

Clubhouse Gardens

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Illustrations Furnished by The Templin Bradley Co., C'eveland, Ohio

WHEN writing on the subject of clubhouse gardens it would be well to state more clearly which particular branch of gardening is under discussion, as the term gardens include flower gardens, fruit garden, and kitchen or vegetable gar-

WEIZELIA ROSEA

den, all of which might be included in our title. It is of the flower gardens that L would rather confine my remarks as probably being the more appealing and popular from a golfing point of view. Where golf club officials have had trees, shrubs and flowering plants planted then I think we should consider this a step in the right direction. By observations I have made and from what I hear, there is much activity going on in the way of beautifying the club grounds of many golf courses by these means, and providing things are not carried to the extreme they cannot help improving the prestige of any club. I have in previous issues of the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER, attempted to cover a certain amount of ground on this subject, and in so doing I hope I have not given anyone the impression that I am advocating putting such gardens on a par, say with a city, park or some private establishment. Though the work is identical, the conditions governing the same are vastly different. In the two latter cases there is generally space available for such formations and a flower garden is one of the first considerations, whereas with the average golf club the flower garden must always be a secondary item.

Indigenous Trees and Shrubs

WHEN it is deemed desirable to plant indigenous trees or shrubs around the grounds for various purposes, it would be well to bear in mind that such subjects have been in most cases seeded and grown in a natural way and on that account will not stand the transplanting with the same measure of success as those obtained from a nurseryman. In all cases it would be policy to choose those plants that are more

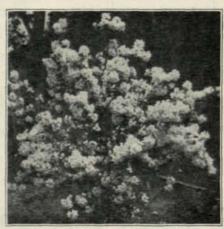


HYDRANGEA, Paniculata Grandilfora



GEUM, Mrs. Bradshaw





MOCK ORANGE, Philadelphus Virginalis

DEUTZIA, Pride of Rochester



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Begin fairway improvement this fall by applying MILORGANITE in time to take advantage of favorable weather and early rains. or less isolated as then one would be reasonably assured of securing more roots attached to that particular specimen. When such a plan is decided on and its specimens selected, a good stunt is to open up a trench round such tree or shrub and by doing so you will be able to sever the main roots, always taking care such roots are clean cut.

In some cases it may be desirable to underpin part of soil so as to sever the tap root, if any. If any pruning is desired this can be done at the same time, also some mark put on so as to be sure of the specimen later on. The trench should be filled in after operating. If this work is performed in the spring it will enable such plants to produce a certain amount of fibrous roots during the season and allow of their removal with a better measure of success in the fall or following spring. This method has been adopted with success, and well repaid the slight trouble involved.

During my training as a young man, I was frequently taught the necessity of looking after the little things and that the big ones would look after themselves. Figuratively speaking this is correct. Probably most of us have seen the effect at times of letting the little things slide, the little things we see today and will put right tomorrow, and tomorrow never comes. The little things we see and which appear so insignificant at the time, that we forget or ignore them, and some little things we never see, consequently the mole heap of today is a mountain tomorrow, and the sequel is regret and oftentimes laborious work.

When a large quantity of shrubs are to be planted, be reasonably assured that you are thoroughly prepared, also have a proper understanding with your nurseryman. When a consignment of shrubs, etc., are received steps should be taken immediately to prepare for eventualities, you may not be able to plant as per arrangements. A large trench should be ready to receive such plants as near to the scene of operations as possible. A good plan is to open up your bundles and check up your plants as to proper quantity and bed them in firmly, so as to exclude air and so keep the roots from drying out. Too frequently have I seen where plants have gone astray through inattention, the roots being covered in a half hearted manner, a little light litter used, or canvas bags thrown over, neither of which will exclude the air or keep the roots in a moist condition. A little observation and a little precaution will often prevent your big job from ending in failure.

Perennials

NOW with regard to the selecting, grouping, and planting of perennials. This question might be asked—what is a perennial border and a concise answer to that question would be a collection of hardy flowering plants, (these plants, by the by, are mostly soft wooded). But what is more frequently met with is a mixture of these plants in conjunction with shrubs, annuals and half hardy or greenhouse plants.

Experience gained by experimenting and observation, extending over a number of years by first class growers, have proved this plan unsatisfactory in the long run and certainly not one to be recommended. The reasons are various, such as robbing the permanent ripening of the foliage hence weakness and deterioration

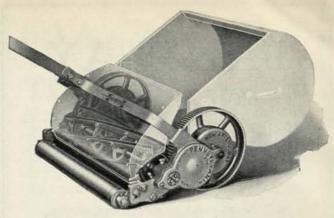


DELPHINIUM

set in and eventually the plants are lost. How often I have heard this remark from different persons in speaking on perennials, I used to have such and such a plant, but I don't know what became of it.

It must not be taken for granted that all such plants have been lost by the means stated, as for instance, extremes of weather are responsible for a number of losses, also the ravages of mice are to be reckoned with in this respect. One can readily sympathize with those who are desirous of keeping their borders gay with flowers throughout the season by introducing annuals, etc., for that purpose, therefore, it is not the annual as a flowering plant one should criticize, but rather the method of planting the perennials by the grower.

If I were asked what I considered to be the correct method of planning out a perennial bor-



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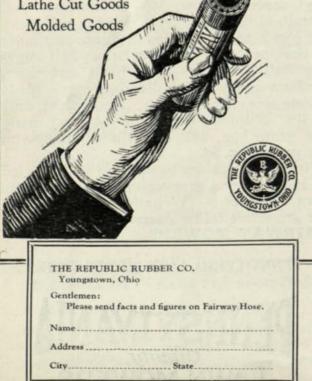
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der or anything pertaining to landscape gardening I should unhesitatingly say to follow and adopt the teaching of the greatest of all landscape gardeners—"Mother Nature." Anyone can obtain great assistance from book lore, but that after all, is only the teaching of experts or past masters at the game whose knowledge has been acquired in the main by the assiduous study of nature.

Flower Borders

THERE have been many plans submitted to the general public for establishing flower borders, but to go into details respecting their different merits would take up too much time and perhaps answer no good purpose. In any case it would be better to decide upon some definite plan when laying out a flower garden or



SPIREA VAN HOUTTE or BRIDAL WREATH

border. Such a plan I would like to submit to you as being one that has been adopted for years and has given great satisfaction wherever it has been carried out.

This plan can be accomplished by setting out each variety in groups or masses, thereby forming a color scheme. The number of plants used should be determined by the height, form and eventual size of the plant as near as possible. For example—three delphiniums, three phlox, of the decussate type, six phlox amoena, five heucheras, pyrethrums, aquilegias, and if the dwarf alpines are used seven or more as desired, and so on.

It is not wise to put all your tall flowering subjects at the extreme back of the border as is frequently the case, and to continue with varied heights to the very front of the border, but to have them distributed more or less through the central part of the border. This will tend to give more uniformity of flowering towards the end of the season and will give a more natural appearance.

A number of neatly made stakes should be in evidence for the support of certain plants. It is one thing to have such stakes stored away in some shed and another thing to have them already in position in case of emergency, such as heavy gales of wind, or rain storms. One may often be caught napping in this respect, and the result is sometimes disastrous. There may be some who might object to seeing unsightly stakes showing in the borders, but my contention is that it is more unsightly to see a whole lot of beautiful plants beaten down and oftimes broken with the loss of a season's growth and flowers destroyed when a tie here and there as growth takes place might remedy the evil.

As each plant passes out of flower it is a good policy to remove any seed heads that have formed, this will relieve the plant considerably, as it is a well-known fact that the forming and ripening of seed or fruit takes more out of the plant than the bearing of the inflorescence, beside giving a neat appearance to the border.

Copious supplies of water should be given during dry spells, preferably in early morning or late evening, and this should be followed up when dry enough by loosening the soil to con-





sume the moisture as well as to keep down weeds. Apart from the heavier watering, an overhead shower when the sun is off the border, or in evening during hot weather is very beneficial in expanding the flowers after the drying influence of wind and sun.

Selection of Flowering Plants

IN MAKING a selection of hardy perennial plants, it is well to bear in mind that there are a lot of really beautiful varieties that are practically useless for cutting purposes, so that where cut flowers are in great demand it would be well to discriminate between these and those of greater utility. The varieties are too many to enumerate here, although there are a few varieties I would like to mention as being very desirable, and which I have seen less frequently than others in our part of the country.

Chelone Barbata-Incarvillea Delavavi

Doronicum-Lobelia Cardinalis

Geum-Lathyrus

Heuchera-Sanguinea

Lychnis-Viscario-Splendens plena

Lychnis-Haageana.

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