

# Lawn and Garden Hints for August

THE garden hose, or other means of watering is likely to be called into frequent use this month. All amateur gardeners do not understand just how to apply water to flower beds. Do not stand to one side and throw the



A Study in Black and White

water at the plants. If you are using a hose, sprinkle with care, and do not allow the water to fall with force enough to wash away the soil. If you have to bring water from a well or pump, use a watering can and apply carefully. The best time to water at this season is in the evening after the sun has set. Give a good soaking while you are about it.

If you want the season of bloom of your flowers prolonged, carefully nip all seed pods and leaves that are drying up. This is especially true of nasturtiums, sweet peas, gaillardias and larkspurs.

Maintain some kind of mulch on the soil. It may be of grass, leaves or other litter, or a dust mulch made by stirring the soil. Roses and the general run of perennial plants are especially helped by a mulch at this season.

To secure pansies that will produce flowers very early the following spring, the seed should be sown about the third week in August. The plants will winter well in a cold frame. Old pansy beds may be renewed by cutting off the young shoots around the base, many of which will already be supplied with roots. Plant them in rather sandy soil in a shady place. Keep them well sprinkled, and they will soon root and make vigorous plants to put in winter quarters ready for next spring.

Plant lily bulbs for next summer. Hardy lilies may be removed or transplanted if necessary. Lily of the valley also can be transplanted late in August or early in September.

Buy some raffia for tying plants to

stakes. It is worth more than string and rope for tying things in a hurry, and making them stay tied.

Gladioli should be staked if they are liable to be broken down by wind storms or rains. Better do this now.

Flowering asters should be well watered. Should rust attack the plants badly, spray with ammoniacal carbonate of copper.

To revive cut flowers, put them in warm salt water to which has been added a few drops of sulphate of ammonia.

Flowers for exhibition purposes should be cut early in the morning on the day of the show. Place them in a pail or jug of water immediately and put in a cool place until time of exhibiting.

The following annuals produce their flowers quickly after sowing and probably might give some flowers before frost if sown in August, and the weather conditions are favorable: Nasturtium, balsam, marigold, Shirley poppy, gypsophila, mignonette, larkspur, calliopsis, candytuff, calendula, sweet alyssum, and for climbers, scarlet runners and convolvulus.

Among the perennials that may be sown this month, and transplanted to the border late in the fall or early next spring to furnish bloom for next season, are hollyhock, delphinium, aquilegia, campanula, coreopsis, gaillardia and papaver. If transplanted in fall, protect against severe freezing winter.

Dahlias are heavy feeders. Fertilize the soil once a week while the buds are swelling. For insect pests, there is noth-

ing better than a solution of Paris green, sprayed upon the under side of the leaves. For cut-worms use a tablespoonful of air-slaked lime spread about the stalk of each plant.

Have you a photograph of a rose bush or of a rose garden? If so, please send it to THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST for reproduction.

## FLOWERS INDOORS

Strike cuttings of coleus, heliotrope, and geraniums if young plants are wanted to keep for winter. Pot begonias, cyclamen and primroses for winter flowering.

For early freesias, plant a few bulbs late in August. Use plenty of drainage. Place six or eight bulbs in a five-inch pot. Place them in a shady place, and give water sparingly until growth begins to show. In about four weeks they can be brought to the light.

Plant some Roman hyacinths and paper-white narcissi for bloom at Christmas. After potting the bulbs, water once and put them in a frame or in the cellar. Be sure that the place is dark. If in a cold frame, cover with coal ashes. In about six weeks they can be brought into the light.

Cut back the outside petunias to within a few inches of the roots so as to have plants for winter bloom. Two weeks later, put them into small-sized pots.

Bermuda lilies for Christmas may be had by planting early this month. Put in clean pots, use plenty of drainage, and place outside on a bed of ashes to avoid



Sweet Rocket—*Hesperis Matronalis*—Growing Under and Around an Old Apple Tree  
On grounds of Mr. A. Alexander, Hamilton, Ont.