

FLOWER FASHIONS

They Change as Women in Society Dictate.

EVER AFTER THE NEW

"La Detroit," Beautiful Rose,
Bred in This City.

Easter Plans for Lilies Sadly Upset by
Demands for Some Other
Varieties.

Fashion in flowers may sound absurd. It is true nevertheless that even the beautiful creations of nature must come under the same iron sway as do the creations of man. Society, ever striving for some new artistic effect, quickly tires of seeing the same blossoms at its parties, dinners, wedding and other functions and seeks out those flowers which have been overlooked or neglected or demands something new of those who develop blossoms.

This is the reason the so-called old-fashioned flower is again much in favor. There is a growing demand for the marigold, the sweet William, forget-me-nots and pansies. This year holyhocks will be especially good. The gardenias which now are so much sought and which sell for the enormous price of \$1 a blossom are nothing more than the old-fashioned jasmine called by another name. Dahlias are coming into great appreciation, especially the large single blossoms, known as the Japanese dahlias. They came in shades of which there are no more beautiful to be found in flowers anywhere.

Nothing Too Daring.

Nothing is coming to be too daring to use in securing effective combinations. Breaking the line of the old conventionalities society is accepting even thistle blooms from its leaders. It would be hard to describe how effective the blossoms of the common thistle is found to be, combined into a centerpiece by the skilled hands of a decorator. The peculiar color would not be obtainable elsewhere.

Roses have undergone a complete revolution within the last five or six years. Tiring of the short stemmed Marshal Niel the demand for long, stiff stemmed tea roses was supplied by the development of the Detroit and Killarney roses and, within the last year, by the Mrs. Potter Palmer and the Mrs. Marshall Field roses, which are the very latest varieties brought forth. The Detroit rose is particularly interesting for its having been developed in Grand Rapids. It is not generally known that the credit for the discovery of this rose, which is a favorite because of its beautiful, deep pink color and its long stem, belongs to George Hopp.

"La Detroit" Bred Here.

Mr. Hopp sold the rose to Mayor John Breitmeyer of Detroit, whose greenhouses are known throughout the middle west. The consideration was large and with it went the privilege of naming the rose. Mayor Breitmeyer chose "La Detroit" and because of this many people believe the rose to have been developed in the City of the Straits. Ten years ago no florist would have believed that a tea rose could exist with a stem as long as that of the longest American Beauty rose. All of these new roses have this possibility. The Mrs. Marshall Field and Mrs. Potter Palmer roses have not been shown in Grand Rapids as yet. They are pink in color and are not very different from the Detroit and Killarney.

Bride roses are suffering a decline because of their stems and many brides today are choosing the white Killarney. Orchids and gardenias are more in favor when the purse will afford them.

Carnations of many new varieties are being developed and the size continues to increase. In Chicago the newest carnation is the Mrs. J. C. Vaughan, named for the wife of the oldest florist in that city. It measures four inches in diameter.

How Fashions Change.

While the fashion in some flowers grows more pronounced, that of others is decreasing. The chrysanthemum which was developed from a small flower at first to a mammoth size, is now going back to the small size again. Last year there was more demand for the baby chrysanthemum than for any other variety.

It keeps the florists busy divining the tastes of their patrons. There seems no way to tell just what the public will want. Unlike the styles in dress there is no supreme head in Paris who decrees what flowers the whole Christian world shall favor from year to year. Consequently each locality sets its own styles. This makes it hard for the florists, for so sure as the capricious public sees that there is a great quantity of one variety of blossoms it will seek for something that is not so common. Last Easter's trade may be taken as example. Usually the demand for Easter lilies has exceeded the supply. Feeling confident that Easter lilies would be marketable to almost any extent the florists had an immense supply ready for the public when, without any seeming reason, it was discovered that every one wished to buy potted tulips, daffodils, azaleas and cyclamen plants, and the Easter lilies were a second choice.