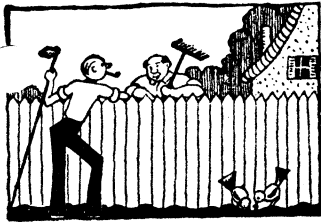


# THE GARDEN SPRAY



BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAP

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

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Jack Cohen, Editor

June-July, 1946  
Ed Montgomery, Associate Editor.

Office of the  
Secretary:  
4302 Branson St.  
Minneapolis, 10

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The Poets Say

"June Is The Month Of Roses"

But We Say -

HOLD EVERYTHING FOR TUESDAY, JULY 2!

Send In Your Reservation Card NOW For

A DOUBLE FEATURE, OUTSTANDING TIMELY EVENING

5:30 - Turkey sandwiches and all the trimmin's  
(65¢) a la Kahlert, in Jack Cohen's beautiful  
rose tree featured garden right on Lake  
Harriet (4725 E. Lake Harriet Blvd.)

6:15 - Lyndale Rose Garden at its height.

Thorough tour, inspection, suggestions  
and questions under members Charles Doell  
and Greg Lucking, Superintendent and  
Horticulturist of the Park Board assisted  
by the following guest authorities:

Dr. Hutchins - Pres., Minn. Hort. Soc.  
E. H. Hunt - Sec., Minn. Hort. Soc.  
R. S. "Roving With Roses" Wilcox  
Professors Longely, Phillips & Snyder  
- University Farm School

All rose lovers have been looking forward to this  
meeting. If you have 100 roses or none; come,  
profit and enjoy the beauty of the blooms, the  
knowledge of the experts, and the fellowship of  
your Garden Club associates.

## WELCOME - NEW MEMBERS

We are glad to take this opportunity to welcome the following new members to the  
Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis. We trust that they will enjoy the meetings as  
much as have us old timers. We are glad to have them with us.....

Victor Lowrie

4900 South Aldrich

## THE ELOISE BUTLER WILD FLOWER PRESERVE

The May meeting was featured by a tour of the Eloise Butler Wild Plant Preserve Theodore Wirth Park. This garden is one of the important horticultural spots of the Twin Cities and the Club has been really neglectful in not visiting it before. The trillium were outstanding and it is always worthwhile to take a Spring pilgrimage to see such a naturalized planting of this flower in our woods.

Following a picnic supper at the Park Board Lodge, cheered by a hot fire in the fireplace, Mr. Clinton O'dell, the patron of the Wild Flower Garden, told us of his early acquaintance with Eloise Butler as a student in her botany classes, and of his later interest in her wild flower garden. After her death he became interested in the development of the full potentialities of the garden.

Through his generosity the Park Board has been able to acquire an adjacent upland tract where native flowers may be grown along with the woodland plants of the original garden founded by Miss Butler. Mr. O'dell has also made valuable contributions toward the upkeep of this garden by taking care of

elimination of weeds and the securing new plant material. He deserves the commendation of the Men's Garden Club for the work he is doing to give Minneapolis such an outstanding wild flower preserve. The Spray suggests that the Club offer its assistance along such the following lines as may be acceptable to Mr. O'dell and the Park Board:

1. Establish a wild flower section.
2. Undertake plant gathering expeditions to obtain plants desirable for the garden.
3. Try propagation of rare species for seed for eventual planting in the flower garden.
4. Send a group of volunteers to help conquer the weeds when funds to pay regular weed-pullers run low.

## OUR MEMBERS ACTIVE IN MINNEAPOLIS GARDEN PROGRAM

The reconversion of the Victory Garden program to peacetime activities, sponsored by the Minneapolis Civic & Commerce Association, was largely engineered by several members of our Club with Harold R. Kauffmann as chairman of the Re-Organization Committee, Bill Swain, Vice-chairman, assisted by Upsher Smith and G. G. C

The members listed below are now serving on these active committees. Their efforts deserve the whole-hearted participation and interest of each of us.

GENERAL COMMITTEE: Lawrence W. Corbett\*, Chairman; G. G. Cerney\*, Vice-chairman

### SPECIAL COMMITTEES

#### Garden Therapy

Robert Phillips\*, Chairman  
Harold R. Kauffmann  
Archie H. Flack

#### Industrial Beautification

Gregory Lucking\*, Chairman  
Charles Doell  
Harold R. Kauffmann  
Robert A. Phillips

#### Industrial Gardens

G. G. Cerney

#### Special Events

Rene Dufourd\*, Chairman  
Herb Kahlert, Vice-chairman  
G. G. Cerney  
Charles Doell  
Harold R. Kauffmann  
Gregory Lucking  
Chris Mosberg  
William Swain

#### Home Gardens & Property

George E. Luxton  
Chris Mosberg  
Robert A. Phillips

#### Contest Committee

Harold R. Kaufmann\* Chairman  
Rene Dufourd, Vice-Chairman  
G. G. Cerney  
Chris Mosberg

#### Education & Consultant

Robert A. Phillips

#### Publicity & Promotion

George Luxton

#### Garden Fair Committee

Upsher Smith\* Chairman

## SOIL TESTING FOR AMATEURS

Walter P. Quist

With the aid of the little soil-testing kits, ranging in price from \$2 up to \$18 and \$20 now available, it is a simple matter to determine the content of your soil and to add to it the elements which are lacking for the particular plant you desire to grow. A chemically perfect soil does not necessarily mean you have a perfect condition for plant growth. Depth of plowing and spading are also important.

With these kits, there are four primary tests: (1) To determine the acidity of the soil (or some say whether your soil is sweet or sour); (2) to determine the amount of nitrogen; (3) to determine the amount of phosphorus; and (4) to determine the amount of potash.

Most plants grow best in a rather acid, neutral soil. However, exceptions are common. The soil-testing kit has a list of various vegetables, farm crops and flowers and uses the letters A, B, C, D and E to designate the acidity. "A" soil is slightly on the alkaline side; "B" soil is slightly on the acid side and "E" is a very acid soil.

Nitrogen is an essential constituent of proteins of which chlorophyll, or the green coloring matter of plants is an important one. An abundance of nitrogen results in dark green foliage and active vegetative growth. Too much nitrogen causes rapid growth, softness of tissue and a general weakness of the plant, which make it less resistant to disease. At flowering time, too much nitrogen means too much plant growth and less flower growth.

Phosphorus is found to aid the growth, particularly in the flowering parts and seed development and adds to the general vigor of the plant. Phosphorus tends to hasten maturity of plants, flowers and seeds.

Potash is important in the formation and transportation of starch and sugar, or carbohydrates within the plants. It provides the stiff stalks and healthy disease-resistant growth of a plant. However, too much potash results in an increase in the water content of plants and delays the maturity of plant growth.

By the way, when you see a commercial fertilizer carrying on the bags the number such as 10-6-4 beside the formula, the first figure will always mean nitrogen; the second, phosphorus; and the third, potash or potassium.

When you have analyzed your soil and have found out whether it is acid or alkaline, whether it is deficient in any one of the three necessary elements, then it should be quite a simple matter to add to your soil such fertilizers, chemicals or manure as will best suit the plant which is to grow in that particular soil; or, to avoid planting certain plants which will not do well in that soil.

### OUR HOLLAND VISITOR

A recent visitor, brought as a guest by Chris Mosberg, was Herman Heerns-kerk from Hillizan, Holland, a partner of one of the big bulb-growing firms of the Netherlands and a man who gave us a brisk, stimulating talk on

### PLANTS FOR THE VETERANS' HOSPITAL

Frank Janes made a plea for plants to be given to the veterans who want to have a garden at the Veterans' Hospital. If you have any surplus of plants which you started this Winter for Spring and Summer bloom, just call Frank and he'll

## PLANTS FOR SHADY PLACES

Walter Menzel

I shall give you only my personal experiences and refer you to the "10,000 Garden Questions" book for many of the fine points and details.

I find the shady parts of my garden the most interesting and fascinating. Many of the early wildflowers and delicate plants desire shade.

If you wish year-round greenery for your shady places, try the evergreens. The junipers - Savin Pfitzer, Arbor Vitae, Sativa - do quite well in half-dry shade. A favorite for spots with only two-thirds sun is yew, a shrubby fine-needled pyramidal evergreen. In the shadiest spot I have, one of mine is now three years old.

Wildflowers do particularly well in shady places simulating woodland shade. Wild anemones (Mayflowers) appear very early, shooting up under the branches of Savin Junipers. More bold in coloring and appearance are Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Trillium, Yellowbells and violets. Snowy orchids which are small and delicate bloom late in May. Lady Slipper is also a form of orchid. Ferns do exceptionally well for bedding and background.

Of the annual plants which do well in partial shade are petunias; verbenas, on the other hand, do not thrive in shade. Impatiens Sultani ("Busy Huzzy") are good, and coleus lend color. Some potted snapdragons also grow in shade.

There are several perennials which also do well in shady places. These are lilies of the valley, everblooming bleeding heart, funkia, some "wood ruff" - a herb - and tuberous begonias, which put me in search of the possibilities of shade for a garden. In planting these, turn the leaves toward the view as this is the side on which the flower grows.

### SPEAKERS AT THE WOMANS' CLUB

Two of our active members, Bill Addy and Herb Kahlert, were the feature speakers at the April 25th meeting of the Womans' Club of Hopkins. Bill talked on the organization of our own Men's Garden Club and how it is run and managed, while Herb gave them good sound advice on the cultivation and growing of flowers.

### AUCTION SALE DE LUXE

There was inflation deluxe when the auction sale at Glenwood Park took place selling six Tetra snapdragon seedlings for \$1.50. This would seem to be the ultimate in something. Jim Cristman says the \$50 receipts will help pay postage bill for the year. In addition the auction was a lot of fun.

### FIRST REPORT OF TUBEROUS BEGONIA COMMITTEE

The Committee, in lieu of a meeting, sent out a questionnaire to all those members who are actively interested in the growth of tuberous begonias. Fourteen men reported and the following is their experience with this flower.

Two beginners, four in second year, two in third year, five in fifth year, one in tenth year (Upsher Smith). Total planting of 772 bulbs.