

PLANNING & PLANTING
for the
HOME BEAUTIFUL



By
Clarence B. Fargo

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Home Beautiful

By
Clarence B. Fargo

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FOREWORD

EVERYWHERE, we find folk who realize the truth of the saying that "Flowers are the sweetest things God ever made and forgot to put a soul into." They love the flowers and shrubs, the trees and the great outdoors, and usually they have—

A Little Time;
A Little Money;
A Little Plot of Ground;

and the wish to combine the three that they might have and enjoy beautiful home surroundings that shall be largely the work of their own hands and an expression of their own individualities.

This book is written as a composite answer to those questions that for years have been coming almost daily to my desk from all sections of the country, from such folk as these, who find many problems, the answers to which they do not know, and which they wish to have solved for them.

In seeking to answer these questions, and helping to solve the problems of these seekers after knowledge in the realm of floriculture, if I have succeeded, even in small degree, I have been well repaid.

THE AUTHOR.



A GARDEN

“The Lord God planted a garden
In the first white days of the World,
And He set there an angel warden
In a garment of light enfurled.

So near to the peace of Heaven,
That the hawk might nest with the wren,
For there in the cool of the even
God walked with the first of men.

And I dream that these garden-closes
With their shade and their sun-flecked sod
And their Lilies and bowers of Roses,
Were laid by the hand of God.

The kiss of the sun for pardon,
The song of the birds for mirth,
One is nearer God's heart in a garden
Than anywhere else on earth.”

D. F. G.

GOD AND MAN

“IN the Beginning GOD created the heavens and the earth.” After looking upon the works of creation, and seeing that they were good, he then created Man in His Own image, giving him dominion over the land and the sea and over every living thing therein.

Man was created as an intelligent being, and provided by an allwise Creator with all things needful wherewith to carve out his own destiny. The fertile soil, the minerals that lay beneath, “the cattle upon a thousand hills,” a varied and wonderful plant and animal life, and all this for what purpose?

In the words of the famous poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow:

“Life is real, life is earnest
And the grave is not its goal.”

Since the Creation, God and Man have been working together in a partnership as it were. Man was not given a perfected world and a life of ease, but he was given all the tools needed wherewith himself to work toward perfection; making it possible for him to attain success in his own field, and through his own efforts.

And just for a moment, at this point, let us consider what we mean when we speak of Success. Not the acquisition of a large fortune for a life of ease and selfish enjoyment. Contentment is not success, for even the raggedest and most ignorant negroes of the southland are both happy and contented as a rule when their physical wants and needs have been supplied. Mere contentment is very often but another name for laziness and selfishness.

True and real success then, as the author sees it, is only to be attained in the rendering of service to others; to the human race.

Morse, the inventor of the telegraph, in his first message over the wire exclaimed: "What hath GOD wrought?" Giving a full measure of credit to the Creator for the wonder that had at last been brought forth through the cooperation of God and Man; Morse was one of the high types of success.

Likewise Alexander Graham Bell in his invention and perfection of the telephone, the Wrights with the aeroplane, Moses, Samuel and in more modern times Washington, Lincoln and Wilson as statesmen, Paul, Luther, Wesley, as preachers of the Gospel, Shakespeare in the realm of literature, Columbus as a navigator, William Penn, Benjamin Franklin; we could name them all day long. They who have lived and labored to benefit the human family are legion. And many there are whose

names have been forgotten, but the fruits of their work live endlessly on after them as a perpetual monument to their success.

And all this but leads down to the real thought back of this chapter; of those men and women, whoever they are, and wherever they may have lived, who have observed, studied and carried on a labor of love to bring forth on the face of the earth, improvements in the plant life, and the fruits of which labor have been an enormous measure of success.

Man has here been using the faculties given him, and through his patience and skill, the remarkable changes that have been brought about have been possible through the processes of hybridizing, by selecting and reselecting, budding and grafting, and gradually has come forth the comparative perfection of plant life as we know it today.

As instances; the Dahlia is one of our most gorgeous and sought after garden flowers; truly immense in size, of great brilliancy and multiplicity of colorings, and in a variety of forms, and it has been less than a century and a half since the first wild dahlias were discovered in the wild and mountainous regions of Mexico.

Likewise the Gladiolus is now one of our most gorgeous and popular of flowers for cutting, and it too has sprung into its present high state from an obscure beginning, coming in its wild form

from the swamps of Darkest Africa. It is a majestic flower indeed in its present day beauty solely because Man has made the most of the opportunity that came his way with the discovery of the first wild plant.

And again, the fame of the Rose has been sung in all ages, and yet until Man began to labor for the improvement of this flower, it was but a single petalled bloom, lacking in fragrance and really insignificant in size. Compare it with the Rose of today. We find it now enormous in size and of full petallage, delightfully fragrant; a flower truly of rare and gorgeous beauty. Is it any wonder that the Rose is acclaimed "Queen of the Floral Kingdom"?

Looking backward into the yesterday, comparing the plants and flowers of the past with the improved forms we now have; wonderful and marvelous creations, the mind must stand both appreciative and amazed.

Through the years Man has been exercising his God-given powers of intellect and vision; he has been performing a labor of love. Taking the material available for his work, as provided by the Creator, he has found both pleasure and satisfaction, as well as success in large measure, and at the same time he has conferred inestimable benefits upon the human race that will endure through all the ages yet to come.

FLOWERS AND THE BIBLE

IN April of the present year, in the city of Washington at the annual banquet of the Washington Florist Club, an address was made by Mr. Homer J. Councilor, on the subject, "Flowers and the Bible."

This address was of so much interest as to appear afterward in the Florists' Exchange, and the subject is so near to the hearts of all those who may be interested in the subject of the Home Beautiful, that the author of this book feels that quotations from this inspiring address will be appreciated by his readers and worthy of a place in this book.

In part, Mr. Councilor said: "Flowers are the most subtle, the most alluring, the most charming creatures that we know. Speaking of them Wordsworth said:

"To me the meanest flower that blows can give
Thoughts that do often lie too deep for tears."

I find myself in accord with Richter, who said: "The Omnipotent has sown His name on the heavens in glittering stars; but upon the earth He planteth His name by tender flowers."

Small wonder that in the Book of Books, the

writers, inspired by the selfsame Power, should have in many cases reached the climax of their writing and the supreme beauty of their thought when they have used the flower as a medium of expressing their otherwise unutterable thoughts.

The writer of that Book which was probably the first to be reduced to writing of all the books of the Bible, namely Job, gave utterance to a most profound truth with a depth of suggestiveness when he said: 'Man that is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower and is cut down.'

What a picture of life! 'Like a flower.' Man—men—like flowers. Yes, like flowers for variety, like flowers in our positions in life, in our popularity, in our service to the world. There is the timid 'Violet' man who hides away in remote spots, and while blessing all who come in contact with him, never projects himself actively into the affairs of the world about; there are the multitudinous 'Dandelion' men, without imagination, without purpose, contributing little but trouble to the State and to society; or again the 'Canadian Thistle' man, handsome, arrogant, but deadly vicious, a law unto himself, a menace to man and beast; the showy 'Chrysanthemum' man; the aristocratic 'Rose' man; the cultured 'Orchid' man.

Like a flower he comes forth. Some only to bud, when the frost ends their career, some to come to

blossom only to be cut down; some to bloom and fill the world with fragrance and passing normally on, leave the seed for succeeding generations. 'He cometh forth like a flower,' indeed.

And speaking in much the same tenor of thought, the Psalmist in referring to the man whose life is actuated by those great, enduring principles which form the foundation of Christianity, declared in the first of the marvelous collection of poems, 'His leaf'—not to mention the flower, but the least part of all—the leaf, 'His leaf also shall not wither and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.'

Isaiah, whose pen was never moved by fear nor a desire for popular favor, declared: 'The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, but the word of our God shall stand forever.' In this striking metaphor, the truth that men wither and fade in their activities, but the laws of God sweep on through time and eternity.

On the other hand, speaking of those men whose lives are marked by courage, and principle, and right living, this same fearless writer declares: 'The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the Rose.'

The Great Teacher in attempting to aid us in establishing a true scale of values made use of the Lilies in such a striking fashion that this is per-

haps the best known reference made to flowers in the entire Bible. He said: 'Consider the Lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin; yet I say unto you that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.'

The utter futility of wasting our years for the superficialities of life could not be more forcefully stated than in this picturesque language.

But the greatest service of flowers is in the carrying of messages that our lips cannot form. The spoken word is merely a means of expressing thoughts and emotions; a means easily capable of misinterpretation and misunderstanding. The artist, with his brush, conveys beyond the power of the poor tongue to voice. So with the musician and his instrument. But to us who are neither musicians nor artists, God has given His fragrant messengers which speak with a myriad of tongues, soul to soul, in a fashion unknown to our lips.

Last week in riding through the lowlands of Mississippi I happened to glance out of the window and caught a momentary glimpse of a little ragged negro lad entering a ramshackle hovel, which in my imagination I pictured as his home. In his hands he carried a spray of fresh, full bloomed Spring flowers. And the thought flashed through my mind; with what magnificent eloquence will those Spring flowers speak of the finer things, in that hut? What a message of refinement, of joy,

of hope will they carry—a message which the ragged lad in his limited experience, and with his probably still more limited education, probably never dreamed of, and much less would think of attempting to express.

So, gentlemen, your greatest service to mankind is in furnishing messengers where words are but jarring noises. In that mysterious book of Revelation, speaking of that perfect land, are these words: 'Was there the tree of Life . . . and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.'

To you is given the priceless privilege in sharing in a most marvelous way in the healing of broken hearts on earth. When you prepare the sprays or wreaths to be carried to those homes of overwhelming sorrow, you are weaving into those pieces that message of unspeakable comfort that 'God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for former things are passed away.'

Thus in a very real way, you are sharing in the lifting of men and women, from the depths of despair and hopelessness, and leading their thoughts to that never failing Comforter, and that Man of Sorrow and Saviour of mankind of whom it was said: 'I am the Rose of Sharon and the Lily of the Valley.'

Yours is a God-given calling and your ministrations meet our needs from the cradle to the grave, from the heights of ecstatic joy to the depths of utter despair."

THE HOME BEAUTIFUL

THE palatial home, with its elaborately planned grounds; the work of an expensive landscape architect and his assistants—a combination of wealth and professional skill—have provided wonderful, enthralling views and beautiful vistas, almost without number. They are always a delight to our eye, and presumably the pride of the owners.

Nevertheless, the humble cottage with its little lawn, and a modest setting of trees, shrubs and beautiful flowers may also be a Home Beautiful.

Indeed we do not think that the man who lives in the palace begins to reap anything like the pleasure and the satisfaction from his home surroundings, as compared with the more humble man who occupies the cottage and whose delight it is to himself improve and beautify his grounds with his own hands, aided by the blending of that artistic temperament that is, in some degree at least, within each of us who love flowers and the great outdoors, together with the use of a modicum of common sense and good judgment, coupled with such theoretic knowledge as may be gleaned from the reading of good books and papers on the subject, as well as by the use of the faculties of observation.

A home without its appropriate setting of plants and flowers is like a picture without a frame, and one always finds much pleasure and satisfaction in making that frame express the ideas and the individuality of the owner.

It is neither necessary nor desirable that the planting arrangement should follow any ready cut-and-dried plan, but rather should it be an individual expression. It is certain too, that an appropriate plant setting adds many dollars to the appearance and value of the home, as well as providing an ever present pleasure and delight to the owner.

Just a word picture in outline of the plans for planting the grounds surrounding one home; the technic as it were, may be of some value to the home owner who is looking for suggestions along these lines.

The grounds, not assuming the proportions of a miniature park, will have no plantings of trees, shrubs nor flower beds scattered about the lawn, but instead, the lawn will be one unbroken sheet of green except as border or background plantings are provided for.

In front of the house, possibly at the sides as well, will be appropriate plantings of evergreens, with a blending of the various shades of green, blue, steel and yellow, or at the sides may be planted the deciduous flowering shrubs, and in

front of the porch either the pink (sometimes turning to blue), Otaksa hydrangeas, or the lovely evergreen Azaleas that in spring are one mass of bright crimson flowers.

If no use is made of a hedge between properties, there may be provided a double row of Peonies on the dividing line at the one side, and at the other side a hardy perennial border.

Back of the house will be planted a formal garden, and this will be largely planted to Roses. All sorts will here find a place, the hybrid teas in great profusion, a suitable showing of climbers, baby ramblers, at least a few of the standard tree roses, and a wealth of the beautiful hybrid perpetuals or June roses.

Provided with a suitable hedge at the front and sides of the property we will have a bed just inside the hedge at the front, and others up both sides of the front walk. These beds will be two and a half feet in width. The bed at the hedge will be planted to semi-dwarf cannas with an edging of dusty miller or curled and crested zinnias, while those bordering the walks may be suitably planted to pink or red geraniums, or begonias if one prefers, and a suitable dwarf edging plant also may be used.

The perennial border that will be desired may be planted along the side hedge in a bed the same width as the bed at the front. Suitable sorts of

hardy plants to provide bright spots of color continuously from very early in the spring to very late fall will be chosen. These are the flowers that our grandmothers loved, and they have again come into their own.

If there is available space, a vegetable garden will be very much appreciated, and in this garden also may be grown an abundance of suitable flowers for cutting, in fact some of them may be planted in the vacant spaces as the vegetables are removed if so desired.

Gladioli may be had in bloom from July to October, and hardy chrysanthemums from October until after the snow flies. Other suitable sorts for cutting are the newer types of zinnias, many fine varieties of asters from which to make a choice, dahlias, sweet peas, and many others that are to be had, not forgetting of course that we also have provided a rose garden from which we may draw a copious supply of lovely and fragrant bloom; the plant being benefited rather than otherwise, by cutting the flowers rather than to leave them to fade on the plants.

A property having a semi-circular driveway may be made a thing of charm and beauty by planting a continuous bed along it, patterned after the beds before mentioned in this chapter for along the front walks, or the beds bordering the drive may be planted to hardy phlox with the colors well

blending one into the other, and such a planting will help to make a rich setting indeed.

Some types of properties are enhanced greatly by plantings of the taller growing evergreens in small groups at the corners or in the angles.

Shade Trees of a suitable type planted along the sidewalk are usually essential. A spacious arbor or pergola often is a thing that will be much desired. They may be both useful and beautiful.

This all is simply an attempt to draw for you a picture in outline, hoping that it may convey to your mind some ideas that may be of value in your particular and individual plans. As stated before, no cut and dried plans are at all desirable; you may take the pattern and cut and fit it to meet your own particular needs.

COMMUNITY HOME BEAUTIFUL CAMPAIGNS

WHILE the individual Home Beautiful is the pride of its owner, the community of Homes Beautiful is the pride of the entire citizenry, a delight to those who temporarily dwell within its halls, as well as a glowing advertisement of civic pride that will grow and spread, resulting in much permanent good, both to individual and community.

The writer's mind turns to a little town nestling in a beautiful and fertile valley betwixt the hills, while to the west flows the broad silvery river, flowing silently on in its quest of the boundless deep.

No millionaire resides here in this happy little town; neither does abject poverty raise its ugly unsightly head. Those who dwell here are the fortunate everyday sort of people who find pleasure and satisfaction in their daily tasks, or mayhap who have long been in harness, and who are now resting in peace and contentment in the cool shades of the late afternoon of life.

Here we find practically everybody is everybody else's friend; ready at any time to be of help in any day of need.

It is here that the weary stranger may come and find desired peace and rest and quiet, a place where he may enjoy the exquisite beauty of the natural scenery.

He will discover this to be a town of well kept homes, with lawns and grounds, although not elaborately planted; yet tastefully adorned with beautiful trees, graceful flowering shrubs and pretty flowers that are restful to the eye and beautiful withal.

The streets are lined with fine old trees, many of them arching and meeting overhead, forming a dome or canopy over the thoroughfare, providing an abundance of welcome shade during the hot days of summer, appreciated alike by him who passes by and they who dwell within the homes along the quiet streets.

Here in this little place, the homes largely show the pride of ownership. The houses are in repair and well and tastefully painted, the lawns bright green and well kept, the streets free from litter, and clean.

Although by no means pretentious such a place is a Community of Homes Beautiful, and truly a good place within which to dwell.

It may be thought, and rightly, that I have endeavored to give a word picture of one particular town, but like Sinclair Lewis' well known and popular novel "Main Street," I am describing not

one town alone, but small home towns that, in America, are almost legion.

Pride in the Home is a very beautiful, and withal a very common virtue in American life, but civic pride is this and much more. Civic pride is one that sets the high standards both for the individual and for the community. And when civic pride has succeeded in beautifying the community a very forward step has been taken toward beautifying the lives of those who dwell in that community.

One quickly finds that the desire to beautify is innate in all human beings and is contagious, like smallpox or the measles.

Let the occupant of a single home, even in an otherwise unkempt and rough community, begin to clean up the lawn and the garden, to make a little plot of lawn and to plant a few shrubs and some pretty flowers, and it will be quickly noted that the neighbors are beginning to become ashamed of the ugliness and unkempt condition of their own habitations.

In such a situation as this it has been noted that after a little while the neighbors to the right and to the left will first begin to clean out the rubbish from their yards and to clean up the street in front, and finally to become infected with a desire to plant some flowers or shrubs or possibly a tree, and so the good work goes on, and through

mutual interest all become better neighbors and better citizens.

A Home Beautiful Campaign will often make a start of itself. Example is a great spur to the effort of others.

Witness such places as Rochester, N. Y., and Painesville in Ohio, each of which has large nurseries in its neighborhood. The folk of the town in passing by, and noting the beautiful plants and shrubbery growing in the nursery rows, are seized with the desire for possession. To see is to want, and the good work begins, gaining momentum as it goes along, and almost before you realize it the town is beautified from end to end.

Very often some civic body or other organization, with a great deal of community spirit, will be the start of a Home Beautiful Campaign, or a committee of individuals from a given street or section will start the ball to rolling.

In beginning such a campaign it is a wise plan to start the work during the winter, that people might have a chance to think and talk over the plans of the coming campaign, and the committee have plenty of time to get their well arranged plans in proper shape. The plan will then have time to reap the benefits of the news feature of the local papers, and by word of mouth advertising.

Prizes will of course be offered. They may be for the handsomest lawn, best kept garden, largest

vegetables, finest displays of various flowers, or any number of other features, all of which add to the general interest of the contest, which should culminate in an exhibition, and awarding of the prizes by the judges on a specified date.

At this exhibition or local affair it is a good plan not only to stage exhibits of flowers, fruit and vegetables, but to make the occasion more interesting, it is a good plan to include canned fruit, bread, pastry, fancywork, etc. If desired, admission may be charged to make up the prizes to be awarded, or the receipts be used for the furtherance of some civic or charitable enterprise.

And we must not forget, not by any means, to arrange for some juvenile prizes to encourage the boys and girls in the growing of beautiful things, thus inculcating into the hearts of the children a deeper love for flowers and all things beautiful.

If solicited, the merchants of the town usually are glad to donate the prizes, not only because of the fact that it will be good advertising for them, but because they believe in their town, or they would not be doing business there, and because they realize that what is for the benefit of the town is also for their own benefit as merchants.

Frequently a philanthropic and public minded citizen of means will himself provide all the required prizes for such a campaign as a Homes Beautiful Competition.

Consider what such a competition will do for a town even if conducted but for a single season; it will leave its impress on a community for years, but once staged and carried to a successful conclusion, it is more than likely the interest will prove so great that it will develop into a permanent annual feature of the community life, gaining momentum and increasing in size as does a snowball rolling down hill.

NATURAL SITES FOR BEAUTIFUL HOMES

IN the city or even in the smaller town it is not often possible to select a site of natural beauty for the building of a home. Beauty must needs there be often sacrificed to utility, and for the greatest good of the greatest number.

It is then out into the great open spaces of the country beyond, where one must needs look for such a spot; out where one may breathe deeply of the clear fresh air and bathe in the brilliant sunshine, and there be "Monarch of all he surveys."

America is rich in such modern Edens. Hiking or motoring through the countryside one frequently, sometimes suddenly, comes upon a panoramic scene of great charm and rare beauty, there prepared and painted by the hand of Nature, all ready for the rearing by Man of a Home in a God-given paradise.

These spots are encountered alike on the hill-sides and in the mountains, in the valleys and on the plains, along flowing streams and beside the greater waters, and thrice favored of fortune is he who selects such a spot of natural beauty for the building of his home and the rearing of his family.

Nestled in the Virginia hills, overlooking the

great wide valley of the Potomac, with the Nation's Capitol way off in the foreground; the dome of the Capitol Building and the tall shaft of the Washington Monument standing out boldly and in relief in the beautiful picture; one has a glorious panoramic view of the sublime beauty such as we have tried to picture in words in the forepart of this chapter.

Standing on this spot, Lafayette once exclaimed that in all his travels he had never beheld a more beautiful.

On this famous hillside were erected two homes on sites of great natural beauty; a place that since has become a Mecca to patriotic Americans coming from the north and from the south, from the east and the west.

I speak of Mount Vernon, and of the Custis Mansion at Arlington. Mount Vernon was the property of the great-grandfather of George Washington, and here his half-brother Lawrence erected his home in this wonderland; the property finally passing to George Washington by inheritance, and it was here that he spent the latter years of his life, and here that he died and lies entombed.

Likewise, the Arlington site belonged in the Washington family; later passing into the possession of Mary Custis, the granddaughter of Martha Washington, who married General Robert

E. Lee and resided here until the outbreak of the Civil War.

Today Mount Vernon is a National Shrine and at Arlington is located the great National Military Cemetery, where has been erected that great Amphitheatre, built entirely of marble, with a seating capacity of five thousand, and standing room in the galleries for as many more.

It is here that the President annually addresses a gathering on Memorial Day, and again services are here held on November 11th in commemoration of Armistice Day.

Here also reposes the body of the Unknown Soldier; to rest undisturbed through the coming ages, and standing as a typification of sacrifice and heroism.

The spots are even more beautiful and impressive than in the days of Washington. It should be the ambition of every patriotic American citizen who can, to some day stand here and do reverence. The heart will beat a little faster; the love of country will be all the greater for the experience, and one will have a larger conception of the Home Beautiful where the hand of Nature first has painted, before the advent of Man upon the scene.

“WITHIN THE CUP”

As my readers undoubtedly know, this chapter is headed with the title of a recent-day popular novel, which book is based on a quotation from the Book of Matthew; the theme being that the job is incomplete when the outside of the cup is made beautiful while the inside still remains unsightly.

This too, I think, is an apt illustration of the Home as well as of the individual.

While we are planning to make beautiful the outside surroundings of the Home, why not give a little thought also to the beautifying of the interior?

Every home should have at least a blooming plant or two, and a few green ferns or a palm, and especially do we need the companionship of the plants and flowers in the house during the dull drear days of winter. They do so help to drive away the “blues,” and to shed a few rays of sunshine into our lives.

It is also without gainsaying that plants and flowers in the rooms add a refining touch that nothing else will supply; they bring us pleasure also, and good cheer, and they are welcome friends indeed, in sickness and in health.

The millionaire merchant-prince, the late John

Wanamaker, once took a few of his valuable moments to write thus of the little plant we know and love as the Cyclamen. He wrote: "The little flowering plant on the breakfast table called the Cyclamen, has been our joy and encourager for two months. Its slender, graceful stalks bearing bright flowers. It was like a living bird, every day speaking to our eyes. A little water daily renewed its life, and sitting near a window, it breathed the fresh air and felt the summer sun."

With us, as no doubt it was with this man of world-wide fame, a cheerful blooming plant on the breakfast table, will scatter its cheer abroad, and we will go out into the workaday world better fortified to meet the world for having had the companionship of the bright little plant at the start of the day.

Even the humblest of blooming plants, or most modest of bouquets brought to the sick room, speaks eloquently of the giver and of love. It there throws off an effulgent light as does a candle in the dark. It helps in the mending of a broken body; it comforts and cheers.

Plants and flowers are like friends in the home. Their companionship is a delight.

In many ways plants are like people. Some are not so showy, bright and gaudy as others, but always to be depended upon and universally admired and loved. Such as these are the Ferns and

the Palms. No bright gay flowers, only the graceful, refreshing green foliage, and we find them in almost every home that we enter, and yet often suffering, not exactly from neglect, but because of a lack of knowledge of their proper care, and so we will stop for a moment to speak of their needs.

The natural environment of these plants is shade or subdued sunlight, and we find that most of them do not want too much sun, else the leaves are apt to scorch and turn brown. Neither should they be watered too copiously. It is also a good plan to feed them with a little weak manure water say once a month or so, and like all house plants they should be kept free from dust by an occasional spraying with the hose, or in the case of palms and other broad-leaved plants, wiped off with a cloth dampened in milk.

These plants like an open porous soil and good drainage. As they grow and become root bound, shift them into larger pots where they will have room for development, and if the plants appear to be going backward, and nothing else helps, remove from the pots, shake off the old soil, and repot preferably in a good light flaky leaf mould secured from the florist, or in the woods under the trees.

If you would like to have a big showy lace-like Fern that will become as large and graceful as a Palm, I am going to suggest that you purchase

the variety *Cybotium Scheidei* or Mexican Tree Fern, for I am sure you will be delighted with it. It is one of the most valuable and showy ferns in cultivation.

We have of course the old Boston or Sword Ferns, everywhere, and they are still as popular as ever, also the newer varieties originated from them. The rarely beautiful Maiden's Hair Fern is somewhat more difficult in culture, but charming and lovely, and on down the line are the smaller types suitable for planting in fern dishes for the table.

Passing now to the showier members of the plant family with which we are endeavoring to strike up an acquaintance, we will pass by the Orchids, the aristocrats of the family, for they are not for us here, and the Roses, because while they are glad to recognize us outdoors; they are not usually very friendly when grown in the house, so we will pass on to some of the more friendly members of the plant family to associate with us in our homes.

Amongst plants that are easy to grow for the window we have of course the geranium, known to us all. We have also the vinca or periwinkle, which may be potted up from the garden, and its bright flowers amidst the dense foliage of the plant is quite attractive. Then we have the peimula or Chinese primrose which blooms beautifully through

a long season, the well known Calla lily, fancy-leaved caladiums that in summer are bright and beautiful with their heart-shaped leaves shaded and veined with many pleasing colors.

The gloxinias and the tuberous begonias in summer for the porch or other shaded locations. In the fall the showy chrysanthemums, and then, to break the spell of winter, the tulips, hyacinths and daffodils to cheer us in early spring.

The Butterfly Bush that grows on our lawn, and blooms so beautifully there all summer long, producing a wealth of long graceful spikes of lavender bloom that seems to attract the large beautifully colored butterflies and the humming birds, is now generally very well known, but another type of this plant known as *buddleia asiatica*, suited only to pot culture, is not so well and generally known.

Producing a wealth of white flowers from December to March, many flower lovers are enthusiastic in praising its beauty and fragrance, both as a pot blooming plant and for cutting. This plant if shifted from one pot to another, soon becomes immense in size and fills a good-size tub.

Plants suited to inside are numerous, and we can only touch the edge of the subject, but we must not pass by without mentioning a few of the sorts that bear bright-colored fruits.

First, the Ponderosa Lemon which quickly becomes a very large plant and bears enormous

lemons weighing a couple pounds or more each. A large plant frequently presents flowers and fruit in all stages of development from the opening bud to the ripe fruit, all at one and the same time.

Mention must be made here of the bright-colored Pepper plants, the miniature or Otaheite Orange, and we must not forget the Jerusalem Cherry so popular at Christmas time, and bearing a wealth of bright yellow or cherry red berries.

Of course we will have an abundance of cut flowers in the house when we may, arranging them artistically in vases and in baskets where they will show their beauty to the best advantage, and we will grow an abundance of them in the garden, that our supply may not fail during the season of bloom outdoors. We will want an abundance that we may have plenty to share our wealth of beauty and cheer with our friends and with the sick and the shut-in especially.

In season we will grow a copious supply of the stately Darwin tulips, roses and gladioli in abundance, as well as larkspur, asters, zinnias, coreopsis, sweet peas, cosmos, phlox, sweet william, dahlias, lilies, and some others that we will choose from time to time, and all suited for cutting.

From now on we are going to see to it that our cup is just as bright and beautiful within as it is without.

VOYAGES OF DISCOVERY

A QUEST after new ideas, a search after unique features that we may find desirable to adapt for the beautifying of our own home surroundings is always more than well worth while.

This search or quest may carry us into the parks of the city where we may particularly see and learn more of trees and tree planting, and the arrangement of formal beds, or to the grounds of some large nursery where we may add to our store of knowledge by comparing the various types of evergreens, flowering shrubs and perennial plants, or pick up other useful ideas.

It may take us for a long stroll or a drive out through the suburban sections, to some shore or other resort or possibly to some elaborate estate open to the public through the liberality of the owner. All these, for the purposes of this chapter, we class as "voyages of discovery."

Most every family in these days is the possessor of an automobile, and how more profitably may a holiday now and then be spent than to "bundle the folks into the chariot" and away on one of these "voyages of discovery," if you are planning to plant the home grounds, or even if you wish to add to or improve, as opportunity presents. One is

almost sure to see many things of interest and some that may be adapted and used with pleasure and profit.

It is not necessary to travel far, or one may go as far as he pleases, for most every city or even towns of fair size, and frequently in the open country, there will be found beautiful and more or less pretentious plantings that may be viewed with delight and something definite learned from them.

Just by way of illustrating what may be learned by such a trip we are going to go over one such route with you in this chapter and point out what we have seen and what we have learned that is of pertinent interest, in the space of just a few short hours.

We have picked out that stretch of country lying between Asbury Park, one of New Jersey's bright garden spots, and traveling northward along the coast to Long Branch, and inland to Little Silver and Red Bank down the Rumson Road.

Within this comparatively small compass there are compactly grouped together, large and pretentious mansions with elaborate grounds and beautiful landscape effects, other beautiful homes less pretentious in their size and scope, and then the modest dwelling as well, but with grounds beautifully and artistically planted, making each

home a garden spot, and no doubt the pride of the dwellers within.

Our route today takes us first, right through the city of Asbury Park, with its block after block of beautiful homes, then into the more open country and past some of the larger estates, amongst which is situated the famous "Shadow Lawn," once the summer home of Woodrow Wilson, and proceeding along the shore drive to Long Branch, and passing through here we proceed on to Monmouth Beach and Seabright, then leaving the shore we proceed inland on the Rumson Road, again amongst numerous large estates, and so on to our journey's end.

Returning again to the starting point of our journey, and passing through Long Branch, we proceed through Deal and Allenhurst, suburban boroughs of wonderful homes and beautiful grounds, and now in a few moments more we are back at the starting point of our "voyage of discovery."

And now the next thought is, what have we seen, what have we learned that we may turn to advantage in the planning of our own home grounds? Have we used our eyes and our pencils to good advantage on the trip we have just made? Let's look it over.

The trip has clearly shown us that it is no longer in vogue to break up an expanse of lawn

with the indiscriminate planting of trees and shrubs nor the locating of flower beds anywhere and everywhere scattered about the lawn. That an unbroken expanse of greensward is a beautiful picture in itself.

Trees and shrubs have their rightful places, and as many or more bedding plants are used than ever before, but the latter are more largely confined to formal gardens, and to border plantings in narrow beds located along the edges of walks or drives, and inside the hedges.

We note the beauty and charm lent to the display by the locating of a gazing globe and pedestal in the center of a flower bed or amidst the evergreen planting.

That an effective touch of color involving the minimum of care and attention is had by surrounding a Koster's Blue Spruce with assorted Evergreens, and an outside row planted to scarlet sage and dusty miller for a border.

Our trip has shown us several types of plantings in narrow beds right back of the privet hedges, all of which were very effective. Some of the plantings are of perennials, others of massed evergreens, and still others of low growing cannas or other annual bedding plants. In some cases it is only in the angles of the hedge that the planting is made, in others they extend clear across the front and down the sides.

Beautiful and elaborate privet hedges are seen, giving us a new idea what wonderful effects may be created with this type of hedge where time, effort and creative ingenuity are combined. We see hedges laid out in art nouveau with a pink or blue *Otaksa hydrangea* planted in each or alternating squares. We see them trimmed into ball shape and spaced equidistant apart. Different designs and individual tastes without number, all there for comparison and choice.

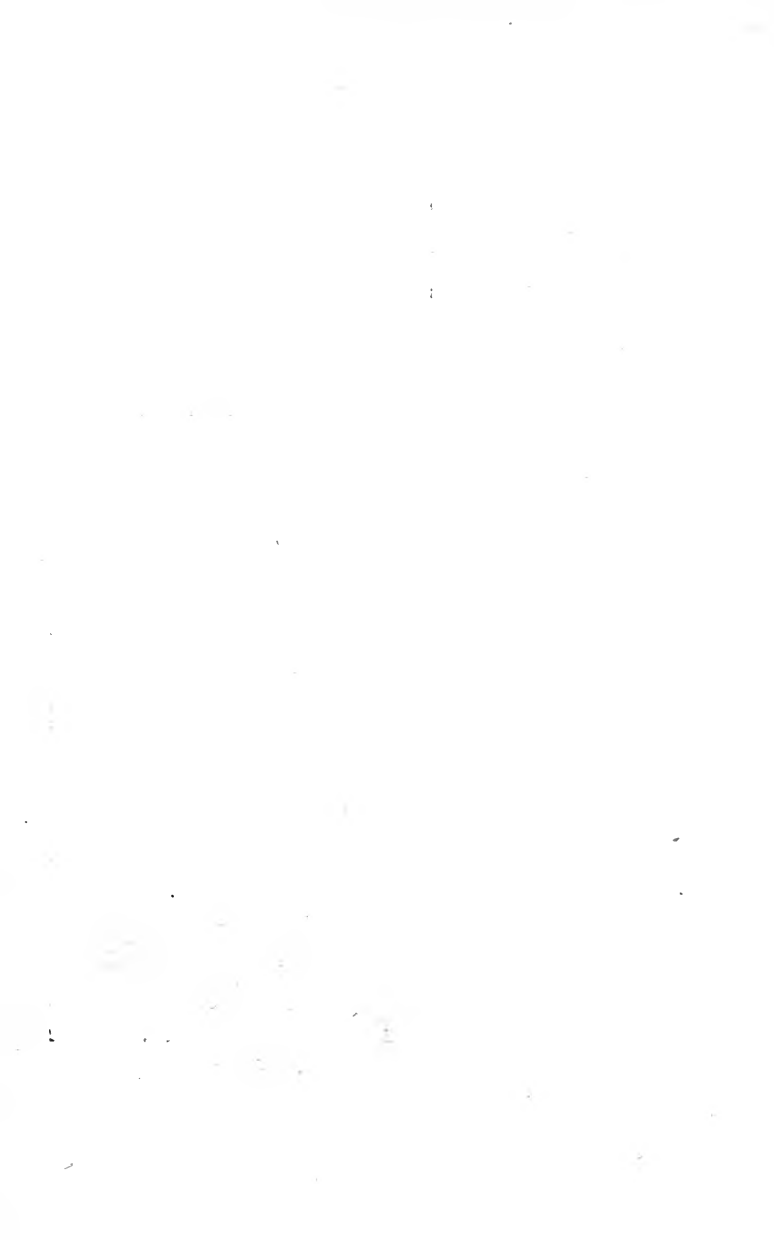
Impressive groupings of trees, evergreens and flowering shrubs without apparent end, in many delightful form and color combinations.

A unique and novel protection for a perennial border seen is well worthy of mention here. At either end of the border, and twice in between, spaced equal distances apart, artistic partitions about eight feet in height had been built, each equipped with a pair of double window sashes. When noted the lower sashes were raised; evidently kept open in fair weather and lowered at times of high winds and during the winter. These partitions were painted white and evidently were lawn decorations of utility as well as of beauty.

Were one to travel over the selfsame route for the second or the third time he would be almost sure to discover something of interest that had previously escaped observation.

Yes, these quests after the beautiful, "voyages

of discovery" if you will, are more than well worth while. They bring us out of ourselves and into the fresh air and sunshine, giving us new lease on life and health, replenishing our supply of "pep," and at the same time presenting to us adaptable ideas that will prove of much value in our planning for the beautifying of our own home surroundings.





COLUMBIA



OPHELIA

THE ROSE OF TODAY

“Let Roses look up in every place
Thru this beautiful world of ours;
For dear as the smile of an old friend’s face,
Is the smile of these bright sweet flowers.”

TODAY the Rose is the acknowledged Queen of all flowers, just as it was six hundred years before the advent of the Christian era, when the poet of that day sang its eulogy thus:

“The Rose, mankind will all agree;
The Rose the Queen of flowers should be.”

Roses probably grew in the Garden of Eden. They were held sacred to Cupid and to Venus. True emblems of everything beautiful, delightful and lovely. In the days of yore, in the present age, and in the days that are yet to come, Roses have stood, do and will stand as true poetic images of innocence and purity. We say, All Hail to the Rose, undisputed Queen of the Floral Kingdom.

One of the best places in the world in which to look for happiness, peace and contentment is in your Rose garden, amongst the bright smiling faces of lovely flowers; emblems of everything beautiful, pure and lovely.

And if we would derive the utmost of pleasure

and benefit that this lovely flower affords, we will want to know all that we possibly can about it; its characteristics and its habits, its needs and requirements, and it is the aim of the author, in the next few chapters, to supply this need by answering those questions about the Rose that are ever and continually coming to his desk.

First, let us consider the class that is probably the most sought after, and most popular of all the Roses, **HYBRID TEAS**, also widely known as "Monthly Roses." These Roses do not bloom monthly, strictly speaking, but commence blooming in the month of June, and continue intermittently until checked by late frosts in late Fall or early Winter. Sometimes, in sheltered spots, these Roses will still be in bloom in early December, in this latitude.

Next in popular favor are the **HYBRID PERPETUALS** or June Roses. Growing much heavier and sturdier than the Hybrid Teas, the blooming period for these Roses is during the month of June, at which time the large heavy plants are "almost smothered" with a great wealth of gorgeous bloom. Especially desirable are these Roses for planting en masse, or as a background for plantings of the Hybrid Teas and the Polyanthas or Baby Ramblers.

The **POLYANTHAS** bloom through a long season, bearing clusters of Roses much like those

of the Rambler Rose. This class of Roses is excellent for solid beds, for borders around beds, or along walks or drives, and for massing.

Several lesser divisions, from which many of the newer and better types of the Roses of today have sprung, are worthy of mention here, for the sake of the information, without going into any lengthy description of these various minor classes, and these are the China Roses, the Bourbon Roses also; both of which are hardier than our Hybrid Teas, the old fashioned Moss Rose, the Pernetianas, the Rugosas and the Wichurianas or Creeping Roses, as well as the Teas and the Tea Scented Roses, which are mainly adapted to our southern states, so that it becomes quickly apparent to the new seeker after Rose knowledge, that one has quite a subject for study, and at the same time one that will afford both profitable study and pleasurable pursuit.

The CLIMBING ROSES also must be considered in any worthwhile planting, for we can by no means do without some of them. We may choose to suit our fancy, between the old-fashioned red Excelsa, the lovely pink Lady Gay or the Dorothy Perkins, the White Dorothy Perkins, or the lovely single Hiawatha with its scarlet petals, white at the center, and its wealth of golden stamens, making a rich and gorgeous color combination.

In our mind's eye, we can just visualize per-

golas, screens, high fences, embankments, all made lovely and beautiful by liberal and inexpensive plantings of these useful Rambler or Climbing Roses.

Beautiful Rose Arches over the walk, by training a Climbing Rose up at each side, and letting them join at the top.

And then we seem to see that exquisite picture at "Dreamwold," formerly Tom Lawson's estate in New England; the house covered from foundation to peak of roof with pink Dorothy Perkins Roses; a veritable bower of beauty, seemingly plucked from fairyland.

We must also consider the Large Flowering Climbers, and then our knowledge of the various divisions of Roses will be fairly complete. These Large Flowering sorts are very useful for training on poles, tree stumps, and on porch columns, and worthy of especial mention here, amongst this class, we find the Climbing American Beauty, the large pink Dr. Walter Van Fleet, the single white Silver Moon and the Shower of Gold, as well as Paul's Scarlet Climber, a dazzling scarlet, and the very best red Climbing Rose that has been produced anywhere to date.

WHAT ROSES TO PLANT

WHAT to plant must largely be a matter of personal preference, but there are some outstanding Roses, both old and new, that should be in every Rose Garden. Of these we will mention a few at least.

Of the older sorts, Gruss un Teplitz (first introduced in 1898), has been exceedingly popular as a garden Rose, and has lost none of its popularity to this date. The flower is bright crimson in color; cup-shaped, semi-double, producing its flowers in clusters, and a very free bloomer.

Kaiserin Augusta Victoria, (1891) an immensely popular flesh-colored Rose of large size and substance, or more properly speaking, a white, overlaid with shading of pale primrose-yellow, is here worthy of mention.

One of the most popular sorts is Duchess of Wellington (1909), deep saffron-yellow in color, with crimson markings. This Rose has been voted one of the twelve best.

Jonkheer Mock (1910), is a very popular Rose, large in size, the outer petals being a bright cherry-red; inside a silvery-pink. And we do not want to overlook the Killarney Roses, the freest blooming of all the Roses we have, nor Laurent

Carle (1910), which is a bright velvety carmine, one of its large blooms filling a room with its fragrance.

There are, of course, many others worthy of a place in your Rose garden, but you will want to include these old favorites, as well as some of the choice newer introductions that I shall mention here.

Crusader (introduced in 1920), is a wonderful dark velvety crimson, perfectly double to the very last. America (1921), is one of the newest and finest up to date. The color is a clear deep pink that does not turn bluish; a very free bloomer on long stiff stems.

Los Angeles (1916), has created a sensation wherever seen, and enough of them cannot be produced to meet the popular demand, so that the price still remains somewhat high as compared with many other of the Roses. This Rose is an American introduction; a bright flame pink in color, and very distinctive.

Columbia, Madame Butterfly and Golden Ophelia are all excellent newer Roses that you will not wish to overlook.

Two of the brand new Roses that I wish here to mention are Souvenir de Claudius Pernet and Sensation. The first mentioned is of French introduction, and the most sensational yellow Rose that has ever sprang from Europe. It is produced on

long stiff stems, very thorny, however, and a clear deep yellow in color.

Sensation is an American Rose of distinctive form, and the color is an entrancing shade of red; long pointed buds, flowers of immense size and borne on long stiff stems.

All the Roses mentioned, up to this point, are Hybrid Teas with the exception of the Pernet Rose, which belongs to a class known as Pernetiana.

And now, before going further, I want briefly to describe another very worthy, and yet well known Rose of the Hybrid Perpetual class. I refer here to the **WHITE AMERICAN BEAUTY**, also called Snow Queen, and possibly best known by the name of Frau Karl Druschki. It is grown everywhere, and yet the planting of this great Rose should increase immensely. It is a wonderful Rose for the garden and for cutting, and evokes praise and comment practically wherever it is shown.

One or two blooms of White American Beauty is a bouquet in itself. The writer has photographed a willow basket with six average blooms of this great Rose filling the basket, and this photograph appears on another page of this volume.

This Rose is a June bloomer, but it also has the habit of giving some additional blooms at other times, and particularly in October. Do not

overlook the White American Beauty, or Frau Karl Druschki.

The several methods of producing the plants will next be mentioned here. There are the "own root" Roses which are produced from "slips" or cuttings, and grown entirely on their own roots. Roses are also budded or grafted on roots of manetti, ragged robin, rosa rugosa and other hardy and suitable plants for the purpose. Some rosarians prefer "own root" Roses; others the budded or grafted stock. It is a matter of personal preference, and, as the old saying goes, "you pays your money and you takes your choice."

The stock is produced in the greenhouse, in small pots, as well as grown in the field. Field grown plants are the most popular and, today, the greater proportion of this stock is produced by experts located in California, and shipped in the winter to the dealer or nurseryman to be sold for planting in the spring, or planted out for subsequent sales.

BENCH GROWN ROSES

THE beginner will wonder, what is meant by "Bench Grown." This term identifies a class of Roses that, during the last few years, have sprung into immense popularity everywhere, and are sold by the million.

Bench Grown Roses are Roses that have been grown to maturity in commercial greenhouses, for cut flower purposes, and when they have served this purpose, are sold for bedding outdoors, where they will come into bloom again in just a few weeks' time, and with proper care and attention, they winter well, and bloom beautifully and abundantly, year after year, as the writer has proved on his own grounds.

Some folks have the idea that because the Roses have been forced in the greenhouse, that when taken out of the benches, the plants are therefore forced out, and worthless, but such is very far indeed from being the case.

Regarding this class of Roses the "Florists' Review," of Chicago, has this to say: "Too few growers realize what splendid results may be had from . . . planting it outdoors. An object lesson can be had if Roger Williams Park, Providence, were visited, and the remarkable blocks of these

Roses . . . were seen. All carry a wealth of superb flowers, superior in size and color to the same varieties under glass."

Two seasons ago, so late as the last few days of June, and early July, the writer planted out a block of about five thousand of these Roses, and within a few weeks had an abundance of gorgeous bloom; the plants continuing to produce a wealth of Roses until checked by late frosts in October or November.

I am giving an extended description of this class of Roses because they are not so well known as the other classes, and likewise because of my enthusiasm for them, for I know they fill a long felt need, and will be the medium through which thousands of beautiful blooms will be produced, where there would only be hundreds, if it were not for the bench grown stock, its availability, and comparatively small cost.

When these plants come to you, they are usually two or three years old, big and husky, usually two feet or more in height, and while the range of varieties in this class is comparatively limited alongside of the field grown stock, yet you have the choice of a number of wonderful pink shades, fine reds, choice yellows and whites, and after being planted out they may usually be depended upon to be in bloom within eight weeks at least, and then to bloom throughout the season, and with proper

winter protection, such as all the Hybrid Teas need in this latitude, they will be found to winter well.

Who could possibly want finer roses than those shown in the two photographs illustrated on another page of this volume? The lone flower shown is an Ophelia, cut by the writer from a bush on his office lawn, and the dish of Columbia, which was likewise cut and photographed by him from a bed, blooming on the lawn at his residence.

These Roses were all produced from Bench Grown plants, and as one correspondent a short time ago so aptly put it, "fit for any King or Queen."

The writer also has accumulated a vast amount of evidence from various parts of the country, as to how successful various growers have been with this class of plants. One correspondent writes: "Five weeks after I planted them, they were blooming. They are now all in bloom, some having fourteen buds on at one time. It is needless to say that I am taking great pride in my Roses. They are admired by many."

Another correspondent, living at the seashore, writes me that of about a hundred and fifty plants set out, only one of them failed to grow, and that the others have bloomed beautifully and abundantly, and have been a source of great pleasure

and delight to themselves and to all who have seen the display.

These enthusiastic comments I could multiply by hundreds, did space permit, and were it required.

WHEN TO PLANT ROSES

FALL planting has its advocates, but they are in the vast minority, and no matter how successful Fall planting of Roses may be, it will be hard indeed to convince most Rose lovers that Fall is the time to plant. The writer does however advocate Fall planting whenever it can be done; particularly of budded or grafted Roses, and especially if it is desired to move the plants already established.

Nearly all Roses are planted in the Spring, and it is advisable to plant as early in the season as practicable, although properly stored plants may be set out all through the Spring months. Do not wait, however, if it can be avoided, but wherever possible, get the plants in the ground early. It is surprising how the roots like to get to work right in the cold soil, establishing the plant for a good startoff when real spring weather comes.

An excellent policy in ordering your Roses, and one the writer highly recommends, is to place your order in the Fall or Winter, and have delivery made to you either in November or in early Spring.

If your plants arrive before the ground is fit to dig and plant, just dig a trench ten inches or a foot deep, lay the bundle of dormant Roses flat

in the trench, cover entirely with soil and firm it down, and place a litter of straw, leaves or old boards over the top; then when the time comes, and you dig up the plants, you will find them fresh and green, and all ready for a quick startoff.

HOW TO PLANT THEM

AN open sunny location is ideal for Rose beds, and a shelter from the cold, bleak north winds is desirable where possible.

Dig and pulverize the soil well, and to a depth of a foot or eighteen inches, digging in some well rotted manure, bone meal or pulverized sheep or hen manure, and see, by all means, that your beds have good drainage, so that water will not stand on the beds.

Examine your dormant stock, and if any of them appear at all dry or shriveled in the wood, soak the entire plant in a tub of water over night, or better yet, bury the entire plant for three or four days before planting them in their permanent places.

PRUNING BEFORE PLANTING. Cut out all the small growth and weak branches entirely, and cut back the stronger shoots to three or four eyes, with the top eye outward, leaving these stronger shoots say eight or so inches in length. Also remove any broken or lacerated root ends. Do not be afraid to prune your Hybrid Teas severely. It is exactly what they require to do their best for you.

PLANTING. See that the holes are dug large

enough to accommodate the roots without cramping them, and spread the roots out in the bottom of the hole. Set the plants slightly deeper than they were planted before, which you can easily determine by examining the stems of the plants. While planting, do not expose the roots of the plants for any length of time to the sun and wind. Both are highly destructive to the vitality of Roses that are left long uncovered, so it is well to keep the roots of your plants covered as you do your planting, taking them out one at a time as required.

If the ground is dry, fill the holes with water and let it soak partly away, then set your plants and put in some soil, firm this down and wet it, and finally see that you have two or three inches of dry soil on top, to retard evaporation of the water beneath, and do not firm down the top soil, but leave it loose, so that the rains may sink down readily to the roots.

Hybrid Teas should be spaced 15 to 18 inches apart each way, while the larger growing Hybrid Perpetuals will be best located from two to three feet apart.

CARE OF THE BEDS. Keep down the weeds, hoe the beds after each rain, and feed your beds two or three times during the season. If you wish, mulch the beds with the lawn clippings or with straw for summer, which will keep down the weeds,

keep the soil cool, and also help to reduce the labor of cultivation to a minimum. It is well to cut your Roses with liberality, but if you wish to leave them on the plants, at least be sure to remove them from the bushes as the flowers fade, cutting the stems well back, usually leaving only the last three leaves on the shoot. By so doing you will encourage new growth, have better blooms, and more of them.

FEEDING THE ROSES. You must feed your Roses if you would keep them blooming all summer. Manure water is not to be beat. You can have a barrel with a wooden spigot in it; place a layer of straw in the bottom of the barrel, then six inches of manure, another thin layer of straw, and so on to the top. Fill the barrel with water, and as it percolates down through the manure and is drawn off for use, you can refill again with water at the top. Use one part as drawn from the barrel, to four or five parts water, and apply to the beds.

Another method is to take pulverized sheep manure, place in a bag, and soak in water. And still another plan is nitrate of soda, dissolved one ounce to each gallon of water.

In addition to using any of these methods for feeding your Roses, they will also be found excellent for forcing various annual and perennial plants as well.

WINTER PROTECTION. Some folk make the mistake of tying up their Roses for winter, using straw or paper, and this is an excellent way to smother the life out of the plants. They need no such coddling, and there is no use in killing your Roses with kindness. The best possible protection for winter is to hill the soil up with a hoe, around the stems of the plants, and cover the beds with some evergreen boughs. It is also feasible to cover the beds with a mulch of leaves, straw or coarse manure just preceding the setting in of permanent winter, and to clear off the beds about April first.

PRUNING IN THE SPRING. It is important to particularly notice this difference in the characteristics of Roses. The flowering wood of the Hybrid Teas is the wood of the present seasons' growth, hence the more flowers you cut from them, and with long stems, the bushier your plant becomes, and the more resultant blooms you will have this year.

The Climbing Roses are different. They flower only on the wood of LAST years' growth, so it is readily seen that if pruned back severely, few if any flowers will be had at all. The way to handle the Climbers is to cut out any old or dead wood, and to prune them into the desired shape or form, immediately after they are done blooming for the season, then the plants will make a new growth yet

this summer, and this new growth will flower profusely the coming spring.

Hybrid Perpetuals do not require the severe pruning accorded the Hybrid Teas, but should be cut back somewhat, and old canes and dead wood cut away. In the early spring, right before new growth starts, again cut back your Hybrid Teas severely, just as you did when first planted in the beds, but leaving a portion of the previous seasons' growth.

INSECT PESTS AND DISEASES

“AN ounce of Prevention is worth a pound of cure.”

If your Roses are properly grown and cared for, they are not apt to be the source of very much trouble. A rigid exclusion of weeds, frequent hoeing, proper watering, these are all “ounces of prevention.”

A strong stream of water, applied with the hose each morning, will usually keep insects from doing much harm. It is inadvisable to water Roses at evening, as this has a tendency to promote mildew on the foliage.

The green aphid or plant lice that infests the tender young shoots of Roses, and other plants, may be controlled by sprinkling fine tobacco dust on the plants in the morning, while the dew is still on, or by sprinkling the tobacco dust on a shovel of hot coals, under a cloth placed over the plant.

The Rose Bug is one of the hardest pests to fight. This insect chews the buds and open flowers, and in order to fight them effectively, it is well to know at least a little about them. First, they are rarely found on cultivated land, but usually where grass, weeds or sod are in close proximity.

The eggs of this insect is deposited on the foliage

and the young grubs, later, drop down and enter the soil, finally emerging as adults to repeat their interminable performance.

Hand picking of the adults each morning is recommended, or the use of Melrosine, a preparation which may be purchased in cans at the seed or plant store. A liberal mulch of tobacco stems is also suggested, both for repelling the aphids, and to prevent the young larvæ of the Rose Bug from entering the soil. The stems should be applied to a thickness of two or three inches over the entire bed.

Of the diseases to which the Rose is subject, probably the one causing the most trouble, is known as Black Spot. As the name signifies, black spots appear on the foliage, the leaves turn yellowish, and drop off, thus making a serious drain on the vitality of the plant, as it continually labors to replace the dropped foliage. Again, prevention is better than cure. As a preventative, both for Black Spot and for Mildew, once every couple of weeks, in the morning while the dew is on the foliage, dust the plants with eight parts fine powdered sulphur and one part arsenate of lead. These ingredients you can purchase at the seed store or of the druggist.

When Roses refuse to bloom, apply fresh air slacked lime to the soil, and rake or hoe it into the soil. This is to correct any acidity of the soil.

If any of your plants should develop a blight in the branches cut off and burn the affected parts, and hoe some lime and sulphur into the soil.

And in concluding this chapter allow me to say this: **Grow Roses, grow an ABUNDANCE of Roses.** To be sure, many other flowers are easier to grow with success, but the growing of Roses is so replete with pleasure and satisfaction, and success in large measure is so sure, if one but follows the rules of good judgment and common sense, that we cannot sing too high the praise of the Rose;

Queen of the Floral Kingdom.

MUNICIPAL ROSE GARDENS

MUNICIPAL Rose Gardens are included by the writer under the subject of Planning and Planting for the Home Beautiful because of the intimate relationship existing between such great public exhibits and the public, and the opportunity that these municipal gardens afford for the gaining of inspiration, and the creative ideas that the home owner may gain by visiting such ambitious displays of charm and beauty.

Numerous cities of our land have seen the wisdom of establishing Rose Gardens in their parks, where the Rose, which has no peer amongst flowers, may be seen and admired in all its gorgeous beauty and fragrance.

Portland in Oregon is known as the "City of Roses," and with Minneapolis, New York City, Springfield, Mass., as well as other cities, all have established gardens of Roses for the enjoyment of the people.

Now comes Syracuse with an ambitious Rose Garden serving a double purpose; not only creating beauty for the enjoyment of the senses, but at the same time building a memorial to one who still lives to enjoy the honor his city thus confers upon him.

Rev. Dr. Edmund M. Mills, a Methodist preacher and an eminent Rosarian, founder of the Syracuse (N. Y.) Rose Society, and President of the American Rose Society, has been thus fittingly honored by his city.

The authorities of Syracuse have set aside a plot of ground, considerably over one acre in extent, in Thornden Park, as a Rose Garden in honor of this great lover of Roses, Rev. Dr. Mills.

Over six thousand Roses have been planted in this plot; nearly one half of the Roses being the voluntary gifts of out-of-town Rose growers.

Several eminent speakers took part at the dedicatory exercises, held on July 2, 1924, amongst them being ex-Governor Clark of West Virginia. Dr. Mills in his response recited rose lore ancient and modern.

A bronze tablet inscribed as follows was unveiled at the time of the dedication.

Edmund M. Mills
Rose Garden
Established 1924 by the
City of Syracuse
and the
Syracuse Rose Society

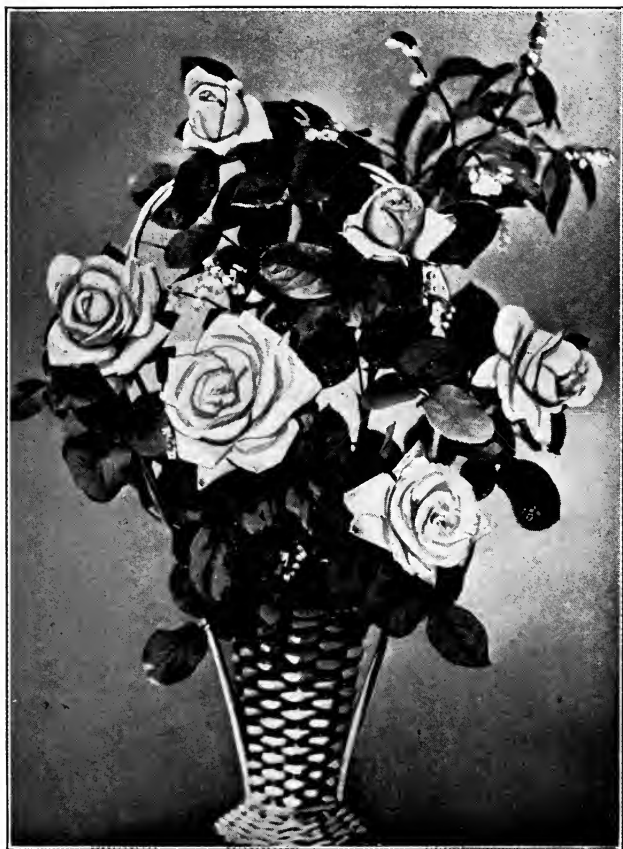
Our readers may glean some suggestions of value from a description of the planting scheme as laid out in this Rose Garden.

Four rows of arches cross the garden diagonally, and are to be covered with a mass of various colors of Climbing Roses. Four paths running north, east, south and west, will have Pillar Roses, alternating with Standard Tree Roses.

All the eight gravel paths will be bordered with Baby Ramblers, the colors harmonizing with the Hybrid Teas, which fill the beds.

At the south side of the garden, it will be bordered by an arched trellis eight feet high, and planted to masses of the pretty pink Dorothy Perkins Ramblers.

This Rose Garden is a fitting honor to Dr. Mills. It will be enjoyed by the entire citizenry of Syracuse, and by many who pass that way, and it will help much to inspire the love of beautiful flowers in the hearts of those who have the privilege of seeing and enjoying the gorgeous sight this garden affords at blooming time.



WHITE AMERICAN BEAUTY
(From Karl Druschki)

THE ROSE

(*From Camoens*)

Just like love is yonder rose:—
Heavenly fragrance roud it throws,
Yet tears its dewy leaves disclose,
And, in the midst of briars it blows,—
Just like Love!

Culled to bloom upon the breast,
Since rough thorns the stem invest,
They must be gathered with the rest,
And with it to the heart be prest,—
Just like Love!

And when rude hands the twin-buds sever,
They die, and they shall blossom never;
Yet the thorns be sharp as ever;—
Just like Love!

CHOOSING YOUR HYBRID TEAS

The choosing of these varieties is because of their coming within at least two of the five points of excellence that we will use as the base in determining our selection.

There are of course numerous other varieties very worthy of inclusion in this list, and the aim here is not completeness, but rather an acceptable start, with the expectation that the rose lover will from time to time add to the list of his or her own volition as circumstances permit.

Each Rose here named will be given numbers to designate the various points of excellence, (1) for length of stem; (2) for fragrance; (3) doubleness of form; (4) prolific bloom; (5) long pointed bud types.

It will be readily seen that this list will enable the veriest of amateurs to select such varieties as most appeal to them.

We therefore list the following sorts as coming within our classifications:

3 4 5 Alexander Hill Gray.

Lemon-yellow, shading darker at maturity.

- 1 3 4 5 America.
Truepink, does not turn bluish as
the flower ages.
- 2 3 4 Bessie Brown.
Creamy white.
- 2 4 5 Betty.
Copper, overspread with golden-yel-
low.
- 3 5 British Queen.
Pure white, slightly flushed with
rose.
- 1 3 4 Cardinal.
Deep crimson.
- 1 2 3 5 Columbia.
Pink.
- 4 5 Countess of Gossford.
Salmon-pink, base of petals suffused
yellow.
- 1 3 Crusader.
Deep velvety crimson.
- x 5 Dean Hole.
Silvery pink.
- 1 2 3 4 5 Double White Killarney.
White.
- 2 5 Duchess of Wellington.
Deep saffron-yellow, flushed with
crimson.
- 2 Edith Part.

- Rosy-red, suffused with salmon and
coppery-yellow.
- 2 5 Etoile de France.
Rich velvety-crimson.
- 1 3 Francis Scott Key.
Deep crimson-red.
- 1 2 3 Frank W. Dunlop.
A fine pink.
- 2 x General MacArthur.
Bright scarlet
- x 5 General Soupert A. Jenssen.
Deep glowing carmine.
- 2 x His Majesty.
Deep crimson, shaded vermilion.
- 1 x 5 Hoosier Beauty.
Crimson with darker shadings.
- 1 2 x 4 Jonkheer J. L. Mock.
Bright cherry-red, inside of petals
light silvery-pink.
- 1 2 3 Kaiserin Augusta Victoria.
Creamy white with light primrose-
yellow tint.
- 1 2 x 4 5 Killarney.
Pink.
- 2 3 4 5 La France.
Pink, the first of the hybrid teas and
still very popular.
- 1 2 3 4 Lady Alice Stanley.
Pale flesh.

- 1 2 3 4 5 Lady Hillingdon.
Deep orange-yellow.
- 1 2 x 4 Laurent Carle.
Deep rosy-carmine.
- 1 2 x Los Angeles.
Flame pink with coral tone.
- 1 x 4 5 Madame Butterfly.
Pink with apricot shadings.
- 1 x 5 Mme. Jenny Guillemot.
Deep saffron-yellow with golden shadings.
- 1 2 3 4 5 Mme. Jules Grolez.
Bright China rose.
- 1 3 4 Mme. Leon Pain.
Flesh-pink; center yellowish orange.
- 4 5 Mrs. A. R. Waddell.
Deep reddish saffron.
- 1 3 5 Mrs. Charles H. Russell.
Rose-pink.
- 1 2 x 4 5 Ophelia.
Salmon-flesh tinted with rose.
- 1 2 3 Premier.
Rich deep pink.
- 1 2 x 4 Prince de Bulgarie.
Silvery-flesh, shaded salmon and coppery-yellow.
- 1 2 x Radiance.
Rosy opaline pink.
- 1 2 x Red Radiance.

- Red, with the good qualities of its pink parent.
- 2 x 5 Richmond.
Bright scarlet.
- 1 2 3 4 Robin Hood.
Bright rosy scarlet.
- 1 2 3 4 William R. Smith.
Creamy-white with pink shadings.
- 4 Winnie Davis.
Bright apricot-pink.

It should be remembered that every rose given in this list is an excellent rose, even if we do not list it as having all five points of excellence to the nth degree.

Where we have noted a variety as (x) instead of (3) means that while the rose may not be full and double to the very center of the full open flower, such as the Columbia or the Crusader, that nevertheless it is a fine full flower. Where neither designation is given, the rose may be of rather thin petalage and yet still be an excellent and worthwhile variety from other viewpoints.

EVERGREENS AND DECIDUOUS SHRUBS

NOTHING adds more to the real beauty, the charm, and the dignity of the home surroundings, than does an appropriate planting of Shrubbery. It is the frame that sets off the picture to best advantage. The planting need not necessarily be one of rich and costly Evergreens; it may be composed of the less expensive deciduous Flowering Shrubs, or it may be both of these in combination.

Massed plantings, too, of a single species, in many instances, lend just the touch to be desired, as instance the massed plantings we have seen of the gorgeous Rhododendrons, or to fit a more moderate purse, the Hydrangeas, both *arborescens* and *paniculata*, the Lilacs and *Spirea Van Houtti*, all suitable for massed planting.

Again, Nature gives us a picture of beauty en masse when, in roaming the woods, we come upon wonderful naturalized blocks of *Kalmia* or Mountain Laurel, encountered in so many spots, or a beautiful vista of exquisite Dogwood in full bloom. We are thus spurred on to try to emulate Nature, and to do our bit in trying to make this old world a more beautiful place in which to live.

EVERGREENS suited to mass planting around the porch, and the house foundations are, of

course, the slower growing sorts. These are the Biotas, the Junipers, Retinosporas, Arborvitæ, etc. A reliable nursery catalogue will give extended descriptions of these sorts, or better yet, a visit to a large nursery, will be the best way in which to make your ultimate selection.

The Firs, Spruces, Pines and Hemlocks, are the taller growing sorts of Evergreens, better adapted for planting where they will have room to develop into trees, although some specimens such as the Austrian Pine and Koster's Blue Spruce, while more rapid growers than the species mentioned for massing, are frequently so used on account of the odd form of the one or the coloring of the other.

For the information of those who have had trouble in losing valuable Evergreens during the winter, or where the plants have begun to turn brown in summer, just a word of caution and advice will here be in order.

Evergreens should go into winter with an abundance of moisture at the roots. If the Fall season has been a dry one, it is well, before a permanent freezeup comes, to hoe a ridge around each plant, and see that they have a good and thorough watering from the hose. When this is done, any winter loss of Evergreens should be reduced to a minimum.

Often, when planted along the house, the overhanging eaves keep off most of the moisture, and it

will be well, in such event, to see that the plants have sufficient moisture at all times, by drenching the ground around them occasionally with the hose.

Should your Evergreens begin to turn brown in summer, the probable cause is the red spider, a mischievous little pest much found to infest certain plants in the greenhouse or conservatory. You may search closely for this little fellow, yet fail to see him, for he is quite small, and not at all like the common house or garden spider.

The best remedy for the elimination of this pest is to dust the Evergreens with equal parts of tobacco dust and fine sulphur, doing the work in the morning while the dew is still on the plants. You can use either a small bellows especially made for such use, or take a piece of cheesecloth instead.

While it is true that Evergreens are highly decorative for twelve months in the year, it is also a fact that, by proper selection, Deciduous Shrubs may also be chosen, such as will make an attractive showing. All that is required will be a little discrimination, and the choosing of some of the bright berried sorts, or those with attractive barks or twigs, for mingling with the other varieties chosen for their foliage or flowers.

Amongst the berried sorts, very much used, are the old-fashioned *Symphoricarpos* or Snowberry, the Coralberry, the High-bush Cranberry, and *Berberis Thunbergii* or Barberry. Then we have the

species of Dogwood, *Cornus siberica*, with its bright red bark a pretty sight all winter, the *Lutea*, the yellow-twigged Dogwood, and the Golden Elder desirable for its bright yellow foliage; also the Purple Leaved *Prunus*, and others.

First in order, we will mention some of the better known and taller Shrubs, adapted to background planting. There is the popular *Philadelphus* or Mock Orange, the Lilacs, the *Deutzia* variety known as Pride of Rochester, the various Dogwoods, the *Altheas* or Rose of Sharon, the Elders, *Prunus*, and *Forsythia* or Golden Bell, with its wealth of bright yellow flowers in early spring before the forming of the foliage.

Next in order, we will list as of medium height, the Coralberry and Snowberry, heretofore mentioned, *Viburnum* or Snowball, *Spirea Van Houtti*, *Kerria* or Globe Flower, the *Hydrangeas arborescens* and *paniculata*, the Bush Honeysuckles and the *Weigela*, and we are not going to overlook that old fashioned, sweet scented shrub of our grandmothers' gardens; the Allspice or *Calycanthus*.

Now for the low growing sorts for foreground planting. We have *Spirea Anthony Waterer* with its myriad of tiny rose colored bloom in June and July, the lovely white *Deutzia gracilis*, blooming at about Memorial Day and the Dwarf Bush Cranberry. To these three outstanding low varieties we will add, by way of color variation, the

Golden Privet, which may be kept at any desired height by pruning.

For those who have much shade, and wish varieties suited to such spots, we will choose the Hydrangeas, the Mock Orange or Philadelphus, and also the Dogwoods, the Forsythias, Bush Honeysuckles, the Snowberry and the Coralberry.

For dry places and embankments we will recommend the Bush Honeysuckles, and most of our berried plants, and for such a spot I would plant Yucca or Adams Needle which, with its swordlike foliage, and tall spikes of creamy white bloom, present a handsome sight, and does well in such a location.

PLANTING. In planting Shrubbery, first see that the holes are dug large enough so as not to cramp the roots. Do not plant too deep, only just about as deep as they stood when in the nursery rows will be all right. Place the plants and put in some soil, tamp this down tight, just as if you were planting a fence post, then some more soil and firm that down too. The last two or three inches of soil should be left loose so the rains will soak in, and the dirt should not be hilled up around the plants so the water will run away from where it is most needed.

Never put manure in the holes when planting anything unless it is first well rotted, and then thoroughly mixed with the soil. † Either mix it

thoroughly with the soil, or scatter it on top of the ground, rake or hoe it in, and let the rains take its substance down to the roots.

When planting Deciduous Shrubs, it is usually advisable to prune the tops, so as to throw the strength to the roots. Also cut away with a sharp knife, any parts of roots that may have become badly bruised or broken in digging or packing.

PRUNING. So many make the mistake of pruning their Shrubs in winter or very early in spring, or worse yet, leaving this important task to the "man of all work," or to the itinerant, who knows less than nothing about what should and should not be done.

The early flowering Shrubs produce their flowers on the wood of the previous seasons' growth, therefore if pruning is done in the winter or early spring, this growth is largely cut away, with a resultant loss of the bloom.

The time to prune these Shrubs is right after they have finished blooming, then they will produce a new supply of wood this season, and bloom abundantly again the following Spring.

The proper planting and care of Shrubs is but a simple matter, easily understood if one will only take time to learn the rules of the game, and certainly each moment so spent, in the learning and in the planting, will return large dividends in both pleasure and satisfaction.

SELECTING OUR EVERGREENS

ORDINARILY, the amateur in consulting a catalogue for the selection of Evergreens is more or less bewildered at the array of strange and unfamiliar names and designations, and often is unable to intelligently separate from each other those types suited for mass or foundation planting from those larger types suitable only for growing as trees.

The selection of varieties here listed, by no means complete, gives a wide range of types and colorings of those suited for massing, and with this guide anyone can make appropriate selections from the nursery catalogue, or if one happens to be so fortunate as to visit a large nursery, it is well to take this list along and ask to see these varieties.

Some of the types we have listed are very slow growing; others are more rapid in growth, but may be pruned or cut back, notably amongst this latter class, the Austrian pine and the blue spruce, both of which in time grow to large size, yet by intelligent pruning will be good in the massed planting for a long time, and also will add very much to the variety and charm of the planting.

We list the following suitable types for your consideration:

AUSTRIAN PINE, *austriaca*, long stiff needles on upright stems, light green.

MUGHO PINE, *mughus*, low type with needles standing erect, dark green.

SWISS STONE PINE, steel-gray needles, slow growing.

KOSTER'S BLUE SPRUCE, *kosteriana*, scarce and in great demand. The new growth has a beautiful silvery blue sheen that is pleasing in the extreme.

DWARF WHITE SPRUCE, *canadensis nana*, low type, gray-green.

CHINESE ARBORVITAE. *Aurea conspicua*, yellow and green; new growth yellow, flat fronds grow in a perpendicular, pyramidal type.

Aurea nana, globe shape, yellow fronds.

Conica, rounded form, dark green foliage.

JAPANESE CYPRESS. Foliage delicate in texture. They stand shearing very well.

Obtusa crippsi, a very bright golden, one of the best.

Obtusa erecta, dwarf green.

Obtusa gracilis aurea, feathery yellow foliage.

Obtusa leptoclada, rounded form with light green foliage and blue berries.

ARBORVITAE. Trees of fernlike foliage in attractive forms and colorings.

Globosa, globe type as its name would intimate, grayish-green foliage.

Douglasii pyramidalis, a very fine dark green,
pumila, dark green dwarf.

THE JUNIPERS. *Canadensis aurea*, a low informal bush of golden yellow.

Globosa, dwarf, bright evergreen.

Succica nana, slender upright type of bluish-green.

A FEW ADDITIONAL CYPRESS (*Retinispora*).

Pisifera, bushy pyramidal type, light green.

Flavescens variegata, an odd dwarf type, with feathery white-tipped foliage.

Plumosa, feathery, light green.

Plumosa aurea, feathery, golden foliage.

Squarrosa, silvery-gray.

For the benefit of those of our readers who know nothing about the average cost of such evergreens as we have listed, and who would like some light on the subject, it would be safe to allow \$2.50 to \$3.50 each as an average for specimens 1¼ to 1½ feet tall, and possibly \$4 to \$5 for 1½ to 2 ft. specimens. Prices of course will vary and some of the choicer types may cost more, this will, however, give some idea as to the average cost of a planting.

The deciduous shrubs of course are much less expensive, costing in the neighborhood of only fifty to seventy-five cents for two-year plants.

AZALEAS, RHODODENDRONS, AND OTHER BROAD-LEAVED EVERGREENS

I AM placing the Azaleas first, in this chapter, for the sole reason that I am going to mention but one type of this lovely subject; one that I think, will be of first general interest to my readers.

There are various classes and types of the Azalea, the tender Belgian sorts that were so popular as pot plants for Christmas and Easter, before the late great war, but now excluded from entry because of the plant quarantine, and again the Japanese types, also for pot culture.

There are also hardy Azaleas in the deciduous class, and a number of broad leaf evergreen sort, of which latter type we have chosen one for special mention.

AZALEA HINODIGIRI is the variety, and it is one that is greatly admired by passing thousands who wonder, but never learn, what the name of the beautiful plant really is that they have seen.

The bright red flowers standing out from the showy evergreen leaves are certainly very desirable, and showy in the extreme. The plant may be included in the evergreen border, but it is partic-

ularly and extensively used for planting en masse in front of porches or in groups on the lawn. It does well either in a sunny spot or in partial shade. I am sure that this is a plant with which my readers will wish to become better acquainted.

The Rhododendrons we all know as rich and showy when properly planted and cared for, and in the right sort of location. They are partial to the partly shaded places and enjoy a rather acid soil.

The bright and showy clusters of flowers on these plants do certainly add a rich dash of color to the landscape, and the attractive evergreen leaves are showy at all times.

Rhododendrons are largely used for screen plantings under trees and at the dividing lines between properties, for massing in shaded locations about the house, and are suited to massing in any appropriate place where they may have the benefit of some shade.

The plants should have a light mulching during the summer months, a heavier mulch for winter protection, and the flowers should be removed as the colors fade, in order to conserve the strength of the plants.

Another of the broad leaf evergreens that may be used for the same purposes as the Rhododendron is the native *Kalmia* or Mountain Laurel. The plants, gathered wild and grown on in the nursery

rows, may be purchased, or one may gather the plants right from the woods, digging the plants at the proper time and not when they have a new soft growth, taking the plants up carefully and replanting them with as little delay as possible.

In Colonial days the most important evergreen was the Boxwood, a very slow growing plant with small leaves, growing close and compact.

A wonderful planting of Boxwood may be seen today at Mount Vernon, surrounding Martha Washington's flower garden as a high hedge, and used as a border with lavish hand for the surrounding of many irregular flower beds and bordering the paths, sheared to uniform design and to a height of about two and a half feet.

And the Boxwood is just as popular today as it ever was, but we live faster, and Boxwood grows very slow, so in our haste we have adapted other plants largely to take its place.

Today, specimen plants of Boxwood are very expensive if one requires large, well-formed plants. Just a few days ago the writer was told of one woman who had a hedge of such plants, probably about fifty or sixty feet in length, and she had recently refused an offer of eight hundred dollars for them.

Boxwood may be had in suitable specimens however for tub planting, ranging from two to three feet in height, and at fairly reasonable prices, as

may Bay Trees, which also are largely used for tub planting.

We cannot pass on to our next subject without making mention here of the *Euonymus* and the native American Holly as desirable broad leaf evergreens.

The *Euonymus*, with its glossy green foliage, makes a suitable specimen for the border, and it is also an excellent hedge plant for the seashore. Another type of *Euonymus*, the *radicans* variety is an excellent evergreen climber for the side of the house.

The native American Holly grows wild in several of our states, and we are all familiar with it as used for Christmas decorations. The tree also is useful and beautiful for planting in groups of three or more plants on the lawn, where its odd, bright green foliage, and profusion of bright red berries forms an excellent contrast.

SHADE AND ORNAMENTAL TREES

“A pumpkin matures in a single season; but God took a hundred years to make an oak.”

ONE of the saddest mistakes of tree planting is to use unsuitable specimens or varieties for quick effect, and without serious thought to the future. When we plant a tree, it is not only for our own comfort, convenience and enjoyment, but we should give thought to posterity as well, in so doing.

For street shade how much better it is to select the Norway or the Sugar Maple, rather than to plant the brash and rapid growing Water Maple. There are probably no more popular trees today for street planting than the Maples, and either of the two first mentioned are excellent either for street or lawn, forming dense, compact, symmetrical heads that are a delight indeed. On the other hand the Water Maple “grows to the sky,” becomes dangerous in time of high winds and storms, and is very subject to concealed decay, and trunk or main limbs may be but shells without its being noticed until the damage is beyond repair or an accident has happened.

For city streets, where there is a great deal of soot and smoke, as well as for seashore planting,

the Oriental Plane is a very suitable variety, much used for the purpose. It is a rapid grower and thrives under all soil conditions, as well as being free from insect pests, which last mentioned point speaks much in its favor.

And while the Oak is usually classed as a slow growing tree, typifying strength, solidity and durability, yet there are varieties of this valuable tree too that are not so slow growing as one might imagine.

One of the handsomest trees for street shade the writer has seen, lining the avenues of some of our cities, is the Pin Oak. This is a very popular tree both for street and lawn planting. The heads are symmetrical in shape, the tree is really a rapid grower for an Oak, and in addition to its beautiful shape, it has great attractiveness because of the glossy foliage, and particularly beautiful it is when it puts on its richly colored garb for fall.

Pass by the nuisance trees for street shade. The Carolina Poplar is very rapid-growing, brash, and it makes a litter with its foliage for a long time. The Horse Chestnut is another good subject to avoid because of the continual dropping of blossoms, nuts and pods. And above all, pass up the Mulberry Tree unless you plant it in the chicken yard, for its droppings on walks and lawn is an abomination over a long period.

So, for street shade, we would confine our range

of selection to the Norway or the Sugar Maple, the Oriental Plane or the Pin Oak, much depending upon personal preference and our surroundings as to which of these we should choose.

And now just a few words as regards tree planting on the lawn. Personally I would prefer no trees scattered about the lawn, confining my tree planting entirely along the street for shade, unless mayhap the lawn were quite large, large enough in fact to permit of the grouping of suitable specimens. I might, however, violate this rule in one instance to plant a specimen Weeping Willow in some odd corner of the lawn, for this is one of our prettiest native trees and thrives anywhere.

When considering the planting of trees it is an excellent plan to visit some of our large city parks, observe the trees, and jot down the names of such as make particular appeal to us. Some may be rather rare and unusual specimens that we will find it hard to duplicate, but ordinarily we will be able to locate most of them in the larger and most reliable nurseries.

For sturdy types we can go to the oaks and the walnuts. Various fine types of either may be had.

For unusual characteristics, and for beauty, there are a wealth of subjects from which to choose. Amongst the unusual types my fancy turns, for one, to the Japanese Saphora Trees as

grown in Capitol Park, Washington. You might select something entirely different as a matter of personal preference.

Another worthy type is the Japanese Maiden-hair, various of the Catalpas with their large foliage, the beautiful Weeping Willow as before mentioned, or the White Birch planted by way of contrast near to a planting of Evergreens, or the Purple Birch and the Red Leaved Japanese Maple in combination effect. Of course there are many others that a walk through the parks, a visit to any nearby pretentious nursery or the study of their catalogues will suggest to your mind.

No one wants to forget the flowering trees when planning an attractive lawn planting. Amongst these are the Dogwoods, the Magnolias and the Japanese Cherry Trees as well as numerous lesser sorts.

In the early springtime, when the Dogwood is in flower, the Pink Flowering Dogwood in bloom is a sight as if from fairyland. We often encounter trees of it thirty or more feet in height, and a perfect mass of pink, before a single leaf has formed.

The Magnolias are truly beautiful, but somewhat hard to transplant in this latitude. However, they are well worth trying, and should be transplanted in the spring. The gorgeous large cup-shaped blooms are truly magnificent.

We have all of us heard much of the Japanese Cherry Trees, and the wonderful sight they present at blooming time. This, too, is one of the sights at our National Capitol. Many stories and legends cluster about this tree which, when in bloom, is literally covered with a sheet of exquisite color, rare beauty and delicious fragrance.

And now, having considered suitable subjects both for street and for lawn planting, we will mention one more subject along the line of tree planting ere we close this chapter. It seems more than worthwhile to here mention the subject of windbreaks. A windbreak, as you well know, is a row of trees or a grouping of them, planted with the primary purpose of breaking the force of high and cold winds, and planted for the protection of house or farm buildings. For this purpose the more rapid growing types of dense evergreens are used.

But in considering the subject of windbreaks here, we have not so much in mind the utility, but rather the beauty that a windbreak may be made to provide. If you have a fairly large plot of ground, a windbreak on the dividing line between one property and another, along the driveway to the garage, or used to help hide an unsightly view, the Lombardy Poplar is the most suitable subject for your purpose.

The Lombardy Poplars grow very tall and

slender, and they branch out almost to the ground. Planted in a single row, with the trees spaced five feet apart, a windbreak is quickly provided that will be a decided ornament to the place and one that will be highly appreciated.

In planting trees it is well worth while to plant trees that are really worth while, both for the better satisfaction and pleasure they will provide you as the years drift by, and also that future generations may "rise up and call you blessed."

THE LAWN

WE always admire the beauty of an unbroken expanse of well kept greensward, properly bordered with appropriate plantings.

The rich velvety sheen of the grass is a treat to the eye, and a joy to the soul. A beautiful lawn, be it large or small, may easily be the setting to ANY home. And it is more than worth while.

In making a new lawn, or remaking an old one that has become overrun with weeds, summer grass, or that has developed unsightly bare spots, the ground should be first thoroughly plowed or spaded, well raked, and leveled with a long straight-edged board.

Sow the seed, preferably right before a rain, and it will be well if you firm the soil with an available lawn roller, in order to make a compact seed bed. If the roller is not to be had, then rake the seed in lightly, right after it is sown.

NEVER use cheap lawn grass seed, nor chaff from the hayloft. It will pay you to use the very best seed to be had, and there are various mixtures, scientifically blended, for special purposes and locations.

For the average open lawn, use a good ever-green lawn seed mixture, adding thereto, an ounce

of White Clover Seed to the quart. If you have much shade, use a good shady lawn mixture, with clover added, for these spots.

Very large lawns, public squares, parks, and other locations where one is not particular to have the finest grasses a good pasture mixture may be used.

One quart of lawn grass seed (about a half pound), will sow a plot of 250 square-feet (or 25 x 10), but you cannot sow too much, and it is advisable to err on the side of liberality, for it will mean quicker, surer, more lasting results.

Either fall or spring are suitable seasons for the making or the re-seeding of your lawn.

Soured soil, evidenced by bare patches, and much so-called summer grass in the lawn, or an abundance of weeds, should have a liberal coating of land plaster, hydrated lime, or air-slacked lime, to correct the acidity.

If your lawn looks ragged, but not bad enough to dig it up and start over again, just before a rain, scratch over the bare spots with a rake, sow the seed, and tamp it down with the rake head to firm the soil somewhat.

A dressing of pulverized sheep manure, or of hen manure powdered and mixed with land plaster, will work wonders with a lawn. It pays, whether you are making a new lawn, improving a poor one, or keeping a good one in prime condition.

A hundred pound sack of the sheep manure will go as far as a whole wagonload of fresh manure, with the added advantage that you will not be filling your lawn with weed seeds to pester you later on. The hen manure, properly applied, will leave its impress of bright rich green on the lawn, which will be noticeable five or even ten years hence.

The lawn should be mowed regularly, but not too close, especially in hot dry weather, and the clippings should not be raked off, but allowed to lie where they fall, to sink in and act as a mulch, keeping the roots of the grass cool and moist during the hot weather.

If the lawn is not too large, so as to make the work too burdensome, each spring it should be gone over and all such perennial weeds as plantain, dandelion, etc., removed with a case knife, cutting the plants out below the crown, and not merely removing the tops.

An innovation for the lawn that you may be interested in knowing about is known as NATURALIZING. Crocus Bulbs are used, and in the following manner:

First, the bulbs are sown indiscriminately over the lawn, letting them drop where they will. Next, go over the lawn, search the bulbs out, and plant each bulb in the grass just where it fell. In so doing, in the early spring, the bright showy flow-

ers will spring up from the grass, everywhere, and in a natural state, as if they were wild flowers.

Naturalizing of Crocus is sure to be pleasing, and sure to draw much attention and favorable comment, and the flowers are done blooming by the time you are ready to begin mowing the grass.

In planting the bulbs, a long stiff knife is used to slit and lift the edge of the sod, the bulb inserted about an inch underground, then firmed down with the foot.

The author, some seasons ago, used 550 Crocus bulbs on a moderately small lawn in this way, and the resulting display was an astonishing sight, especially to those who did not know how it was accomplished.

Another naturalizing idea well worthy of mention is to plant Daffodil bulbs, with no particular formation, planting the bulbs in groups at or around the trunks of shade trees. This makes a very beautiful lawn effect, and the bulbs will grow, multiply, and bloom for years.

PLANTING THE HEDGE

THE first requirement, of course, will be to select the type of plant suited to your requirements.

While the Privet and the Barberry are the two most widely used plants for Hedges, there are also a number of others suited to the purpose, for some locations.

We have the Hemlock, the Spruce, and Arborvitæ, all of which, in time, form high, dense, evergreen hedges; the Osage Orange or Buckthorn, which is suitable for a tall, impenetrable hedge, also the Hawthorn, the slow growing but beautiful Boxwood, the Rugosa Rose, the Althea or Rose of Sharon, and a number of other special types that are occasionally used with good effect for special hedging purposes.

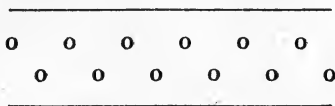
In this chapter we shall deal, however, only with the two most generally used types.

The best known hedge plant, and the one most generally used, is as we probably all of us know by observation, the California Privet (or the Amoor River Privet, which is somewhat more hardy, and probably more adapted to our extremely cold sections).

Privet we find in use everywhere, and almost always perfectly satisfactory. It makes a dense,

compact, bright green hedge, grows very rapidly, and is easily kept at any desired height, and in any form, by pruning or shearing about once in two weeks during the growing season.

The proper method of setting out this plant is to dig a trench and set the plants in a double row. The plants should be spaced one foot apart in the row, but as one row is started six inches past the first row you will have, in effect, two plants used for each running foot of hedge, thus:



and for the making of corners or other ornamentations to the hedge, it is advisable to group a half dozen or so plants at such spots in the hedge.

Outside of shearing, this hedge needs practically no attention whatever after it is once established.

When first setting out the plants, they should be cut back very severely, almost to the ground, to promote a dense bottom growth.

The plants should cost you from about four to six cents each, and either the Privet, or the Barberry, of which we shall next speak, may be planted with equal success, either in the spring or fall.

For those who wish a hedge, more graceful in form than the Privet, and not so stiff and formal,

the choice will usually fall to *Berberis Thunbergii*, usually known as Barberry.

In the spring, the new and old growths have contrasting shades of green, the old branches having deep green foliage, and the new growth being a lovely light green.

In the fall the foliage turns to various shades of red, yellow, and purple, and finally the bare branches are literally loaded with beautiful red berries, which stay on the plants almost all winter.

Barberry needs no shearing, only an occasional trimming here and there, possibly not oftener than once in a season, and it makes a very beautiful, pleasing hedge indeed.

The plants should be set in a single row, with twelve inches between plants, and usually you will pay about twenty-five or thirty cents each for two year old plants of Barberry.

DAHLIAS AND GLADIOLI

It is a far cry from the original Dahlia as discovered in Mexico in the year 1784 by Dr. Dahl, to the immense and gorgeously beautiful types that we have today. Likewise, coming originally from Africa as a wild flower, one would hardly recognize the Gladiolus in its present day grandeur as belonging to the same family as its forebears.

These wonderful changes have come about through the processes of patient hybridizing, selecting and reselecting that has been in progress for many years, and from the first small beginnings have been evolved the marvelous modern creations that delight flower lovers.

In the improvement of these two species there are a number of names that stand out prominently, none of which however need be mentioned here. Those who wish flowers of rare and gorgeous beauty need today look no further than the Dahlia and the Gladiolus.

And, by the way, so many lovers of the Gladiolus are ignorant of how to rightly use the word for this flower, that it might be well to set them right on its proper use and pronunciation here. Even those in the business of growing and selling

the flower, frequently fail to comprehend the proper use of the name.

The singular, meaning a single flower, should be pronounced *Gladiolus*, accented on the letter "o." The plural of the word is *Gladioli*, also accented on the letter "o."

Speaking again of the *Dahlia*, to those who know only the common types, the newer and better sorts are an amazing revelation of gorgeousness and beauty, rapidly however becoming known and produced even in the most remote villages and hamlets.

At almost every county fair of today, at least one commercial grower stages an exhibit of gorgeous blooms, and solicits orders for later delivery, so that real knowledge of this flower is being rapidly disseminated everywhere, and the *Dahlia* has quickly sprung into great popularity.

While very easy to grow successfully, and succeeding in almost any soil or location, better results will be had, however, if the amateur grower is given some knowledge of the proper care and culture.

The *Dahlia* is divided into several groupings or families, the most important of which we will name. We are all familiar with the cactus type, probably the most popular *Dahlia* of all, closely followed in popularity, however, by the decorative class; then the ball or show type, which much

resembles the decorative, except that the flowers are more ball-like in form, and the petals more closely quilled. We also have the newer peony type which very much resembles the Japanese Peony; the Century or giant single dahlias; the Pompons, which are miniature ball dahlias, and borne on the plants in great profusion; also the Peter Pan or dwarf bedding dahlias, which while not so well known as the other types, are coming into greater popularity, especially in some sections.

Before planting your Dahlias, the roots should ALWAYS be divided. They will not grow, however, unless a portion of the woody stalk is left attached to the tuber, for it is only at the neck or junction of the tuber and the stalk that the new shoots come forth. Some folk have the idea that dahlias have "eyes" like potatoes, but this is far from being the case.

While Dahlias may be planted as early as April, early planting is not advisable, and during the first ten days of June is plenty early enough. The Dahlia is essentially a fall blooming flower, doing its best when the nights are cool, and early plantings either are apt to run to plant instead of flower, or to produce inferior blooms in summer, and so not have the vitality left for proper blooming in the fall months.

Plant the bulb or tuber flat; do not stand it on

end, and plant three or four inches underground. Keeping down the weeds, and frequent cultivation are, of course, essential to producing maximum results.

When your plants are six or eight inches high, pull up all but the one best stalk, and pinch out the top of this one, so that the plant may acquire the branching habit.

Frequent waterings are detrimental, producing many surface roots, instead of the deep roots that the plants require. Let the roots dig down of themselves in search of moisture. In extremely dry weather, if you then consider watering absolutely necessary, by all means do it very thoroughly, and then not more than once weekly, hoeing around the plants just as soon as the top soil has sufficiently dried, so as to form a soil mulch, and thus retain the moisture in the ground underneath.

Many dahlia growers have a notion that small tubers are worth little or nothing. This is an incorrect supposition. Many of the best varieties we have produce only small and indifferent looking roots, and a small tuber is just as apt, if not more so, to produce better flowers than the larger ones. Therefore the size of the tuber signifies nothing in relation to the size of the flower.

Should the green aphid or plant lice attack the young tender shoots of your dahlias, dust them

with tobacco dust, applying it in the early morning while the dew is still on the plants.

Sometimes worms will bore the stems of the dahlia plants, and should this occur at any time, dig out the worm with a sharp knife and bind up the wound in the stem with a piece of adhesive tape and scatter wood ashes around the plants, repeating this application weekly. Black fly is a product of poor drainage or acid soil. Apply air-slacked lime to correct the acidity of the soil, and also give several applications of tobacco dust.

One of the problems of many amateurs is when to dig roots, and how to properly store them over winter. Right after frosts have blackened the leaves, dig the roots carefully; cut off the tops, and turn the clumps upside down in the field for a couple of hours or so for the liquid to drain off.

One of the best plans we know for storing the roots is to line some boxes or barrels heavily with newspapers, place the clumps upside down therein, cover the tops well, and store in a cool dry cellar, as far removed from the heater, however, as possible. The clumps also may be brought into the cellar with as much soil as will stay on them, stacked in a heap upside down, and covered over with paper, old burlap or carpet.

Today there are probably thousands of separate varieties of Dahlias, and nobody knows them all nor wishes to. The field is so wide that we

can select the best, or those sorts that make the strongest appeal to us, and discard or disregard the remainder.

Some of the best, of which there are many more, however, will be briefly mentioned here as well worth while. A lovely soft orchid pink of large size, no two petals alike, is named after John Wanamaker, the merchant prince. Truly this dahlia is a beauty and a very free bloomer. First introduced at five dollars, it now may be had for fifty cents.

Patrick O'Mara is another great dahlia that created a sensation a couple of years or so ago, first sold at ten dollars, and now at this writing, is priced at one dollar. It was awarded a Gold Medal as the best autumn shade, a soft, pleasing orange-buff, slightly tinged with rose. This is a decorative type of dahlia, the flowers measure from seven to nine inches across, and are produced on long, stiff stems.

A more recent sensation has been aptly named MOTHER. Pure white in color, with just the slightest tinge of color, this large hybrid cactus sells for five dollars at this writing. This new dahlia is excellent for the garden, for cutting, and for exhibition.

Just to mention a very few of the other outstanding sorts, and we will then proceed to the next subject. We will mention Queen Elizabeth

(peony type), rosy-mauve, seven inches across the beautiful flower; Claire Kulp, probably the greatest of all red cactus dahlias; Sunset Glow, a new scarlet and red cactus, and I must not fail to mention Kalif, for this cactus is such a free bloomer, colossal in size, a wonderful shade of red, and the tubers may now be purchased for as little as a half dollar.

The next time you visit a dahlia farm, or an exhibit of cut blooms, just ask to see the few varieties that I have mentioned here.

The Gladiolus rivals the Dahlia for the popular regard of flower lovers everywhere, and it has risen to such great heights, from so lowly a start, that it merits all the popular approval that it enjoys today.

The great beauty of the flowers, coupled with the inexpensiveness of the bulbs, has caused them to be aptly termed "the poor man's orchids." The bulbs may be purchased for as little as a few cents and from that start right on up the scale to as much as a thousand dollars for a single bulb of the latest great creations.

It has been recently reported that a certain producer of new varieties, asking one thousand dollars for a bulb of a new sort, was tendered an order and a check for five hundred dollars for one of these bulbs, evidently to test his faith, and that the order and check were returned with the state-

ment that the price was one thousand dollars. I wonder how many of us mortals would turn down an offer of five hundred dollars for a *Gladiolus* bulb—if we had the bulb.

The colors to be had in the *gladiolus* range all through the scale from white to crimson, many of them wondrously variegated, and even a single spike of bloom is a bouquet in itself.

The flowers make a gorgeous display in the field, they are exquisite for long-lasting bouquets, and make charming decorations.

The spikes should be cut when the first flower has opened, and the rest of the buds will gradually open until the one at the very tip of the spike has bloomed as beautifully as the first, presenting a charming display for all of a week or ten days. For shipping the spikes are cut when the first bud shows color, and before a flower has actually opened.

Gladioli bulbs, if planted a few every ten days or two weeks from mid-April to July tenth, may be had continuously in bloom from July to late October. An excellent plan to utilize garden space, and get the most out of it, is to have a supply of *Gladioli* bulbs, and stick them in the garden as the early crops come out. Another excellent plan is to plant the bulbs amongst the *Roses* in our *Rose* beds.

Gladioli like moisture, sunlight and rich soil, in

order to do their best. Plant the bulbs six inches deep, and they may be planted as near together as two inches; of course further apart if you wish. Keep the soil free from weeds and well cultivated.

It is not necessary to have the largest bulbs except for forcing under glass. The most satisfactory sizes for garden culture are those an inch or an inch and a quarter in diameter. Even smaller sizes will bloom very satisfactorily for the early plantings.

The proper method of harvesting the bulbs is to dig them after frosts have checked growth; let them lay a couple of hours or so in the field, then gather and tie in bunches and hang in a light airy shed or building to thoroughly dry. Later, break off the roots and the tops, put in bags and hang up in a cool dry place until the bulbs are needed for replanting the succeeding spring.

THE GORGEOUS, FRAGRANT PEONY

THE Peony is an ancient flower, a native of Siberia and southern Europe, and cherished centuries ago by the Japanese for the supposed medicinal value of its roots.

Almost 1,500 years ago this flower was known to the Chinese, and the finest specimens were planted in the emperor's gardens, and for over a thousand years the Japanese have grown the Peony.

Finally they were introduced into England, and from there into France, where the real improvement in this remarkable flower began, and Mons. Lemoine, a Frenchman, is probably the leading originator of choice new varieties in the world.

The first Peonies that we knew were those of our grandmother's garden, small and rather rank in odor, and even today when the Peony is mentioned, often the thought reverts to this old type, rather than to the modern Peony, large in size, gorgeously beautiful, and many of them extremely fragrant.

It is only in comparatively recent years that any marked and decided improvement in the Peony began, but it has come, and what a wonderful change there has been in the attitude of the public toward this lovely flower. Many flower lovers are

making the Peony their hobby today. People go into ecstasies over them, nor can they be blamed for their enthusiasm. One lady on visiting a great field of gorgeous Peonies in bloom, beholding such a sight for the first time, exclaimed, "I felt as if the heavens had opened and showed me a glimpse of the glories within."

Most flower lovers know that the Peony blooms once yearly, and remains in bloom for a space of about a week or ten days, but it is not generally known that if a proper selection of varieties is made, choosing the early blooming, mid-season, and the late types, that one may thus enjoy their gorgeous and fragrant blooms over a period of about one month. This will be welcome news indeed to many lovers of this remarkable flower, and should encourage a more extensive planting.

Nothing is easier to grow than the Peony if a few simple rules are followed. Anyone can grow them anywhere. They are perfectly hardy, the blooms are large and showy, and insects practically never bother them at all, they are choice as cut flowers or for landscape effect, and they require but the minimum of care and attention.

One enthusiast says of the Peony: "Plant them in masses, and have a splendid carpet of loveliness fit for the touch of angels' feet."

Mrs. Sarah A. Pleas, who has the distinction of being the first woman originator of the new Peony

varieties, in her poem, "The Quest of Love," begins with this eulogy to the Peony:

O! garden mine, what pleasure waits
 Among your rows of gorgeous bloom
 For one who finds within your gates
 The title deeds to vast estates
 Of wealth in beauty and perfume.

Is it a wonder at all that folk go into thrills of ecstasy over this remarkable flower, as we know it today.

We cannot write of the Peony without mentioning something also regarding Mr. Henry S. Cooper, a retired business man of Kenosha, Wis., whose hobby is the Peony, and who calls himself "Peony Fan" (deceased since this was written).

Mr. Cooper, having acquired a fortune as a manufacturer of underwear, several years ago retired and turned the business over to his sons.

His present home he calls "Dunmovin," and there he grows gorgeous Peonies by the hundred thousands, and is trying to make others love this flower as he loves it, and at the same time he is bringing happiness and cheer into the hearts of a multitude of people. A hobby that will do this is certainly well worth while.

It happens that Peonies are at the height of their bloom in the month when Mr. Cooper celebrates his birthday, in June. For three years now

he has chosen a unique way in which to observe this occasion.

The first of these three years he distributed a wealth of gorgeous bloom to all the stations along the C., N. S. & M. Railway, from Chicago to Milwaukee, that the traveling public might enjoy them with him.

Last year he distributed the blooms amongst the hospitals of Wisconsin, that they might bring cheer to the sick and the shut-in.

And this year, having obtained a list of military hospitals from the President himself, he celebrated his birthday by sending the flowers to all the wounded soldiers in hospitals throughout the United States.

There are over 18,000 such soldiers at this writing, and probably about 200,000 Peonies were required for this act of kindness.

President Coolidge himself expressed his thanks to Mr. Cooper, and General Pershing, Secretary of the Navy Wilbur, and Secretary of War Weeks were others who commended Mr. Cooper.

Figured at their retail value as cut flowers there would be a value of at least \$25,000, and added to this, Mr. Cooper had the expense of transportation to pay, as well as the labor of cutting, packing and shipping.

It is only natural that an enthusiasm such as this should do much to promote the general appre-

ciation and love for this remarkable and beautiful flower.

And now a word about the planting and care of the Peony. Plantings may be made to the best advantage at any time between September first and mid-March, when the ground is in condition to plant. Many plantings are made later, but Fall and early Spring plantings are best.

Usually divided roots of two to five eyes each are sold for planting, and these should be planted flat, with the eyes about three inches underground.

They will grow in any sort of soil, rich or poor, but there are three things that Peonies will not stand for, and these are manure, acid soil and "wet feet."

Dig deeply so as to provide good drainage, use no manure whatever when planting, and if your soil should be acid or sour, correct this condition by an application of air-slacked lime.

Should you wish to produce the largest blooms with long stems, remove all the smaller lateral or side buds from each shoot, leaving only the main or terminal bud to develop, thus throwing the strength all to the one bloom.

If you wish the very best and largest exhibition blooms, proceed as above, but leave only three or four shoots to the plant, cutting all the others down to the very ground, thus conserving the strength of the plant for three or four flowers.

Peonies begin to do their real blooming the third year after planting, and after the eighth year they may be taken up in the early fall, divided and replanted.

When you cut the flowers for bouquets or for shipment, do not wait until they come into full bloom. They should be cut in the bud just when the real color of the flower first begins to show.

Festiva Maxima is probably the outstanding white, although originated in 1851. In the latitude of Philadelphia it is usually in bloom for Memorial Day. The white bomb-like flowers, slightly tipped with carmine, may be had on stems all of three feet in length by proper disbudding.

Another unusual variety is known as *Golden Harvest*, introduced in 1900. In this striking variety the outside or guard petals are a lovely blush-pink, the center a beautiful light creamy sulphur, tipped with a few petals of white and crimson. This Peony combines scintillations of cream, gold, white, pink, peach, salmon and apricot. This variety also is in bloom at about Memorial Day.

Felix Crousse is a rich, brilliant, dazzling ruby-red, blooming somewhat later in the season than the two before mentioned. This is an 1881 introduction, and has the distinction of being a good red Peony that is a self-color and does not turn to an ugly bluish tint as the flower matures.

I have called but three by name; of course there are dozens and dozens of other choice varieties worthy of mention, from which to make selections.

To see the Peony of today is to love this remarkable flower instantly, to grow them is to quickly become an enthusiast.

The Peony we have been describing is the herbaceous type, and in addition, there is also the less commonly known type, the Tree Peony, which is previously mentioned in this chapter as having been so valued by the ancient Chinese as to find an honored place in the emperor's gardens.

Tree Peonies have been noted growing to a height of eight to ten feet, and bearing several hundred exquisite blooms in a single season, but the present day types that we have in this country grow gradually to a height of four to five feet. Small wonder that heathen Chinese and 'Melican Man find common ground to enthuse over such a flower.

Blooming several weeks ahead of the earliest of the herbaceous type, care must be taken to prevent the buds of the Tree Peony from freezing after they begin to swell. The plants themselves should also be well protected by other shrubbery, or planted close up to and on the sheltered side of a building.

The flowers of the Tree Peony are large and delicately tinted, and truly they are magnificent.

THE LILIES OF THE FIELD

“Consider the Lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin, yet I say unto you; Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.”

Matt. 6: 28-29.

IN the days of Our Lord the Lily was taken as a type of the gorgeous and the beautiful, and yet today we know marvelous forms and types of flowers, brought forth by the patience and skill of the hybridizer, such as were not even dreamed of in those ancient days.

Probably no flower surpasses the Lily of the Field in its stately beauty and richness of color and texture. It is a flower well worthy of being exalted in poetry and in prose.

Of all the Lilies of the Field, our choice must fall to one coming from the far away isles of Japan. This is the Auratum Lily, and every lover of the beautiful should know and grow this gorgeous and fragrant flower of Nippon.

Think of it! Six to twenty immense and gorgeous blooms on a single spike, scenting the entire vicinity with fragrance. The stranger to this flower, on first beholding its beauty, fairly gasps with astonishment and delight.

The individual flower is pure white, overlaid or speckled with numerous dots of brownish scarlet, and extending the full length of the petal from tip to tip, runs a broad band of golden-yellow. Can one imagine a more gorgeous sight than a bed of Auratum Lilies must present?

Another very popular Japanese variety is the Rubrum Lily, with its petals reflexed or curved outward, white in color and heavily dotted with bright, rich crimson.

In planting bulbs of the Japanese Lilies they should be set a foot in depth, with a little sand at the bottom of each hole, and the bulbs given a dusting of sulphur to prevent rot.

Most everyone is today acquainted with the pure white Madonna Lily by sight if not by name. It is also known as Annunciation or as Candidum Lily. The bulbs of this Lily are commercially grown in France and shipped to this country, and in order to bloom the next succeeding season they should be planted in late August or quite early in September, so they may yet grow a crown of leaves this season, and the bulbs should be set but two or three inches under the soil.

The chaste beauty, fragrance and free blooming quality of the Madonna Lily have endeared it to us all.

Mention must be made of the old-fashioned Tiger Lily (*Tigrinum*), which we all have known

since childhood, and the *Elegans*, which is largely planted, and while different from the *Tigrinum*, partakes much of the same general orange-red shade.

Lilies of this class we often encounter along the roads of the countryside, growing in a wild state. They are, however, worthy still of a place in the gardens of today.

Other worthy sorts we will mention here for the sake of variety are the *Davuricum* Lily, a native of Siberia, producing three to five scarlet flowers to the spike, and growing to a height of two to three feet; the *Henryi*, from the mountains of China, growing four to five feet tall, and producing umbrels of orange-yellow flowers banded with green.

Also the *Pardilinum* or Leopard Lily, with its rich scarlet and yellow flowers, and the *Superbum*, with five to forty nodding flowers of brilliant orange-red.

Except as otherwise noted, all these Lilies mentioned should be planted about six inches deep.

Lilies are most effective when planted in groups or masses, amongst shrubbery especially, where they are afforded some protection in winter, or in the perennial border.

The *Auratum* is also adapted to pot culture, and a very pretty outdoor effect is to alternate them in beds with the perennial Blue Sage. The

Rubrum also may be grown in pots with commendable success.

The Calla Lilies are well known as pot subjects, but comparatively few know that they are also suitable for bedding out in this latitude. Both the yellow Elliottiana and the white spotted leaf sort, Richardia alba are adapted to bedding purposes.

The dormant bulbs should be planted outside after all danger from frost is over in the spring, where they will bloom during the summer months, and the bulbs should be dug up and stored like potatoes after the tops have been killed by frost.

Not so well known is the Ismene Lily, or so-called Peruvian Daffodil, which produces large Amaryllis-like flowers of pure white, rather oddly formed and blooming quite soon after the bulbs are planted.

In the Fall the Ismene bulbs may be dug and stored same as the Calla, or after a few weeks of rest, the bulbs may be potted up and brought again into bloom for the house in winter. This chapter would be incomplete without mention being made of the Magic Flower. Its true name is Lycoris Squamigera or Amaryllis Halli.

This odd and unusual flower belongs to the lily tribe; it is perfectly hardy and requires but little care or protection.

At the very first sign of spring the lily-like foliage appears and remains without sign of bud

or flower until the hot days of July; the foliage then turning brown and disappearing.

Next, as if by magic, springing from the bare soil, come the flower spikes. Soon these are crowned with from four to fifteen or more lovely lily-shaped flowers of delicate lilac-pink, shaded and penciled with blue.

Nature all around us is filling the world with its magic and beauty, and the Lily, truly, "Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."

THE IRIS FAMILY

A MERE baby alongside the rose, the lily or the peony, the iris has been in cultivation now for only a matter of about three hundred years. This notwithstanding that it grows wild in all parts of the world. Known and commonly called the flag in its wild state, this flower, the Iris, is also the famed fleur-de-lis of France.

Here is a flower that, in its modern types is as showy and as beautiful as the orchid. Planted in masses along the house foundations, beside brook or pond, along driveways and walks or grouped in an odd corner of the garden, they present a remarkably graceful and beautiful display during the blooming season, and the leaves are beautiful at any time of the year. They are also desirable for grouping in clumps to the fore of plantings of massed shrubbery, and for use in the hardy perennial border.

In this article we shall mention several groups or divisions of the Iris family, placing first the best known type, now generally called the Liberty Iris or Bearded Iris. Before the late great war this class was generally termed the German Iris.

The broad swordlike leaves of a bluish-green make a good contrast in most any sort of plant-

ing, and the flowers themselves come in a wonderful array of beautiful colors, shades and color combinations, most of them marked and veined in a wonderful manner, giving us one of our most attractive of our hardy plants.

This iris likes a sunny, well drained location, and quite shallow planting. The bulbs or roots should be just barely underground, and to plant them deeper is to take a good chance of losing them altogether.

They may be successfully planted at any time the ground is open and in condition to work, and the plants are not in bloom.

Our second division is the Japanese Iris or Iris Kempferi, a class of flowers surpassing the great general run of flowers in the kingly magnificence and the large size of bloom combined. This flower has been classed as rivalling the lily in stateliness, the peony for majestic beauty, the orchid for its delicacy of coloring and the chrysanthemum for profusion of bloom.

The plants frequently grow to a height of three or more feet, and should be planted deeper than the German Iris. If copiously watered for a month before blooming time they will produce magnificent flowers as large as dinner plates. They are desirable plants for along streams or margining ponds.

Usually the German or Liberty Iris begin to

bloom about Memorial Day and on into June, while the Japanese section bloom in June and July.

Worthy but lesser known members of the iris family that we shall mention are the Iris Pumila or dwarf garden iris, growing only to a height of six to twelve inches. (This is a good subject for our rock garden.) The Iris Florentina or sweet orris root of commerce, which also flowers well, the Oriental or Siberian Iris, with its tall, narrow, grassy foliage and delicate flowers. The Spanish Iris, a delicate flower very popular for greenhouse culture for cut flowers. We might also mention Iris Interregna, an interesting type of iris that blooms ahead of the German iris and produces its flowers on spikes about a foot and a half in height, standing well above the dwarf foliage of this plant.

By way of illustrating some of the very beautiful color combinations we will name a few of the choice varieties with their colors for the benefit of those of our readers who are acquainted only with the common purples, whites and yellows of this magnificent family, in the hope that it may stimulate a desire to know more of the beauty of the iris at first hand.

First, from amongst the German family we will point out these: HER MAJESTY. Rose-pink and bright crimson, tinged with darker shades; tints and colorings blended in a rare manner.

LOHENGRIN. A uniform shade of soft catleya rose. LORELEY. Light yellow and ultramarine blue; fall petals bordered with cream. PLUMERI. Coppery rose with velvety claret falls. PRINCESS VICTORIA LOUISE. Yellow; fall petals rich violet edged with cream, the flower growing to a height of two and a half feet. And we will mention but one more in this class, CAPRICE. Rosy-red, with the fall petals a deeper shade of the same color.

Imagine, how can any lover of beautiful flowers neglect a plant that is so versatile, and shows all the wonderful tints and colorings that we may find today in the German or Liberty Iris.

And when we turn to the Japanese Iris we find the same remarkable blending of gorgeous and showy colors. We find this flower in pure chaste white, an impressive sight when flowering in a large group, we also find tints of lavender, red, blue, maroon, pink, purple, and last of all, a worthy novelty, we mention the RUFFLED MONSTER, a large double flower of deep pinkish plum, heavily veined with white, surrounding the yellow blotch at the center of the flower, finely formed and beautiful, a ruffled monster, striking indeed in appearance.

POPULAR BEDDING PLANTS

EVERYWHERE, we see the public squares and parks, the pretentious grounds of public buildings and the large private estates making an ever-increasing use of the bright-colored and beautiful bedding plants, adding attractive touches of bright gay color to the landscape.

For the average home lawn the author does not advocate the breaking up of the greensward with formal beds, but rather, their use as border plantings before foundations, low porches, and along walks and drives, also with the taller sorts as a background planting in beds, planned to screen gardens or other views that it is desirable to conceal.

Border plantings in beds $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 feet in depth are usually found very beautiful and appropriate for along the walks or driveways. Where possible a spot laid out entirely as a formal garden also has its charming features.

The more popular of the plants used for these purposes are the geranium, coleus, begonia, petunia, salvia or scarlet sage, cannas, caladium, aster, zinnia, and some others we might mention, such as the coleus and other bright foliage plants.

One very pretty effect to be had is a solid bed

of scarlet sage bordered with a single row of bright yellow coleus.

Of the zinnias it is recommended that one plant the newer types such as the curled and crested, the dahlia flowered or the cactus zinnias, all of which far exceed the old-fashioned types in form and bright colorings, and bloom continually until checked by frosts.

There is no more popular bedding plant anywhere than the geranium, and it has never seemed to lose any of its popularity, but today the petunia, especially the rosy morn and the star types, are running it a close second.

Another very popular and useful bedding plant to use where dainty plants growing to about a foot in height are desired is the begonia, either the bright rose pink *Glore de Chatelaine* or the bright red *Luminosa*. These plants do well either in bright sunlight or partial shade and bloom profusely. They may be taken up in the fall, if desired, and planted in pots for the house.

Ageratum, with its wealth of blue flowers, and its dwarf habit, make it an acceptable bedder for many places and the sweet alyssum or the dwarf nasturtium are useful edging plants, as are the lobelia, dwarf marigolds and others.

For particular locations it is sometimes desirable to have a very large bed of tropical appearing plants, and for such we suggest the following ar-

range: For the center of the bed make use of either one plant or a grouping of three Ricinis or castor oil bean plants. These plants often attain a height of ten feet and the foliage is tropical looking and very grand indeed.

Surround the ricinis with a row of caladium or elephant ears, next making use of a row of semi-dwarf cannas, and finally an outside border of dusty miller. This arrangement will make a showing that will be very favorably received generally.

Under this heading of "Bedding Plants" we shall devote more attention to the Canna than to any of the others, both because it is today our most popular tall growing type of bedder, and because its requirements both as to culture and storing of the mature roots is not so generally understood as the care of such plants as the geranium.

Reading a description of the canna as written so recently as the year 1883, we note this: "The flowers don't amount to much, but the plant is majestic and gorgeous."

The patient work of the hybridizer again has brought forth an abundant fruitage, and in just a very few years has produced from a "flower that don't amount to much," one that today is gorgeous in the extreme; the individual flowers now as large as the gladiolus, and the acme of brilliancy and showiness of coloring.

The dry roots of the canna may be planted in beds two feet apart in May, after all danger of frost is past, and the ground has warmed, but in planting dry roots there is almost always bound to be some bare spots where roots have rotted in the ground, or they have failed to sprout from some other cause.

A far better method is to start the roots into growth in shallow boxes in the greenhouse or window; setting them close together and using either sand, sawdust or sphagnum moss.

As the shoots develop a portion of the root having both sprout and new root development may be cut off and potted up, later to be set out in permanent beds.

Plants about a foot high, grown in greenhouses in four-inch spots may also be purchased at planting time for about a quarter dollar each for the standard sorts.

Three of our very popular varieties, each one well worth planting as the best in their several colors are these:

First, the most popular of all cannas is the **KING HUMBERT**, growing to a height of about five feet, and its bright bronzy red foliage topped with heads or large trusses of glorious bright scarlet flowers. The King Humbert has never lost any of its original popularity.

Next, a newer sort, **THE PRESIDENT**. Ac-

counted as the greatest red canna with green foliage. It produces flowers of immense size and penetrating color, the vigorous plants of this variety also growing to a height of five feet.

Then we have an excellent pink variety that we wish to list. It is MRS. ALFRED CONARD. So many reds and yellows are used that pink cannas are more or less of a novelty, and this one has been called the "Queen of Cannas." The flowers are an exquisite shade of salmon pink, very large in size, and freely produced. This variety grows four feet high.

There are of course many different varieties today, all evolved, however, from the old Indian gunshot plant that we have seen, with its pretty foliage but insignificant flowers, as grown in the "gardens of yesterday."

A multiplicity of reds and yellows, reds with gold edges, speckled and spotted sorts, some good pinks and a few worthwhile in white. The heights to which the various sorts grow vary with the varieties, and range from two and a half feet to six feet or more tall.

It does not take the amateur long to discover that canna roots are more difficult to keep from season to season than the dahlia or some other plants, and so just a word about this.

After the leaves have been blackened by frost, and the roots dug, it will be found well to store

them in boxes of sand in the cellar, the roots packed upside down so that the juice may drain off, and by this method, if you have a frostproof cellar it will be found that the roots will carry through the winter, and come out in the spring with unimpaired vitality, ready to grow and bloom for you as well as before.

Before planting again the roots will need to be divided, and they may be cut apart with a sharp knife, leaving two or three eyes to each division.

Many of our flowers have interesting legends connected with them, and not the least of these flowers is the canna. According to an old Burmese legend, the canna sprang from sacred blood. It is recited that Dewadat, becoming jealous of Buddha, climbed a hill and waited for Buddha to pass below. Poising a large stone at the edge of the hill, it crashed down into a thousand pieces at Buddha's feet, and one small fragment striking him on the toe drew blood. The blood seeped into the ground, and from it there sprang forth the blood-red canna.

WATER LILIES, AQUATICS, AND
ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

FREQUENTLY, in passing along some quiet country road, we come upon some lovely little brook or pond, and there, reposing upon its bosom, like twinkling stars, amidst the foliage our delighted eyes behold the chaste and beautiful native water lily, *nymphaea oderata*, blooming in profusion.

We are always delighted with the picture, and frequently long to possess, and this we may, even should we not be so fortunate as to even have a brook or pond of our own, for we can have them blooming gaily on the lawn in the bowl of a convenient fountain, or we may have them in half-barrels sunk in the ground.

If we look into the matter, we will find that Water Lilies are divided into two classes, the hardy sort or *nymphæas*, and the tropical or tender Water Lilies.

Amongst the hardy sorts we have several different white ones, and we will also find rose-pink and sulphur-yellow varieties, but no blue Water Lilies amongst the hardy class.

The hardy lilies should be planted in the mud at the bottom of the pond or tub, any time from

mid-April to the first of June. In planting it may be found advisable to lay a narrow stone, like a finger, across the planted root to hold it in position until it has firmly attached itself in the mud by taking root.

The tropical or tender sorts again is divided into two classes, those that bloom in the daytime, and those that bloom at night. There are all colors to be found here, whites, reds, pinks, rose, and blue, and some in a variety of shades.

The tender lilies are first grown in pots, then the pots set in under the water in the fountain bowl, or wherever the location may be.

Two varieties of these tender lilies, *Zanzibariensis Azurea*—a clear azure blue in color, and *Z. Rosæa*—in shades of rose, may readily be grown from seed started in a saucer of mud and water and later transplanted to pots. Seedsmen frequently carry the seed of the *Zanzibariensis* variety.

Neither must we omit mention of the *Victoria* or *Royal Water Lily*, because of its novelty and general interest as a curiosity. The pads or leaves of this plant are immense, much larger than a tub, and the leaves all round the edge turn up, making each one an immense saucer that will sustain a great weight.

The *Lotus*, famed in history, song and story, will be found a valuable specimen for planting amongst the *Water Lilies*. The majestic size of

the foliage, standing rigidly above the water, and the size, purity of color and fragrance of the flower, all stamp it at once as a desirable plant. The colors too are varied, white, rose, yellow and carmine.

At remarkably small expense a lily pond of any desired shape, form or size may be dug in the lawn and a concrete retaining wall or frame constructed. The bottom need not be concreted unless the ground is so porous as not to hold water at all, and a pipe may be run underground from the water supply and into the concrete wall, or the lawn hose may be used to add water to the pond as required.

It is an excellent plan to have the plants of Lotus grouped in the background, with the lilies to the fore, unless only a very few of the Lotus are used, in which event they may be scattered indiscriminately amongst the lilies.

There are some other effective plants also for planting in the water, and they may frequently be used with charming effect. Adapted to this purpose we have the Egyptian Paper Plant, the somewhat common Water Hyacinth, the yellow Water Poppy, Parrot's Feather, Lizard's Tail, Wild Rice and others as well.

As a background to the picture presented by the pond and the lilies, a suitable planting of shrubbery and evergreens, with a grouping of

ornamental grasses for variety, may often be used with charming effect. Amongst the various Ornamental Grasses that will be found suitable for such a place and purpose we mention the Great Reed Grass, growing to a height of as much as ten feet, producing variegated green and white blades; the Zebra Grass which attains a height of some six feet, with the green of the blade set off by a broad yellow stripe down the middle. The Blue Lyme Grass with its narrow silvery foliage about two feet high, and the Ribbon Grass with its variegated blades only about a foot tall.

If so desired, some of the annuals such as Rainbow Corn, Fountain Grass in red and purple shades, etc., may also be used.

Another plant that the writer wishes to mention here is the *Cyperus alternifolius* or as commonly called, the Umbrella Plant. This palm-like plant requires water and lots of it to do well, and is adapted to a number of uses. It may be used on the edge of ponds or directly in the shallow water, also it may be used for planting in the aquarium, and many people find it desirable as a potted plant for the house.

Another excellent plant for planting on the edge of water is the gorgeous Japanese Iris. This plant likes plenty of water, and if located where it can have access to an abundant supply for a month before its blooming season in June, it will fre-

quently give immense flowers as large as dinner plates, as stated in another chapter, "The Iris Family."

For early spring blooming the Holland Bulbs may also be planted along the water's edge, and lend a particularly charming effect where the blooming plants can reflect themselves in the water as in a mirror.

It will now require only another little step, and just a wee use of the imagination to evolve a Japanese garden out of our plans.

We will imagine that our lily pond is located in some secluded spot, and an irregular ground formation thereabout will heighten the effect. A pathway winding over the little lawn in an irregular formation, constructed of broken bits of flag stone with the grass growing up between, possibly a little arching rustic bridge if we are so fortunate as to have a little brook instead of a pond, and nearby, a rustic summer house constructed of rough undressed cedar, all more or less secluded by shrubbery, with possibly just a few Dogwoods amongst them, and mayhaps a Flowering Cherry Tree or two, and easily we can see how such a beauty spot would fit in with romance and moonlit nights.

PLANTING BULBS IN THE FALL

To enjoy the rare and fragrant beauty that Dutch Bulbs provide, we **MUST** plant the bulbs in the fall.

The stateliness of the Hyacinth, the gorgeousness of the Tulip, the rare loveliness of the Daffodil, and the charm and grace in very early spring of the lowly Crocus and the little Snowdrop, are sights that we always welcome and enjoy. And, at the sight, how many of us pledge ourselves that we will have a charming display of such rare beauty, all of our very own another spring, but alas, how very easy it is to forget, and when fall, and planting time for bulbs, again rolls round, the thought often has passed from the mind, to be followed again by regrets when these lovely flowers show their smiling faces another spring all about us, and our plot is bare.

A little forethought, a little time and loving care, and just a little money, and what a wealth of beauty and pleasure we can have for our very own. Let's then remember, another fall, to plant Dutch bulbs that we might have them to love and enjoy when another dull and dreary winter is past, and we stand just on the threshold of spring.

While Tulips make resplendent beds of brilliant

color, they are also very useful for planting amongst the hardy border, along walks and drives, and in groups at the front of massed shrubbery or evergreens. Also the late Darwins are exceptionally fine for planting in the garden for cutting, as they are long lasting, grow on tall, erect stems, and come into bloom at about Memorial Day. For cutting we would recommend the following three shades of pink: Pride of Haarlem, it looks like an immense American Beauty rosebud; Gretchen, a lighter shade of pink, and Clara Butt, which is of a real delicate pink shade.

Hyacinths too make lovely beds and borders, and the Daffodils are especially effective if planted in clumps where they may be left to grow and multiply year after year. Crocus and Snowdrops, scattered in the lawn, lend a very pretty effect to the picture.

The Hollanders begin digging their bulbs for shipment about July, and in late August the bulbs have been dried, packed and are aboard ship on their way to America. Arriving early in September, and quickly placed on sale, the bulbs can always be had in ample time for planting, which begins the middle of October and continues just as long as the ground is not solidly and permanently frozen up for winter. The ideal time for planting, however, is probably about November first in the north, and somewhat later in the southern states.

Indeed, the bulbs will usually give very good results even if they happen to be left over, and are treated in the following manner after the ground has frozen solid. The bulbs may be set on top of the frozen ground and covered with a couple of inches of soil from some protected hillside, or even covered with ashes, sand or sawdust, and then covered with a mulch, for winter protection. This seems impossible of producing results, but we know it does by experience.

The reason is that inside the bulb the embryo flower has already formed, and in order to bring it forth into bloom the main requirements are heat, light and moisture.

Split a sample bulb from top to bottom with a case knife, and therein as though reposing in a pocket, you will easily discern the embryo flower asleep and awaiting its appointed time.

A few years ago the author had several hundred left-over Tulip Bulbs, and during an open spell of weather in January, the ground was dug and the bulbs planted. In April as choice Tulips as one might wish were cut and taken to the hospital.

Another season a couple of leftover cases of Daffodils were cast on the ground, covered with coal ashes to a very slight depth, and in the spring, forgetting the bulbs, a temporary framework building covered with cheesecloth was erected over the spot. Benches for potted flowers were

put in, and nevertheless, in due season the Daffodils began to grow and produced their bloom in the semidusk under the benches, providing us with many unlooked for and unexpected bouquets of lovely flowers.

Tulip beds such as one frequently sees in parks and on large estates, laid out in design, are very effective and not at all hard to duplicate.

During the late great war the writer had a bed of over two thousand Tulips on his lawn, laid out in a field of white with a large red cross in the center. At such a time this design created a great deal of comment and was much appreciated.

The usual method is to first prepare the bed and then mark on it the design with a sharp stick, afterwards planting the bulbs with a small trowel or dibble.

Several unusual and effective planting methods that should be of interest will be mentioned here.

First, the Three-in-one bed will be described. The soil is dug from the bed to a depth of seven or eight inches, Hyacinth bulbs arranged in the bottom and covered with soil. Next some Darwin Tulips are used, care being taken of course to see that these are not placed directly over the Hyacinths. Cover the Tulip Bulbs with soil, and lastly put in some Crocus bulbs two inches under the top soil, and firm the soil down well.

Very early in spring the Crocus will come up

and bloom first, and by the time they are out of the way the Hyacinths will appear, and last of all, the stately Darwins in all their glory, and your bed will have served a triple purpose where usually it would have made but a single display.

Another very effective planting is to fill the bed with Daffodils and purple Hyacinths, alternating the bulbs, first one and then the other. Daffodils and Hyacinths bloom at the same time, and the color contrast of yellow and purple is very handsome indeed, and very pleasing.

Beds may also be alternated with Single Early Tulips and the late Darwins, making the beds fulfill a double function. For the singles we would use such sorts as Belle Alliance, Yellow King or Keizerskroon, and Pride of Haarlem or Ronald Gun for the Darwins.

The early tulips, of course, bloom first, and have finished blooming by the time the Darwins appear, and such an arrangement just doubles the pleasure the beds will afford.

To most amateurs it is a problem what to do about the bulbs after they have finished blooming, whether to leave them in the ground or to take them up, and if so, when.

The bulbs may be removed from the beds after the foliage has begun to assume a grayish tinge and to die down. They should be thoroughly dried in a cool airy room, tops and roots removed, and

bulbs stored in a cool dry place until the succeeding planting season.

If you wish, the bulbs may be left in the ground to bloom the second or even the third successive season, and while they will usually do fairly well, they will not of course be as uniform as the first season.

When the bulbs have been planted to a sufficient depth, the smaller rooted annuals may be planted in the beds over the bulbs without causing any serious disturbance. Such sorts as verbenas, heliotrope, nasturtium, petunias, and asters for instance.

Larger rooted subjects as cannas, geraniums, etc., would not be advisable plantings unless the bulbs had first been removed from the beds.

Tulips and Daffodils should be set with the tops of the bulbs three or four inches underground, and anywhere from two to six inches apart. Hyacinths want to be five or six inches under the soil, and the Crocus and other small bulbs two inches under.

After the bulbs are planted, firm the soil down well by tramping over the beds, and cover with a heavy mulch of leaves, straw, coarse manure or evergreen boughs for winter protection, removing the mulch from the beds usually about late March in this latitude.

Be sure your beds are so made that water and

ice will not stand on them during the winter months. Most of the bulbs that are lost are lost because of water or ice, or the depredations of mice and moles.

How to grow some of the bulbs inside in pots will no doubt be of interest. Their culture is easy if a few simple directions are followed, and the effort is far more than repaid with interest.

For forcing only the best and largest bulbs should be used. And for best results they should not be forced too soon. Bringing the potted bulbs from the cellar from January on is as early as it should be attempted, and especially for Tulips, February or even March will be better still.

After freezing weather comes will be sufficiently early to pot Tulips, using three bulbs to a four-inch pot, or a proportionate number if larger containers are used. Set the pots outside and cover them, leaving them to freeze a couple of nights, and then removing to a dark cellar, there to make roots. Of course they should be watered moderately when potted, and occasionally while in the cellar as they show the need, but do not water too freely.

Hyacinths and Daffodils require the same treatment except that they need not be set out to freeze, but may be removed at once and stored in the dark.

When the time comes to force the bulbs into

bloom, bring a few pots at a time, gradually to light and warmth. Do not give them direct sunlight nor too much heat for the first few days, but let them become gradually accustomed to both. The flowers will then come into gorgeous bloom in just a few weeks time.

What brightness they bring into the home. How excellent as gifts to the sick and the shut-in, into whose hearts they always bring much of happiness and good cheer.

ROCK GARDENS

A ROCK GARDEN, arranged with taste and planted with discrimination, is decidedly a thing of great beauty. Such plantings have been extremely popular for years past in England, and today are much appreciated in America as well, where they have gained rapidly in favor, every new well-planted rock garden advertising the fact that here is a real beauty spot, and one well worthy of imitation or emulation.

No one set form or type of rock garden is at all essential; an adaptation of nature in keeping with the surroundings is all that one aims for.

The most common type of rock garden, and probably the easiest to construct, is the mound type, an irregular heap of stones and rocks, put together roughly and with no idea of artificiality, but trying insofar as possible to simulate nature.

The interstices between the stones should be filled with a gritty porous sort of soil and plants suited to the purpose planted therein. Irregular plantings of various sorts at the base of the mound will add to the general effect.

Another effective sort of planting may be had where the lawn is terraced, and where several cement steps lead from one elevation to another.

A heap of rocks strewed on the bank at each side of these steps and planted to rock plants will be unusually charming and beautiful.

At first, the original idea of a rock garden was to provide a natural environment for such plants as would thrive and grow only in such a well drained situation, but any original idea is capable of being improved upon, and today we plant anything in our rock gardens that will grow there and that does not look out of place.

I shall mention here one unusual type of rock garden as found in England, a very ambitious sort of garden, involving the expenditures of both time and money, but an ideally beautiful one withal.

This garden was constructed on the ravine type. First the sandstone rock was excavated to form a ravine, the crags and interstices of the ravine planted to suitable types. Then the material removed from the excavation was used to blend this ravine into the mound type at the one end, and finally blending off into the landscape.

If one is fortunate enough to have a little stream or brook with rocky banks, as is sometimes seen, such a location at once adapts itself to the making of a wonderfully effective rock garden.

It should be remembered in constructing a rock garden that the main idea is to keep as far as possible away from the formal, finished, and the arti-

ficial, and to simulate as closely as possible the rough, rugged, irregular workings of Nature.

There are ambitious rock gardens that occupy several acres of space, and are spots of remarkable beauty; others are quite miniature, and withal very beautiful if arranged with taste and judgment.

Such a chapter as this would be incomplete were we not to give a list of some of the plants suitable for rock garden planting, and in doing so we will divide them into two groups. The first will be of plants that grow only one to six inches in height, and the second group will be of types showing from six to twelve inches tall. The plants we list in this chapter are all hardy.

In giving a list of names it will be necessary to identify certain of the plants by their Latin names to avoid possibility of error in selecting your plants. For instance, if we were to list simply *Campanula*, you might get *Campanula persicifolia*, growing two feet high, or one of the other types unsuited to your purpose, when you really should have the *Campanula gargantica* or *carpatica*, either of which is dwarf.

So we will list the following sorts of your selection. *Alyssum saxatile* (Gold Dust), yellow; *aquilegia corulea* (Columbine), blue; *ajuga reptans rubra* (Bugle), blue; *arabis alpina* (Rock Cress), white; *campanula gargantica*, blue; *gypsophila*

cerastioides or repens, white; nierembergia ribarialis (White Cup), white with colored throat; Phlox divaricata, blue; phlox sublata, white or pink; the dwarf varieties of the sedum; silene schaftos (Catch Fly), pink; trolius laxus (Globe Flower), yellow.

The taller division as previously mentioned will be armeria compactus (Sea Pink), rose; the dwarf alpine asters; arabis albida, white; campanula carpatica, blue; the various hardy wild ferns, helianthemum vulgare (Rock Rose), evergreen; iberis sempervirens (Hardy Candytuft), the taller sedums; plumbago or lead wort, blue; polygonum brunonis, bright rose, and the showy little viola cornuta that blooms steadily and continuously for six or seven months of the year.

Once become enthused on the subject of rock gardens and it, with many folk, becomes their hobby, eternally hoping and continually searching for some new plant subject adaptable to adoption into their plant kingdom.

THE PERENNIAL BORDER

THIS Border is a strip of ground planted to those old-fashioned hardy flowers of our grandmothers' gardens, always popular in the old country, for years neglected in America, but again of recent years coming into their own, and now enjoying the greatest of popularity everywhere, such as they fully deserve.

A properly planted Border always shows some bright spots of color during the entire season, from quite early in the spring until after snow flies in the late fall months.

The plants should be set out in groups of the individual kinds instead of single plants for the best effect, also a few spaces at least should be reserved for a few easy growing, bright and showy annuals such as the zinnias, miniature sunflowers, marigolds, and possibly others, including the showy giant ricinis if the Border is quite large. Also some of the early flowering bulbs such as the tulip, narcissus, etc., should be included for early touches of color.

In arranging the plants in the Perennial Border the taller growing sorts should largely make up the background, with the low and medium growing species planted to the front, and an uneven or

broken appearance given to the display by planting here and there amongst the lower sorts a few groups of the medium ones.

We want to keep as far away as possible from stiffness and formality and, so far as possible, to simulate the workings of nature.

The soil should be enriched with well-rotted manure or bone meal, kept well cultivated and free from weeds. In very dry weather during the hot summer months, it will be well to use the hose in the early morning or to put a light mulch over the soil between the plants to conserve moisture and keep the ground cool.

The spring blooming species such as the peony, bleeding heart and others require a few years to become thoroughly established and to do their best, but many of the late summer and fall blooming sorts, such as the chrysanthemums, rudbeckias, hardy asters, etc., the sorts in which the old crown dies out and many new side shoots appear, will be much improved by dividing and transplanting each year; taking four or five of the side shoots to make the new plant.

Plants for the Border may be purchased either as field grown clumps, pot plants, or many of them may be easily grown from seed sown in boxes or frames in July or August and later transplanted to the border. Some of those easily grown from seed are hollyhocks, shasta daisies, coreopsis, del-

phinum, pinks, carnations, gaillardias, perennial peas, and of course numerous others too. Plants grown from seed will materially cut down the expense.

By way of showing the continuity of bloom and color to be found in your Perennial Border, we mention the blooming time of some of the better known sorts. In April and May the hardy pinks and the bleeding hearts are in bloom, vying with the iris, the peony and the bright showy phloxes. Also the tulips and narcissus will add bright showy colorings that will be a delight at this time.

A great wealth of bloom in June or July will be provided by the majestic Japanese iris, the late Darwin tulips, the foxgloves, the campanula or canterbury bells, bright poppies, forget-me-nots, coreopsis, delphinium or larkspur, and many others. After the larkspur has bloomed, cut it down to the ground, dig in some bone meal, and they will flower again.

If you have clumps of the miniature sunflower, scarlet sage and zinnias they will be in gorgeous bloom from very early until frosts.

The heated months of August and September gives us the hardy aster, the blue salvia, hollyhocks, gaillardias, perennial peas, stokesias, rudbeckias, and all this time the bright showy phloxes have been blooming away as valiantly gorgeously as ever.

Today the phlox is one of our showiest flowers, but the heads should never be allowed to go to seed as this is apt to spoil the display by the production of ugly magenta shades produced from the self-sown seed.

Last of the season, during October and November we may have blooming in our border the anemone or windflower, stokesias, tritoma pfitzerii or red hot poker plant, as well as some others, and now a showy display such as the chrysanthemum, queen of all late garden flowers, only can afford, a wealth of wonderful bloom in a great array of bright colors, and remaining with us to the very end of the blooming season.

For winter protection the perennial border requires a light mulch that however should not be applied too early; mid or late November in this latitude will be found to be about right.

Too heavy a mulch would tend to start plant growth too early with the first warm days of spring, and this growth would be apt to be damaged by late frosts.

The mulch should be raked off and removed gradually, over a period of a week or ten days so that any growth that may have started may gradually become hardened instead of chancing the possibility of the plants receiving a shock by the removal of all the covering at one time.

During the season all dead stalks, spent flowers

and decaying foliage should be removed that the border might appear neat and tidy at all times.

Hardly a home but may have its perennial border. Even in the cramped quarters of the city, many a small back yard that now is only an unsightly thing may be made a thing of beauty by planting a perennial border on each side of the walk, taking up the entire yard with the exception of a small strip of grass on each side of the walk, for there are perennials that are suited to shady positions as well as to sunny places, and what a pleasure and a delight such a planting would be.

Yes, wherever a strip of ground is available, there you may have a perennial border that will be delightful, and you will find that it will be appreciated more and more. The better you become acquainted with it the more delightful it will prove to be.

GROWING ANNUALS FROM SEED

ANNUALS are that class of plants, growing quickly from seed, blossoming for a single season, and dying down with the frosts of Fall.

Some seeds are much easier to germinate than others. We all have our failures as well as our successes. Some classes of seed are unreliable even in the hands of professionals. Other sorts could hardly fail under any treatment.

Good judgment will tell anyone that tender seeds should not be planted outdoors before all danger from frost is over and expected to grow. Many kinds, however, may be started in small boxes in the window during February, March, or April, and transplanted to beds in May. This is a good plan with such seeds as those of Verbena, Scarlet Sage, and numerous others, and by this plan they will come into bloom much more quickly.

It is hardly worth while, however, to start such rapid growing sorts in the house as Alyssum, Marigold, Zinnia, Calendula, but rather a better plan to wait until all danger from frost is past and then sow the seed directly outdoors, later thinning out the plants or transplanting them to other positions.

If you sow any seed in boxes they should be

covered with a darkened pane of glass until the seeds "sprout" and then one side of the glass should be raised to admit air.

Much care must be used in watering. The little plants must not be allowed to dry out even once; neither must they be watered too freely or there is danger of "damping off" or rotting at the surface of the ground.

The two first leaves that appear are termed seed leaves, the next to appear are the true leaves. The young seedlings should be transplanted in rows or into small pots shortly after the true leaves have made their appearance.

Flat seeds such as those of Gourds, Castor Oil Bean Plant (*Ricinis*), and *Cobea* should be planted edgewise rather than flat, just as you would plant lima beans, as otherwise the seed will have a tendency to rot in the ground.

After your plants have grown and have been transplanted to their permanent beds, it is of course necessary for best results that you should give them proper attention by keeping down the weeds and cultivating the soil. Especially should the beds be hoed shortly after each rain so as to conserve the moisture in the soil.

Following out these few and simple directions should give you a full average of success with Annuals. You must expect some failures now and then, however; we all have them. The old saying

that "We must take the bitter with the sweet" is as true in flower-growing as in any of the other pursuits of life.

Having discussed the growing of plants from seed, let us now for just a little while consider some of the things to plant.

In the first place there are never nearly enough blue flowers, and they are far more desirable than the bright reds and many of the yellows. Amongst the desirable blue flowers that we may enjoy is the Blue Lace Flower, each rounded head composed of many tiny florets of beautiful skyblue, and presenting to the eye a light and airy appearance. Then we have the Centurea or Cornflower, Lobelias, Ageratum, Sweet Peas, and outside the annual class, also the Gladioli and the beautiful tall Blue Sage or Salvia, which is a perennial, however. We also may choose the Verbena, the Aster and the Blue-eyed African Daisy, as well as Statice, Heliotrope, and the tiny but lovely Forget-me-not.

Annuals suitable for cutting embrace the Zinnias, Salpiglossis or Velvet Flower, Asters, Gailardias, Scabiosa or Mourning Bride, Cosmos, Antirrhinum or Snapdragon and numerous others.

For bordering beds, walks or drives we may choose from the following list. We have the bright showy Phlox Drummondii, which is the annual sort of Phlox. We have also the Ageratum, Sweet

Alyssum, Dwarf Nasturtium and the Lobelias, not to mention others. Suitable for Hanging Baskets we have Canary Bird Flower, Ice Plant, Wandering Jew and Kenilworth Ivy.

What a wealth of variety, color and beauty the Annuals afford us. The various types of daisies and cosmos, asters of sorts almost without end to select from. Many odd and unusual shapes and forms are found amongst the annuals. Today the newer types of zinnias are a true revelation of colorful glory, and we have wonderful varieties of sweet peas in a vast array.

And the great and crowning beauty of the annuals is the fact that even the humblest cottage may be adorned with them, and he who will may literally have the blessing of their beauty and companionship "without money and without price."

"HIS OWN VINE AND FIG TREE"

How very pleasant we find the grateful shade of the vine in the heat of the day, and how restful a seat under its arbor in the cool and quiet of the evening.

Its luscious fruit is food and refreshment to the weary soul, and its song and praises have been heard through all the ages of man.

We find ripe grapes spoken of by Joseph, as early a written record as in the fortieth chapter of Genesis, the first book of the Bible, and it is altogether possible that Adam and Eve in the Garden rested in its refreshing shade and partook of its fruit.

Noah planted the Vine after the deluge, and cultivated it. There were many excellent vineyards in Palestine, and very frequently Our Lord spake of the vine, or of its parts in his parables.

In this modern age we still find the Grape fitting not only into the present day scheme of utility, but in many a location, it is wonderfully effective in plans for the Home Beautiful.

At the rear of the home we often find an arbor or pergola, draped with the vine, serving there a double purpose, both utility and beauty.

The grape vine often is useful for covering a

back fence or an unsightly outbuilding, or for hiding an unsightly view.

Grapes will grow most anywhere, in any sort of soil, rich or poor, apparently with about equal results. They will do well even on an otherwise almost barren hillside, but they must have a well drained location, for they do not like "wet feet."

Liberal applications of bone meal dug into the soil around the plants will be found of benefit, and it is an excellent idea to pin paper bags around the green bunches of fruit that they might be protected from the stings of insects. Proper pruning and spraying, while very generally neglected, are valuable adjuncts of grape culture.

For the benefit of those not well acquainted with varieties best suited to their purpose, a few of the best known will be mentioned and also briefly described.

The best known variety of all and the most widely grown is undoubtedly the purple Concord. The clusters are large and the grapes sweet and luscious.

A seedling of the Concord, ripening about a week earlier, but not so good a shipper is the Worden, called a black grape, but in reality a very deep dark purple.

Next to the Concord, probably our best and the most popular variety is the white Niagara. The bunches are closely compacted pyramids of lus-

ciousness, and this is a superb variety for home growing.

Also, for variety we have the pink Brighton, a large grape, and the smaller Delaware which is as sweet as honey.

What is there to compare with a bunch of delicious ripe grapes picked right off the vine in the morning hour, while the cooling dew is still on the fruit? Surely it is a luscious treat that awaits us.

And while discussing the grape it is but a step further to say just a good word for the currants and the gooseberries, for they may be easily grown in any out-of-the-way spot or fence corner, and provide the home with many a fine treat, for who can think of currant jellies and jam or gooseberry pies and tarts without having the mouth water at the thought?

By all means let us find place for the small fruits at the Home Beautiful.

WHAT CAN I PLANT IN THE SHADE?

“What is one man’s food is another man’s poison.”

AND this applies alike to plants and to men. Some of our plants thrive and grow in shady places, others would perish, requiring the smiling rays of the sun. Some species require a certain treatment, others an exactly opposite method.

One of the questions that the writer is most often asked is this: “What can I plant in a shady spot?” This is of course but a very natural question, for every place has some shade.

While there are numerous plants that will do well in partial shade; there are not so many that do well in the spots where sunlight penetrates seldom or not at all.

Amongst the Shrubs that do well in rather deep shade, we have various of the Dogwoods, and the Kalmia or Mountain Laurel, and also the wild Ferns, the Myrtle and the Lily-of-the-Valley as suitable plants for such locations.

The wild Ferns of the larger types are excellent for shady locations in front of porches and along the house foundation, and where grass is difficult to grow, the Myrtle, the English Ivy, or the Lily-of-the-Valley will develop rapidly and

soon form a deep rich carpet that will be a delight to the eye.

The Dogwoods may be effectively planted under or at the edge of the trees, where the bright blossoms of white or pink will be a cheery sight each spring. The Kalmia or Mountain Laurel likes a similar location and is partial to sour or acid soil.

Probably first amongst Shrubs for planting in partial shade I would choose the Hydrangeas, either *arborescens* with its large flat white heads, blooming in June, or *paniculata* with its more pyramided heads of bloom in July and August.

Further selections would be the Forsythia or Golden Bell, literally "smothered with its yellow bloom" in early spring before the foliage appears, the popular *Philadelphus* or Mock Orange, and the Bush Honeysuckles.

I would not want to forget some of the plants bearing bright berries to add cheer to the winter landscape, and for these I would look to the *Barberry*, so popular too as a hedge plant, the *Symphoricarpos* or Snowberry, the Coralberries and the Winterberry.

Amongst Perennials that do well in shady spots, and which I should be tempted to choose are these: The Columbines and the Oriental Poppies, the yellow Primrose or Cowslip, the Bleeding Heart, the Foxglove and the bright, gay *Coreopsis*. Each is

worthy of a place in your Perennial border, whether given a sunny spot or a place in the shade.

We cannot of course forget nor do without some of the Annual flowers, and if I wanted some of these, with only a shaded spot in which to grow them, I should choose from amongst the Salpiglossis or Velvet Flower and the gay Lavateras, the Marigolds and the Zinnias that we all know, the showy Calliopsis, the Forget-me-not and the Morning Glory.

And now having answered the numerous questions of what to plant in the shady spots, we will proceed on to our next.

OUR VINES

WE will most likely find it desirable or useful to plant a few Vines, and the question is, what shall they be?

Some of the varieties available will be found better than others for specific purposes and certain uses, but where a very rapid grower, and withal a beautiful plant is desired, I would be almost sure to choose the Wisteria.

The large pyramidal racemes of white or lavender bloom, coming in great profusion in early spring, before the foliage appears, make a charming display of grace and beauty.

For the side of a large stone or brick dwelling, for covering outbuildings and changing them from a blot on the landscape, into things of beauty, for dense porch screens, and for growing on pergolas, the Wisteria is ideal.

Speaking of pergolas, with their beautiful colonial columns and open tops, they certainly do make handsome fixtures on the lawn, lending grace, charm and dignity to the surroundings and, covered with Wisteria, they are a beautiful sight indeed.

But recently the writer saw a wonderful example of the combination of Pergola and Wisteria. Sev-

eral plants were used, and the plants were all of a half century old, with trunks like trees, and it was a sight to gaze on with delight. One may easily imagine the beauty of such a picture at blooming time.

The charm, beauty, and utility of a pergola is undeniable. Located near the house, it comes in very handy as a charming place for an afternoon's siesta on a warm day, an ideal place to sit and sew, or read or talk, and occasionally it will be much appreciated as an adjunct to the home, there to set the table and have a quiet, delightful meal with the family in the great outdoors.

Where there are walls, instead of fences, constructed of brick or stone, the English Ivy is an excellent plant to grow on them, as it will cling closely and is almost an evergreen, also if you have a dead tree on the lawn and saw it off into a stump six or eight feet high, leaving a foot or so of each of the branches, the Ivy will quickly turn unsightliness into a beauty spot.

For covering small lawns where grass will not grow, this plant will be found ideal. For covering the walls of a house constructed of brick or stone, we know of no plant more popular than the Virginia Creeper (*amphelopsis veitchi*).

We must not overlook mention of the Clematis *paniculata* or Japanese Virgin's Bower, which is one of our most excellent vines for screening

porches, or growing on arches. The foliage is dense, and a beautiful glossy green, and the innumerable tiny starlike flowers at the close of August, turn the plant into a veritable sheet of white.

The large flowering type of Clematis is an entirely different plant, one that is not much suited as a climber, but rather a subject for growing on pillars.

The Chinese Cinnamon Vine and the Japanese Kudzu Vine are both very popular, but both die down to the ground in the fall after frost, and start growth anew in the spring.

The first mentioned has pretty, glossy, heart-shaped leaves, and the blossoms give off an abundance of pleasing perfume that fills the air round about in midsummer. It is a rapid grower when it becomes once established.

The Kudzu Vine is the most rapid grower that we know anything about. Established plants have been known to grow twenty feet in a week. The foliage is large and of a tropical appearance, and the plant perseveres and grows under the most adverse of conditions. Try to stop it from growing and see if you have not struck a snag.

An excellent but rather slow-growing evergreen vine that has the added advantage of producing bright orange-red berries that stay on the vine almost all winter is the *Evonymus radicans*. This

vine is adaptable for growing on the side of the house or favored outbuildings.

Very often the annual climbers, produced from seed and living but a single season, are found useful, and we will enumerate a few of them.

Cobea grows to a height of ten to twenty feet, and produces large bell-shape flowers, while the Cypress Vine is a plant having finely cut foliage and starlike flowers of white or scarlet.

We have all known the old fashioned Morning Glory from childhood and it needs no description. The Climbing Dolichos is a very desirable climber for covering tall fences and making a screen. It grows to a height of eight to ten feet, and bears large spikes of flowers that stand out boldly from the beautiful foliage. The Moonflower will grow twenty to thirty feet in a season, and bear hundreds of immense white, blue or pink flowers.

For quickly covering embankments and terraces, and for covering up unsightly places, we will award first prize to the fragrant Honeysuckle.

Just a few blocks from the author's home is what previously was a bare, ugly, unsightly redshell hillside, scarified and corroded by the hand of man and the passing of time.

In some manner the wild Honeysuckle took complete possession of this barren spot where hardly even a weed would grow, and today we find ugliness transformed into beauty, the entire hillside

for blocks deeply carpeted with beautiful green, and in springtime when the Honeysuckle is in bloom, a regular picnic ground for the honey bees, and its deep and delicious fragrance wafted on the air for blocks around.

PLANTS FOR EMBANKMENTS AND TERRACES

AN embankment or terrace is often viewed as a real planting problem whereas it is a riddle easily solved if one goes about it in the right way, and chooses suitable subjects for planting.

Especially where the slope is long and steep, it is a difficult matter to grow grass, and if it does grow in a sort of half-hearted way, the sun scorches it and the grass turns yellow because of the lack of moisture, unless perchance one goes to the bother of watering the place copiously with the hose each summer day.

Having established a stand of grass in such a location, one requires the strength of a giant to guide a lawn mower, and will also need to have the feet of a Rocky Mountain goat.

But we need not despair, for the problem may be solved, the burden of caring for the slope done away with, and the place turned into a spot of real and enduring beauty.

Mention is made several times in this volume of the *Phlox subulata* or mountain pink, but we will have to bring it in here again as a fitting subject once more.

Catch a glimpse of some rocky, almost barren

hillside where Nature has planted this wonderfully pretty flower. The ground is covered completely with a carpet of mosslike evergreen foliage, and during the blooming season in early spring this is completely covered with a mass of lovely pink or white flowers. A fitting spot in which the fairies may hold their gay and happy festivals.

Plant your embankment with mountain pink and you will soon have a sheet of rare beauty indeed. Set the plants one foot apart each way, and place a handful of good rich soil in each hole as you set the plant. No further care nor attention will be required, now nor later.

The *Wichuriana* rose is another excellent subject to use for covering large embankments. Planted ten feet apart, the slope soon becomes a mass of vines and lovely foliage. In July the flowers are produced profusely, the single pure white blooms with golden yellow discs at the center of each flower, five or six inches in circumference, providing an attractive display.

The Honeysuckle is also a suitable vine for similar locations, as mentioned in the chapter devoted to "Our Vines."

Should you have a large embankment, and desire to break the flatness of the display, I would plant some suitable shrubs either in groups toward the top, or plant them solid the width of the embankment, setting them with an irregular or broken

front. Then make use of the Wichuriana rose or the honeysuckle, with patches of the mountain pink here and there, placed as good taste might dictate.

In picking my shrubs for this purpose I would make use of the old-fashioned snowberry, some of the bush types of honeysuckle, the barberry and forsythia or golden bell, as these will all be found suitable, doing well in such a location and checking the erosion or washing of the soil at the same time. To vary the display I would use also a few plants of Yucca.

The forsythia will provide a wealth of golden yellow flowers in April, the honeysuckles blooming at about the same time, and the Yucca will send up tall spikes of bloom in midsummer. Then for a long period in the fall there will be a wealth of pure white and bright red berries decorating the other shrubs that you have planted and the attractive foliage to brighten the spot in between times.

There frequently is such a thing as a blessing in disguise, and what at first looks like an ugly problem will turn out to be really a thing of beauty and delight. Often such proves to be the case where one has an embankment or terrace, which really is there only waiting to be turned into a thing of beauty at the expense of just a little thought and effort.

ACCESSORIES FOR THE LAWN AND
GARDEN

THE word "accessories" is nowadays generally thought of in connection with the automobile, as most of us know to our cost. Here, however, it will have a different meaning. We write of those accessories that are used to beautify and embellish the home surroundings, appropriate to both the small lawn and to the more pretentious one.

Beautiful and picturesque bird houses are much in vogue, inviting the feathered songsters to visit with you or to make their permanent abode on your lawn. They may now be purchased in the shops for as little as a dollar, more of course for the elaborately built houses, or they may be constructed at home by one handy with tools.

Placed on poles or in trees, or on the arbor, the invitation to occupancy will soon be accepted by tenants that will be both a pleasure and delight. Bird Baths also are decorative features of the lawn these days, appreciated by the birds and adding a picture of life and activity to the lawn.

One of the gazing globes, resting on a pedestal, and standing amidst massed evergreens will add attractiveness. Everyone will gaze into its mirrored surface with interest. The sun dial of bronze

on a pedestal of marble or cement is very much used as an interesting bit of lawn fitting, as are large jardinières of iron or cement, usually painted white and tastefully planted to bright blooming plants and trailing vines.

The day of iron dogs or deers, stone lions and similar lawn furniture is fortunately past. Today they only invite a laugh.

Concrete or marble benches or old English garden seats are very appropriate for semi-secluded corners, and the first mentioned for placing along graveled walks.

Rustic lawn furniture, arbors and summerhouses constructed of cedar or white birch with the attractive bark left on will be found both useful and ornamental.

Largely, fences are things of the past. Hedges we now see everywhere, many of them elaborately planned and beautifully designed. Now and then a low cement curb or stone wall is found to fit well into the picture, and again a low rustic type of fence will be found to lend charm if constructed of cedar or white birch with the bark on, if constructed with artistic lines and not over about $1\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 feet in height.

Numerous types of arches, pergolas and trellises are very effective and desirable accessories on the lawn, but only one of them shall receive particular mention here, and that one is the fan trellis.

This trellis is so very easily constructed, and so beautiful that it seems worthy of special mention.

This type of trellis may be constructed by simply rip-sawing a good pine plank for possibly four fifths of its length, with the sawed strips spread apart and fastened into position to make a fan shape. Use care to see that the trellis is well and carefully painted and it will be found to last a long time and to make a useful and beautiful lawn fixture.

Particularly will such a trellis be found useful for supporting the large flowering Climbing Roses and the Clematis, and it may be used with good effect in front of the porch or on the lawn. Several of them as a background to the perennial border will be hard to beat.

Hot Beds and Cold Frames are desirable and useful adjuncts to the Home Beautiful, but they are almost indispensable in the garden, and information as to how to make them will no doubt be much appreciated by many of our readers.

Hot Beds will be found valuable for starting early plantings of annual seed, such as asters, scarlet sage, and other bedding plants, for giving an early start to cannas, caladiums, etc., in pots, for rooting cuttings, also for growing plants of tomatoes, peppers, cabbages, etc., for transplanting to the garden, and such early vegetables as lettuce and radishes for the table in early spring.

A Hot Bed, once used, will be found so valuable and so convenient that one will wonder how they have gotten along without it.

Cold Frames will be found useful for carrying various plants over winter, enabling them to establish a good root growth in preparation for the activities of the coming spring and summer.

Potted hydrangeas in the fall, or roses potted up in the winter or very early spring, and plunged in the soil of a cold frame, will be in fine shape for future development.

These frames have many and varied uses that will suggest themselves to you when once you begin to use them. The tritomas and some others of the perennials that are not perfectly hardy, such as *physalis franchetti* or chinese lantern plant, may be taken up in the late fall, before real winter sets in, and "heeled in" on the cold frame. Radishes and lettuce may be had very late by using these frames, and in fact, as stated before, their uses are many and varied.

In building hot beds and cold frames, the construction is much the same. The sides should extend down well into the soil and the soil may be banked up around the sides, particularly of the cold frames.

The construction, for permanency, should be of either two-inch planks or of concrete, and they should be from four to six feet wide, fourteen

inches above the ground at the back and six in front, covered with regular hot bed sash.

A warm, sunny, well-drained location should be selected for the beds, and the soil should be well cultivated.

In severe weather the sashes should be kept covered with thick mats which may be purchased expressly for this purpose, or with old carpet or burlap, and on fair farm winter days air should be admitted by raising one end of the sashes.

Hot Beds pay for themselves often in a single season, and they differ from cold frames only in the method of preparing the soil inside the frames. Dig out the soil a couple of feet deep, and fill in this pit with fresh unrotted horse manure and put six inches of rich mellow soil on top of the manure and you will be all ready and prepared for business.

The seed should be sown in the hot beds in February or March, and the young seedlings later transplanted to make a good root growth so that the young plants will be vigorous and strong when set out in the open ground later on.

And now, having gone this far, we will at least dream for a moment about that nice cozy little greenhouse as the ultimate and final accessory to our lawn. How many busy moments and happy hours one might spend there.

And mayhaps if we are a little too ambitious

in our plans of the moment, we may at least be pardoned for dreaming of the many tomorrows that lay ahead, and for building a few wee castles in the air.

PORCH AND WINDOW BOXES

Does the house sit directly up to the pavement, and is the front severely plain? Even so, a decorative scheme is by no means a hopeless case, for remember, "let flowers look up in every place in this beautiful world of ours." And they do fit into every imaginable place, there to bring brightness, beauty and good cheer.

Ugliness and severe plainness is changed into charming beauty with a dainty green Window Box on each window sill, filled with charming, blooming plants and graceful trailing vines and, best of all, the cost of such decoration is not by any means prohibitive, even for the average home.

Likewise, for any home, the effect of beauty is heightened if Porch Boxes filled with dainty plants and vines are setting on the rails or attached directly to the front of the porch floor. Especially is this so where houses are built semi-detached or in rows, and setting back several feet from the pavement, with just a wee speck of lawn in front.

The boxes may be constructed at home by any handy persons, and should be made of good white pine or of cypress, painted within with a tar paint, and grass green on the outside. Or if one desires, metal boxes may be purchased, some of them of

the self-watering type, having a reservoir compartment that needs filling only occasionally, and supplying moisture underneath through sponges in the bottom of the box.

The plants generally used are, first of all, the geranium, which is popular everywhere. For a foliage plant the dracena is much in demand, its graceful grass-like leaves growing to a height of about twenty inches. Other suitable annual plants are the petunia, which is a close second in popularity to the geranium, also the ageratum, the lobelia and the lantana, as well as the verbena and heliotrope, the dwarf nasturtium and sweet alyssum, or a number of others that might be mentioned, and many of these plants may easily be raised from seed at a minimum expense.

Trailing vines to droop down from the front of the boxes will be needed to add just the right touch, and for this purpose we have the vinca with its charming foliage of green and white, the English ivy and the wandering jew.

Be very sure to see that the boxes have regular watering, as to let them dry out even once might do irreparable damage, also keep the soil about the plants stirred up so that the plants will thrive, and it will be well to feed them occasionally with a little manure water or nitrate of soda dissolved, a tablespoon to a gallon of water.

Such porch and window boxes as here described

will be a source of much delight and pleasure to you who live within the house, and will be admired by all they who pass by.

Business houses abutting on the sidewalk will find that window boxes not only will beautify the exterior of their places of business, but will surely direct attention to stores and offices and prove to be a paying advertisement and a good investment.

Another thing, these boxes may be made to do double service during the winter, presenting a cheerful touch of green to the otherwise barren landscape, and while suitable evergreen plants from the nursery for this purpose are somewhat expensive, we have a suitable substitute for those who do not feel like going to the expense of purchasing the young plants.

You may go out on a trip to the woods and gather some nicely formed branches or sprays of pine, cedar, hemlock, and spruce, bring them home and stick them in the soil in the boxes, making as artistic an arrangement as possible of the several varieties, and there they will stay fresh and green almost all the winter, and, you might say, cost nothing.

If you happen to have a couple of cement vases for the edge of the porch or steps, you may build a globe or other suitable design from rather heavy wire, put this in the top of vases and train English Ivy on the frame, and this too will be a pretty

addition to the decorative scheme, or you may use a good *Dracena* in each vase, with some trailing vines over the edge, and of course the evergreens, as before mentioned, for winter decoration.

IGNORANCE, NEGLECT, AND CARELESSNESS

HAVING our plans turn out a success, means we must know what to do, and how to do it, and we must be ready to do it NOW. Ignorance, neglect and carelessness account for more failures than all other causes combined.

And when failures come, how hard it usually is to view impartially both sides of the question, and how easy it seems to place the blame for failure on the shoulders of the grower or seller, when perhaps the fault might be laid right at our own door, or possibly, due to unseasonable or unfavorable weather or other natural conditions, neither may be at fault.

If most of the planting grows and a few plants fail, some will reason along this line. "The plants were all given the same care, and if they were all good how is it that most of them have grown and a few have died out?" The only answer we can give is that the ways of Nature are past finding out.

Possibly another person may have the acme of poor luck and lose an entire planting, and then feel prone to think that the plants were no good, or surely some out of the lot would have pulled through. And betwixt the two the poor grower

or seller is left to tear his hair and wonder at the complexity of human nature.

While there are many natural causes that may lead to a partial, sometimes an entire failure, I think there are possibly no others greater than those stated at the head of this chapter; ignorance, neglect, and carelessness.

It has come within the purview of the writer in at least a couple of instances of folk buying the plants to make a hedge, and then when the plants arrive, it seems so many other things require doing that the planting is put off to a more convenient time, and as a consequence the bales of plants reposed for weeks in a shed or cellar, there to await the more convenient time. Generally, even in such cases, many will complain about the quality of the plants. Odds bodkins!

Another incident within the personal experience of the writer was the purchase by a school teacher of a couple of rose bushes. The roses were delivered by a clerk, and later complaint made that only one of the roses was received.

An investigation showed that the purchaser had simply removed the waterproof wrapper, and had planted BOTH roses in one hole, not even removing the wet moss that was wrapped around the roots of the plants.

Again, a certain woman had ordered both achillea and strawberry plants. She was promptly

notified that the first named would be sent, and the strawberry plants would follow separately at planting time.

To grasp the comedy of the situation, please note that the achillea is a small white flower borne in clusters at the ends of tall stems, and the foliage very much resembles blades of grass, each blade of which may generally be separated from the parent plant with some roots attached.

In due season, but before it was time to set out strawberries a letter was received from this woman, saying she had received her strawberry plants, and had them separated and planted, and also stating that she had had an awful time in getting them separated, but had not yet received her achilleas.

The matter was of course investigated at once, and she was advised that her strawberry planting would no doubt give her a very nice crop of achillea flowers in time. A few days after, when strawberry plants were ready, the balance of the order was filled, and no doubt before the end of the season a plenteous crop of both fruit and flowers was had.

We should remember that most of those with whom we do business, and most surely old-established houses that have been doing business for years, are entirely reliable, and mean to do the right thing, and we should order from those in whom we have confidence.

Such concerns will examine the goods as packed for shipment and send only such as in their judgment will grow and be satisfactory under all ordinary circumstances and conditions, but they cannot be expected to make good such failures as may result, except where it is so specifically agreed, and then it usually may be looked for to have the extra service charged in the price.

If your judgment and the sellers do not agree, and the goods when examined on arrival do not look as good to you as they did to the shipper, and you have any doubts whatever about the vitality or value of the plants, then the right thing for you to do, in fairness to all, is to immediately write the facts as you think them to be, to the shipper, or to return the goods.

If you do not do this, but instead go ahead and set out the plants, the only possible and fair-minded inference is that the plants looked all right when they were received, and that any failures have been due to causes over which the shipper has no control, and you cannot therefore, with justice, look to him to replace the plants that have failed to pull through.

It is well to remember that about the only sure things in this life are death and taxes. Those we have always with us. All other things are more or less of a chance. If we expect every plant we set in the ground to grow, we are soon going to be

disillusioned. Even the most expert of professional planters always make allowances for the average of failures, then much more so should we who are but amateurs.

THE VALUE OF A MULCH

ELSEWHERE in this volume is told of the need of mulching your beds of Roses and Fall Bulbs as a winter protection, and so that phase of mulching will be but lightly touched upon here.

The necessity of a winter mulch is not to try to prevent the ground from freezing, but in order to shade the soil and thus to prevent alternate freezing and thawing. It is this alternate freezing and thawing that works mischief if not provided against.

This alternate process would have a tendency to heave plants and bulbs in the beds and to damage the roots, probably killing the plants, and therefore the necessity of providing against it.

The benefits of a summer mulch are fourfold. It will keep down the weeds, obviate the necessity of frequent hoeing, keep the soil cool during the heated days of summer, and retard the rapid evaporation of the essential moisture that is in the ground.

At the beginning of the heated term, the lawn clippings if you are in the habit of raking them off the lawn, otherwise clean straw may be placed on your beds as a mulch. It may be used around your roses and evergreens with particular benefit,

even between the rows of flowers and vegetables in the garden, thus reducing the necessary labor.

This treatment will also be found of particular benefit for your Rhododendrons and Azaleas.

A particularly good material to use as a mulch on your rose beds is tobacco stems to a depth of two or three inches. This material may be purchased in hundred-pound sacks at about four dollars retail, and acts as a mulch, and at the same time a fertilizer and insecticide.

Being vegetable the stems will rot in time and may be dug or hoed into the soil there to provide the humus that all growing plant life requires.

If your lawn is mowed regularly, and it is an excellent plan to see that it is, it will not be necessary to rake up the lawn clippings, but it is better to allow them to wither and sink into the grass, there to lay as a mulch, conserving the moisture and protecting the tender grass roots from the effect of the hot summer sun.

It will be seen that in the scheme of floriculture mulching has much of value, having a fourfold purpose, as related, in summer, and being an absolute necessity as protection during the winter months.

A UNIQUE HOBBY

WE all know what a hobby is, and fortunate are those persons who have one that will carry them out of themselves and away from the everyday tasks and duties, directing their thoughts and attention into entirely foreign channels, and providing the change and variety that we all need.

There are all sorts of hobbies. To one it will be golf or baseball, to another the church or social activities; many find a delightful hobby in collecting various things—postage stamps, old books, antique furniture, rare paintings, costly porcelain.

One who chooses as a hobby the beautifying of the home surroundings with flowers and shrubs, and the maintaining of beautiful grounds, has indeed found one that will bring many happy hours, much satisfaction and healthful outdoor occupation.

And this all leads up to the unique hobby we have in mind, which is the collecting of weeds, and the using of them for the beautifying of a portion of the grounds. Sounds strange, doesn't it, but there are those who make a hobby of weeds, and who find much of interest, pleasure and beauty in the pursuit.

Just as the "upper crust" figuratively turns up

its collective noses at mere mention of the "hoi polloi," just so are the noses of average folks inclined to take an upward slant at the mention of weeds as being things either desirable or useful.

However, just stop for a moment, please, and consider this fact. Every plant that we have today was once a weed, is the descendant of a weed, or the evolution of a weed.

There are those weeds that we can, in our limited intelligence, class only as ugly and worthless. There are others that have points of beauty or usefulness, but that possess the unhappy habit of spreading rapidly where they gain a foothold, or they may have some other objectionable feature connected with them. There are many others, however, that will be found to work beautifully into the scheme of the hobbyist who chooses somewhere an odd section or corner there to start, study and maintain a weed garden that will be a revelation and a wonder to those whose privilege it is to view the collection.

Another thing, such a garden costs not a cent in real money, and it seems an ideal way in which to first interest school children in the subject of botany, and to inculcate into their young lives a love for the things of Nature that will endure for a lifetime.

Where indeed will we go to find more daintily formed flowers than those of the wild carrot or

Queen Anne's Lace that we encounter anywhere and everywhere, along the roadside and in the fields?

Beautiful lacy flowers of white, borne erect on long, stiff stems; refined in appearance. Its main objection will be its commonplaceness and its habit of spreading rapidly, but in the weed garden this latter may be controlled by not letting the flower heads go to seed.

The goldenrod lacks nothing in grace, charm nor beauty and is really a fit subject for the cultivated perennial border.

The beautiful golden yellow buttercups of the field and the commonly termed "butter and eggs" of the roadside, are both beautiful and withal desirable candidates for an interesting collection.

Note the bright splotch of pink or white on the stony hillside in early spring; the flowers about completely covering the evergreen plants, and providing a veritable gay carpet of bloom. This is the phlox *sublata* or mountain pink which may now be gathered in its wild state or purchased as cultivated plants and much in demand for rock gardens and for planting on embankments and terraces.

The little shrinking violet in the grass, both violet and white are fitting subjects for the hobbyist of whom we speak, and for naturalizing in various places.

Were the dandelion not such a "ruffian" amongst even the weeds it too would be welcomed for the bright and smiling countenance it presents to the world. Unfortunately it has a couple of bad habits that must exclude it from respectable society; its habit of smothering out other plants and its bad spreading are characteristic.

Have you ever made a happy, carefree trip or excursion into the cool shade of the woods, there on some knoll or hillside to search out the lovely but elusive trailing arbutus, one of our most dainty and fragrant of native flowers, and have you not in some shady dell come upon Jack in his pulpit, preaching to all the humble folk of the wildwood?

There is the wild rose that may be taken home and transplanted on some convenient knoll or embankment, where it will thrive and grow and produce its wealth of pretty pink single flowers, yet costing not a single cent.

On some rocky crag or ledge we may discover beautiful wild aquilegias or columbine that will be wonderful subjects for transplanting either in the weed collection or the rock garden or even in the perennial border.

Yes, the one who has taken to weed gardening as a hobby will find much to interest and to charm. It will mean first the selection of some spot or corner where the weeds deemed worthy of being

entered in the collection may find as nearly as possible their natural environment of sun or shade, dryness or moisture.

It will mean many pleasurable excursions out into the fields and woods, over the hills and into the valleys, there to search out, carefully dig, bring home and transplant such new specimens as in the judgment of the collector are worthy of a place.

Such a hobby means better health, many an interesting hike or enjoyable trip into the quiet country, with the added attraction of the possibility of each season seeing at least a few new specimens added to the collection that have never had a place there before.

Yes, weed collecting is not such a bad hobby after all, and it may have its place in the scheme of creating the Home Beautiful.

CONTINUITY OF BLOOM

It is possible to arrange the scheme of planting so as to have a number of gorgeous blooming plants or flowering shrubs on our lawns and in our gardens continually from very early spring until after snow flies in the very late fall, and how very much better to have something in bloom all the while, rather than to have a plethora of bloom for a little time, and the balance of the time—nothing.

Because of the general wish for a continuity of bloom I am here going to suggest not all, but some of the worthwhile things you may plant to assure yourself of flowers from March until well in November without a break.

The blooming season begins of course with the bulbs that have been planted in the fall. First the lowly crocus and the pure white snowdrops come into bloom very early, often before the last of the snow has gone, and these are succeeded in April by the early tulips, the hyacinths and daffodils; succeeded in May by the tall, graceful Darwin tulips, so useful both for outside displays and for cutting.

Next in order, sometimes before March is past, surely in April, the Bush Honeysuckles come into

bloom, and the Forsythia or Golden Bell gives us a wealth of yellow flowers that almost completely hides the bush, before the foliage forms, and the bright, smiling faces of the pansies look up and greet us merrily.

Also many do not know, and so it is worth mentioning here, that branches of the forsythia, also of the peach and apple tree may be cut very early in spring, placed in water in the house and forced into bloom, and will provide very pretty decorations indeed for the home.

With the advent of the "Merry Month of May," we have a wealth of beautiful blooming shrubs: the gay Dogwoods, the bright evergreen Azaleas, and the several Deutzias; the Cydonia or Japanese Quince with its bright red flowers contrasting prettily with the glossy green foliage; the ever popular Philadelphus or Mock Orange, so called because the blossoms resemble the flowers of the orange tree; the Lilacs and Viburnums, the Spireas blooming from now until August, the Kerria or Globe Flower and the bright showy Weigelas.

By this time too we have the old-fashioned bleeding heart, and for Memorial Day the first of the peonies are usually with us in this latitude. Another appreciated flower usually in bloom for this day is the lovely *Deutzia gracilis*. This dwarf shrub bears long racemes of lovely pure

white pendulous flowers and is withal very attractive.

During the month of June the Butterfly Bush sends forth its wonderful long graceful spikes of lavender colored bloom, and blooms persistently and continuously until stopped by frost. Also, it is in this month that the Allspice or Sweet Shrub bears its old-fashioned chocolate-colored flowers, and its fragrance is wafted far and wide.

Throughout the months of June and July the family of perennials gives us a wealth of variety and color. Among those blooming during this period we find the poppies, iris, foxglove, campanula, delphinums, coreopsis, the funkia or yellow day lily, and we must be sure to mention the bright showy phlox that are now blooming, and will continue to bloom for weeks and weeks.

The annuals give us at this time the well-known and popular geraniums and petunias, the centuria or cornflower, as well as the various fine new types of zinnias that have largely superseded the older types, better in form and much more brilliant in their colorings.

The several Hydrangeas, bringing their bloom from June to September have been mentioned in another chapter, and we must not forget to mention the native Hawthorns flowering in June, fragrant and beautiful. In autumn the foliage is very attractive as are the bright red fruits.

The Hawthorn, too, is adaptable as a hedge plant as is also the Cydonia.

With the advent of the heated dog days of August we will have the showy Althea or Rose of Sharon in bloom. We find this tall growing Shrub especially desirable in its double form, although a great many folk still stick to the older single bell-shaped blossoms as distinctly expressive of their preference.

Some of the Spireas are still persisting, and the Snowberry is in bloom with its small pinkish-white flowers which will turn, in the fall, into long graceful racemes of beautiful large pure white berries borne in clusters.

The gladioli now have been blooming for several weeks and as told elsewhere, may be had in continuous bloom from July to October by planting some of the bulbs every ten days or two weeks from mid-April to the tenth of July.

The cosmos and the asters now are blooming and will be enjoyed for a number of weeks.

We also will enjoy this month, the bloom of the perennial pea, the hardy asters, baby's breath, and the rudbeckia, all hardy plants.

Today the dahlia is popular everywhere, and becoming more so every year. This is essentially a fall blooming plant, doing its best with the advent of cool nights.

Beginning with September and continuing until

cut down by frost, we will reap much enjoyment from this gorgeous flower.

During the month of October, and remaining with us until after snow flies, we will have the lovely hardy chrysanthemums, queens of all late garden flowers. The tritoma or red-hot poker plant, the hardy sunflower, windflowers or anemone are all still with us brightening the landscape at this late season.

Even though the bleak days of November are at hand, the *viola cornuta*, sometimes known as little "johnny-jump-up," still is showing its face, after having already bloomed for seven or eight months.

So it is readily seen that we may have the companionship of bright, beautiful flowers on our lawns and in our gardens during every month of the year from March to November, and even during the months in which we can expect no flowers outside, we may still enjoy the sight of beautiful evergreens, and such of the shrubs as have attractive twigs, bright colored barks and showy berries.

JULY AND AUGUST

To the average amateur who has not been informed on the subject, the planting season is short and ends with May or at least early June. This, however is a misunderstanding that it is the purpose of this chapter to correct, for there are important possibilities connected with July and August plantings, in fact there are things that should be planted during these hot summer months, instead of being planted either in spring or fall.

One of our very choice and popular hardy perennials is the showy Oriental Poppy. Its flowers are very large and very gorgeous, and there are but few who know how to successfully plant it, therefore it is not commonly grown as it should be.

These Poppies are very difficult to transplant in the spring, when most other perennials may be transplanted, and the right time to transplant this flower is in midsummer after growth has stopped and the tops have died down.

Then the roots should be dug and cut up into sections each about two inches in length, and these pieces planted right where the Poppies are to grow and bloom. Plant the pieces two inches deep and about a foot apart so they will have plenty of

space in which to spread, and if the season is at all favorable, and the soil kept moist, you will have a wonderful crop of blooms from these root cuttings next spring.

Also, Hardy Chrysanthemums may be planted as late as July or August, with expectation of their coming into bloom during the late fall months, the natural blooming period of the chrysanthemum. The Hollyhock, from seed sown in the spring, may be transplanted during July and August to bloom the succeeding spring.

While the Hardy Iris of both the German and Japanese types may be planted during the fall months, or in fact at any time when the ground is fit and the plants not in bloom, nevertheless it will be far better to transplant Iris during July or August than it will be to wait until October or November to do this work.

These two months, of course, are the proper season in which to sow the seeds of most perennials, the tiny plants resulting to be a few weeks later transplanted into their permanent positions to bloom next year.

If your Peonies need to be divided and transplanted this year or if you are planting the stately white Madonna Lily, this work should be done in late August in preference to doing it either earlier or later.

Something ought to be mentioned here too

about bench grown Roses, for if you did not plant enough Roses earlier, or have room for more, these Roses may be purchased for little more than half the spring price, and can be handled successfully if you know the proper procedure.

Set out the plants in the regular manner but without pruning or cutting them back, provide moisture to the soil and keep the plants shaded with old burlap or other suitable material for awhile.

In the late fall after frosts have hardened the wood and loosened the leaves, dig the plants and shake them free from leaves, then trench them over winter in the following described manner, and in spring you will have some fine big plants for early planting, and at a minimum expense.

Dig a trench eight or ten inches deep, straight on one side, and sloping to about a thirty degree angle on the other. Place the roots at bottom of the trench and recline the plants on the slanted side of trench.

Cover all but six inches or so of the tips with three or four inches of soil, firm it down and cover with a winter mulch of leaves or straw, being sure of course that your trench is on well drained ground that any excess of water will quickly drain away.

The procedure described here is, of course, not necessary for plants that have been set out early,

although some growers dig and trench or bury all their Roses over winter, replanting in the spring. The common procedure, however, is to simply winter mulch the beds as described elsewhere in the pages of this book.

Yes, there is plenty of work that can better be done during the months of July and August than at any other season, and other things, that were neglected or overlooked earlier in the season, may still be done to good advantage even during these two hot summer months.

OUR MONTHLY CALENDAR

At least ten months of the twelve will bring its quota of lawn and garden work, and as our tasks should be orderly arranged and as we should know well beforehand what the coming duties are to be and when they should be undertaken the author presents this calendar or monthly schedule of the tasks that should be undertaken, hoping that it may serve as a useful reminder.

We pass the first two months of the year with just this thought, that while it is too early for outside work, some of our evenings around the cheery fireside may be profitably and pleasurably spent in reading and studying the new catalogues that by this time have come to hand, and in planning something new and delightful to grace our lawns and gardens this coming season.

With the advent of MARCH we shall do the pruning of our Roses, also of our flowering shrubs of the late blooming sorts such as needs to be done before the growing season. If the garden was not manured in the Fall (providing we are using raw manure), we will do that work this month, and toward the end of the month we will rake off the mulch from our beds of roses and

bulbs. If the ground is in workable shape we will also sow our sweet peas this month.

APRIL. Re-seed any bare spots on the lawn or make a new one. Sow sweet peas if this was not done last month.

This is the best spring month for planting roses, and while they may be planted through a season of ten or more weeks, it is far better to get them in early this month. The same applies to evergreens, hedges and shrubbery of all kinds.

By the middle of the month you may plant gladioli bulbs, and thereafter every ten days or two weeks for a succession of bloom.

The soil may be spaded now. It is inadvisable to do this work early, while the soil is wet, for if dug while too moist it will leave hard clods or balls of earth to be a nuisance all through the summer.

This month, or as early as March, the slower growing annuals may be started in boxes in the window, such sorts as heliotrope, petunia, verbenas, salvia, phlox drummondii, asters, scabiosa, salpiglossis and others. Begin the mowing of the lawn this month.

MAY. By the fifteenth the annuals grown indoors from seeds may be bedded out in their permanent locations, and the rapid-growing sorts of annuals may be sown directly outdoors and later thinned out or transplanted. Such sorts as sweet alyssum, asters, zinnias, cosmos, dianthus, mari-

gold, petunias, mignonette, portacula and many others may now be sown outdoors.

Bedding plants such as geraniums, coleus, cannas, and others should be planted this month, as should bulbs of lilies, tuberous begonias, caladium and tuberoses.

If you wish large blooms of peonies and hybrid perpetual roses, disbud by removing all the lateral buds and leaving only the one terminal or end bud to each shoot.

Evergreens may still be planted, in fact they may be planted at any season of the year except when they show a soft new growth, then planting should cease until this new growth is hardened.

JUNE. The best time to plant your dahlias is the first part of this month, which is plenty early to have them bloom at their natural time in the fall after the nights have become cool. Plant gladioli and tuberoses for a succession of bloom.

Apply a mulch of lawn clippings, straw or tobacco stems to your rose beds and around the Rhododendrons.

Continued cultivation except where a mulch is used, and particularly after each rain, is essential all through the growing season, as is the keeping down of the weeds.

JULY. You may still set out plants of hardy chrysanthemum to bloom in the fall. Now or in August sow seeds of perennials in a sheltered loca-

tion or in boxes, later to be transplanted to beds for next year's blooming. You may still plant gladioli up to the tenth of July for October blooms.

AUGUST. See to it that all weeds about the premises and along the roads are cut down and not allowed to go to seed. If you can obtain them as early as the latter part of this month, plant your peony roots and the bulbs of the candidum or madonna lily.

SEPTEMBER. Transplant the young perennial seedlings that they may come into bloom, most of them, next season. As early as possible this month, plant peonies and madonna lilies if not done in August.

OCTOBER. After frosts have blackened the foliage of the dahlias and gladioli, dig the bulbs and care for them as told in the chapter, "Dahlias and Gladioli." Plant tulips and other fall bulbs at any time from the middle of this month up to the time the ground freezes permanently for winter.

If your lawn needs renovating or remaking, do it this month. Transplant roses this month. Plant evergreens, hedges, shrubbery and fruits.

NOVEMBER. You can still plant fall bulbs all through this month. Rake up the lawn and use the leaves (or you may use straw), to deeply mulch your beds of fall bulbs, roses and perennial

plants. This is an excellent time to make new plantings of Roses, particularly of the budded or grafted sorts.

Make sure that your evergreens do not go into permanent winter quarters suffering for lack of moisture. If you have had a dry spell, water the ground copiously with the hose; do it thoroughly. More evergreens are probably lost for lack of attention to this detail, than from any other cause.

It is a good idea to manure and dig the flower beds that are not in use, also the garden, and allow them to lay unraked during winter, open to the action of the elements for the destruction of any grubs or insect pests that may be lurking in the soil.

DECEMBER. A general cleanup of rubbish, garbage and litter of all sorts before we go into winter quarters should now be the order of the day, and this will complete the work of the year.

ODD AND INTERESTING FACTS

Hot water will often restore the freshness of cut flowers even when every petal is drooping. Place the stems in a cup of boiling hot water; let them remain until each petal has regained its freshness; then cut off the ends of the stems and place them in water of moderate temperature. Ammonia added to the water also revives wilted flowers quickly.

A pretty and inexpensive table decoration may be had by taking a fern dish and planting it thickly with seed of the grapefruit. Like all hard shelled seed, the seeds will be somewhat slow to germinate, but keep moist and warm and in due time you will have a handsome ornament for your table, provided by the handsome green grapefruit foliage.

Pink Hydrangeas change to blue if planted in acid soil. They may be changed to blue by soot or iron filings in the soil about the plants, or by using a quarter pound of finely powdered alum to each plant. The writer has in mind one instance where he saw two beautiful blue Hydrangeas in bloom in front of a house, and directly across the street, other smaller Hydrangeas "slipped" from the large ones, but bearing lovely large heads of

pink bloom. Both within a hundred feet of each other, parents and their children, but living in different soils, and consequently bearing different colored blooms.

For Saint Patrick's Day, and for other occasions, white Carnations may be given a rim or fringe of bright green by steeping the stems of the flowers in ammonia.

Calla Lilies and Amaryllis may be had in bloom at least three times a year instead of only once, if when through blooming, the plants are gradually deprived of water, finally left laying on their sides in the shade to rest awhile and later brought in again, water supplied gradually and started into new growth. It is a mistake, after the plants have bloomed, to leave them in the sunlight and to continue watering them as before; they need a rest.

Cactus plants from the Mexican border or from the arid west, some of them, make interesting pot plants for other sections of the country, and it is an interesting fact that you could stick one of them on a fence paling and there it would still live for five years at least, and possibly for a much longer period. They will stand all sorts of neglect and abuse.

The Sanseveria is another excellent pot plant for dark halls, cool bed rooms and places where there is little or no sunlight. The long swordlike

fleshy green leaves, barred with white are very attractive, and this plant will thrive for weeks without a drop of water.

Often we are asked what to do with the bulbs of Tuberoses, Paperwhites and Chinese Narcissus or Sacred Lilies after they have bloomed. It is a characteristic of these bulbs that they are of no value after they once have bloomed. Therefore they should be discarded after blooming.

Ferns and Palms that do not seem to be doing well should be removed from the pots, the old soil shaken off, a size larger pot used in repotting, and the plants potted up in a good rich porous soil. These plants do not want too much sunlight and they require good drainage. Give them an occasional drink of milk added to the water with which you wet the soil. Milk contains many of the elements needed for plant growth.

The Ricinis or Castor Oil Bean Plant grows frequently to a height of eight or more feet, and its tropical looking foliage makes it a desirable plant to put in your Perennial Border, providing you have lots of room. While this plant is an annual, it will lend a pleasing effect to the planting. In fact, planted in groups elsewhere on the lawn, they are very showy.

Sweet Peas, although usually planted in March or April, may be given an early start by planting the seed in November in trenches twelve inches

deep, and covering the top of the ground with a winter mulch of leaves or straw.

Your Chrysanthemums should be taken up every spring as soon as growth has fairly started, torn into shreds, and only one single shoot replanted to make the new plant. This should always be done each spring, if you wish the best of hardy Chrysanthemum bloom the succeeding fall.

Do not allow Roses, Pansies nor Sweet Peas to fade on the plant. If you fail to remove them the blooming of your plants will be checked. It is worth while to remove fading flowers of all sorts, as so doing will insure a longer period of bloom.

Even if your home is in a congested district and the house is right up to the pavement, and all you have is a little brick paved court, you can still have and enjoy flowers by making a Barrel Garden. Take an ordinary sugar barrel and nicely paint it after having first set it on three casters and having bored holes in the staves, two inches in diameter and six inches apart. Next fill the barrel with soil, setting your plants in the holes as you fill the barrel. Water frequently and turn the barrel on its casters from time to time so that all sides can have some sunlight. You can plant the top soil of course, and can use such plants as Nasturtium, Petunias, Verbena, Centurea, and any number of other annuals.

Annual Poppies are beautiful flowers but unfor-

tunately do not usually keep well as cut flowers. They will, however, last much longer by singeing the ends of the stems in a lamp or candle flame soon after they are cut. Dahlias will keep for a long time if the foliage is removed and the stems steeped in almost boiling water. Poinsettias as cut flowers must immediately have the stems plunged in water heated almost to the boiling point. All flowers should be cut with a knife, and not broken off, and especially with the harder wooded sorts the cut should be at a slant and not straight across the stem. It is better to cut flowers in the early morning than at any other time of day.

HOW PLANTS ARE PROPAGATED

It will be of interest, no doubt, to our readers to have just a smattering of knowledge as to how plants are propagated, and you may find a degree of pleasure sometime in making experiments of your own along some of these lines, for most folk enjoy doing something more or less of a creative nature.

Methods of producing plants may be divided as follows: From seeds or bulbs, from plant cuttings, root cuttings, leaf cuttings, divisions, budding, grafting and layering.

The process of nature in developing the plant from seed or bulb is wholly a natural process and will be given no particular discussion here, confining our attention rather to those more or less artificial methods where the hand of man comes in and works together with nature in the production of quantity or quality.

We will describe the various processes in the order named in the forepart of this chapter, the first then of which will be the production of new plant life from plant cuttings. Different varieties will require the use of somewhat different methods, and then of course it is only certain plants that

are increased by this method. Some may be propagated by any one of several methods.

In the first place we will discover that there are used both soft cuttings and hard wood cuttings, and their treatment is entirely different, and the work is done at different seasons.

All soft cuttings are first placed in sand benches or beds in greenhouses or hot beds, first to take root, afterwards to be planted or lined out in the nursery rows or to be grown in pots in the greenhouse.

Hard wood cuttings are taken in the fall, tied in bundles of fifty or so and buried over winter or stood on end in moist sand in the cellar. During the winter the cuttings callous and in the spring are lined right out in the nursery rows.

Some of our flowering shrubs do best as hard wood cuttings, others may be propagated from soft wood. Grapes and others of our small fruits usually are grown from hard wood.

Our roses, many of them, the expensive evergreens, the geranium, chrysanthemums, scarlet sage, phlox, coleus, and a great variety of other plants are produced from cuttings. I might add here, too, for the benefit of the uninformed that cuttings are what are generally designated as "slips" in amateur parlance.

Just by way of showing the diversity of methods, the plants of privet for our hedges are grown

from cuttings, and while the barberry or berberis thunbergii may also be grown this way, these plants are usually produced from seed.

Others of our plants, increased by root cuttings, are the horse radish, peonies, oriental poppy, and frequently this method is used in propagating the hardy phlox and other plants.

Peonies, after having been planted for eight years, should be taken up and divided with a heavy knife or a hatchet, and each 3 to 5 eye division replanted as a separate plant.

The oriental poppy, like the horseradish, should be taken up and the roots cut into sections. Each of the pieces then makes a new plant.

A method of very rapidly increasing phlox is to take up plants in the fall, wash off the soil, and cut the fine hair-like roots into minute pieces. These are strewn on the soil of the cold frame, covered with an inch or so of sand and a winter mulch of leaves or straw, and in the spring the tiny plants are pricked out and potted up for growing into saleable or useable plants.

The various methods of nature, and the operations used in the creation of plant life are a revelation to the seeker after knowledge in this sphere.

Take the method of producing plants from leaf cuttings, for instance, as in the case of begonia propagation. The fleshy stalks of the leaf are scored across with a sharp knife and the leaf

pressed down on a sand bed and pinioned fast. At the various cuts in the leaf new plants, after awhile, start forth and need only to be detached and planted in small pots to develop in a little time into blooming plants.

Many of our perennials, as for instance the phlox, blue salvia, delphinium and the irises, also some of our shrubs, such as the *hydrangea arborescens grandiflora*, the flat-headed early blooming white type, and others of the plant kingdom, may be increased by division, or separation of the roots for replanting with the top left intact.

A candidate for especial mention in this class is the hardy chrysanthemum. Each spring after growth has begun to start the old plants should be dug out and separated if you wish the best flowers. Every shoot, if pulled loose from the parent plant and replanted in the garden will make a new plant that should bloom abundantly the succeeding fall.

It will not be necessary to discuss but briefly the operations of budding and grafting. These operations are used not for the production of more plants but rather to provide better ones of certain classes.

In budding roses or peach trees a slit is first cut in the bark near the ground and a leaf eye cut from the selected plant is inserted in the slit and tied in place with raffia. This eye grows and

produces the top of the new plant, the old top of course being cut away right over the bud or eye.

Grafting is the insertion of a cutting or scion into the stem or root of another variety, the root usually being selected for its habit of strong development and for its hardiness, as in the grafted rose, or to utilize the root and strength of a tree already grown, but of inferior variety, as in the grafting of an apple or cherry tree.

Grafting of dahlias is quite common practice. Many of the valuable varieties produce but inferior roots and the tuber of a more common variety will be chosen, the woody neck with eye of the better plant grafted thereto and held in place with skewers made from toothpicks or matches.

And last, the layering method of propagation. Layering is the drawing down of tips or shoots to the ground and holding them there with soil or skewering them to the ground with clothespins, hairpins or small sticks.

Where the tips and the joints come into contact with the ground they will take root, and later may be severed from the parent plant and replanted.

Amongst the plants that are increased by this method are the climbing roses and the hybrid perpetuals, grapes, raspberries and blackberries, hydrangeas and various shrubs and vines.

Plant life is full of wonders. I could tell you

an interesting story of hybridizing and about the selection and reselection of varieties for the improvement of species, but there is not room here for this.

So far in this chapter there are several minor growing methods that have not been touched, and we will skim over these with just a word. How potatoes are grown from eyes cut from the parent is generally known; not so well known probably is that the sweet potato or yam is grown from sprouts pulled from the parent which has been planted in a hot bed; strawberry plants are produced from runners that shoot out from the parent and root in between the rows, and raspberries are grown from replanted suckers that spring up from the ground about the parent plants. Yes, it is all very wonderful, this varied plant life of ours, and all very interesting.

“Making two blades of grass grow where only one has grown before” is full of interest. Some time you may enjoy trying your hand at plant propagation, anyway I am sure you will welcome the knowledge as to how it may be accomplished.



EVEN a modest cottage may be not only a house, but a home as well. In that stirring old ballad, “Home, Sweet Home,” a song that is ever new and

that we all love, the truth is taught that "Be it ever so humble there is no place like home."

But add to that cottage an appropriate setting of trees and flowering shrubs, a well-kept lawn and beautiful flowers, and that home has been transformed, as if by magic, into the Home Beautiful.

FINIS

