

# The HOME BEAUTIFUL

Flowers and Shrubbery  
Their Care and Cultivation



Pansies.

## COLORS IN ANNUALS

By L. M. BENNINGTON.

For summer flowering, annuals are very satisfactory, blooming profusely through the entire season, while the cost of a seed packet is but a trifle.

Good taste dictates the system of planting large bunches of single species together rather than the old way of mixing a dozen varieties in as many square feet.

It is the same plan that places a dozen carnations or roses in a vase rather than the heterogeneous collection in the old-fashioned bouquet. Mass your flowers if you would secure the best effect.

The old calliopsis, "lady's breastpin" they used to call it, is a handsome plant, its long slender stems rendering it extremely useful for cutting, and the shades of gold and brown harmonizing nicely.

Some handsome forms of single dahlias may be secured by planting a packet of the seeds in pots early in

the spring and transplanting the young seedlings to the garden as soon as danger from frost is over.

The colors of some are very fine and to one liking the single flowers the plan is a good one of getting a variety at a small price; but unless started very early these seedlings rarely mature tubers that will keep through the winter, though they commence flowering almost as soon as the plants are started from the tubers.

The chrysanthemum-flowered asters are much more pleasing, both grown in masses and for cutting, than the quilled bouquet sorts. If but two kinds are chosen, let them be lavender and white with rose as a third choice.

When ordering seeds there is a strong temptation to order mixed packets, yet if the very finest specimens are expected, the surer way is to single out one or two of the choicest colors.

These are made up from the best individuals, while the mixed packets are what the name implies, though in many instances highly satisfactory.



Water the Gloxinia.

## WORK-A-DAY NOTES

By L. M. BENNINGTON.

If the season is a dry one some of the plants in the garden will have to be watered if you want flowers from them. Especially is this true of gloxinia.

Use enough water to penetrate all the soil in which their roots grow, and see that it is kept moist.

Watering today and neglecting for a week to come isn't the proper thing. Save the suds from wash day for this purpose. The snap in the water will benefit the plants.

Be sure to supply substantial supports for your dahlias. If this is not done you will likely find them broken some morning after a sudden wind or a hard rainstorm. The stakes should be at least four feet tall—allow an extra foot and a half for insertion in the ground and they should be at least an inch through, and of good sound wood. Paint them a dull green and they will not be unpleasantly obtrusive. Tie the stalks to them with broad strips of cloth instead of strings. The latter will cut into the tender branches when they are whipped by the wind.

# Temperance

(Conducted by the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union.)

## WHAT THE PUBLIC NEEDS.

"Life is getting to be too complicated for the use of narcotics," said Dr. S. P. Kramer, the noted surgeon, in a recent address at the Ricketts Research Laboratory, Cincinnati. "The time was when the farmer could drive to town and get tanked up and his friends would put him in the buggy and the sober horse would carry him home. But you can not do that now with automobiles. We know that most of the automobile accidents are after dinners where alcohol has been served, and that not always in excess."

After describing the effects of alcohol as similar to those of chloroform or ether, except for the fact that it works more slowly, he considered its effect upon efficiency in various fields of endeavor, and showed charts proving the lowered working power of compositors, bookkeepers and soldiers after they have taken liquor.

"Put a friend said to me," remarked Dr. Kramer, continuing the same line of argument, "Doctor, you must know that Mr. Blank, the jury lawyer, is more eloquent in his cups, and that the celebrated actor was more impressive when drinking." I asked this man if he would want his chauffeur, his locomotive engineer, his surgeon, to drink. He said he would not. Now the orator and the actor are in vocal pursuits. Alcohol makes them more passionate. But the judge on the bench knows that the lawyer is less capable of keen analysis when in his cups, and the trained dramatic critic will tell you that the drinking actor is not coming up to what he should. These men are like the court jesters. The fact is that the higher centers are off the job. The governor is not acting and the engine runs wild. That is all.

"No one nowadays thinks drunkenness is well. What the public needs is instruction about the destructive effect of moderate indulgence."

## EMPTY JAILS.

The following testimony to the advantages of prohibition appeared in one of the newspapers of Sussex county, Delaware:

"The county jail at Georgetown is without a prisoner, and Sheriff Jacob West is idle. The turnkey is on his vacation, chickens are roosting in the cells and the jail yard will probably be planted in early corn unless another applicant appears. The lone prisoner, Elwood Armstrong, who was afraid to stay by himself, was paroled for two years after having confessed to stealing five dozen eggs."

Further testimony as to the workings of prohibition comes from Kalamazoo, Mich. The Gazette of that city on April 5 contains a paragraph headed, "Kalamazoo Without Crime for 48 Hours—Crimeless Period of City's History Follows Knockout of John Barleycorn," and the item reads: "Rooms for rent. Apply within." This is the text of a sign which will likely be tacked on the front door of central police station in another week if the period of quiet continues. Not a cell door in the station house has been opened during the last 48 hours. The 'bull pen' is as barren and quiet as an abandoned country church. There has not been a single drunk arrested since Sunday afternoon. Crime in general appears to be at a standstill."

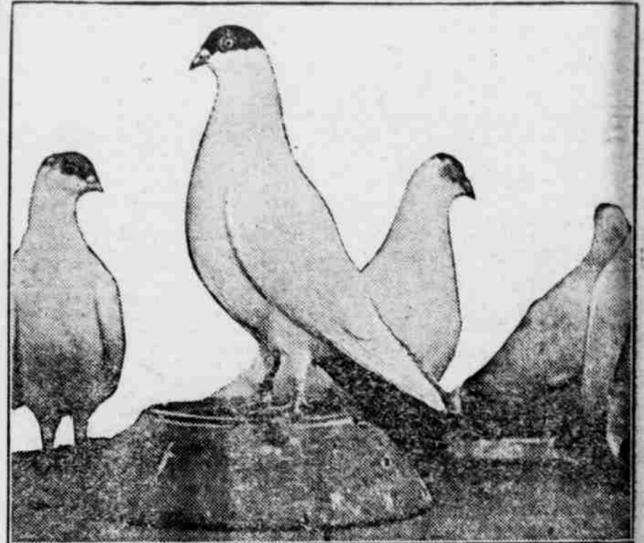
## BOYS AND BREWERIES.

A man was trying to convince another that because of the vested interests involved the people had no right to close the breweries. His friend answered thus: "I have three boys. By the time I graduate them from college they will have cost me about ten thousand dollars apiece. Every interest of the brewery and everything that the brewery stands for is diametrically opposed to and threatens the investment that I have made in my boys. No doubt the brewer has more than thirty thousand invested in his plant, but I am going to safeguard my own interests first. I shall vote dry within ten minutes after the polls open if I can get my ballot by that time."

## JOHN BARLEYCORN SENTENCED.

In pronouncing sentence on over one hundred men, including the mayor of Terre Haute, Ind., for conspiracy in election frauds, Judge Anderson of the United States district court passed sentence as well on John Barleycorn. He said: "My notion is that the saloon will have to go. I believe that the time will come when the people will rise up and smash the saloon, at least as we have it now. The evidence in this case showed that the saloons were the center of nearly all the corruption in the election at Terre Haute."

## BEGINNER MUST GO SLOWLY WITH SQUABS



Helmet Pigeons.

(By FRED A. SOTTER.)

Would a man raising breeding homers for sale offer a single pair to another if half the fabulous tales of profit were true? Most assuredly not.

A pair of mated homers can be raised to maturity, that is a breeding age, from squabs for a certain fixed sum, varying from two to three dollars per pair, depending upon the locality and the number of pairs raised at one time. When birds are offered for sale at a lower price than above stated look for the "nigger in the woodpile," for he is sure to be there.

There are many reputable firms selling and raising mated homers, but there are many disreputable ones, so the beginner must go slowly or else learn by experience to pick the good from the bad breeders—this often at the cost of many dollars.

The guarantees offered by so-called squab companies are often misleading and—it has been proved in the United States courts—it is sometimes very difficult to prove a misrepresentation even when everybody is morally certain that fraud was intended.

Consider well your own ability and pocketbook before putting a single dollar into breeding homers.

Raising squabs for market never did nor ever will make a man wealthy, without he puts every ounce of business ability he possesses into the work. If he expects to feed his stock or have it fed for him three times daily and then, at stated periods, gather the squabs, sell them and pocket the money, putting in his time telling his friends about his squab farm,

he will find himself at the end of the month sadly in need of money for his feed bills.

Squabbing is just like any other business; it will bring nice returns for every dollar invested and will repay the squabber well for every ounce of energy he employs, but he must keep at it always. A single day of neglect will do more damage than a week of attention will repair.

The early days, when squabbing was in its infancy, were full of big profits for the squabber, even if he was a little "loose" in his management. Those days wheat was cheap, and corn and all the domestic feeds; squabs, too, brought a fixed price per pair, regardless of color or weight of the meat.

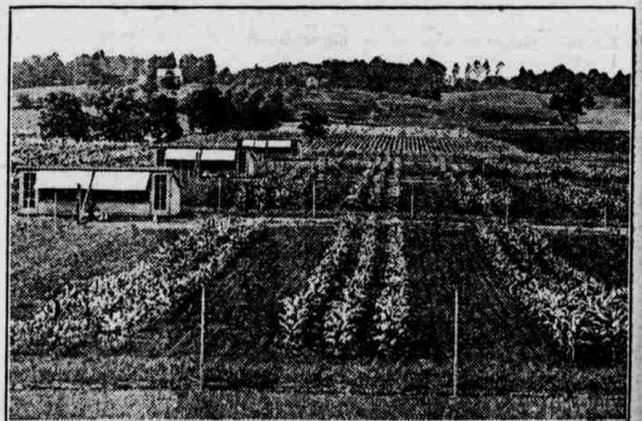
Today, with wheat high and other feeds in proportion, with squabs graded by the ounce in prices and by the color of the meat, every item of expense and attention must be carefully considered and made to help toward heavy, white squabs.

The lofts must have the best possible attention and position, with as warm an exposure as possible. They must be high and dry and well protected from weasels, rats, etc.

The birds must be carefully watered and fed three times every day, and the four or five hours of daylight left to the squabber when all feeding and watering is done are best spent watching for sickness in the lofts, and looking for the little omissions we all make.

Take care that the birds have plenty of nesting material, charcoal, salt, grit, etc., for their needs.

## EXPENSIVE FENCES ABOUT POULTRY YARD



Poultry Farm Showing Houses to Accommodate Twenty-Five Birds on Each Side, With Lots Set Out in Young Apple Trees and Corn Growing Between the Rows.

(By R. G. WEATHERSTONE.)

Fences about the poultry yards mean an outlay of money, and this outlay is more or less continuous, as they must be maintained after being installed. There should be as few fences as possible dividing the lots and the yards, as land can be kept "sweet" more easily if not fenced, and fresh, sweet land is a valuable asset in poultry raising.

On good soil, a greensward may be kept up by allowing 200 to 250 square feet of land per bird. This means 217 or 174 birds per acre. More space is necessary on poor or light land. A larger number of fowls are usually kept to the acre where double yards are used and the land is frequently cultivated. Plymouth Rocks, and the other heavy meat breeds in small yards require fences 5 to 6 feet high, while a fence 6 to 7 feet high is necessary for Leghorns. The upper two feet of the fence for the latter may be inclined inward at an angle of 30 degrees, or a strand of barbed wire may be used on top of the regular wire to

keep them confined. It is also sometimes necessary to clip the wing feathers of one wing of those birds that persist in getting out. A board or strip along the top of the fence is not advisable. Hens will often fly over such an arrangement.

Posts may be set or driven into the ground. They should be set 8 to 10 feet apart with common poultry netting, or 16 to 20 feet with woven wire. Corner posts should be about 8 inches in diameter, and be set 4 feet in the ground, while intervening posts may be 4 or 5 inches in diameter and set 3 feet in the ground. That part of the post which is set in the ground may be charred or treated with some wood preservative to advantage, while corner posts should be firmly braced or set in cement.

## Trough for Pigs.

A good trough may be made for the little pigs out of a long, narrow, shallow box of any kind. Wet bran allowed to soak into the cracks will make it milk tight.