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The Flower Show.

SIR,—In our local Horticultural Society we are endeavoring to renew the interest this winter, and make it active for good in the community. To this end we wish to do all in our power to advance the culture of flowers, both in the town of Leamington as well as amongst the fruit growers and farmers. It is proposed we have a flower show early in the season, also at the fall fair.

Knowing, dear sir, that you have had experience along this line in your own town of Grimsby as possibly elsewhere, I should very much like a few suggestions from yourself. If you can reply at an early date I shall feel doubly grateful.

E. J. M. EDELSTEN, Leamington.

The flower show held by any affiliated society may be made a great success, and prove the source of immense encouragement to the society if properly managed. The object aimed at must be the encouragement of exhibits from amateurs, and by amateurs we mean every member of the society. We are well aware that without large money prizes in view, the professional florists will scarcely think it worth while to exhibit, and their exhibits usually formed the grand total of the old fashioned Horticultural Society's exhibits. In such cases, where was the amateur's exhibit; where the well grown begonias or geraniums from the dining room windows; where the coleus or fuschia, or the calla, which have been the joy and the ornament of the home? Certainly not at the exhibition, for each one will say, "I have nothing good enough to win a prize." The way to succeed is to interest all these people, even the person who has but one solitary plant. To do this, the directors must appoint a committee on exhibits who will visit the homes of the members and take a list of the pot plants they consider suitable, providing also labels for the name of the owner. Then on the day before the show, the directors should send out a man to collect the plants and bring them to the hall, where a floral committee will arrange them; and engage the same man to return the plants after the exhibition. This will cost some money, but it will pay

big returns every time, for each family who has a pet plant at the show will be fully represented among the visitors, and bring their friends along with them. The result will be an abundance of plants on exhibition, an abundance of visitors, and if a small fee of ten cents is charged all who are not members, the receipts will far over run all the expenses.

For the best results from an educative standpoint we would advise that a competent florist be always invited to attend, and be paid for his time, who would give information to all questioners regarding the correct names of the various plants, and the best care and treatment of them. In small towns or villages we would only have the show open one evening, possibly admitting the schools from 4 to 6 p. m., and the general public from 7 to 10 p. m., and providing some orchestral music to enliven the occasion.

It is by no means necessary to confine the exhibits to flowers; for vegetables and fruit are quite as much in place among horticultural products as the flowers.

Profitable Apples for Lambton.

SIR,—I am thinking of planting an orchard on Lake Huron near Forest, Ont., and as you have been referred to me as good authority to consult as to variety most adapted to that section of country, also how to plant them, distance apart, etc., I concluded to write you for particulars. Of course I prefer the most profitable apple for market as that is my intention to make as much out of the investment as possible. Would you recommend planting plums between the apples or will it pay to do so? Can I find a market for them? Would also like the names and addresses of some of the reliable nurseries in Ontario. If you will please favor me with the above information I will be very much obliged.

W. RAWLINGS.

Our correspondent need not be in the least limited in his choice of varieties of apple trees for planting in West Lambton. Providing he has suitable soil and other local conditions, he can grow any of the finer varieties he chooses. As to the most profitable apple for market no definite answer can be given. Some seasons the Northern Spy is the most profitable, when it ripens a firm flesh, a clean skin and a high color, but in other seasons, like the present, it decays too early, and is too small and irregu-