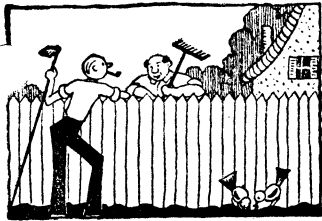


# THE GARDEN SPRAY



BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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

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Jack Cohen, Editor

Ed. Montgomery, Associate Editor

Office of the  
Secretary  
4302 Branson St.  
Minneapolis, 10

## AUGUST MEETING

Thursday August 15th.  
Time 4:30 o'clock P.m. PROMPT Please  
Place: Tom Hughes Garden  
2847 James Ave. So., from there  
we plan to leave at 4:45 to the following  
Don Methven 2794 Dean Blvd.  
Walter Menzel 2656 Glenhurst  
Frank Janes 2660 Glenhurst  
Chris Mosberg 3832 Zenith So.  
Fred Stephens 3909 Washburn  
Geo. Titus 4915 Dupont Ave.  
Harold Kaufmann 336 W. Elmwood  
Ralph Cornelison 330 W. Elmwood  
Dr. Duma Arnold 204 W. 49th  
Andy Nyberg 5505 Wentworth  
Herb Kahlert 124 W. Diamond  
Lake Rd.  
We Eat at Herbs about 7:30 P.M.  
Meeting to Follow.

### Officers

G. G. Cerney  
President  
Walter Menzel  
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### Directors

Archie Frack  
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Harold Kaufmann  
Ed. Montgomery  
Fred Paul

### SUNDAY AUGUST 18th GET ACQUAINTED TOUR TO OUR NEWER MEMBERS.

Ray Edlund 7060 Oak Grove Blvd. Richfield  
Wm Robinson 16 Luverne Ave.  
J.A. Schmitt 2730 Kipling Ave. So.  
W.I. Bauman 315 W. Diamond Lake Rd.  
Joseph Witmer 255 Oakwood Road, Interlocken Park  
Rene Duford 5020 2nd Ave. So.  
G.V. Lowrie 4900 Aldrich So.  
Harold Spencer 3536 47th Ave.  
Wm Swain 4436 Lyndale Ave. So.

If you cant make the visit Sunday try a weekday evening. Find out if he is a home by phone so that you may get acquainted.

Chas Doell is confined to the Swedish Hospital and reported to be getting along nicely but the Doctor advises rest and no visitors for a couple of weeks.

Congratulation to Bill Swain for winning first place in the 1500 sq. ft. Class in the Victory Garden Contest, sponsored by the Mpls Civic & Commerce Associatio

Congratulations to Upsher Smith on his election to the Board of Directors of Breck School. Upsher recommends the use of cold frames during the summer to grow cucumbers and in the winter for carrying over perennial seedlings.

Ed Montgomery, our associate Editor, is village attorney for St. Louis Park. It Ed's legal rulings that will determine whether the village's name will be

## JULY 2 MEETING WELL ATTENDED

Roses thrive best in climates where there is frequent light rainfall, and so the Club very appropriately included a light shower among the guests at the rose meeting July 2nd. The committee moved into Jack Cohen's ample service driveway with folding chairs and card tables which provided comfortable arrangements for the 61 members who came to eat the 42 turkey sandwiches prepared for that number whose reservations had been received. The rain came just as the supper was being finished and short talks had been given by Gregory Lucking and R. S. Wilcox.

Mr. Wilcox had recently attended the national rose society meeting in Portland Oregon, and as usual he was overflowing with the lore of roses.

Mr. Lucking distributed a rose questionnaire prepared by the Park Board and designed to make available detailed information concerning the performance of various roses in this climate. Members who have planted roses within the past year are urged to complete these questionnaires for the next meeting.

In spite of Jack's absence in California, his garden was superb with the roses at their best and tree roses a special feature, proving that they can be done in Minnesota.

Following supper at Jack's, a visit to the garden of Harry Franklin Baker and his adjoining neighbor's was a bit wet, but gardeners don't mind rain.

The rain clouds lifted during the tour of the Park Board rose garden, which was conducted in three groups led by Messrs. Lucking, Wilcox and the chief gardener of the rose garden. The new trial roses planted along the north border of the garden were especially interesting and should be watched by our members. It is hoped that some will be found with a vigor and quality that will make them bet for this climate than anything we now have.

After the rose garden, the tour was completed by a visit to the yard of our secretary, Jim Cristman, where the tuberous begonias were thrilling in their exotic setting beside his house and also along his fence under a quaint lattice awning all cleverly watered by a most ingenious plumbing device that keeps them spray with a mist.

Among the guests at the meeting were E. W. Hunt, secretary of the Minnesota Horticultural Society, and F. Elmer Halberg, landscape architect, who furnished the flower chart published with the last issue of The Spray.

## OUR FIRST INVITATIONAL TOUR

On August 4th, the first invitational tour of selected gardens took place. It wasn't a regular scheduled tour, but each member could go by himself; stay as long as he wanted, ask the experts all the questions that popped up in his mind, and enjoy himself to the limit in gardens which were in their prime for early August.

The hosts were generous in their cordiality and though the visitors did not come in as great numbers as was expected, the experiment was worth-

## VISITIN' AROUND THE MEMBERS' GARDENS

Don't wait for committees to plan tours. Get in your car on an evening and just drop around and see what the other fellows are doing. You'll profit and they will appreciate it.

Here are a few things I saw at two of the gardens in my neighborhood.

Herb Kahlert. The artistic sense of Herb gets full expression in his garden efforts. He doesn't try to grow everything in the seed catalog - just concentrates on the best varieties of a limited group of plants and goes all out to plan for masses of complementary colors all through the growing season.

He has always favored iris, and in his beds are found some of the newer creations of leading iris breeders. He clears out the old when better iris are available for he insists on the best at all times.

Herb starts all his annuals, biennials and perennials in cigar boxes, and in early spring he has thousands of seedlings that go to make up his garden. The outstanding feature is that it is well planned and organized, neat and clean, with an abundance of blooms.

A gardener from youth when his father agreed to pay retail market prices for his entire vegetable output, Herb has

made a real study of all gardening problems and there are few questions he can't intelligently answer.

He plans to spend his vacation driving to and attending the annual meeting of our parent organization, Men's Garden Clubs of America, which meets in North Carolina the early part of September.

Harold Kaufmann. Harold probably has the biggest little garden in the world for he seems to have more varieties of plants per square foot than any garden we've seen.

He has an unusual exhibit of tuberous begonias - in quantity and in quality and all seem to be doing well. His vegetable garden is, as usual, the top but then he has to keep working the plot to keep just slightly ahead of Rene Drouard, his closest rival for vegetable growing honors. His bird-chasing devices, the beautifully painted stakes and markers may be giving him a slight edge.

His garden is spotlighted for visitor for picking and for working in the late cool hours of eventide.

Harold has continual outdoor blooms from April to frost and then transfers his garden energy and interests to the indoor gardening of house plants, tulips, dahils and orchids.

## ROSES FOR MINNEAPOLIS

Peace - Vigorous, large blossom, many blooms. Color fair; foliage, dark green.

Ernie Pyle - A good rose, Pink to yellow.

Pink Bountiful - Polyantha. Like Elsie Foulson but more double.

Mirandy - Deep velvet red. Fragrant. Best in hot weather.

Fantasia - Yellow, many blooms.

Madam Chiang Kai-Shek - Tall, good blossoms. Long stem.

Mrs. Miniver - Good red, fringed edge.

Goldilocks - Polyantha, golden-yellow, hardy.

Nearly Wild - Single, tough.

V for Victory - Golden-yellow; best of yellows; does black spot.

Grootendorst Supreme. Dark red.

Dr. Eckener - few blooms.

Heart's Desire - Fair; like Crimson

Horace McFarland - beautiful.

Floradora - Tall growing polyantha.

Good only 1st year; weakens thereafter

Grey Pearl - N.G. Poor color; few blooms

Show Girl - N.G. Few blooms in Minne

Highland Park - N.G. Pink, but many b  
Climbers

Dream Girl - Darker but not as hardy

## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT SOILS

A digest of the brilliant paper read by Dr. John M. MacGregor of the University of Minnesota at the February, 1946, meeting.

For most of us, the soil is simply a place on the surface of the globe where we carry on our daily activities. Prior to the nineteenth century, little was known on this subject, but investigations during the last 100 years have revealed a great deal about soils with still much left to be answered.

All soils have certain physical characteristics such as color, structure, texture, weight, internal surface area, etc., which are grouped as physical properties in contrast to chemical composition or chemical properties. Soil color is probably the most striking characteristic present, in that the average person characterizes his soils as either light colored, medium or black colored. The color characteristic is the result of its composition, the black color being produced by the organic matter present which tends to mask other colors. A red color shows the presence of considerable quantities of iron compounds. The original color of the parent material, and the drainage conditions under which the soil develops, also effect soil color. Weathering of the parent material tends to bleach out the original color, but some usually remains. Poorly drained soils tend to develop bluish shades, whereas good drainage produces browns and yellows.

The chemical properties of the soil refer to the chemical composition and to the form in which plant foods are present. Plant nutrients occupy a small portion of the total soil volume and may be separated into two forms - those which are readily available to plants, and those unavailable.

Both organic matter and minerals in the soil are the source of good supply. That present in the organic matter is released as decay proceeds. However, many soil minerals, especially those in crystalline forms, break down and release their supply of plant foods slowly. It is for this reason that we often apply fertilizers to the soil to supply available plant food.

The available plant foods are those which are present either in the soil solution or on the surface of the fine soil particles. Both mineral and organic soil particles are electro-negative in nature, and since opposite charges attract, it is natural that any chemicals in the ionic form bearing a positive charge would be attracted to their surfaces.

The greater the particle surface in a given volume of soil, e.g. the clays, the greater would be the surface for the attraction for those nutrient cations such as calcium, magnesium, copper and potassium.

This naturally brings up the question why we must lime some of our soils. Many soils never had much lime, other soils have lost their original supply. Under humid conditions, the soil is more subject to the downward movement of water which tends to remove the nutrient cations from the surface of the soil particles and substitutes one of its own components, hydrogen.

Ground limestone is generally applied to correct soil acidity. This material is chiefly calcium carbonate, which gradually decomposes in the soil to form calcium ions. When the concentration of calcium ions becomes sufficiently high in the soil solution, they displace the hydrogen ions from the surfaces of the soil particles.