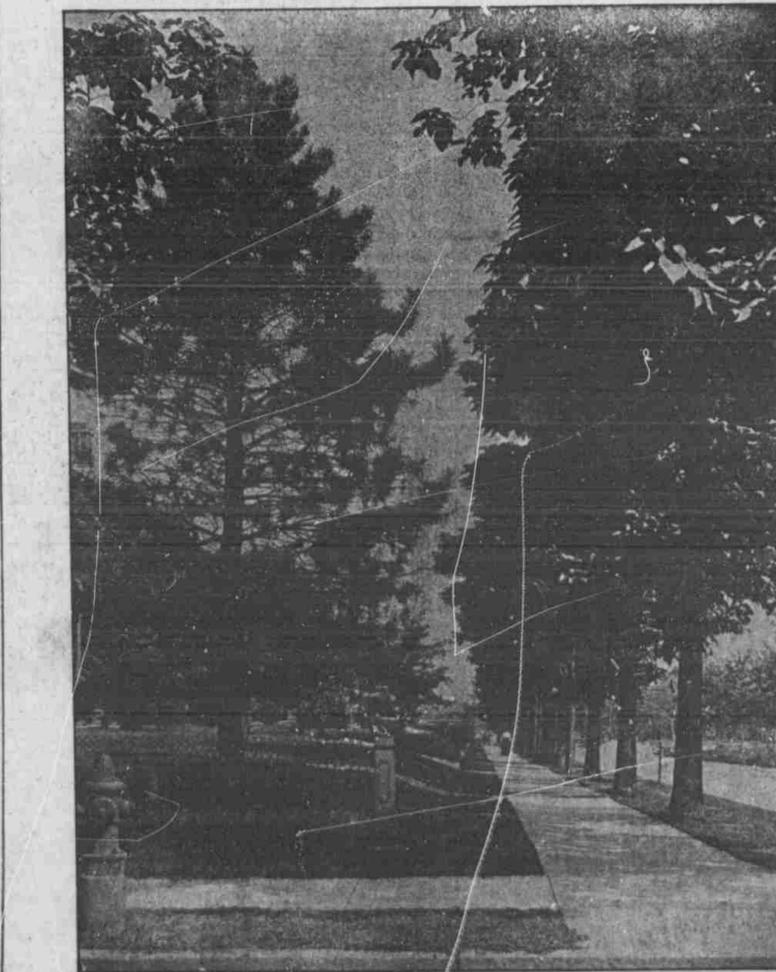
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A Tree-Planting Triumph in Omaha



ONE OF THE SHADY RESIDENCE STREETS OF OMAHA.

TIMELY REAL ESTATE TALK

Across Property Sales Give Interest to the Week Among Dealers.

NOT MUCH OF THIS CLASS ON MARKET

Desirable Parcels of Land Lying Out of Town Are Nearly All in Hands Where They Will Remain.

Were it not for the activity in acreage property, the week in the real estate world would have been comparatively quiet. As it was, however, two sales of acre land excited no little interest, for the movement indicated a growing demand for such property, which is getting scarcer every day. Realty men say there are few desirable pieces of land of any considerable size at a reasonable distance from the city and within a reasonable distance from the car line. They declare that such as is available is cheap at present prices and predict a substantial advance in the near future.

One of the pieces which changed hands was that of W. W. Morrison, a forty-acre tract just north of Krug's park, which went to Garvin Bros. and Hastings & Hayden. These real estate firms will cut the property into acre, half acre and city lots, and place it on the market this spring. The price paid was \$12,000, or \$300 an acre. This tract is on a county road and but a short distance from the Benson car line.

The other sale was one by Henry Rieck, of forty acres a half mile north of the park. It brought \$350 an acre. The name of the purchaser has not been announced, but it is understood to be a real estate firm, which will cut it up and put it on the market on the same plan as will be followed in disposing of the Morrison farm.

This makes 100 acres, taking into consideration the Brown farm, a short distance east of the park, which has been sold in the vicinity of Krug's park in the last two weeks. It will furnish homes for a large number of families.

Out in the vicinity of Elmwood park there is a lot of beautiful land which would make fine country homes, but it is too far from the car line for the ordinary business mortal. Only the man who can afford an automobile, or who has time to spend with horses, can live so far out. Harry Bush and George Payne have recently bought land there.

The highest price paid since 1887 for land a mile or more outside of the city limits was paid by Harry L. Busch for a part of the David Reed hestead on Dodge street, just north of Elmwood park. The deal for this piece was an acre, on Monday, for twenty thousand dollars for twenty-two and a fraction acres, or about \$500 an acre, was the price paid. David Reed has owned the farm for thirty or forty years. Only one instance has been recorded where such a price has been paid for property that far out. In 1878 the Elmhurst road bought about 20 acres west of Elmwood park at \$50 an acre. The report was that the road intended building shops or something of the kind on the land, but the report was never fulfilled.

Not long ago Lewis B. Reed sold twenty acres just east of the Reed home for \$8,000, or \$400 an acre, to George Payne. It is said Mr. Payne and others will divide the ground and build residences there.

"Has it occurred to you lately?" asked a member of the real estate fraternity, "that in spite of the activity in houses and lots, there is less property on the market than there has been for a long time? I venture to opine that there is not a man in the city who has a 'for sale' list as long as he had a year ago, or five years ago. It seems the better the times and the higher the price of real estate the less there is seeking market. The Omaha people who invested long ago and have not sold, have a right to be contented, for they will hold on now while the market is rising and in a year or two get a much better figure than they are offered now. Perhaps some of them have had their property listed for years and were ready to sell at any time. They are not so content when they come at their former asking price and more, but they have withdrawn from the market altogether. Many of them are so confident of a steady advance that they do not even look around to see what they can get at present. They are simply holding on."

"There is quite a demand for small store buildings in the suburbs," said a real estate man the other day. "A woman came to me this morning looking for a small building in which to locate a millinery shop and dry goods notion business. She had traveled about the city all the day before and had found nothing. I had to admit I had nothing for her unless she would take a dwelling house. She wanted to rent, not buy."

"Why is it people do not build more stores to rent?" she asked me. "From what I have seen, they must be much in demand."

"I told her it was for the reason that when the semblance of hard times come the people in suburban stores begin to flock on the rent and want to have it cut down. Again, when hard times come such places are the first ones vacated and the last ones filled."

"I do believe, though, that there is room for store buildings out in the suburbs and that they would pay if built two stories high with living rooms on the second floor. The rooms would always rent."

The dealers in real estate continue to turn over a piece of property now and then with a good profit. The Dodge syndicate, represented by Peter Jensen, Jr., has sold to Harry Marwitz the house and lot at the southeast corner of Twenty-fourth and Dodge streets. It was bought by the syndicate a month ago from the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance company for \$7,500. What the figure was in the recent transaction is not generally known, but the property has been placed on the market again at \$10,000.

Among the proposed residences which have been announced during the week is one for Mr. Billings, at Thirty-third and Harney streets. Mr. Billings bought a lot immediately west of the Nebraska Telephone company's new exchange from the Bryon Reed company, and will build on it a \$4,500 residence to accord in size and beauty with a number of others which the Reed company is building in the neighborhood.

Transfers above \$1,000 recorded for the week were: Mary E. Gibb to Flora Kahn, lot 4, block 2, Fidelity Place, \$4,000; Nellie Kirby to William Kirby, lots 2, 3, 11 and 12, Ames' addition, \$4,100; Franklin Realty

French Ships at Academy. Admiral Campton and Squadron Ready for the John Paul Jones Services. ANNAPOLIS, Md., April 21.—The French squadron, under command of Rear Admiral Campton, sent to participate in the Paul Jones commemorative services, arrived off the naval academy last night. The flagship Marseilles' big guns boomed out a salute of nineteen guns to Admiral Bands and this was returned by the naval academy shore batteries. The official visits will be exchanged this morning.

Lieutenant Grant for Royal Wedding. WASHINGTON, April 21.—First Lieutenant U. S. Grant, grandson of President Grant and military aide to President Roosevelt, has been detailed to represent the United States army at the nuptials of King Alfonso of Spain at Madrid in June next. The naval representative has not yet been designated.

Continued on Page Two.