

# Buds AND Blossoms

By  
**MAMIE MILLER**



Now that winter is past we can enjoy the Miracle of Creation. Around us the labors of last fall's plantings are paying their tribute to the gardner who planted the daffodils, narcissus, the early tulips, hyacinths, crocus, chronodoxa or the glories of the snow.

With the Japanese quince, our adopted City shrub, and the golden bell and spirea in full glory, we sense the feeling that spring is really here. In many yards in New Bern we find the colorful red bud or Judas tree, the flowering plum and many fruit trees making the earth more colorful.

Tiny violas and violets are sticking their heads out from a harsh winter's rest. Pansies are expressing their personalities in their beautiful faces, as little ladies dressed in beautiful spring bonnets. The camellias and azaleas are con-

tributing their elegant offering to the parade of spring blossoms, and now we see the handiwork of God.

The weeping willow is becoming a mass of green and its yellow catkins. Many birds are enjoying the swing of the drooping branches. The wisteria buds are swelling fast, and soon the vines will be filled with the purple and white blossoms.

As we see the earth spreading the beauty of the white dogwood, we are conscious of the purity of its coloring and its legendary significance. Now that we are blessed with the Great Awakening of springtime we have a great urge to spade into the Good Earth.

These are some of the things we may do now to have continuous beauty through the summer and fall. Plant now Alyssum, columbine, poppy, petunia, stock, candy-tuft, and

sweet Williams and pinks.

It is time to plant the hanging baskets with vinea, wandering Jew, ivy, petunia and begonia. Where could you hang a basket to be reminded of the Hanging Gardens of Babylon? Plant your window boxes now.

Prune the dead limbs from the horrors of the terrible cold winter. Rambler roses bloom on old growth, but other roses bloom on new growth. Forsythia blooms on old growth—crepe Myrtle blooms on new growth. Prune your evergreens when they are dormant.

Plant tuberous begonias now indoors. Plant in vermiculite or peat until they develop a good root growth. Water with warm water, and not too much water.

Clean the garden of last year's debris, as it creates insects. Encourage bees to come to blossoms, as they are very helpful to the gardener. By all means be kind to the frog, the police of the garden.

Salute the springtime: "For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of the birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land." That's the way it is described in Solomon, in the Old Testament. Has anyone ever said it more beautifully?

By appreciation we make excellence in others our own property. —Voltaire.

### LOST CASH SURVEY

New York.—Money may be harder to get now—but it is still, unfortunately, easy to lose.

A survey made by the American Express Co. showed that U. S. citizens reported losing more than 100 million dollars in cash last year, in most cases through carelessness.

An interesting sidelight is the fact that this figure is sufficient

to buy a Harvard education for 10,000 students—or to build a community of 5,000 homes.

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