



Four bedrooms, a huge living room, plus an open planned kitchen and family room make this a desirable home for a large family. There is an enclosed terrace complete with outdoor barbecue behind the two-car garage. A second door connects the garage with the porch and the well protected entry. The bedroom behind the kitchen can be used as a study or maid's room if desired. Construction is brick veneer. 1808 Sq. Ft.

### First Aid For Ailing Houses

By ROGER C. WHITMAN

#### CRABGRASS IN LAWN

**QUESTION:** Our lawn began to be overrun with crabgrass from an indifferent neighbour's lawn and we have been having a hard time getting rid of it. Can you recommend anything?

**ANSWER:** Several herbicides have been found effective for control of crabgrass, especially when applied before the crabgrass germinates (end of April beginning of May). These, however, also retard or prevent germination of lawn grass seeds for two to four months. I suggest you send 15 cents (no stamps) to Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. 20402, for copy of leaflet No. A1-77-51, "Better Lawns, etc." giving detailed, specific information.

#### INSULATING ATTIC SPACE

**QUESTION:** We bought our 10 years old house several months ago. I plan to insulate the attic space soon, using blanket type insulation. Is it necessary to install this all the way up to the roof peak?

**ANSWER:** The recommended procedure is to put the insulating material between the rafters up to ceiling height. Then it is run horizontally across the opposite rafters and down to the eaves. Insulation between rafters should be so placed that there is an air space between insulation and roof. Ventilating louvers should be installed high up in the gable ends to ventilate the air space above the ceiling area. Allow one square foot of louver opening for each 300 square feet of attic floor area. If the attic is left unfinished, insulating the attic floor is the simplest procedure.

#### WHITENING MORTAR

**QUESTION:** We have just had a home built and wanted a white fireplace. However, the mason used a gray mortar, making the fireplace look darker. Is it possible to whiten the mortar in some way?

**ANSWER:** Scrub the mortar clean. When it's dry, paint it, using the same type of white paint used on the brick facing.

#### PAINTED RADIATORS PEEL

**QUESTION:** During some free time at the beginning of this year, I painted all our downstairs radiators, to get that job over with. I painted them with a flat paint I intend to use on the walls and was careful to clean and remove all grease, wax, etc., as you frequently recommend, first. But the paint has started to peel off. What do you suggest to correct this?

**ANSWER:** If the radiator surfaces were thoroughly cleaned of grease, wax, soot, etc., before the paint was applied, the peeling may be due to the radiators heating up before the paint was thoroughly dry (very likely during January!), or the paint coat is too thick. While the radiator is cold, remove all loose and peeling paint, and have an absolutely clean surface by wiping with fine steel wool and turpentine. Then apply a thin coat (or coats) of paint. And keep the radiator unheated until the paint has thoroughly dried. I suggest you wait until the end of the heating season before redoing the job.

#### DAMPNESS IN CLOSET

**QUESTION:** We have a downstairs coat closet, at a corner of the house (two outside walls) in which is very damp. Garments

left there for any length of time develop mildew. We have a brick house, built on a crawl space, but no dampness problem in the rest of the house. How can we get rid of the dampness?

**ANSWER:** Sounds exactly as though you have plaster walls, and that the closet's plaster was applied directly against the brick. When warm, humid house air contacts the cooler masonry-plaster surface, it condenses, creating a dampness problem. An insulating air space should be provided between plaster and brick. False walls should be installed over one-inch furring strips, using insulating board or plasterboard. Painting the surface of the false wall which faces the brick wall with aluminum paint will act as a vapor barrier. Using an electric damp-chasing unit (under shaped heating rod) in the closet will help keep the air circulating and dry, preventing development of mildew. The unit is merely plugged into a convenient electric outlet and consumes only the equivalent of a 25-watt bulb. It's available at many housewares dealers and electrical appliance stores.

#### PLASTIC TILE ON CONCRETE

**QUESTION:** I plan to install an extra powder room in the

corner of our basement family room, using plasterboard for partitioning it off. I would like to cover the walls with plastic tile. How can the tile be applied to the two concrete foundation walls which will form two sides?

**ANSWER:** Plastic, or any other kind of tile, should not be applied directly to any type of solid masonry wall. Gypsum wallboard should be put over furring strips, and the plastic tile applied according to manufacturer's instructions which should be available from your tile dealer.

#### NO DUST, NO COBWEBS

**QUESTION:** We bought a new home. The attic and cellar are full of cobwebs. Is there anything that could be used to reduce the terrible dust we get when we try to sweep them down?

**ANSWER:** Using a vacuum cleaner to remove the webs, instead of trying to sweep them down, reduces the dust considerably.

#### QUESTIONS

**QUESTION:** A chipping made me a cutting and board and maple bread board. What treatment is recommended before using to lengthen the life of the wood? What treatment is necessary to prevent the board retaining food odors, and vice versa?

**ANSWER:** To the clean wood surface, apply a soaking coat of top quality vegetable oil. After an hour, wipe off any excess. Allow a few days for thorough drying and oil penetration, then repeat soaking oil treatment.

#### SAGGING WOOD GUTTERS

**QUESTION:** We just purchased an old frame house in excellent condition. The wood gutters, at each end of the roof, are sagging. How can this be corrected?

**ANSWER:** The hanger straps supporting the gutters may have loosened. Or new brackets may be needed. If so, they should be added to raise sagging gutters.

#### Air Layering House Plants

Sometimes at the Plant Research Institute certain long-stemmed house plants like aphelandras and dracaenas present a problem. They grow taller and taller until they must either be moved to a larger house or be pruned back and allowed to branch out at the base into smaller and more compact plants with two or three main shoots. Quite often the problem is solved by cutting off the tops and rooting them in a heated propagating bench.

Most homeowners who have such kinds of plants will find this last recourse to be a difficult one for they seldom have the equipment to do a thorough job. Dieffenbachias are an exception, for they will root in a jar of water.

A good solution, and a fascinating one to carry out, is to root the top by means of air layering, which will result in a neat shapely plant on a short stem all ready for potting with brand new roots.

The method of plant propagation known as air layering is not by any means new. It was practiced many centuries ago by the Chinese and used to be called pot layering or marcottage. With the invention of polyethylene film this old method of not layering became more extensively used for increasing many plants otherwise difficult to root.

The old way was to make an incision in the stem, place two halves of a split pot around it, then fill the pot with moss and sprinkle the moss with water about three times a day.

Now with the newer polyethylene wraps it is unnecessary to sprinkle after the initial watering. Here's how to perform this unique propagating operation:

1. Have at hand a sharp knife, a double handful of damp sphagnum moss, a 6 x 8 inch sheet of polyethylene film, some rubber bands and twine.

2. Remove any leaves or twigs in the selected limb or stem for three or four inches above and below where the incision is to be made.

3. Make a long slanting cut upward about one quarter or one half way through the stem of the plant or twig. Keep this incision open by inserting a small chip of wood or a toothpick, and so prevent it from closing and healing itself.

4. Dust the cut with a mild home-use powder sold as a propagating aid.

5. Enclose the injured area in a ball of moist sphagnum as

## Island News Page

2 The Guardian, Charlottetown, Sat., Dec. 11, 1965.

### Commission Proposes New Water Rate Plan

By RALPH CAMERON

The long search for a businesslike basis on which to operate the water department comes to a climax next Tuesday when the Commissioners of Sewers and Water Supply present a new schedule of rates to the Public Utilities Commission.

Chairman S. E. Green said the commissioners had been trying for two years to obtain a proper base for water rates but had been held back by lack of producing water for city consumption. However, a recently completed production cost survey had provided the needed information and the proposed new rate structure was based on it.

Although relations between the commissioners and city council had been on a far more cordial basis than for many past years, there had been a growing feeling in council that the water commission was not returning sufficient revenue to pay its own operating and bond charges. The subject was debated in council on several occasions and a point meeting between the two bodies saw council receive assurance water rates would be increased this year with a resulting greater revenue to the city.

#### FIGURES DELAYED

However, delay in receiving the production cost figures held up introduction of new rates and councilors had noted at a meeting earlier this fall city revenues for the year would be below estimates because the new water rates were not in effect.

Although the water commissioners are a separately elected body and not responsible to city council, by statute the city corporation has to guarantee and issue any bonds needed by the

water department for construction or other costs. In return the department at the end of the year turns over to the city all funds over operating costs.

#### OCCASIONAL DISPUTE

It is this provision which causes occasional dispute between the two bodies with the result being a growing feeling the water commission, as a separately elected body should also be made statutorily independent of council and have authority to issue and redeem its own bonds.

While the new schedule of rates proposed by the commission has not been made public, Chairman Green said it was designed to place payments for water services on a more equitable basis so far as citizens are concerned. If the new schedule is approved by the Public Utilities Commission it is believed the rates will go into effect January 1.

### Remanded On Two Charges

Kenneth B. Bourgoys of Saint John, N.B., who faced the charge of false pretences in City Police Court Thursday morning and was remanded to Dec. 10, faced another similar charge yesterday morning. He was remanded in both cases to today by Magistrate A.J. Haslam, Q.C.

John Gallagher, Hampshire, charged with theft over \$50 was remanded today.

Gordon E. Leard, city, was fined \$10 without cost or five days for failing to yield the right of way.

A city resident pleaded not guilty to a charge of drunk and incapable. He was remanded to today.

### Take Key Out If You Park

Christmas shoppers who leave their vehicles parked on Charlottetown streets should remove ignition keys and lock their cars, especially if gifts are left in them.

Police Chief Sterns Webster yesterday asked the co-operation of the general public who can prevent cases of automobile and gift thefts during the Christmas shopping season.

Each year about this time the department receives a number of stolen car reports as well as a rash of parcel thefts from parked automobiles.

This could be avoided if people would remove the ignition keys and lock their cars before leaving them to go shopping.

#### Give Music This Christmas

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### GUEST SPEAKER

Ronald Mellish, third-year student at the Maritime Christian College, Charlottetown, will be guest speaker at Frederick Church of Christ tomorrow. Mr. Mellish is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mellish, 235 Elm Ave., Charlottetown.

ing, healthy branches from pencil size to about three quarters of an inch in diameter and leave as many tip leaves on the twig as possible, because these aid in root formation. The dark violet Monge variety and the Preston hybrids such as Coral, Donald Wyman, and Royalty are easiest to root of all the lilacs.

Do not remove the layer for transplanting until at least five or more roots may be seen through the polyethylene emerging from the moss ball. At this time remove the wrapping, sever the main stem of the old plant below the moss and then pot the moss, new roots and upper part of the old plant intact into a 5-inch pot filled with a compost of one-third sand, one-third peat moss, and one-third soil mixture.

These instructions are intended for doing this layering operation on indoor plants such as rubber plants, aphelandras, dieffenbachias, dracaenas or similar plants with fleshy stems. It may also be performed with success on many outside trees and shrubs. The main difference in procedure is to shade the polyethylene and wrapped moss ball with aluminum foil or kraft paper.

The best time for air layering of garden plants is in May and the easiest plant to practise on is the lilac. Choose young, mature

### R.C.M.P. MARINE DIVISION

Requires marine constables, single men between 18 and 29 years, minimum 5' 8", at least grade eleven education, for deck and engine room duties. For further information, write The Commissioner, R.C.M.P., Ottawa, 7, Ontario.

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### HOW TO OBTAIN DESIGN BOOK

The latest design book entitled "Canadian Guide to Home Planning and Design" is now available at the offices of The Guardian and The Evening Patriot for \$1. tax free. This new edition includes color selection, etc., plus over 100 popular new designs to choose from. Also included are full designs on how to order blueprints.

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### ACCIDENT AT CROSSROADS

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Schellen, New Perth, were taken to Charlottetown Hospital shortly after three o'clock yesterday

afternoon when the car in which they were driving overturned near Crossroads. The couple was later released from

hospital. RCMP who investigated the accident said the Schellen car suffered extensive damage.

witnesses in 15 days of hearing that started Nov. 22. Rear Admiral Louis Thayer, who heads the board, said it probably will not reconvene for 16 days.

### Owners Of Cruise Ship Say Passengers Careless

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—Owners of the cruise ship Yarmouth Castle accused its passengers of negligence Friday in a lawsuit contending the company is not to blame for the fiery Nov. 13 sinking that cost 90 lives, including those of two Canadians.

Charade Steamship Corp., a Panamanian corporation, asked U.S. District Court to limit its liability to \$32,402. This includes \$24,652 received from passen-

gers for the scheduled Miami-Nassau trip and six lifeboats valued at a total of \$7,750.

Charade said the passage money and boats represent the Yarmouth Castle's sole value.

More than a \$15,000,000 in claims and suits by passengers and members have been filed against Charade and two subsidiaries, Yarmouth Cruises Lines Inc., and Yarmouth Cruises Inc.

Charade said in its court pe-

tion that the losses were caused "solely by or contributed to by the default, fault or neglect of the claimants" or else resulted from causes for which the company was not liable.

A U.S. Coast Guard board of inquiry into the disaster suspended sessions after hearing 41

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