



These are not gardens in Italy, but city backyards in America.

Just now it is very much the fashion to cultivate backyards. This year we may have to plant potatoes and onions in these sheltered scraps of ground, but these pictures show what can be done with flowers, shrubs and fountains.

If you want to know the story of these city backyards, turn to the Tribune Institute, Part IV, Page 8.

Photos by Jessie Tarbox Beals and Paul Thompson.



A BIT OF OLD ITALY. This miniature Italian garden has transformed a commonplace backyard of New York into a memory of home, for it was designed and built by an Italian gentleman who has kept alive, in his trans-Atlantic home, the spirit of his native land.

THE LOTUS-BORN BUDDHA ENSHRINED IN A NEW YORK BACKYARD. This is only a narrow strip between two houses, sheltered by high walls and mostly shut away from the sun. Yet look at the result produced merely because one person knew what to do with this unpromising little strip, and took the time and trouble to do it.



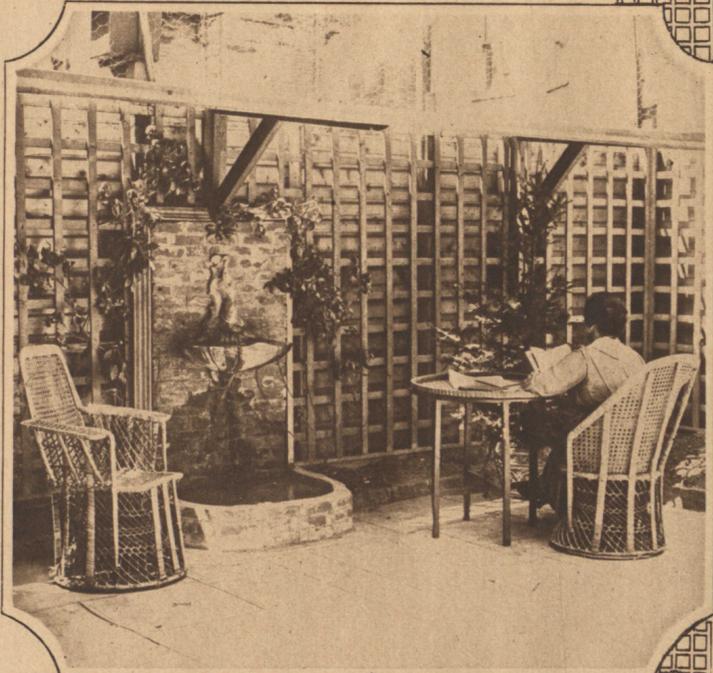
A GARDEN IN WINTER DRESS. It is a mistake to imagine that outdoor luncheon parties are summer festivities. This is a winter party, held in the backyard garden of a house in Washington Square.



WHAT PHILADELPHIA CAN DO WITH HER BACKYARDS. Only a narrow strip, but quiet and sunny and serene as a Philadelphia garden ought to be.



CHILDREN ARE SAFE HERE. This is another glimpse of the Italian garden in Washington Square. Children can play here as safely as if they were in the center of a country estate.



A SUNNY CORNER FOR A WINTER DAY. A garden like this is really an outdoor living room for the whole year. It is sheltered and sunny enough to serve as a sun parlor in winter, yet there are shady corners that make it a cool, quiet lounging place in summer.



A LITTLE PLACE BETWEEN TWO HOUSES. That is all. Yet what is usually a bleak, untidy strip of pavement between walls is converted into what looks like a by-way in sunny Italy.



BEFORE AND AFTER TAKING. This contrast speaks for itself. The two backyards were precisely the same. The only difference now is that the owner of one cared sufficiently about his surroundings to make his little strip of ground into a garden and the other did not.