Home Beautification

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NaTURALLY Ontario is a beautiful province, with its wealth of trees, bushes, flowers and green fields, also winding streams, rivers and lakes. These last three, in clear weather, ap-

A fine house, but possessing the appearance of a corner hotel.

pear mirror-like, reflecting the wonders of the sky enclosed in a beautiful framework of woodlands, green meadows, grass, clay or sand banks.

To-day this natural setting is interspersed with man-made homes, farms, and gardens, which mark progress, and do not mar the beauty of the landscape. But, alas! this is not all, Large areas of buildings, homes houses, factories, and the like, have been erected. This may further mark the advance of civilization, but Nature's charms have been destroyed; and few adornments, even to remind one of the former beauty, are seen. The streams or lakes, where large aggregations of buildings exist, are now not always in a state to reflect Nature's beauty and wonder.

This condition is the reason why so much is written and said about home

beautification. Nature has been interfered with and something must be done to mellow the artificial and material side of industry. That is, with modern progress, not only must

industry make headway, but also art must be developed and particularly the beauty in art. To-day philosophers tell us that beauty is utility. Where things beautiful are found as part of the environment of a house, factory or district, the residents and workers are found to reflect this atmosphere. Have not such as the National Cash Register Company, U. S. A., Cadbury's Cocoa Company, the Sunlight Soap Co., of England, and others, proved this. The Garden City Movement is founded on the same principle.

Nature is willing but has not the power to work according to definiteness in design. She must be aided. Artificial planting is needed either as a street or yard decoration, or as an embellish-



Has not a little planting made a great change?

ment to a dwelling in the form of a garden. This latter may be just a win-