

Twenty Cents Nets Big Peanut Crop

By MARGUERITE SMITH

NO INFLATION in the peanut field when you can get a half-bushel of goobers for a mere twenty cents. That's how much Ralph Wikoff, 5525 E. Raymond St., paid for seed that netted him this peanut harvest.

He raises them "for padime, food and the pretty little salmon flowers." The foliage is interesting, too—the leaves always go to sleep at night, folding together in the dark.

"Indiana people can grow their own peanuts just the same as Texans—and Virginians," he concludes.

HOW TO MAKE houseplants take care of themselves—that's the idea in the wick-watered flower pot. Some time ago Mrs. Fred Crickman, 524 N. Berwick Ave., asked how she could regulate the amount of water in one of these self-watering arrangements she had fixed up. Then, since she says, "she's just naturally curious," she did some experimenting and worked out the answer for herself.

Here's her story. "At first I had made the wick out of coarse burlap," she says. "I used a piece about 4 by 9 inches and frayed out an inch at either end. The two-inch mid-section I rolled up, bound and tied it with a string. For I'd found that the part that goes through the hole in the bottom of the pot must be quite tight."

"With the upper part of the wick spread out over the bottom of the pot—inside, of course—and the lower part in water, a big plant will draw up just what it needs. But small plants took up too much water. So I experimented some more."

"Now I've found that a small piece of household sponge is better than a wick. I use a piece about as large as a small



PROTEINS FOR PENNIES—With only 20 cents worth of seed, Ralph Wikoff, 5525 E. Raymond St., raised this half-bushel of peanuts.

golf ball for a 3-inch pot, putting it just above the stones in the bottom and under the soil. "Always soak the flower pot for a few hours in water and wet the sponge thoroughly before putting the plant. Otherwise they drink up water from the ground, then you have to overwater the plant to make up for it and the poor thing is likely to rot."

EVON LUEBKING, secretary of the local section of National Allied Florists, calls to say that flowers are to have a week. National Flower Week begins today. It's not a selling stunt, either, says Mrs. Luebkling. Rather, it's to make more people conscious of the importance of flowers in our daily living. Local florists are planning some widespread gifts—giving of single blooms throughout the week.

TIME-SAVER: Mrs. Paul Masteller, 1332 W. 34th St., ap-

piles office efficiency to her gardening. When plants ordered from out of town arrive, she notes, on the returned order sheet, their condition, as "poorly packed" also their time of arrival, as "at good planting time."

The order then goes into a file kept for that purpose. Result—a record of variety, cost, year and time of planting, plus notes on whether to send more orders to that particular nursery.

GARDEN DIARY: We gardeners are a very lot of folk, the way we cherish plants for sentimental reasons. This week I set out one of those early old-fashioned deep red peonies, a slip from the dearly loved "piny" of my grandmother's garden.

Its dressed-up name (I discovered when I thought I'd have to buy one) is "peony officinalis rubra." Its history goes back to ancient Grecian days.

Dishing the Dirt on Gardening—

—I buried our garbage last winter, says a Central Ave. gardener. Then this spring my wife got a man to do some spading. He turned up a lot of orange peel and so on—pretty messy! Now I don't dare do any more soil enrichment, at least with buried garbage, unless you can get me out of the dog house.

—When we bury garbage (and we bury orange and grapefruit rinds with it) we sometimes bury it in the perennial bed where it can decay at its own sweet (?)

Hoosier Sets Record For Model Planes

LAFAYETTE—Charles Springer, student at Purdue University, recently broke an old national record with his miniature gas-model airplane.

He sent the class D model plane through the air at a speed of 133.28 miles per hour to set a new class mark. The old record was 132.48.



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THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

GARDENING CALENDAR

NOVEMBER REMINDERS: Evergreens go through the winter better when the soil is thoroughly wet before it freezes. Unless we have additional rains, the subsoil still will be dry for this time of year.

Harden your heart and get rid of perennials or shrubs you felt were not worth the trouble they took this summer in staking, fertilizing or pruning. If you let them winter over you'll forget their sins by spring.

Every spring chore you do this fall adds to the pleasure and lessens the work of gardening. Sow seeds now of the hardy annual flowers (cornflowers, Shirley and California poppies, alyssum, larkspur). Any flower that self-sows in your garden is hardy enough to sow this fall.

Rearrange perennials now while tops are still green enough to locate them accurately.

Blackwood on Bridge

Be Alert for Good Defense Even With 'Bad' Hand

N-S vulnerable

South dealer

NORTH

S—Q 3 2

H—A 9 7 4

D—10 6 5

C—10 8 5

WEST

S—10 8

H—Q 6 2

D—A K Q 3

C—K Q 7 6

EAST

S—8 4

H—10 8 3

D—J 8 7 3

C—8 4 3 2

SOUTH

S—A K J 7 6 5

H—K J 5

D—9 4

C—A J

The bidding:

South West North East

1 S D Pass 2 C

2 D Pass 2 S Pass

3 S Pass 4 S all Pass

SUNDAY, NOV. 7, 1948

GOURMET

Only

SO SOUTH took two rounds of trumps and then laid down the heart king. Next came the jack of hearts, covered by West's queen and won by dummy's ace.

On this trick alert East played the TEN!

Do you see the beautiful illusion which this play created? Declarer, elated that he had (apparently) played the heart suit just right returned to his hand with the ace of clubs to lead another heart and finesse against West's supposed holding of the eight and six spots.

When the seven of hearts was put in from dummy's East pounced in with the now, singleton eight and led a club for the setting trick.

Here's good advice—don't be discouraged into absolute surrender when you hold a bad hand. Be optimistic. Expect to defeat every opposing contract. You won't do it but you'll gain a surprising number of points through your new-found philosophy.

Every year your opponents make a nice fat game or slam through your carelessness on the defense? Be honest, now. Most of us have done just that. I suggest that instead of figuring kicking yourself around the block, you plan to do something to improve the situation.

Remember that most hands are bid to the hilt or pretty close to it. While some hands cannot be beaten with the proverbial crowbar, there are many, many others that are right on the ragged edge owing to the extra rewards involved in the higher contracts.

The declarer seldom has much leeway between what he bids and what he can make. For example, a pair that reaches three spades will often gamble on four-odd because that one more trick offers an important bonus in the form of a game or, if vulnerable, the rubber bonus itself.

TO A PAIR that has reached the five range there is always

that beautiful and tantalizing Slam Siren beckoning them on like the mythological Circe, holding a luscious basket of points before them, urging them forward to their glory—or their doom.

This being true there is usually some chance of defeating the enemy if you will force yourself to a constant alertness.

HOW WOULD you have felt holding the East hand in the deal shown? Any chance to beat four spades?

This is what happened. West opened with the king of diamonds and followed with the queen and ace of that suit. Declarer ruffed the ace of diamonds and paused to consider.

He figured that West, by reason of his double, was more likely to hold the queen of hearts, and might even have four hearts including both queen and 10. In any case he was certainly not going to take a heart finesse toward West.

It occurred to him that if

the declarer had held four hearts to the the queen and East held the doubleton 10, proper play would bring in the entire suit. In fact, with this lay of the cards, dummy's fourth heart would provide a parking place for South's losing club and five-odd could be made.

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West held four hearts to the the