

SUMMER CARE OF THE CHRYSANTHEMUM.

Amy J. Brown (Orange Judd Farmer, Illinois).

When the shoots of the young plants have attained a height of six to eight inches nip off the tip. It will bear no malice and will shortly send out three or four new shoots from the top. When these in turn are four or five inches long, nip again. This done about four times should give a strong, stocky plant, quite unlike the tall, scraggly growth of the unwatched chrysanthemum.

Do not pinch after August 1 except to take off weak or superfluous shoots, still keeping the bush symmetrical. A liberal addition of bone dust will help matters now, and if you can get some dried and pulverized sheep manure to be used as a liquid fertilizer after the buds begin to form, you will have done all required in that line. Make the tea weak and use moderately. The chrysanthemum has an almost unlimited capacity for water if the drainage is perfect. In drouth they should have all they can drink and in intense heat the shade of even an old sheet, stretched above them, will be gratefully rewarded. In damp, hot weather, especially if crowded, a fine mildew or mealiness sometimes appears on the leaves. Flour of sulphur, applied promptly and liberally, will restore their rank greenness. Dust in the morning by handfuls. Again, all at once and nothing first, a tiny black aphid may cover the tips of the shoots. For a dozen plants Persian insect powder will rout them; 1-4 of a pound gives a cheap victory, but for a large collection tobacco tea, or kerosene emulsion, made weak at first to test, will be preferable. Whale oil soap-suds, too, are valuable.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Prof Goff has been spending his well earned vacation at the new fruit farm near Sturgeon Bay.

The great yield of early apples in the western states has flooded the markets to such an extent that prices have ruled