



J. CARLOS DEREMO, who was in the Royal Flying Corps during World War I, with his wife met Queen Elizabeth II in London recently during a reunion of the 15 surviving pilots of an original group of 400; Deremo, 76, of 22965 Manning, Farmington, spent 52 years in the real estate business, merging his firm last year into Real Estate One.

## Suburban Gardener

# Golden Chain Tree Bloom Is Spectacular

By BETTY FRANKEL

The golden chain tree seems to have been designed with flower gardens in mind. This small tree is laden in June with long drooping clusters of golden yellow flowers that combine beautifully with iris and lemons and other early perennials.

The golden chain (or laburnum, as it is known botanically) is a member of the pea family and each blossom is shaped like a small sweet-pea with petals formed into a keel and wings. The cluster resembles the long flower clusters of wisteria, which are also members of the pea family. The leaves are

like three-leaf clovers, but are larger and a leathery dark green.

Actually, the tree is rather undistinguished most of the year, but when it is in bloom it is spectacular.

This beauty was appreciated by the early colonists who brought the "beane trefyle" to this country from Europe. It was highly prized in colonial gardens, and would make an attractive addition to modern gardens with an early American flavor. THERE ARE several varieties cultivated. The most popular is the hybrid variety, Laburnum vossii, which has

flower clusters that are often over a foot in length. The weeping form, Laburnum pendulum, is reputed to be even harder than Laburnum vossii. Either one can be expected to grow rather quickly, reaching about 25 feet in height.

The laburnums are easy to transplant and grow in any ordinary garden soil that is well drained. They do not like wet feet. They will grow in full sun or in semi-shade, and will even thrive on the north side of a building.

Bone meal or lime added to the soil is beneficial.

## Asparagus Patch Needs Fertilizer

Asparagus plants provide abundant yields if fertilized properly, points out a Michigan State University horticulturist.

"To maintain good spear production, asparagus plants need fertilizer application during late June," says Robert Herner. "If fertilizer is applied at this time, the roots have a chance to store it for next year's growth."

Use a complete fertilizer for your home asparagus patch, Herner recommends. Complete fertilizers include 5-10-10, 5-10-5, 6-24-12, or 10-10-10. Apply 2½ to three pounds per 100 square feet of garden area.

Herner recommends a soil test every two years to accurately determine fertilizer and lime needs. Contact the county Cooperative Extension Service office for more information about soil testing.

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## Garden Reminders

Trees and shrubs can still be planted if container-grown stock is used....Spray roses regularly with benomyl or other fungicide to control blights, more disease-resistant in many cases and obtain greater yield (so you can use less space) as well as larger leaves, fruits or roots.

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