

What Amateurs Can Do in January

START the New Year aright, by resolving to have a better garden next season than you had last year. Plan the garden in advance. Draw a diagram on paper and draw it to scale. It is interesting work.

pose. Make a diagram of it. Draw lines to represent the rows as they will be and write the names of the vegetables that you intend to grow in the rows.

Did you start some house bulbs in September or October, as was suggested

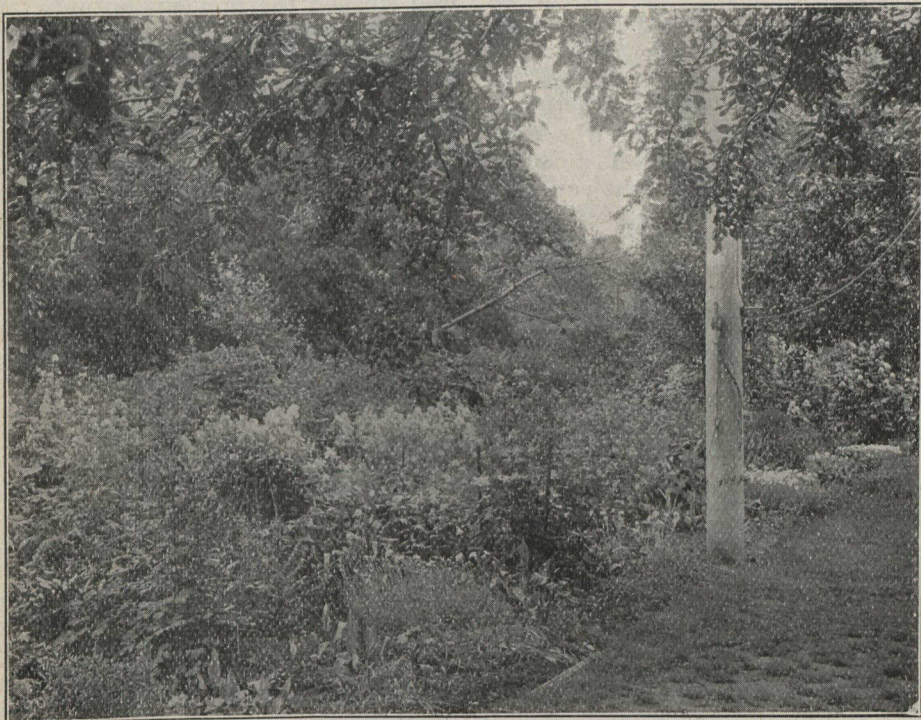
success or failure, telling how you planted the bulbs and how you cared for them. Take photographs of them in bloom and at other stages of their growth and send them to this office. An important point in successful indoor bulb culture is to have the temperature as uniform as possible. Water often enough to keep the soil moist.

Watch the house plants for pests, the most troublesome of which are the green and black aphid or fly, red spider, scale and mealy bug. A dry temperature is conducive to the increasing of these pests. For the aphid, use a strong solution of tobacco water. The best preventive against red spider is a moist temperature and sprinkling the foliage, especially on the lower side. Scale may be gotten rid of by washing the leaves with strong soapsuds and rinsing afterwards with cold water. Mealy bugs should be brushed off plants with a small brush or a piece of stick. Destroy them as soon as they appear.

Prepare now for forcing some plants for Easter. Try the hortensia, the greenhouse spiraea and freesia.

Write to the seedsmen and nurseries and ask for their catalogs. The best of these firms advertise in *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST*. Study the catalogs and make your selections early.

If too much heat is generated in the hotbed, it is necessary to raise the sash occasionally. When doing so, hang a curtain so as to prevent entrance of cold air and injury to the seedlings.



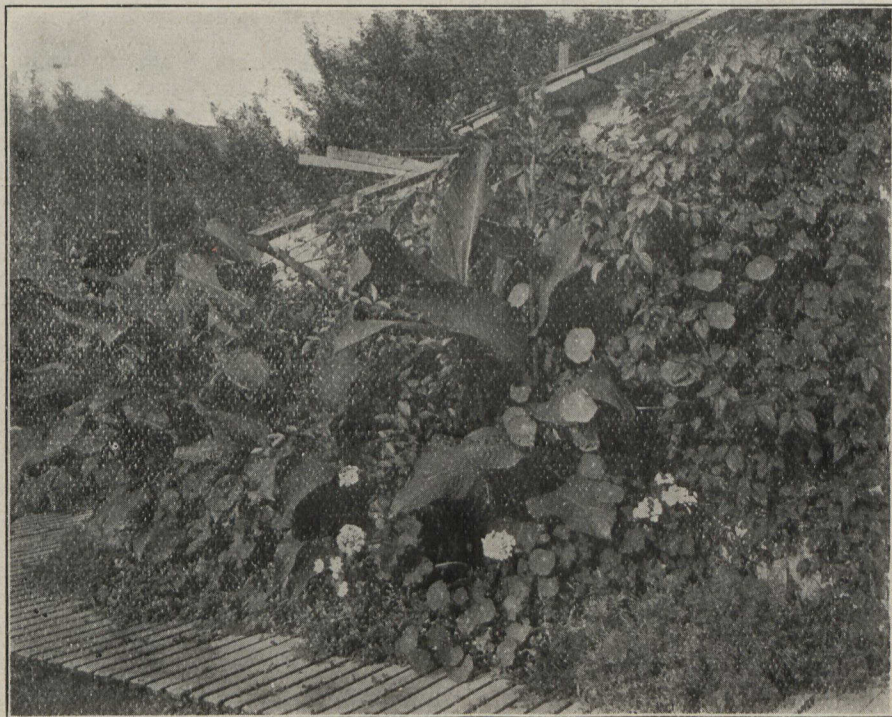
A Beautiful Spot in the Perennial Border

If you intend to lay out new grounds, plan with a view to the effect that the planting will produce in after years. A few general principles should be observed. Unless the plot is small, avoid straight lines as much as possible. Plan the lawn so that there will be an open space, keeping the trees and shrubs at the back and on the sides. If the area is small, the lawn should be level. On large grounds, a more pleasing effect may be produced by having the surface undulated. Walks and driveways should be as few as possible. On large grounds, they should curve gently from the point of entrance to the house.

Plant trees and shrubs in harmony with the surroundings. The largest trees should form the background. Trees of darkest foliage should be farthest from the viewpoint. Objectionable scenes may be hidden by judicious planting. Plant in groups. Occasionally single specimens with individual characteristics may stand alone. Trees and shrubs of high-colored and odd-colored foliage should be used sparingly.

Plan to have a kitchen garden next summer. You can grow better vegetables than can be bought and you get them fresher. Measure the plot of ground that you can devote to this pur-

in *THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST* for those months? If so, write a letter for publication, stating your experience,



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