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The Homemaker's Bookshelf

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Perennials for Perpetual Bloom

By JUANITA BEARD

Perhaps you are not fully acquainted with the layout of a perennial garden. The most effective groupings are in borders facing down a shrubbery planting or in a formal bed arrangement. If the formal garden path is developed remember to have the flower beds accessible by little paths—the beds being from three to five feet wide and the paths not less than two feet wide.

Any good loose garden soil will grow perennials successfully. It is well to spade and reset all the perennials every three years. Some of the plants, however, such as peonies and bleeding heart, are benefited by being allowed to stay in one place permanently, but the others are greatly improved by taking up, dividing and resetting in the fall. The dead tops and stalks should remain on the plants until spring. Cultivation should cease in the fall after danger from weed seeds maturing is past. It is safest to cover plants after the first heavy frosts, as mulches applied too early are very injurious to the plants, encouraging top growth which decays during the winter. The time for removal of the mulch depends on local conditions, but one should be sure that all danger from extreme weather is past, and then the mulch can be removed gradually.

In the group of plants which should be divided at least every two years are the vigorous types of the garden phlox and Boltonia. Those to be divided every three years are common garden phlox, painted daisy, larkspur, lily-of-the-valley, and some of the asters.

Summer care of the perennial garden consists of watering well at least once a week, and of removing all dead flowers in late September. It is a common back to a height of four to six inches immediately after blooming so that new shoots will form, bearing excellent flowers in late September. It is a common mistake to treat campanulas in the same manner—they should have each withered flower removed, one stem often bearing flowers for several weeks under this treatment.

It is a fascinating study to observe color combinations, and a source of endless pleasure to strive to mix these pigments from nature’s paint box in a manner unexcelled by nature’s most “gardenesque” neighbors. The following list will give some suggestions of effective combinations.

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The Homemaker's Bookshelf

By GERTRUDE MCARTHUR

Shall the home library include only books of fiction, biographies and history? The up-to-the-minute homemaker today is doing her work more efficiently by consulting authorities in her profession and in the home library we find the Homemaker's Bookshelf.

The books suggested below are recommended by members of the Home Economics faculty as being ones which should be helpful to the woman in her home.

Family Relationships


The author discusses the responsibilities of each member of the family and their relationships to one another.

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THE HOMEMAKER'S BOOK SHELF

The purpose of this manual is to enable one to render immediate, temporary assistance to persons suffering from an accident or from illness.

Nutrition

1. Feeding the Family, by Mary Swartz Rose. Macmillan Company, Chicago, 1918. $2.60.
Several chapters are devoted to the food requirements of the individual members of a typical family group, and other chapters deal with the food problems of the family group as a whole.


Foods—Buying, Preparing and Serving

A usable book on food preparation for the economical housewife.


A new book for the homemaker on buying, preparing and serving of meals.

Helpful suggestions on marketing and ways of making the household tasks easier are found here.

Textiles and Clothing

An extremely helpful book on the selection of materials.

2. Essentials of Sewing, by Rosalind Cook. 1924. $1.25.

The information in this book will be helpful in the selection of appropriate clothing and in the care of that clothing.

4. Household Processes

Child Care and Training

A book of short stories which are extremely readable as well as valuable for use in the training of children.

A book on the training of the child from birth until he has chosen his vocation.

Interior Decoration

A practical book for those who are decorating or furnishing their homes.

Jeanette Beyer, formerly editor of the Iowa Homemaker, who has been working for the Washburn-Crosby Company in Cleveland, Ohio, has been transferred to Montana, where she will have her headquarters.

Brighten Up Your Home

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