

BETTER GARDENS—HOW ARE WE TO GET THEM?



REVIVAL of gardening would bring health, happiness and profit to Canadian homes. Let us see what is the best way to reach this end so that the first summer suns of the country may see a blossoming forth of our neglected home grounds. Much would be gained if the officers of horticultural societies, who may happen to read this, would make it a duty to rouse their members to make efforts

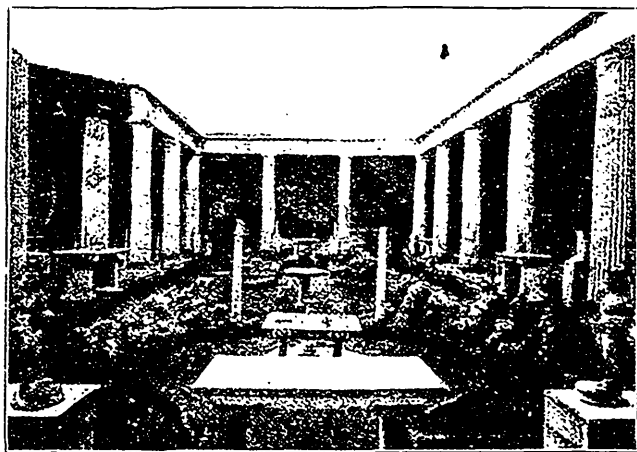


FIG. 1976. ARCHITECTURE IN THE GARDEN.
"GARDEN OF POMPEII."

in this direction. We will try to make some useful suggestions as to principles, which, if followed, will give better results in gardening than we now have. First of all, gardening is varied, and we must have individuality and variety in it. As a picture is better if it be an expression of some phase of mind of the painter, so a garden is far more pleasing and interesting if it shows the tastes of the owner. Let us not grow any kind of flower because our neighbors cultivate it, but let us grow the plants of which we ourselves are the fondest, or which have old associations to us. Let those who are fond of quiet and seclusion have their gar-

dens closely hedged or fenced, and let those who wish to make a display have ground with no fences, such as one sees in American towns. Few people have a faint idea of the number of desirable features that can be used in garden-making. We give some illustrations of great gardens of the world, from which we may learn what means people in other times and countries have used to enrich their pleasure grounds. First, let

the first cut show a garden of ancient Rome. The embellishments are chiefly architectural, pillars and such like. Such ornamentation would be out of place in this climate, but the architectural enrichment of rustic bridges, summer houses and seats is something of which we might have more. Sundials are a very appropriate garden ornament. The next cut is of the garden of the Generalife in Spain, and illustrates the beauty that may be gained by a large use of greenery and water. Water is an ornamental feature which is very seldom used in Canadian gardens, but there is

hardly anything gives more charm to the landscape. One way in which it may be introduced is to have reservoir supplied with water by a windmill. Many farms have such windmills, and could not be any very great trouble to use them for this. These basins might be very quickly planted with hyacinths and other quiet plants. In many places the lands might be drained so as to form a pond near the house. This, if stocked fish, would be very profitable as well as ornamental. The Government has been making efforts to encourage the raising of fish in ponds, but the farmers seem very slow to take it up. A pond at the Agricultural Col-