

Flowers for Home and Garden

BY A GARDEN GROWER.

Arrangement of Flowers.
MUCH charm can be added to flowers if care is exercised in arranging them and if they are placed in a suitable and fitting vase. In these days of well-equipped florists' shops and with the larger stores carrying special stocks, one can find almost any shape, size and color vase for flowers.

The real flower lover will have on hand a supply of containers and will also have several baskets of different sizes and shapes so that flowers can be arranged in such manner that they will not only exhibit their characteristic qualities but also add charm to the room in which they are displayed. Flowers should be put into the right kind of container and they should then only be displayed in a room with whose dominant color note they do not clash, for by having the colors of the flowers clash with the color of the room you not only defeat the beauty of the flower but you rob the room of its charm.

Bowls of pale yellow or green can be filled with flowers of almost any shade without robbing the blooms of their charm. The other day I saw a shallow bowl of green with a yellow lining and it struck me at once what a wonderful thing in which to show nasturtiums. Bowls or vases of copper or bronze are the best in which to display xinnas or marigolds, while little will exhibit much more of their charm if in crystal or silver. Old jars or bowls of earthenware should be used for odds and ends of trailing things from the woods, apple blossoms and the long sweeping sprays of some of the popular blooming shrubs. Baskets with their thin liners can be used for almost anything in the way of flowers.

City Has Wealth of Flowers.

Here in Portland where we have such a wealth of flowers practically throughout the year blooms are now almost as much a part of the household as the lamp, the telephone, the graph or the fireplace or the electric stove. While the garden or the florist's shop can supply the blooms, each one must be the artist who paints the pictures with the flowers. Do not put large masses of flowers in the guest's room, but rather a single rose, or a spray of larkspur, or one or two stalks of gladiolus or a modest little vase or bowl of spring flowers. These flowers in the guest's room will be merely a suggestion of some of the beauties of the garden, which can be enjoyed later after the stains of travel have been removed. Look at the mass effect of blooms for the living room and in it can be gathered the big bowls of larkspur, the tall, large clusters of asters or a basket filled with Canterbury bells.

Roses Are Individual.

In Portland where the wealth of the garden is so frequently in roses, do not entirely too much of making mass displays of these flowers and nothing will rob a rose quicker of its charm and its individual beauty than to be arranged in large masses and more often overcrowded, so that the blooms will be lost. The roses should be allowed to touch and if you have a basket or bowl into which you have been in the habit of putting a dozen roses, try it once with one dozen and use some light, feathery green as a background or filler, and feel quite a difference. Roses should always be arranged in vases with wide mouths, so that they can in a measure arrange themselves, for each rose has individual character and each characteristic or quality has its own charm, and when they are grouped in large quantities these individual characteristics cannot be seen and appreciated, therefore the rose is robbed of its greatest charm.

No flowers should ever be jammed into a squat, misshapen bowl or vase. Tulips and gladiolus are best shown in a shallow bowl and arranged by the aid of the frogs or other mechanical devices for holding them upright in their natural position. Allow me to suggest that when you do so arrange tulips or gladiolus in this way, see that the vase is filled with some greens or small white blossoms, and I think you will like the effect. Tall stalks of iris arranged in the same way with a green base has much additional charm.

Each room in the house should have its own vase or container or several of them. These should be in such shades as contrast with the color of the room, thus affording either a focus for the keynote color or emphasizing it through contrast. Simplicity should be the watchword in arranging flowers. Do not bring in too many but just enough so that the room will have some of the brilliant outdoor color from the garden.

Cold Snap Beneficial.

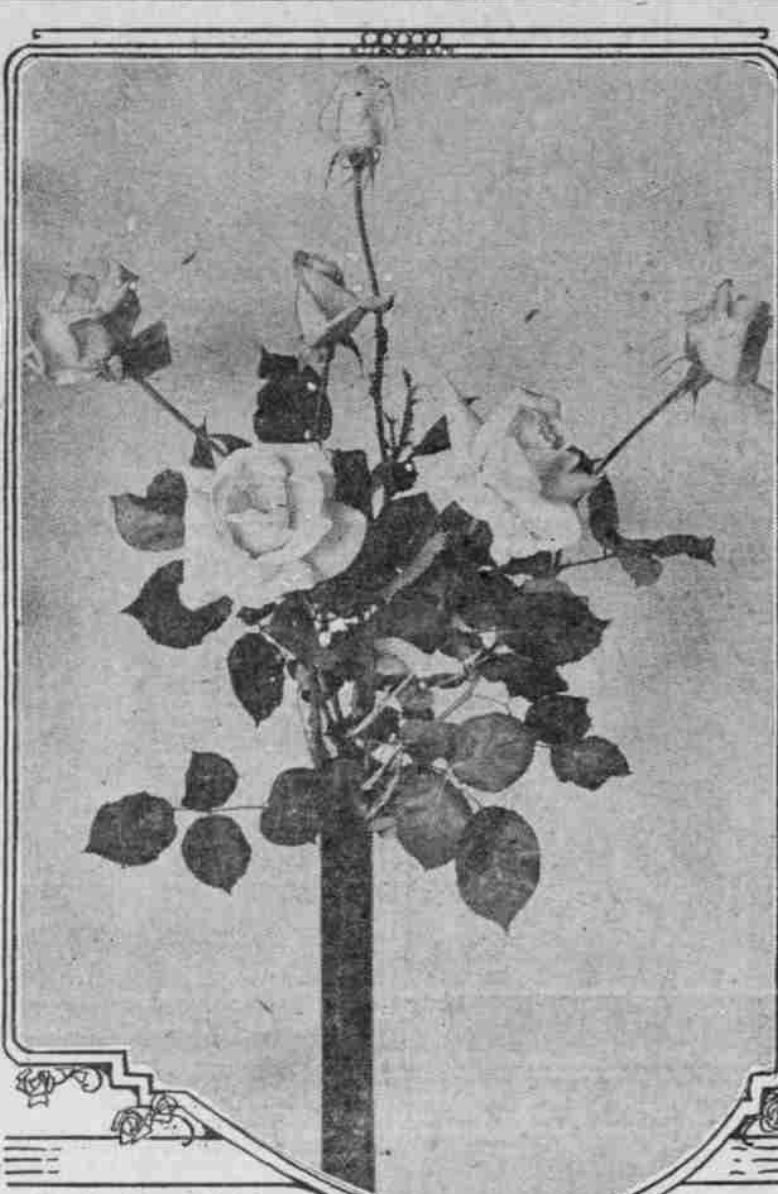
The cold weather and the snow of last week has been most beneficial to the gardens. Millions and millions of pests which next summer would have bothered us have been destroyed, but best of all, the cold snap forced the plants into a dormant state which they need so much. The long continued mild fall and winter was just about to play havoc with many things, for in some instances sprouts were breaking into blooms and they had had no rest whatever. The leaf buds of roses were swelling, in fact, everything in the garden just seemed to be on edge but along came the cold snap, drives back the sap and the plants now can enjoy a much needed rest. So far I have heard of no injury the cold weather has wrought, therefore feel it has been beneficial.

Using Fallen Leaves.

I see in many eastern papers agitation about the annual waste of leaves, for there is nothing which will grieve the soul of a real gardener more than to see the street cleaning trucks and trucks simply to get rid of them. In Portland I am happy to report that the park department under the direction of Superintendent C. P. Keyser has stopped this waste. Today you can visit almost any park in Portland and you will find tons and tons of leaves, great miles of them stored away for future use. This co-operation between the park bureau and the bureau of street cleaning is not only saving a great amount of money but better still is giving us more beautiful flowers in our parks. The park bureau cannot use all of the leaves but what a great amount would be saved in the street cleaning if our own citizens each year gathered up the leaves around their places and on the streets adjacent to their homes. They would not be so much helping the city to save money as they would be in improving their gardens. Properly composed with soils or stable manures leaves become one of the most valuable fertilizers. They contain a very high percentage of fertilizing elements in a proportion which is especially useful to the growth of flowers.

Gardens of Wild Flowers.

Are native wild flowers more beautiful than those brought close to civilization and planted in our own gardens? This is a question which has caused endless discussion. Some varieties would not thrive under cultivation while others no doubt would improve. The question of establishing gardens of



Roses Should Be Arranged To Show Their Individuality

native flowers is being quite actively agitated in the east and a few weeks ago Kenneth B. Gilbert, in a lecture before the Massachusetts horticultural society stated that while the cultivation of wild flowers is a new venture it is because the people have not learned their uses or appreciate their beauty. He is confident that the time is not far distant when indigenous plants will come into their own and wild flower gardens, where only wild flowers prevail, will rival in popularity formal gardens.

Around Portland we have a number of gardens which contain wild sections, or rather sections where many of the wild flowers of Oregon prevail. Mrs. S. S. Montague in her garden at Hillsdale has a wide selection of Oregon wild flowers. Dr. A. E. Rockey at Riviera has many wild flowers and the MacMaster garden, near the Waverly Golf club, is full of native plants. The seed stores are now offering for sale seeds of native wild flowers, so there is really no reason why we should not have in our gardens representative of the great natural outdoors.

Possibly the reason more persons do not grow many of our native wild flowers is because they lack information about them and then also because we accept the printed information in the catalogues of the nurserymen, but if our colleges would take up the matter of developing our wild flowers it would not be long before our nurserymen would find the means of supplying plants, in fact you can find today in nurseries around Portland many specimens of native plants which are highly ornamental and satisfactory.

Advocates State Displays.
To give the public information regarding plants and flowers of their own section Mr. Gilbert, in his talk, said: "The public should be taught the true value of our wild flowers. I believe this could best be accomplished by the establishment of a public wild flower garden, where a large variety of native plants could be grown. If a garden of this sort could be kept up by the state or the city it would offer for all who desire to know wild flowers to study them at first hand. Such an undertaking would be of value, not only for the information it might disseminate, but also for the interest it would create among those who perhaps now know very little about their native plants. There are numerous examples of Jan-

plants through a winter season artificially created.

In talking with a home decorator recently he remarked that many persons, in placing flowers in their living rooms or some other rooms, fail to observe the dominant note of the furnishings, therefore strike most discordant notes. He pointed out that calendulas, yellow zinnias, marigolds, acacia and other yellow flowers should never be brought into a room if the prevailing tone of the furnishings is old rose or some other blue color.

New Giant Daffodil.

It does not always take a big place to make a fine garden, as is evident from the way which Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Lutz have arranged the grounds surrounding their home at Richardson road and Failing street in Parkrose. I am awaiting with the spring, for Mr. Lutz has put in a large planting of daffodils, consisting of King Alfred and Comets. The latter is the new giant daffodil. In addition to this he has also a number of other bulbs and also a fine selection of perennials.

Steep banks are always more or less a problem, and in the last few years many Portlanders have adopted the plan of planting their banks with flowering plants. One of the most interesting examples of this type of planting has been adopted by Mrs. F. D. Webber at 1965 East Flanders street. The bank is filled with many among those I noticed were some of Scotland's finest feather pinks in different colors. In addition to this there are well-arranged plantings of violas, prostrate veronicas, primulas, coral flowers, purple rock cross, as well as silene and rock roses.

Plants to California.

Again during the week I noticed a large shipment of plants going to a large nursery at Sacramento and I asked the Portland grower what caused Oregon plants to be in such demand in California, when that state is constantly advertising its horticultural resources. The reply I got was that California growers like the Oregon young stock, because it is better than they can propagate at home, and has more life and really buy the young stock shipped from Oregon was followed it would be found that the California nurserymen buy the young stock here because of superior root system, and working on this and using the natural heat of California, finish off the plants and ship them in the east as a California product. In the shipment I noticed going forward last week were a great many geraniums, begonias, young rubber plants, calceolarias, abutilons, primulas, ardisias, lavender, lobelia cardinalis, huchers, and many others, all without number. In a year or two I would wager many of these plants will be in eastern gardens with a California label.

Portland Roses for Seattle.

In a nurseryman's place the other day I noticed that Thomas J. Acheson of Seattle is every going to try and win honors in the next Seattle rose show, as a large shipment of choice Oregon-grown roses were being sent to him. Mr. Acheson is a well-known rose grower and his roses I also noticed were going forward to Mrs. E. B. Hanley of Seattle, who is again enlarging her already famous garden.

Cautious and Dusty Miller.
Usually in arranging carnations, because the grass is so far from the blooms, greens of some kind are employed. In the case of the carnations, however, the beauty of the bloom, Asparagus is very largely used, also various kinds of ferns, but recently I saw a combination with white carnations that was quite striking. This lady, in arranging the vase, which was a wide-mouthed one, so the carnations could drop gracefully, used for her foliage combination Dusty Miller. It was quite a striking combination and if you have never used it would suggest you try it some time and note the effect.

Garden Odds and Ends.
Late pruning can be done in December and through the winter. Trees especially should be pruned during their dormant period, after the sap has left the limbs and gone down to the roots.

Quite glowing descriptions are given of the new gladiolus LeMarchal Foch and no doubt in a few years it will be found in many gardens. The statement is made that this plant originates by P. Van Deusen of Holland, is a cross between America and Italy. It is strikingly vigorous and bulblets develop many bulbs of more than an inch or larger. The characteristics of the new gladiolus is that it has the earliness of Halley, with the brilliancy of America, but in lighter shade of pink with less throat markings. As to size it is described by some as twice as large as America.

In letter from friends in the United States department of agriculture at Washington they tell of the results accomplished in the stimulation of plant growth by chilling for a period. In the greenhouse of the experimental station ripe blueberries have been produced from February to April. To accomplish this from midsummer to autumn plants were placed in artificially chilled frames and then moved later into the greenhouses, where they began flowering, and made rapid growth. The experiments really amount to putting the

DOG, POPULAR IN COMEDIES, HELPS COLLECT MONEY FOR SALVATION ARMY.



TEDDY WITH HIS TAMBOURINE.

Teddy, the popular dog who stars in Mack Sennett comedies, received permission from his producer to help the Salvation Army collect funds during Christmas week, with which to cheer the poor and needy on Christmas day. Like other stars who give their time to worthy causes, Teddy appeared without make-up. Every time he shook his tambourine money was thrown in. The police department suggested that Teddy's stand be moved every half hour because of the crowds which gathered at his corner.

Mack Sennett will start a new series of special two-reel comedies probably this month, in which Teddy will be the star, with child actors as his support.

ing an English mountain with wild flowers I wondered whether the primula Bulleyana got its name from him. I asked them from seed this spring and am impatiently awaiting time for them to bloom. I was asked once whether they had called it "bully" for a joke. These primulas look very unhappy at present, so unlike the ordinary ones with their upstanding green leaves. At planting time I found the roots rather fleshy and a pretty pink to the very tips. Do you know the variety? I see you recommend St. Bridget's anemones, but you forgot to tell people how easy they are to raise from seed. I pocketed some 30 plants and some bloomed this fall from spring-sown seeds. Until the cold snap the rose-colored ones were in bloom. Can you tell me what was the matter with the anemones and the primulas? The leaves on the underside covered with rust and the foliage destroyed. Not all in the garden were affected, but of course the choicest ones that beautiful variety, "Searchlight." I am glad of your department in The Oregonian. Perhaps you will tell the desperate flower lover what to do when there is hardly a square inch of space left on a city lot, the alternative of moving to the country not being available.

Named for A. K. Bulley.

Answer—You are quite right in assuming that the primula Bulleyana was named after A. K. Bulley of Liverpool. As the founder of the big seed house, Mr. Bulley has explored in all sections looking for new things and in 1899 one of his explorers named Forrest, while in southwestern China discovered a new primula and

named it in honor of his employer. I am not familiar with this variety, although it is highly recommended for climatic conditions similar to those we have in Portland and shall be interested in knowing what success you had with it. I want to thank you for mentioning the case with which St. Bridget anemones can be raised from seed and I am quite sure when home gardeners get more familiar with it, and its two long blooming seasons it will find a place in every garden. Relative to rust on anemones, would you say that the florists would give a fortune if they could find some positive means of controlling it or getting rid of it. In my own garden I have been fairly successful. When I spray my roses in the spring with Bordeaux mixture I spray the ground around all my perennials and the beds for very annuals. I do not try to grow snapdragons as a perennial but treat it as a biennial. In the spring I carefully take up any volunteer plants which may have come from fallen seed or take up the plants from seed sown in flats in the fall. These I put into four-inch pots and plunge the pots, taking care to see that none of these bloom that come by pinching back. In the fall I take out of the garden the snapdragons which have bloomed the previous summer, spade up the bed and allow it to remain turned over during the winter.



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