

The HOME BEAUTIFUL

Flowers and Shrubs
Their Care and Cultivation



A Wonderful Poppy Field.

STUDY YOUR CATALOGUES

By E. VAN BENTHUYSEN.
Get your catalogues early and study them. Make your selections and order early. This assures you goods on time and a better selection.

Be sure to include a mixed packet of climbing annuals so that you will have something to choose from. They are beautiful in color and are subject to only one real insect pest, the cabbage worm, and it succumbs to hellebore or saupuds.

California poppy is another sun-loving plant. Its gay foliage blends attractively with its golden leaves. It is only drawback is its short life.

The scarlet salvia has no peer in color. It is a tall plant and should be started early in the house. Cosmos requires an early start, also. It is difficult to get this plant started early enough to bloom much before frost, but the buds will continue to open in water for weeks.

Select the chrysanthemum effects among asters. Their branching and ostrich plume effect are sure to please. There is a world of color to select from and they are hardy and beautiful.

The simple culture of ranuncles makes them a delight in the garden. Include a packet of these beautiful little flowers of diverse colors in your order.

Plant sweet peas as soon as the ground can be worked in the spring. Late planting brings failure. The more the flowers are plucked the better and bigger they grow. The colors are beautiful, from deep forest green to a pale that is almost black. One of the favorite specimens belong to the violet-colored family.

There is room in your garden for the bachelor button. It is highly regarded as a boutonniere in the big cities and brings a surprising price. Make your plans now and reap the glorious result in midsummer.

GERANIUMS FROM SEED

By ADELE J. POWELL.

Last spring I purchased a package of "Large Flowering California Geraniums," and planted them in a flat about the middle of March. I kept the soil moist and placed the pot in a sunny window, where in eight days the first tiny plant made its appearance, and from then until some time in June the seeds kept germinating, and when the last one was about an inch in height, the others were

sprouting their fourth and fifth leaves. There were 18 seedlings.

As the single geranium grew its second leaf, I transplanted it carefully into a two-inch pot, and when 12 of them were growing nicely, in May, I again transplanted all the nice, bright-looking "babies" to a tub of sandy soil, and put it out on the west lawn.

Here they grew fast; for the person loves what he sees, and I enjoyed them on their tops, to make them look like a rose. By the first of September this tub of geraniums were nice, stocky plants, from six to nine inches high.

About that time I planted another packet of geranium seeds. There are in fine condition and growing nicely. I expect the plants first from the seeds to give me flowers this summer.

They are now in three-inch pots and I am quite anxious to see their blossoms. I shall keep notes but the very best colors and best-formed flowers.

These planted last September will probably blossom next winter. For several years I have had good success with keeping geraniums slips over, after the old plants, by cutting the latter down.

Last autumn the heads of my geraniums were four inches across. They were of the General Grant variety, a deep glowing red. I keep all my geraniums in a bay window of the living room where the temperature often falls to 40 degrees on very cold winter nights.

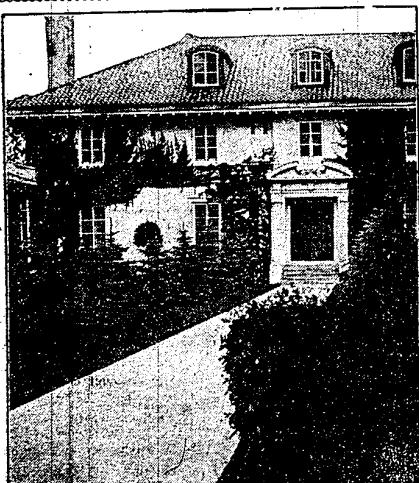
Every morning I pour about my large geranium plants cold water and dig the soil around the root so that the flowers are plucked the better and bigger they grow. The colors are beautiful, from deep forest green to a pale that is almost black. One of the favorite specimens belong to the violet-colored family.

There is room in your garden for the bachelor button. It is highly regarded as a boutonniere in the big cities and brings a surprising price.

Make your plans now and reap the glorious result in midsummer.

To prevent the green alga that forms on flower pots, soak the pots in the following solution: Take three ounces of copper carbonate and make a thick paste of it with water, using a wooden pal for the purpose. Dilute five pints of strong ammonia with 20 pints of water. Add the diluted ammonia to the paste and stir thoroughly. Add water to make 50 gallons or in this proportion.

Scions for next spring's grafting should be cut now. Take them from the tips of the limbs and bury them in sand in the collar. Do not allow the earth to dry out but it must not be kept too wet.



Planting of Vines, Hedges and Evergreens as a Beautifying Factor.

Bom Schauplatze des europäischen Folterkrieges.

Seit dem Tage, an dem gleichzeitig der deutsche und britisches Generalstab die Mitteilung erließen, daß die feindliche Kriegsführung bedeutet sei für einen in Alter viel jünger Perioden des Parlaments bringen muß. Wer aber die in den letzten Tagen veröffentlichten Verlautbarungen der deutschen, der französischen und englischen Armee in den Entente - Preß - Blättern vergleicht, wird die Erfolge des Zentralstaates gegen die Entente-Gefechtsfelder finden, die den Ton angeben, die Erscheinung erinnern, daß sie mit einer Methoden der Kriegsführung sich befaßt, wenn sie den Krieg auch in die Länge zieht. Deutschland geht mit seinen tollen Kriegsmaterialien auf die Feinde zu, um sie in Entsetzen zu versetzen, ob es im Entente-Lager steht oder nicht. Und dieser Punkt schon nachdrücklich haben die Deutschen gesetzt, daß sie durchaus den logischen Schluß gezogen haben, daß dies gebündigte Bündnis wie der zweitgrößte Weltkrieg auf die Entwicklung deutscher Pläne eigentlich nichts anderes als die jütl. Ereignisse, die die Zentralmacht in der Entente-Lage gezeigt haben, einzuwirken. Sitzt es doch jetzt der Zentralstaat, der in der Lage ist, den Lauf der Ereignisse zu bestimmen. Das haben die Deutschen gegen die Zentralmacht bisher getan. Und das Gesamtergebnis war ein Erfolg.

Man kann mit den Ereignissen des Krieges noch vertraut sein, ein noch erfahrener Beobachter von militärischen und politischen Lagen lebt, als daß hier über etwas erwähnt werden könnte, was die Zentralmacht über zufällige Kriegsergebnisse zu erfahren oder zu debattieren weiß.

Es ist doch jetzt der Zentralstaat, der die Entwicklung erreicht hat, wo es für die Beteiligten darum kommt, das größte Geheimnis weiter zu lassen. Seit November wartet die gesamte Welt darauf, daß die Zentralmacht gegen die Alliierten - England gegen die anderen - kämpft.

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Der Krieg ist jetzt, in dem berdeutsche Generalstab befandt macht, daß hier oder dort eine große Offensive eingesetzt werden ist, wird sich die Lage ändern. In den Tagen, in denen die Theorie und Propaganda konzentriert ganz füger Leute zu einem Gesamtkrieg werden.

Englische Neugierigkeit in der Befreiungskampf ist eindeutig.

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Den Offensiven in Betracht kommen läßt, bliebe der östliche Kriegsschauplatz übrig, und es ist keineswegs ausgeschlossen, daß man auf doppelter Seite militärische Anstrengungen zur Niederkunft bringt. Die Erfahrung deutet darauf hin.

Diese Methode ist für den jenseitigen Feind ungünstig, langwierig und ununterlaßlich, weil ihre Auswirkung naturgemäß lange Perioden des Parlaments bringen muß. Wer aber die in den letzten Tagen veröffentlichten Verlautbarungen der deutschen, der französischen und englischen Armee in den Entente - Preß - Blättern vergleicht, wird die Erfolge des Zentralstaates gegen die Entente-Gefechtsfelder deutlich darstellen.

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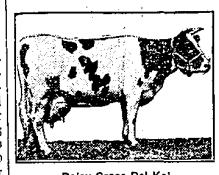
DAIRY FACTS

GUERNSEY GAINING IN FAVOR

Deep and Prolonged Milking Qualities
Make This Type of Dairy Cow
Valuable Acquisition.

The average Guernsey cow will weigh about 1,000 pounds with the head and neck, 200 to 250 pounds heavier, says the Agriculturalist. The head of the Guernsey is long, with a slender neck. The body is large and deep, showing ample capacity for digesting of roughage. The flanks are thin. The muzzle of the Guernsey is usually small, curved and wavy and may show yellow at the base. One of the distinguishing characteristics of the Guernsey is the large secretion of yellow milk. The Guernsey is white, showing particularly where the skin is white, as around the ears and eyes and on the under side.

The Guernsey has no pronounced weak points. The addition of Guernsey blood in crossing with cows of mixed breeding will result in a higher milk flow and in a richer milk. The deep and prolonged milking qualities of the pure-bred Guernsey, together with the adaptability to the conditions of the average farm, make this type of dairy cow a formidable competitor to the breeds which have a wider and



Dairy Grace Del Col.

greater distribution. The production of milk that tests 4 per cent, and even 5 per cent, and sometimes 6 per cent, means much when taken in connection with the fact that the Guernsey is an economic producer. High production, low cost, high test, adaptability to average farm conditions, together with no pronounced weak points—these are the factors which make the Guernsey increasingly popular.

BEST TIME FOR THE CALVES

Autumn is Favoured on Account of
Slack Work Around Farm—Dan-
ger of Scours is Less.

Calves may be born earlier and more economically when they come in the autumn rather than in the spring and yet this style of breeding which had something of a vogue 20 years ago is still lagging. In the winter season the boys have ample time to attend to the calves and can give every attention to the amount of each kind of food required to keep them humping along.

When calves are raised essentially on skins, meat, bones and offal, it is difficult to feed them, especially if the calves are born in the fall. If skin milk is fed in large quantities and some dairied meal is given to them at the same time when the calves are on succulent pasture, it is almost impossible to prevent them from succumbing.

In winter when on dry food such as is given to them in the winter season this reduction is reduced to a minimum. If skin milk is fed in large quantities and some dairied meal is given to them at the same time when the calves are on succulent pasture, it is almost impossible to prevent them from succumbing.

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WONDERFUL PROGRESS IN CANADA

It Is Over the Hill—Splendid
Bank Clearings, and the Crop
Returns Reveal Vast Possi-
bilities for the Future.

"There are opportunities for investment in Canada now that may prove attractive to American capital. Land prices in the west are low and wages less than on this side of the line, and whatever the outcome of the war, the future of the Dominion is assured as one of prosperity in the development of its vast resources."—Chicago Daily News.

The Canadian government asked for private subscriptions to a loan of fifty million dollars. Less than a month was given for completion of the subscription. On November 30th, the day upon which subscriptions were to cease, it was found that 110 million of dollars had been subscribed or \$60 million dollars more than the amount asked. If there were any pessimistic as to imagine that Canada was passing through a period of hard times, the wonderful showing of this subscription should put aside all doubts of Canada's rapidly increasing prosperity.

The bank clearings of Winnipeg for 1915 were a billion and a half of dollars. Think of it. Then, in addition, there were the bank clearings of the other cities throughout Western Canada—Regina, Saskatoon and Moose Jaw also showed billions in clearings.

The Winnipeg statistics show that this city has done the biggest financial business in its history in 1915. A billion and a half are big clearings, representing business on a per capita basis of over \$7,000 per head for every man, woman and child in the city, and has gone ahead of big manufacturing cities like Buffalo, and runs a close second to it.

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A Winnipeg paper, with a well-known reputation for conservatism in economic matters says:

Canada's undeveloped fields should prove a mighty factor after the war in adjusting the country's business from one period to another. The staggering figures of this year's crop increase, of 50 per cent last year, give a slight idea of the nation's wealth stored in vast stretches of prairie plain yet untouched by the plow. The Northwest Grain-Dealers' Association on September 1 estimated that the wheat crop of the three Prairie Provinces would amount to 250,000,000 bushels. On November 10, that estimate was increased to 307,200,000 bushels. The Dominion Wheat Growers' Association on September 1 estimated the western wheat crop at 257,572,200 bushels, but on October 15 those figures were changed to 304,200,000 bushels.

Monetary Returns for the Western Crop.

And the amount of money which the west is receiving for its grain has not yet been wholly appreciated. Up to the 10th of December the Canadian west had received some 175 million dollars in billable bushels of wheat.

The average price of wheat in 1915 was 93¢ cents; for October 38¢ cents, and for the first three weeks of November \$1.03¢ cents. On the 10th of December there was fully 120 million bushels of wheat to be marketed. This would leave about 30 million bushels for local consumption in the Prairie Provinces.

Brookstreet says:

"Confidence seems to have returned in Canada; grain crops are exceptionally large, prices pay the farmer, and the war-order lines provide work and in circulating much money. Credit is more freely granted, and interior merchants are disposed to buy rather liberally."—Advertisement.

Used to Shells and Their Contents.

A stranger became one of a group of listeners to a veteran of many battles, says Postmaster General Burleigh. The veteran had about concluded a vividly-colored narrative of a furious battle, in which he had taken part.

"Just think of it," exclaimed one of the party, turning to the stranger. "How would you like to stand with shells flying all around you?"

"I have been there," responded the newcomer.

"What? Have you, too, been a soldier?"

"No," answered the stranger. "I am an actor."—Philadelphia Ledger.

In a Different Light.

"The boys are throwing stones at a post office."

"Argentina."

"That's what I think."

"Whose boys are they?"

"Yours."

"Oh, well, boys will be boys. Let the children play."

Getting Bald.

Benham—I think I will get a hair cut.

Mrs. Benham—That's right, dear; I would get it cut while I could."

Planting of Vines.

The site makes it possible to raise more feed and to keep more cows on the same acreage and substitutes certainty for uncertainty in the management of the herd to an extent impossible in any other way.

Sounds of Slugs.

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