



Healthy House Plants Last Many Months

Learn to Treat Them Like Humans and You Will Get Most Out of Them. They Need Moisture and Healthy Surroundings.

There is no better way to add a cheerful note to indoor decorations than with a few house plants. The fact that they are living, blooming and always changing makes them a constant interest to members of the family. There are so many types and sizes of these plants, and the florist handles them in so many attractive pots, that they can be procured for almost any situation from the living room all the way back to the kitchen, and the back door stoop.

Buying attractive plants, however, is one thing, and keeping them in trim and health is quite another. Many don't make much of an effort to preserve house plants once they buy them, knowing that new additions can be had for a small sum; but it will be found economical, as well as interesting, to know how to care for them, and receive their greatest amount of bloom and fragrance.

Plants indoors act very much like humans. If you leave them in a window where cold drafts are likely to sweep through, they will catch an ailment very similar to the cold, only it will probably prove more fatal. They are very conscious of the humidity, too, and a

temperature of 70 degrees is about right for them.

Sufficient moisture, and no more, is their most important need once you set them in a good situation in a pot of good soil, and it is this thing which is most often done incorrectly. Hap-hazard watering, whenever one happens to think of it, will invariably prove harmful, because it is bound to over water one time and cause dryness at another. A good method of determining when a plant needs water is to take the pot in hand and tap it with a piece of hard wood, such as a broom handle. If the sound is dull, there is sufficient moisture. If it has a hollow ring to it, add water.

How should you water plants, and how much water do they need? The second question cannot be answered completely without knowing the size of the pots, but if you will use the following method of watering you will not have to worry about it. Take your plant out of its ornamental pot, so that only the clay pot surrounds the soil. Set this in a tray of water which rises up about 2 inches on the pot. Let the plant set in it until the soil absorbs moisture

enough to wet the surface. Wash the plant leaves and stems with a spray of cold water to remove dust and dirt. When foliage and bloom are delicate and fragile, this is not always possible, but it is well to bathe the parts you can and help to open pores for the plant to breathe.

Apply plant food when plant needs nourishment by applying a teaspoonful of a complete type dissolved in water, or by spreading it around the stem. Don't let it touch any part of the plant.

MONROE NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Smith of Freble were the guests of Mr. S. Smith, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Meyers of Fort Wayne spent Sunday with Mrs. Meyers parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Crist.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Feifert of Indianapolis, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence McLean and Mr. and Mrs. Millard McLean of Decatur spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. William McLean.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smith of Fort Wayne spent Sunday with Mrs. Smith's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Bahner.

Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Osterman of Fort Wayne visited Mrs. Osterman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Fossinger, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Ehrsam and sons Harry and Lester of Fort Wayne spent Sunday at Indianapolis.

John Moore of Fort Wayne spent the week-end with his son, Jack and Mrs. Mary Tabler.

Old Bonanza to Reopen

Amador, Cal. — (UP)—The old Keystone gold mine, from which \$17,000,000 in gold has been taken since 1851, is to be reopened. The present high price of gold and new methods for extraction have caused the decision to work it over again.

COURT HOUSE

Demurrer Overruled

A demurrer filed by John H. Heller, Jessie G. Niblick, and Edgar Mutschler in the suit on official bond brought on the relation of Ralph E. Oren against Milton C. Werling and others was submitted and overruled. The defendants, John H. Heller, Jessie G. Niblick and Edgar Mutschler separately and severally excepted to the ruling.

Trial Date Set
The suit for collection of a note and foreclosure of a mortgage brought by the Federal Land Bank of Louisville, Kentucky, against Homer E. Smith and others has been set for trial on June 2.

The suit for the foreclosure of a mortgage and collection of a note brought by George A. Bell and others against Frank E. Rice and others has been set for trial on June 2.

Estate Cases

The final reort was filed in the estate of Elizabeth Werder. Notice was ordered returnable June 9.

A petition was filed by the executrix in the estate of Christina Schultz for an order to make improvement, submitted and sustained. The executrix was ordered to expend \$18.17 ordered by county board of health.

The report of the county assessor was filed in the estate of Arabell Sipe. Notice was ordered returnable, June 10.

The report of the sale of personal property was filed, examined and approved in the estate of Jennie May Stevens.

Real Estate Transfers

Philip L. Macklin et ux to William H. Stavenik, part of the east half of the northeast quarter in Washington twp. for \$1.

William H. Stavenik to George W. Rents et ux, part of the east half of the northeast quarter in Washington twp. for \$1.

Marriage Licenses

Miss Addie M. Kelley, Bryant, to Joseph Hotter, factory employee, Coldwater, Ohio.

Miss Dorothy Yaney, Geneva, to Everett Jarrett, farmer, route 2, Craigville.

Hearing Set

The case in abatement filed in the damage suit brought by Dora B. Hoffman and others against Rich-

ard G. Kerlin and Mack P. Coli has been set for hearing on May 22.

Erroneous Report

The damages awarded Dallas Spiller for land condemned by the county board of commissioners a-

mount to \$368 instead of \$268 as reported Friday.

Boys Club Holds Members
Bristol, Conn. (U.R.) — A new rec-

ord in attendance has been set at the Older Boys Club in Bristol. The association has been exactly 96.78 per cent perfect in attendance for several years. The percentage would be 100 were it not for the fact that two of its mem-

bers, brothers, work in the same place and cannot both stay away at once.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS BUSINESS CARE AND NOTICE

"Sweepstakes on Love" by MAY CHRISTIE

SYNOPSIS

The socially elite Diana Darlington and Regina Hyde are rivals for the love of Roger Dexter, eligible young bachelor. Although Diana enjoys a much higher social position than Regina, the latter's wealth seems to more than balance the scales. Diana wants to work but her mother, Genevieve, will not hear of it. Mrs. Darlington secretly makes a living by sending her friends to different modesties, beauty salons, etc. Her one hope is for Diana to marry wealth as soon as possible. So, she arranges for her daughter's debut in a suite at the Parkview Hotel furnished "free" by the management for the publicity to be gained via the "best people" who would attend the party. Even the champagne is gratis, donated by the very "commander" Alfred Flegenschultz, former bootlegger but now a respectable liquor merchant. In return, Genevieve is forced to invite the social climbing Flegenschultz family. Roger showers Diana with attention and everything goes smoothly until the champagne runs out and the spiteful Regina suggests that the party go to her house for further libations. Roger was among the last to leave. He did not accept Regina's invitation, however, as Diana feared but, indignant with his friends for clearing out so summarily, went to the Harvard Club instead. Later on, Diana gives a play for charity. She, of course, has the leading role. Diana is the hit of the show with her beautiful singing and dancing. The envious Regina puts soap flakes on the stage staircase causing Diana to fall.

CHAPTER VIII
There was a faint stirring on the sofa. Roger was over like a flash. Regina said to herself: "She does mean something to him, after all! Or is it just a man's natural uprightness at seeing a woman faint?"

"Wh-what's the matter?" asked Diana in a smothered little voice, opening her eyes, and staring helplessly first at the doctor who was bending over her, and then at Roger. "Don't you remember you fell? You still, Diana. Take it easy."

But she made as though to struggle into a sitting posture, only to slip back with a groan, closing her eyes.

Upset as naturally she was, Genevieve found some solace in Roger's concern.

"Being in charge of the show, I'm responsible for this. The doctor's bills are mine. You understand, Mrs. Darlington? You must call upon me for everything that's necessary. I insist upon it."

Genevieve told herself triumphantly: "He acts exactly as if he were her fiancé!"

But Diana was embarrassed. Not that she knew of Roger's offer to meet the bills in connection with her accident. She would never have permitted that.

He ran his firm capable hands with gentle swiftness from right kneecap to ankle, felt the swelling under the garter, ripped the garter off.

"No bones broken. But it hurts right here, isn't that so?" His fingers pressed the tendons and muscles of ankle and foot.

"Yes. I—guess I sprained it," murmured Diana, battling with that horrible faintness that was creeping over her again.

There was an outcry at the door. A woman's shrill tones, expounding in broken English. "You not try to keep me back! I go to the blessed signor! I am Bella, her maid. You let me in!"

Bella, a stage-hand behind her with the ice, pushed her way to Diana, falling on her knees beside the couch, and letting fly a whole volume of excited Italian, the predominating phrase being "Dio mio! Dio mio!"

Bella had come to see the show. Now—this catastrophe!

The doctor pulled her to her feet. "Compose yourself, my good woman. The young lady is suffering from a sprain. This is no place for scenes. You can only remain if you control yourself and make yourself useful." He turned to the others. "Everyone out of the room, please."

The stage-hand who had come with the ice spoke up. He said, in his rich Irish brogue: "Shure 'an' thay played a dirty thrick on the gurl!"

"What's that? What do you mean?" snapped Roger.

"Shure an' this is what I was afther findin' on them stips she come into! Paper, begorra?" He thrust out a hairy paw with a fistful of white substance in it. "Tis nayther paper nor snow—'tis soap flakes!"

"You found that on the stairs, you say?"

"Shure the last four stips was fairly leaded wid it," said the Irishman. "See for yerself, sorr."

Roger looked swiftly, sharply at Regina. An appalling suspicion struck him.

Had she done this? She had ascended those steps in view of the audience just before Diana appeared. In the blue flood-light of the moon Regina could have dropped those soap flakes undetected. Nor to the audience would they look any

different from the scraps of paper already scattered on the stairs to represent a light fall of snow.

Regina said now, her amber eyes widening in shocked amazement: "This is the work of some fiend! Diana and I could easily have broken our necks on it! I shan't rest till I find out who's responsible!"

Maude was behind her. Maude with the ever-ready balm.

"Oh, it's a blunder of the firm who supplied the paper—they must have got mixed up in the packing department. Those soap flakes look exactly like bits of paper. They must have got into the cartons by mistake. That's quite explainable."

"We can't argue it now," said Regina decisively. "Bella, you'll stay with Miss Diana and the doctor till I return? Good! Come, Roger. We can't do anything here. Diana is in good hands. I know Dr. Woodhouse. You've simply got to come back and raise that curtain, Roger."

He went, this time. In the wings Regina whispered to him: "I look sufficiently like Diana to double for her in her dances in the third and fourth acts. I know them perfectly. I'll dance with Donny." (Donny was Diana's partner.) "I've often danced with Donny. We'll pull it off all right."

So Roger made his speech and the show went on.

But there was a flatness to it. As though Diana's accident had taken the pep out of the performers.

Meantime, Dr. Woodhouse made thorough examination of the patient. Beyond the sprain, there seemed nothing wrong, except the nervous shock from which she would doubtless quickly recover, because of her youth. He suggested she pass the night in hospital, for observation, but Diana vetoed the suggestion. She would go home.

Genevieve was at a party. Contrary to Diana's orders, Bella telephoned her.

The doctor accompanied Diana and the maid home in Roger Dexter's car. Roger himself followed directly after the show.

Upset as naturally she was, Genevieve found some solace in Roger's concern.

"Being in charge of the show, I'm responsible for this. The doctor's bills are mine. You understand, Mrs. Darlington? You must call upon me for everything that's necessary. I insist upon it."

"Holy Moses! You said that six hundred were coming to the ball. I reckoned on that basis," said Benjamin.

"Gracious! What a big box!" exclaimed Regina, rushing to open it, and lifting out a small package or two.

"Okay with you, honey? These good enough for your friends? Has your old man done right by his best girl?"

"You've been a lamb, father!"

"Don't you want to count 'em?"

"Okay. There'll be a hundred people taking part in the coronation. That's fifty favors for the men and fifty for the women."

"Holy Moses! You said that six hundred were coming to the ball. I reckoned on that basis," said Benjamin.

"Gracious! What a big box!"

"Gosh! you've been generous, Daddy! This'll make some of the snooty ones sit up and take notice!"

Regina counted the little packages—six hundred in all, delivered from the jewelers.

"Hey, mister, here's your check. No time like the present," quoth Benjamin.

He scribbled in his check-book, blotted it, tore out a leaf, chucked as he looked at it, then thrust it at his daughter for her inspection.

"One hundred and fifty thousand dollars for a little box of trinkets! Not so bad, eh, honey?"

She gasped. A gasp of absolute joy. Oh, what a divine splash this would make!

Already she could visualize the head-lines in the newspapers. And the social columns would surely burst themselves in superlatives.

The messenger took the check and departed. Regina kissed the bald spot on the top of her father's head. She was not usually demonstrative, but the occasion warranted it.

They were to "receive" in a bower of white and purple orchids half-way up the grand staircase leading to the main ballroom of the Moonlight Inn.

Regina scolded to wear conventional white which was *démodé* for a debutante, and done to death, she considered.

Cloth-of-gold that had cost a pretty penny would be the material in the gown in which she would "dazzle 'em all" at her debut.

It was a gorgeous gown that clung tightly to her figure, and set off the necklace of square-cut emeralds that her father had given her.

Regina looked really handsome as she stood beside Benjamin, receiving all her friends (so-called) but, as most of them said afterwards, "scarcely like a debutante."

Success brings envy and backbiting. People had flocked to Regina's party, filled with curiosity.

Many there were who whispered sarcasms at the host's expense, who dubbed Regina a vain upstart.

"She doesn't look a day younger than twenty-five in that gown!"

"She'll never make the grade!"

Few of the best people have accepted. A thousand and more invitations were sent out. Only half have turned up.

So ran the criticisms.

They enjoyed themselves, none the less. The cocktail bar was open from the very beginning of the party.

(To Be Continued)

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Later, Diana opened the note. It ran as follows:

"Dear Miss Darlington:

"As you know, the International Film Company is always on the lookout for new talent. I saw your show last night, and am of the opinion that you have good screen possibilities. Therefore, we would like to give you a screen test. Would you kindly telephone our office, asking for me, any day between ten and twelve, so that we may get together and discuss this matter?"</