



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, Fruits or New Vegetables, or Garden Scenes, will be welcomed.

SHOW DATES.

Schedules may be obtained on application to the Secretaries.

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

GARDEN NOTES.

Crops which are done with should have all refuse cleared off and burned before the heavy winter rains fall. We advocate burning on the refuse heap in order to destroy all weed seeds and spores.

The compost heap should be turned, and some unslacked lime mixed in when doing so. Composts should always be worked over when in a dry condition, and the raw material always placed in the bottom layer.

All vacant pieces of ground should be dug or forked over or trenched where

necessary, and either left in a rough condition exposed to the elements, or sown down with oats, barley, or mustard, which later on can be turned down as green manuring.

Onions can be sown for transplanting, and also a small patch of carrots and turnips. A sowing of early peas of some hardy sort may be made. Pride of the Market, although not the earliest, is a good kind for the season. Broad beans, either Longpods or Windsors, can be planted in rows 2½ ft apart and 4 in between the beans.

Keep the hoe going amongst cabbage, broccoli, lettuce, and all other growing crops, earthing up as they advance in growth. Don't neglect to thin out growing crops of turnips, carrots, etc.

Kumeras should be dug and stored away in a dry, cool place; pumpkins, pie-means, squashes, etc., can be carefully gathered and stored if the ground on which they are growing should be needed for other purposes, but experience shows that these keep better if left on the vines as long as possible. Of course, where rats or mice abound they must be lifted and

stored where these pests cannot reach them—not always an easy undertaking. Elevated shelves erected outside, and so constructed that a cat can get around, we have found the safest means of keeping these winter vegetables.

The planting of potato onions, tree onions, shallots, and garlic can be put in hand during the month. These will grow on almost any soil if fairly rich. Potato onions will grow where seed is not successful.

A-paragus beds should be top-dressed, all old stems cut down; fork over the surface soil, and then dress with stable manure 4 in thick; some salt, or kaimiti, should be scattered on the manure.

Sow sweet peas in pots, boxes, or in open—red lead the seed before sowing to protect against mice. Plant out anemones, ranunculus, early gladioli, and other bulbs in their flowering quarters this month.

Cut down herbaceous perennial plants which have done flowering, and, where required, propagate by dividing the roots. Aquilegias are best left undisturbed till spring before subdividing. Plant out layers of carnations and picotees into beds or borders prepared for their reception.

HORTICULTURAL NOTES.

Queen Mary will, on the occasion of her Coronation, be presented by the Worshipful Company of Gardeners, with a bouquet of pink Carnations. Her Majesty having expressed a desire for this flower.

Messrs King, of Sweet Pea fame, have named one of their novelties Queen Mary, and the famous Amayllis growers, Messrs Ker and Son, Liverpool, have also given Her Majesty's name to a magnificent specimen of white Hippeastrum. Horticulturists are loyal to the core!

The Duke of Bedford has given £100 to the Peter Barr Memorial Fund. This fund is to be kept open for some time yet.

The Albert Park in Auckland has some splendid examples of "bedding" this season. The "carpet" bedding is particularly good, and we were delighted with a large bed of tuberous-rooted Begonias, the flowers of which were very rich and varied in colour, and of immense size.

Which is the coming flower! The Sweet Pea undoubtedly holds the premier position to-day, but like everything else, it will, by and by, have to take a subordinate position. What will super-



W. J. Vasey, photo. A MAGNIFICENT REPRESENTATION OF A SPRING GARDEN AT THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S BULB SHOW, LONDON.