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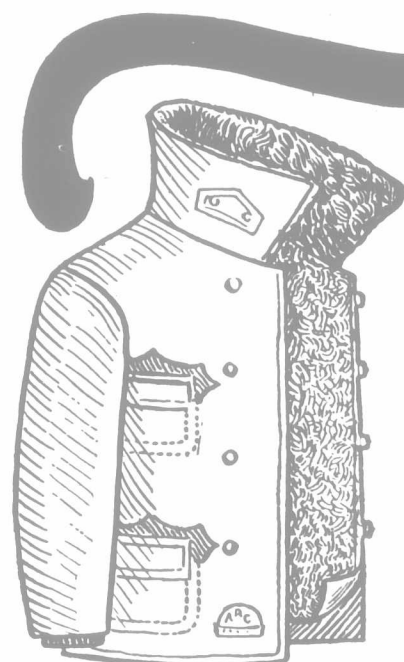
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sieve back into the water in which they were boiled; season with butter, pepper, and salt, and serve with croutons,—bits of buttered bread toasted in the oven.

Dried Beans Saute.—Cook the beans as above until just nicely tender. For 1 quart of beans put 3 tablespoons drippings or butter in a saucepan. When very hot, put in the drained beans, season, and cook over a hot fire for 15 minutes, frequently turning the beans over with a fork; then cover and let cook for half an hour where they will not burn. If you like, you may add a cupful of meat broth or milk.

Salad.—Mix cold boiled beans with salad dressing and serve.

Beans with Sauce.—Serve boiled beans hot with tomato sauce or catsup, all heated together for half an hour.

Baked Beans.—Boil the beans until tender as above, then put in a bean pot with a little salt pork, fat and lean mixed, in the center. Add seasonings, and water to cover, mixing the seasoning with the water, also an onion and a tablespoonful of molasses if liked. Bake, uncovered, from 8 to 10 hours, adding a little boiling water from time to time.

Jerusalem Artichoke.—Peel and slice the artichokes, and cook until tender in a very little water and milk mixed, adding one small onion, if you choose. Now add more milk, let come to boiling point, season with butter, pepper and salt, add coarse cracker crumbs at the last minute, and serve. A good supper dish.

Artichokes, Creamed.—Peel and boil whole in salted milk and water mixed. Drain, cover with a good white sauce made with milk to which flour and butter have been added, and serve hot, as a vegetable, for dinner.

Re Bulb Culture.

Dear Editor,—As a teacher of the village school here, it devolves upon me to look after the decorating and beautifying of the grounds. I am thinking seriously of having a school flower-garden. I understand that tulips, crocuses, scillas, narcissus, are planted in the fall. Would be much obliged for any information as to manner of planting these bulbs; also their colors and size after they flower next spring, so as to get the best color effects. Any information regarding the annuals, snapdragons, phlox drummondii, candytuft, coreopsis, morning-glories, petunias, sweet peas, asters, in respect to size, planting, etc., would be greatly appreciated by me. As the schoolhouse is brick, vines planted beside it would do no harm. Would you kindly mention some appropriate climbing plants; also an appropriate climbing flower with which to decorate the fence of the school-grounds.

W. J.

All of the bulbs mentioned may be planted in the fall, any time during October, for garden bloom in the spring, and all should be found very satisfactory. To the list we would add a few hyacinths and grape-hyacinths, also some snowdrops for very earliest bloom before any of the others come out.

Snowdrops are white; crocuses white, lavender to purple, and yellow; scillas, a beautiful clear shade of blue. All of these are low-growing, and, being small bulbs, should be planted about two inches deep.

Tulips grow from 10 to 14 inches in height, and come in all shades of red, and yellow, also white. Many of them are beautifully variegated, red and yellow, white and pink, etc. Narcissus are taller and more slender of growth, with beautiful white or yellow flowers, some with "trumpets," some with cups edged with narrow rims of scarlet. Hyacinths are shorter again, and sturdier of growth, with very fragrant racemes of flowers, white, lavender, or pink. The very hardy grape hyacinths are white or blue. All of these larger bulbs should be planted from 4 to 6, or even 7 inches deep, to the bottom of the bulb.

All bulbs do best in a well-drained, rich, loamy soil, inclined to be sandy. When preparing the bulb-beds, dig them up 12 to 15 inches deep, mixing very old barnyard scrapings to enrich the soil, and a little sand if necessary. Plant the bulbs in masses with a handful of sand under each to prevent direct contact with manure. Indeed, if the manure is at all strong, it is advisable to bury it beneath the bulbs, deep enough to miss the bulbs, yet near enough to feed the roots when they

grow. Manure in direct contact with any part of a bulb is likely to rot it.

After the first frost, sharp enough to freeze the surface of the ground, cover the beds with a mulch of leaves or straw, this to be gradually removed in spring.

All of the annuals mentioned are very satisfactory, being quite easily grown, and giving a good show for the money.

Antirrhinum (really a biennial, practically perennial), or snapdragons, grow from 6 inches to 2 feet in height, according to species, and are white, yellow, or crimson, usually variegated—throat of a different color.

Phlox drummondii grows from 6 inches to a foot or more in height, but, as it is somewhat spreading, has the effect of a low-growing plant. All shades, from white to crimson, are found in this beautiful little flower, with every possible variegation, one would think, of marking.

Candytuft is much used, when white (the best variety), for separating colors that might otherwise clash; also for massing near the outer border of beds. Its cousin, sweet alyssum, is even more satisfactory for the very outer border, being lower and daintier of growth, and longer of bloom.

Coreopsis, in rich maroons and yellows, with the flowers on slender, graceful stems, is very beautiful and very easy to grow. It is from 1½ to 2 feet in height.

Morning-glories, with flowers ranging from white to deep purple, with many variegations in some of the species, are among the most beautiful of our vines. They need, as do all the flowers mentioned in this list, a rich, loamy, well-drained, yet moist, soil, and they must be provided with a trellis or strings to climb on.

Sweet peas, being also vine-like in nature, also require support,—poultry netting is good. They grow from 4 to 6 feet in height (there is also a dwarf, bush variety), and should be planted as soon as the snow is off the ground. They will then begin to bloom comparatively early, and if not allowed to go to seed, will keep blooming until frost. Many other flowers, e. g., pansies, poppies, morning-glories, nasturtiums, may be kept blooming indefinitely by this practice of removing all faded flowers and young seed-pods.

Petunias (perennial) are remarkable for brilliancy and variety of color, white, purple, lavender, rosy carmine, with many variegations by way of stripes and blotches. Some of the new varieties have immense blossoms, 4 to 5 inches across, and beautifully ruffled about the edge; others, almost as large, are splendidly double. White petunias may be planted anywhere; with the carmine and purple varieties, some discretion must be used, as neither of these colors combines well with the blues, reds or yellows of other flowers. Perhaps, on the whole, it is as well to mass petunias by themselves.

Asters are among the most beautiful and artistic of garden flowers, especially those with long, straggling or curved petals, such as the Chrysanthemum, Comet, Ostrich Feather, and Crown Prince varieties. The colors are white, pink, lavender and purple, perhaps the most beautiful of all, as regards color, being "Daybreak" and "Blanche Lyon Shell Pink." Asters should be planted in boxes early, and transplanted to the garden when all danger of frost has passed.

We have not given directions in regard to the cultivation of these, as full directions are invariably given on the back of the envelopes which contain the seed. Choose a reliable seedsman, and order early, say in February, then read the directions and plant those that require early starting in the house.

Woody vines that may be recommended are Boston ivy (especially good for brick-work), Virginia creeper, trumpet vine, clematis paniculata. Rapidly-growing vines (annual, some self-sowing) are Japanese hops, morning-glory, hyacinth bean, scarlet runner, wild cucumber, cohoe scandens, aristolochia.

Tall nasturtiums, wild cucumber (disliked by some on account of its tendency to spread), and wild clematis, would be fine for the school-yard fence; also sweet peas, if provided with poultry netting or strands of wire for support.

We hope there are many school-teachers