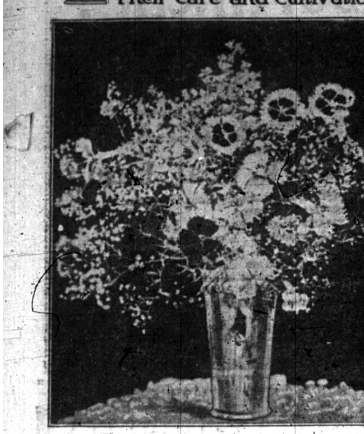
The HOME BEAUTIFUL

Flowers and Shrubbery—Their Care and Cultivation



Baby Wreath and Pinks.

PLANTS FOR SHADY WINDOWS

By EBEN REXFORD.

It often happens that the woman who loves plants has no sunny windows in which to grow them, and, under the impression that they cannot be successfully grown without sunshine, she does not attempt their cultivation, thus depriving herself of a great deal of pleasure, especially in the winter.

There is no good reason why the lover of plants should be without their company in the winter, provided, of course, that the temperature of the rooms can be regulated to keep out the frost, and some of the plants that can be grown in the windows that are without sunshine are among our most desirable ones for house culture.

First on the list I would place the Boston fern. Nearly everyone is familiar with this plant. It requires only the ordinary attention.

Give it a soil of garden loam with enough coarse, sharp sand worked into it to make it friable, a liberal, but not an excessive amount of water and a temperature varying several degrees above the frost point, and anyone may be reasonably sure of success with it.

It does not do very well, however, in steam-heated, gas-lighted rooms. No plants will flourish under such conditions, though many will live on indefinitely under them.

The Aspidistra is about the only plant I would dare to recommend to those living in rooms heated and lighted as mentioned above.

This plant has an almost iron constitution, which enables it to withstand influences that would soon kill most plants.

It seems to care nothing for the sunshine, and therefore is excellently adapted to cultivation in sunless rooms.

If not subject to the debilitating effect of steam heat, it will make a most luxuriant growth, and its rich, dark leaves will afford a vast amount of pleasure.

While it is able to withstand unfavorable conditions better than other plants, it is always grateful for good care, and the plants that are cared for well are always the ones that give the best satisfaction, keep in mind.

English ivy is an old favorite. Twined up about a window, it is a beautiful sight to see. I know of no vine having more attractive foliage.

Its dark, rich leaves have just the thick, leathery texture a plant should have to resist the effect of dry air and dust. Dust need never be allowed to accumulate on it, however.

Dust the vine every day. You need not be afraid of injuring the foliage. Some of the finest specimens of it I have ever seen have never had a glimpse of sunshine. Give it a soil of garden loam.

Have its pot well drained; water moderately. Be on the lookout for scale. If any are found—generally along the stalks, but sometimes on the leaves—wash the entire plant with soapy water, taking care to rub the infested stalks well.

In order to make it easy to take the plant down for cleaning, I would advise putting small screw-hooks in the window-frame to furnish support for it, rather than fastening them securely to the woodwork. Simply slip the vine over the hook and it will need no other support. When it is necessary to take the plant down for any purpose, all one has to do is lift it out of the hooks that hold it—and there you are.

The Whitman fern is a fitting companion for the Boston fern, of which it is a sport. This variety has much shorter fronds than the Boston fern. They are much wider, however, and their leaflets are subdivided in such a manner that each becomes a miniature frond. The effect is light and feathery and exceedingly graceful.

This is a most excellent plant for a place at the sill, while the Boston variety is more effective if given a bracket half way up the window, from which point of vantage its long fronds can droop in such manner as to display their charms most effectually.

All plant lovers have a desire to grow some member of the Adiantum branch of the fern family in the living room. Few have succeeded in doing this, however, because of the delicacy of the ordinary varieties. But we have one now that will adapt itself ordinarily to the cultivation which prevails in the usual home.

This is Crowcanum. I have given it a year's trial and it has proved satisfactory—as satisfactory as the old Boston fern. It is stronger, sturdier in habit than any other Adiantum I have ever seen and its foliage is thicker and firmer.

It grows to a height of about eighteen inches and has a corresponding spread of branches. Its foliage has all the grace that characterizes this division of the great fern family, and a well-grown specimen is a thing to be proud of.

Give it a soil of loam, turfy matter or leaf mold and sand, equal parts. Let its drainage be good; water well and cover with something when you dust the room.

All the plants mentioned above are non-flowering. Or, more strictly speaking, they are grown for their foliage only. Whatever flowers they have are so insignificant as to be unnoticeable.

But there are flowering plants quite well adapted to culture in sunless windows.

One of these is Primula obconica. Another is Primula Forbesii. Primula obconica has much longer flowers than the other variety and is therefore more showy, but Primula Forbesii is a most charming little thing that will win its way to the heart of every person who loves flowers.

Its flowers are small, but there are a great many of them. This is the plant sold so extensively at holiday time under the name of baby primrose.

Give it, and obconica as well, a light, spongy soil and a good deal of water. Having a multitude of fine roots, they extract the moisture from the soil very rapidly and the amount that would be sufficient for ordinary plants would be entirely inadequate to supply their needs.

They will bloom constantly and with wonderful profusion during the entire winter. Young seedling plants can be procured of all florists in the fall.

The Ardisia and Jerusalem cherry, sold so extensively during the holidays, can be made to furnish just the touch of brightness needed to relieve the green of ferns and Asparagus plumosus, another most excellent plant for the window that is without sunshine.

The berries of these two plants will supply a touch of color almost as vivid as that of a geranium, and as they last for weeks it is money well invested to buy one of each for the manner in which they light up the place.

A Fine Bit of Lawn, Also Showing a Fine Planting of Shade Trees.

Diese Abteilung ist für die Familienglieder, welche am liebsten Deutsch lesen.

Vom Schauplatze des europäischen Völker-Krieges

Zu Italiens Treubruch und Raubpolitik.

Wenn man den jüngsten Depeschen aus Rom, die des Lügen- und Bestien über den „von patriotischer Begeisterung" getragenen Verlauf der letzten Parlamentssitzung berichten, Glauben schenken darf und wenn man ferner die in die Oeffentlichkeit gedrungenen Aussage aus dem italienischen Grünbuch überfliegt, ohne dem Maßstab der Kritik anzulegen, könnte man billig auf den Gedanken kommen, daß Italien dem unschuldigen Lämmlein gleiche, das bisher ruhig und geduldig alle Knuffe und Püffe hingenommen hat, die es von Oesterreich im Laufe der Zeiten erhalten haben will. Liest man die Rede des Premiers Salandra, so weiß man im ersten Augenblick nicht, was man mehr bewundern soll: das Pathos, das er bei der Wahl seiner Worte verbraucht hat, oder die Dreistigkeit, mit der er den Eintritt des Landes in den Krieg zu begründen sucht. Wie schön weiß er von der Rolle zu reden, die Italien angeblich im Laufe der letzten 30 Jahre gespielt hat: „Wir haben, wimselt er seinen Zuhörern vor, das System der Bündnisse und freundschaftlichen Beziehungen aufrechterhalten und das hauptsächlich nur getan, um das europäische Gleichgewicht zu erhalten." Man kann sich des Eindrucks nicht erwehren, daß in ihm noch ein Rest von Gewissen ist, der ihn hinderte, das Kind beim rechten Namen zu nennen und klipp und klar zu gestehen: Wir wollen im Trüben fischen und Landgebiete in unseren Besitz bringen, nach denen wir schon immer im Stillen verlangt haben.

Näher erklärte sich schon sein Kollege Sonnino, der einleitend „von dem festen Glauben an die Gerechtigkeit unserer Sache" faselt, um am Schlusse seiner Rede deutlicher zu werden und frank und frei zu verkünden, daß der Augenblick gekommen sei, die „unseren nicht erlösten Landsleuten" gegebenen Versprechungen zu erfüllen. Daß das nichts als eitel Spiegelfechterei und Phrasengedresch ist, darüber kann für denjenigen kein Zweifel bestehen, der mit der Geschichte und Geographie Italiens nur einigermaßen vertraut ist. Sagen wir es doch gerade heraus, das Verlangen des „Stiefellandes" steht darnach, sich die Suprematie über das Adriatische Meer, die bisher in den Händen der Doppelmonarchie lag, zu sichern. Anders läßt sich keinesfalls die geforderte Abtretung der an der Dalmatischen Küste gelegenen Inseln Lissa, Lesina, Gazza und Meleda, die zum Teil aus vulkanischem Boden bestehen, als Landerwerb also an sich keinen Wert haben würden, erklären. (Wohl aber ist Lissa ein starkbefestigter Kriegshafen, der zu den besten und geräumigsten des ganzen Adriatischen Meeres gehört.) Es ist darum verständlich, warum Oesterreich bei allem Entgegenkommen, das es im übrigen den Forderungen Italiens gegenüber einnahm, nicht die kleinste dieses Inselquartetts hergeben will. Genau so verhält es sich mit der verlangten Umwandlung Triests in einen unabhängigen Staat unter dem Protektorate Italiens. Hätte Oesterreich ohne Einschränkung darin gewilligt, so würde Italien die Kontrolle über Pola, seit 65 Jahren der Hauptkriegshafen und die Basis für die österreichische Flotte, erlangt haben. Hätte Italien dann noch den stark befestigten Lesten von Avlona in Albanien einsinken können, so wäre damit zu dem schönen Luftschlosse, das zu bauen es sich angeschickt, der Schlußstein eingefügt worden.

Wie steht es nun mit den „nicht erlösten Landsleuten, Sonnino? Das wohlerwogene Adjektiv läßt die Ansicht aufkommen, als wenn die in Frage kommenden Teile Oesterreichs ein Opfer wären, von Italien unter dem Drucke der Verhältnisse dargebracht. Doch ist es mit der Zugehörigkeit Triests zum italienischen Strone ein ebenso prekäres Ding wie mit der von Istrien, Görz und Gradiska. Aus der Geschichte des ersteren wissen wir, daß es schon seit dem Jahre 1382 zu Oesterreich gehört hat und, mit Ausnahme der Jahre 1797 bis 1805, wo es die Franzosen besetzt hatten, und der Periode 1809 bis 1814, wo es einen Teil der illyrischen Provinz Frankreichs bildete, unter des ersteren Herrschaft verblieb. Nicht viel anders ist es mit dem Kronland des cisleithanischen Gebiets der Doppelmonarchie, der Grafschaft Görz und Gradiska, das dem österreichischen Hause seit 1500 angehört und nur sechs Jahre, von 1809 bis 1815, wo es die Schlußakte des Wiener Kongresses an Oesterreich zurückgab, zu Frankreich gehörte.

So bliebe noch die Nationalitätsfrage übrig, die ja auch den Italien in die Wagschale geworfen wird, um das Gewicht der Berechtigung seiner Forderung zu erhöhen. Die Bevölkerung Istriens setzt sich zu zwei Dritteilen aus Slawen (hämlich Kroaten, Serben und Slowenen) und nur zu einem Drittel aus rassechten Italienern zusammen. Das scheint man absichtlich im Quirinal zu übersehen, wie das andere, daß mit demselben Rechte, mit dem Italien jetzt auf die Frage der nationalen Zugehörigkeit der Bewohner Trients und Istriens pocht, früher oder später der russische Bär seine Tatze nach letzteren ausstrecken mag, und mit größerem Rechte als jenes!

Man sieht aus allem klar und deutlich, daß Italiens Forderungen alle miteinander genau so an den Haaren herbeigezogen sind, wie der Grund, der England vor 9 Monaten zum Eintritt in die Kriegsarena bewog. Nur daß Italien noch das Odium des Treubruchs und Verrats an seinen Bundesgenossen auf sich lädt.

Heute noch jubelt Italien ungebrochen: „Lang lebe der König!" Morgen vielleicht schon mag es für ihn nur noch ein „Kreuzige ihn!" übrig haben und übermorgen um Gnade für das Land betteln. Denn ohne Zweifel haben die Zentralmächte von vornherein mit Italien als einem unsicheren Kantonisten gerechnet und ihre Generalstabspläne in diesem Sinne ausgearbeitet.

Der neue Kriegsschauplatz.

Wie in den Karpathen, wird man sich an der italienisch-österreichischen Grenze um den Besitz der Pässe und Täler schlagen. Oesterreichs geographische Vorteile sind so überwältigender Natur, daß man sich über den Mut der Italiener, trotz derselben den Krieg zu erklären, wundern muß. Man muß daher annehmen, daß Italien, wie es Frankreich und England getan, die russische Offensive noch mehr zu hoch einschätzt und falsch berechnet hat.

Die Lage Oesterreichs ist schon deshalb leichter, weil es auf dem größeren Teile seiner Grenze nur von den Bergen zu steigen braucht, um in die italienischen Ebenen zu gelangen, wogegen die Italiener sich durch die engen Pässe durchschlagen und einen Weg über die schneebedeckten Berge erzwingen müssen, um auf feindliches Gebiet zu gelangen. Bis zu den Ufern der Donau und den Grenzen Ungarns ziehen sich diese Gebirge, und moderne Festungsbauten machen den „Marsch nach Wien" noch schwieriger.

Als Einfallspforte kommen für Italien hauptsächlich das Tal der Etsch, in Trentino, das Tal der Fella mit der Eisenbahnlinie Chiusa - Pontebba und der schmale Streifen Flachlandes zwischen Görz und dem Adriatischen Meer in Betracht. Gegen diesen Streifen dürften die Italiener den ersten Stoß führen. An den Ufern des Isonzo liegt ihnen als erstes Hindernis die der Stadt Görz vorgelagerte Festung Gradišca im Wege. Diese Festung und die befestigten Flußufer sperren den schmalen Streifen genügend.

Zur See ist die Lage Oesterreichs weniger günstig, da die italienische Flotte besonders an erstklassigen Schiffen stärker ist als die Oesterreichs. Dafür liegen aber die wichtigsten österreichischen Häfen wie Pola und Fiume hinter einer schützenden Inselkette, während die italienischen Häfen Angriffen von der See ausgesetzt sind. Wie in der Nordsee, sind auch im Adriatischen Meere keine großen Schlachten zu erwarten. Der Minen- und Tauchbootkrieg wird auch hier in Tätigkeit treten.

Deutschlands Verlangen unterstützt.

Washington. — Die Ankündigung, daß die Ver. Staaten auch fernerhin sich weigern, die britische „Order in Council" betreffs Beschlagnahme von Ladungen amerikanischer Schiffe anzuerkennen, hat die Deutschland gegenüber geschaffene Lage bedeutend geklärt.

Kurz in der Fassung, widerspricht die Ankündigung glattweg der Behauptung des Londoner Auswärtigen Amtes, wonach die hiesige Regierung sich der britischen Stellungnahme füge, nämlich daß England das Recht habe, neutrale Schiffsladungen, die nicht Kontreband sind, zu konfiszieren, so lange es nur für dieselben bezahle.

Amerika erklärt nun, daß gerade das Gegenteil der Fall sei und wenn es deren fehlhält, so wird ein Großherrnmen das Verlangen gestellt werden, sich jeder Einmischung betreffs Nicht-Kontreband - Ladungen nach neutralen Ländern, selbst wenn deren Endbestimmung Deutschland ist, zu enthalten.

Dies stimmt mit den Wünschen Deutschlands überein und mag zu gewissen Beschränkungen des Tauchbootkrieges führen.

* * *

Es ist doch nicht bezeichnend für die freie anglo-amerikanische Presse, daß auch nicht ein Blatt ein verurteilendes Wort für den Verrat Italiens übrig hat.

* * *

Für hundert Millionen Dollars Waffen und Munition hat die Bethlehem Stahl - Kompagnie schon der Alliierten geliefert. Der Dollar ist der Stern von Bethlehem.

Beautiful Midsummer Toilette

The unusual and distinguished style of this costume has been achieved by the employment of familiar materials. White voile, very fine in quality, filet lace, with an open mesh, soutache braid, and pearl buttons are all staple goods well known and well loved.

The pretty fashion of posing one transparent fabric over another shows to excellent advantage in the skirt. The underskirt of voile is full and round. Above the two-inch hem there are seven narrow tucks an inch and a half apart. Just above the knees a band of braiding, in an ornamental scroll pattern, is applied all around the underskirt, finishing its decoration.

The overdress of filet lace does not extend to the bottom of the underskirt, but is shorter by about nine inches. It is gathered in at the waist line with the voile, leaving a panel of the underskirt uncovered at the front, for the lace does not extend across the entire front of the gown. It is caught up and fastened to the underskirt just below the knees at each side, forming a slight drape.

In the bodice, which suggests the "moyen age" inspiration, the draping of the materials is reversed, and voile appears over filet net. It hangs straight and boxlike from the shoulders to at least six inches below the normal waist line. Small tucks play a very important part in its construction, appearing over the shoulders and part way across the front. They supply the required scant fullness in the material that is caught in by the garniture of braiding at the bottom. The braiding is in silk soutache like that in the skirt, with the pattern widened at the front. The long plain sleeves are finished with small tucks in a group of seven on the forearm and a second group of five on the upper arm. A narrow pattern in the braiding outlines the arm's-eye.

There is a tall standing turnover collar of voile and a tie of narrow black velvet is brought twice around the throat. It supports the collar close under the chin and terminates in two long ends at the front.

The flower-trimmed leghorn hat with sash ends of wide black velvet ribbon, and the low shoes of black and white kid are details not to be lost sight of in completing a toilette of exceptional beauty.

Panama Hat of Enduring Beauty

For many generations the Panama hat was woven in one shape, and it took much urging and good management on the part of those who bought and imported the genuine South American Panama hat to persuade the native makers to produce other shapes. But finally this was accomplished and now one may buy a Panama in almost any shape. Not all the hats known by this name are South American products, (there are Panamas and Panamas), but whether made in Japan or Connecticut, or brought from its native home, the Panama is a beautiful product.

It is and is likely to continue to be the ideal hat for midsummer outing wear, for sports and for traveling. It is soft enough to be comfortable, and uncrushable and firm enough to need no support. It is made with the intention of fitting the head, as to the crown, and for shading the eyes, as to the brim. But in the past few seasons it has been possible to get Panamas with very wide brims, and these have added one more to the number of wide-brimmed straws used for the picturesque flower-laden millinery of midsummer.

But the hat that is dearest to the heart of lovers of the Panama is that which keeps as close as possible to the original, mannish shape or a variation that does not seem to change its character. Three popular shapes selected from this season's showing of Panamas are illustrated here. They are to be recommended as practical and becoming, and correct in type.

These hats are usually very simply trimmed with bands of silk, ribbon or linen. Flat rosettes or hanging scarf ends are favorite decorations, and not to be improved upon. The wide-brimmed shapes are sometimes swathed with muslins and finished with huge bows of this fabric. Occasionally flowers or feathers adorn them. But narrow-brimmed Panamas are trimmed in the simplest manner possible.

The fine South American Panama, if well cared for, will stand many seasons' wear. These hats can be cleaned and reblocked if one wishes to change the shape. But it is better to swathe the hat in a wide silk or chiffon scarf than to reblock it, and to wear it in its original shape. A hat so fine, so shapely and sensible will always look well.

It seems a pity to wear out a hat whose making involves such, painstaking and wonderful work, by using a hat pin. In a fine hat it is better to sew hat fasteners in the band and secure it to the head in this way.

JULIA BOTTOMLEY.

Bound With Leather.

A frock of georgette crepe is made with three ruffles on the skirt, each bound with a narrow edge of black leather. The same black leather is used for a belt and to bind on the bodice.

Blouse of Organdie.

Blouses of organdie unless made of a very fine quality are found to be unsatisfactory so that this charming material is used now more for trimming purposes such as collars and cuffs of the spring blouses, not to speak of the dainty vestees. It is often crossbarred, that is, with a back-hand stitch in black or colors, of embroidered with flowers and the buttonholes done in the same color. Pieces of organdie trim other materials such as crepe de chine, batiste and other blouse materials.

"Look at that dog chasing his tail." "He is only doing what you and are trying to do—making both ends meet."

EXCELLENT FARMING CONDITIONS IN CANADA

Letters from Settlers Indicating Growing Prosperity.

The present year will add another proof that farming in Western Canada, when carried on with the same energy and system devoted to other lines of business, will bring about results fully as satisfactory.

Mixed farming as it is can has been sounded for a number of years, and today it is being adopted pretty generally throughout the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. There are those who have made no greater success of it than they did when they pursued grain growing alone, but there are has failed to accomplish what he had hoped to, doubtless have scored success.

Thos Sedgewick Alberta, we hear of E. T., Deputy, for past, twelve years manager for Frye & Sons, packers, Seattle, who during 1914 were the largest buyers of hogs on Alberta markets. He is taking up active work on his 1,300-acres farm near Sedgewick. Although he was one of the highest paid salaried officials on the Pacific Coast, his frequent visits and personal knowledge of farming conditions in Western Canada convinced him there are greater opportunities in farming Alberta land than in commercial life, with greater assurance of ultimate independence and prospects of home-making under the most desirable conditions.

Thomas McKay, a farmer near Hardisty, Alberta, has this to say about the country:

"I came to Hardisty from Osage City, Kansas, nine years ago and took up a homestead here. This is a good district for the farmer who wishes to raise grain exclusively, and as a mixed farming country it cannot be beaten anywhere in the world to my knowledge.

"I had ten cattle, which ranged outside all last winter, and this spring they were fat enough for the market, this without being fed but one night during the entire winter; they were fine fat cattle and looked beautiful. I raised some wheat here which has weighed sixty-seven and a half pounds to the bushel, government weight, and which I shipped to Calgary. The miller who bought it said that it was the best wheat that had ever gone into Calgary. Wheat in this district yields as high as forty bushels to the acre, oats average sixty bushels. Alfalfa does well here.

"All in all I think the farmers are very well satisfied with the country, and the farmer who farms his land intelligently is sure to make a success. The climate here is the best I have ever lived in, the summers are delightful and the winters are mild. There has never been a blizzard during the nine years I have lived here, nor any cyclones or wind storms."

A settler in the neighborhood of Gleichen, Alberta, spent $2,000 in improving his quarter section, has 125 acres ready for crop, keeps 70 head of stock, believes in mixed farming, keeps two hired men, one all year, the other in summer only. He milks 12 to 18 cows, and receives an average monthly cream check of $110. Last June he sold $1,200 worth of hogs and in November two more carloads, besides supplying his own requirements, and is not only making money but building up a good home amid desirable surroundings. This is an example of the possibilities open to the industrious in the Gleichen district.

It is stated in the last three months $58,000,000 of American capital has been invested in Canada, showing that United States financial men are satisfied of the solidity of Canadian institutions. Western Canada has been a heavy borrower and Western Canada's great resource is agriculture. U. S. financiers must be convinced that agriculture in Western Canada is sure and profitable or they would not be ready to invest so many millions in the country.—Advertisement.

Greek to Some.

Redd—I see an automobile repair course has been added to the curriculum of an Iowa agricultural college.

Green—To some students I'll bet that course is just a bit harder than Greek.

DON'T MIND PIMPLES

Cuticura Soap and Ointment Will Banish Them. Trial Free.

These fragrant, supercreamy emollients do so much to cleanse, purify and beautify the skin, scalp, hair and hands that you cannot afford to be without them. Besides they meet every want in toilet preparations and are most economical.

Sample each free by mail with Book. Address postcard, Cuticura, Dept. XY, Boston. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

How the Trouble Started.

She—When you married me you didn't marry a cook, I want you to understand.

He (sadly)—I know it.

ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE for the TROOPS

Over 100,000 packages of Allen's Foot-Ease, the antiseptic powder to shake into your shoes, are being used by the Germans and Allies at the front because it makes the feet glad. Gives instant relief to Corns and Bunions, hot, swollen, aching, tender feet, and makes walking easy. Sold everywhere. Don't accept any substitute. 25c.

The Musty Sort.

"Tilton airs his views freely."

"Well, they need airing."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

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Try Murine Eye Remedy for Red, Weary Eyes and Granulated Eyelids. Murine Gives Eye comfort. Write for Book of the Eye by mail free. Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago.

Artificial roses are never so unnatural as when they bloom on a girl's cheeks.

Wash day is smile day if you use Red Cross Ball Blue, Americans made, therefore the best made. Adv.

Every mother believes her baby knows exactly what she says to it.