

bloom, having bloomed all summer, but it will give you a good growth of leaves, if kept well attended to. And thrifty, clean leaves are lovely—especially when the ground outside is covered with ice and snow. Plants from which bloom may be reasonably expected should have been potted long ago, and kept growing thriftily, pinching off all buds, but young plants, potted even now, having good roots and given good care, will give some blooms late in the winter.

A beautiful plant, which will grow and bloom readily indoors, is the ivy-leaved geranium. A large plant of it, taken up carefully and not allowed to dry out, will be a thing of beauty all the winter days. Another satisfactory plant is the dwarf canna, now growing in your garden. Some rainy day, take up the plant, or some of the side sprouts, give it a large pot and plenty of rich soil, keeping the soil constantly moist, and set it in a warm, sunny window, and watch it grow.

There are so many plants that one can grow satisfactorily in the window of even the busiest sitting room, that a bare window seems a reproach. Where gas is used for lighting or fuel, however, it is hard to have a satisfactory window garden. Even a fire of anthracite coal is distasteful to plant life. But something will grow, if we only find out what it is.

The Asparagus Bed

It is to be hoped that you have one. Very effective cultivation can be given the asparagus bed in the late summer and early fall months. The summer growth should be cut and burned during September; after this the ground should be worked deeply with a disc harrow, or plowed, and this cultivation may go to the depth of the crowns, but should not go quite so deeply, for fear of hurting the crowns. After working the soil, liberal applications of stable manure, or proper commercial fertil-

THE WAY OUT

Change of Food Brought Success and Happiness

An ambitious but delicate girl, after failing to go through school on account of nervousness and hysteria, found in Grape-Nuts the only thing that seemed to build her up and furnish her the peace of health.

"From infancy," she says, "I have not been strong. Being ambitious to learn at any cost I finally got to the High School, but soon had to abandon my studies on account of nervous prostration and hysteria.

"My food did not agree with me, I grew thin and despondent. I could not enjoy the simplest social affair for I suffered constantly from nervousness in spite of all sorts of medicines.

"This wretched condition continued until I was twenty-five, when I became interested in the letters of those who had cases like mine and who were being cured by eating Grape-Nuts.

"I had little faith but procured a box and after the first dish I experienced a peculiar satisfied feeling that I had never gained from any ordinary food. I slept and rested better that night and in a few days began to grow stronger.

"I had a new feeling of peace and restfulness. In a few weeks, to my great joy, the headaches and nervousness left me and life became bright and hopeful. I resumed my studies and later taught ten months with ease—of course using Grape-Nuts every day. It is now four years since I began to use Grape-Nuts, I am the mistress of a happy home and the old weakness has never returned." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

"There's a reason." Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pages.

izer, should be made. If stable manure is used, the application may be made over the rows of crowns in a strip two feet wide. It is well to plow first the length of the row, then, after a rain has settled the soil, again plow it cross-wise, applying the stable manure after the second plowing, and a third plowing, starting with a back-furrow over each row, will cover the manure and lightly hill the line of rows. After this plowing, and before the soil has packed, a heavy harrow should be run lengthwise of the row to level the ridges, leaving only a slight depression between the rows. If you have hardwood ashes, a light application of this will do good.

If you have no asparagus bed, study up the matter and set one next spring. You will never realize the value of one until you have learned to look upon asparagus as a "steady" diet, and no longer a luxury beyond your means.

The Odds and Ends

The last of the jars are now to be filled, and the end of the pickling and preserving season is near. Many things may be made of the odds and ends of the fruit and vegetable gardens, and for these we give a few tested recipes.

Sweet Pickle Peppers.—Take ripe, sweet peppers, remove the seeds, cut in quarters and soak in salt water over night. Drain, and scald in weak vinegar until tender. Drain again, and put them into very hot water, rinse cans and pack the peppers in them, and cover with a boiling hot syrup made of one and one-half cups of granulated sugar and one cup of vinegar, boiled sufficiently to make it "syrupy." Seal in air-tight jars.

To Can Elderberries for Pies.—Pick over the berries and put on to cook in a very small quantity of water—just enough to keep them from scorching until their own juice is liberated. To every quart of fruit add a tablespoonful of sugar, one of vinegar and one of cranberries—if you can get them at canning time; if not they may be added when the elderberries are opened for use. Can as other fruits.

Sweet Pickle Pears.—Take medium size smooth, solid pears; pare them and put into a stone jar; for six quarts of pears, take one pint of cider vinegar and two pints of sugar; heat in a porcelain or granite kettle to a boil, and pour boiling hot over the fruit. Cover the jar with a plate and set away until next morning. Pour the juice off into a kettle, heat as before and pour over the fruit again. Do this every morning for six mornings; then, the seventh morning let the juice boil fifteen minutes. If any scum rises, take it off. Drop in a handful of whole cloves and allspice, mixed, and then drop in the pears. Let them boil steadily for several minutes. With a skimmer or spoon, lift the pears out carefully, place in Mason jars, pour the boiling juice over the fruit, the can being packed full; wipe the top of the can, adjust the rubber and seal as tight as possible. Cling-stone peaches are fine done the same way.

Disinfectants

All drains should be flushed with several gallons of water daily. The best and cheapest disinfectants are chloride of lime, which comes in packages at ten cents a pound, or permanganate of potash, which may be bought in either liquid form, which is more expensive, or in a dark red crystal powder at any drugstore for twenty-five cents an ounce. As this, when in solution, stains everything it touches a deep brown, the powder should be dissolved in an old vessel, using about half a teaspoonful to a pint of water, being careful not to splash it. Permanganate of potash is an excellent deodorizer to be used in the sick room. The solution may be


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stood in a bowl or saucer in the corner of the sick room, and when it has done all in its power to absorb the bad odors its color changes from a bright deep crimson to a dirty brown. It is then of no further use, and should be thrown away and replaced by fresh.—Ex.

Hydrangea Paniculata

This magnificent hardy shrub deserves better treatment than it gets. If left to grow as it pleases, the weak stems can not support its panicles of bloom, and must be tied or propped up. To get the best results set a three-year-old plant, give it a well drained situation, away from other plants; feed it well, remove all buds and prune severely for two years, and the third year you will have a plant with thick, stocky stems,

which will give you magnificent returns for your care. The shrub is hardy as an oak, and will almost take care of itself, but appreciates good treatment.

Peach Butter

Do not peel the peaches; take either cling or free-stones, cut from the seeds, wash in warm water and cook until soft. When done, rub through a colander or fruit press. Return to the fire, in a porcelain-lined kettle and add to them sugar to taste; boil down nearly as thick as wanted, stirring constantly, then add such spices as you like, if any, and finish cooking. Put into small jars while hot, and the top will glaze over as it cools. The skin of the peach adds to the flavor, as well as saving time to the housewife.