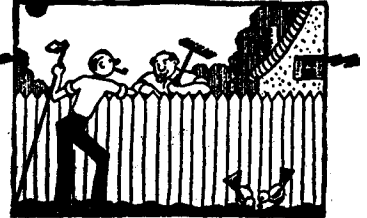




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

Member--Men's Garden Clubs of America • Minnesota State Horticultural Society



November, 1955
Volume 13, Number 11
G. "Vic" Lowrie, Editor

Associate Editors
Don Methven, Wm. Hull,
N. W. Christopherson

NOVEMBER MEETING

Date: Tuesday, November 8, 1955
Place: Mount Olivet Lutheran Church
Knox Ave. S. & West 50th St.
Time: 5:45 P.M. Sharp
Dinner: A Good One For \$1.50

PROGRAM

6:30 P.M. Election of Officers
Round-table discussion by the
past-president's committee on
Club activities
Question period to follow

Officers

J. M. Witmer	President
F. F. Heschmeyer	Vice-presid
N. W. Christopherson	Secretary
R. C. Adams	Treasurer

Office of the Secretary
N. W. Christopherson
6145 Clinton Ave. So.

Office of the Exchange Editor
G. Victor Lowrie
417 Essex Building

Now this is truly a must-be-there meeting. First you must help elect a new slate of officers who will take over the reigns of the Club and pace its activities during 1956. Secondly, your past-president's committee has a lot of interesting activities to discuss with you and if you have any of your own, you must be there to present them. Thirdly, you owe it to yourself to take an evening off to join with the gang for a jolly good time. Oh yes, and if Jack Frost has spared any blooms or you have some interesting greenhouse or house plants that would make good table decorations as well as interesting table talk, bring them along—be sure they're sweet smelling though.

OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

By Bill Hull

Tom Foley encloses each rosebush in a cylinder of sod, which is then filled with soil and leaves. Or maybe it's Al Nelson's system. Al also covers his roses with feed sacks but warns against roofing paper, which permits heat to accumulate and thus causes mold.

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There seems to be a lot of confusion about the lateness of the season. Although most authorities agree the mums are generally late, some people are ripping them up like mad in the belief that if they didn't bloom this year, they never will. We can help our friends by cautioning against such wholesale destruction. We can also urge purchasing mums grown in this area where they are apt to bloom early enough.

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Problems connected with garden labels: They can be raked off easily in the spring clean-up; they are either too large or too small; most are not sufficiently permanent. This year, I'm using a plastic one that is supposedly permanent and legible for a year. Now if the neighborhood children don't do as some did to Vic Lowrie's, I'm okay. They gathered all the labels from Vic's many new Iris and thus thoroughly confused the identities.

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Did you find a corner for naturalizing grape hyacinths this year? If not, it may not be too late when you read this. Hyacinthus was a Greek lad unwittingly killed by Apollo. In remorse, Apollo caused the hyacinth to grow from the lad's blood.

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One of the local ladies garden clubs is deteriorating because everytime a newer member suggests a program, some old timer says "Oh, we had that once." Hope it doesn't happen to us.

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Wanted: Good gardening books. If you have any that you find helpful, let me know and I'll pass the information along. If enough of you give me a ring, we'll even arrange an exhibit of them. Should be very helpful to many of us.

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Portrait of a real gardener: a man who stays home to clean up his dying garden on the first day of the pheasant season, which also happens to be the day the local football team meets it's traditional rival in a televised game. For example, Saturday, October 22.

NEWS and VIEWS

The Minneapolis Park Board's Annual Chrysanthemum Show will take place at their greenhouses at Bryant and 38th Street South, from Sunday, November 6th through Sunday, November 20th. Open daily from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. at no charge. Am sure every one of our members will be most anxious to see this colorful spectacle and be sure to tell your friends and neighbors of the treat that awaits every visitor. This year, Greg Lucking tells me, the exhibit is built around fairyland, "The Land of Make Believe," and promises to be one of the most colorful presentations of all time. Now don't miss out on this unusual treat, get your friends together and make an evening of it.

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Wasn't that splendid article of the Club's civic activities our president wrote for the current issue of MEGA. Never realized how handsome you were Joe, until I saw that photograph!!!!

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That was a bang-up program our boys put together for us at our October meeting. Harold Kaufmann has certainly done a man-sized job with his special interest group. As for the principal speaker, "Bud" Law, his talk was most instructive as well as interesting. Both P. W. Young and Morris Lifson gave us a lot of good ideas and Rene Dufourd acting the role of the "Hard-Shell Crab" went all out giving us much food for thought and an urge to do something about it, which we will.

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Looks like we are liable to go into winter with little moisture in the soil which could be very damaging to evergreens and any shrubs or trees transplanted or newly planted this fall. So until hard freezing weather sets in, continue to deep soak them. While on the subject of newly planted shrubs and young trees, better put wire guards around them to prevent the bark and canes from being gnawed by rodents.

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How would you like to play the role of a roving reporter for the Garden Spray. We are in deep trouble with the boys for not reporting more happenings among our members. Their activities, gardening experiences, travels, adventures, illnesses or what have you. Now why don't you think of the Spray every time you do something that you think would be news-worthy and either drop your editor a postcard or letter, telephone, telegraph or even cable if you're out of the country. Should you hear of something being done by, or happening to, a fellow club member which in your estimation the rest of the members should know about, get it to your editor. We would like your help in making the Spray not only more newsy but more interesting and of greater value to our members. Thank you, G. V. L.

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You will be pleased to hear that Bill Swain is improving gradually from his recent surgery and we look forward to his meeting with us again real soon.

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NEWS AND VIEWS (Cont)

Ernie Thompson has finally decided to make his permanent home in Florida and has already moved into the sunshine. We are sorry to lose Ernie who has been an active member and real friend of the Club. Although he will be missed at our meetings, we wish him every happiness and the enjoyment of good health.

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Take a bow Cortis Rice on your recent promotion to Operations Controller of the Northern States Power Company — we wish you every success in your new responsibilities.

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CHANGES OF ADDRESS AND PHONE

There have been a considerable number of changes in addresses and telephone numbers among our members, so to be sure you can be reached by mail and phone won't you please report such changes to the Secretary.

PICTURES PLEASE

Will those officers who have not had their photographs taken for our historical record, please come as early as possible prior to the time of our November meeting, at Mount Olivet Church, for that purpose.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Frank Heschmeyer has moved to his new home at 9544 Walnut Drive, Phone West 9-3896.

Herb Steven's new address is 7520 West 78th Street.

Please change Bill Brook's telephone number from West 8-5086 to West 8-5068.

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Some have said that it is not the business of private men to meddle with government — a bold and dishonest saying, which is fit to come from no mouth but that of a tyrant or a slave. To say that private men have nothing to do with government is to say that private men have nothing to do with their own happiness or misery; that people ought not to concern themselves whether they be naked or clothed, fed or starved, deceived or instructed, protected or destroyed. — CATO.

OUR CIVIC LILY PLANTING

By Morris Lifson

A very short distance northeast of the Rose Gardens in a selected location with a woodland area as a background, and open on the south side, a few men of our Garden Club, interested in the growing of lilies, planted late last Fall a large quantity of lily bulbs. Hence, we have the beginning of a Lily Garden as a memorial to our late Wallace A. Rowell.

The main source of the planting came from Mrs. Rowell, who moved many of the lilies from her own garden, besides buying some. I am told she presented us with 450 lilies comprising many varieties.

The following are some of Mrs. Rowell's bulbs we planted in colonies:

1. Amabile-Orange
2. Amabile-Luteum
3. Davidi and Tigrinum Hybrids
4. Centifoliums
5. Lilium Tenuifolium—The Coral Lilies
6. Regal Lilies
7. Tonka-Hybrids Which are Improved Regals, Crossed by Mr. Rowell
8. Martagan Hybrids-White and Orange
9. Havenmeier-Hybrids with Henryi Lily as one of their Parents
10. Henryi Lilies
11. Speciosum

Letters were written to two lily growers telling them of our project, and asking them for a few lily bulbs. They both responded favorably by sending us many of the latest hybrid varieties.

From one grower we received 175 bulbs - 25 bulbs each of 7 kinds. They are:

1. Enchantment-Upright Lily with Nastrutium Red Flowers.
2. Valencia-Outward facing Lily of Yellow Coloring.
3. Joan Evans-Bright Golden Yellow Upright Flowering Lily.
4. Tangela-Star Shaped Outward Facing Flower of Orange Coloring.
5. Fiesta Hybrids-Gaily Colored as the Name Suggests.
6. The Golden Chalice-Short Hybrid Lily and Range from Orange to Yellow.
7. The Centifolium Lilies-Regal Lily is one of Their Grandparents.

From the other grower we received some of the very latest U.S. Department of Agricultural introductions. They are:

1. Mega-Short stemmed Canary Yellow Flowers.
2. Brandy-Wine-Yellow to Orange.
3. Cavalier-Yellowish Bloom.
4. Mountaineer-Brilliant Red.

All the above mentioned lilies were planted in groups. You can readily see that with the exception of the centifolium hybrids all the lilies presented to us run from orange thru red.

OUR CIVIC LILY PLANTING (Cont)

What we need for "balance of power" are more white lilies. Primarily Centifoliums or Olympic-Hybrids-Longiflorum the hardy Easter lily, Croft and Ace, and for September blooming, Phillipense Lilies.

While I am suggesting White Lilies I might as well suggest a few Auratums, Rubrums, and the latest Aurelean as well speciosum-Auratium Hybrids. They are magnificent.

With very few exceptions all the lilies gave a good account of themselves. We had succession of bloom from early June when the coral lilies bloomed until the middle of August when the speciosum Rubrums commenced to bloom. They would have probably flowered at least until September, if unfortunately, someone had not cut all their flowers and buds, and left them lying on the ground.

To make the Wallace Rowell Memorial Garden look really attractive, I suggest that we plant the lilies in smaller groups. These should be interplanted with suitable Perennials and Annuals as companions or ground covers, especially those plants that will hide the defect of some of the lilies when they unattractively go into their rest period. Good foil plantings would be Statice Latifolis-Sea Lavender around speciosum. Rubrum lilies or Auratums, Gypsophilis Panniculata or Bristol Fairy, around July blooming lilies. For lilies growing towards the front of the border there are very many perennials that could be used as foils, for example, with the Golden Chalice Hybrids one can plant companulla-carpatica the carpatian bluebells, or the bluebells of Scotland or Gypsophilia Repens, low growing columbines, pinks or nepeta nussini. Annuals, such as Petunias and Verbenas are suitable companions too.

Behind the lilies and to the right and left of them there were plantings of many annuals mostly Marigolds, in front of them there was an edging of Sweet Alyssum.

Here and there were a few early blooming chrysanthemums. Iris that will bloom at the same time as the early lilies were planted in front of the lilies, and I understand that in the Fall some delphiniums were planted near or about the lilies.

To succeed with this project we need the cooperation of more members of our Club. The lilies will neither grow well nor look good without some attention.

Yes, with a little effort on our part we can make the Wallace Rowell Garden one of the beauty spots of Minneapolis.

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Because the Lily is the more stately flower among many: and amongst the wonderful variety of lilies, known to us in these days, much more than in former times, whereof some are white, others blush, some purple, others red or yellow, some spotted, others without spots, some standing upright, others hanging or turning downwards. The Crown Imperial for his stately beautifulness, deserveth the first place in this our garden of delight, to be here entreated of before all other Lillies. — John Parkinson, 1629

PLANT HORMONES

Second Chapter of a Lecture Given by S. C. Harland, D.Sc., F.R.S.
Professor of Botany, University of Manchester
Reprinted from the Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society.

STEM GROWTH HORMONES

These comprise a series of hormones which are synthesized in the apical bud or young extended leaves and then transported to the elongating parts of the stem. If you take a section from the growing region of a pea plant which has been kept in the dark, and place it in a nutrient solution containing mineral salts and sugar, there is practically no growth. But if a small amount of the substance IAA (indoleacetic acid) is added, there occurs a very rapid elongation of the excised section.

This substance, IAA is therefore proved to be instrumental in speeding up the growth of stem tissue. It works also in very low concentration, since only about ten parts per million are required to bring about the effect. Growth substances such as IAA and related compounds are known as auxins. Auxins are concerned not only with stem elongation but also with other growth co-ordinating processes within the plant. The main point to bear in mind is that the hormone principle is invoked to bring about a correlated and harmonious integration of the whole plant.

MORE INSTANCES OF HORMONE EFFECTS

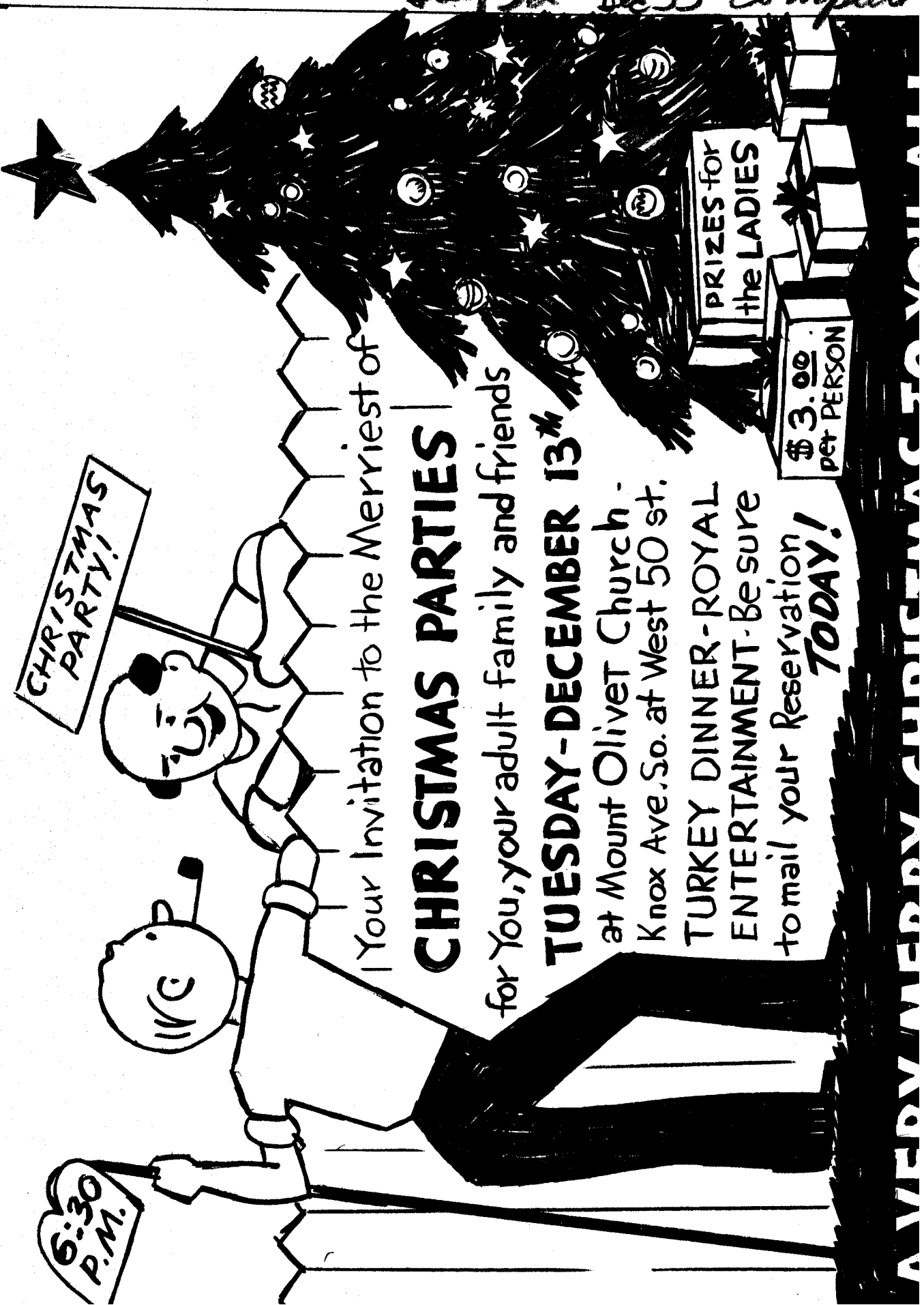
We have so far seen that the growth of a plant organ such as the root partly depends on minute quantities of chemical substances transported from other parts of the plant. The techniques of tissue culture enable us to identify some of these substances.

It is now possible to grow the excised ovaries of Tomato in a culture medium. The tiny ovaries are excised shortly after pollination and placed in a medium supplemented by the juice of either green or red tomatoes. This juice presumably contains substances necessary for growth which are probably transported to the ovary from other sites, but neither the sites nor the chemical nature of the substances are known. Lately it has been discovered that the substance NOA (naphthoxyacetic acid) acts as an adequate substitute for tomato juice. The cultivation of fruits in artificial media obviously has exciting possibilities for the future.

NUTRITIONAL NEEDS OF PLANT EMBRYOS

Minute and only partly developed embryos can be caused to develop by using an artificial culture medium supplemented by additional substances in low concentration. These include some vitamins of the B complex such as thiamine and pantothenic acid. Other unidentified compounds are known to be contained in yeast extract, malt extract, and coconut milk. The growth of mature embryos can be speeded up by addition to the medium of thiamine, biotin, nicotinic acid, and other special substances.

July 52 - Dec 55 complete



CHRISTMAS PARTY!

6:30 P.M.

Your Invitation to the Merriest of

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

for You, your adult family and friends

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 13th

at Mount Olivet Church -
Knox Ave. So. at West 50 st.

**TURKEY DINNER - ROYAL
ENTERTAINMENT - Be sure**

to mail your Reservation
TODAY!

PRIZES for
the LADIES

\$3.00
per PERSON

EVERYBODY JUST WAGS