

# Unreliable Seasons Are Now Forcing Mid-West Gardeners to Change Plans

**Workers Scrap Ancient Convictions and Turn to New Ways and Means to Beat Dry Summers and Different Winter Weather; Formal Garden Is Easiest Type to Manage**

**N**OW that the weather and especially the seasons have ceased being reliable, the gardener has new troubles. Mid-western summers do not offer the same temperature and the same amount of rainfall they did some years ago; neither do the winters live up to old records. All of which means, says Kate Brewster, writing in House and Garden, that we must scrap all ancient convictions and turn to new ways and means.

Miss Brewster, who calls herself the oldest living gardener in the middle west, has very definite ideas how she would go about making a new garden in these uncertain days. The first considerations would be coolness and shade, which would mean, in the long run, nothing much but green and water, with flowers in the spring of a very few varieties that keep their foliage through the summer or that disappear completely after they have bloomed. For summer, if you must have color in the garden, potted plants, set about in orderly groups, would be used.

## Spring Blossoming Flowers

This gardener's ideal garden would be formal because, contrary to accepted theory, that is the easiest sort of a garden to manage under adverse conditions and is kept in order with less effort than the usual modified naturalistic designs. The lines would be straight, the planting austere with only as much grass as can be kept green with artificial watering.

The trees would be elms and thorns, with hemlocks and yews for evergreens. The flowers would be spring flowering bulbs, peonies, lilies and iris. There would be flowering crabs, lilacs and Philadelphus somewhere about to give variety of interest.

This list may seem very restricted, but everything in it, except the bulbs, is handsome throughout the summer, and nothing is so comforting on an overhot day as simplicity and order.

Miss Brewster's ideal formal garden includes terrace, swimming pool, bluestone or slate walks, panels of turf and hemlock hedges. There are long flower beds edged with clipped borders of *Taxus cuspidata* at the ends and outer edges. Against this are planted peonies, iris and lilies. The long, narrow panel which results is planted with Darwin and cottage tulips, which are taken up after they have bloomed. The surface of the ground which they have occupied is then covered with blue or black granite chips and when the other flowers are gone by, plants in groups or rows are arranged on it. The floor of the orchard is planted with daffodils in masses of early and late varieties and for a still later bloom, scilla campanularia, the English bluebell, which is so wholly charming.

## Vines Are Sturdy

Probably you will need vines on your house and in the garden, and certainly you will want more flowers than those mentioned here. The following lists are not long, but everything in them has been grown for 25 years in a midwest garden in dry seasons and wet, hot ones and cold. Like any of your other children they must have proper food and care, but they are reasonably fool and weath-

er proof and can be generally depended upon.

**Vines**—Concord grapes. Bignonia radicans (trumpet vine). Clematis jackmani and montana undulata. Ampelopsis heterophylla.

**Perennials**—Delphinium. Gypsophila pan. fl. pl. Hollyhocks. Thalictrum flavum and aquilegifolium. Bleeding heart. Heuchera. Trollius.

**Summer Flowering Bulbs**—Lilies, tigrinum and regale. Gladioli, all varieties. Tube roses. Lycoris (when established).

**Annuals**—Zinnias. Marigolds, African and French. Nicotiana. Salvia farinacea. Petunias. Torenia.

**Evergreens**—Juniper pfitzeriana. White pine.

Of course, all flowers must have a good deal of sun, but none of them mind surrounding trees, particularly if they are given a little extra fertilizer and water to make up for what the voracious tree roots will steal. If you like, elms may be planted around the picking garden and thorns in the middle of it and a lilac or flowering quince hedge will give a delusion of coolness. One of the very best hedges which will never fail and grow as tall as you like is crataegus crusgalli, the shiny leaved thorn. Do not run the flower rows too close to any hedge. Have a path of stone or gravel at its feet.

## Pots for Color

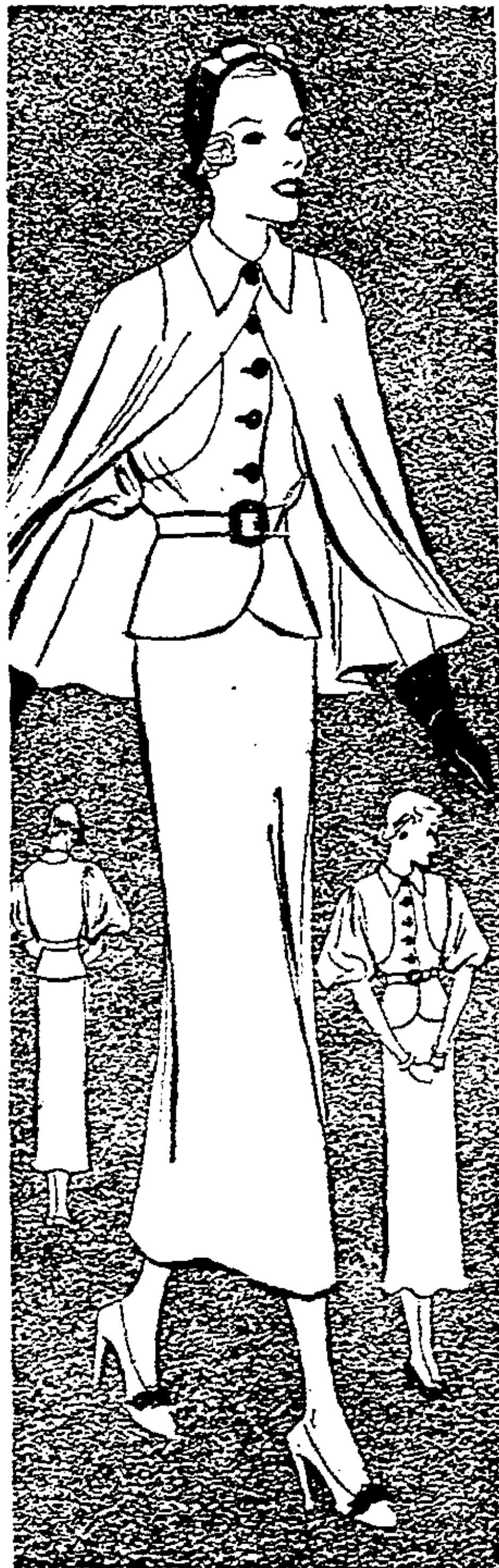
There are plenty of things to be grown in pots for summer color. I would suggest geraniums, double

white, pale pink and salmon, crowded into 14-inch tubs filled with a separate color. These can be massed in the corners on the granite chips or set in prim rows through the middle of the granite strip. They will have recurrent periods of bloom throughout the summer. Regal, auratum and rubrum lilies are also beautiful in pots and there are innumerable annuals such as lemon yellow African marigolds, white nicotiana and ruffled giant Petunias, mixed or white or rose color, that will give a long season of bloom. Nothing is more beautiful than agapanthus during its short season of bloom, and its sword shaped leaves are handsome at any time. If you have a greenhouse, the choice is unlimited, with standard fuchsias and buddleia, heliotrope, white lantana also grown as standards. These are all pale colors and all like hot weather. And do not fail to have a dozen or more ivy balls or pyramids (or both) to set about whenever blooming plants are scarce. Indeed, the more pots of ivy the better, for no green is so cool and fresh. Unfortunately, ivy is very doubtfully hardy in the middle west, so it is best to grow it as a pot plant.

## Flannel Shirtwaist Frock

Beige or light gray flannels represent another smart selection for the shirtwaist frock, and because these neutral shades demand something in the way of a bright note, it's new to tuck a gay emerald green kerchief under your collar. Silk twills, cravat prints and plaid crepes are good for the patterned dress. In monotonous, the vote is for arresting shades, such as tangerine, yellow greens, geranium red, daffodil yellow, violet and fuchsia.

## Betty Ann Pattern



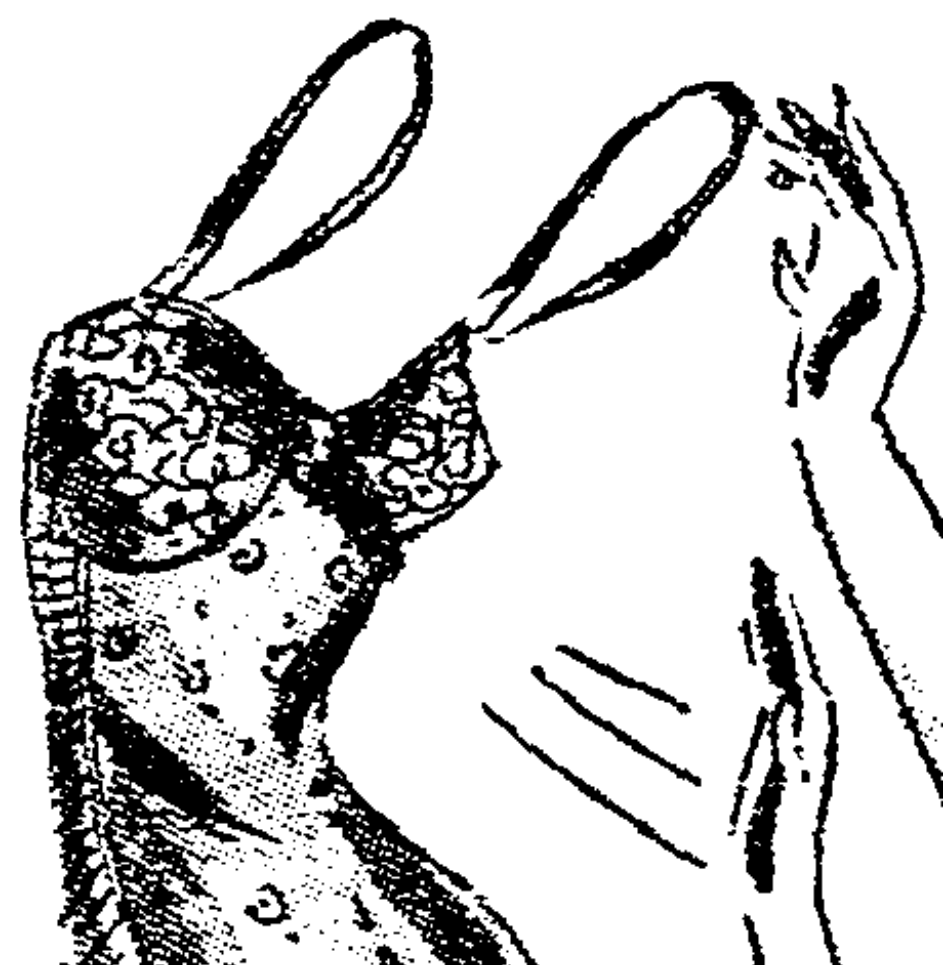
The ensemble in the sketch is keyed to the mushroom silhouette. It has a cape to give proper breadth above the hipline—and such a cape. It is made without a collar so as to slide under the one on the frock and not add bulk.

The frock in itself is a little masterpiece. In 1860 fashion it fastens up to the chin with buttons. The bodice fronts have a seaming detail to add interest and the peplums give it a 1935 slant. The skirt is straight and slim and measures 10 inches from the floor, the correct daytime length. Sleeves show signs of becoming voluminous. These, being styled with an eye toward the future, have all the captivating charm of clothes lately arrived from Paris.

Pattern 1633-B is designed in sizes 14, 16, 18, 20, 40 and 42. Corresponding bust measurements 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42. Size 16 (34) requires five and seven-eighths yards of 39-inch material for dress and cape.

Address requests for patterns to the Public Service Bureau of The Journal. Send 15 cents for each pattern and be sure to state name and address and size and number of pattern plainly in the letter to avoid unnecessary delay. It takes seven to 10 days to fill orders. Pattern books now available at 15 cents.

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