



Small Space Used to Good Advantage
Residence of Mr. Winterburn, Walkerville, Ont.

wise to take the best only, and if the purse is limited, reduce the quantity rather than the quality, and on no account tolerate any of the artificial plants or fake colored flowers in your home. Nothing lowers the tone of refinement in your home as much as the use of such absurd imitations.

The following is a short list of plants and cut flowers in their order of merit:

Palms—*Kentia*, *Areca*, *Phoenix*.

Ferns — *Bostoniensis*, *Whitmanii*, *Pteris*, in variety, *Cibotium*, *Schiedei*, *Adiantum*, *Farleyense*, *Pandanus Veitchii*.

Dracaena, *Lindenii*, *Cooperii*, and *Terminalis*.

Aspidistra, small sized crotons, *Asparagus Plumosus*, *Spengerii*.

Poinsettias, *Ardisia*, and *Solanum*, well berried.

Azaleas, *cyclamen*, *Primula obconica*, and *Sinensis*.

Begonias, *Gloire de Lorraine*, and *Cincinnati*.

Pans of white Roman or miniature hyacinths. Cut flowers: *Roses*, *car-nations*, *violets*, *lilies*, *orchids* (in many varieties), *valley*, and late white or yellow *chrysanthemums*.

Treatment of House Plants

P. D. Powe, Cainsville, Ont.

DURING the winter months no house should be without at least a few potted plants. The attendance and labor required is trivial in comparison to the cheer they bring to any home. If you have not a well prepared soil at hand, it will pay you to buy from a local florist all you will require. But to those who would prepare their own, I recommend the following: One-third friable loam, one-third leaf mould, and one-third sharp sand. This will be found good for most plants.

Re-potting should be done at least once a year, and with most plants from two to three times is best.

Watering is a point on which many house growers fail. They generally try to follow greenhouse rules and most always come a cropper. Never allow the water to stand in the saucer. Always water thoroughly so that the whole pot is soaked, but do not water too often.

The plants need water if the pots give a clear ring when tapped with the knuckles. Usually house plants need water about once a week.

TEMPERATURE REQUIREMENTS

The proper heat for the room containing plants is from 60 to 70 degrees, though some plants demand a higher temperature. Almost any kind of heating will do so long as an even temperature is maintained. Where gases are present a vessel of water placed under the shelves will do much to remedy the evil.

Great care must be exercised in the ventilation of the room. If a cold, frosty draft strikes your plants you are done. The best plan is to air from the top by letting down the upper sash of the window, at the same time covering over your plants with a sheet of newspaper.

Each week the leaves of plants should be sponged as follows: Get a pan of

warm soapy water (not hot) and a soft sponge. Take a leaf in your hand and gently sponge both sides. This sponging removes many pests such as the aphid, red spider, lice and mealy bug. It also keeps the plant healthy in the same manner as a bath does the human body.

At this season insects breed rapidly, because the conditions that generally exist in the house are extremely favorable to their development. Make sure that your plants are perfectly free from them and it would be well to treat them to a bath in an infusion of fir-tree oil. If one aphid is found fumigate the whole collection. Precautions are never useless, for eternal vigilance is the price of freedom from insects even among house plants.

Flower Gardens of Walkerville

W. H. Smith, Sec'y, Walkerville Horticultural Society

The window boxes of Mr. Montrose, of Walkerville, whose home is one of the attractive ones of our town, and whose garden was illustrated in the April issue of *The Canadian Horticulturist*, are filled to overflowing with trailing vines, coleus, geraniums, petunias, and hanging fuchsia, the whole making one mass of color from the ground half way up the windows.

The illustration here shown reveals the residence of Mr. Winterburne, Argyle Road. The vases are filled with blooming plants, the pyramids of boxwood, the tripod with its load of fragrance, the palms and hydrangea in the shade of the porch; the masses of geraniums along the walk; the border in front of the house a riot of color, containing geraniums, coleus, salvia, heliotrope, larkspur, and the two clematis, one the large purple *Jackmanii* and the other *Clematis Coccinea*, with its small red Japanese lanterns—all colors blending to make one perfect picture.

Peony Culture

J. H. Bennett, Barrie, Ont.

The peony is practically if not absolutely immune from disease. If the grower secures healthy plants to begin with he will have nothing to fear.

The only insect which even slightly injures the peony is the Rose Chafer, which is sometimes found eating the petals of the flower. However, the peony, with the exception of the very late varieties, has usually done blooming ere this pest appears. It would be wise where the chafer is annually very troublesome to omit the later sorts. Even if attacked by this insect the bloom is so very large and has such dense petalage, that inasmuch as the bug usually buries itself deep in the petals it does not disfigure the bloom as it does a rose or other flower.