

Shading the glass must be attended to ; light shading and renewed as required is better than heavy shading at this season. A good shading for a small greenhouse can be made by mixing whiting and skimmed milk together, sufficient of each to secure the proper consistency ; apply on a dry day with a whitewash brush ; this makes an effective shading, and does not injure the paint or putty as lime would do.

**POINTED POINTS FOR APRIL.**—Water growing plants thoroughly, and early in the day. Syringe on bright days early in the afternoon. Pay close attention to shading and ventilation. Close ventilators, and dampen floors early in the afternoon. Fumigate after sundown.

**WINDOW PLANTS.**—This is a good time to re-pot window plants that require it. Cactus should be potted, after flowering, into sandy soil ; use plenty of drainage, but don't over-pot. Many varieties of cactus require re-potting but seldom, especially if the drainage is perfect. Sow seeds of annuals and perennials required for borders. Watch closely for insect pests. Water thoroughly, and syringe two or three times a week on warm days. Dutch and other bulbs that are out of flower can be treated as recommended for greenhouse treatment. If you want three or four plants for the window that will permanently repay you, purchase *Sanseveria Zealandica*, *Ficus elastica*, *Aspidistra lurida*, *Echeveria metallica*, and *Farfugium grande* ; one of each will always make the window attractive placed amongst geraniums, fuchsias, etc. The *Sanseveria* requires plenty of drainage, and to be watered thoroughly, but very seldom, and only when dry—once a week, as a rule, is ample. The *Farfugium* likes plenty of water. The *Echeveria* requires very little water.

**FLOWER GARDEN.**—This is a busy time in this department, making the lawns, borders and surroundings spick and span.

All hardy roses should be pruned by this

time, winter covering removed and the beds forked over, and any fertilizer applied that is intended to be used. Plant roses and shrubs at once when received. Borders of herbaceous plants should be forked over after removing all winter covering.

Divide and transplant perennials, such as phlox, *campanula persicifolia alba*, *coreopsis*, *gaillardias*, *dianthus*, etc., all of these and similar varieties give better results if divided and transplanted every two or three years.

German iris and *pæonies* are better transplanted in the fall. Dutch bulbs will be making a show in the borders now, some of the heavier blooms will require small sticks to support them.

*Dahlias*, *cannas*, etc., may be started in pots in a frame or in the window, early bloom is secured in this way ; harden them off gradually before planting outside.

All plants, such as *oleanders*, *hydrangeas*,



FIG. 1786. CALLA LILIES.

J. Gaddy, Photo