

Garden Notebook

By MARK M. TAYLOR

Most of the spring flowering bulbs may be planted in the fall. Daffodils seem to be universal favorites and through hybridizing a great range in flower forms and colorings are now available. Too often, though, we find many home gardeners are confused, when confronted with a bulb catalog, by such terms as narcissus, jonquil, polyanthus, poetaz, loelsi, etc. All belong to the Narcissus family, however, but the large trumpet varieties are the ones commonly referred to as daffodils. The Leeds daffodils vary in that the length of the trumpet is from 1/2 to 1 1/2 the length of the perianth petals. The Poetas daffodils are clustered and have fragrant flowers. Peticus daffodils have a flattened cup, but a sweet, spicy fragrance.

Jonquils are Narcissus of the cluster type, two or more on a stem and quite fragrant. Daffodils Provide Color

Then there are the miniature Narcissus that are lovely. The "Hoop Petticoat" Narcissus is an unusual one that gets its name from the shape of the flower. There are other miniatures that are perfectly proportioned daffodils in every respect in miniature. As rock garden plants, pot plants or for use in corsages they are a real novelty.

Daffodils furnish Spring color but you can enjoy their bloom for four months (December to April) by planting proper varieties. They are inexpensive, long lasting, multiply each season and have few diseases or insect pests to bother them. Plant them six inches deep in average soils. Cultivate and prepare the bed deeply, however, as roots may go as much as 12 inches deep. Bone meal is the pre-fertilizer worked well into the soil before planting. Daffodils should be planted in September or October so that roots can be started before winter. They do not adapt themselves well to formal plantings, so try to avoid rows or patterns. They like to

be "naturalized." When planting, it is a good idea to toss out handfuls of bulbs and plant them where they fall, thus you duplicate nature's pattern of beauty.

Tulips are also somewhat confusing in catalogue listings because of the numerous species offered. The early species are usually the ones most used for bedding purposes in formal gardens or parks where a massing of a single color in one large bed is very striking. Some bloom in late April and May and come in a variety of colors to suit anyone's fancy. There are also double flowered varieties sometimes called peony-flowered. In general, the early varieties are not as tall growing as the later ones so this should be considered in planting.

Darwin tulips consist mainly of solid or "self" colored sorts from pure white through purple. They have tall stems. Breeders are so called for their extensive use in hybridizing because of their self-coloring in a wide color range. Cottage tulips have slender stems and narrower foliage. The petals, too, are pointed and are the last of the tulips to bloom. Their flower form is such that they are sometimes called "lily-flowered". First to bloom are the singles, early specie often found in park beds and along drives. The flowers are large on shorter, sturdy stems.

Parrot tulips have fringed, long petals, bloom in May and, having long stems, are ideal for cutting. They come in all colors and tints and add an exotic note to the bulb garden. There are many other species tulips including miniatures, such as the Kaufmannia hybrids that resemble water-lilies in form. These bloom very early and are most attractive.

Hyacinth Blooms
One of the first harbingers of spring is the bloom of Crocus. These bloom in March and will grow in many places, in the lawn, border or rock garden. Plan bulbs one inch deep. Some early species of crocus will bloom in February and naturalize well.

The appearance of hyacinth blooms is always another welcome sign that winter is on the wane. They are desirable for early color in beds, borders or pots and their fragrance will perfume the garden or the rooms where they are used for cut flowers or grown in pots. Plant large bulbs of these six to seven inches deep. Varieties are available in white, yellow, blues, carmines and intermediate shades. They delicate waxy spikes of bloom are long-lasting and give emphasis to planting.

Any of these spring flowering bulbs, daffodils, tulips, crocus or hyacinths may be satisfactorily grown in window or

Questions Answered

By MARK M. TAYLOR

Q.—Should Shasta daisies be given any protection before winter?—S.C.

A.—Yes, pull a little dirt around the clump but do not cover the crown. Grass clippings over the crown will protect them from frost.

Q.—What care should be given Calla lilies now? Can the bulbs be used again and can they be left where planted?—Mrs. S.A.R.

A.—Dig and dry them in late fall. Store on a shelf without any covering in a dry, moderately warm room. They should produce again.

Q.—Must cannas be lifted or can they be left over winter?—Mrs. S.A.R.

A.—Some gardeners leave cannas in the ground successfully, providing we have a mild winter. Better to dig and store in peat moss to prevent excessive drying and subsequent shriveling of the root.

Q.—Want to transplant some coniferous evergreens around our new place. Can this be done now?—H.F.

A.—Yes, perhaps a little later this month during a good soaking rain is a good time. They will require less attention.

Q.—Should any trees be pruned now?—M.A.

A.—Don't be in a hurry. Wait until they are dormant. Any pruning now would be to remove dead or diseased wood, old flower clusters. Wait until leaves have fallen for major pruning.

Q.—Can gladioluses be left in the ground and produce next year or must they be dug?—J.T.

A.—Some gardeners have done just that and have reported success. They are in the minority, however, so to save your choice bulbs, better dig and store.

Q.—How can I keep my roses blooming?—Mrs. T.M.

A.—Keep flowers picked by cutting to an outside eye. With mild weather you will have blooms at Christmas. Don't be afraid to cut long stems.

Q.—Please recommend evergreen or semi-evergreen shrubs for planting in the border this fall.—Mrs. D.O.

A.—Plant camellias, azaleas, rhododendrons, daphne, laurestinus, barberry, euonymus, photinia, firethorn, hesters and franklinia.

Q.—What are some good spring flowering shrubs for use at rear of a perennial bed?—Mrs. O.G.

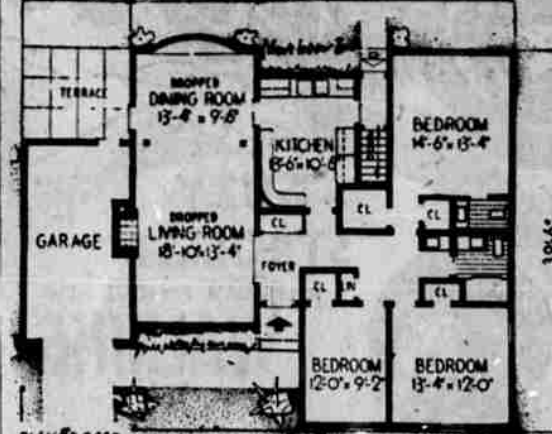
A.—Flowering quince, forsythia, abelia, hybrid brooms, deutzia, daphne, ocean spray, beauty bush (Kolkwitzia), weigela, tartarian honeysuckle, and not forgetting Oregon grape or our native azalea

porch boxes or potted for indoor bloom. Any of these bulbs do best in the full sun, a loose, well-drained soil and appreciate an application of bone meal to the soil when planted. Place a little sand beneath each bulb when setting them out. A liquid fertilizer as buds are forming will increase the size of the bloom. Avoid planting where winds might whip the blooms about. A 4-12-4 fertilizer at the rate of 3 lbs. per 100 square feet is desirable for a bulb bed.

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Capital Journal HOME PAGE

HOMES FOR AMERICANS



PLAN B-2440
A DROPPED LIVING ROOM and dropped dining room in luxury apartment style feature this compactly planned ranch type house. A bowed dining room window facing the garden and a secluded terrace behind the garage add glamor to the house. Rear service entry has vestibule connecting with basement stairs and kitchen. The house covers 1,425 square feet, garage 258 square feet. This is Plan B-2440 by Alwin Cassens Jr., architect, 145 So. Franklin Ave., Valley Stream, N. Y. (Further information and blueprints available from architect.) (P) Newfeatures.

(Rhododendron Occidentale), mock orange (in variety), althea, dwarf almond, bush cherry, skimmia and the spiraea (in variety).

Q.—Delphinium has produced a second bloom. Is this unusual? Will it continue to bloom?—Mrs. K.M.

A.—A second blooming is quite normal and will be the last. Stake it so the winds will not damage it. When you cut the bloom, or it dies down, you may divide the clump.

Q.—We have had much discussion on the proper method of picking and caring for tree fruits. Will you give some advice?—H.O.

A.—In picking pears (or any fruit) be careful not to bruise them. If bruised rotting may start. Use ladders on large trees as hand-picking is advisable, even of apples, to prevent bruising or skinning of the fruit. Use smooth or padded containers. Remove fruit to the shade as soon as possible, particularly pears. Separate damaged or overripe fruit from the sound fruit because the old adage is true "one bad apple can spoil a whole barrel." In storing pears, do not use too deep containers as their own weight may cause bruising and subsequent rotting. Be sure not to break the pear stems in picking. If the time is right they will break at the stem joint easily, merely upon lifting the pear up (they hang like pendulums). Breaking the stem may cause the fruit to rot at the stem and also leaves an open wound on the tree.

Q.—What are some good spring flowering shrubs for use at rear of a perennial bed?—Mrs. O.G.

A.—Flowering quince, forsythia, abelia, hybrid brooms, deutzia, daphne, ocean spray, beauty bush (Kolkwitzia), weigela, tartarian honeysuckle, and not forgetting Oregon grape or our native azalea

WHAT TO DO IN SEPTEMBER
Transplant broad-leaved evergreens after fall rains have soaked the ground thoroughly.
Prepare bulb beds. Plant narcissus.
Fertilize the lawn now.
Stake, feed and spray chrysanthemums.

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Peony Finest Of Perennials

Peonies today are a far cry from the "Piney" of Grandmother's day. For hardiness, durability, beauty and general use as a garden or cut flower, they are not excelled by any other perennial. The peony is one of the most satisfactory perennials of the amateur gardener for they thrive with a minimum of care and yield a grand reward of bloom in early June.

A few simple rules of peony care will insure success. Do not attempt to transplant a peony clump. They will resent it and probably die. If moving is necessary, do so only by dividing the roots and starting new clumps. Peonies should be planted in early fall from September 15 to October 15. They have fleshy roots and for best success select those divisions with from 3 to 5 eyes. Plant in well drained soil enriched with manure or steamed bonemeal. Loosen the soil well in the bottom of the hole where you intend to set the roots. In planting be sure the uppermost eye is no deeper than two inches below the soil surface. This is most important as deep planting is one of the most common causes of peony failure. Fill soil in around root and water. In the spring a slight addition of bonemeal may be helpful.

As peonies age they produce more and more blossoms. There is a wide color range and flower form in peonies to satisfy the most discriminating gardener. Here are a few of the most popular varieties for the Pacific Northwest:

Alsace Lorraine — pure white with cream and buff tints. Ball-like center, slight fragrance.
Baroness Schroeder — Flesh

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pink fading to pure white. Double blooms on tall stems. Excellent for cutting.

Festiva Maxima — Originated over 100 years ago and is still one of the best. White with crimson markings, fully double and blooms early.

Golden Dawn—Late bloomer, double, has white guard petals and bright yellow center. Good stems.

Keiway's Glorious — Fully double of the anemone type. Crimson markings on center petals.

Therese — Very large, pale rose pink with strong stems. Tourangelle — Pale creamy white to flesh pink at center—fragrant.

Mona. Jules Elle — Very large double, light rose pink. Blooms very late.

Black Warrior—A new red, fully double. So red as to be almost black.

The Japanese peonies have extra wide spread with two or more layers of guard petals. The stamens have become petals of various colors giving an unusual appearance. They are very erect growing on strong stems, and thus, are valuable as cut flowers. Japanese peonies are available in

whites, pinks, and reds and intermediate shades. For the perennial border, for specimen plants or for the cutting garden, be sure to include several varieties of peonies.

Coming Events

- Sept. 11—Oregon Turkey Improvement Association annual meeting, Willamette Hall, Corvallis.
- Sept. 15—Oregon Turkey Association meeting, West Salem City Hall, 3 P.M.
- Sept. 21—Year Opportunity Assn. Sale, State Fairgrounds, Salem.
- Sept. 21-22—North Marion County Fair, Tualatin.
- Sept. 22—Forestry demonstration, Van Waller Farm, Oswego.
- Sept. 22—Santiam Harvest Festival, Santiam Valley Grange, Lewis.
- Oct. 2—Oregon Dairy Producers convention meeting, O. S. C.
- Oct. 16—Salem Fair, State Fairgrounds, Salem.
- Oct. 18-19—Oregon Leadership Institute for town and country planning, Oregon State College.
- Oct. 28-29—Pacific International Livestock Exposition, Union County Fairgrounds, Portland.

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