

ting out a new plantation. Leave some roots, also, on the surface of the ground or put them in a cold frame to freeze. Later place them in the cellar on the floor or in a barrel where they will produce tender, juicy stalks for winter use. Watch the November issue of *THE HORTICULTURIST* for an article on this subject.

#### MUSHROOMS FOR NEW YEAR'S

Mushroom beds may be made any time in fall. Begin preparing the soil now, making up the bed in about three weeks, which will insure a crop for New Year's. Prepare the compost in a shed. Use fresh horse manure and turn it over every second day for 8 or 10 days, when it should be dry. If difficult to dry, add a

each way. Smooth the bed with a spade and add a thin layer of loam if desired. In a week or 10 days the bed may be sprinkled with water, not much being necessary until the crop begins to show.

The bed should be kept at a normal temperature of 70 degrees. If it becomes dry, apply tepid water to the dry spots; but do not saturate the bed. Should the heat decline apply a covering of hay or other material to keep up the warmth. Further information on mushrooms soon will appear in the columns of *THE HORTICULTURIST*. Watch for it.

#### THE FLOWER GARDEN

At this season of the year, with the soil in the moist condition it is, the transplanting of herbaceous plants is

under trees. The best effect and growth may be had by planting amongst low shrubbery or border plants. After the ground is frozen, place a mulch of straw or evergreen boughs over the bulbs, to be gradually removed as spring advances.

October is the time to plan the arrangement of the new flower garden. If you desire formal beds, make them now. Cut out of the sod the desired shape, manure, dig deeply and allow to remain in a rough condition until spring. New informal borders also may be made at this time and in a similar manner.

#### CANNAS, DAHLIAS AND FOUR O'CLOCKS

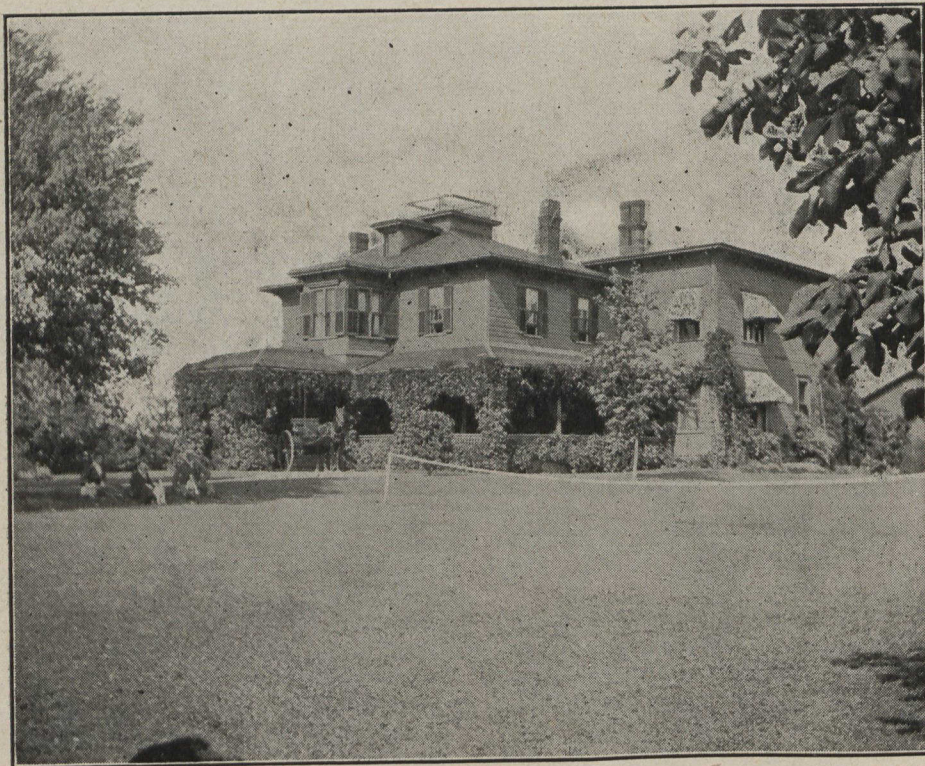
Before frost has touched their roots, cannas should be dug and placed in the outhouse or shed safe from frost. When digging allow a small quantity of earth to adhere to the roots. Leave them in the shed for two or three weeks, being careful to prevent them being touched by frost. Then store in a fairly dry cellar where the temperature does not go below 45 degrees, nor become too warm. Should the furnace keep the cellar very hot, pack the roots in dry sand or earth and keep them in the coolest corner.

Dahlia roots will keep well in a cooler place in winter than canna roots, 35 to 40 degrees will suit them. A rather damp cellar is best for dahlias. Pack the roots in sand if the cellar is furnace heated. When digging, allow the earth about the roots to adhere. If the ground is wet at the time it is all the better, as it will cling more tenaciously to the roots. When lifted, cut off the tops about six inches above the point where the tubers are attached, and place the clumps in a sunny, airy place during the warm days until thoroughly dried, then store them. The adhering soil protects the neck of the tubers from injury and prevents exposure to the atmosphere.

Roots of the marvel of Peru, or *Mirabilis*, will keep over winter very well if dug before being frozen, and treated as recommended for dahlias. These plants are easily grown from seed in the first place, and make very showy border plants. The roots, like dahlia roots, will keep well in a cool, moist cellar.

#### SUCCULENT PLANTS AND CACTI

For century plants, *Agave*, a dry room or light cellar is preferable to store them in in winter, and a rather high temperature, 50 degrees, suits them best. Give them very little water in winter. The lobster cactus, *Euphyllium*, is an exception to this rule, as the winter is the growing period of this early flowering variety of cacti. Avoid keeping century plants in a continuously low temperature near to freezing point in winter. Too much



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little dry loam. Take care that the manure does not burn.

When the compost is in a suitable condition, prepare the bed in the cellar. The latter should have a minimum temperature of 50°, and a good, dry bottom. Place a 10-inch plank in the desired position and fill in with the manure. The bed must be made in successive layers, each being spread thin and thoroughly packed to prevent injury to the spawn from heating. A depth of 12 inches at the back sloping to 10 at the front is sufficient.

It is safe to spawn when the temperature does not exceed 90 degrees. Should it go above 100 degrees, the manure may be cooled with water. Break cakes of brick spawn into pieces the size of a hen's egg, and place the same two inches deep in the bed at intervals of eight inches

work well done. Such plants become established before winter sets in; and the work done now lessens that which it is usual to do in spring. Keep the border clear of all rubbish that may harbor insects and vermin.

Be sure and set out some tulip, hyacinth and narcissus bulbs this fall. The earlier it is done the better. Set them three or four inches deep and mulch the ground a little, and they will come through all right and bloom as soon as the snow is off. If you want a bed of them next spring, get a hustle on and plant the bulbs at once.

Renew the old lily clumps by taking the bulbs or offsets, dividing them and replanting this fall. Do it at once, so that they may become established before freezing weather. While lilies may have partial shade, do not plant them