# GARDENING NOTES

## Seasonal Guidance

By JAMES J. O'CARROLL, R.Sc.O.

**STRAWBERRY CULTIVATION**

THIS is a busy season with strawberry growers. The fruiting beds have been weeded and cleaned; all runners, except those required for propagation, have been cut away, and those remaining have been layered for rooting to make new plants for going out to their permanent quarters in August and September. In the meantime the new site has been deeply dug or ploughed and heavily manured.

To cultivate strawberries successfully, the site must not be in a frost pocket, the soil must be a deeply cultivated well-manured and well-drained retentive loam. Most gardens that produce good vegeable crops will grow strawberries, but in addition to all the other precautions, including clean after cultivation, one must plant only young healthy virus free runners.

**ADVICE FOR BEGINNERS**

Beginners should order their requirements at once from known raisers of disease-free stock. If in doubt regarding source of supply, ask the local Horticultural Instructor; or write to the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, for names of suppliers.

To ascertain the number of plants required, it must be remembered that the bed will have to be renewed every three years, and that after the first season, runners for extension will be available from one's own plantation. Strawberries are generally planted at eighteen inches apart in rows two feet asunder, but where space is small, they may be planted closer for the first season, say at one foot apart. This will enable one to obtain a heavier crop the first season, but as soon as the first crop is gathered, every second plant must be cut out, leaving the remainder at two feet apart each way for the life of the plantation, which is generally two more years.

To avoid gaps in croppings a good plan is to renew a third of the plantation each September. For example, if one is to eventually have a plantation of, say, three rows, plant only one row this September, take the runners from this in September, 1951, and plant a second row. In September, 1952, save the runners from the 1951 row and plant a third row. The final row has now been planted and the plantation is made up of a one-year-old line, a two-year-old line, and a three-year-old line.

The three-year-old line will, however, have to be discarded during the next season, i.e. after it has produced its third crop, and be renewed by runners from the 1952 planted line. In this way the plantation can be kept young and fruitful from one's own runners without any break in the cropping seasons, or having to discard the whole of the plantation at the one time.

One other precaution is necessary never grow a virus-susceptible variety such as Royal Sovereign in close proximity to a virus disease carrier such as Huxley Giant. In fact, it would be safest, after going to the trouble of obtaining a disease free stock, to grow only that one variety in the garden.

**VARIETIES**

The best flavoured variety is still Royal Sovereign. Unfortunately, it is very susceptible to virus diseases, but if the above precautions are taken it can produce heavy crops of delicious fruits. It is still the only variety used extensively for forcing under glass.

Huxley Giant, although not so well flavoured, is, on the whole, a more reliable cropper. It is easier more or less to cultivate in that, although it is a carrier of virus, the disease does not affect its cropping capacity. It is an excellent market variety.

Climax is a recently introduced variety, which appears to be giving market growers satisfaction. I am going to try this new variety myself this year.

Strawberry runners can be planted during August and September, or again in March, but August-September plantings are best, as a crop can be obtained from them during the first season. All the flowers must be cut away from the spring plantings; thus the first year's crop is lost. Plant only young runners taken from one-year-old plants.

**FORCED STRAWBERRIES**

Strawberries can be forced in any unheated glasshouses. Pot up now well rooted runners of healthy Royal Sovereign into three inch pots. When well established in these, but before they get root bound, repot them into 6" pots of good compost. Stand the pots on a layer of coal-ash outdoor until hard frost threatens. Then plunge the pots of plants up to their rims in coal ash or turfmould to prevent damage to the pots from frost. At the end of February, bring the pots into the glasshouse and stand them on a shelf near the glass. Keep them watered and free from insect pests. Thin out the fruits to five per pot, and feed with liquid manure until the fruit colours. Discard the plants after forcing.

**WEEK'S REMINDERS**

Sow May King, Passion White or Trocadero lettuce outdoor for planting out in October. Give Brussels sprouts, leeks and celery a dressing of sulphate of ammonia or compound fertiliser, and hoe it in. Dig out early potatoes, and "box" those to be saved for "seed." Spray the main crop again as blight is very prevalent. Continue to plant broccoli and kales. Cut marrows as soon as big enough, to ensure continuation of cropping. Prick out wallflowers, Canterbury Bells, Forget-me-Nots, Double Daisies, Hollyhocks, Delphiniums, etc., 4 to 6" apart in nursery bed. Cut back herbaceous plants, such as lupins, that have gone out of flower. Cut the old flowering shoots out of ramblers as they go out of flower, and tie in the young growths. Give the grapes of late vines another thinning if necessary, and feed the roots with liquid manure. Prune excessive growth on cucumbers and melons in houses and frames, and fumigate for white fly and red spider.

Watch pot plants in living-house for water, especially during the holidays. Leave someone to look after them. Pinch the flowering points out of colens. This will keep them "bushy." The flowers are of little decorative value.

# OBITUARY

**MRS MULLINS, BALLINTUBBER**

Widespread and sincere regret has been occasioned by the death of Mrs. Julia Mullins, Ballintubber, Ballylanders, rather unexpectedly after an illness of brief duration, at the Bon Secour Home Cork. The remains were removed to Glenroe Parish Church, and after Office and High Mass the interment took place at Ballylanders Cemetery. There was a huge cortege or relatives and friends and the general public, including members of the legal and medical professions, County Councillors, and leading public representatives. Deceased lady was a woman of outstanding qualities. She was generous and hospitable, was of a kind and lovable disposition, and most charitable in every way. She was respected and esteemed by all whom she came in contact with, and was a member of a highly respected family. She is a great loss to her husband and family, and her demise came as a great shock to her numerous friends. The late Mrs. Mullins was sister of Right Rev. Monsignor D. P. Meade, Minonla, Montana, U.S.A., and the late Sister Mary Kyran, Convent of Mercy, Granard. The clergy who officiated at High Mass and the interment were :—Rev. Fr. F. Culhane, Feoghanagh (cousin) ; Rev. Fr. Kiely, U.S.A. (cousin) ; Rev. Fr. O'Carroll, P.P., Glenruc ; Rev. Fr. Dunne, P.P., ; Rev. Fr. Morriss, C.C., Ballylanders ; Rev. Fr. Sampson, P.P., Knocklong ; Rev. Fr. Lyons, C.C., Glenruc ; Rev. Fr. J. O'Dwyer, and Rev. Fr. Crowley, Ballylanders.

Chief mourners were—Edmund Mullins (husband), John, William, Michael and Denis (sons), Mary and Kitty (daughters).

Mass Cards—Right Rev. Monsignor Meade (brother) ; Sisters Venance and Pasculina (sisters-in-law), her loving family, her daughter Kitty, Mother M. Theresa, Loretta Convent, Youghal ; Sisters and pupils, Dominican College, Eccles St., Dublin; Josie and Babe Marnane, Mary, Christy, and Willie Upton, Maurice Wallace and family, the Pierce family, Dublin ; T. Brazil and family, Michael Casey and family, Brigid O'Reilly and family, Joan Banks, Limerick; Mary O'Connell, Limerick ; Sheila O'Donovan, Limerick ; Celine Ryan, Limerick; Customs House Staff, Limerick; McCarthy family, Limerick; D. P. and Mrs. McCarthy, Kilfinane; the Hayes family, the O'Dwyer family, Kathleen Mullins, Mrs. John Lenihan, Ballintubber Handball Club, Ballylanders Clann na Talmhan, David and Mary Anne Condon, Kate Howard and family, Ben O'Connell, Newtownsandes; Joan Slattery, Limerick; Sister Teresita, Sacred Heart Convent, England; Mrs. Sampson.

Telegrams and letters of sympathy Right Rev. Monsignor D. P. Meade, Montana ; Rev. Mother and Community, Bon Secour Home ; Convent, Tralee ; the Sisters, Dominican College, Eccles Street, Dublin ; Sister Catherine, Presentation Convent, Cork ; Sisters, Loretto Convent, Youghal ; Alice O'Hara, Dublin ; Walkers family, Dublin ; Geraldine Redmond ; Brian O'Hanrahan, Monaghan ; John Mulcair, Carrick-on-Suir ; Kathleen Murray; O'Connell family, Newtownsandes ; T. Shanahan ; Evelyn Loughrey ; Liam Fraher, etc., etc., etc.

SEMAPHORE

# Trí na Cr

Leir "An Mangaire."

Seobair deas-mapgaó annro,
a cara,
Toga gaca bió ir péile,
Rince, ceol, ir rpórt gan
teór.
Ir plúr ir bapr na Gaeóilge.

Map rin do cuir Seán Ó Ceallaig rior ar Coláirte Ui Compaide in airte do reriob ré ar "Scéala Éireann" ar an 24ú lá d'Iúl, 1936. D'fior dó—agur rin mar a bí an rcéal i ré mi Iúil i mbliana, nuair a bí breir agur tri rcóir rcoláiri baile le céile ra Coláirte ag cur rnara ar a gcuid Gaeilge. Ir iomda cuaird a tugar ar Coláirte Ui Compaide, agur cámig mé abaile gac uair agur an tuairim reo agam: go brul atmorrir ré leit ag bainc leir an gColáirte, atmorrir Gaelach, amail agur dá mairead fór ann rúrud na nGaéil bilir go leor a raoctuig ar ron tipe agur teangan ran áit tipe na bliantá.

**DUINÚ AN COLÁISTE**

Ceab i Deirti Ui Ógram, mac do mac Liam Mhic Gaiann Ui Ógram, a cuir Coláirte Ui Compaide ar bun, lánh le Cappaig a' Cohaitaig, i gCopca Dairinn, an laetap an Cláp, i mbliain a 1911. Tógad é mar cuimneacán ar Eógan Ó Compaide, an pireoláipe Gaeilge, a rugad ra deannrap ran ra bliain 1794. Ó Dún Séa, ár acá cumpeall cri mile rop o Cappaig a' Cohaitaig a cámig Eógan. Do connaipig ré le reap eiriceas eile a ropoláipeacta Seán Ó Tomnabáin, az teacta ran blianta eile ar an ceannpad Gaelach ain eolaiche i ngaillimh Éireann: agur cuipe a leabaip a raimne pe an paidéar ran áiriúcan a mbeapc na peoláipi Éireannaiche ba dó a mar pian.

**TÚS NA HAIDEÓCAMA**

Ón chaip a punne Ó Compaide agur Ó Tomnabáin a cámig an ríreacáin a cur cúp le haideócamt na Gaeilge. Mapac raocap Eógan Ui Compaide ir ap éigin a beag tri peoin peoláipi az rosléam deanta a peap i gColáirte Gaeilge i gCappaig a' Cohaitaig an ní peo caite no in aon áit eile ir Éirinn. Dá, bíodap ann, a bunúc le Dia, plaiz breáz arpaé Gaelach. Cámig a fúip mop o lammas: ag ro biodap ann, leip, an Cláp, Dhá Chlúc, Tuilpaz Árann, Ceacáipiú agur Áirceanna eile. Gaeilg amán a labaipap i gColáirte Ui Compaide.

"Ni áit ro Deupta é peo," arpeapann na pialaca, agur nil ceart az aonne Deulpáiri na Gaeilge a labaipt pé ríom éiże an Coláirte peo, na bpaicéid a Gaeilge leip, no le linn popa agur

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"Leets happen".