



Over the GARDEN GATE

By RUTH KING

Have you ever wondered when you were de-budding your prize peonies, staking the lilies or tucking bulbs into the ground, just when the first gardener appeared on the world scene?

A little research revealed that the earliest known gardens, those of Solomon, the son of David, King of Israel, included aviaries, clear wells and tinkling streams hidden behind high walls, seen only by the beauties of his harem and the eunuchs who trod the paths.

The gardens of Cyrus and other Persian monarchs were of vast extent to which were brought the oddities of plant life from many lands.

The first allusion to terraces in gardens, is found in the description of the famous hanging gardens of Babylon, anciently reckoned among the wonders of the world. It is said that these were the dreams of Queen Semiramis and of Nebuchadnezzar. The terraces rose in majestic beauty, supported on masonry arches to a height of 75 feet.

They were irrigated from a reservoir built by the toil of many men at the top of the gardens, to which water was lifted from the Euphrates by a screw. Fountains and banquet halls were distributed among the numerous terraces, and groves of trees, avenues for foot travelers and beds of high colored blossoms dotted the landscape.

Most of the elements of a modern architectural garden are alluded to in connection with the gardens of Babylon.

The ancient Greeks neglected gardens at first in favor of the cold beauty of marble statuary and marble columns. Later in the history of that country gardening became an art and great advances were made in the vale of Tempe the Academus at Athens with temples, altars and tombs, monuments and towers, among the flowers.

The Romans copied their gardens from the Greeks and it was in this era that the gardener became interested in sweet smelling trees and plants, as much a study in that day as the blending of colors is today.

The use of glass conservatories also became popular in this era.

Gardening, like all the other arts, languished during the Dark Ages when man was concerned with destruction, but with the revival of learning, and the Reformation, he once again became interested in gardens.

Italy became the birthplace of new types of gardening and these ideas became the models for gardens in Germany, France and Great Britain. Those gardens were laid out on geometric lines, were stiff and un hospitable.

Then England turned to natural lines, following the contours of a hill, using shrubs and trees and flowers as nature intended in glad-some abundance.

It was in England that "garden cities" promoted for those unfortunate who can never live where grass is their own, nor can hear a babbling brook by their own back door, originated.

This idea has rapidly expanded abroad and in the United States and is now promoted well-organized developments in which from 100 to 500 homes make up a unit. These units are designed to give families with or without children a centralized spot where they can push a hoe into ground provided by the landlord, where they can lay out their own ideas in grass, vegetable garden and flower borders and where every individual who lives within the area is concerned with making his share of the earth beautiful.

Germany is particularly concerned with this idea for working-men.

In our own West today, most homemakers strive for improvement in surroundings and there are few who do not respond to the beauty of a tree, the joy of a shrub, a flower border or to a single hyacinth bulb blooming in a clay pot on a window sill.

JUNIPER GARDEN CLUB

By Leah Ferrell

The Juniper Garden Club held its regular monthly meeting on September 17 at the fairgrounds. A

dessert luncheon was served at 12:30 by the hostesses, Mrs. Owen Thurman and Mrs. C. L. Jones.

There were 10 members and 10 guests present. The topic of the day, presented by Mrs. Lloyd Seeley, was "Boning Up On Bulbs."

She showed pictures of 24 different bulbs that grow in her own garden and explained the growing habits of each variety.

Mrs. Clark Kendall assisted with the program by showing some slides of bulbs and their flowers.

These slides were obtained from Mrs. Byron Bradshaw of Albany, Oregon, who is the slides chairman for the Oregon Federation of Garden Clubs.

The club is planning a garden tour some time in October.

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A BORDER of African marigolds in yellows, maroons, orange and cream furnishes blossoms for indoor arrangements at the home of Mrs. George Blanas, 1036 Eldorado Avenue. Staked cluster growing to right of border, looked over by Mrs. Blanas is "Snow-on-the Mountain," an old favorite with colorful foliage and pure white blossoms. Dozens of colorful chrysanthemums are full-budded and ready to bloom. The heavily loaded apple tree, variety unknown will provide many pints of applesauce. Mrs. Blanas, in addition to caring for home and garden, loves to can.