

Flowers and Gardens

On the opposite page, we show a sketch that has been worked out for planting flowers and shrubs around a cottage, and one end of an apartment house. This plan, of course, will have to be varied to suit conditions at each different location.

The best effect for front yard decoration can be obtained by planting a variety of shrubs around the foundation of the house, with a lawn between them and the sidewalk. In setting out these shrubs, care must be taken not to plant them on straight lines, as the effect obtained will not be as pleasing as when the plants are grouped or staggered.

Plant the annuals and the perennials in borders and beds along the side and rear of the house, as shown on the sketch. A good plan to follow is to start planting the perennials, such as daisies, poppies, forget-me-nots, and sweet williams, just where the shrubs leave off, and follow this with the annuals. Among the latter, very pretty results can be obtained by planting such seeds as the asters, cosmos, dahlias, marigolds, nasturtiums, petunias, scarlet sage, and zinnias.

Nothing sets off a display of flowers and shrubs more than a well-kept lawn, but in order to have the lawn and the flowers each show up to their best advantage they will have to be kept separate. By this, we mean that the lawn area should not be broken up by flower beds, which should always be planted in borders and clumps.

It will not be possible for all of us to have a beautiful lawn, as the conditions of many of the yards will not permit this, but each one can have at least a small patch of green, by moving some of the rocks and cultivating the patches between the biggest ones. If the rocks are piled in one corner of the lot, a pleasing effect can be obtained by training vines or ivy over them, and an unsightly obstacle made into a thing of beauty.

The Company will follow its usual custom of handing out packages of flower seed to all those who will call at the General Office for same. The seed, which we have in limited quantities, are the same as those furnished by the Government in previous years. Among the varieties found in these packages are alyssum, calendula, eschscholtzia, mignonette, nasturtium, and morning glory.

Besides the flower seeds which will be distributed, we have on hand a number

of shrubs which will be given away to those who are willing to plant same in accordance with our suggestions. We do not have all of the varieties shown on the plans, but we will continue to hand out what we have until they are gone. At the present time, our stock consists of a variety of roses, weigelia, barberry, cornus, and a few miscellaneous other shrubs. We will also have a quantity of chrysanthemums for free distribution the latter part of April.

The landscape gardening department will be glad to receive orders for shrubs, flowers, and fruit trees, to be purchased from a nearby nursery. Shrubs which we do not have for free distribution can be purchased at from twenty-five to seventy-five cents each. The investment of a little time and money will transform your surroundings. These orders, of course, will have to be placed with us before the fifteenth of March, and it is to be hoped that by that time we will have a large amount of stock to be ordered, so that we will get a liberal discount, and the transportation charges will be at a minimum. This department stands ready to give all the help possible to those who are interested in fixing up their houses, and we hope that everybody will take advantage of this opportunity, and make their places more beautiful.

W. J. NUEBLING

Landscape Gardening Department

Grow Eats

Get busy, and down the high cost of living by planting and working a vegetable garden.

Stop eating so much meat, and be a vegetarian, and you will find your health much improved.

Some people hoot at the idea of eating cabbage and collards, which are very healthful. They contain calcium (lime), potassium phosphorus, sodium, and sulphur.

Spinach, lettuce, onions, cucumbers, asparagus, carrots, and strawberries contain potassium. Sodium (common salt) in commercial form should be taken moderately—get it in carrots, asparagus, cucumbers, lentils, leeks, lettuce, radishes, etc.

Nearly all the minerals required for the human system are found in vegetables, which is a much safer way to take medicine, when cooked properly and eaten at the right time and not too many kinds at one time. Incorrect feeding is the cause of many ills, so learn to eat vegetables, and keep well.

Many people discard vegetables, because it takes longer to prepare a meal. Beans cooked twenty minutes, as some people cook them, are no good. They should be boiled fully three hours. Try long-time cooking, and see the improvement.

It requires extensive cultivation to have a fine growing garden, so don't sleep late, but rise at five, before the sun gets hot, and work your garden, and kill early worms before they get a hold on your young vegetables.

Don't be afraid of the heat from the sun, that is the time to kill grass, when the sun is hot.

We could not exist without the sun; neither can vegetables grow without the heat of it.

Many root vegetables here in the South can remain in the ground where grown all winter, by hilling up a little, late in the fall.

Get busy, that you may grow a fine garden this summer; and hoe and hoe to help stamp out the high cost of living; and don't stop the work when the hot dogdays come on, and the rainy season. You can walk on a plank, if wet, and stick a small shallow hole and plant beans—that is the way they do in South America. You can plant beans every two weeks. And there is no excuse if it is hot and dry. Work the ground then, more than ever, which will produce moisture; and very shallow hoeing in hot weather will answer if the ground was properly prepared in the beginning.

Don't let crab grass take your garden after the first spring crop is over, as is the case with thousands of gardens all over the country. When the rainy season comes on, many give up, so General Crab Grass takes possession of the garden, and then the cow, pig, or goat gets the garden, and then the folks resort to the old tin-can stuff—that is all it is, stuff of the poorest kind.

You watch Mr. Boyett work his garden, and ask him how he made so much off a small piece of ground, and he will tell you that he got out and worked while his good wife prepared breakfast. He will also tell you that he did not sleep till seven or eight o'clock either.

—A. C. M.

Yard Prizes

It is hoped that our citizens will take advantage of the offer of the Landscape Department, and will make an extra effort to have pretty yards this season. A little effort on the part of each per-