

Drugged Flowers Double Size

WITH a powerful drug taken from the roots of the fall-blooming crocus, white-frosted geneucists are now tricking Nature into bursting out with giant flowers. Just where it'll all end nobody knows, but the geneucists hope to develop new giants in a number of species.

At the right is a normal-size African Marigold blossom alongside a giant-size blossom from the same variety of flower, developed thru this new magic. The drug is called colchicine (pronounced kol'-she-seen).

WHAT happens is that the geneticists drop some colchicine solution on the growing point of a young plant and, if fortunate, get the giant flower. As often as not, however, the drug kills the flower. But if the treatment is successful, the flower pro-



A drugged and a normal marigold

duces pollen grains twice the normal size, which indicates that the flower may produce giant seed.

And if it does produce giant seed, this seed is carefully reaped and planted. If the drug has worked its trick, this giant seed produces an over-size plant, with stems, leaves, and flowers all about twice as large as normal, frequently with deeper color and more fragrant aroma.

Three More Homes in White

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the sink there's a vegetable-storage bin, and right beside the sink, built into the same unit, is an electric dishwasher—indeed a boon to the working wife. Don Marquis, creator of Archie the Cockroach, once said that people are debased and mentally crippled by the task of cleaning up after three meals a day, that no race of beings could rise far until dishwashing was abolished. Anyway, the dishwasher guarantees Mrs. Smith immunity from slopping in turbid, oily, scummy dishwater. All she needs to do with the dishes is scrape off insoluble food waste, such as lettuce leaves, meat scraps, and vegetables; put the dishes into the washer; add the detergent (washing compound); and turn the switch.

Most of the interior walls are papered. One end of the living-room is paneled with pine. Especially appropriate is the paper in the bathroom ornamented with solemn groups of penguins, since Mr. Smith was at one time connected with the New York office of the Byrd Antarctic Expedition. Kitchen wallpaper is blue and white, the color repeated in the trim of the white cupboards and the blue linoleum. Other floors throughout the house are oak, laid over concrete with air space between. The basement is at present used only for a laundry, but provides space for a game room in the future.

LET'S turn now to the other two in the Country Club district in Kansas City, Missouri.

Extremely practical floor plans and economical use of space are their outstanding features.

The first is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carrington Clark. On a corner facing south and west, it affords lovely views across a boulevard to a golf course beyond. Excellent orientation permits every room to catch the sunlight sometime during the day.

Its color scheme is lively. Shutters are deep moss-green, the roof a

weathered slate-gray, and the front door gaw with Chinese red.

An interesting feature inside is the breakfast room, fitted with recessed shelves and furnished with a drop-leaf table and a small desk so that it is a combination breakfast room and study and can be used for either. The screened, room-size porch, with north, east, and south exposures, is so placed that it may be used for summer eating out-of-doors, as well as for cool, restful leisure hours.

Good planning is also evident on the second floor in the abundance of closet space and the hall with outside light and two linen closets.

THE second house, a modified Colonial design, is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard K. Nelson. It's on a southwest corner, with lawn sloping gently to the street, and was planned to take full advantage of two lovely willow trees that shade its screened porch and largest bedroom. This screened porch, a cool basement recreation room, and many windows adapt it to middlewestern summers.

Brick in warm tones of red and salmon, and shingles painted off-white, have been used in its construction. First-floor shutters are painted white, and on the second they're a warm gray to harmonize with the shingle roof of a somewhat darker shade.

In planning these homes the woman's point of view has been continually kept in mind. Accessories that lessen housework have been installed wherever possible, and efficient "built-ins" placed in kitchens, bathrooms, closets, and dressing rooms.

Note especially how Architect Tanner cut the apparent height of these two Kansas City homes by using two materials on the exterior. This technique adds roughly only some 2 percent to the building cost and is an idea you may well remember when you build your own home.

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