

strawy manure later on will also be of benefit, especially if there is no snow to protect the plants.

Newly planted bulbs should have a mulching of strawy manure applied before hard frost sets in. In fact all newly planted trees or shrubs, as well as bulbs and perennial border plants, will be benefited by some light protective material if they are at all tender.

Lilies of all kinds planted out of doors should have a good mulching of manure in winter, more especially the Japanese varieties. *L. candidum* and *L. tigrinum* are hardier, and as a rule require little or no protection. A mulching however will benefit them, as it acts as a fertilizer as well as a protective material.

THE WINDOW.—Retain as moist an atmosphere as possible around and about the plants, and careful intelligent watering at the roots, are the principal features of window-garden work during the winter to attain success.

The following varieties of plants are amongst those that require only a very limited quantity of water during the winter, viz.: cactus of all kinds, agaves, aloes, hydrangeas and oleanders. Rex begonias require only occasional watering during the winter, and should never be syringed overhead, as the spiny rough construction of the surface of their leaves retains the moisture to such an extent as to rot and destroy the leaves. All summer-flowering begonias require comparative rest during winter. A limited supply of water induces partial rest in plant life. Callas, cyperus, cinerarias, cyclamen, genistas, and all growing plants must never be allowed to become dry at the roots at this season.

Holland and all spring flowering bulbs require plenty of water, after the bulbs have made a good supply of roots. Newly potted bulbs require to be watered thoroughly once when first potted. If given the proper conditions to make root in, viz.: a cool, moist, dark situation, they seldom

require water until top growth commences and the bulbs have secured a good supply of roots. Securing a good supply of roots before top growth commences is very necessary, if you wish the bulbs to produce the best flowers possible. After the top growth has well started bulbs should not be allowed to become dry at the roots.

Give liquid manure very sparingly to plants during the depth of winter. In February or early in March a little fertilizer may be given them to advantage.

Freesias require a fair supply of water, and must not be allowed to become dry when once top growth has well started.

Watch out closely for attacks of insect pests. A little weak tobacco water, or an application of some of the prepared insecticides sold by seedsmen, should be given plants every week or two during the winter. Give the application in a weaker form than is usually recommended. Weak applications, frequently applied, before the insects appear, will be far more beneficial as preventatives than heavy doses will be as a curer if left until the plants are infested with insects before it is applied.

Hamilton.

W. HUNT.

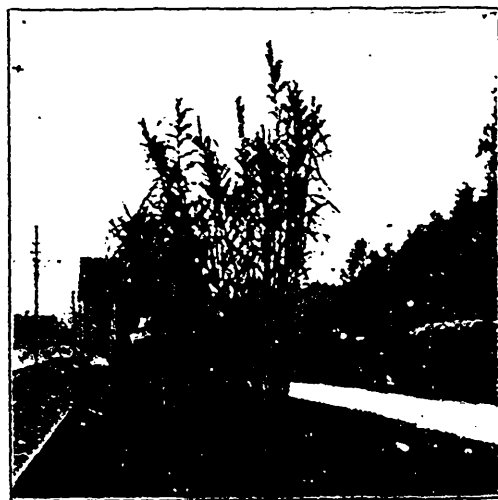


FIG. 2200. ARUNDO DONEX, GROWN IN QUEEN VICTORIA, NIAGARA FALLS PARK.
(See page 518.)