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YOUR GARDEN AND MINE

By Ann Earncliffe Brown (No. 44)

SEPTEMBER is a last-lap month for renovating a mixed border. Where the variety of such a border pleases, but the arrangement of the plants is not to your taste, you may make an entire redistribution of the hardy perennials, plan pockets in which to sow annuals. Weed carefully amongst any drifts of bulbs that may be in bloom or about to bloom, but do not disturb them at this late stage.

In general it is wisest to clean up a border in sections, lifting only those plants that can be divided, if necessary, and re-planted on the same day. Lift any subjects that are not to be divided with a generous ball of earth carefully pressed round the roots. Michaelmas daisies which have grown into very large clumps should be broken up, not by cutting with a spade but by a tearing action. Two small hand forks set back to back make excellent levers to separate strongly knitted roots. In re-planting any divided-up clumps choose the outer plants for re-setting. The inner roots are more apt to be exhausted. September renovations save the gardener who is not familiar with a particular garden from digging up precious roots in his zeal to rid the border of weeds. Spread sacks on lawn if you are obliged to place your dug out plants on it. Should it be necessary to leave any such plants out of the ground be sure to cover them well. Frosts can come in September and exposed roots may suffer severely. Dig your border over with a fork, or if necessary

spade it and then break down with a fork. Lime can be dusted on after digging, and forked in at the rate of from 4 to 8oz. per sq. yd. Bonedust, which is an excellent manure for the mixed border, should be scattered over the surface before digging. If your border is quite bare of plants it is simpler to have a plan of your planting ready and you can then go ahead with the business of returning the plants without wasting time considering the future effect as you work.

Where small shrubs are used in conjunction with the border plants be sure that you do not plant any lime-hating varieties in a soil naturally or artificially containing lime. It is quite pleasing to see veronicas, rosemary, senecio, pernettya, ceanothus and some dwarf conifers in a mixed border and these have an "architectural" value all through the year.

Azaleas, rhododendrons and heaths are very delightful grown in conjunction with lilies—all the lime-hating ones—while spring bulbs of all kinds are happy in such company.

Polyanthus, primroses and violets in mixed shades are very successful with rhododendrons (which range from tiny dwarf varieties of China to the 100-foot trees from Burma). All varieties of rhododendrons like good loamy soil with some sand too. If they can get some peat also they are very happy but they get along nicely lacking this. If, however, your land is chalky or contains lime, be sure you will not be successful with azaleas or the rhododendrons. However, even if your soil is quite poor, dry and sandy, all the gay broom hybrids will thrive and keep your garden bright.

BOXING NOTES

Waimate Is Proud Of Hanham + Gildo
Has Trouble With His Hands + Boost
In Bluff



A SURPRISE to many, but not to Cliff Hanham, was his win against Vic Caltaux at Waimate. The Auckland boxer fought all out; but Hanham both weathered the storm and won the decision.

Hanham was very popular in Waimate after the fight. It is not often that a small district like Waimate produces a dual champion. Hanham is now both middle- and cruiser-weight professional champion of the Dominion. And is his trainer, Bill O'Connor, pleased?

* * *

Young Gildo is resting in Auckland for a month. Both his hands were hurt in his fight with the American negro. A boxer's fists are his tools. Many boxers have had their careers shortened because they have had velvet hands instead of iron fists. Pete Sarraan was one of them, although it was not generally known when he was fighting here. To save his knuckles he used to hit with the heel of his hand. In England and South Africa these methods brought him disqualification.

A revival of the Bluff Boxing Club comes at a time when boxing in Southland is very much in need of a stimulant. As far back as 1920 the sport was popular at the Bluff. It was about that time that Denny Boreham, of Dunedin, and Charlie McQuarrie, of the Bluff, gave the game a great boost with a whirlwind fifteen-rounder, which was won by Boreham on points. Hec. Leckie (later New Zealand professional champion), Les Adams, Frank Vella, W. Cycamore, Son Tall (now a referee), Jack Kelly, Paul McQuarrie, and a host of others kept the pot boiling.

From 1928 until recently Bluff boxing wilted badly. This year has seen its return to prominence, perhaps because the Southland Boxing Association has gone out of existence.

Private Bill Campbell, Burnham Camp, staged a special bout with Jack Kelly. Campbell was one of the best-known boxers in Southland some years ago. Kelly was appearing in the hall where he had fought one of his first bouts, in 1923.

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