

takes too much plant food from the bulb. The leaves, also, are allowed to die down, thus sending the strength back into the bulbs. In this way good strong bulbs are formed.

"I always leave them in the ground over winter. A liberal coat of manure is put on after the ground freezes. If put on before the frost comes the ground heats and

growth is stimulated. Late spring frosts sometimes damage them. When left in the ground all the year round hyacinths last about three and tulips about seven years.

"The ground might be utilized for something else if the bulbs were removed, but that means a lot of work. I prefer to leave them there and set a few plants among them to add beauty after the bulb bloom is gone."

## CHRYSANTHEMUMS IN SEPTEMBER

GEO. HOLLIS, BRACONDALE, ONT.

**C**HRYSANTHEMUMS should now be making great headway. The early varieties will be swelling their buds and should receive careful attention. Side growths, as well as large growths from the base of the plant, must be removed regularly. The stems must be kept well tied up, because no matter how good the flower a bent stem spoils its value in the market.

Some bone flour spread on the bench and covered with about one inch of rotten manure, helps the plants wonderfully. Good cow manure is the best.

The later varieties require much the same treatment, but if they are making a soft rank growth no manure should be added until the flower buds begin to swell. In case the plants are so soft that the sun causes wilting, less water should be added at the root, but syringing must be continued

just the same. Plenty of air, also, is needed.

A thorough syringing with tobacco water is required once or twice every week to have the plants perfectly clean when the flowers open. Fumigation is also good.

The warning of last month regarding the chrysanthemum fly on pot plants outside needs to be repeated now. In some of my seedlings this pest was busy taking the points out of the growths, and the result was the plants had to be removed. This fly is the main drawback in growing chrysanthemums outside.

The plants grown in pots need plenty of room. A supply of manure water twice a week helps them. Horticultural manure is first class for this purpose, as it is clean to handle. If the houses have been white-washed or the plants shaded in any way the shade should be removed during September.

Walks should be artistically laid out on each school lawn and be edged with blooming border plants. These would always receive the tender care of the pupils and thus by association they would learn to respect the flowers and shrubs of some one who is "almost discouraged" because of the vandalism practised by the youths of today while on their way to and from school.—(P. G. Keyes, Ottawa, Ont.)

**If we who have plants** find them a delight, let us not be stingy with them, but when we have one to spare give it to some one who has none. Give the children cuttings to grow for themselves and so teach them to love and care for flowers. The finest coleus plant I have, and the little geranium slip with the largest bunch of blossoms, were planted by my little girl.—(Mrs. W. J. McLenahan, Appleby.)