

The HOME BEAUTIFUL

Flowers and Shrubbery
Their Care and Cultivation



An Excellent Treatment of the Front Door With Ivy Trained Over the Pillars.

FLORAL HINTS

By E. VAN BENTHUYSEN.

Considering the small amount of care it requires, there is no flower more satisfactory and beautiful than the dahlia.

Such hardy bulbs as hyacinths, tulips, lilies, crown imperials, phlox, iris and the like, do better, as a rule, if allowed to remain in the ground undisturbed for years.

If you have any cold-frame plants, such as violets, roses and carnations, don't fail to expose them more and more to the air for gradual hardening off before planting.

Try growing geraniums this year. Next to cannas, they will give more satisfaction for the trouble expended than almost any other flower mentioned. Be sure you get those, however, adapted for growing in beds.

When your Easter lilies get through blooming, water them until the leaves begin to fade, then withhold water until the tops die. When that occurs you can put the pots in the cellar and leave them there until autumn.

Gladiolus bulbs will blossom a year earlier if peeled before planting. Being dry, the husk requires a long time to soak up so the new growth can penetrate it, but if it is removed growth starts at once.

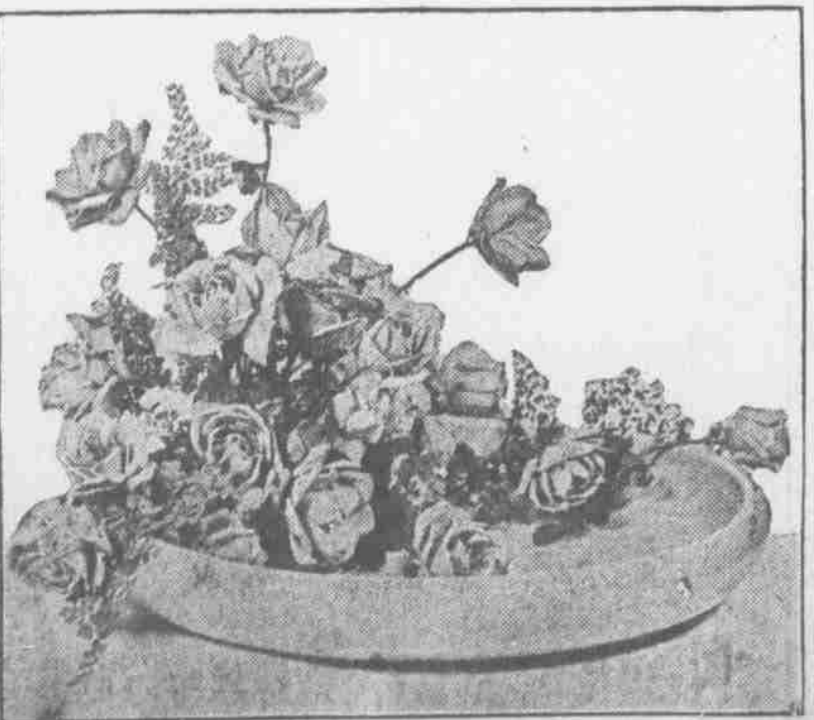
For a perpetual delight all summer few vines are better to grow than the Madeira and the Columbian climber. Their foliage is of a very rich, glossy green, and the delicate white flowers, or flower-clusters of the Madeira vine are not only abundant, but deliciously fragrant. Both vines are easy to grow and in a fairly good soil will attain a height of 20 to 25 feet.

Although the asparagus sprengeri produces only tiny flowers, its foliage is so glorious, so green and restful to the eye, that it is a plant much to be desired. Not requiring a great amount of sun, it can be placed back of other plants and, if somewhat above them, its rich beauty will act as a charming foil.

For speedy results there is no annual vine more desirable than the morning glory, in all its varieties. While it is true that the blossoms are not lasting, they present a lively spectacle in the morning, adequate to reward anyone rising in time to review them.

It is doubtful if there is any other one thing in the culture of house plants so little understood as the proper application of moisture. Generally the best way to determine when a plan needs water is to take a pinch of the soil and rub it between the thumb and finger. If dry enough to become powdery, water should be applied; but if it is still so damp as to mold between the fingers no more water will be needed for a time. Lilies are, of course, an exception to this rule, and, in fact, almost all kinds of bulbs.

Pansies are a desirable flower to have and a 5-cent package will be sufficient for one ordinarily to grow. They want to be started indoors in a box full of rich soil and kept in a slightly shaded place. The dirt should be damp all the time, to insure which requires frequent watering; and when the pansies are planted out it is better on this account to have the bed on the north side of the house. There, if



A Pretty Arrangement for a Table.

His Father's House

By HAROLD CARTER

(Copyright, 1916, by W. G. Chapman.)

"It has always been my practice," said the dean, "to baptize a child on Easter eve. I ask the members of my congregation to help me to continue this practice."

Everybody knew the dean's love of children. He had had three of his own, one, a girl, had died, another girl was married and living in the West; and of the dean's son only a few people knew anything. After a wild college career he had disappeared abruptly from his father's house. The cause of the quarrel nobody knew, but all knew that the fault lay with the son. Since that day father and son had never communicated with each other.

It lacked five days of Easter, and, profligate in birth though Madbury was, no child had been born lately that had not been baptized, except the occasional child that was not destined to be baptized. In vain the good-hearted women of the congregation hunted through the lists of the parishioners.

"There's Mrs. Martin's baby," said one to another, as the news came of the tenth child of the baker's wife. "But you can't take a baby six days old to be christened in weather like this."

"We've got to get somebody," said Mrs. Latour. "Have you tried the hospitals, dear?"

They hunted through the hospitals, and at last their quest was rewarded. There was a colored baby, two and a half weeks old, in perfect health. But the parents belonged to an obscure sect which insisted on baptism by its own ministers.

"If you'll help us not disappoint the dean, Mrs. Washington, I'll give you ten dollars," said Mrs. Latour. "And ten dollars," said Mrs. Washington. "This day I have taken two children into my Father's house."



"But I've never seen Dean Farrell," she said. "Do you think Al'm going to sell mah baby's soul for silk and gold?" demanded the indignant Mrs. Washington, sitting up fiercely among her pillows.

"Do you think Al'm going to sell mah baby's soul for silk and gold?" demanded the indignant Mrs. Washington, sitting up fiercely among her pillows. "The women beat a hasty retreat. The last hope seemed gone. And then it was that the great discovery was made."

"There was a baby—and Mrs. Latour found it. It had been born three weeks before, in a rooming house at the other end of the town. The mother, a delicate, frail young thing, listened in awe as Mrs. Latour told her of the dean's wish.

"But I've never seen Dean Farrell," she whispered. "That makes no difference," answered Mrs. Latour. "Now don't be a foolish girl, but do just as I tell you. I'm going to let the dean know an hour or so before the christening."

She did not tell any of the other women of the congregation, and Madbury was agog to know whether or not Dean Farrell would be able to carry out his long-cherished custom. And, as the days went by, and the scramble to find a baby became more and more acute, without visible result, it was confidently anticipated that the dean would not.

Dean Farrell was greatly distressed. He had kept to his custom for more than thirty years. In fact, the first baby that he had ever baptized had been his own wayward son, of whom he thought constantly. Like every father, he saw him, not as the grown man who had defied him, but as the little child whom he had held in his arms and yearned over. Where was he now?

His heart was very heavy. The boy might be dead. Worse things than death might have befallen him. Somewhere on the broad face of the earth was the man whom he had held in his arms at the baptismal font and who had filled all his life.

It was at the eleventh hour that Mrs. Latour came to the deanery, when the dean had long given up hope. Her face was alight with triumph.

"I've found him!" she cried happily. "Him!" said the dean vaguely. He had been seated in his office, thinking of his son at the time when she was announced. The words seemed like an answer to his prayer, and he connected them with him.

"The dearest little boy baby. And he'll be here with his mother in half an hour. She's a girl from the other end of the town, and I found her by accident. I'm going to be god-mother, my husband will be one god-father, and the verger has just said he'll be the other."

"Dean Farrell," said Mrs. Latour seriously, "you know you said that you would give anything to have a baby to baptize, and it was pretty difficult to get one for you. This is a case of private troubles, and—you mustn't complicate matters by asking questions, please."

"I won't, then," answered the dean. Half an hour later he stood before the christening font, looking thoughtfully into the face of the girl-mother, who was opposite him. Beside her stood Mrs. Latour, holding a baby that behaved with all a baby's traditional goodness at baptism. It neither stirred nor cried, but lay in Mrs. Latour's arms with its blue eyes wide open, and fixed on the dean's face.

The service proceeded, and all the time he was speaking the dean was thinking of his own lost child. His son had lain in his arms in the same tranquil way, and he had never guessed what trouble was to come after.

But there was trouble now. There was trouble on the young mother's face. Timid and shy, she seemed unable to conceal her grief. The dean saw the tears well into her eyes and roll down her cheeks as he took the infant into his arms and asked its name.

After a slight pause Mrs. Latour stepped forward and whispered it. And the dean stared into the face of the child he held. It was his own name that she had spoken.

One little hand clutched at his surprise. The face, returned to his, the eyes that looked gravely, almost questioningly, into his own, told him the secret. It was his own grandson that he was holding. He traced his son's features, as a child's, in this child's face; it might have been his own boy that he held in his arms again. His prayer had been answered, although not as he had asked it.

He felt that as he poured the water over the head of the babe. Then the ceremony was over. The mother held the babe in her arms again and the register had been signed. Mrs. Latour and her husband had slipped away. The mother had gone, and Dean Farrell stood alone in the vestry.

Only a minute, but in that minute he summed up an eternity. Then he went through the church. At the door he came upon the young mother. She was just leaving, and at her side, behind the pillar, where he had stood throughout the ceremony, he saw his son.

For just one instant the two men hesitated. Then the dean's arms were about the grown man, as if he were the little boy whom he had lost. "You must come home," he said. "This day I have taken two children into my Father's house."

SOME NATURAL SOAP PLANTS

Weeds of the Southwest That Will Produce a Copious Lather.

In western Nebraska and Kansas, in Colorado, New Mexico and parts of Utah, Arizona, Texas and Mexico, grow the plants commonly known as Spanish bayonet, bear grass or soap weed, the Philadelphia Inquirer observes.

The first name is suggested by the stiff, sharp-pointed leaves that stand like a cluster of bayonets round the crown of the plant, as if to protect the tall spike of large, greenish-white flowers that shoots up during the early summer. The last named comes from the use that the native peoples of these regions have long made of the plant, for it contains a substance known as saponin, which forms a lather in water much like that of soap. The material can be used to wash articles that would be injured by the alkalis of ordinary soaps. The roots of the plant, which contain most of the saponin substances, are generally used.

The Indians bruise these roots between two stones and put them into cold water to steep for a few minutes. Then they stir the mixture vigorously and rub it between their hands, an operation that soon produces a copious lather. They then throw away the root fibers and use the suds they have produced.

Soap manufacturers have begun to use soap weed in making a mild soap for the toilet and for washing delicate fabrics. Ranchmen, on whose land the soap weed is a nuisance, can often sell it for enough to pay for clearing the land. The weed can be dug at any time, dried, baled and sent by rail to the soap factories. The apocies of soap weed most commonly employed is the large fruited Spanish bayonet, Yucca baccata, the fruits of which were formerly eaten, when dried, by the Indians. Another common species, Yucca glauca, is also employed as a source of the vegetable soap.

A Crab's Ingenious Disguise. There is a species of small crab found upon the English coast that is so afraid of its enemies that it has found out, or perhaps been taught, a clever way to hide itself. An Englishman had one of these crabs as a pet, and he was lucky enough to visit the creature when it was in the very act of making his "wig." The crab first tore off a piece of green, ribbonlike seaweed with his pincers and placed one end in his mouth. This he sucked and nibbled and mistletoe with some secretion of the nature of glue, that hardens under water, and then he pressed the sticky end upon his back. By and by his back was covered with a regular green and waving wig, so that, as he crawled about, he looked like a bunch of seaweed in gentle motion. It is to be presumed that such a crab makes a sweet mouthful for a hungry fish, and that he makes the wig to prevent his being gobbled up. From time to time, of course, the wig requires repairing.

Ancient History. Jonah had just been swallowed by the whale. Gazing about his narrow quarters, he said: "Oh, well, this isn't any worse than the flat I've been living in." Whereupon he doubted himself and proceeded to take a nap.

Result of Association. "This aviator's assistant takes too readily to the business."

"In what way?"

"He has been at it only a week and here he wants a raise."

"Something Just as Good." During the prevalence of high prices for drugs many citizens have taken to fresh air, sunshine and good foods, with excellent results.—Chicago News.

GINGHAM IS BACK

Gingham is coming back into fashion. Its more luxurious sister, checked linen, has been raised to the top notch of style, and the American



Afternoon Frock With Yellow Taffeta Bodice and Organdie Skirt Trimmed With Bands of Blue Velvet. The Collar in the Bodice and the Sash Are of the Velvet.

makers of the commonplace Scotch fabric have immediately put it out on the counters.

The wide and the small checks form the leading design. The square of color may be bright or dark blue, black, apple green or golden brown, and if you want to be in the forefront of fashion, remember to use the check rather than the stripe.

The prophets say that the popularity of the latter is on the wane and that polka dots and squares will grow in power with the sun. The polka dot is already dancing about the town. One already has the chance to wonder, with Peter Sewell, that if, when passing a girl wearing a polka-dot frock, one played a little tune, would the dots come out to dance? The trouble is that one does not have a flute or a mouth organ in the pocket at the right moment.

Well, the polka dots and the checks will surely shelve the stripes, and linen, tussor and gingham are the fabrics that bear these designs once again, as in the sane and wiser days when women dressed according to the climate. For decades, it has been an American joke that if a man turned up his trousers, it was raining in London, which was merely an admission to man's slavishness to English fashions; but recently, women have worn the fashions of icy St. Moritz on the hottest days of an American August.

The American climate calls for cotton, linen and Chinese silks when it is at its worst, from the fifteenth of June to the fifteenth of September.

Gingham is cheap and most admirable frocks of it can be made at home; and with its advent into fashion, women should make the best of it. The blue and white checked linen is also admirable, even if a bit more expensive than gingham, and the dressmakers have already turned to it for frocks for garden parties and even for afternoon weddings in the open.

The emphasis that fashion allows us to put upon belts and girdles allows us to swing a gown into significance through this means.

USE FOR CRASH REMNANTS

Great Number of Useful Articles May Be Made if One Has the Time to Spare.

Often in her ramblings in the shops the watchful needlewoman will be able to pick up small remnants of crash, just a little too long for towels or of too fine a quality. These she can make up into numerous artistic and useful articles if she but takes the time.

There is a new kind of fudge apron which calls for a fine crash toweling. A straight piece of toweling about three-quarters of a yard long makes the front of the apron, reaching to the shoulders. To this are attached straps which pass over the shoulders, cross in black and fasten to the front piece just at the waistline at the sides. This is a little cooler apron than the kind which slips over the head, and has an entire back of the crash and re-

SMALL THINGS THAT COUNT

Good Supply of Adjustable and Washable Collars and Cuffs Makes for Appearance.

Like Phoebe Snow, of travel fame, the girl who is well supplied with adjustable collars and cuffs of washable and cleanable materials will always be smart and good to look upon. These are requisites of the wardrobe that can hardly do without, if we are to be presentable with a limited wardrobe at home or traveling abroad. Widely different in design and fabric they are, yet excellent in style and quality, for shops generally are supplied with very good assortments of these essential accessories of dress.

The severely tailored set is to be had in crash, linen and woolen fabrics that are easily cleaned. Machine stitching and covered button molds give the snappy trimming touch. Daintier and more feminine is the crisp white organdie set with ruffles of accordion-plated net. Organdie-covered buttons set out in trim rows, and well-

quires less material, a yard being at most enough. A suitable cross-stitch design is worked at the bottom of the apron, and the entire edge is blanket-stitched with blue, even to the joinings of the straps at the shoulder line. Snaps under covered buttons hold the straps at the sides.

A mending bag of generous proportions can be made from a length of narrow crash. The top is slightly curved out to fit the waist and a bolt of crash starts from one side and snaps at the other. The bottom is turned up into a deep pocket, which is embellished on the outside with a design of scattered buttons, spoons of thread, scissors, etc. The entire edge of the bag is blanket-stitched.

COLORING RUGS AND CARPETS

If Not Too Much Worn It Will Pay To Freshen Them—How It Should Be Done.

If the faded ingrain or other carpet shows no holes, it will pay to color it. After beating it and cleaning all spots with soap and water or gasoline lay it flat on the floor and follow the directions on the package. Apply while hot with a scrubbrush. This will color one side. Fiber rugs and plain carpets may be freshened wonderfully in this manner. Use light blue on a blue rug, tan or orange for brown, light green for a green rug. Do not get the dye too dark or the rug will look muddy.

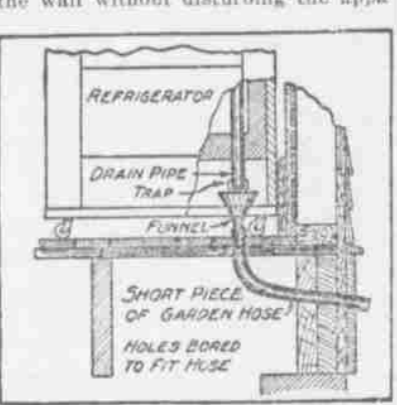
To remove ink from a rug or carpet, immediately sop sweet milk over the spot and dry as much as possible with a dry cloth. Then apply gasoline to take out the grease that the milk would otherwise leave. To remove soot from a carpet sprinkle the spot with salt. Let the salt remain on the spot for about twenty minutes, then sweep it hard with a broom. The spot will disappear.

TAKES WASTE FROM ICEBOX

Refrigerator Drain That Will Be Found a Great Convenience in the Kitchen.

A great deal of time can be saved and trouble avoided by disposing of the waste water from your refrigerator as indicated by the accompanying sketch.

Every housewife knows the advantages of this simple device. Any size of hose or funnel will do, as the holes are bored to fit. The funnel is set just low enough to allow the refrigerator to be rolled out from the wall without disturbing the apparatus.



The hose may also be led to the cellar drain if such connection is convenient.—Dakota Farmer.

SUMMER FASHIONS

The peplum is still with us. Many summer blouses are made with a short skirt—like Russian blouses—or a shorter peplum that is worn outside the skirt.

Striped parasols are effective with plain colored or white suits. Some of the new boudoir caps—which are often called negligee caps now, by the way—are made like children's bonnets, with strings to tie under the chin.

Pockets are more and more capacious. Many of the new linen frocks for summer wear have huge pockets, almost like bags, applied on the skirts.

A charming new hat is trimmed with real butterflies, properly dried, and placed under white tulle for protection.

New Coiffures.

Brush the hair smoothly back from the forehead, then place three little curls at the nape of the neck.

Wave the hair, part in the middle and place a few curls over the ears and a topknot at the crown of the head, or the hair may be combed straight back with two curls falling over each ear.

Draw the hair softly back over forehead and ears and place two puffs at the crown of the head.

Brush the hair very smoothly back in French-knot style and place a large fancy pin in the most becoming place.

Quilt Protector.

Quilt or blanket protectors, stamped for embroidery, cost 35 cents. They are strips of sheer lawn to tuck over the end of the quilt or blanket that comes at the head of the bed, in contact with the face. They can be simple hemmed or edged with a narrow val lace, filled on. The patterns for embroidery are simple and can be done in white cotton or in colored cotton to match the stripes in the blanket or the figure in the comforter.

Shades of 1830.

A quaint dress of brown satin attracted much notice on Fifth avenue the other day. The skirt was ruffled to the hips with scant bias trills two inches wide. The front was slit to the waist and ripped back over a white organdie petticoat, trimmed with innumerable rows of ruffled black more ribbon. The coat waist was short and tight fitting and fastened in the front by two frogs of gold braid.

WOMAN AVOIDS OPERATION

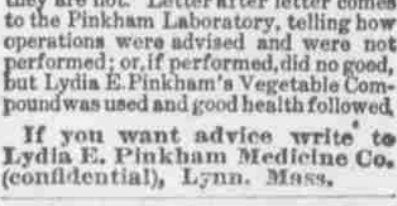
Medicine Which Made Surgeon's Work Unnecessary.

Astoria, N. Y.—"For two years I was feeling ill and took all kinds of tonics. I was getting worse every day. I had chills, my head would ache, I was always tired. I could not walk straight because of the pain in my back and I had pains in my stomach. I went to a doctor and he said I must go under an operation, but I did not go. I read in the paper about Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and told my husband about it. I said 'I know nothing will help me but I will try this.' I found myself improving from the very first bottle, and in two weeks time I was able to sit down and eat a hearty breakfast with my husband, which I had not done for two years. I am now in the best of health and did not have the operation."—Mrs. JOHN A. KOENIG, 502 Flushing Avenue, Astoria, N. Y.



Every one dreads the surgeon's knife and the operating table. Sometimes nothing else will do, but many times doctors say they are necessary when they are not. Letter after letter comes to the Pinkham Laboratory, telling how operations were advised and were not performed, or, if performed, did no good, but Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound was used and good health followed.

If you want advice write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential), Lynn, Mass.



FOR ACUTE AGES OF THE FEET. Sprinkle one or two Allen's Foot-Ease powders in the Foot-Bath and rub the feet. It takes the sting out of Corns and Bunions and smarting, aching feet. Try for lasting comfort, Allen's Foot-Ease. Sample package FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

Every Woman Wants Partine ANTISEPTIC POWDER FOR PERSONAL HYGIENE. Dissolved in water for douches stops pelvic catarrh, ulceration and inflammation. Recommended by Lydia E. Pinkham Med. Co. for ten years. A healing wonder for nasal catarrh, sore throat and sore eyes. Economical. Has extraordinary cleansing and germicidal power. Sample Free, 50c. all druggists, or posted by mail. The Patent Toilet Company, Boston, Mass.

Investigate the Onion. The homely onion has been the subject of an inquiry by a British committee whose duty it was to go into the matter of its high cost. The report of the committee reveals the fact that the present high rate of the onion is due to the stoppage of import from Holland and Belgium and to the diminished import from Egypt and Spain. It is pointed out that onions can be grown in England, and to woman gardeners of even quite amateur experience the contemplative cult of the onion is to be recommended as real and useful war work.

HEAL YOUR SKIN TROUBLES With Cuticura, the Quick, Sure and Easy Way. Trial Free. Bathe with Cuticura Soap, dry and apply the Ointment. They stop itching instantly, clear away pimples, blackheads, redness and roughness, remove dandruff and scalp irritation, heal red, rough and sore hands as well as most baby skin troubles. Free sample each by mail with Book. Address postcard, Cuticura, Dept. L, Boston. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

Activities of Women. Thirty women are practicing dentistry in Missouri. Miss Mary Robertson is a United States deputy marshal in Topeka, Kan. Fifteen women will attend the Democratic national convention as delegates.

For the first time in the history of the Republican conventions, women were employed to assist in guard duty. Mrs. Robert Lansing, wife of the secretary of state, is one of the "rookies" in the woman's camp near Washington.

Druggists Know Best Medicine for Kidney Troubles. During the twenty-five years that I have been selling Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root I have never heard a complaint, as my customers always speak favorably regarding it. Three parties have informed me that they have been restored to health by the use of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root after suffering from Rheumatism, Liver trouble and Gravel. It is a pleasure to me to sell Swamp-Root as I believe it is the best medicine on the market for kidney, liver and bladder complaints.

Very truly yours, ED. ROETHLIN, Druggist, 1104 12th St., Cor. Monroe, Lynchburg, Va.

Personally appeared before me this 1st day of November, 1916, Ed. Roethlin, who subscribed the above statement and made oath that the same is true in substance and in fact.

W. E. HAWKS, Notary Public. Prove What Swamp-Root Will Do For You. Send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample size bottle. It will convince anyone. You will also receive a booklet of valuable information, telling about the kidneys and bladder. When writing, be sure and mention this paper. Regular fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles for sale at all drug stores.—Adv.

The fatter a woman gets the easier it is for her to believe other women are unable to notice it.

Red Cross Ball, Blue, made in America, therefore the best, distinguishes the housewife. All good crochets. Adv.

Every dreamer expects to accomplish wonders—when he wakes up.

Honesty is a good thing in connection with insurance policies.