The Relation of Agriculture to Ethnic and Anthropical.

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The industry of flower-growing and improvement has progressed rapidly in recent years. It has reached the stage where division of labor has given the culture of a single flower to a specialist, who by hybridizing or by propagating some particular variety wins fame and a fortune.

Great flower farms owned and cultivated by women in California and a few southern states yield good profits by shipping their products in refrigeration cars to large eastern wholesale houses.

In the south some private individuals have raised a few acres of flowers for perfumery manufacturers and it is a lucrative and undeveloped field of industry. Small town settlers have facilities for obtaining cut flowers in plants for decoration. Since the establishment of wholesale houses
in large cities is so general, a few ladies have small branch offices
in small towns along the roads
from the cities, and find that the
business is light, pleasant and well-paying.
Comparatively few homes have
flowers, and it seems strange and
inexplicable in view of the fact
that the culture is so easy and fascinating.
It need not take much of a busy
housewife's time to have a few flowers:
geraniums, begonias, foliage and other
commonly cultivated rocks are easily
cared for and give real satisfaction
for indifferent attention.
A good assortment of bulbs
such as narcissus, hyacinth, daffodil
and jonquil will provide the home
with lovely flowers the entire winter
if a little forethought is used in their
selection and planting. With bulbs
as cheap and plentiful as they are,
there seems a reason that any one who should be
without a window of fragrant
flowers that will repay the care
given them in the enjoyment they yield.
In the arrangement of flowers the mistake is commonly made of mixing different kinds together with small regard to color or harmony.

The French have a peculiarly happy knack of making a growing plant fill some odd corner, or bare place so that it seems a part of its surroundings. They never crowd the blossoms together so that they look like a lot of hot, tired faces, and they never make cages and logs out of flowers for table decorations or make any atrocious display of flowers ill-taste.

To good deal of green should be used with any blossom, making a background that shows off its beauty of the bright colors to best advantage.

White flowers, too, are used as a foil to gaily colored ones, making them cleaner and brighter, while adding to the white ones beauty.

A few plants well chosen and tastefully arranged will give much more pleasure than a great
indiscriminate collection of violets, cacti, roses, begonias and vines, jached closely together and almost fighting each other.

A flower screen for a fire place in summer makes a thing of beauty and restfulness through the long, hot days. A few ferns in a zinc jar and some pretty mossy plant as Agyrodium zonale is very satisfactory; or vine can be trained over a wire screen and two or three forest plants may add color.

But while flowers adds beauty to the home, they also, though their loveliness have a higher office to fulfill than mere decoration, for by their abundance they teach gen-

Their culture will make a person more deep and delicate, will give him tact and sympathy, for it is a natural educator.
As at school, they are unsupervised, by any human master. As paintings and statues are beyond the means of the home-maker, flowers will fill their place admirably, and children raised with flowers cannot help but learn lessons of beauty and harmony of color from them. They furnish models for taste that will not fail to tell in after life.

A lady noted for her skillful combinations of colors in her dress was asked where she got her models, and her answer: "from the flowers" should point out the way to a good many unfortunates whose warm colors make them—and their neighbors—die satisfied and who are at a loss to place the trouble.

If flowers were more common in school rooms they would exert a quieting influence on the weary teacher's nerves, and so through him to the pupils and the children themselves would be unconsciously susceptible to their influence.
The effect that flowers have on the health is surprising and can be testified to by any physician. The idea that flowers in the sleeping room are
unhealthy is denied by authority who even say that on the contrary they are
beneficial - partly on account of the gone
that a good many fragrant flowers exist
in hospitals where benevolent ladies make it their work to distribute
flowers to the sick, whose power to cheer
and refresh can be plainly seen. A
sick child will reach for a bright
flower and snatching and fondling it will
grow quiet. The flower days of the hos-
pitals are looked forward to with eagerness
by every patient.

The beauty of a window of
flowers, or a bed of gorgeous blossom
does not only help to warm, but attracts
and rest every wrong feeling. He will not turn and stare his eyes
on a handsome collection of plants
and who will say that this sight does
not benefit him?

If in every garden come
stress was laid on the necessity of flowers and the boys and girls induced to cultivate them—nursing the sick, and joining the strong and rank, they will learn of them and love some of their awkwardness and tactfulness, for they cannot help but grow gentle and wise when living in a win cowed home, with bright flowers for companions.

The love of flowers is inherent in every woman's heart, for a flower is like a baby, with its face upturned to your own, inviting you to taste its sweetness and caress its velvety surface.

Give a child a few flowers to raise and care for, and a love of nature will be engendered. Every child loves flowers, and through them the mother can teach lessons of truth and uprightness. By likening words to untruth, and flowers to truth, a lesson plain and practical can be given. Many an old person is carried back to his sunny childhood's day by the sight of flowers he loved there, or that were his mother's favorites.
In the presence of their pure beauty it is almost impossible to be cross and irritable, for their silent example of giving to the world their fragrance, and trying to cheer and brighten will make a grumbler ashamed of himself. A young lady clerk always now flowers to keep her good temper and obliging for she said their silent help comforted and made her more patient.

The love of flowers—as any florist can tell—is deep and innate in the heart of the public. Every one from the smiling, innocent baby, to the wrinkled, hardened criminal is susceptible to their beauty.

Flowers may be regarded as evangelists of peace and gladness. To have them in our churches along with music is a gift to the spirit and higher things.

The cities and Amazegids of Palestine are said to be the most beautiful in the world, and they were so much used by Christ in his teachings that we have divine authority for our love of their beauty.
Pure white lilies in their stately, stainless beauty seem to shame all evil thoughts, and their presence and the lessons they teach help a sin-sick soul to live nearer its God.

As there is a place for every plant to grow and blossom, so is there room for the expansion of every manly character. If man be in crowds, but their strength and nobleness will be intensified, as are the fragrance and beauty of the flowers blooming in masses.

From birth to death they play a most important part in our lives. The baby, the graduate, the bride, the dead—all are recipients of this messengers of good wishes, congratulations, love and sympathy.