



Centre Bed of Phlox Drummondii and Verbenas

spectabilis, Showy Orchis, April to June; Uvularia perfoliata, Straw Bell, May and June; Erigeron annuus, Daisy Fleabane, May to November; Anemone quinquifolia, Wind Flower, April to

June; Thalictrum dioicum, Early Meadow-Rue, April and May; Thalictrum polygamum, Tall Meadow Rue, July to September; Impatiens biflora, Jewel Weed, July to October; Eupatorium

ageratoides, White Snakeroot, July to November; Solidago speciosa, Showy Golden Rod, August to October; Solidago cæsia, Wreath Golden Rod, August to October; Solidago bicolor, Silver Rod, July to September; Rudbeckia hirta, Black-eyed Susan, May to September; Aster patens, Purple Daisy, August to October.

Along part of the west end is a bed of 21 varieties of Japan Iris, and on the north side of the plot south of the house a bed of digitalis and Canterbury Bells, one of the most charming beds in the garden.

In the centre space a round bed 10 feet in diameter, filled with Phlox drummondii and verbenas, was made. This gives a wealth of bloom the whole season, and comes in nicely for cutting. In the strip beside the house, too, was a bed of strawberries belonging to the boys.

To be able to go into the garden and cut a bouquet of 56 varieties of roses, or six or eight varieties of lilacs, or any number of perennials is a pleasure I would be loath to be deprived of. With such collections as I have here referred to there is no dearth of flowers from early spring until late fall.

The City Vegetable Garden

Rev. P. C. L. Harris, Guelph, Ont.

VEGETABLES fresh gathered from your own garden! No mean dream, is it? A few people in the crowded portions, and most people living on the fringes of a city, can successfully grow vegetables, and, in the growing of them, will develop good cheer, swift blood, muscle and refreshing sleep. They are few who cannot get very "Near to Nature's Heart" at small expense and—a little trouble.

There are many reasons why some people do not make a success of the vegetable garden in the rear of a city house. When that house was built, the earth of the cellar excavation was used to level the lot surrounding the house. That earth is lifeless. To spade it, and sow seed means failure from the start. Trenching well, so as to bring the good soil to the top, the use of well-ripened stable manure, thorough spading, good seed and continued cultivation, spells success from the start.

One prominent reason for failure is—poor seed. It pays to buy your seed from a reliable house. Many so-called seedsmen know very little about the life of seeds, and keep them from year to year. These, when sown, fail to germinate, and consequently the amateur gardener is disappointed and disheartened. Let me repeat, it pays to buy your seed from a reliable house, and we have a number in Canada.

If one has had no experience in growing vegetables, it also pays to hunt up some one who has been successful and ask for pointers. Gardening is a very friendly subject, and the novice will find even a professional always glad to give advice. That pays. It will prevent many unnecessary failures.

Do not sow what you do not like to eat. Some people can eat all varieties of vegetables. Others like only a few varieties. Do not sow a large bed of lettuce, when all you need is a couple of short rows. Plan your plot, be it large or small. It pays to measure. I measure for every row and all beds. Your garden will look the neater and you will be better pleased with your efforts. The neater the garden the greater the inspiration to engage in the labor the following year. Leave a little space for flowering plants. They will assist the interest. They will brighten your life. I have been cultivating a vacant lot for two seasons. For years before it was a dumping ground for old harvesters and—weeds, burdocks, thistles and marsh mallows. It has not been a picnic, but I have come out on top, and it has paid. People have stopped to look at my garden. Last season we lived on vegetables and saved a meat bill.

What shall I grow? Well, let us see. A few potatoes—Burpee's Extra Early,

Rural New Yorker and the old Early Rose—good varieties. Corn?—well, if you are after something choice and early, try Burpee's Golden Bantam. It's small but, oh, my! There's no mistake about it. The Cory corn is another early variety, and succeeds well where the season is short. For main crop, try Stowell's Evergreen. For Peas—dwarf and early, try American Wonder and Alaska; Burpee's Extra Early, 18 to 24 inches high, a grand pea. Stratagem is a fine pea of medium height, as is also Burpee's Profusion, three feet—one of the best peas to grow. It is a great mistake not to grow some of the taller varieties. Telephone, or its improvement—Boston Unrivalled, Champion of England and Laxton's Evolution. Use four feet wide chicken fence netting, or alder brush, which is much more suitable, if you can get it. Yorkshire Hero is another fine pea. You do not know what peas are like until you have a dish of these large peas on your table.

Beets—Early Egyptian, Dark Stinson, and the Long Smooth Blood-red. I like the dwarf beets, and, for summer use only. When small, served up with butter, pepper and salt, they are delicious. Carrots—Early Scarlet Horn, Oxheart and Danver's Half Long. Do not wait until winter before using the carrots; try them when very young. Long Smooth or Hollow Crown parsnip