

Across the Editor's Desk

THE NEW YORKER magazine, contemplating the propagation of a new 65-petaled nasturtium, gnashes its teeth, shouting, "Like everything else in the world, you're running nasturtiums into the ground."

Steady, now, boys! Don't get twittery! The progress of the human race coincides inexorably with adding more stories to skyscrapers, more miles to the gallon, more inches to the running broad jump, more wisecracks to the sophisticated magazine, more elephants to the circus, and, of course, more petals to the nasturtium. It's the law of life. Dean Swift, who lived long before AAA, eulogized the man who caused two blades of grass to grow where but one grew before, and his doctrine is painfully re-appearing out of the wreckage of war and depression. After all, New Yorker, wouldn't it be absurd to reward the horticulturist for not raising nasturtium petals?

A LOVE for plants and flowers is the tribute only an enlightened mind can pay to Nature," says Mrs. I. C. Anderson, *Better Homes & Gardens* reader, of Portland, Oregon. That's worth reading two or three times. It makes you think.

THE stag party is becoming more and more of an institution in American home life. Now comes a unique suggestion from one of you: "Why not give a stag party for women, the husbands entertaining the wives?"

Good idea. Many wives may think a stag dinner means crude hunks of steak, burned potatoes, and other badly prepared items, served in the manner of a tribe of Australian bushmen. Maybe husbands do have some real ideas about foods which will appeal to women as well as men, after all. Let's try the "stag for women."

IN THE early spring of 1928 I visited the home of Will Rogers and wrote an article for *Better Homes & Gardens* about his love for his garden. It's therefore with a peculiar appreciation of Will Rogers' greatness that I learn Fred Howard, eminent rosarian of Los Angeles, has named a beautiful new rose the "Will Rogers Rose." It's dark, velvety red, and very large—emblematic of the healthy robustness and unique beauty of this great man's life.

THE PICTURE ON THE COVER

IT'S of a model we've meticulously built at small scale to illustrate with exact realism the harmonious colors of the charming gardened home we feature in this April *Better Homes & Gardens*. With its white-painted brick walls and roof in variable shades of purple, gray, and green, and its two-story porch, hung with wisteria vines, the entire house breathes restfulness and close relationship to the garden beyond it at the rear. Moreover, the inside plan makes access from principal rooms to the privacy of the garden easy and brings the garden always within view from both upstairs and downstairs rear windows of the house.

the home is on Long Island. JAY N. ("Ding") DARLING, former chief of the U. S. Biological Survey, head of the new national conservation federation, has written a startling article, "Man's Blind Attack on Nature," which appears on page 31.

WE OF *Better Homes & Gardens* have often spoken of the value of developing hobbies, emphasizing that it's better to use your own talents, modest tho they may be, than to depend entirely upon the talents of others for entertainment. All who are interested in this will appreciate knowing, if they don't already, that there's a special radio program called the "Music Hobby Program," given over the NBC-WJZ network at 8 o'clock eastern standard time, furnished entirely by non-professional performers.

This program, Major Bowes' Amateur Hour, and others of somewhat similar nature prove that the nation has an astoundingly fine "choir invisible" of talented musicians and entertainers who would otherwise remain unknown. The home musician is coming into his own by way of radio. It means a better day for artistic and cultural training, and delabored in obscurity that more beauty may come into the waiting world.

Editor

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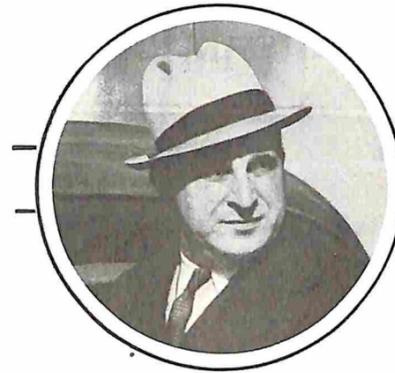
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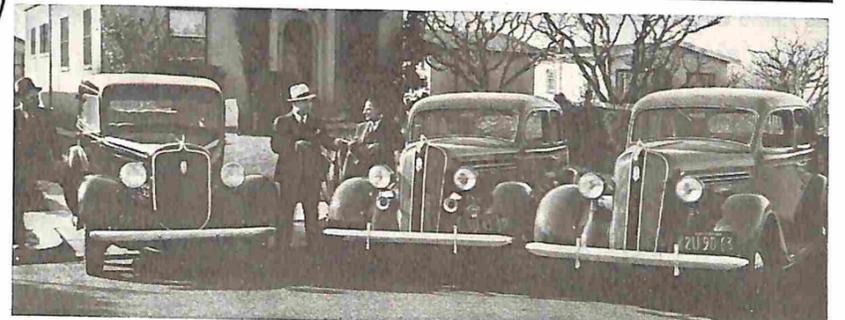
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"As Sheriff, I Needed A Tough Car!"



A CERTIFIED INTERVIEW WITH DEPUTY SHERIFF PAT ENOS, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

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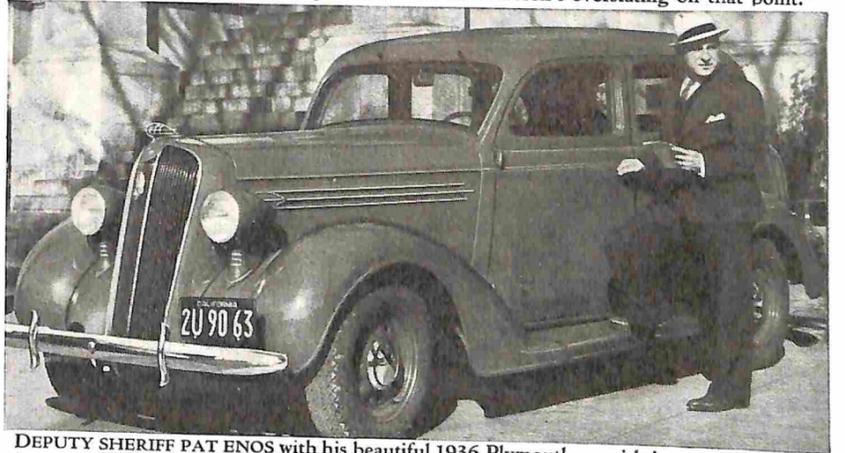
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