

# Canadian Gardens--An Attractive Spot in London

A. J. Elliott, Aylmer, Ont.

ARTICLE No. 9

**A**MONG the many enticing gardens owned by citizens of London is one on Dundas Street that is char-



The Entrance to the Garden

acteristic of its owner, Mr. Metherrall. Having retired from his former pursuits Mr. Metherrall is free to enjoy his garden to the full. Thus he has become quite expert in his experiments with plants and flowers as well as in the manufacture of rustic work, principally articles made from cedar saplings.

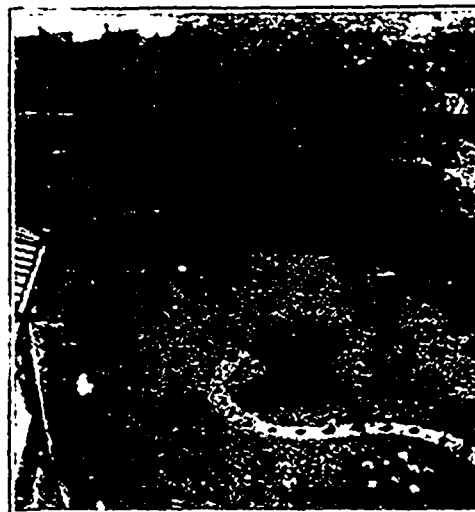
The first thing that catches one's eye as they approach Mr. Metherrall's large brick residence are the rustic arch and fence entrances on both sides of the house. The verandah is also fronted with a long rustic flower box filled with geraniums, fuschias, begonias, and creepers.

Passing through the archway I found

that the garden was one large lawn. In this respect it is unique. There is not a path in it. Although Mr. Metherrall keeps an automobile and has a garage at the back end of his garden, there is not a roadway even for that. It just runs over the sod to get in and out. When I spoke to him about this, Mr. Metherrall asked me what were the use of paths. He contended that they only took up land, and said that he did not need them. On looking around his garden I concluded that in his case he was right.

Dotted all over the lawn are beds of tube-rooted begonias, foliages, hydrangeas, altheas, roses, pansies, geraniums, ageratums, and cannas, while close up to the house were planted beds of geraniums, daisies, heliotrope, pinks, ferns and orchids. There were round beds, square beds, oval beds, and beds of geometrical and other figures and all alive

beds of cannas make a fine ending to an especially fine stretch of mixed lawn and flower garden.



Flower Beds and One of the Side Fences

Considering the soil, which is a light sand, nothing like the clay soil of London South, that roses delight in, Mr. Metherrall has by hard work, the application of manure, and close attention, obtained some fine bushes, that while they are blooming this year, give hopes for better things next season. His choice in this line is Madame Leawood, Mrs. Sharman Crawford, Magna Charta, Frau Karl Druschki, Prince Camille de Rohan, Ulrich Brunner, Mrs. John Lang, General Jacquinmot, Baron Rothschild, though, of course, he has the ramblers Tanschendron and Dorothy Perkins. For manure he uses barnyard manure and the commercial dried manure from the stock yards. For the in-



The Center of the Garden

with fine bloom. Dropped in here and there were isolated shrubs, roses, seats, a dove cot, and a not-to-be-forgotten cast-iron wolf and rabbits.

In the centre of the lawn, for so I must name it, is a rustic summer house, under climbers, and a row of rustic vases filled with geraniums, nasturtiums, and creepers. This sets off the garden nicely.

## THE BORDER BEDS

Down both sides run borders composed mostly of perennials, although some annuals have been given a place there. There were: Perennial phlox, petunias, columbine, begonias, Sweet William, peonies, salfraglossis, geraniums, sweet peas, golden glow, asters, snap dragons, salvia, gladiolus, larkspur, and shrubs. These borders stop at the lawn where two semi-circular



The Effect at the Side of the House



The Route the Automobile Travels