

Torrance Herald

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BUY NOT, EAT NOT

By BOOTH TARKINGTON

Sometimes we have to go against our training or go broke. Sometimes what we have always believed to be a rule of virtuous conduct proves fatal in practice. For instance, we have grown up in the belief, fostered by our parents and teachers and enforced by our government, that we have no right to take or use the property of another person without his consent. But if the property in question happens to be a blackjack that the other person is about to bring down on my head I shall have a better chance of surviving if I perceive, in time, the unwisdom of clinging unalterably to old convictions. That is, there are times of emergency when clinging to an old conviction will be ruinous. Let us consider the present time in its relation to our old conviction in favor of thrift.

People of pioneer stock are often spoken of as the "backbone of the country," and probably they are. Pioneers are thrifty or they don't survive. If the wood pile is used too freely in the autumn it may not last through the winter, and the Midland child learned thrift at its grandmother's knee. Moreover, we've been taught for several generations that it isn't what a man earns that counts and takes care of him in his old age; it's what he saves. We've always believed that thrift is a virtue, that spending is risky and that squandering is suicidal. We demand thrift from our government, vote against political candidates proven unthrifty, and we investigate, and often relegate to private life, officials shown to be carelessly lavish with public funds. The value of thrift, indeed, is one of our strongest convictions. No one doubts that it is a right and useful conviction or that it would be dangerous to unsettle it; but here is the United States government coming to us now, asking us to buy, buy, buy, advising us to spend our money rather than to save it, and generally appearing to set itself strongly in opposition to that old principle of thriftiness in which we were trained. There seems to be a contradiction somewhere.

Moreover, the government asks us to spend at a time when we have the least to spare, at a time when the federal government itself, as well as our state, county and city governments, are taking heavily from us in taxes and in that way lessening our power to spend. Worse still, our government, through the N. R. A., asks us to spend at a moment of great financial uncertainty in our lives, at a moment when we don't know whether we're emerging from the depression or going deeper into it, and when we aren't sure whether we're less afraid of the future than we were a year ago, or more so. The curious thing about the government's exhortation to us to spend is that the exhorters know how we feel and how we're situated; they know our old conviction in favor of thriftiness and they agree with that conviction—and yet these same exhorters ask us to buy, buy, buy!

What's the answer? Money is a means of trade. If you had a cord of wood and no food, and your neighbor had a cellar full of potatoes and no fuel, and if neither of you were willing to trade, he'd have raw potatoes to eat but he'd freeze to death, and you'd have heat enough perhaps, but you'd starve to death. Thrift is indeed a virtue; but this is a time of emergency during which it's necessary to buy goods so that somebody'll have money enough to pay for what we produce. If it's hard for us to get rich by washing one another's shirts, it's certainly impossible for us to make a living by washing our own. It seems wiser to live by spending than to perish by saving.

Litvinov Confers With Hull



Maxim Litvinov, Soviet commissar for foreign affairs, and United States Secy. of State Cordell Hull, snapped at the State Department recently when Mr. Litvinov came to America to discuss United States recognition of Russia.

Hints For The Amateur Gardener

By Harry Nelson

Through an arrangement with Harry Nelson, Los Angeles gardening expert, the Herald will offer each week a timely article on the proper planting and cultivation of seasonal flowers. Mr. Nelson will answer all questions relating to gardening, either through this column or by direct communication. Persons who wish prompt and personal answers to their questions must enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope with their communication to insure a reply. Questions may be sent to this office to be forwarded to Mr. Nelson.

Lilies of the valley are available this month and it is advisable to get them immediately and plant them. Some people take the opinion that they do not do so well in this climate but I still cannot assist getting them for another trial. They should be planted in full shade using about half soil and half peat moss. They like to be watered constantly. Do not use any fertilizer around them. Everyone knows what they look like and how fragrant they are so we can pass over that part to a good substitute if you are not sure of yourself with the lilies.

Some gardeners like Leucocoum in place of the lilies of the valley because of their ease of growth and somewhat similar look. The common name is snowflakes and they are handled by all dealers. For a good uncommon bulb they are hard to beat. They produce leaves something like the narcissus with long flower stems arising from the center ending in four or more bell-like white flowers. These flowers have each petal tipped with green and are on stems about eight or ten inches long.

Don't Overirrigate. Speaking of watering as we would it might be well to mention the fact that most people are prone to overwater their gardens. As our rains have more or less started, we should be constantly watching the weather to know just when to water. That lawn can be watered twice a week and it will be sufficient. When the weather gets cooler, we can cut down to once a week and less, of course, when the rains do get started, it is not wise to get either in a downpour and sprinkle on afterwards.

You may have noticed that our rains allow the water to sink down to a good depth. If you water the same way, you will find that the water will be cut in half. It is unnecessary to sprinkle every evening as most of us do. In fact we are doing more harm than good. Instead, try and put small ditches alongside the rows of plants as we did with the sweet peas and irrigate once a week or ten days. It is then necessary to go out the day following and cultivate the rows and cover them with dry soil. In that way we can keep the moisture just below the surface of the ground, allowing the least amount to evaporate. This may sound wrong to you, but the proof is right in the fields around nearby. Wouldn't the Japanese farmer look silly going out each evening dragging a hose behind him to water from one to ten acres? Conserve a bit of that energy for the week-end and use it to plant new things. The money saved will allow a good many new bulbs and flower or vegetable seed.

Time For Seedlings. If you have any roses it might be well to withhold the water for awhile as they will have to be pruned in about 30 days. The same is true in regard to your fruit trees that are deciduous. We will go over the pruning question at a later and more opportune date. In the meantime you had better start getting those seedlings in of which we have been speaking. They should get a good start before the cold weather stops the soil from doing any good. If you have a spare piece of ground try some Gilla Capitata and one of the lower growing blue Lupines. They will give you some good cut flowers and fine bloom with the minimum of care.

New Poppy. Those of you who attended the gladiolus show last spring in Los Angeles, probably saw the new calendula chrysantha. It is a fine sort and one that should "take" well. If you have your eye on any spring flower show, get some of the seed now. Ask also for the new double Hunnemannia or Mexican poppy. It is one that should be as well liked as the old variety. If you remember, it is about the only poppy that lasts as well as a cut flower.

If there is a compost bin in your back yard, don't your old clothes and get into it. Turn it over as much as possible to allow the rains to finish rotting the material. A bit of lime now and then is a great help in keeping it sweet.

Yellow cillias are now obtainable as well as the white and black kinds. The white or Aethiopia, we all know and admire for its pluck in growing, blooming and producing more of its kind in abundance but a great many gardeners have not grown the other kinds. The yellow cillias or Calla Elviana is a fine new addition that is greeted with admiration

ON BUSINESS TRIP. Bureau Route 1519 Cabrillo avenue, in northern California for several days on business.

Turn on the Spotlight! ... Here's Blue Ribbon Value Scoop at Penney's!

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Bring the Kiddies to Penney's TOYLAND!

From Washington

Charles J. Colden, Congressman, 17th District

Now that the babies are looked after in the Seventeenth District of California and all those who are interested are provided with a copy of "Infant Care," I have another valuable government document for the farmers and the prospective agriculturalists of the district. It is the Yearbook of Agriculture for 1932.

Last winter I was greatly surprised at the large number of requests for last year's book. But I have a large supply that last year and do not anticipate that we will be obliged to skimp about from the basement to the attic like we did before.

The Yearbook of Agriculture for 1932 contains nearly 800 pages and treats of a great variety of subjects. The first pages deal with debts and taxes from the farmer's standpoint. Another part discusses the depression. So there are some gloomy pages besides those devoted to counting the eggs and the chickens. But 16 pages are devoted to poultry and eggs, 50 pages to fruits and vegetables which should be of interest to many residents of the towns and cities.

If you want a free copy of this agricultural book write your address plainly on a postal card and direct it to your congressman at 237 House Office Building, Washington, D. C. As Uncle Sam pays for the book and the postage, it is a Scotchman's pleasure to forward it to you. I suggest that wives see to the mailing of these cards for I know husbands who would gladly lose them.

Since I have made many criticisms of the weather man in Washington, I probably should give the devil his due and compliment him on the beautiful days and delightful weather of the present. The trees are clothed in their most gorgeous colors and since Washington is a city of many trees it is an entrancing sight at the present time. But the leaves are falling fast and already the caretakers of the capital grounds have raked up great heaps. This is the only time in the year when Washington can vie with southern California in climatic conditions.

Some of these big shots around Washington are hard to catch. I have seen them in the park and in the city and in the suburbs. I have seen them in the city and in the suburbs. I have seen them in the city and in the suburbs.

Leo Diegel, eastern professional golfer, added another title to his collection Sunday when he outdistanced a squad of competitors to win the Southern California open championship. Diegel shot a total of 282 for the 72 holes.

SLIMMING DIET

Here is another of the weight reducing menus prepared for this paper by Dr. Shirley W. Wynne, commissioner of health of New York City. Adjust the diet to your needs by taking smaller or larger portions of the food indicated in plain type. Do not change the quantities of the foods in bold face type. These are the protective foods, and must be taken as indicated.

- BREAKFAST: Orange Juice 100, 1 egg 100, 1 slice of toast (no butter) 50, Coffee (milk instead of cream, no sugar) 25.

- LUNCH: 1/2 cup fruit salad (1 tbsp. dressing) 100, 1 glass of milk 250.

- DINNER: 1/2 cup cream of celery soup 100, 1 codfish ball with 2 1/2 tsp. tomato sauce 250, Salad (1/2 cup grated raw beets with 1 tbsp. boiled dressing—1 onion) 110, 1 slice watermelon 15, 1 glass of milk 150.

Don't try to reduce too fast. A quarter of a pound a day is enough.

Takes Another



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