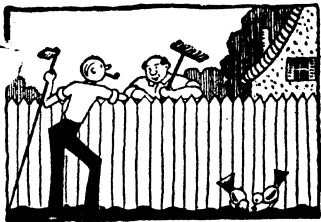


# THE GARDEN SPRAY



BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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

Volume 7  
Number 3  
Jack Cohen, Editor

March, 1949  
Associate Editors  
Vic Lowry, Ed Montgomery

## MARCH MEETING

Date: Tuesday, March 8, 1949  
Place: Park Board Greenhouse, 38th & Colfax So.  
Time: 5:30 P.M.  
Dinner: \$1.25 per person; special menu

### PROGRAM

- 6:30 Gladiolus  
Discussion to be led by Dr. Kenneth E. Britzius, President, Minnesota Gladiolus Society
- 7:00 Miniature Dahlias  
Discussion to be led by Robert Bryant
- 7:20 Seeds: Their Germination, Planting, etc.  
Discussion: L. E. Corbett
- 7:45 Garden Gadgets  
Leonard Bies

### Officers

William E. Swain,  
President  
Cortis N. Rice, Jr.,  
Vice-President  
Rene Dufourd,  
Secretary  
Ralph Sherman,  
Treasurer  
Stanley D. Lund,  
Past-President

### Office of the Secretary

5020 Second Avenue So.  
Minneapolis 19

This program is designed to be of special interest at this time and it is hoped that all will take the opportunity of participating. If each will think up a question pertinent to the subject, it should be intensely interesting.

Leonard Bies will call on each member to bring to the meeting his favorite garden tools - either home-made or purchased - and will show many new ones now on the market. Bring anything that you think would be interesting if you can get it into the car.

(Note: Please return the dinner reservation card today; we must prepare for enough food for you all.)

## THE FEBRUARY MEETING

Add to the titles of President William E. Swain: Herbalist Swain and Chief Chef Swain; add to Minneapolis' distinguished eating places: The Park Board Greenhouse on Garden Club night. Those who were there February 8th will be back in March hoping again to see Swain blend the herbs into the meat loaf and toss the greens into the salad.

Add to your list of our Club's best garden talks the discussion of Clematis by Professor A. N. Wilcox of the University of Minnesota. (And we were glad to note that he did not belong to the hybrid section whose diction dictates "clem-ah-tis" like in "to-mah-to;" he pronounced it the easy clem' atis way.)

His was the sort of talk we like best on our programs. He introduced us to the entire genus clematis in a way that was neither annoying because replete with details that every kitchen gardener already knows; not dull because of baffling academic terminology.

From his personal experience, he advised that clematis is a lime-loving plant that insists on well-drained soil and prefers to have its roots shaded from the sun either by low shrubs or a mulch. Much food and water will call forth the best blooms. The genus is generally free from disease, except for a fungus which cuts through the stalk at the ground. Plants so attacked should be destroyed.

Start with good plants, not those exhausted products wrapped in pretty labels offered in the spring by every department store and corner lot "nursery." Give winter protection the first few years after planting. Plant the crown about one inch below the surface and spread the roots

over a cone-shaped mound.

An unusual suggestion brought out by a question from Greg Lucking was to use clematis vines as a ground cover or bedding plant. It seems this is often done in Europe.

The catalog and stock of James I. George and Son of Fairport, N.Y., were recommended by the speaker to those interested in a specialized collection. Rocky Mountain Nursery, Boulder, Colo., was also recommended for such western varieties as G. Texensis, a very hardy vine with red urn-shaped blossoms. Other varieties described and shown by picture were Davidiana (a garden shrub), Tangutica (a 12-to 15-foot vine with yellow flowers), Recta (a white shrub), Ramona, Henrii and Gypsy Queen (vines), and Virginiana (wild).

Jim Cristman's review of new plants offered in the catalogs included the following interesting varieties:

Salpiglossis, Vesuvius; Aster Linda; Oriental Poppy, Arthur Curtis, Violet Blue Giant; Gallardia, General Patton; Anchusa Blue Stars; Scabiosa, Blue Nymph; Roses, New Dawn (the climber that blooms on the current year's wood); '49er (rated first in the Minneapolis Park Board Test Garden), Tallyho; Delphinium, Chinensis Blue Mirror; Dahlberg Daisy (and soil).

### QUESTION AND ANSWER DEPARTMENT

(Usually, but not always, conducted by Rice, Jr.)

Q. What is the best time to plant my canary bird seed?

A. Like wild oats, canary bird seed should be planted before fully mature. A good potting mixture is a fifth of each - Mexican peat, vermicelli and Four Roses. Be sure to grasp the seeds gently between the thumb and index finger. File the nails or freeze the seeds to avoid dextral germination. In order to insure singing birds by

Q. How can I raise nice, juicy wild cucumbers?

A. Although generally lost sight of since the close of the last century, the process of evolution has brought about as an indispensable requirement of this valued climber that it have for a trellis a bit of outdoor plumbing. If you can convince the health and zoning authorities that your trellis is purely ornamental, you

## MEDALS AWARDED TO NEW VEGETABLES

Caserta summer squash, light yellow with irregular green stripes won the first Gold Medal given for vegetables in over a decade in the All-America Selections Awards for 1949. Just a few plants are said to supply a family with squash over a long season.

The Silver Medal went to the Triumph bush lima bean, which produces a fine quality butter bean.

Especially tasteful fresh from the garden, Triumph is great for canning and freezing and it is valuable for dry or shelled beans.

Two heat-resisting head lettuce varieties received Bronze Medals:

Premier Great Lakes lettuce is resistant to tip-burn. Trials produced over 90% of choice usable heads in summer, an outstanding record. This lettuce matures about a week earlier than its co-winner, Pennlake lettuce.

Strongly resistant to heat and tip-burn, Pennlake makes a smaller head that fits conveniently into the refrigerator.

Cherry Belle radish, also a Bronze Medal winner, grows into round globes of the brightest red. It is crisp and firm at all stages.

Easy to grow, Ideal Snowball cauliflower produces beautiful big heads or curds which hold for days without ricing or granulation.

Flagship hybrid sweet corn provides bigger ears on stronger stalks, even under adverse weather conditions. Both of these received Honorable Mention.

Seeds of all these vegetables may be obtained through reliable seed houses. They should be ordered early, however, if you want to be sure of a supply this first season.

## OUR V.P.'S WIFE BREAKS INTO PRINT

A tasty dish of chicken mash, cracked corn, sand and suet is on a menu served daily to guests of Mrs. Cortis N. Rice, Jr., as related by pic and story in a recent Tribune item. Her guests are the birds who come to the feeding station outside her kitchen window from early morning to sundown for light snack and full meals. Regular boarders include cardinals, nuthatches, chickadees, blue-jays, downy woodpeckers, hairy woodpeckers, sparrows and other varieties who forego winter flights south.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Bill Brooks brought John Peterson along as his guest at a recent meeting.

The two days following the convention, August 26 and 27, are set aside for visiting friends in the Twin Cities. With enough early reservations, arrangements will be made for a fishing trip up in the north woods August 26, 27, 28 and 29.

Peaches are grown in Minnesota! For years the University of Minnesota Experiment Station at Excelsior has had a large orchard of them. This last year it was found that growing a cover crop of oats gave better results than did bare cultivation.

The Minnesota Centennial Organization is going all out in 1949 to present Minnesota natural and scenic attractions to visitors.

Minnesota Horticultural Society is the largest state horticultural organization with 8 000 paid members. Both St. Paul and Minneapolis clubs are affiliated.

Rene Dufourd, our genial and hard-working Secretary, says he always is in the mood to receive 1949 dues. If you haven't paid your current dues yet, will you drop your check in the mail to him today?

ANNUALS FOR GARDEN SHOWING IN AUGUST

G. G. Cerney

*Herb white*  
*with Theodora*

*Herb annual*

*Few annuals*

*white*

*blue*

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| - Alyssum         | Violet Queen  |
| - Ageratum        | Midget Blue   |
| - Aster           | Crego   |
| - Aster           | Queen of the Market   |
| - Antirrhinum     | Canary, Rosalie   |
| - Browallia       |   |
| - Cacelia         |   |
| - Calendula       | Orange Fancy, Balls Apricot   |
| - Calliopsis      | Gold Crest  |
| - Canterbury Bell |   |
| - Carnation       | Chabauds, Marguerite  |
| - Celosia Plumosa |   |
| - Cleome          | Pink Queen  |
| - Cosmos          | Dazzler, Pink Lady (double)   |
| - Chrysanthemum   |   |
| - Cynoglossum     | Firmament   |
| - Dianthus        | Westwood Beauty, Sweet Wivelsfield  |
| - Dahlberg Daisy  |   |
| - Dahlia          | Unwin Hybrids   |
| - Feverfew        |   |
| - Gaillardia      | Indian Chief, Sunshine Mix, General George Patton   |
| - Helianthus      | Sun Gold, Tall Red  |
| - Helecrysum      |   |
| - Hollyhock       | Indian Spring, Indian Summer, Triumph   |
| - Iberis          |   |
| - Lobelia         | Bedding Queen, Blue Gown  |
| - Marigold        | Gnome, Goldsmith, Yellowstone, Red Gold, Limelight, Spry, Naughty Marietta, Pigmy Gold (dwarf), Mission Giant Class, Tagetes, Spanish Gold (carnation type) |
| - Nicotiana       | Affinis, Crimson Bedder   |
| - Nierenbergia    | Purple Robe   |
| - Pansy           | Super Swiss Giant   |
| - Petunia         | World Beauty, Rose Carmine, Topaz Rose (bedding), Snow White, Theodosia, Fluffy Ruffles, Snowstorn, Admiral   |
| - Phlox           | Drummondii  |
| - Poppy           | Shirley   |
| - Portulaca       |   |
| - Salpiglossis    | Vesuvius  |
| - Salvia          | Farenacea   |
| - Scabiosa        | King of the Blacks, Blue Moon, Fire King  |
| - Statice         | Suworowi  |
| - Stocks          | Beauty of Nice var.   |
| - Schizanthus     |   |
| - Verbena         | Flamingo, Annapolis Blue  |
| - Verbena Venosa  |   |
| - Vinca Rosea     |   |
| - Viola           |   |
| - Zinnia          | Rosebud (pom-pom), Pink Exquisite, Crimson Monarch, Cal Gts. (cut-and-come again var.)  |

Bulbs: Canna. Tuberose. Tigridia. Lilies. Gladiolus. Dahlia