

ways. Firstly, if the trees to be planted are grafted on seedling stock, the orchardist must stick to ordinary sized varieties and plant closer together. A striking illustration of this plan can be seen at the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa, where Mr. Macoun has planted a very interesting orchard of Wealthy. Other varieties, such as Yellow Transparent, Duchess, Lowland Raspberry, Wealthy, McIntosh Red, Wolf River, Ben Davis, Salome and Fenouillet Gris, will answer the same purpose. Their fruit is early, large and quickly picked.

Those who can obtain more labor, can have Fameuse, Golden Russet and Canada Red.

#### PLANT DWARF TREES

Another way is to plant dwarf trees. I have seen such an orchard in Quebec. The small trees which composed it were hardy and their fruit within hand reach. It contained a young Perdrigon plum tree from our nurseries, and although it was only in September, and in Quebec climate, the little Perdrigon was heavily laden with nearly all ripe fruit. It may

be objected that such an orchard or such orchards would require what we call intensive culture and also special knowledge, but thanks to those two neighbor-institutions, the Macdonald College and the Oka Agricultural Institute, the country will soon be supplied with competent young specialists in orcharding and fruit-growing, who besides having knowledge that they can use for themselves will also be endowed with the necessary qualities and training to communicate their knowledge to their fellow-countrymen.

## What Amateur Gardeners Can Do in January

**T**HERE is not much to do outdoors in January. During warm days, watch the trees and bushes for eggs and cocoons of insects. Destroy all that can be found and decrease the number of pests for next year. Some pruning may be done. Remove dead limbs and branches and cut out any limbs and branches that are directly crossing others and injuring them by rubbing when blown about by the wind.

Indoors, give the house plants proper attention but do not over-do it. Most window plants delight in a moist atmosphere. Keep a pan or two of water under the hot water or steam radiators to keep the air moist. It is desirable occasionally to sprinkle the foliage of plants with clear water on warm, sunny days.

As a rule, fertilizers need be applied to house plants only when the pots have become too full of roots which have exhausted the soil. Use some prepared commercial plant food.

In temperatures, avoid extremes of either heat or cold. For most window plants, a temperature of sixty-five to seventy degrees Fahrenheit is ample during the day, and from fifty to fifty-five degrees at night. The plants nearest the window can be protected from zero weather on cold nights by placing sheets of newspapers between them and the glass.

Ventilate the room on fine, sunny days. To avoid direct draughts on the plants, admit the air by lowering the top sash of the window.

Be on the look-out for aphids, red spider, scale and mealy bug. For the former, use a strong solution of tobacco water. Red spider may be kept in control by sprinkling the foliage occasionally, especially on the lower side; it does not like a moist atmosphere. To get rid of scale, wash the leaves with strong soapsuds and rinse afterwards with cold

water. An old toothbrush dipped in soapy water also will remove scale easily. Remove mealy bugs by brushing them off. Good culture is the best preventive of disease in plants.

Give your potted bulbs proper care. Do not allow the soil in the pots to become dry. To prevent extremes of tem-

perature, write the names of the vegetables and flowers that you intend to grow in them. Change the positions of the various kinds of vegetables from that of last year. Most of them do better when not grown in the same place annually.

If you intend to have a new lawn next



A Field of Asters and Gladioli

Grown by Mr. Jas. Gilchrist, Guelph, who stands in center of illustration

perature, remove the pots from the window at night.

If you want home-grown plants for Easter, begin now. Try hortensias, greenhouse spiræas and freesias. Buy spiræa roots now and pot them. Spiræas must be kept constantly moist. From the time they start to grow, they will require about twelve weeks to come into bloom.

An occasional hour may be spent profitably and pleasantly in making plans for next year's gardens. Draw a diagram of the vegetable garden and of the flower garden to scale. Draw lines to represent the rows and the beds as you want

year, make your plans and selections of shrubs now. Bear in mind the first principles of landscape gardening, which is that the lawn is the basis of the whole picture, and should not be treated as a nursery for planting all kinds of trees and shrubs promiscuously. Keep it open and plant the trees and shrubs around the borders. Place the latter mostly in groups. Shrubs may be planted at the junctions of driveways and walks. The latter features should be as few as possible. If the grounds are large enough, plan to have the roads and walks curve gracefully from the point of entrance to the house.