



Ed Eastman's Page

"Even America Itself"

I never thought I would live to see the day when rioting college students marched into the college offices and classrooms, put the officers and teachers out, and took over complete possession.

In one case the students were armed. One might understand the situation if it had happened at just one college. But it has been going on in some of our oldest and finest institutions across the entire United States. In fact, the disturbance is worldwide.

It is often hard to tell what the students are upset about. In some cases they don't know themselves. They just seem to be upset with everything that is, and would like to tear down the whole educational system... even America itself.

The students complain about the curriculum, but they have not had experience enough to know what studies are valuable and what are not. Abraham Lincoln, one of the greatest debaters of all time, said that he learned to reason from the theorems of geometry. Think of the thousands of students who have condemned geometry because they had no way of knowing, at their age, how valuable it is.

The curriculum does need correction from time to time and students' suggestions should be listened to. But, on the whole it has stood the test of time, and millions of students have used the curriculum for a foundation on which they have achieved success and happiness.

Another cause of complaint from students is that they should have more voice in the management of the college or university. There is student government in most colleges, but in the final analysis the administrators are hired to run the institution. What do students come to college for... to run the business or to get an education?

In general it may be said that never in all history have students, in both the public schools and the colleges, had the educational opportunities that they have today. Never was it so easy to go to college. Maybe that is just the trouble. If every student in high school and college had to work for at least some of his education, there wouldn't be any time to march and riot, and he certainly would appreciate his

education more than some do now.

Responsibility goes with privilege and freedom. Let the student show that he is responsible and he will be given more responsibility in college government and in his choice of subjects in the curriculum.

The chief cause of all the trouble from the home through the university is lack of discipline. Many of our boys and girls have had too much of everything, and when they find that life just isn't that way, they refuse to abide by the rules, regulations and laws that have stood the test of time in many generations. Too many young people, and old ones too, for that matter, follow the creed: "If I don't like the law, I won't obey it." The end of that philosophy is anarchy and chaos. Too many children in the home are being ruined by permissiveness. Too many have grown up without discipline, and that has resulted in the taking over of college buildings and rioting on the campuses.

Then, to make matters worse, when the trouble started the college administrators didn't have the courage to stop it before it got out of hand. What is needed is more Teddy Roosevelt, whose philosophy was "speak softly but carry a big stick."

There is one thing I want to make very clear, and that is that of most boys and girls out of the thousands who attend the big



universities and colleges, only a few hundred are responsible for all the trouble.

I also want to make it clear to both the rioting students and the administrators that the public, who in the long run pays the bill, is just about fed up to the point that they are demanding that the administrators straighten out the mess on the college campuses, or get out and let someone take over who has the courage and the ability to do the job.

Haying,

Yesterday and Today

Let us say that you are a young man sixteen years old by the name of Johnny Orr, living on a northeastern dairy farm on July 5, 1850, only a hundred and nineteen years ago. It's a large farm for those times, and you belong to a big but typical family of father, mother, two sisters, and three brothers, of which you are the youngest. The morning chores include milking (by hand, of course), the cows turned out to day pasture, and you have just finished breakfast in the big farm kitchen.

Father Orr has smoked his after-meal pipe and announced: "Today we start haying on the south meadow. Let's get at it."

What haying tools would the Orrs and all their neighbors have?

Well, each male member of the family would have his own scythe and snath. And he would be very particular that the blade was sharp, "hung" just right... and Johnny Orr would make sure that no other member of the family used his scythe. Hand tools were better then than they are now.

All the boys and their father were in the field, with the father in the lead, promptly at seven o'clock. They mowed steadily until about ten o'clock and were hot and tired. So they were glad to see Mother Orr and sister Ann coming with a big jug of switzel or milk and a pan of new fried-cakes.

After a brief rest they returned to the mowing, and mowed steadily until six o'clock... with an hour out at noon for a big dinner and a brief rest. With a sharp scythe, each of the Orrs could mow about an acre in a day.

At six they all stopped, did the milking and other chores, ate a big supper, sat on the stoop a little while to let the hot chamber rooms cool off, and then they fell into bed too tired even to dream.

Next day, the Orrs raked the hay with hand rakes and pitched it into big cocks that looked like Indian tepees, to cure and dry.

If it didn't rain, the Orrs began a day or so after mowing pitching the hay on wagons with hay riggings and hauled it to the barn, where it was pitched off by hand and mowed away. Sometimes the hay had to be pitched off on the west side of a shed where the sun blazed down unmercifully.

Haying in the old days started after the Fourth of July and dragged on often until September. It was the big job of the year.

Up until 1850 or a little later every bit of hay was handled by hand, from the scythe to the mow. Haying was the big job of the year requiring much help. But then things began to change, and have continued rapidly to change ever since.

In 1852 the first mowing machine was invented. It was a crude affair, but still it would mow more in an hour than could be done with a scythe in a day. Strange to say, reapers and mowers came about the same time... and reapers were often used as mowers by taking off the table or platform.

Hand rakes soon took a back seat to horse rakes, the first of which were walking affairs with two rows of wooden teeth which you raised to dump it. Did you ever see one? Then came the wheel dump rake, followed today by the side delivery rake.

Every farm boy knows the different types of mowers in use on farms today. He knows that only a very little hay is pitched by hand. He knows about tractor-drawn seven-foot mowers, self-propelled windrowers, mower conditioners... bale throwers that throw the bales onto the wagons... choppers and other inventions that take the hand work out of haying.

If we could wave a magic wand and bring Johnny Orr back today to a big demonstration of modern haying machinery, he would rub his eyes and think the world had gone crazy... and maybe he would be right.

Relives His Life

Dear Mr. Eastman:

"I feel strongly constrained to write you today while reading your book, 'Journey to Day Before Yesterday.' Except my Bible I prize this book more than any other that I own. I suffered a stroke in 1962 and am still paralyzed on my left side, and I have read and reread your book so many times. I relived all the experiences related...."

"You can imagine what your book means to me now as I relive places and events of the past...."

"Accept my thanks for recalling the days of yore which make me laugh and cry...."

"I also go back to the farm and drink the good spring water, and eat the watercress growing along the streams."

"With every good wish, I am."

Guy H. Madeira
Shoemakersville, Pa.

To get a copy, write to American Agriculturist, Department Book, Savings Bank Building, Ithaca, New York 14850. The price is \$7.30, including tax.

EASTMAN'S CHESTNUT

Russian Commissar: "Please give report on potato crop in your district."

Peasant: "Is coming wonderful. Under Glorious People's Leader, potato crops is miraculous. If we were putting all potatoes in one pile, they would be making mountain to reach up to the feet of God."

Commissar: "Fool, you know there is no God."

Peasant: "True, Comrade Commissar, but there are no potatoes either."

American Agriculturist, July, 1969

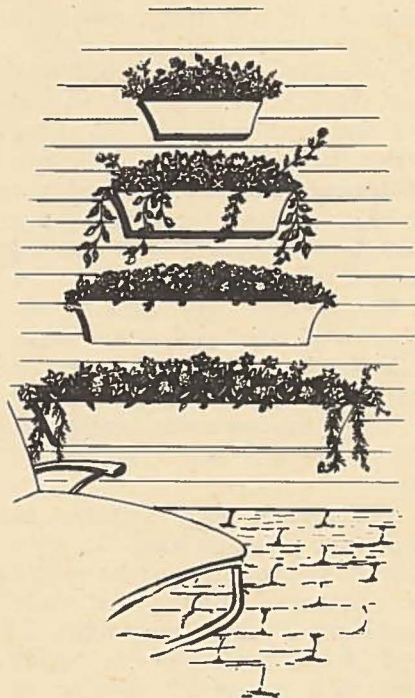
OUTDOOR LIVING AREAS

by Nenetzin White

IS YOUR terrace too close to the road? Is it hemmed in by a garage or outbuilding? Or do you have a wall where you would like a mass of color or a nice ornamental tree? Let's go over some hard situations and see how easily they can be remedied and how gorgeous these spots can become.

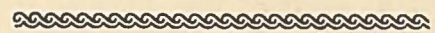
Perhaps you have a blank wall right near an area that is otherwise perfect for sitting and relaxing. First, find out what direction the wall faces. If you aren't sure, get out your blueprints or the developer's maps. If you have an eastern or southern exposure, you can grow practically any of the flowering plants in this spot. If the area is paved, perhaps you can chisel out places large enough to plant some ornamental trees or shrubs and put them right against the wall.

plants, you can have a cascade or flower falls.



If the road is very close to your house, a hedge or fence is probably the best answer. Evergreen hedges must be placed rather far back to minimize salt damage, and depending on the wind direction, they may dump snow. If you have a westerly wind over your hedge or fence, be prepared for a snow-drop. Don't overlook the possibility of a deciduous hedge; it, too, will keep out a lot of dirt, noise and wind. I enjoy a flowering shrub border in a situation like this. If there is room, you might try one; otherwise, put up a fence to give you as much or as little privacy as you desire. Then you can treat the fence like a wall and decorate your outside living room.

With northern or western exposures, you will have to use yew, evergreen bittersweet, or other plants that will grow with a minimum of sunlight. The evergreen bittersweet should climb for you, and as it matures, should give you flowers in the spring and bittersweet-like fruit in the fall. Hanging baskets filled with plants for either shade or sun will give you spectacular results.



COMING AND GOING

by Mildred Goff

We are so happy when company comes.

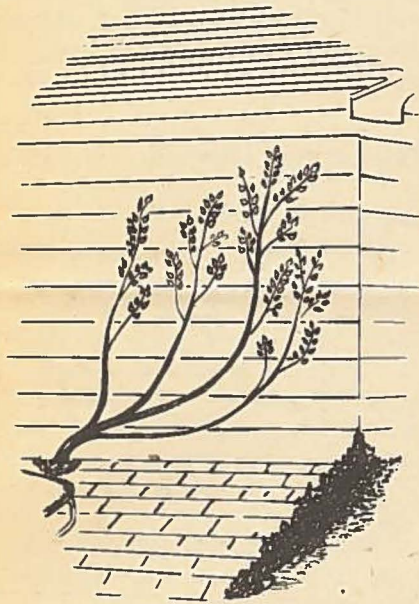
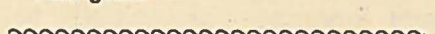
We bring out the fruit cake and sugar plums,

Joyfully welcome friend and relation,
Ply them with coffee and conversation.

Another moment of equal delight
Comes when the visitors take their flight

And the house is quiet. Oh, sweet repose!

We're glad when the company comes.
And goes.



If space is limited or you want a more exotic effect, espalier these shrubs or trees. Espaliering consists of pinning the branches to the wall horizontally and cutting off the branches that protrude. It used to be customary to espalier in definite forms, such as u's and double or triple u's. The more modern feeling is a sweep perhaps up (vasi-form) or to one side and up (the side with the most sun). These can make your wall a thing of beauty, and by carefully choosing your plant, you can have blossoms in the spring and fruit in the fall. A flowering crabapple or an upright form of cotoneaster with its double rose-like flowers in the spring and glossy red fruit in the fall is ideal.

Another good treatment is a series of window boxes pinned to or hung from the wall. These should be smaller at the top so they will get sunlight. You can make a pyramid form, a step form, or whatever your artistic sense dictates. With an eastern or southern exposure, you can have great blossoms all summer and by using some trailing
American Agriculturist, July, 1969

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