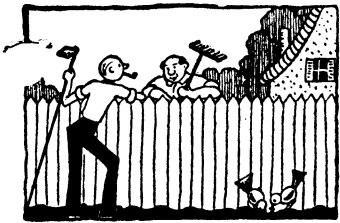


THE GARDEN SPRAY

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS



MEMBER—MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS OF AMERICA
MINNESOTA STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

October, 1951
Volume 9, Number 10
Vic Lowrie, Editor

Associate Editors: J. G. Cohen,
G. G. Cerney, E. T. Montgomery,
Don Methven, L. L. Stillman

OCTOBER MEETING

Date: Tuesday, October 9, 1951

Place: Hasty Tasty Cafe,
1433 West Lake Street

Time: 5:30 P.M. sharp

Dinner: \$1.50

PROGRAM

6:30 P.M. Business Session - Fred Paul presiding

6:45 "Identification of Conifers," by Dr. Leon
K. Snyder, Extension Horticulturist, Univ-
ersity of Minnesota

7:10 "Systemic Insecticides," by Professor Richard
E. Widner, University of Minnesota

7:30 Bull Session - Harold Kaufmann

Officers

Fred Paul, President

Vic Lowrie, Vice-President

Rene Dufourd, Secretary

Bill Brooks, Treasurer

Cortis Rice, Jr.,
Past-President

Your Program Committee, under the leadership of Archie Flack, has worked out a series of monthly programs that are not only going to be enjoyable but also exceedingly informative. The speakers are recognized authorities on the subjects they are programmed to discuss, and they should be most helpful to you in your gardening endeavors. For example, at our October meeting, Leon Snyder will bring samples of most evergreens with him and show you how to identify them by name.

At the same meeting Richard Widner will discuss the progress made through experimentation in the feeding of plants through their roots to make them resistant to pests. These are subjects the majority of our members from time to time have asked to be discussed and your committee has engaged competent people to cover them. More are scheduled for November.

At 7:30 P.M. promptly we break up into groups to chat about our own special gardening interests. Also on October 9 we are going to be hosts to Mr. Einar Hildrum, Secretary of the Norwegian Horticulture Society, who is in this country studying our horticulture extension methods.

Don't miss these fine programs. Check off on your calendar the program

OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING

It was a good meeting! fine food, interesting talks and colorful slides. Not quite as good an attendance as we had expected, and those of you who didn't make it were definitely the losers. Our speakers, all members of the Club, were in fine fettle, and gave liberally of their knowledge and experience.

Bob Bryant wised us up on the "Do's and Don'ts" of flower show exhibiting. George Luxton told us how to eradicate slugs which, according to the complaint department of Luxton, Unincorporated, have been more prevalent this year than crabgrass.

Our principal speaker was Chris Mosberg, who showed us some very colorful pictures of the bulb industry in Holland and later discussed the more hardy spring bulbs that do well in this north country of ours. Thank you, Archie Flack, and committee, for a mighty fine program!

NORTHRUP-KING TRIAL GARDENS

If the weather shut you in on August 25, it is to be hoped that either before or since that time you have paid these gardens a visit. They are an enlightenment, and their close inspection should contribute more to the arrangement of your garden next year than all the seedmen's catalogs rolled into one. Thank you, Larry, for your invitation and personally escorted tour, and please extend our appreciation to your people for being so generous with their time and experience. Our visit was indeed rewarding!

(This item was inadvertently left out of the last Spray. Beg pardon! Editor)

2 BOWS FOR THE MRS.: 1 FOR THE OLD MAN

Maybe Stan knows how to grow them, not only roses but most any ornamental, but how Mrs. Stan can show them off! Finally it would seem that Stan is catching on in the show-them-off department too. Anyway, at the Fifth Annual Flower Show sponsored by the Edina-Morningside Lions Club, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Lund took top honors with a grand champion apiece; Mrs. Stan with a striking arrangement of miniature dahlias, and Mr. Stan with a bantam corn arrangement representing a hobby which in this case was hunting. Stan had the water, the blind, the corn, the shells and even the ducks! Congratulations to you both! We're proud of both of you!

OUR VISIT TO THE EXPERIMENTAL STATION

Right on schedule Saturday afternoon, September 22nd, Dr. Snyder met us at the junction of Highways 7 and 41 and conducted us to the Experimental Station of the University of Minnesota. There we joined with members of the Minnesota Horticulture Society, where we were escorted through the various test grounds by members of the staff of the University Farm School.

We learned a lot about fruit, including the fact that if you eat too much of it, you can be very uncomfortable. In the trial grounds we witnessed the experimental work going on in the never-ending task of improving such fruits as apples, pears, apricots, peaches, plums and grapes for hardiness, yield, flavor, keeping qualities and disease resistance.

We are indebted to Archie for arranging the tour and to Leon Snyder and his colleagues for teaching us so much and making our stay so pleasant.

We were dreadfully sorry to hear that Pvt. David J. Cohen, only son of Mr. & Mrs. J. G. Cohen, was killed in action in Korea.

OCTOBER CHORES

It is not too early to make preparations for a better garden next year. A good cleanup of all diseased plants, uprooting and burning of annuals, and removal of old stalks from perennials are the essential first steps you must take.

Continue to spray roses for black spot, mildew and aphids; this will help them to go into the winter as strong and healthy plants - a helpful protection against winter killing.

Take up those plants you wish to house during the winter - geraniums, coleus, cacti, ivy, philodendrom, parsley and chives, etc. Also bring in soil for potting and seeding before the ground freezes too hard.

Clean up the vegetable garden, placing undiseased leaves in compost pile, burning all others. Fall digging is most beneficial; add manure or compost, spade deeply, and allow the rough earth to stand exposed during the winter.

Don't burn your leaves; build a compost heap. If you haven't room for a pile, dig a pit and put leaves, clippings and vegetable refuse in along with a dressing of lime or "Activo."

Protect your young trees from rabbits by

using chicken wire, or wrap with tarpaper up to three feet in height. Keep roots of shrubs and young trees moist, especially evergreens - they will winter better.

Before the ground freezes, hill young shrubs and plants, and all roses to a height of a foot if possible. After the ground is frozen, cover roses with coarse leaves or marsh hay and mulch the more delicate perennials.

Don't fail to stake where bulbs are being planted, and spot your perennials, particularly those slow to show life in the spring. Also tag roots and bulbs dug up for winter storage.

Mulch your berries for the winter, but do not cover the crowns of strawberry plants

Young pansy plants may be planted where they are to flower if the beds are high and dry. Cover lightly with marsh hay after the first hard frost, thus protecting them from wind and sun while frozen.

Remove seed pods from hybrid tearoses and other bedding plants. The plant needs to store all its food to increase cold resistance during the winter.

Remove canes of climbers and pillars from their support, pin to ground and cover well just before a hard freeze.

TEST PLANTINGS OF 1,000 MICHIGAN BULB COMPANY BULBS

The National Better Business Bureau reports that for years local bureaus have received complaints from dissatisfied purchasers of bulbs ordered by mail from the Michigan Bulb Company of Grand Rapids, Mich. Because of the persistency of such complaints, horticultural authorities in various sections of the country including Minneapolis, were engaged last fall by the B.B.B.'s to make test plantings of bulbs offered for sale by this company.

Results of the Minneapolis test were as follows: "On October 31, 1950, the Minneapolis Better Business Bureau sent in a blind order to the Michigan Bulb Company for 100 tulip bulbs at \$1.69. Upon arrival, the bulbs were turned over to the gardener of one of the city's municipal gardens who reported that the shipment consisted of 120 bulbs of various sizes between 1½ and 2½" in circumference, 82 of which appeared to be sound and 38 were classed as soft. All of the bulbs were planted on November 17, 1950. On May 18, 1951, when tulips were at the peak of their bloom in this area, an inspection of the plantings showed that approximately 75 of the bulbs had grown some green leaves, but none contained a bloom."

OUR FALL SHOW

The extremely wet and cloudy weather during the two weeks immediately preceding our flower show may have dampened the spirits of some of our members who were sadly missed, but it certainly didn't seem to mar the quality of the specimens exhibited nor becloud the attractiveness of the show as a whole. True, only twenty-five members exhibited - an all-time low for a Fall Show - but they entered 382 specimen blooms and 39 flower and fruit arrangements for a total of 421 entries. This figure compares with 523 entries in 1950, 452 in 1949, and 487 in 1948.

The outstanding entry of the whole show was a magnificent white rose, Frau Karl Druschki, exhibited by George Germain. It outclassed the field by a wide margin and earned for George his first Grand Champion ribbon. Congratulations, Georgie, it was a beauty!

To all who participated in the arrangement and management of the Show - and they are the same committee members under the chairmanship of Leonard Bies who now for the second time this year did such a bang-up job - we award an imaginary blue ribbon with our warmest thanks and a resounding applause. Our gratitude also goes to the Park Board for the use of their facilities and to Greg Lucking and his men for their splendid help and co-operation; to the judges who labored long and well; and to Bob Bryant and Bill Holmberg who with their generous contributions of dahlias and elegant displays added so much color and distinction to our show; also to Bachmann's, Inc., for their lovely basket arrangement of fall flowers.

SHOW WINNERS

Grand Champion, Group "A" - Specimens Grand Champion, Group "B" - Arrangements

George B. Germain

G. Victor Lowrie

Court of Honor

Lot 4. S. F. Finkham, Sr. Camelia type Tuberous Begonia	Lot 77 Leonard Bies - Jerusalem Cherry
Lot 27 A. S. Nyberg, Miniature Dahlia - Baby Foneneau	Lot 83 S. F. Finkham, Sr. - Lily, Spec- iosum Rubrum
Lot 28 F. F. Heschmeyer - Pompom Dahlia - Sherry	Lot 94 G. Victor Lowrie - Mixed flower arrangement
Lot 48 G. B. Germain - Frau Karl Drusch- ki rose	Lot 95 G. Victor Lowrie - Small flower arrangement
Lot 74 S. L. Finkham, Sr. - Potted Tub- erous Begonia	Lot 96 G. Victor Lowrie - Foliage arrang- ment

Sweepstakes Winners

Group A - Specimens

G. G. Cerney	32 points
G. Victor Lowrie	32 "
F. F. Heschmeyer	31 "
C. N. Rice, Jr.	29 "
R. J. Dufourd	23 "
C. C. Leif	23 "
O. H. Erickson	21 "

Group B - Arrangements

G. Victor Lowrie	48 points
M. K. Lifson	30 "
S. F. Pinkham, Sr.	20 "
Leonard Bies	18 "
O. H. Erickson	16 "

FLOWERING BULBS

Chris Mosberg

Achimenes, pot plant. Start corms in February-March, one in a 3" pot or three in a 4" pot; soil fairly loose, rich in humus or compost. Blooms in summer, dormant in winter.

Allium, Neopolitanum. Spring blooming; white; somewhat like an onion. Plant in fall; protect; very showy.

Amaryllis, Giant Hybrids. Plant or start watering bulbs when bud shows on the neck of bulb, usually from November to April. Flowers usually before any leaf growth. When blooms get old, leaves appear. Keep watering as long as leaves look healthy. To preserve or improve bulb, set out during the summer in rich soil; dig when first frost comes and dry up slowly.

Amaryllis, Belladonna. Pinkish-lavender flower. Bulb usually very large, but blooming period erratic.

Amaryllis Halli. Hardy amaryllis. Blooms in middle or later part of summer. Pinkish-lavender, no leaves; leaves grow in spring and die during summer before bud.

Amaryllis formosum (Sprekelia). Early blooming red, odd-shaped flower. Has flowers and foliage at the same time.

Anemone coronaria. Showy, bright-colored flowers not hardy here. Can be grown in a not too warm greenhouse, in pots, not small size, or should bloom outdoors in June-July if started in flats or pots in March.

Caladium, esculenta. Elephant Ears. Grows large green leaves in summer; useful for filling corners in gardens and showy on account of the large leaves. Not hardy here.

Caladium, fancy leaved. Tropical, various colored foliage; must be grown in a warm, half-shaded place. Makes good pot plant and useful in window boxes.

Calla aethiopica. Large white calla for pots or outdoors.

Calla, Godfrey. White, smaller than Aethiopica. Better for pots.

Calla Elliotiana. Yellow with yellow spotted green leaves; for pots or outdoors

Calla Retmania. Pink; smaller flowered.

Canna. Decorative plants for outside, should be started in pots or flats in February March and set out after the middle of May when danger of frost is past. Can be had with green or bronze foliage. Colors of flowers: white, yellow, pink, orange or red. For this climate, the shorter or 3½-4 ft. high varieties are recommended.

Colchicum, autumnale. Fall blooming. Large bulbs, mostly lavender. Will bloom without soil or water. If planted outdoors, will bloom in October and have foliage in the spring. Hardy here when planted about 6" deep. Similar to crocus.

Crocus, longiflorus. Best of the fall blooming varieties. Bulbs usually available in August and can then be planted out for October-November blooming. More useful

Crocus, spring blooming. For borders and beds or in woods; colors, white, yellow lavender-blue and striped. Plant the bulbs early enough so they get some root growth before freezing. Cover as for tulips.

Fritillaria, meleagris. Guinea Hen Flower. Small spring flowering. Have not found them hardy here but am told they have been wintered over.

Fritillaria imperialis (Crown Imperialis). Spring blooming, lily-like hanging flowers. Blooms near the top of 2-3 ft. tall stem in early spring. Large bulbs which should be planted about 6-8" deep in early fall.

Gladiolus. Summer blooming, very useful bulbs. Planted in early May and dug up after first frost.

Gloxinia. Good pot plants from South America. Pot up when the bulbs show sign of growth but not before January. Can be started in 3" pots or flats; when the root begin to increase, should be put in larger pots - 5-6". The soil should be fairly rich humus, something like leaf mold or peat mixed with garden soil and sand; prefer warm airy location, but not bright sun.

Grape Hyacinths. Spring blooming small flowers in blue and white, hardy and perennial. For fall planting.

Hyacinths. Dutch bulbs for pots, glass and garden. For outdoors, plant early about 6" deep, or, if planted late, cover at once as the hyacinth will not stand freezing before they are rooted. For pots or vases for winter blooming, they must be kept in a cool, dark place for rooting which usually takes about two months. Can then gradually be brought to the light and heat but not exposed to full light before the bud is through the neck of the bulb.

Hyacinths. French Roman. White, early blooming type for indoor planting. Can usually be had in bloom by Christmas or before. Must also be kept cool and dark until rooted. Not hardy here.

Hyacinthus Candicans (Galtonia). Summer blooming, white; grows about 2 feet tall with drooping bells; somewhat resembles Yucca.

Iris, Dutch Iris. An improved type of the old Spanish Iris. Can be kept over winter outdoors if covered enough to keep from freezing, but otherwise used for indoor blooming in deep flats. Does not have to be kept in the dark. Many varieties and colors available, but best known is the Wedgewood variety with large blue flowers.

Ismene Calathena. Peruvian Daffodil. White, very fragrant, lily-like flowers for early spring planting. Bulbs not hardy and must be handled like gladiolus. They also will bloom in pots when planted in February-March.

Leucojum vernum (Snowflake). Have found them to be hardy here.

Montbretia. Small, gladiolus-like flowers in the orange and yellow shades; use for cutting and in clumps in borders. Have not found them hardy, but understand will winter over if covered well. Much more showy if the clumps get a few years then they will have clusters or bunches like narcissus clumps.

Narcissus. A long list of types and varieties, some with large perianth in white or yellow, some with small perianth; some have large trumpet in center and some have what is called cups down to small red eyes; some have one flower to a stem and so

good for indoor culture and must be kept dark and cool for rooting time (6-8 weeks) All the Dutch grown varieties are hardy here and most of the Washington and Oregon grown also hardy.

Paper Whites. French grown white Narcissus. Not hardy and can only be expected to bloom indoors. They can be planted in soil, rocks, sand or water; it is not necessary to be kept dark. When planted in September, they usually bloom in late November or early December and if planted in December, usually bloom about 3 weeks late.

Nerine, Sarmensis (Guernsey Lily). Odd-shaped, spidery flowers for early spring blooming; not hardy. Must be handled like Ismene and Gladiolus.

Ornithogalum, arabicum (Bethlehem Star). Grows a stem about 1½ feet tall with a cluster of white, bell-shaped flowers with black center. Will also bloom indoors in late winter or spring. Not hardy here.

Oxalis. Small, clover-like plants with flowers in pink, lavender, red, white or yellow. Many species available; used for pots mostly but can also be grown outdoors. Not hardy.

Ranunculus asiaticus. French varieties of very showy double flowers in almost all colors possible. They, like Anemones, grow best if corms have been dug and kept over for a year. Ranunculus will start the quickest if soaked in water for 24 hours, but do not squeeze them when planting. The summers here usually are too hot for them, but they do fine in greenhouses where they can be grown in deep flats or pots. If started indoors in March and set out in May, they should bloom June-July.

Scilla. The Siberica varieties are the only species worth using here. They are available in blue and white and the new Spring Beauty is the largest. They will bloom in the spring before the Crocus and right after the Chionodoxa.

Scilla, peruviana. For pots; grows a spike about 6-8" tall, with a large cluster of flowers in center of green leaves. Makes a good 4-inch pot plant.

Chionodoxa, Luciliae. Earliest of the small bulbs to bloom in the spring. Plant in October in border or between perennials.

Snowdrops. Early white spring blooming.

Tigridia (Mexican Tiger flower). Orchid-like, beautiful flowers for summer bloom to be planted when danger of frost is passed. Comes in many colors from cream to orange and scarlet; also some lavender shades.

Trillium grandiflorum. The early white Wood Lily which grows wild in many places; prefers a shady woody place and should be left undisturbed for years.

Tuberose. Very fragrant white flowers growing on stems about 2 feet tall. For best results should be potted in March or April and set out in May. If the bulb is planted outdoors in May, they may not bloom before later summer or towards fall.

Tulips (covered elsewhere in this Spray by Dr. Leon Snyder.)

Veltheimia. Fairly large pot plant with cluster of blue flowers; like Agapanthus.

Zephyranthus. Used for pots or outdoors; grows about 6" high and usually produces several flowers from a bulb. Can be had in red, pink and white.

TULIP SUGGESTIONS

Dr. Leon Snyder

The following list is not complete and does not necessarily include the best varieties. It is merely intended as a guide in selecting colors and varieties.

Species tulips - early blooming, suitable for rock gardens

Tulipa forsteriana var. Red Emperor - scarlet with black center

Tulipa clusiana - petals red and white striped

Tulipa kaufmanniana - cream, marked with carmine

Single early tulips

Kaiserkron - brilliant crimson scarlet

De Wet - golden yellow, flushed deep orange

Lady Boreal - snow white

Double early tulips

Couronne d'or - golden yellow

Scarlet cardinal - deep scarlet

Peach Blossom - bright rosy-pink, flushed white

Triumph tulips - intermediate between earlies and lates

Crater (carmine red), Kansas (white), Zimmerman (rose-pink)

Parrot tulips - petals slashed, twisted and feathered, highly colored

Fantasy - salmon pink with green markings outside

Red Champion - Crimson red

Late or May-flowering tulips (Darwins, Cottage, Breeders)

Red varieties - City of Haarlem (Darwin), Farncombe, Sanders (Darwin),

Indian Chief (Breeder), Marshall Haig (Cottage)

Pink varieties - Clara Butt (Darwin, Pride of Zwanenburg (Darwin) Rosabella (Cottage)

Yellow varieties - Golden Emblem (Lily flowered), Yellow Giant (Darwin),

Mrs. Hoag (Cottage), Ingelscomb Yellow (Cottage)

White varieties - Zwanenburg (Darwin), Glacier (Darwin)

CHRISTMAS PARTY, DECEMBER 11

ELECTION OF OFFICERS, NOVEMBER 13

Mark your calendar for this, our annual family Christmas party. It's not too early to make reservations with Rene Dufourd. And how about those garden pictures? Hope you'll have some good ones. We want every member's garden to be represented.

At our November meeting we elect Club of officers for the coming year. The Nominating Committee has been appointed by the President with Cortis Rice as chairman. They will present their slate to the membership at our November 13 meeting. See that you're there to cast your vote!

We are grieved over the loss of our kindly friend and member, Harold M. Stephens, who was taken from us quite suddenly on Saturday, September 24, following a short illness. Harold was an extremely active member, served on numerous committees and contributed unstintingly in every conceivable way. One of our most enthusiastic members, Harold was a good gardener and gave generously of his experiences. Our