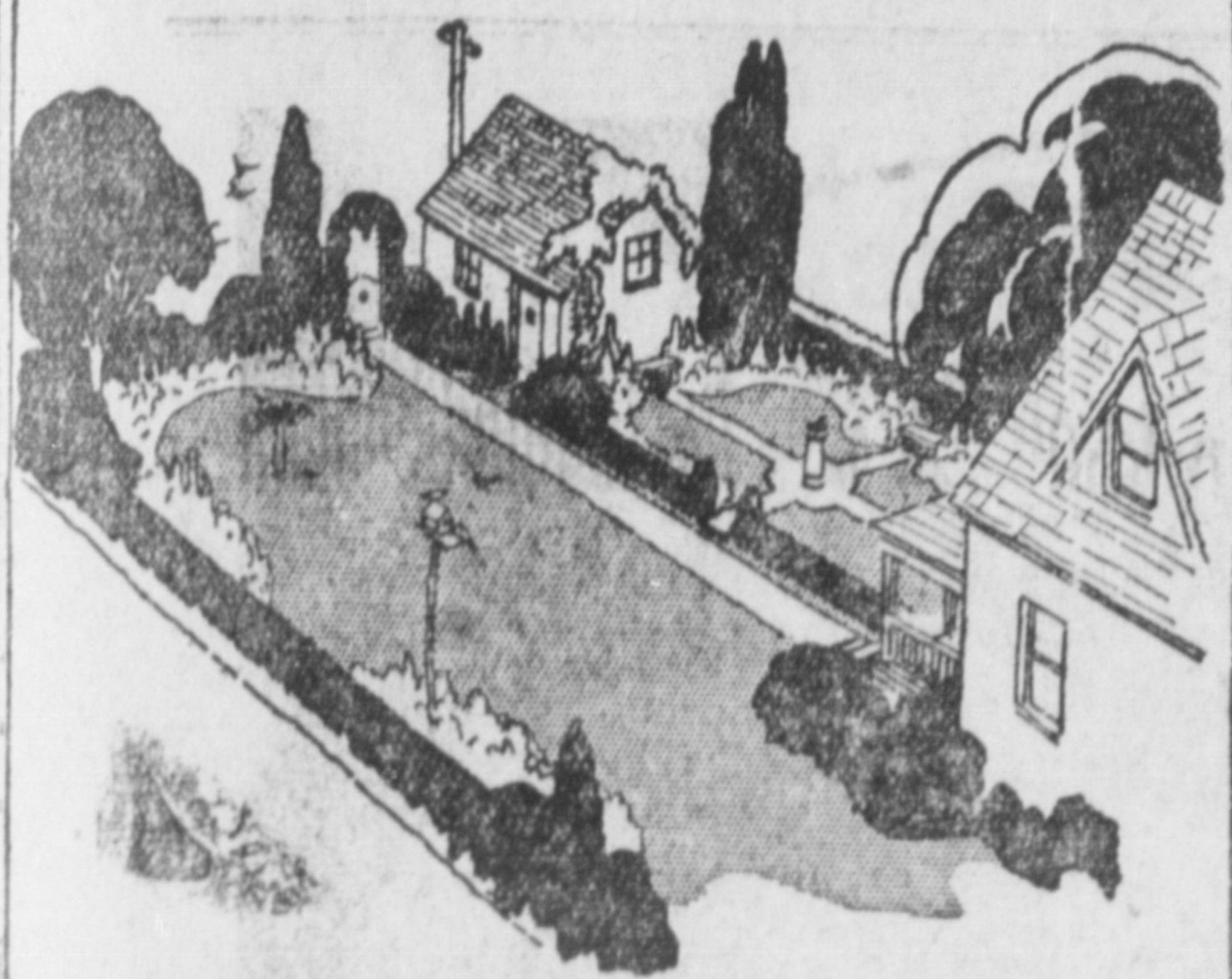


# Gardens and Gardening In Northern British Columbia

## 'Backyard Contrasts'



A WELL PLANTED BACK YARD



THE CARELESS MANS BACK YARD

## PRINCE RUPERT LADY SUGGESTS NUMBER OF HARDY PERENNIALS THAT DO WELL IN GARDENS AND HAVE BEEN TESTED

A lady who has lived in Prince Rupert for many years and who has grown flowers with success gives some hints on what to plant in the way of hardy perennials that will stand the winter here. She says there are a good many plants that can be grown in the south that are not a success here. For instance, the hollyhock, a very beautiful plant, seldom survives.

For spring flowering this lady suggests polyanthus, English daisies, Leatorbane (yellow daisy), forget-me-nots, pansies and Arabas (rock cress). These will all stand the winter and make a good showing in the spring.

For early summer there are columbine, painted daisies, delphinium, gypsophila, monkhood, spirea (Van Houtti), Lupin and Oriental poppies.

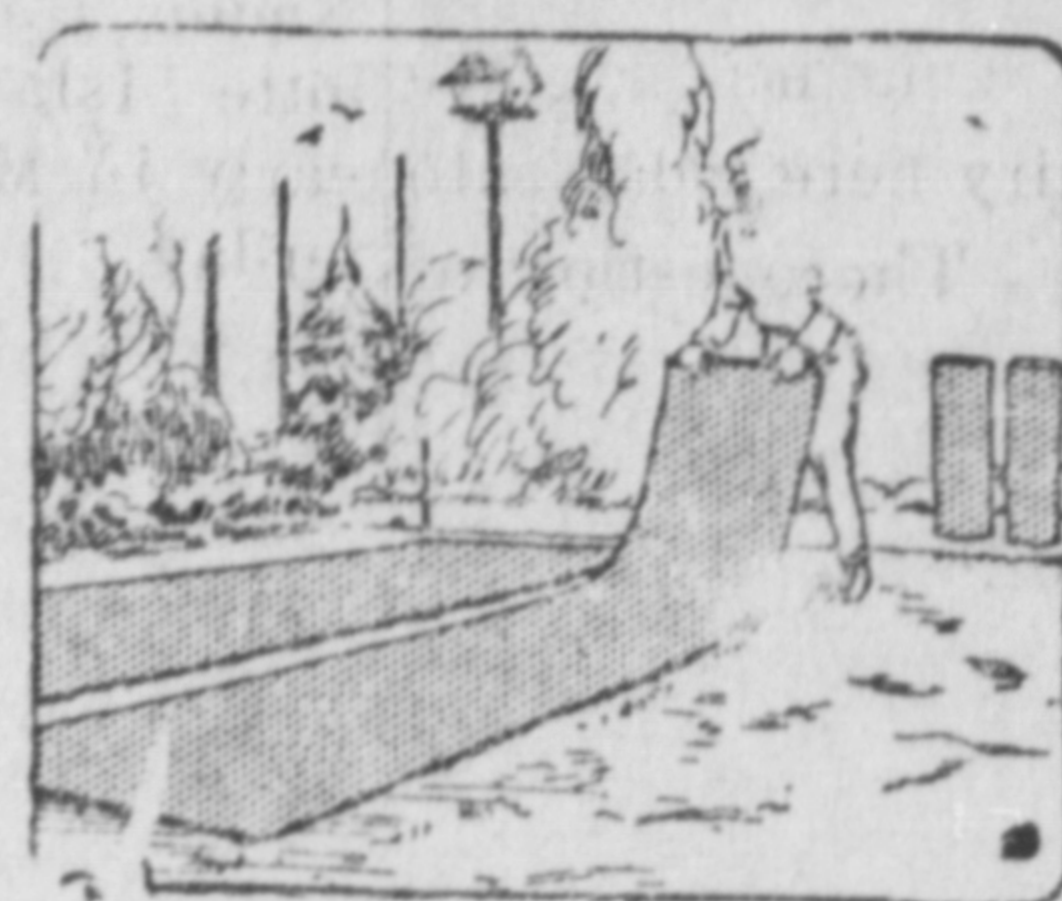
Later in the season are the shasta daisy, michaelmas daisy, Japanese sunflower, goldenglow, chrysanthemum, achillea (white), and perennial phlox.

It is noticed that in this list the bulbs such as crocus and daffodils are not mentioned and neither are the tubers, such as dahlias, all of which do well.

Early spring flowers should be planted in the fall, but they may be moved early in the season if plenty of mould is taken with them and the roots are not much disturbed. If possible, plants of these should be purchased in Prince Rupert from local gardens, as they are then not so likely to be injured in moving.

## A LABOR-SAVING GARDEN

Gardening without weeds or the necessity of hoeing, a perennial condition that seems too good to be possible, seems close



Laying a Paper Mulch Before Sowing Seed

to realization in the new system of paper mulch gardening. This consists of covering the soil with a specially prepared heavy asphalt paper with the plants in the cracks between the lengths of the paper or planted in holes or slits cut in the paper. Of course with the paper covering the soil no weeds can grow and there is no soil uncovered to be hoed. The paper also is strong enough so that it can be walked upon.

The system was discovered by Charles F. Eckart, an Hawaiian pineapple grower. It proved so surprisingly successful with pineapples, although in violation of many long held notions of gardening, that the Department of Agriculture at Washington began experiments with paper mulching under the direction of Doctor Flint and the reports have been so favorable based on thousands of tests that it now seems likely that before long it will be generally accepted.

This paper comes in 18 or 36-inch strips and is now commercially available. There are two grades, A and B, a light and a heavy grade. The latter is more practical and durable as shown by experiments. The use of the paper was objected to on the ground that the soil must be exposed to the sun and air so that it could "breathe." The paper

mulch has stimulated growth of plants, produced earlier and more abundant crops and greatly improved gardens.

It has proved especially valuable for orchard and shrubbery, small fruits, vegetables and flowering plants.

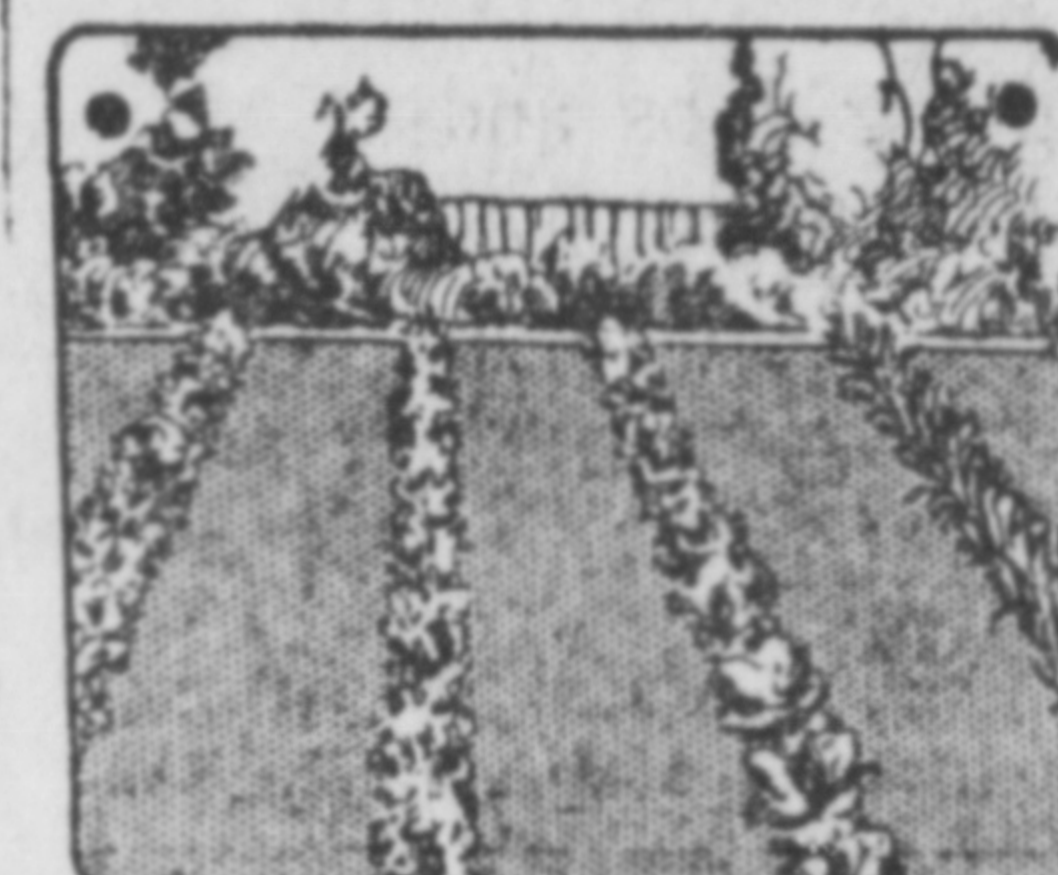
Plants under paper survive dry weather exceptionally well. The objection was made that the paper would shed the rain. It carries it to the cracks and holes in the paper where the plants are growing and seeps into the soil so that the plants get more benefit than if the soil were exposed. The paper mulch checks evaporation and keeps the soil moist. Sweet corn, cucumbers and mel-



Plants May Be Set Through Holes in Paper Mulch

ons have shown to be greatly benefited by this treatment.

While the method may be expensive for large plantings it is ideal for small gardens. The heavy paper lasts two or three seasons. Tar paper cannot be used as the tar washes out and is poisonous to plants.



Less Work and a Greatly Increased Yield Result From Paper Mulch

garden and offer a tall subject of value.

An old timer which has made its appearance in florists' windows and found garden recognition again is Flora's Paint Brush or the "tassel flower" of our grandmothers' gardens. This botanically was known in the older days as *Cacalia coccinea* and is sometimes so catalogued now.

Its modern botanical name is *Emilia flammea*. It has long-stemmed clusters of brilliant orange scarlet tassels that make fine subjects for cutting.

And in the galaxy of reds, yellows and oranges the old favorites, the nasturtiums, are the reliables of the garden, giving a wealth of material for bowls on the table all summer.

## Fashion Fancies

Capucine Colorings Enliven Spring Gowns



From Paris comes news of the popularity of capucine shades in three tones of nasturtium.

The gown sketched is in three shades of nasturtium chiffon. The lower shades are in deep orange-red, shading to light orange flesh in the upper parts. Note the three-tiered cape.

## PROVIDING PLANT FOOD

In considering the nature of the fertilizer to be applied to the garden, the first question is what part of the plant is used for food. There are three principal fertilizing factors in plant growth which affect different portions of the plant. Nitrogen is the principal one and promotes the growth of leaves.

Phosphorus in the form of phosphates encourages the growth of stalk and stem and aids of potassium or, as it is generally known in commerce, potash, encourage the development of fruit and root growth, particularly of bulbous plants.

Besides stable manure which furnishes all of the fertilizing factors in well-balanced proportion, the chief sources of nitrogen for the garden are nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia. The latter is coming into frequent use as a lawn fertilizer not only for its fertilizing value but because it has proved a great discourager to dandelions, plantains and other broad-leaved weeds while encouraging the growth of grass. It has an acid reaction.

Acid phosphate, or as it is now quite well known by its English term, superphosphate of lime, is the common phosphorus fertilizer

and is used frequently in flower gardens.

Muriate of potash was formerly the commonest form of potash fertilizer imported from Germany and a supply is once more available at reasonable price. It is useful on dahlias in mid-summer in combination with bone meal, using one part of the muriate to four parts of bone meal. It is also a valuable dressing for fall bulbs just after the bulbs have been put in the ground.

For general purposes these three fertilizing elements are furnished in sufficient quantity in the so-called balanced fertilizers which are sold with a formula attached consisting of three figures, the first telling the proportion of nitrogen, the second the phosphates, and the third the potash. The selection of a balanced fertilizer should be governed by the portion of the plant it is desired to encourage. A larger proportion of potash would be needed for root crops.

Vicar—Do you believe in dreams, Willoughby?

Willoughby—I used to, sir, but I don't now.

"And why not?"

"I married one five years ago."

—The Quest.



## LETTUCE, LEAF AND HEAD

There has recently come a recognition that the old-fashioned lettuce had something in the way of flavor not possessed by the more attractive head lettuce with its closely packed cabbage head. It is well worth growing in the garden as a change from the head lettuce now so common and so cheap in the market that there isn't so much incentive for the home gardener who usually has his troubles getting the fine solid heads of a professional market gardener.

Head lettuce must be started early in the house or in a hotbed to have any degree of assurance of getting good because they must form their heads before hot weather sets in or up they go to seed. Sow the seed early and transplant the seedlings into flats once before setting them out in the garden if possible. The two transplantings, according to some successful head lettuce growers, make a heavier root system and speed growth and the consequent heading.

A compromise between the leaf and the head lettuce with the best qualities of both is the cos lettuce. It has the blanching central leaves and is the finest flavored of the lettuces. It is an upright grower with long narrow leaves overlapping at the tips, thus covering the centre of the plant. It may be assisted by lightly tying it with raffia. This lettuce does not need the early indoor start but may be sown outside as soon as the soil is workable. It requires thinning to six inches apart for its best development.

For the finest quality lettuce, a rich soil, plenty of moisture and cool weather are the essentials. It is the earliest crop to go into the ground. If you desire to return to the old-fashioned lettuce after struggling with head lettuce, try a cos lettuce or the Grand Rapids or black seeded Simpson leaf lettuce. They are as fine salad material so far as crispness and flavor are concerned as the head lettuce, but they must be gathered fresh from the home garden to preserve the crisp quality. Crisp leaf lettuce can't be expected in the market where it must stand for some hours.

### THE REAL KIND

An enthusiastic fisherman was telling some friends about a proposed fishing trip to a lake in Scotland.

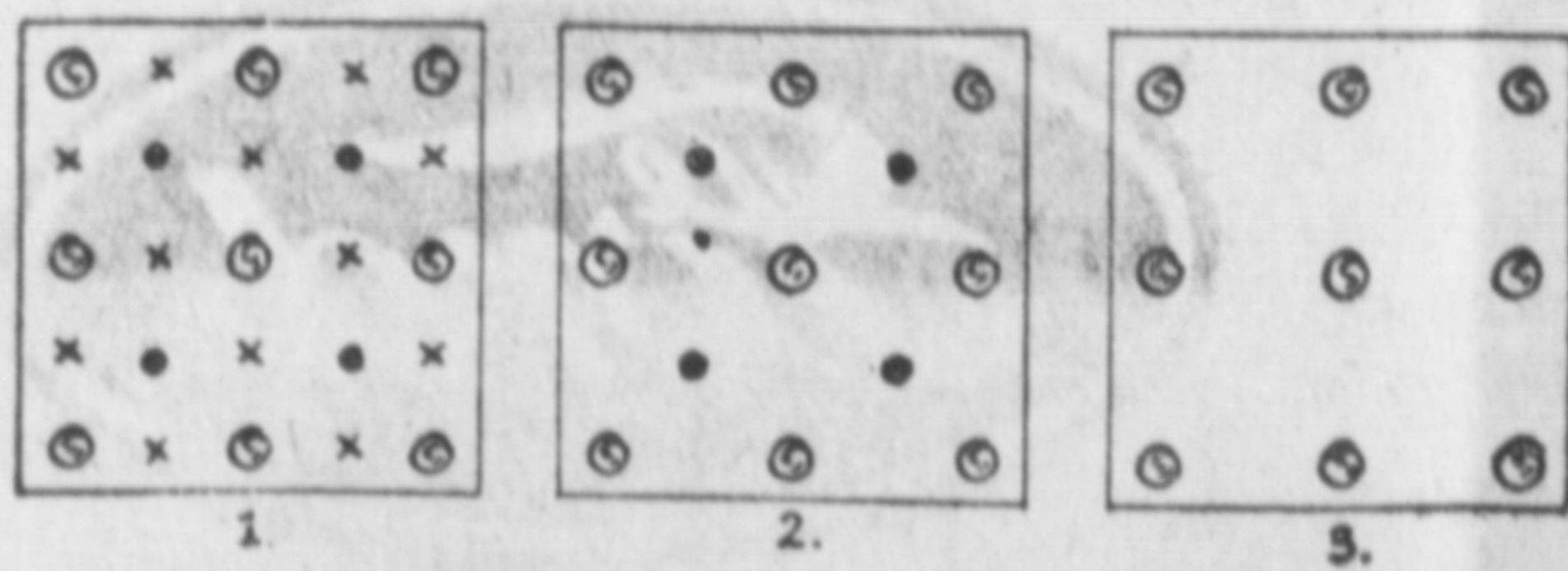
"Are there any trout there?" asked one friend.

"Tons!"

"Will they bite easily?"

"Will they? Why, they're absolutely vicious. A man has to hide behind a tree to bait a hook."—The Angler.

## How to Plant the Home Orchard



- ⊙ Permanent Trees
- × Semi-permanent Trees.
- Temporary Trees

- 1 When first Planted
- 2 Temporary fillers Removed
- 3 Permanent Trees Only

## MODERNS LIKE BRILLIANT COLOR

In this jazz age mild color schemes of pink, lavender and gray are coming to be regarded by some garden makers as Victorian repressions, this being the period in which they received their most strenuous advocacy. Gardens are taking on more brilliant color. The anathema against red in the garden frequently heard a few

The ball calendulas in both yellow and orange make the older types look insignificant.

The California poppies give brilliant yellow and orange with some fine crimson varieties. The small-flowered annual sunflowers, now in both the yellow and red-marked types, add to the gayety of the



Annuals Give Brilliant Garden Color

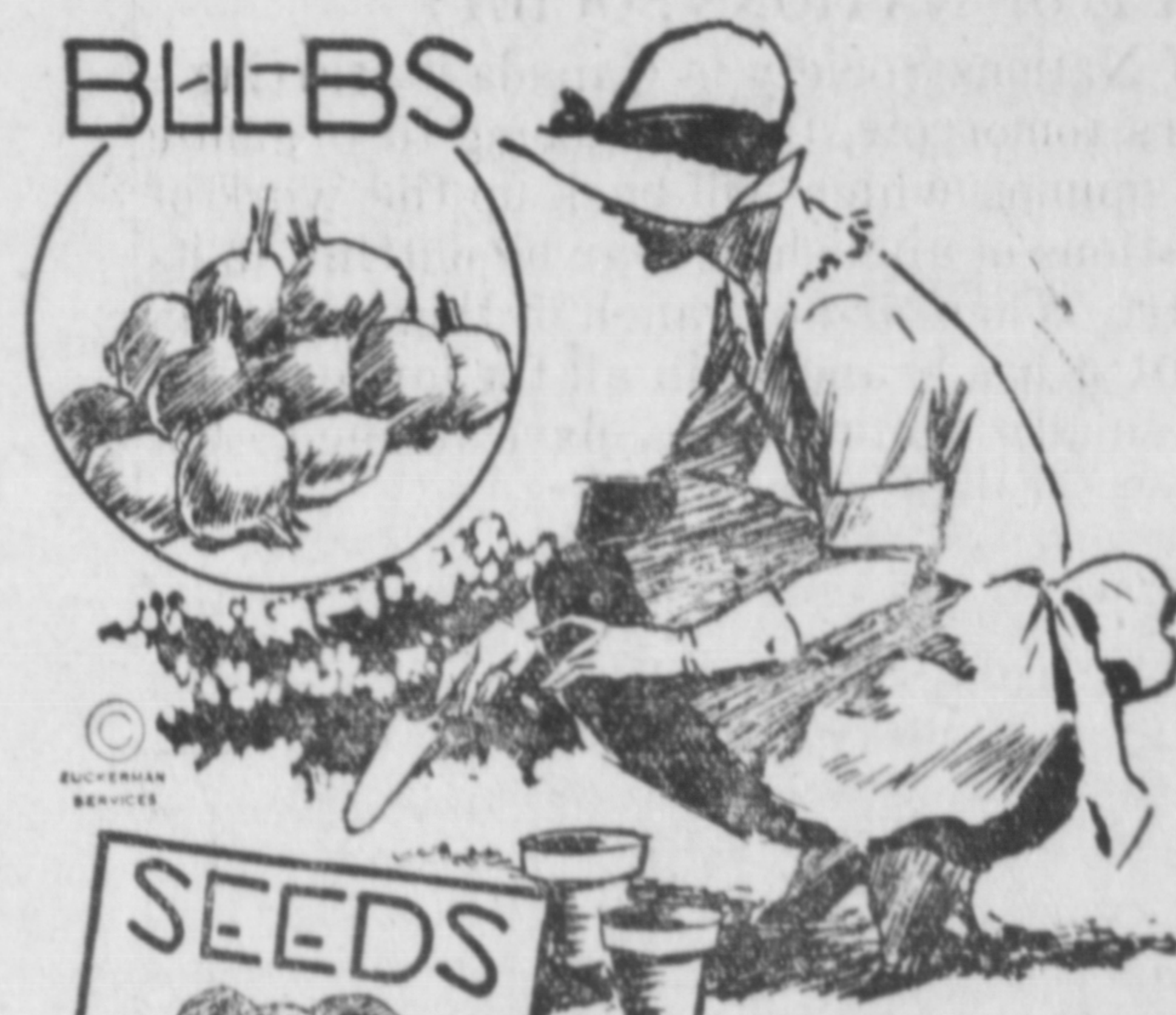
years ago is giving way to an appreciation of the brighter colors.

In the scarlets, the peony-flowered opium poppies give some gorgeous flaming colors which are enjoying a renewed popularity and are encroaching on the Shirley poppy types which for a time usurped the bulk of poppy admiration. Scarlet zinnias add to the warm-colored section of the garden and the salvia is finding a place for its brilliant flaming scarlet in late summer.

The marigolds, with their oranges, browns and crimsons, are indispensable in the highly colored garden and with their near relatives, the calendulas, are being grown more and more. A new calendula, the most brilliant orange yet introduced, is offered among the novelties this year, the radio-

## Garden Field Seeds

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BULKLEY VALLEY HAY  
AND GRAIN  
Prince Rupert Feed Co.  
PHONE 58



## PLANT for BEAUTY and UTILITY

Gardens for flowers as well as for vegetables! Seeds and plants must be bought with care to assure the perfect development of your "crops." Make sure that your months of labor on your gardens will not be in vain. Buy only the finest! They cost no more than inferior ones.

## Prince Rupert Floral Shop

(MRS. R. MCCARTHY)

Third Avenue

Phone Red 183