LANDSCAPE GARDENING
IN
HOME BEAUTIFICATION
BY
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A thing of beauty is a joy forever—Keats.

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Some one has said that in Europe the work of man adds to the beauty of the scenery, while in America, it usually makes a blot on it; but this is a rather unfair statement because Americans have a sense of beauty. A cultivation of our national artistic taste is what is needed. We have been worried with the practical struggle of developing our country and the aesthetic side has been neglected.

The logical place for a better appreciation of art to arise is in the home, and obviously we can look to Landscape Gardening for this. It is something that is with us always. It is the most universal way in which we can all practice and appreciate art. Landscape Gardening differs from the other arts in that in it we all create pictures of our own, besides enjoying the work of others. Instead of using paints and canvas, we use trees, shrubs, and flowers as the materials out of which our picture is produced.

This is a variable art. It may take years to complete a single picture. The materials we use change and if we do not know what the changes are to be, our pictures may be ruined. Perhaps you have seen the tall-growing Deodar Cedar misplaced by being put close by a house, right next to a sidewalk, or beneath a window.

All that can be pleaded for is a sense of good taste. Just because one cannot employ a Landscape Architect to plan his grounds is no excuse for not having a beautiful place. Many of the most charming homes have been the results of a loving interest by the owners who have wanted livable homes rather than merely houses in which to eat and sleep.

ARRANGEMENT OF PARTS FOR SMALL HOME GROUNDS

The average modern home in the South today is on a small area and the arrangement of parts and the allotment of space for such demand very careful consideration, for correct planning at this point means a simplification of all later steps. You all have probably seen and admired stately old mansions and perhaps wished that you could
have such a beautiful place. However, the size of the canvas has never been measured of a great painting, and within the boundary of a modest place a delightful effect can be secured.

One should begin by planning the place as a whole, with perhaps a few details in mind. More careful planning is needed in small properties than in larger ones, because not a foot can be wasted. One must strive to produce the effect of spaciousness by eliminating all details that would detract from the main design or give a crowded, jumbled effect. It is easier to erase than transplant.

A suggestion for treating the area between houses. When possible this should be a cooperative plan.

The position of the house, as well as its general dimensions, determine the size of the front, side, and rear areas. In a built-up section, one cannot vary more than a few feet from the established building line without detriment to the appearance of the block and possible damage to the neighbor's property as well as to his own. Where there is no standard already established, the setback is generally one-third to one-half the lot width. Enough space is needed in front of every building to present one architectural unit, but beyond that, land is wasted and results are often unsatisfactory. A common following is that if one is to locate on a narrow street, a deep setback will give a spacious effect. However, deep lawns along a narrow street only
emphasize its narrowness. The front yard that is wider than it is deep makes a lot appear wider than it actually is, while the opposite effect results with a deep setback.

Where cooperation has resulted in a double garage. One driveway is sufficient.

It seems to be a convention to put the house squarely on the center line of the lot. This is unfortunate and very often means a great deal of waste space, because there is not a sufficient area on either side to be used for the development of a garden or expanse of lawn. If the house is placed to one side, there will still be room enough for an automobile drive on the narrow side, while on the other side an expansive and pleasing effect can be worked out because of the additional room.

There are no precise rules for the allotment of space in the home grounds, but the following are the three main areas to be found in any well planned property: The private area, including the family garden and recreational area; the public area, including the front lawn and reception area; and the service area, including the garage, vegetable garden, turncourt, chicken house, and similar utilitarian features.

This plan is structurally related to the design of any house with its front hall, living room, and kitchen, and each indoor area, as well as being similar in use to its outdoor counterpart, likewise connecting directly with it. In
a great part of the South, the prevailing winds in the sum-
mer are from the Southeast. This should be considered in planning for the living rooms of the house. On that side of the house should be adjoined the most private and pleasingly developed part of the yard, which should be the largest division of the outdoor space. It has been the old American custom to plan a yard to be attractive only from the street, while the rear area remains a collecting place for junk. It often happens that when the backyard is developed, it is seriously lacking in privacy. Yards without any privacy receive little interest from their owners, as they cannot be used. Architectural barriers as trellises and walls will be necessary for privacy when there is no space for shrubbery borders or clipped hedges, for the same privacy is required as in the living rooms of the house. The smaller the lot, the higher and narrower the boundary must be.

It is much better to have a house with a low floor level and doors opening out directly on to the garden, for if it is easy for people to get into their own private grounds, they will go there, as we all like to be in pleasant surroundings. We must remember that a much sheltered setting is essential either for a homelike atmosphere or a garden background.

Formal design is undoubtedly the best to use in small areas. Straight lines on small lots express greater scale.
Sinuous, informal shrubbery borders are pleasing where there is sufficient room for their development, but the small place is basically a collection of rectangles with the enclosures parallel or at right angles to the property lines, which, in themselves, generally enclose rectangles which are the home grounds.

A GOOD AUTOMOBILE ENTRANCE AND DRIVE.

The public area, or front yard, of the home grounds has been developed to the detriment of the other parts under the grand old American custom of making as big a show as possible to the public. But we do not exhibit the intimate details of our homes in the public reception hall; its size is kept to a minimum, and its furnishings are kept simple and dignified. This should be a guide in treating the front yard. Simple foundation plantings should be used; save garden-like features for the rear, for the location of the garden should not be in the front yard of a small lot. A meaningless curve in the front walk shows poor design. Pleasing curved walks are possible with houses of informal type of architecture and good sized lawns, but on the ordinary place, the house is essentially formal and the shortest distance between two points is the best. Every Southern home should include at least one good showing of flowers. In the "Land of Sunshine and Flowers" where we all love beautiful things, it is only natural that such should be the case.
The service yard should be carefully planned in order to reduce its space and at the same time allow for its convenience and neatness. It is here where the groceries will be delivered to the kitchen, the coal wagons will come, and, in fact, all manner of service be performed. It may in-
clude the garage, turncourt for automobiles, laundry yard, cut flower garden, cold frames, chicken house and runs, the compost pit and the like. The whole area should be definitely screened from the private area. Of course, one must often make the most of limited means and the clothes may be dried in the garden area, or all gardens combined into one. After all, we can do no more than make the best of our situations and let this be our guide in all our work.

It is a waste of land to put the garage at the end of the lot. It is less convenient in stormy weather, difficult to back out from if there is no way of turning the car around, and the extra land taken up with driveway could well be used for a garden, cold frames, or drying yard. Likewise, the garage looks much better if it is actually attached to or near enough to the house to be architecturally harmonious. A little extra effort in making the garage something more than a covering to keep off the rain will add greatly to the appearance of the place.

The planning of the average American home works out very simply in a logical way. The most of the grounds is devoted to private enjoyment, while at the same time, service has been provided as well as a front yard of ample proportion. The "domestic style," as it has been called, is the happy medium in home grounds design between the formal and national style in America. It expresses our best taste and needs and is here to stay as our greatest contribution to Landscape design.

**FOUNDATION PLANTING**

There is a practical as well as the recognized aesthetic value of Foundation Planting. Real Estate operators have been adopting the policy of "Landscaping" their developments because they realize that houses on well planned and executed grounds will sell much easier than houses perched on bare lots.

A little money expended on foundation planting will add greatly to the appearance of a house. A "little" is too often the word. We insist upon furnishing our interiors with the very finest, but economize when it comes to improving the grounds which provide the home atmosphere. All too often we have seen people spend twenty-five or thirty thousand dollars on a house and then set fifty dollars as the limit of expenditure on the grounds.
The general purposes of foundation planting will first be considered. They are:

1. To unite the building with the ground. A little touch of green acts as a binder; it ties the building more logically to the rest of the landscape.

2. To break up stiff architectural lines of the building. Even the architect, when he submits sketches of proposed buildings, recognizes this and adds foliage and shadows.

3. To soften colors. Even the most hideous results of the decorator's trade can be toned down by neutral greens. Shadows on a building give rest as well as interest.

4. To cover up offensive objects. It should not be the burden of landscape gardening to cover up the mistakes of others. The realization must come soon that landscape gardening is not a profession of "covering up" objects.

5. To secure privacy; to make a house homelike and livable. A foundation planting along a property line is the same idea.

There are three general types of foundation planting: (1) Informal (2) Formal (3) Semi-formal.

The informal planting is the most common with its sinuous shrubbery lines with bays and points. This is generally the most pleasing, but not necessarily so at all times. The accents, or more conspicuous and taller planting, are
at the angles of the house, with more neutral material between.

FIG. 3—FOUNDATION PLANTING FOR FORMAL TYPE OF HOUSE

Not enough consideration is given the formal planting. Where we have distinctly formal, stiff, architecture, a like treatment is required. A clipped hedge all around may compose the major part of a design.

The semi-formal type seems to be the popular craze today. It is the wide use of formal evergreens in foundation groups. Some good work of this type has been done, but it has been probably stressed too much and already many people are turning from it.

A house designed for flat land misplaced by placing on a slope.
A tall planting is needed on the low side.
The foundation plantings should be kept secondary to the building and the character of the building should suggest the type of foundation planting to be used, as well as supply the motive and be the guide for all that is done. If the house is Southern colonial, a very simple planting is best, using the old-fashioned shrubs that have long been associated with that type of architecture. With an informal English cottage type, we must plant differently. We should love plants, but remember that they are but an adjunct to architecture in foundation planting.

There are no hard and fast rules that can be set down for each place is a problem in itself. A few suggestions can be put in here, but they must be adjusted to one's own yard. Do not use the conventional hodgepodge, but have a sense of individuality and decide what ultimate effects you want and then find the plants to give these effects.

We are composing a picture. The house, which we are featuring, supplies the keynote of the design. Try to use vegetation merely to soften, enframe, or add a touch of decoration. The foundation of the house is logical, so it is well to show it once in awhile. Keep the planting low beneath windows or where a view is to be saved. Over-planting is common. The spectacle of a little house surrounded with vast billows of foliage is everywhere to be seen.
Houses which set close to the ground need no planting except at the corners. Low growing plants may be used in between.

If there is a high foundation to the house, it is often well to raise the grade by putting a terrace in front of the house, and, if possible, all the way around. The closer the house fits the ground, the easier it will be to plant and the more satisfactory the results.

A scattering, haphazard arrangement of specimen plants is a very common fault. Don’t go into a nursery, look around, and buy one specimen of every plant that catches your eye, and then, after you get home, try to straighten the mess out to make a respectable planting. The shrubs bought should be those that are called for as a result of a well considered plan on paper. It is a good rule to use three or more of one kind of shrubs together. We want effects,—masses,—not merely collections of individual specimens. The home is no place for a collection of horticultural curiosities. A freak show belongs elsewhere. Do not use your favorite plants unless there is a place for them. Your personal fancies should be left for more intimate sections of the grounds. Just grass and trees are more pleasing than a lot planted with no aim.

DO NOT "SPOT" PLANTS ALONG A WALL; GROUP PLANTING IS BEST.

Plants with soft, neutral textures are best. Try to get the fine textures (small sized leaves and compact growth)
where you will see them close by. Keep coarser materials as Pee Gee Hydrangea and Chaste tree at a distance. Showy material needs a background. A variety of foliage is bad. It is best to keep to the darker greens.

If the money which may be spent is limited, make the best of it by planting what you can buy at the important points and leaving the rest bare, or else, use the cheaper deciduous shrubbery in place of the more expensive evergreens.

Putting your design into practice requires care. The plants must be known. In order to secure desired effects, one must know how the plants will look at maturity. A poor selection is only a waste of money. It is not good policy to pick them out to secure an immediate effect.

A GOOD EXPANSE OF LAWN IN A SMALL HOUSE DEVELOPMENT.

OTHER PLANTINGS

Foreground—The foreground, framing, etc., equal in value and outline to foundation planting. It is not a part of foundation planting. A foreground must be provided to set the house off. This will be the lawn, and it should be nothing else but lawn. No fancy flower beds, scattering of shrubs or queer trees are wanted here to ruin a broad expanse. Keep the plantings to the foundations and to the boundaries.
Framing—By “framing” is meant the foliage that acts as a “frame” for the house. Some sort of framing is advisable. On a small lot it must be done by using higher shrubs at the ends of the house; but where there is room, a tree at each end, diagonally about twenty feet or so from the house, is possible. Remember this before you cut down trees on the ground where you intend to build. It takes many years to gain the effect that may be secured immediately by established trees if allowed to remain.

Background—By background is meant the foliage behind the house that takes away the bareness of the sky. A background is very desirable. A house that can have a grove of native oaks or pine presents a much more homelike effect than a building with nothing but sky as a background.

THE FORMAL GARDEN

A garden is a man-made, bounded, out-door area, containing plants. Gardens must be relied upon in a large measure to furnish the home setting.

Formal gardens, which we shall consider first, have been greatly abused through a general misunderstanding in this country. We are lovers of the great outdoors,—of wild things,—freedom; we are partial to the informal
style. All this is very admirable and may such continue, but we must be open-minded and consider all things in their place. There is room for the formal as well as the informal style. The small, confined area immediately adjoining the residence is no place to attempt broad informal effects. Here the logical thing is to use a formal design.

Even in formal gardens man works hand in hand with nature. A tree in one corner, or flowering shrubs or evergreens will add a picturesque note to the composition. Formal gardens are really informal for when one is off axis,—everything is seen in an informal relation.

One should not be afraid to attempt something on the formal plan. There must be, of course, unity and balance, but this may be obtained without stereotyped arrangements. It is best not to copy, but plan a garden for your own home. There is safety in simple plans. The following suggestions on formal garden design will serve as a guide.

A LARGE FORMAL GARDEN.

1. Formal gardening should be attempted only on relatively small areas. For the ordinary place, one-fourth to one-half an acre in the garden area should be the maximum allowance; for a very pretentious private mansion, one to two acres. Best results are usually secured on areas considerably smaller than these maxima. There is danger in having too much space. Many of the most charming gar-
dens are very small. To reduce the size, irregular portions may be cut off for other use. A large space divided by many narrow walks and small flower beds produces the effect of several small gardens rather than one large one. The dimensions of parts should be ample, even in small gardens, for this gives style and character. The proper dimensions of parts must be kept. It is better to use fewer parts than to reduce large gardens.

2. The area should be rectangular or nearly so. Circular or semi-circular areas can sometimes be designed, but they are difficult. For rose gardens, the latter are the most pleasing arrangements.

3. The area should be level or nearly so. Where it slopes distinctly, it should be brought to two or more levels by terracing. This, of course, is expensive, but a change of level, even if of but a foot, will add much interest.

4. The formal garden should be wholly and distinctly enclosed, either by buildings, walks, hedges, or something which affords a definite boundary. Occasional outlooks may be provided through or over these bounds, but they must be managed with great skill. Enclosure is sadly lacking in many of our gardens. We do not wish to see all outdoors when we come into the garden; it is a visit in itself and should be enjoyed as such. If you have a particularly fine view, make the most of it, but put the garden elsewhere. The garden is best connected directly with the house, for it is but an outdoor living room.

5. In this rectangular space, no definite proportion between length and breadth is obligatory, but best results can usually be obtained with a ratio about 7:5 or 8:5. Come close to the ideal if you can. If you cannot, strive to make the best of it, which will mean a successful garden and the joy of accomplishment.

6. Each garden must have as its chief structural feature a major axis. This is the backbone and there should be nothing weak about it. This will nearly always be developed on the median longitudinal line. In exceptional cases, the main axis may be developed transversely to the greater length of the garden.

7. At right angles to this major axis, a minor axis should be developed subordinate to the major axis. In some cases.
two or three minor axes are permissible. Sometimes the

minor axis may be merely indicated or entirely suppressed.

8. The minor axis or axes must be distinctly subordinate to the major axis in all particulars,—width, length (usually,) in interest, and in termini (See 10, 11, and 12.)

9. Major and minor axes will often be treated as paths. These paths should be nicely proportioned to the size of the gardens. Ten per cent of the width of the garden has been given as the width of the path on the major axis, but consider this arbitrary, as it often happens that such is incongruous with good taste or personal fancy. The minor axis should be narrower. Paths, however, are not essential. If the axes are indicated definitely, the central area may be left in lawn. There is nothing more satisfactory than a small garden with an open lawn panel.

10. The termini must be objects of definite interest and beauty. Those features most commonly employed are fountains, bird baths, sundials, gazing globes, seats, arbors,
pergolas (of doubtful suitability, for a pergola should be a **connecting link**, not a unit within itself), statues, tea houses, and small buildings generally. A broad outlook over several miles of scenery does not terminate any axis, and it is never permissible to allow any axis to disappear into any exterior view.

11. These terminal features must be carefully proportioned in size and interest to the length and importance of the axes on which they are placed. Features on the major axis must be distinctly larger and more interesting than those on the minor axis. In case several minor axes are developed, their termini nevertheless definite, terminal features must be provided.

12. Fountains, arbors, belvederes, etc., must not be built within the garden so as to obstruct the general view. Under no circumstances should anything be built on any axis intermediately between the termini in such a manner as to interrupt the axis line. The intersections of axes may

![Diagram of formal garden designs](FIG. 5—FORMAL GARDEN DESIGNS)
sometimes be marked by pools of flat water (not playing fountains). Pools in this position are attractive on account of the reflection they offer toward the principal points of view.

13. Whatever treatment is given to the free rectangular spaces outside the axes is better applied to the margins of such spaces than to the centers. The centers of such spaces should be left free, or at any rate, should not be made sites for mass effects of architecture or planting which would compete in interest with the axial termini.

14. Color effects, where attempted, are better developed along the boundaries, in walls, hedges or border plants, than in the interior spaces. Filling up the centers is not good design. The beds, however, should not be placed next to hedges or tall plantings, as the roots of the plants will rob the smaller flowering plants of much needed moisture. A narrow strip of turf will give the necessary separation and make it easier to care for the beds. One-sided beds may be three to four feet wide, and two-sided beds six to eight feet in width. The width is limited by the practical necessity of ease of care. In all planting, one should try to have a sequence of bloom throughout the season. It must be remembered that good foliage is more valuable than bloom. It is preferable to have plants that are attractive at all times.

15. Details of architecture and sculpture must of course be kept consistent throughout the garden. All contribute greatly to the atmosphere of a place if well done. Simple and classical forms are usually to be preferred. Common sense is what must be used. A pergola may be so big and coarse as to overpower a garden, or a bird bath may be so small as to be lost among the roses. Keep elements in good scale. Nothing will serve except good taste refined by experience for there are no rules of real use.

THE INFORMAL GARDEN

A distant garden need not be so formal as one directly adjoining the living room. As we get away from man-made structures, we can make gardens nearer like those made by the hand of nature, and we can be freer to experiment with plants and different designs. An informal garden has de-
sign as well as a formal garden, but the form is not as ob-

Every informal park or garden should be partially or
wholly enclosed in order to give it a feeling of unity and
sometimes of privacy, but this enclosure need not be so ob-
vious nor so complete as in the formal garden. Good out-
look should be especially preserved. The enclosure will be
composed chiefly of borders of trees and shrubs. These
can give a background for annuals and perennials, besides
providing flower and color changes during the seasons.

The main structural features will usually be roads,
paths, trails, or navigable waters, and the principal one of
these lines will, as nearly as practicable, circumscribe the
area under treatment. If you have a farmhouse set well
back from the road, do not ruin the lawn and general de-
sign by cutting the drive through the center. Instead, use
curves and keep the drive close to the boundaries. This
likewise applies to plantings. Keep an open center to give
the effect of unity and breadth. A winding path to outly-
ing features displays the yard from different views and this makes the place seem larger.

A GOOD NATURAL BACKGROUND OF TREES AIDED BY TASTEFUL PLANTING.

The principal considerations in locating drives, walks, etc., will be (a) The shape of the area (b) Topography (c) Convenience of travel between important points (d) Development of views. It is desirable to avoid the use of straight lines and radial curves, but awkward and unnatural curved or crooked lines must be equally avoided.

A succession of bloom is desirable whether you have a rock garden, wild garden, or water garden. Plant bulbs in clumps, not straight rows. These may be put in front of shrubbery groups or in groves of trees to bring the first color of the year before the leaves come out. There are times when the perennial beds are scarce of color. To prevent such, it is a good idea to plant annuals among the perennials to show their glory during the "in between times" of their hardy cousins. Evergreens add much interest during the winter months. Who is not enthralled by the sombre mystery of the pine woods? For the small garden, the looser, spreading types may be used. Save the stiff sorts for formal work.

The individual shapes of each shrub should not stand out, but they should be used in masses, and trimmed no more than is absolutely necessary. The best guide that can be used is the way that they grow in nature. One should
alternate the plants as much as possible, keeping away from the appearance of rows.

A POND PLANTED WITH NATIVE PLANTS.

A great deal of care should be exercised in the selection of plants for informal work to be sure of a natural effect. The native flowers, shrubs, and trees are to be preferred. Odd shapes, colors, or growths, especially foreign plants, should not be used. There is no need of being dogmatic on this point, however. If a plant introduced from another country looks native, it may be used as freely as the native ones. Effective results are what one desires.

ROSES AND ROSE GARDENS

The rose is unquestionably the "Queen of Flowers". Since time immemorial it has held an honored place in gardens, in literature, and in the heart of humanity. Today we admire it in all its forms, from the wild rose of our fields to the master-pieces of greenhouse culture. The homes of the South should have more roses. Here they are at their best and let us make the most of this good fortune.

Roses, in general, do not take well to informal gardening. In fact, they have been associated with formal gardens for ages. There is a practical reason for this. For best results, roses require prepared beds, careful cultivation, and a free circulation of air. Formal, massed plantings make the most effective showings. The same general
rules apply here as do in other formal garden work. Many pleasing radial rose gardens have been built in semi-circu-
lar, circular, or octagonal designs and it would be well worth your while to see if one of such designs is possible in your yard. A gazing globe, bird bath, or sundial is very appropriate as a center of interest. If there is a seat or a table with chairs, it will be a delightful place to linger.

The rose garden should be a complete unit within itself, for when the roses are in bloom the garden will be a marvel; when the limbs are bare and unsightly, it is out of the way. If one has but a few Hybrid tea or Hybrid perpetual roses, they may be put in a little bed by themselves. For enclosure, there is nothing that suits a small rose garden better than a trellis. The bush roses can be planted in the interior beds, while climbing roses can cover the trel-
lis. If a simple rose arch, with or without a gate, is used as an entrance and covered with a climbing rose, it will be a beautiful point of division as well as an invitation to in-
vestigate beauties beyond.

It is advisable to keep rose beds narrow for this makes it easier to work about them and it is best for the growth, as the plants get more sun and a free circulation of air. Two to three feet in width is sufficient. Concerning planting distances, two to two and one-half feet and even one and one-half feet for smaller kinds is advisable. It gives a bet-
ter appearance if you have the beds about six inches lower than the grass about them, but be sure that drainage is provided.

Rose beds should have some kind of a border. The bareness of the soil and lower branches can then be hidden. It likewise provides a background to a certain extent, and is generally neater and more in keeping with our old-fash-
ioned Southern gardens. For this there is nothing more beautiful than Dwarf Box. However, this is expensive and Candytuft (Iberis sempervirens) or closely clipped Euony-
mus may be substituted.

It is essential that the ground be high, have plenty of air, and be away from trees that will cast shade on the garden and whose roots will rob the moisture intended for the plants. A good clay loam, well drained, is about the best soil. If it is inclined to be wet, dig out a depth of two feet, fill in the bottom for six inches with cinders or broken
stone and finish with rich soil.

In many cases, wire fences about the yard have been made things of beauty by planting with climbing roses, all at little cost and care. Some of the more vigorous climbers make beautiful sights when trained up the trunks of trees, over rocks, and on dead stumps. With a little support, they will cover porches to provide protection from the summer sun.

Success with the rose requires the observance of certain points. When the roses are received from the nurseryman, one should be very careful to keep the roots from drying out before planting. If it has not already been done, one-third to one-half of the tops should be removed. Many well meaning people are shocked at the thought of making the plants smaller, but their fears are groundless, as this balances the top with the roots lost in transplanting and will produce better blooms the following season. For larger blooms and length of stem, the bush roses should be cut
back every spring to within six to twelve inches of the ground, removing all old hard wood and weak growths. If quality of bloom is desired, remove but one-half or one-third of wood. Climbing roses should be pruned but little in winter, but after they have finished blooming, the regular pruning should be given. Old, hard canes should be removed and the tips of the present year's growth trimmed slightly.

Do not be afraid to fertilize. There is nothing like rotted cow manure for roses. A layer spaded into the soil at the time of planting and mulch covering the ground every winter is advisable. The mulch can be spaded into the soil in the spring. Disease and insects can all be kept under control by proper spraying. A little attention will often be the difference between success or failure with roses.

The Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin entitled "Roses" by J. C. C. Price contains much valuable advice on the selection of varieties and general care of roses.

GARDEN ARCHITECTURE

Architectural details give charm and style to a garden. They should be simple and dignified, with a common style employed in all used. Simplicity should be the keynote and some one thing in the small garden should be featured. Do not try to "show off" with ornaments. They should never appear costly and only be used when they are apparently useful.

The bad taste of a past generation seems to be surviving when cast-iron dogs and deer are scattered around on the lawn. Someone got the idea of placing artificial tree stumps out in the middle of the lawn and filled them with petunias. If we must indulge in such, let us put them in an out-of-the-way corner of the back yard where they will not shock the taste of passersby.

The heavy and ornate garden ornaments seen on the Continent are out of place in the United States. We like to do away with unessentials. The simple, classic lines that do not strive for effects are the best.

The garden should be a place to be lived in. Seats or tables and chairs are really necessary to invite one to linger. To be livable, they should be comfortable and with ample dimensions, even in small gardens. They are best in a niche, sheltered from sun and wind. They may terminate
axes or provide rest where beautiful scenes are to be enjoyed. Finished wood, either painted white or with a dark finish, is the most practical. Stone is uncomfortable as is Rustic work. The latter should be used only in a naturalistic setting.

The home owners in this country are coming to realize that the plan for a porch is on the garden side where it can be livable, not on the front open to the stare of the public. It is the best connecting link between the home and the garden.

Tea or garden houses can be made a part of the design of the formal garden where their construction must be classic, or else they may be made rustic affairs in a woodland grove. They are always best when covered with plants.

The Pergola covered with blooming vines may be very delightful. One should remember not to have it a detached thing placed out in the yard. It should be the connecting link between areas.

Garden gates, with or without overhead arches, are among the main points of interest about the home. They may be merely rose arches covered with flowers. They may act as termini as well as make definite separations that aid the visitor to enter. Never have one of them placed by itself in an open area. There is no need for them to be expensive. Anyone with an ability with tools can make a presentable affair,—the simpler it is the better.

Architectural enclosures are necessary for privacy when there is no room for plants. Trellises are general favorites. They may be painted with green or a dark stain besides the conventional white and be less conspicuous. Fences, which are a necessity wherever cattle run loose, may be covered with planting and made a pleasing background for the garden. Walls should not be looked at with horror by Americans. They are the most effective means for privacy and can be made charming with vines and blooming plants.

Water adds interest and life to the garden. A common method of bringing it into the garden is by pools. These may be made of brick or concrete and water-proofed. In formal areas, the simpler designs are best. The coping should be low and very plain. The ridiculous practice of splattering a lot of stones around in a concrete coping
should never be done. In an informal situation the outline of the pool may be irregular and natural stone with the joints raked, may be used and the edges covered with overhanging plants. The reflections of bright colors is very pleasing. Water lilies are best grown in tubs in the pools. Goldfish, besides being interesting, will keep the pool free of mosquito larvae.

Water may be introduced into the simplest garden by a bird bath, which will also attract bird life. They are very simple and attractive, are easily purchased, or they may be homemade. The bird bath may be a central feature in a radial garden, or it may terminate an axis.

Fig. 7—Brick Walk Designs—Many modifications can be made of borders and centers. The Herring-bone and Basket work designs are best only for straight walks.
The sundial and the gazing globe have always been interesting. One should remember that there must be sunlight for the sundial and flowers should not be massed about it, as people like to go close to examine it. The gazing globe is a bit of curiosity and should be used with restraint.

Simple little bits of sculpture can be very delightful if used with taste. Always keep the scale of the garden in mind.

Walks are everyday necessities, but they may likewise be made important parts of designs and very interesting in themselves.

The use of concrete seems to be a national mania. It has passed its limit when it tries to enter the home grounds. It is monotonous, glaring, and uninviting. Coloring matter in the finish layer will help.

Brick is far superior to concrete. When laid in concrete it is just as durable and may be arranged in many patterns, or it may consist of designs in a concrete walk. Many old brick walks in good condition are to be found that have been laid in sand, the softer tones being best.

![Fig. 8—Brick walk construction. Use 6 inches of well packed cinders beneath if drainage is poor. Remove all topsoil.](image)

Gravel is very serviceable where the traffic is light and gradient not too great. The duller colors are the most pleasing. A walk that will stand a great deal of service and is very good-looking is one made of flagstones laid at random,
with grass growing between the stones.

For minor walks where flat stones are available, a very inconspicuous stepping stone walk is good. The stones should be flush with the surface of the ground so the lawn mower can pass over.

In a little garden and where there is very little traffic, grass walks are best. Even where other walks are used, there should be at least a twelve-inch strip of turf between them and the planting beds. The green turf sets the flowers off to best advantage.

**LAWNS**

When one thinks of a lawn in our climate, there is no question as to what type of grass shall be used. Bermuda is the standard, the much abused and little appreciated grass that exists in spite of all the ravages of man and weather. Bermuda, with its grayish-green color and spreading growth, does not present the very refined appearance that a lawn of Blue Grass does in the North, but when a hot, dry spell strikes northern lawns, havoc is very often wrought leaving great "burnt" areas in the lawns. On the other hand, Bermuda holds its own where others fail.

There should be more winter lawns. Surely there is no comparison between a fresh, green lawn and the dismal expanse of brown that is all too common in our towns during the winter months. With the little labor and expense of sowing Italian or English rye with white clover each year, one can have a beautiful green lawn until the Bermuda is ready to come up again. Lespedeza, if kept well clipped, will make a good summer lawn. Forty to sixty pounds of Italian or English rye to the acre, which is about one to one and one-half pounds to a ten-foot square, is sufficient. This is best applied in October, although successful results may be obtained all through the winter. This, of course, must be applied each season.

The commonest method of establishing a Bermuda lawn is by sprigging with roots dug from a well developed patch. The sod is dug up with a grub ax and the roots lifted with a fork and planted again as soon as possible to prevent any drying out of the roots. A good method is to put them into sacks. Before planting they are separated into small clumps and placed about twelve inches apart on
well prepared soil, then covered with about three inches of loose soil, and made firm with a roller or by tramping.

Naturally, if a good loamy soil is used as the basis for a Bermuda lawn, best results will be secured. However, if the grading about a new house has left areas of sub-soil a good stand of Bermuda is possible if a layer of manure one inch thick is worked into it before planting. The application of nitrate of soda at the rate of one hundred pounds to the acre at such a time and repeating in midsummer will produce a good sod in a year. Such applications of fertilizer are advisable every winter to keep the lawn in the best of shape.

Lawn grasses do not constitute the only method of covering ground areas with green. Indeed, there are many instances when other materials are far superior. There are many futile attempts made to get grass to grow in shaded places. Numerous homes surrounded with magnificent trees are impaired by having miserable patches of bare earth with scraggy turfs of grass here and there. The logical method is to use a ground cover that is adaptable for shade. In this class we have the Japanese Spurge (Pachysandra terminalis), Myrtle (Vinca minor) or Periwinkle, and English Ivy (Hedera helix). These plants, when placed one foot apart will soon make a permanent green carpet. An occasional weeding is all the attention they require. These may be used beneath individual trees with a regular lawn elsewhere if so desired. However, many an old home has been enhanced by solid covers of such plants.

PLANT MATERIALS

The term "plant materials" is applied to the various types of plants used in Landscape plantings. This includes trees, shrubs, vines, perennials, annuals, and bulbs.

DECIDUOUS SHRUBS

For a changing interest and variety throughout the year, the old-fashioned deciduous shrubs are the best. The wonderful flowering effects and autumn coloration is marred only by the fact that they are bare of leaves during the winter. Some varieties have more dense growth than others and make a better showing when the leaves are gone. Others will hold the foliage till well into the winter.

In selecting these, grace and character must be con-
sidered. One should usually raise the following points: Does the shrub “face down” well by its foliage coming down to the ground, or must a small shrub be put in front of it? Is the growth spreading or upright? Is it dense and refined enough to plant close at hand? Does it require sun or will it thrive in the shade? Does it prefer an acid or lime soil? What is the color, time, and character of its bloom?

Comments concerning a few of the more common deciduous shrubs is given below. The list is far from complete, but can act as a general guide:

The Butterfly Bush (Buddleia magnifica) is really a summer lilac. Its lilac blue flowers from midsummer until frost are excellent for cutting. As the shrub has an open growth and often dies down during the winter, it is best faced with low growing shrubs.

The Japanese Flowering Quince, (Cydonia japonica) with its brilliant pink to scarlet blossoms is one of the first to welcome spring. The abundance of fruit in the fall is interesting. It has a spreading open growth three to five feet high. It will stand almost any soil and some shade. A few sprigs of the blooms in the house are beautiful. It can be trimmed into hedge form.

The Deutzias are old favorites. The slender deutzia, (Deutzia gracile) deserves more attention. For a dwarf edging plant, it is very fine, presenting a mass of white flowers in early spring. Of the tall sorts, Pride of Rochester, a double white tinged with pink in early summer, is the standard.

The Pearl Bush (Exochorda grandiflora), makes a dense, spreading top eight to ten feet high when given moist soil and a sunny location. It has white flowers in early spring and is a very good shrub.

Golden Bells, or Forsythias, give us masses of gold in early spring that are especially good if there is an evergreen background. Weeping Forsythia, or Forsythia suspensa, is spreading and useful for covering banks. The Fortune Forsythia (Forsythia fortunei) is about the best variety. It has an upright growth reaching eight to ten feet. The Green-stem Forsythia (Forsythia veridissima) has attractive green stems.

The Shrub-Althea, (Hibiscus syricus) is an old garden favorite, flowering from early summer until frost with col-

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ors from pure white to dark purple. With its tall upright growth it is best kept as a high plant to the rear of shrub plantings.

The large panicles of Peegee hydrangea (Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora) are common sights in midsummer. They should not be planted close to doorways or out on lawns, but should be kept in mixed shrub borders as the growth and flowers are coarse. The Oakleaf hydrangea, (Hydrangea quercifolia) is a small shrub and desirable, except that it is very bare-looking in the winter. When a low growth is needed, the dwarf-growing Goldflower, (Hypericum moserianum) will produce waxy yellow flowers all summer and will stand partial shade.

An interesting winter effect is secured by the familiar Winter Jasmine, (Jasminum nudiflorum) with its graceful green branches and yellow flowers in January. It forms a low, dense growth and will stand shearing. The Primrose Jasmine is another small rambling type.

The shrub that should be on every southern grounds is the Crepe Myrtle. A double row of these in bloom in late summer with their tall, upright growth is a magnificent sight. They should have well drained soil and full sun. Keep away from the purple shades in your color selections.

One of our best shrubs is the Winter Honeysuckle (Lonicera fragrantissima) that makes a round-headed shrub six to eight feet tall and is well faced to the ground. The small, but very fragrant white blossoms are very welcome in late winter. The Morrow and Tatarian honeysuckle are good for all round medium growth.

The Sweet Mock Orange or Syringa (Philadelphus coronarius) is worth while in the mixed border. It is a handsome shrub eight to ten feet high with white flowers in the spring. The Virginal type, (Philadelphus virginalis), is very fine with its large double fragrant flower.

The Pomegranate (Punica granatum), with its erect, nearly evergreen growth and flowers from white to red in summer is desirable in the mixed border. Its branches reach from six to ten feet.

The Anthony Waterer Spirea is a valuable dwarf shrub. The flowers are magenta, coming in midsummer on dense upright growths. Spirea Thunbergi is most valuable for low plantings or facing down other shrubs. The white
flowers come in early spring on dense, graceful branches. It will hold its foliage during Autumn after turning orange and scarlet.

The Van Houttei spirea grows to six or eight feet, but its arching branches touch the ground and its white clusters are striking in March. The Reeves Spirea, (Spirea reevesiana) is similar but flowers about two weeks earlier, a fact to remember when working out a succession of blooms. Spiraea prunifolia, or the old-fashioned Bridal Wreath, is always good.

The Coralberry, (Symphronicarpos vulgaris) is often despised for its commonness, not because of its qualities. It is covered with coral red berries all winter and is especially good for planting banks or in naturalistic work.

Where the old-fashioned lilac will grow without mildew ing badly, it is most satisfactory. It should be allowed to form a bushy clump by letting shoots come up unmolsted.

The common Snowball, (Viburnum opulus sterile) is free growing with white balls in early spring and is generally popular. Its cousin, the Japanese Snowball, (Viburnum tomentosum plicatum) is rather better because it does not become infested with aphids.

The Chaste Tree or Lavender Bush, (Vitex angus-cas tus) with its blue, pink or white stalks borne on open, rank, spreading growth, is best used by large building or in naturalistic planting, not by the small, refined home.

Of the Weigelias, there is Eva Rathke, a good red blooming sort in summer with a spreading growth reaching eight feet. Weigelia rosea is a good deep pink. It is best used in mixed borders.

The Firethorn (Pyracantha coccinea lilandi) has a picturesque growth of ten to twelve feet. The white flowers in the spring produce orange berries that stay on all winter. This is best in mass plantings.

**BROAD-LEAVED EVERGREENS**

For all year round informal and formal work, the broad leaved evergreens should be in every planting. They take less time and trouble to get pleasing results than with the other evergreens. Many will stand shearing, making them available for hedges and for use in plans where they would naturally grow too tall. The South is particularly
fortunate in having a large variety of these desirable plants. The list of broad leaved evergreens contains merely a few suggestions from the extensive collection grown in the South.

The best all-round shrub we have is the Abelia. Its white flowers from May until frost are pleasing and it holds its leaves through winter. It will grow to five feet but can be kept lower by pinching back the vigorous growth. This is always advisable to form well-shaped specimens. It will stand a good deal of shade, being particularly valuable for plantings on the north sides of houses.

The boxwoods are unsurpassed for charm. The Dwarf Box, which is intimately associated with things southern, is recommended for any formal planting. The Tree Box is faster growing and forms a cone-shaped head. Either is worth while to edge flower beds or walks.

A plant that will endure quite a bit of shade is the Evergreen Burning bush, (Euonymus japonicus). It will grow to seven feet, but can be trimmed to any size or shape, making a good hedge. The Spreading Euonymus, (Euonymus patens) is semi-evergreen, but worthy of attention because of its symmetrical growth and orange berries in winter. The Winter-green Euonymus radicans, is good for covering banks and as a ground cover where grass will not grow.

Our beloved Cape Jasmine, (Gardenia florida) is famous for its very fragrant, waxy flowers. Where it will stand the winter, it makes a beautiful round shrub of medium height with rich green foliage.

Given full sun and good drainage the Carolina Cherry-Laurel with its rich, glossy leaves and good shape, makes one of our best tall shrubs. It is of quick growth, making an effective screen. The English Cherry-Laurel has large magnolia-like leaves and a spreading growth. It is of slower growth and generally does not grow higher than eight feet.

For diversity of use, we have the privets, Ligustrum lucidum. The Glossy privet, with its rich, shiny leaves and spreading growth, is excellent for foundation planting. The Nepal privet, Ligustrum nepalense, is similar. The Japanese privet has long leaves and an upright growth of ten feet. It will stand trimming and most any situation. For
all round screen planting, for clipped hedges and formal shapes to take the place of Box, one can use the Amoor River. They will all stand partial shade.

Given well drained soil and partial shade, the Leather-leaf Holly Grape, Mahonia bealie (often misnamed Mohania japonica) will do well and make a broad plant five feet tall. The yellow flower spikes in January and February are interesting against the dark holly-like foliage.

The Nandina reminds one of the sub-tropics with its bamboo-like foliage. Given care in fertile, well-drained soil, it will make a bushy plant four to five feet high. In winter the scarlet clusters of berries and beautiful bronze foliage make it very attractive. It will stand partial shade.

**CONIFEROUS EVERGREENS**

Conifers are desirable for an all year round effect and a variety of shapes and outlines. They will stand out as definite accents against the house. A too extensive use of them means lack of charm and undue monotony. Many accents are the most monotonous of all. It is often wise to use them only on corners, entrances, etc., and to use broad-leaved evergreens or deciduous material as fillers.

It is safest to keep to the neutral greens when selecting plants. You will tire of having a pair of bright golden arborvitaes at your door. Make sure that the plants are hardy in your section by seeing how they grow in your region.

Evergreens need a deal of care. Some are dwarf and will never get out of bounds, while others need to be kept within bounds. They should be trimmed back or transplanted when they become crowded. Replace when necessary for the absence of a single plant will often times ruin a design. The plantings will then last a number of years. There is an endless number of sizes and forms, but a few suggestions as to their general uses are in order.

For formal, balanced effects at entrances, we have the compact, dwarf-growing Greek Juniper, Resedale Cedar and the Globe Arborvitae.

For fronting other evergreens and for low plantings beneath windows and low porches, the Pitzer Juniper is unsurpassed. There are likewise a number of prostrate, trailing, and creeping Junipers that will serve the same
purposes. It is more difficult to cultivate about the latter. They are excellent for covering the slopes on terraces.

For columnar, accent types, there are quite a number. The Arizona Cypress holds a beautiful color all winter, but is rather erratic in growth. Its relative, the Italian Cypress, is unsurpassed for stately formal effects. Be careful as to how far north you plant it, as it is liable to winter-kill. The Chinese Juniper and its varieties will give a pleasing variety and good form with the silvery green foliage.

The Arbor vitaees tend to turn brownish in winter except for some of its varieties. Such types as the Green and Texas Glauca and other varieties are good.

**TREES**

Trees are important adjuncts of the home in the warmer sections where shade is a health consideration. Small trees may be used in larger foundation plantings or in shrubbery borders. Their use in framing the house has already been discussed. For street use, the higher branching sorts and those that will stand hard conditions are to be preferred. One should keep away from the showy trees at all times.

The Cedrus deodara is a beautiful and graceful tree, but one should remember that it grows to 75 feet in height and needs room. It has no place in the planting against the house or on the small shaded lawn. Remember not to ruin the expanse of your lawn by placing it in the middle of it; if used, it should be kept to the corners. Do not attempt to use the Blue Spruce in the South.

The Southern Magnolia, (Magnolia grandiflora) is a magnificent tree with its large, glossy foliage and fragrant flowers in the summer. The bottom branches should not be trimmed up, as a magnolia with its branches touching the ground is the most beautiful, and there will not be the unsightliness of dead leaves which drop continually.

Among the small trees, the Redbud, Dogwoods, and Carolina Buckthorn can be used in informal shrubbery masses. The Umbrella Catalpa, (Catalpa bungei,) can be used only in the most formal planting. Do not ruin your front yard by putting one on each side of the path. That is an atrocious habit that is prevalent in some sections of this country.
The Texas Umbrella Tree has also been the bane of many a front yard, for its odd shape makes it out of harmony with all else. The Mimosa is another offender. They are best in the back yard for supplying shade for a table and chairs.

Of shade trees, there are quite a number. The Maples are mostly all good. The Silver Maple should be used for quick effect, but its branches break easily. The American Sycamore makes a good street tree where it thrives. One should find out about it in his region before buying. The oaks are at their best in the South both for lawn and street planting. For Autumn coloring, the Black Gum is highly desirable, as is the Sweet Gum. Both are fine all round trees. The Hackberry is very valuable, especially for hard street conditions. The fast growing Lombardy Poplar will make a high screen quickly. Its spire-like growth makes an accent in the sky line. It is, however, a short lived tree.

VINES

See also “Ground Covers” under “Lawns”

In many cases, vines constitute the major portion of the foundation planting. They may be used on old stumps, fences, arches, and for general screen purposes. Some, such as the Southern smilax, Clematis, Honeysuckle, Wisteria, and Roses, require support of some kind. Lattice work is the best, but wires, even chicken wire will serve the purpose. The kinds that require no support are Boston Ivy, Virginia Creeper, and English Ivy. The latter is slower growing, but is to be preferred to the other two because it holds its leaves and will stand shade. They should not be allowed to climb over the woodwork, as they will rot the wood and cause trouble when the house must be painted. They are best appearing on brick or stucco.

OTHER PLANTS

Perennials can often be made part of the general plantings, either by themselves or facing shrubs. The better foliage sorts, such as Iris and Peonies, are to be preferred. In the garden, they provide bloom year after year with little attention. Annuals are sometimes useful to help out for a year or two while the shrubs are getting established. They are valuable for filling in bare areas in the perennial beds.
Early in the spring, the sight of Crocuses and Jonquils blooming among the shrubs is very beautiful. Lilies like the protection of deciduous shrubs and will pay well for their care. Clumps of tulips will be riots of color and show off well with shrubs in the background. In all planting of bulbs, never plant in definite rows, but always in informal, naturalistic groupings.

Anything in the way of flower display must be done with restraint. It is not good taste to display everything you have to the world. The place for intimate gardening is in the private portion of the home grounds.

**SHRUBS ARRANGED ACCORDING TO HEIGHTS**

The following lists are merely approximate guides for arranging shrubs according to their heights. Those in the first group may be planted two to three feet apart; those in the second, three to four feet, while those in the third group may be spaced four to five feet. You may “plant thick and thin quick,” but be sure to remember to remove the extra shrubs to give the remainder space to develop.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Shrubs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-4 feet</td>
<td>Deutzia lemoinei—Lemoine D.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mahonia japonica—</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Deutzia gracilis—Slender D.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hypericum moserianum—Goldflower</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jasminum nudiflorum—Winter Jasmine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jasminum primulinum—Primrose J.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spiraea Anthony Waterer—A. W. Spirea</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spiraea Thunbergi—Thunberg Spirea</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-6 feet</td>
<td>Deutzia scabra—Fuzzy Deutzia</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spiraea prunifolia—Bridal Wreath</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora—Peegee H.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Spiraea reevesiana—</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Symphoricarpos vulgaris—Coralberry</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Abelia grandiflora—Abelia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gardenia florida—Cape Jasmine</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nandina domestica—Heavenly Bamboo</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Buddleia magnifica—Butterfly Bush</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cydonia japonica—Flowering Quince</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forsythia suspensa—Weeping Forsythia</td>
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<tr>
<td>6-10 feet</td>
<td>Exochorda grandiflora—Pearl Bush</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Philadelphus coronarius—Sweet Mock Orange or Syringa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Syringa persica and var.—Persian Lilac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laureocerasus caroliniana—Caroline Cherry Laurel</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laureocerasus officinalis—English Cherry Laurel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ligustrum Japonicum—Japanese privet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ligustrum lucidum—Glossy privet</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pryacantha coccinea lalandi—Firethorn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Deutzia, Pride of Rochester
Forsythia intermedia
Forsythia suspensa fortunei
Forsythia Viridissima
Hibiscus syriacus—Althea or Rose of Sharon
Lonicera fragrantissima—Winter Honeysuckle
Punica granatum—Flowering Pomegranate
Spiraea Van Houttei
Tamarix gallica
Vitex agnus castus
Weigelia—in variety

CARE OF SHRUBS

A word concerning thinning and pruning in general is in order here. Among the fine old people of our country, there is a tendency to revere the old order of things and to hesitate to disturb existing things. However, when a planting becomes overcrowded, transplanting or the ax must be considered. An adequate number of plants should be planted to give a good effect from the beginning, but as the superior specimens show themselves, the thing to do is to remove the less adaptable plants to make room for their betters. A general jumbled mass is displeasing to the eye. Many plants become "leggy" and often show bareness at the base. With our fertile soil and many days of sunshine, shrubs make wondrous growth unheard of in less favored climes.

Spare the pruning shears as long as possible, but when the time comes for needed changes, make out a definite plan of what is to remain and what must be sacrificed, and then be bold and uninfluenced by petty ideas that may arise. Take out all interlocking branches, dead or diseased branches. Any shaping up is best done by taking out branches throughout the plant. Do not shear. Sun is needed throughout the plant in order to produce bushiness and bloom. A thinning out of the old branches is occasionally desirable. It is with some of the young shoots where they are crowded. Do not break off branches, as it will leave stubs which are excellent starting places for fungi.

The same principles apply to trees. A little judicious pruning once in a while will insure a long life for a tree. When cutting off branches, cut close to the main trunk in order that the exposed place may callous over; otherwise, the stub will cause decay that will go down into the main trunk.
If there are any rotted areas, the desired parts should be cleaned out and the cavity painted with creosote. Do not slash and mutilate trees and expect them to live. If they do live, they will advertise the fact that their owner committed atrocity.

With evergreens in the foundation planting, it is often necessary to practice some method to keep them within bounds. If the plants are trimmed lightly in the early summer after the first vigorous growth, they will make better shapes and keep within bounds for a long time.

The Time to Prune

A. Plants which should be pruned while the plants are dormant are listed below. These blossom on the present year’s growth during summer and autumn:

- Weigelia
- Hibiscus (Althea)
- Hydrangea
- Hypericum (Globe Flower)
- Ligustrum (Privets)
- Philadelphus (Sweet Mock Orange)
- Lagerstromia (Crepe Myrtle)
- Punica (Pomegranate)
- Tamarix
- Vitex (Chaste Tree)

B. The following plants blossom early in the Spring on the previous year’s growths. They are to be pruned following the flowers:

- Exochorda (Pearl Bush)
- Forsythia (Golden Bell)
- Most Spireas
- Syringa (Lilacs)
- Viburnum (Snowballs)
- Cydonia (Flowering Quince)
- Jasminum
- Lonicera (Honeysuckle)
- Pyracantha (Firethorn)

Fertilization

The best fertilizer that can be given shrubs is well rotted manure applied during the winter. The winter rains will wash the plant foods down where they will be available when growth starts, and the organic matter can remain on as a protective mulch for the roots. Never use fresh or “green” manure, as it will “burn” the plants. See the material on “Lawns” for fertilization of grass.

HEDGES

Hedges are important features in the home grounds development. They provide privacy without offense in the private garden. They act as screens to hide unsightly objects and are used for formal effects about the house and in the formal garden.

Evergreens—The evergreens are especially valuable
as they give an all year green wall. The privets are the most commonly used. They will all stand close shearing, but the Amoor River is the one universally used. It can be kept trimmed to one foot or will make a loose screen 20 feet high. The Evergreen Burningbush, with its rich green leaves, makes a very attractive hedge where it is not affected by scale. Both the Dwarf and Tree Box make charming hedges. Even if they are left untrimmed, they will have a picturesque formality. They are very good for edging flower beds. The Arborvitae makes an all round hedge. They can be planted for high screens, as they are most commonly seen, or can make a beautiful clipped hedge. The browning of the foliage in winter is of some objection. What will make a beautiful hedge, though not commonly seen as such, is the Cedrus deodara. Its first cost is considerable, but it is worth it for a really fine effect. The English and Carolina Cherry Laurels will make effective informal screens to cover unsightly objects or to secure privacy.

**Deciduous**—Among the deciduous shrubs, the Citrus trifoliata, or Hardy Orange, with its thorns, will make man or beast go the other way. The spectacular Flowering Japanese Quince, Cydonia Japonica, will stand shearing and, if well cared for, make a dense hedge four feet high. The Hawthorns and Firethorns have long been used as hedges and are well worth considering. Roses, allowed to grow freely, will make a low, informal hedge. They cannot stand much clipping. Spirea thunbergi, if left untouched, makes an interesting low hedge. Its dense growth makes it useful, even in winter.

**General Considerations**

Close planting and early and regular pruning are necessary to prevent hedges from getting ragged at the base. Another preventative of poor bases is to have the tops narrower than the bases. A cone-shaped form is good.

The privets are best planted alternately in double rows about 18 inches apart, though greater distances are possible. At the end of the first year's growth, shear the plants down to within 8 inches of the ground. The plants will then send up more shoots and make a stronger base. Let the hedge gain height slowly; what is lost in effect at first
will be repaid by a substantial, long-lived hedge. Evergreen Burningbush had best receive the same treatment, as should the deciduous shrubs that can be closely clipped.

If a trimmed Arborvitae hedge is desired, it is wise to start early to shape up the plants for the ultimate size desired. One cannot cut back into the old wood of the conifers. Instead, one must trim only on the new growth. It is for that reason that early summer, after the first vigorous growth, is the time to do most of the trimming of evergreens. They can be planted 2 to 3 feet apart.

The Cedrus Deodara should very early have its top pinched out and any new leaders must be kept back. As with the Arborvitae, trim back the side growths in the early summer. Always work slowly with these types of plants; it is consistent care that will produce hedges of perfection.

Hedge plants crowded together are heavy feeders. Before planting, it is advisable to dig a trench and put well rotted manure at the bottom and then a layer of good soil before the plants are placed. Some rotted manure during the winter to be spaded in at spring, or two or three light applications of commercial fertilizer during the season, will produce a healthier hedge.

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