

WOMEN ARE GARDENERS ON OWN ESTATES



THIS FLOWER-BANKED WALK LEADING FROM A PERCOLA TO THE HOUSE OF JAMES L. BREESE IS BUT ONE OF THE PERFECT VIEWS IN THE GARDEN ON HIS ESTATES.

BLOOMER-CLAD THEY SUPPLANT GARDENERS.

WITH May in the air, women are turning from the tango to gardening. Women who own gardens are absent from the city directing their gardeners, and the more energetic are themselves digging and planting, clad in knickerbockers and rough jackets, or in smocked frocks, designed to make women look as artistically beautiful as their surrounding flowers.

The unusual interest in gardening this year among wealthy women of New York is due to the enthusiasm of the members of the new International Garden Club. Their optimism is irresistible. They propose so to spread the knowledge and the love of growing things that "America will blossom like the rose and people will be so interested in roses that they will forget the I. W. W." as one of the members expressed it.

National pride and pique at the criticism directed against this country by disapproving visitors who miss the hedgerows and trellises of England had their share in creating the enthusiasm of the members of the new club.

Englishwoman Arouses Enthusiasm. One of the most influential of these visiting foreigners was Mrs. Philip Martineau, of Hurst Court, England, who gave a series of talks in various cities last winter, telling everywhere how it hurt her feelings to see the country so bare of gardens. Mrs. Martineau, who arrived from England this week, intends to spread the garden gospel still further in her present tour of the country. "I rode all the way from Boston to Worcester without seeing more than one garden," she said. "I suppose Americans have been so busy making money that they have not had time to beautify the earth. It is time now to stop a bit and look about you for the lovely things of life.

"In England every cottage has its garden and its clambering roses. Every person is a gardener, and every large estate a college of agriculture, where the boys of the village learn as apprentices to the head gardener all the arts of pruning and planting.

Gardens Needed Here. "I see no reason why the same thing should not be true of the United States. I find you have the enthusiasm when the matter is brought home to you. You have more land which may be converted into gardens; you

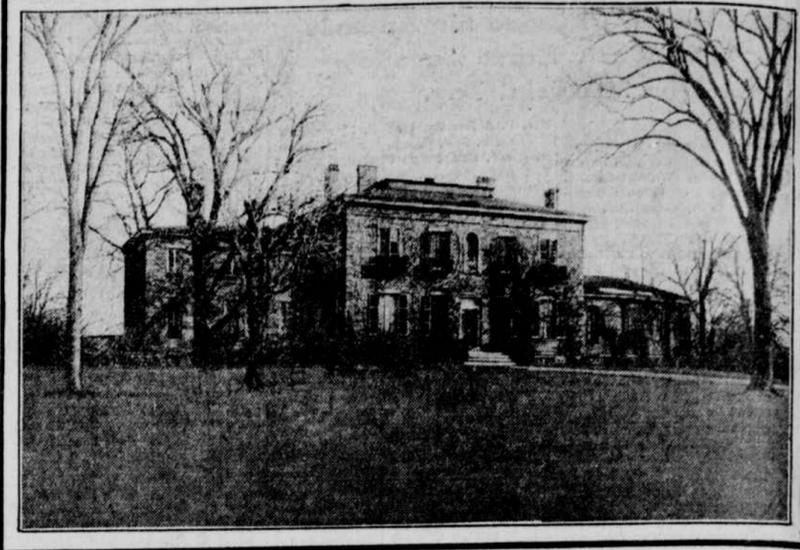
have the means with which to do it, and, above all, you need the gardens to really beautify your country. "I hope that my lectures on this tour through your country will be the starting point of a nation wide movement for gardens. I find from correspondence that there is really much latent interest in horticulture in men and women of station, only it needs to be awakened into action. "It is not enough to have a garden. One must be interested in it, must love it, and must work in it. And that any one can do, whether he has a few feet of garden space or acres of it. "As for the women, when they realize the recreational possibilities of gardening, they will themselves cultivate their gardens, not assign all the work to a paid employe."

The International Garden Club, which was formed as a result of Mrs. Martineau's enthusiasm, has already grown to a size which promises that the club will be able to do the great work it has set itself. As a sign that it means to do more than merely foster interest in elaborate gardens, the announcement was made a short time ago that the club proposed to lease the old Bartow estate, in Pelham Park, and establish a garden there which would be for the joy and the instruction of all the people of

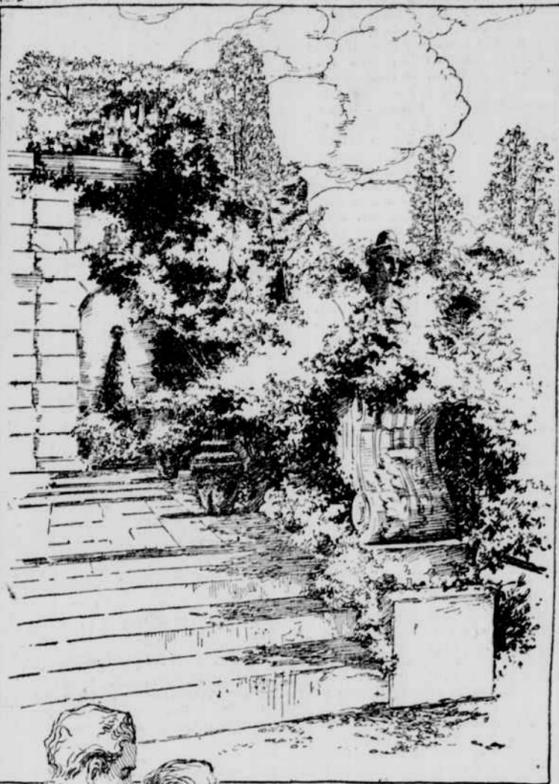
New York. The club wishes to foster in Americans that same careful regard for floral culture which obtains in England and on the Continent. There gardening has become an art. Men are apprenticed from their boyhood, and both the horticultural science and systems of decoration are mastered before a gardener can be said to be skillful at his work. All Europe is a Garden. People of high estate have as their hobby the gardening art, and so enthusiastic has been their devotion to it that it has gradually spread until the effect can be seen from the train window in any part of Europe or England. Probably it is because we are so prodigal of our space that America has not many gardens in comparison with those of England—excepting, of course, those maintained on the great estates of Long Island, and from Westchester to Maine. But, in Europe, where the population is crowded into a small space, any bit of ground a man may possess is highly prized and cultivated to yield all the beauty possible. Now that the International Garden Club has signified the seriousness of its purpose by establishing definite plans, which will be worked out shortly, the United States may soon hope to vie with other countries in its enthusiasm for the floral beauty spots whose possibilities will be demonstrated at the Bartow estate.

A Horticultural Centre. The house is now under the control of the Park Department, but the officials have expressed their willingness to let the club use it. It is planned to furnish the interior as reading rooms and libraries for beautiful photographs and drawings of famous gardens. Lectures will be given in the assembly rooms, and every month an exhibition will be held, so that the members and the public may be in-

formed of the success of the club gardeners and certificates from the club, which will be equivalent to a school degree when the holder applies for a position. In addition to supplying trained gardeners to persons of wealth who desire them, the club will assist in the public school garden movement by offering the courtesies of its equipment to those who are learning to be teachers of school gardening. Perhaps the most significant aspect of the club life, however, is the interest of America's persons of wealth in the problems of gardening. Hitherto there have been few who took the same interest in their gardens that the English did. Horses and dogs have been the objects upon which the average American bestowed his attention, while the garden, if he had



HEADQUARTERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL GARDEN CLUB—THE OLD BARTOW MANSION IN PELHAM PARK.



A SPOT IN THE BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OWNED BY MRS. LARZ ANDERSON.

one at all, was merely the background for the mansion and a thing of no personal concern to the owner. Wealthy Women Form Clubs. But a change has taken place during the past few years. This is marked by the establishment of the garden clubs in many of the summer colonies, such as Southampton, Stockbridge, Lenox and Newport. It is the leaders of these clubs who have organized the central club in New York to be a clearing house of information and inspiration to them during the winter months. The president of the club, Mrs. Charles Frederick Hoffman, is president also of the Garden Club of New-

WEALTHY WOMEN TO SPREAD GOSPEL OF GARDEN

port. Mrs. Albert Boardman, vice-president, is the founder of the Garden Club of Southampton, and Mrs. Moses Taylor Pyne is president of the Garden Club of Morristown.

Mrs. J. Pierpont Morgan, Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, Mrs. William A. Reid and Mrs. E. H. Harriman are among the members of the International Garden Club. The officers are as follows:

Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, honorary president; Mrs. Charles Frederick Hoffman, president; Mrs. H. Fairfield Osborn, Mrs. Albert Boardman and Mrs. James Breese, vice-presidents; Miss Mary M. Kearney, secretary; Judge William A. Day, treasurer; the members of the council are the Commissioner of Parks for Manhattan and Richmond, the Commissioner of Parks for The Bronx, the president of the Botanical Garden, the president of the New York Horticultural Society, the president of the Florists' Club, Mrs. Richard Aldrich, Miss E. Aldrich, Mrs. Charles B. Alexander, Frederick H. Allen, R. Fulton Cutting, Martin C. Ebel, secretary of the National Association of Gardeners; Mrs. Alfred Ely, Mrs. Henry Clay Frick, Miss Virginia Gildersleeve, Francis L. V. Hoppin, McDougall Hawkes, Mrs. McDougall Hawkin, Henry R. Hoyt, William Jay, Mrs. De Lancey Kane, Dr. D. Hunter McAlpin, Mrs. D. Hunter McAlpin, Dr. George Norton Miller, John Muir, California; Mrs. Philip Martineau, Mrs. Junius Morgan, Mrs. J. Arthur Murray, Joseph Manda, Frederick Newbold, George V. Nash, secretary of the New York Horticultural Society; Professor H. Fairfield Osborn, General Horace Porter, Mrs. Pulitzer, Mrs. Moses Taylor Pyne, Mrs. Herbert L. Satterlee, Charles R. Scott, Mrs. Charles R. Scott, B. Aymer Sands, Edward W. Sheldon, Mrs. James Speyer, Robert E. Tod, Mrs. Hamilton McK. Twombly, Henry Waters Taft, Mrs. Henry Waters Taft, Mrs. Oakleigh Thorne, William Turnbull, Le Comte de Viel-Castel, Professor E. H. Wilson, F. R. H. S., and the Rev. W. Wilks, secretary, Royal Horticultural Society of Great Britain.

DANCE PARTNERS

Scarcity of Men at Dances Encourages Women to Dare on the Floor Alone.

WHETHER or not women should dance with each other is an interesting side issue of this dance. More and more women come out on the dancing floor with women partners. This is so, perhaps, because the leisure class of men is not yet as large as the number of women who wish to dance at the tea hour. Louis C. Fraina, until recently associate editor of "The Modern Dance Magazine," says it is a case of plain necessity. Either they have to dance with the few instructors the hotel has in attendance or else they dance together. "The instructors are not, as a class, as fine as they might be," Mr. Fraina observes. "They constitute, in themselves, a class of idle young men, to whom dancing means an easy living and nothing more. The mere fact that the instruction is mechanical and that the dancers are held at a time of day when all people who work are still in their offices tends to limit the instructors to a very definite class. Safe and Enjoyable. "Many women who may feel at liberty to go where they will at tea time do not feel that they dare run the risk of dancing with practically unknown men. Others find it not only safer but more enjoyable to dance with their women friends."

Ballet dancing is done almost altogether by women, yet one never thinks the spectacle less delightful because of this fact. The young maidens of Greece danced together, and in the revivals we see today there is the same haunting joy wedded to vigor of motion in their dance. Yet we stop abruptly when it comes to the participation of women only in a modern social dance. Should the gap of men at dancing still continue, however, the public may finally be reconciled to even this change in social custom. New Dances Vital. Speaking of the progress that dancing has made in the last three years, Mr. Fraina says: "The vitality of the new dances is proven by their triumphant rise out of the crudity and exaggeration in which they started. "Take the old turkey trot and its beautiful successor of to-day, the one-step. The old turkey trot was an exaggerated and crude swinging of the body from side to side, accentuated by throwing the feet out from side to side also. As the new dances developed and the individual dancing acquired more poise and grace, the feet were kept close to the floor and the swinging and jumping of the body transformed into a gliding, waving movement. The one-step is the turkey trot transformed into art. "The tango went through the same clarifying process. When first introduced into New York people danced a crude trot and modified Texas Tommy and called them the tango. When the genuine tango came to New York it was a revelation. Essentially an artist's dance, the tango is a wonderfully pliable instrument of self-expression."

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