

Plants and Flowers.

A BEAUTIFUL PALM.

Cocos Weddelliana, or Weddell's palm, a native of South America, is considered the most beautiful and graceful of the smaller palms; not only this, but



COCOS WEDDELIANA.

It is especially adapted to house culture, bearing the variable temperature and dry air very well. The plants are of slender growth, which would be somewhat against their use for decoration were it not for the fact that they are so beautiful for use in fern pans and make such admirable table plants. The stems are very slender, but erect, except at the tip of the leaves, where they curve gracefully. The leaflets are very narrow and closely set along the mid-rib, a deep green above and glaucous beneath. They grow from 1 to 4 ft high. Like other palms, they require no fertilizer, and the soil used should be composed of two parts rich loam, one part peat or leaf mold and one part sand. As the greatest growth is made during warm weather, water should be given plentifully at that time, but be decreased on the approach of cold weather. The foliage should be sprayed frequently, and an occasional washing with milk and water, one-third of the former to two-thirds of the latter, will give them an added luster. No insects attack the plants, except scale, and if frequently sprayed they will not appear.—[Marian Meade, Ill.]

PEGGING DOWN ROSES.

This way of training roses is seldom seen, but when the work is carefully done the result is very satisfactory, as more flowers are produced from the same amount of wood than when grown in any other way. The bush is planted in the usual manner and the new shoots are pegged down to the ground. This work is generally done in the fall, when the wood is well ripened, the stalks being fastened firmly every few inches so they cannot spring up again. They should be pegged down in some regular order, so as to form a symmetrical bed when completed.

If six shoots are of sufficient length to use, lay them so they will be the same distance apart all around the bed, covering the places fastened down with a little soil or mulch. In spring, new shoots will start up from every joint, blooming freely in their season, and in turn be pegged down. The bed is soon filled with plants, many of which are rooted down at every joint, and many

How to Grow Good Fruit.

The superintendent of the Lenox sprayer company of Pittsfield, Mass., has delivered an address before the Lenox horticultural society at Lenox, Mass. The address bore chiefly upon spraying and general culture of orchard and field crops, how to do it, do it cheaply and good, and how to obtain the most profit from your labor in the easiest manner. The address is quite lengthy, about an hour's talk. Owing to other matters ahead of it we cannot publish it in this issue. Had this address been placed on the market in book form it no doubt would have sold at a good price. The full address, profusely illustrated, in pamphlet form, was intended to be sent to fruit growers and owners of estates, free for the asking, but to prevent imposition by the curious and disinterested, the book will be sent complimentary to anyone inclosing 10 cents for postage to the Lenox sprayer company, 21 West street, Pittsfield, Mass.—[Ad.]

well rooted bushes can be taken out, to leave room for new ones to be pegged down. Some varieties root down more readily than others, but the bed is a success whether they root down or not. All varieties can be made to root by scraping the stem on the side which touches the ground, when it will callous and soon throw out roots. When the bed becomes crowded the old plants can be removed, and new ones layered as needed. No extra care is required except the pruning that all roses need and a heavy mulch of well rotted manure, which should be applied each fall. [Mrs H. M. Woodward.]

Watering Plants—There does not seem to be as much value in using tepid water as has been commonly supposed. At least such is the experience at the Ia agril college, where no difference was found in using water between 4° and 75 degrees. Water between 75 and 100 degrees caused a weak and spindling growth, while that between 32 and 34 degrees had a marked dwarfing effect. For growing geraniums, the cold water produced the finest plants, but was almost fatal to coleus.

Plants for Verandas should be large and stately and with handsome foliage or flowers. Palms are always in place on the veranda and are among the best plants for this purpose. India rubber trees are good. Among other suitable plants are abutilon, begonias, dracaena, Grevillea robusta, large specimens of fuchsias or geraniums, hydrangea and Otahelle orange.

For the Children's Garden, give them a plot of ground and some flower and vegetable seeds and plants. Among the best flowers for them are asters, balsam, calliopsis, candytuft, centaurea, Convolvulus major four-o'clock, gallardia, marigold, mignonette, pansy, sweet peas, poppy, petunia, portulaca, Phlox Drummondii, salpiglossis, zinnia and Tom Thumb nasturtium.

A Wild Garden is not a delusion and a snare. No poor grasses or worthless weeds were among the pack I sowed. A packet of Japanese wild flower garden seeds, planted in a row through my garden, were heeded on both sides and did well. The early ones soon began blooming and later sorts followed so that it was a thing of beauty all summer. Every few days a new flower was in blossom. Sometimes it was one that I had seen before, and sometimes a new one. In my sitting room I have a large vase full of flowers that I picked from them that look just as good as new now. It was the most satisfactory packet that I ever sowed, and I have sent for another packet this year.—[Mary J. Hulbert, Green Co, Wis.]

Pot Anemylis Bulbs in small pots, in fact, rarely crowd them. Set the bulb up out of the soil, but do not let the fleshy roots dry so as to fall off. Water and set in a moderately warm corner until buds or leaves appear, then put in the sun and water generously.

Religion in Education—Religion is not the true basis of educational prosperity, for it has always been the foe of science and liberty. A study of the history of the dark ages will convince one of the truth of this statement. The conflict between science and religion in our own time is further evidence. Education has advanced, not with the aid of religion, but in the face of its opposition. The imprisment of Galileo for saying the world moves attests to this fact. Educational accomplishments in an unsanctified heart are no more likely to produce an accomplished devil than they are in a sanctified one. I might refer to Darwin, Tyndall, Huxley, Franklin, Buchner and many more men of high education and unsanctified hearts, but who were not accomplished or any other kind of devils, the statement of a correspondent in a recent issue of F & H to the contrary notwithstanding.—[A. V. Angus, Yakima Co, Wash.]

Nova Scotia—The winter has been a poor one for working in the woods. Many logs in Halifax county forests could not be hauled, even though a big winter's haul was expected. Five or six gales and 11 freshets have occurred and considerable injury resulted. Times are

better than usual; butter sells at 25 to 40c, eggs 12c, beef \$7.50 to \$8. Roads are thawing. The open winter has not improved the condition of grass fields.

The Better Demand for Corn carried the market to 40c p bu at Chicago, the highest figure in a number of months. Better support has been shown, exports liberal and home demand fully normal.

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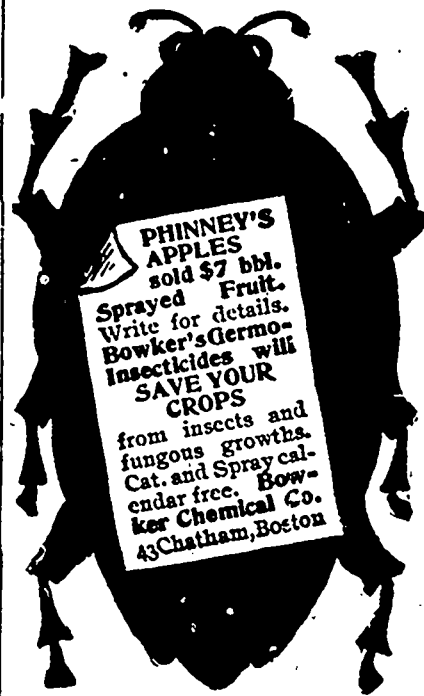
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