

delivery in the month of May. As before stated, planting of this kind is often unsuitable and too varied. If careful study is given to plans—and the permanent character of the work demands it—there is no reason why it should not be harmonious and original. Nowhere else in the world is nature more kind in helping the gardener to make gardens of taste and beauty.

In gardens where native plants predominate the association of hydrangeas and fuchsias in the excellent varieties now available have been admirably demonstrated lately. They are effective in providing suitable summer bloom in the partly shaded sections of the garden which the native plants do not provide. Among a few natives too rare in our gardens is kaiku (*Parsonsia heterophylla*), the New Zealand jasmine, a hardy climber that is found growing at the foot of the ramarama (*Myrtus bullata*) or other small tree, up which it twines and displays its scented flowers in spring among the foliage of its host. It appears to be a happy combination that is mutually satisfactory.

We are inclined to be rather apologetic about our native orchids, but here are two that deserve high praise in any company: Raupeka (*Earina suaveolens*) is a hardy winter-flowering species sometimes found on steep clay hills partly shaded by bush, growing in a little soil and leaf mould that has formed a drift in the fine network of the roots of some ground fern. Wet or dry it seems quite happy, as in summer often its roots appear so dry that most plants would wither up. In a similar position, and sometimes together, will be found *Dendrobium Cunninghamii*, a summer-flowering orchid, its curved wiry stems and small foliage having all the grace of the popular asparagus grown in hanging-baskets; but to these attractions it adds its much larger and curious flowers. These two orchids are admirably adapted for hanging-baskets on the veranda, the walls of a fernery, or a place in a partially shaded rock-garden.

—W. C. Hyde, *Horticulturist*, Wellington.

## AGRICULTURAL SHOWS, SEASON 1927-28.

THE following show-dates, for the remainder of the current season, have been notified by agricultural and pastoral associations:—

- Franklin A. and P. Association : Pukekohe, 24th and 25th February.
- Waipapu P. and I. Association : Pastoral Show, Ruatoria, 25th February.
- Tauranga A. and P. Association : Tauranga, 29th February.
- Hukerenui Agricultural Association : Hukerenui, 1st March.
- Mongonui County A. and P. Association : Kaitaia, 3rd March.
- Opotiki A. and P. Association : Opotiki, 6th March.
- Morrinsville A. and P. Society : Morrinsville, 7th March.
- Taranaki Agricultural Society : New Plymouth, 7th and 8th March.
- Matamata A. and P. Association : Matamata, 13th March.
- Hawke's Bay A. and P. Society : Autumn Show, Tomoana, 14th March.
- King-country Central A. and P. Association : Te Kuiti, 15th March.
- Kaikoura A. and P. Association : Kaikoura, 16th March.
- Mayfield A. and P. Association : Mayfield, 17th March.
- Hawarden A. and P. Association : Hawarden, 23rd March.
- Temuka and Geraldine A. and P. Association : Geraldine, 27th March.
- Methven A. and P. Association : Methven, 29th March.
- Oxford A. and P. Association : Oxford, 5th April.
- Flaxbourne A. and P. Association : Ward, 19th April.