

LIFE IN THE GARDEN

Official Organ of the New Zealand Sweet Pea Society and Auckland Horticultural Society.
By Veronica.

All communications for "Veronica" should be addressed to "Graphic" Office, Auckland. Secretaries of Horticultural Societies are invited to send us short reports of their proceedings, and also any items of interest to Horticulturists. Photographs of Flowers, Fruit, or New Vegetables, or Garden Scenes, will be welcomed.

SHOW DATES.

Schedules may be obtained on application to the Secretaries.

Rose and Carnation Club's Show, Wellington, at Town Hall, November 16.

Auckland Horticultural Society.—Summer Show, Choral Hall, November 18 and 19. W. Wallace Bruce, Secretary, Swanson-street.

Hobson Horticultural and Industrial Society.—Annual Show, Aratapu, N. Wairoa, Saturday, November 19th, 1910.

Napier Amateur Horticultural Society.—Summer Show, November 23. Chrysanthemum Show, April, 1911. Hon. Secretary, J. G. H. Murdoch, P.O. Box 35, Napier.

Masterton Horticultural Society.—Summer Show, November 23. Autumn Show, February —, 1911. Secretary, H. M. Boddington, P.O. Box 23, Masterton.

Featherstone.—November 24.

Hamilton Horticultural Society.—Summer Show, November 24, 1910.

Auckland Sweet Pea and Carnation Show, Choral Hall, December 1 and 2. W. W. Bruce, Secretary.

National Sweet Pea Society of New Zealand, Palmerston North, December 7 and 8. E. A. Osmond, Secretary, Stratford.

Wellington Rose and Carnation Club.—The Summer Show will be held in the Town Hall, Wellington, on Wednesday, December 14.

Canterbury Horticultural Society.—Rose Show, December —; Chrysanthemum Show, May —, 1911.—Secretary, Miss E. Sneyd-Smith, Manchester Street, Christchurch.

Kaponga Horticultural Society.—Annual Show, Atheneum Hall, February 16, 1911. L. H. Baigent, Hon. Secretary.

Timaru Floral and Horticultural Society.—Autumn Show, Olympia Hall, Timaru, February 16 and 17, 1911.—Hon. Secretary, James K. McDonald, Beverley Road.

Eketahuna.—March 3, 1911.

SEEDS TO SOW THIS MONTH.

Vegetable.—Beet, Beans (French or Kidney, Dwarf and Runners), Carrot (main crop), Cucumbers, Celery, Lettuce, Melons (of all kinds), Parsley, Parsnip, Pumpkins, Peas (main crop), Radish, Spinach, Squashes, Turnips, Vegetable Marrow.

Flower.—Aeroclinium, Balsam, Celosias, Cockscombs, Cosmos, Coleus, Centaureas, Dahlias, Golelias, Helichrysum, Iponomea, Larkspur, Mignonette, Nasturtium, Ornamental Grasses, Phlox Drummondii, Poppies, Portulacae, Petunias, Sunflower, Sweet Peas, Zinnias.

Plant Out.—Cape Gosecherries, Cucumber, Cabbage, Celery, Cauliflower, Kumoras, Lettuce, Leeks, Melons, Onions, Potatoes, Passion Fruit, Rhubarb, Sugar Corn, Tomatoes.

Flower Roots.—Begonias, Gladioli, Tuberoses.

Flowering Plants.—All hardy and half-hardy sorts.

GENERAL GARDEN WORK.

The Vegetable Garden.

October is the busiest month of the year in the garden. All growing crops demand constant attention; weeding, thinning out, earthing up, and transplanting. Late crops of potatoes should be got in as early as possible, and those above ground should have the earth drawn towards the roots and sprayed once a fortnight. If rain falls soon after spraying has been done, the crop should be gone over again. All kinds of dwarf and tall French beans can be sown at intervals of ten days, or weekly when a constant supply is required. Choose a dry, sunny position for these crops, and have the ground well worked. Main crops of peas must be sown during the month, and earlier sowings, when ready, slightly moulded up and staked where necessary. Tomatoes and Cape gooseberries can be set out in well-prepared soil, giving the plants plenty of room. Kumeras may be transplanted about the

Rough on Slugs for their destruction. Larks are very destructive to young peas and other seeds just pushing through the soil. Scatter a few grains of poisoned wheat, which will thin them a little.

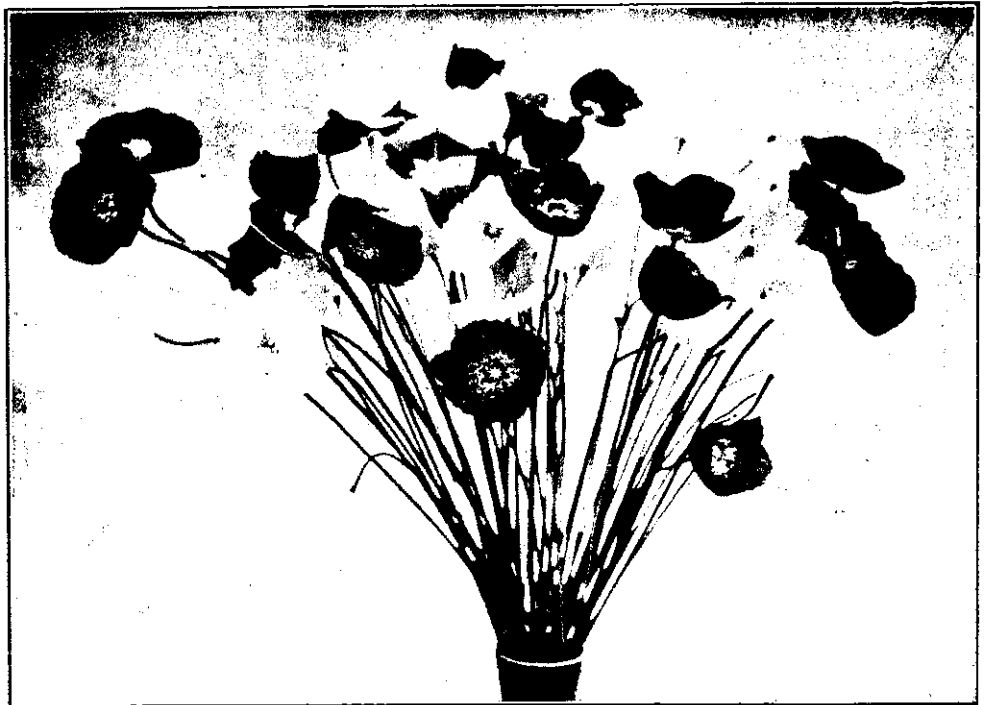
The Flower Garden.

In the flower garden, bedding plants must be got in their places as soon as possible. Begonias, gladioli, and other bulbs should be got in this month. Dahlias should be propagated by cuttings from the old roots. Where this cannot be undertaken, the old tubers may be divided—using the parts showing buds or eyes—and planted in the garden. Dahlias can also be successfully grown from seeds, which should be sown without delay. Roses will benefit by a mulch; keep down green fly by syringing with Gishurst's Compound or Nicotine Soap. Sweet peas are now advancing in growth. These should be staked or supported by some simple contrivance, and lightly tied with raffia till the tendrils get a good

Floral Fete at Shrewsbury.

FINEST SHOW IN THE WORLD.
80,000 VISITORS IN ONE DAY.

On the 17th and 18th of August the Shropshire Horticultural Society held its thirty-sixth annual floral fete in the Quarry at Shrewsbury. For some years past the exhibition has held unchallenged a supreme position, and again and again the question is put, "Why this extraordinary prosperity at Shrewsbury?" Finding the public responsive to every effort made to cater for them—which proved that they understood their wants—the promoters used to the full the experience gained year by year, and expended their funds freely in developing their organisation on lines which results have always shown were the right ones.



W. J. Vasey, photo.

A BUNCH OF ICELAND POPPIES.

middle or end of this month. These may be set in rows or in hills five feet apart. Seeds of melons—water, rock, and pie—can be sown, also cucumbers, squashes, and pumpkins. Water and rock melons should have six feet of space between each hill, and pie melons, pumpkins, squashes, and marrow nine to ten feet. All of these crops like plenty of well-rotted manure. Cucumbers and melons raised under glass should be planted out in genial weather after being well hardened off. A good plan of getting these well started into growth after planting out, is to procure small boxes and knock out the top and bottom, placing a sheet of glass over them. Slugs and snails are very troublesome; use shell lime, or

hold. Carnations require attention to keep the slug pest down. Get ready stakes for supporting the flower stems, and tie these up as soon as ready. Seeds of annuals of many kinds can be sown, not forgetting a patch of mignonette. Ornamental grasses are very useful for decorations, and a few varieties should be sown in every garden where cut flowers are in demand. Late flowering bouvardias should be pruned close, and any vacancies filled with new plants. Lawns require frequent mowings and also rolling. Walks and edgings kept clean and trim. Narcissus, which have finished flowering, must be left to ripen, and on no account should the foliage be cut till quite ripe.

The old town is known to thousands for its cherished relics of the past, but to how many more, it may well be asked, is it known almost solely for its floral fete? It forms a wonderful object lesson. It makes impressions upon the mind that are well nigh ineffaceable, and the beauty and glory of it all seem never to disappoint, even where the most fertile imagination has been engaged, so that over and over again one hears the confession that the real picture out-classes all that has been conceived of it. As the crowds pass through the "Pavilions of Flora" before bewitching groups and row after row of flowers, in colour more gorgeous than the rainbow, all abandon themselves to their grateful in-