

The LAND SCAPE DEPARTMENT CVJ'HING JMITH, MLA:



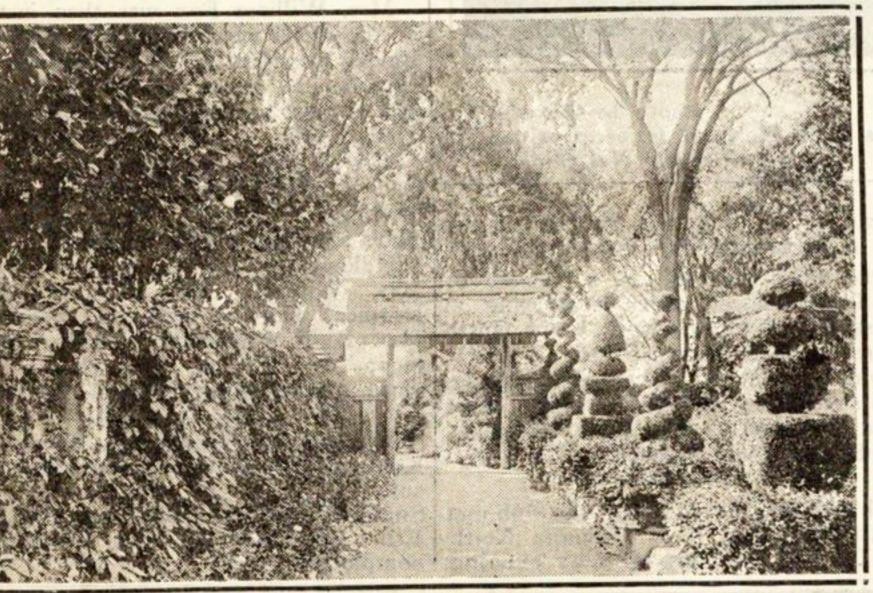
THE AMERICAN GARDEN

There are scenes of native beauty which the artist has caught upon his canvas, or the composer has woven into his melodies which appeal to the imagtime immemorial.

Primarily the home and gardens were walks or for fanciful patterns. a retreat, a haven of protective love from the prying eys of the unknown world, Repton achieved renown, the gardens to which kindly friends were welcomed. have ever been more intimate, more tions. Let us for a moment follow the histori- charming in their details, with unexcal development and the characteristics pected nooks inviting exploration just beof the home gardens from their earlier | youd the borders. In but few other counbeginnings and see what we may gain, tries is the turf so soft, and fine, or the yes,—what we may emulate among the clipped ilex and box so perfectly like inviting gardens give us pause for gardens of yesterday. Space will per- wrought into fantastic forms, or the

when Le Notre, the famed Garden Architect, produced perfect examples o ination. So in every work of art, and garden design, the massive scale of the American Home should be the great- which for out-of-door entertaining has est, we must see deeper than the ma- never been equaled in any other country. terials of which our dreams are builded Here were great promenades, tiny bosto the underlying plans which are the quets hidden in the woodland, long treefoundation of all home structures from lined vistas, parterres of strange designs and colored stones and gravel used for

In old England where Sir Humphrey



many countries from which inspiration ablaze with alpines as about the estates for our home gardens may arise.

Eve because of their sins. It would almost seem as though beautiful gardens were meant for those whose industry, thrift, right living and great dreaming

Within the gardens of Egypt, walled high for privacy, were palms and figtrees, beneath the shade of which played a gay fountain, or where in the waters of a quiet pool, the sacred ibis and the scarlet flamingo made their stately stand. The architecture of that oldest of countries was adapted to the climatic conditions and to the customs of the day, and the low rooms looked out upon the court-yard garden in its earliest form.

The gleam of the Italian lakes as seen from the upper terraces of the gardens of old Italy is a sight once seen, never forgotten. Here the rugged hillsides lent themselves to villas which from above or below presided upon the long series of terraced, balustraded walls which enclosed and ornamented the gardens. Vistas formed by cypress avenues, and delightfully cooled alleys, where fountains and water-falls trill their bright music, pools reflecting the matchless blue of the Italian sky, or the stately formality of the cypress spires, all these and many other happy dreams we take away with us as we leave Italy.

In French chateaus we begin to learn of the grandeur of the days of the kings,

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mit touching upon but a few of the flowers so brilliant, or the rockeries so and country houses of England. It is History has painted our earliest ideal almost as though the pride of possession picture in the Garden of Eden, from the in these fine old homes has grown as the midst of which God drove Adam and years pass by and a new generation takes up the work and the joys of garden and home development. The English people, and we believe the American nation are learning to live out-of-doors and plan made them worthy of the quiet of their houses to accomplish that worthy

> And what can we of America learn of the arts of Landscape Design of other countries. To try to create an English garden beside a French chateau would surely be folly, nor would a Japanese garden with its religious settings look or feel at home beside an English stone and half-timber mansion.

Landscape and Garden Design is but

the art of designing gardens and surroundings for our homes which are adapted to the architectural character of the house, and what is even more important to the mode of living of their owner. In but one or two noteworhty instances has it been at all possible to recreate the elusive beauty of the Italian garden in this part of America. It seems to the writer that such a garden and home is better fitted to the south or far west where both flora and climate are more conducive to the effects secured in sunny Italy.

It is the dream of my co-workers, the architects, to create an American style of residential architecture, and various schools, so-called, of architecture have been developed in our great Middle Western country. To those who would aid this worth-while effort, encourage this group in this undertaking, that the homes of America and her gardens be symbolic of the age and days in which we live. The great expanse of the country and consequent changes in materials of construction, in flora and climate of necessity varies the architectural styles which seem best fitted to these condi-

The Colonial house and garden, with their simple charm may ever appeal to many and their well-proportioned entrances, excellent elevations, and homethought in these bustling days. YOU can help to bring back to American life, to Amercian consciousness the crying need for real examples of American Gardens and American homes, not imitations of the arts of other countries poorly adapted to American conditions but sane virile original styles which will persist long after their designers may have

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