



It isn't just home town pride when we proclaim, with considerable emphasis, that New Bern's own Janet Latham is television's most delightful entertainer of children in this entire viewing area.

Generally speaking, each of the three tv stations in our coastal section do a creditable job with their staff produced juvenile programs, but Janet's portion of the WNBE Channel 12 Fun House is handled so well that she is in a class by herself.

An excellent commercial artist, she wasn't hired to perform before the camera. Chiefly, her duties called for the creation of drawings to be used in con-

junction with advertising and promotional sports.

Fortunately, someone at WNBE came up with the bright idea of having Janet appear on a children's show, where she could complete impromptu pictures from a straight or curved line, or a lopsided circle that moppets placed on a page of her drawing board.

Adults as well as small tots marvel each afternoon at the way she converts these meaningless scrawls into animals, trees, houses, automobiles, boats, and humans. Her imagination seems to have no limits.

Janet's greatest charm as a television personality, aside from her remarkable talent as an artist, stems from the fact that she makes no attempt to project an image that isn't her true self.

Parents who have never met her may have wondered what the real Janet Latham is like. Speaking with the knowledge of an old and admiring friend, we hasten to say that a visit with her on Fun House, via your home television set is sufficient to reveal her as she is and has always been.

Her sweet smile, as pleasant as any you'll ever see on your screen, is authentic. She wears it off camera too. And her gentle, reassuring manner with children isn't fabricated. Janet is like that with everybody.

No doubt about it, she heads our list.



EYEFUL . . . Lovely Lidia Henriques is looking at you through the jaw of a baby shark, a typical example of the interesting items on display at the Miami, Fla., Seaquarium — the Shark's jaw, that is.

GARDEN TIME

By M. E. GARDNER
N. C. State College

The pruning of ornamental shrubs is one garden operation which is most likely to be neglected, poorly done or overdone. Many gardeners still think that they are not doing a good job unless they do heavy cutting or, sometimes, de-horning. Such treatment results in destroying the character of the plant and it may require two or three years to overcome such severe pruning. In the meantime, the plants look ugly and their growth processes are slowed down due to the heavy reduction of leaf area.

Frequently, the wrong plant is selected for a particular location, when preparing the landscape plan for your home, and then an effort is made to keep the plant in bounds by pruning. It is much the better plan to select the right plant for the right location in the beginning, and thus your pruning problems are reduced to a minimum.

If you have plants which need pruning, now is a good time to get the job done. I like what I choose to call deep pruning. This type of pruning is employed to correct growth in such broadleaved evergreen plants as Burford's Chinese holly, ligustrum, sasanqua camellia, photinia and other similar types. To me, it is a sensible treatment because if you had not seen the plant before pruning you probably could not recognize that it had been pruned at all.

As an example we might consider two Burford plants growing in good locations. They are about six feet tall and have a spread of about eight feet. They need some corrective pruning but no severe treatment.

Remember that you are going deep by removing whole branches from the inside and some shorter laterals from the periphery or outside. This will require careful study before you do any pruning because you want to accomplish two things: maintain the general shape and character of the plant; and select only those branches which will not remove too much foliage in any one area of the plant. The idea is to open up the plant uniformly rather than

leaving gaping holes here and there. This will admit light penetration and promote the growth of foliage on the inner portions.

Now is a good time, also, to check your shade trees. There are always some small limbs which have died due to shading. These are rather easily removed and, in many cases, you can remove them yourself with a pruning saw, if the trees are not too tall. Removal now will prevent wind breakage during summer storms and cluttering your lawn grasses.

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