

Your Poinsettia Plant Will Bloom Next Xmas If Properly Cared For

That poinsettia which added so much of festive atmosphere to your home this Christmas will bloom again next year at holiday season if it is properly cared for.

Although the care of a poinsettia plant is simple, there are comparatively few who take the necessary precautions to insure its blooming for more than the one season.

The poinsettia, America's distinctive Christmas flower, owes its popular name to Joel R. Poinsette, at one time U. S. minister to Mexico, who found there what had in the past been only a roadside weed that was destined to find fame and fortune as a Yuletide flower.

Burdened with the proper botanical name of Euphorbia Pulcherrima, the tall shrub which grew in profusion in Mexico owes its introduction into the United States entirely to Poinsette.

The shrub was not restricted to Mexico, however, for it also is well known in China, where it assumes the proportions of a tree and towers as high as second floor windows.

Grown in this country as Christmas pot plants, the poinsettias and their large red-flower bracts convey a true holiday atmosphere. Their actual period of decorative growth, however, is short.

After two or three weeks, unless the plants have been carefully watered and protected from draughts and sudden changes of temperature, leaves turn yellow and begin to fall.

Following the dropping of the leaves the plant remains in a dormant or resting condition until spring when it will resume activity. Dormant poinsettias should be kept in a warm place throughout the winter.

In May, divide the roots and cut back to six inches, using the top cuttings as well as the roots. A three-stemmed plant, for example, will have three good, easily separated roots, and these will each make a fine plant, as also will the tree top cuttings.

For spring plantings, prepare a soil mixture of one-half loam; one-fourth humus or peat, and one-fourth dried cow manure. Then pot the new poinsettia plants and keep them in a sheltered place, well moistened, until growth begins.

If they are sunk into the ground during the summer, Mother Nature will take good care of them until it is time to take them into the basement in the fall. When properly cared for they will bloom profusely at holiday time.

U. S. Army War Show Disbands Sunday; Bluffton Soldier Was Detailed To Unit

Corp. John Stonehill was Military Police With Traveling Army Show

Show Set Unparalleled Attendance Records in Presentations in 16 Cities

Anxious to get into action on the fighting fronts, the United States army war show, of which Corp. John Stonehill is a member, played its last date at Atlanta, Ga., Sunday, after completing a run at that city.

Corp. Stonehill, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Stonehill of South Main street, has been a member of the show since its inception and has traveled extensively to the large centers where it has played to large and enthusiastic audiences.

The show set a record unequalled in the field of professional entertainment or sporting events when it played to 912,462 persons in 11 days at Soldiers Field, Chicago, Ill., for an average attendance of 82,951 daily.

At the Cleveland municipal stadium, where several Bluffton residents saw the show, there were 377,807 persons who attended in five days for a daily average of 75,561.

More than 3,500,000 people attended the show in 16 cities. The Army Emergency Relief fund received \$1,000,000 from the show. These figures do not include the last two dates at Birmingham, Dec. 7 to 11 and at Atlanta, Dec. 16.

The show featured mock battles with big guns, flame throwers, tanks and all types of military equipment and activities that the army was willing to show without revealing any military secrets.

Corp. Stonehill had been a member of the Military Police at Ft. Knox, Ky., when he was given the new assignment with the traveling army show. He was detailed in the same capacity with the show as a military police.

Men in the show were picked by reason of certain military, mental and physical qualifications. Physically all of the men were at least 5'10" in height and 170 pounds in weight.

The 2,000 soldiers in the show lived in hotels while stationed in a city with sufficient accommodations. If they could not be provided the unit was quartered in army tents.

Thousands of rounds of blank ammunition and shells were shot in each performance to provide a realistic action of military drama.

Corp. Stonehill was engaged in guarding the military equipment and during the presentation of the show assisted in keeping the crowds back.

All performers in the show will be assigned to field units soon and have declared themselves as desirous of putting on the next show in Tokyo or Berlin.

Mt. Cory School Notes

The chapel program was in charge of Miss Ebersole. The following program was given: Group song, "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem"; Devotionals, Elizabeth Cook; Group song, "Silent Night"; Trumpet solo, Chloette Wagner; Group song, "Deck the Hall"; Talk, "The Road to Bethlehem", Rev. Shepherd from Evangelical church in Benton Ridge.

The amount of war stamps sold last Wednesday was \$27.90.

School will be dismissed Thursday at three o'clock for Christmas Day. This schedule will be also observed for New Years Day.

The P.T.A. meeting will be held at two-thirty p. m. Tuesday afternoon.

Several classes are planning to hold their Christmas parties during school hours due to the gas rationing.

The sophomore class will hold its party at the John Bowersox home next Wednesday evening.

The senior class received their class pictures, Wednesday.

Graduates of the 1942 senior class who visited school last week were: Lucille (Shafer) Steiner, Robert Powell, Loren Steiner, Junior Treece, Gene Jordan, Lehr Jay Reese, Richard Herman, Richard Werner, Kenneth Green, and Robert Haas.

The annual Farmers' Institute will be held January 6 and 7. The students participating in the poster contest are: 4th, 5th, and 6th grades: Jimmy Anderson, Jimmie Benroth, Elinor Bowersox, Charles Crow, Jimmie Dray, Dick Flora, Ester Hartman, Mary Ann LaRocha, Nora Mae Powell, Sue Ann Radabaugh, Marietta Ripley, Janice Shafer, Robert Alspach, Roberta Klingler, Jeanette Shafer, Joanne Steiner, Marilyn White, Betty Lou Green, Jimmie Klingler, Mary Jane Marquart, Richard Marquart, and Eugene Steiner.

7th, 8th, and 9th grades: Ann Anderson, Dotty Bowersox, Bernita Bracy, Betty Bruce, Bernice Crawford, Howard Hamilton, Mary Ellen Hector, Marilyn Kitchen, Jean Ann Klingler, Virginia Klingler, Junior Bowersox, Evelyn Ferrall, Wilma Hamilton, Helen Hartman, Ivan Marquart, Emma Jean Miller, Francis Nusbaum, Reed Radabaugh, Arlene Schaller, Paul Stucky, Marilyn Waltz, and Irene Marquart.

10th, 11th, and 12th, grades: James Anderson, Robert Bowersox, Kathryn Peterson, Alice Basinger, and Leo Basinger.

Those people living in the Mt. Cory school district or those having students who attend the school are asked to display their handmade needlework, baked goods, or canned fruit and vegetables in the school commercial room during the Farmers' Institute. Prizes will be given in each classification of exhibit.

The alumni played Mt. Cory's basketball team Thursday noon. The alumni team was: Robert Powell, Bob Haas, Lehr Reese, Richard Herman, Richard Werner, and Gene Jordan. An exciting game was played the score being tied at the third quarter 19-19. The game was won by Mt. Cory's team with the score being 35-33.

The game scheduled with Van Buren, January 8, has been advanced to Tuesday, January 5. This change has been made because the Farmers' Institute is to be held at Van Buren on January 8.

The various classes held their class parties in the school building Thursday. Each class had a gift exchange in its assigned room. A good time was reported by each class despite the gas rationing.

A \$100 bond was sold last Wednesday. The amount of war stamps sold was \$36.10.

School will be dismissed Friday for New Year's Day.

We wish you a very Happy New Year.

SHORTS AND MIDLINGS—Brood sows kept through the winter on a straight corn ration are likely to be slackers at and after farrowing time. Extra pounds on sows detract from the national meat supply.

Perhaps some of the Russian soldier's fighting ability is due to his fondness for cvinaya tushonka, which is lean pork flavored with salt, pepper, onions, and bay leaf. Lend-lease has placed an order for 3,000,000 pounds for overseas shipment.

Sudden changes of temperature in dairy barns or in poultry houses reduce production of milk and eggs. Cows and hens do not work overtime to replace shortages from the day before.

One of the U. S. military secrets is a method of ridding soldiers' clothes of lice and their eggs in one hour. Equipment used in the process is light enough to follow soldiers up to the front lines.

Although Late In Coming, Bluffton Area Is Blanketed With Snow On Christmas

After warmer weather on Thursday had considerably dimmed Bluffton's prospects for a white Christmas, large flakes of snow starting to fall about Friday noon, gave the Bluffton district the blanket of snow for a traditional Yuletide setting.

With some snow remaining from the previous cold spell and the fresh new snow falling on the afternoon of Christmas Day, the town and countryside were covered with at least two inches of snow by mid-afternoon.

The snow was wet and although it provided the much desired white covering for Christmas day, most of it was melted and gone with the rising temperatures of the next day.

Temperatures moved steadily upwards to a maximum of about 52 degrees on Sunday. A temperature fall started the first of the week and with an excessive amount of moisture in the air a dense fog occurred.

A movement toward colder weather is predicted which may be attended by a light rain or a light snow.

SPORTS IN SHORTS

Basketball in Bluffton, under the spell of the Yuletide holiday season, is in for a brief respite until classes are resumed at the high school and the college after the advent of the new year. Bluffton High cagers will face Lima St. Rose here next Tuesday, and the collegians will play Wilberforce on the Bluffton floor January 8.

A record of two undefeated seasons in Hancock county league play was broken last Friday night as Arlington beat Mt. Cory, 37 to 26.

Jim Morrison, Arlington coach, was mentor at Mt. Cory during the last two seasons when his team emerged unbeaten in league play. Before succumbing Friday, Mt. Cory had won 18 straight league games.

How effective Bluffton High's Pi-rates are operating as giant-killers can be determined from their 47 to 31 romp over Ada, which had been heralded as one of the best outfits in this area. Earlier in the week Ada humbled Wapakoneta, 62 to 35, with sharp-shooting guard Lee Tressel garnering 30 points. Against Bluffton Tressel scored 15 points, nearly half of his team's total.

On the basis of early season play, Bluffton and Bellefontaine loom as the favorites in the Western Buckeye league cage race, which will get under way with the start of the new year. Last week Bellefontaine beat Kenton, 49 to 26.

Wapakoneta lost two games last week, a 62 to 35 decision to Ada and a 40-28 reversal to Lima South.

Celebration Of New Years Not Always Observed On Jan. 1

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In England, Dec. 25 was New Year's Day until the time of William the Conqueror. His coronation happened to occur on Jan. 1. Hence the year was ordered to commence on that day. The English, however, fell into the practice of the rest of medieval Christendom which began the year with the spring equinox, the 22nd of March.

JANUARY 1 CHOSEN The Gregorian calendar in 1582 restored Jan. 1 as the opening of the year. Catholic countries adopted the change immediately and the Protestants followed suit somewhat later.

Among the Romans, after the reformation of the calendar, the first day of January, as well as the entire month, was dedicated to the economic god Janus. He was represented with two faces, one looking forward, the other backward, to indicate that he stood between the old and the new year, with a regard to both.

Throughout January the Romans offered sacrifices to Janus upon 12 altars, and on the first day of the month they were careful so to regulate their conduct that their every word and act should be a happy omen for all of the ensuing days of the year.

GOOD CHEER Ovid and other Latin writers refer to the suspension of all litigation and argument, the reconciliation of differences between friends, the smoking altars and the white robed processions to the capitol upon the first day of Janus or New Year's day as it is now commonly known.

In the Old World the custom was established of sitting up on New Year's even to see the old year out and the new year in and was carried over to United States. It is probably more general in this country now than in any European country. New Year's is also the time of

resolutions and with the country at war there no doubt will be millions who will start the new year with resolutions in the hope that peace will come to the world in the not too distant future.

Sawmill Closes Doors Because Of Labor Shortage

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war production has necessitated the use of native lumber for purposes served previously by steel. For example lumber planks are being used now for the road bed of bridges and many boats are being made now of oak planking.

The saw mill here has a heavy backlog of orders which it was unable to meet even in full production. Some of the orders were in units of 150,000 feet each, it was stated by James Balmer, present manager.

22 MEN EMPLOYED In normal operations the firm required the full time services of 22 men. The minimum number of workers needed to operate the present plant would be 11 men, it was stated. These would be composed of four men in the mill, four cutters in the woods, one yard man, one truck driver and the general manager who would supervise plant operations and arrange for the purchase of the logs.

If something near this number of workers could be secured, it is very likely that the plant would resume operations in the near future because of the very heavy demand for the firm's products, Balmer stated.

Many sawmills throughout the country are faced with similar problems with the result that hundreds of mills have closed down with others operating only on a part time basis. The paradox of the situation is that the difficulties have arisen at a time when the demand is greatest, it was stated.

At the present time Balmer is continuing the purchase of quality standing timber in the district and sending it to other mills, still in operation, in nearby cities.

Shortage of Baby Buggies Stirs Action

Bluffton mothers who have had to carry their babies because of baby buggy shortages may find the situation relieved, it was indicated in press dispatches this week.

The National Retail Furniture association announced that it would ask the federal government to do something about the shortage in baby buggies.

Some mothers here have been forced to carry their babies and in addition are faced with shortages of other baby equipment.

The combination of an increasing birth rate and the decreased furniture production have caused an acute situation in many homes. The lessened production threatened the supply of high chairs, bassinets, cribs, play pens and other types of baby equipment.

In a small community like Bluffton the situation is not as acute as in some of the larger centers. Here where one's needs are generally known there is a considerable amount of loaning of baby equipment.

Residents Are Asked To Aid Commission

Bluffton residents are asked to assist in the collection of historical data of the community for the Ohio War History Commission, it was announced by Miss Ocie Anderson, Bluffton public librarian in charge of the local collections.

Interesting material relating to the community in its past activities since the war should be given to Miss Anderson who will then forward it to the Allen county unit of the organization in Lima.

Newspaper clippings of local activities, pictures of soldiers and sailors, letters, diaries, war committee reports and anything relating to community activities in war time should be saved and turned in to Miss Anderson.

Indebtedness on goods purchased on the installment plan was reduced, \$1,500,000,000 in the first six months of 1942.



Troop 82 by Maynard Pogue

Bluffton High School Notes

Bluffton High school students are enjoying a week's vacation and will return to their classes Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Final examinations for the first semester will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, January 13 and 14, it was announced this week by Prin. Gerhard Buhler. Most of the examinations will be given during the regular class schedule on these two days, it was stated. The second semester will start on Monday, Jan. 18.

Twenty-six students in the upper four grades made the school honor roll for the second six weeks. The rating system is somewhat stricter than in the honor rolls of previous years. A student taking four subjects must have ten points and one taking five subjects must have 12 points.

The numerical equivalents are as follows: A, 5 points; A-, 4 points; B+, 3 points; B, 2 points; B-, 1 point. The following students are on the honor roll:

Seniors — Robert Pannabecker, David Smucker, Dorothy Anderson, Harriet Fett, Aline Hilty, Adah Lehman, Mary Ellen Luginbuhl, Alice Oyer, Barbara Jean Triplett, Juniors—Mary Margaret Basinger, Beverly Biery, Sophomores—Otto Klassen, Sarah Amstutz, Juanita Bame, Esther Berky, Alice Jean Bixel, Genevieve Buhler, Eileen Haller, Mary Lou Schmidt, Jean Ann Steinman, Eileen Weinhild.

Freshmen—Kenneth Moser, Robert Ramseyer, Leonard Smucker, David Stearns, Lucretia Johnson.

Calvin Dudgeon has been doing an excellent job of fire building in the meeting hall stove. The room is always warm for the arrival of the scouts at 7:30.

Soap carving will be on the program for next Monday evening. A diagram of the animal or object to be carved will be prepared before the meeting and the actual carving will be started in the patrol period.

A game of Black Man was enjoyed by all, followed by the closing ceremony.

Harry Burkholder led the scouts in the scout circle with a new presentation of the scout oath. The meeting was closed with the scout masters benediction led by Rod Nonnamaker.

Troop 56 by Malcolm Basinger The meeting was held in the Menonite church basement at 7:30 Monday evening. It was opened by the scout oath and law led by Richard Oberly. This was followed by a game of staking in charge of Scoutmaster Karl Gable. A short patrol

Lora Schultz, Biology—Lysle Messner, Chemistry and Algebra—Robert Heiks, English—Mable Hill, Latin II—Magdalene Oyer, Home Economics—Ruth Neuenschwander, Grace Adams, Social Science—James Welty.

An unusually busy season of Christmas activities was climaxed at the school with a Christmas party and dance in the gymnasium last Wednesday night and a Christmas play Thursday afternoon.

Starting at the second semester the standard Red Cross course in home nursing will be offered to the students of the high school, if enough are interested in the course. One of the instructors will be Mrs. Ernest Bigelow, graduate of Yale School of Nursing.

Pre-induction courses will be taught the second semester in connection with the physics classes in charge of Prin. Buhler and the shop classes in charge of Haydn Steiner. In addition a course in aeronautics will be taught if enough students enroll. The course will be taught by Mr. Buhler or Mr. Stettler.

The Girls' Athletic Association basketball team will play the Bluffton college girls' team on Monday, Jan. 11, it was announced by Dorothy Anderson, club president.

Class basketball tournaments will begin in the near future, it was announced this week.

With five straight victories, basketball enthusiasm at the high school is running high. The first game of the new year will be with Lima St. Rose on the local court Tuesday night.

were played. Roll was then taken by Assistant Scoutmaster Paul Wingate.

Dan Niswander received his Life award while Robert Ramseyer received his Star Badge.

The meeting was closed by the Scoutmaster's benediction led by Assistant Scoutmaster Paul Wingate.

Price ceilings have been removed from whole dried eggs during the months of January and February. The purpose is to insure an adequate supply of eggs moving to dehydrating plants to fill the needs for the armed forces and the Allies in 1943.

Advertisement for Bluffton's City Market. Features a grid of products and prices: FLOUR (ALL PURPOSE, Large Sack 83c), SHORTENING (We Have It, 3 Lb. Can 64c), CRACKERS (BAKERMAID, Lb. Box 18c), PANCAKE FLOUR (HARVEST TIME, 5 Lb. Bag 21c), BUCKWHEAT FLOUR (PURE KILN DRIED, 5 Lb. Bag 33c), SYRUP (CHAMPION, Tall Bottle 19c), SOUPS (CAMPBELL'S—Most Varieties, 2 Tall Cans 23c), TEMPO (Coffee Substitute—No Limit, Lb. 19c), BREAD (Vitamin Enriched, 3 Large Loaves 29c), STOCK SALT (Get It Here, 100 Lb. Bag \$1.05), OYSTER SHELLS (Triple Screened, Large Bag 79c), EGG MASH (For More Eggs, 100 Lb. Bag \$2.89), ORANGES (JUICY FLORIDAS, Doz. 35c), CELERY (GIANT PASCAL, Stalk 19c), LETTUCE (Solid Heads, 2 For 29c), RAISINS (CALIFORNIA SEEDLESS, Bulk Lb. 13c), PRUNES (Choice Bulk, Lb. 11c), GRAPES (EMPEROR, 2 Lbs. 35c), WALNUTS (ENGLISH EMERALDS, Lb. 29c), FIGS (Just Arrived, Pkg. 17c), RINSO (OXYDOL — CHIPSO, Large Box 23c). Bottom text: BLUFFTON'S CITY MARKET, ROBERT (BOB) HOCHSTETTLER, MGR.