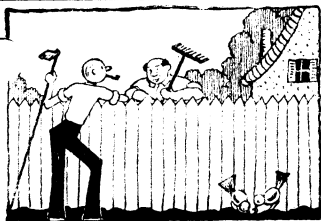


# THE GARDEN SPRAY

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS



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

April 1951  
Volume 9, Number 4  
Vic Lowrie, Editor

Associate Editors: J. G. Cohen  
G. G. Cerney, E. T. Montgomery  
Ben Methven, L. L. Still

## APRIL MEETING

Date: Tuesday, April 10, 1951  
Place: Hasty Tasty Cafe  
Time: 5:30 P.M. sharp  
Dinner: \$1.50 person

### Officers

Fred Paul, President  
Vic Lowrie, Vice-President  
Rene Dufourd, Secretary  
Bill Brooks, Treasurer  
Cortis Rice, Jr.  
Past-President

## PROGRAM

6:30 P.M. Business Session  
6:45 "Soils and Fertilizers" by Harold  
C. Pederson, President of the  
Minnesota State Horticultural Society  
7:20 "Annuals" by Henry Bachman of Bach-  
man's, Inc.  
8:00 Bull Session - Special Interest Groups

Office of the Secretary  
and Exchange Editor

5020 Second Avenue South  
Minneapolis 19, Minn.

## CLUB PLANT AUCTION - MAY 8th

Remember to hold off on your major gardening purchases until this date. You will not only be doing yourself a favor but will be helping the Club to build up its treasury to the point where we may be in a position to finance many of the projects we are at the moment too poor to launch.

Here is an opportunity for you to buy good, healthy plant material, seeds, nursery stock, fertilizers, insecticides and additional gardening tools and produce certainly not above normal market prices - and usually much below!

You who germinate seeds early, set aside an extra flat or two of your better varieties for the auction; those who propagate cuttings, plant some extras and bring them along; if you are dividing perennials, save some good divisions of healthy, unusual plants - share them with your Club members through the auction.

This auction, as you know, is reserved for Club members and their guests, so bring at least two male gardening friends.

IMPORTANT - PLEASE NOTE

Members of the Special Interest Groups and Testers are asked to meet with their respective chairmen immediately after the regular Club meeting on Tuesday, April 10th.

This is the last opportunity until Fall to have such helpful group meetings following our regular meetings in lieu of having special meetings called by the Group Chairmen; May is our Club Auction; June is our Flower Show; July and August our tours.

It is important, therefore, that you learn from your respective chairman his schedule, plans and program, and receive from him suggestions and record sheets which will be helpful to you, and particularly to the Testers as from these they may have chronological data that will be helpful in preparing their final test reports.

Harold R. Kaufmann, Chairman, Special Interest Groups

AMONG OURSELVES

Our Speakers' Bureau continues to be quite active. George Luxton, Glen Cerney, Rene DuFour, Archie Flack, Bill Block, Leonard Bics and Larry Corbett have answered assignments or calls taken by the Bureau.

Slides of gardens and perennials are available for illustrated talks. We need group pictures of annuals and flowering shrubs for the library.

The grapevine tells us that Archie Flack has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Horticultural Society of England.

The birds are coming back! So are the softies who duck our beautiful and healthful Minnesota Winters ???

When does your magazine subscription expire? Give the renewal to the Secretary. He will take care of it for you (and the Club treasury will profit thereby). Want a garden book? See the Secretary for that too.

One way to get acquainted with new flowers, trees and shrubs is to see them when in bloom. Some of the Special Interest Groups are planning field trips at the proper time. Keep in touch with your chairman.

We are proud to announce that our member, Harold C. Pederson, president of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society and Hennepin County Agricultural Agent since 1942, has been appointed Extension Economist in Marketing at the University of Minnesota. Last year Harold was given national recognition for his "ability to analyze farming and rural problems and organize self-help programs to solve them." In a ceremony in Washington, D. C., he was awarded a silver medal presented by Vice-President Barkley and Secretary of Agriculture Brannan.

Allen G. Dewars, who has been hospitalized since March 11, has just returned home and is convalescing nicely following major surgery. Drop him a line, or better still, visit Allen at his home, 2931 Fairmont, St. Paul.

If the chairman of each Special Interest Group would appoint a secretary whose duty it would be to report worthwhile accomplishments to the editors of the Spring we would be able to pass on the experiences and recommendations of each group to the full membership month by month instead of waiting for the annual reports

## A CHECK LIST FOR APRIL

1. Don't rush to remove winter protection from roses and less hardy perennials. If you do uncover, be ready to recover in a hurry if frost or snow threaten.
2. Wash the dust and soot from your evergreens, then give them a good soaking as well as all of your first year shrubs and trees.
3. Examine perennials. If they have been pushed out of the ground by frost action put them back in place.
4. Wait until buds begin to break before pruning roses so that dead wood can be discerned from green. For exhibition blooms, cut back teas, hybrids and hybrid perpetuals to three buds on each cane. For more but smaller blooms, prune down to the sixth or eighth bud.
5. Dust perennials with bordeaux mixture as soon as first shoots appear, and spray roses, bushes and other shrubs with lime sulphur (1 to 9 parts water).
6. Clear out last season's foliage and all other covering from around delphinium and hollyhocks.
7. Rake lawn, then fertilize as soon as you can get to it. Hose in as soon as applied. Then seed and dress.
8. Trim evergreen hedges early.
9. Clean up your yard just as soon as it is workable as a prevention against disease.
10. Get your 1951 garden on paper.
11. Divide and transplant overgrown perennials. Give light top dressing of bone meal and pulverize manure mixed with equal parts. Do not disturb platycodons, peonies or gas plants.
12. Sow sweet peas as soon as a 2-inch trench can be dug. Fill trench gradually as plants grow.
13. Pansies and violas may be planted early.
14. New dormant roses should be planted as soon as ground can be worked. Mound the earth completely over them until growth starts.
15. Start tuberous begonias in flats.
16. Get snaps, tomatoes and cabbage started in cold frames.
17. Garden peas should be sown early - the earlier the better.
18. Start canna roots in 4" pots.
19. Sharpen the lawnmower; get sprays and dusters in shape.
20. Paint stakes, fences, trellises and outdoor furniture if not already done.
21. Order bulbs, plants, seeds, fertilizers and insecticides.
22. Keep your best new plant purchases for our May plant auction.

## THE MARCH MEETING

What a day! It came at the height of another of our many March snowstorms and Kim Andrews, one of our feature speakers, just couldn't dig himself out in time to get up from Faribault. Johnny-on-the-spot Rene Dufourd came to the rescue as a pinch-hitter and a mighty good job he did, too, with an interesting talk on Garden Gadgets. He had some intriguing ones, both good and indifferent.

Howard Kaerwer gave a splendid talk on seed treatment and fungicides which was not only enlightening but extremely valuable to us gardeners.

The meeting was well attended - 43 braved the cold and snow. Harold Kaufmann took over the bull session and had all of the Special Interest Groups going at it like busy little bees far into the night.

REMEMBER OUR MAY PLANT AUCTION MAY 8th

### HOW TO BEAT THE GADGET-BUYING HABIT

By Rene Dufourd (as interpreted by Don Methven)

This garden gadget business really runs into money. You start with a strange-looking weed exterminator that costs about 75 cents, and a short time later find yourself with 75 bucks worth of rather unusual tools - and some of them really work! The darned thing is habit-forming.

Rene Dufourd has combined a lot of ingenuity with some of the things that most everyone has around the house and solved this embarrassing expense problem. For example, the "Polespray" is a very fancy device that sprays your lawn or garden and costs about \$20, but you can get a similar result with 25 feet of old garden hose, plugged at one end, perforated at frequent intervals with nail holes. Instead of buying plastic "plant covers" at 40cents each, save your old 2-quart or gallon vinegar jugs, cut off the bottom with a hot wire or a string soaked in kerosene, and you have a most efficient plant cover with a handle attached.

An 8-inch piece of copper tubing makes a dandy seeder or seedling transplanter; just cut off one end on the bias, file the edges down to a smooth point and plug the other end with the cap from a bottle of Seagram's Seven Crown.

Attractive flower supports can be made from old wire coathangers stretched out and cut in half. Curve one end in a circle about two inches in diameter with loop in horizontal position. Seedling flats can be made from cedar shingles by nailing a pair of shingles together in opposition. Then cut in desired lengths. Oh, well, you have the idea; now figure out something for yourself.

P.S. Just a warning. If any of you fellows have any idea of borrowing some of Rene's gadgets and forgetting where you got them, skip it! He has another gadget that brands all of his other gadgets with his initials - a branding iron!

REMEMBER OUR  
MAY PLANT AUCTION  
MAY 8th!

## SEED TREATMENT

Introducing his discussion of seed treatment at our March meeting, Mr. Howard Kaerwer, BSA Manager, Research Division of Northrup-King and Company, stated that plants have minimum growing temperatures, as do also the plant disease organisms. Under optimum growing conditions, some species of plants may, in effect, outgrow disease organisms. But since we cannot control temperature conditions in the field, we may be compelled to treat the seed to obtain a greater survival of the germinated seed.

Of importance to a high percentage of germination is good seed. But certain physical factors also enter actual or apparent germination, such as damaged or crushed seed; seed damaged by disease; planting too deep so seedlings cannot emerge from the soil; planting too shallow causing the seed to become too dry just at the time of germination; planting at the right depth in soil that tends to crust prevents emergence of seedlings; failure to compress soil over seed results in poor germination.

Disease organisms may be on the seed and/or in the soil, resulting in damping off of seedlings before emergence and damping off after the seedlings are out of the soil.

There are two main types of seedlings - mercurial or fuming type, such as Semisan, and organic, or coating types, such as Arasan, Phygon, Spurgon. Phygon appears to be the safest and easiest to use. Although irritating to the human skin, the seed is not harmed by an overdose. Merely put a small amount of Phygon in the packet with the seed and shake well so that the seed is coated with material.

Experimentation has shown that treated seed emerges sooner and produces a stand of more vigor than untreated seed. Results of seed treatment have not been uniform nor entirely successful. The speaker cited Larkspur, Marigold and Nasturtium as having been injured by seed treatment. He stressed following the recommendations of the manufacturer of the fungicide being used, particularly in treatment of legumes.

A question was raised regarding the use of "pelleted" seed which has the fungicide coated to the seed with inert material. Tests of a considerable number of different kinds of plants showed a delay of one to 20 days in germination. In the field, this naturally increased the weed problem.

G. G. Cerney

## 1951 AUCTION COMMITTEE

Tony Koester, General Chairman

Auctioneers: Frank Janes, George Titus, William Swain, Herb Kahlert, William Holmberg, L. L. Stillman

Bookkeepers: Cortis Rice, Victor Lowrie, E. C. Culbert, Archie Flack

Cashiers: Rene Dufourd, Milan Evans, Ray Edlund, A. J. Fakler

Receivers & Handlers: Gordon Ballhorn, Leonard Bies, Glen Cerney, Harold Stephens, A. J. Nelson, George Germain, Harold Wright, Bill Brooks

Contractors: Tony Koester, H. R. Kaufmann, George Germain, Archie Flack, Glen Cerney, Andy Nyberg, Bill Brooks, A. J. Blackburn

Telephone: Ralph Sherman, Milan Evans, F. F. Heschmeyer, A. J. Fakler, R. C.

## A PARODY OF SOUTH PACIFIC

By Stan Lund

There is nothing like a Rose - absolutely nothing. Nothing has a shape like a rose; nothing acts like a rose. There is no substitute for a rose or a dame - and it may be the reason a rose is called the Queen of Flowers. Dominating every gathering of flowers as to shape, texture, fragrance and compatibility, a rose can only be compared with another rose.

The Upper Midwest has discovered that roses are a necessary part of our flower gardens. Many varieties have been developed, especially for our rugged climate. However, a study of varieties recommended for points as far south as Houston, Texas, indicates ability of many plants to adapt themselves to extremes in weather. A recent list of suggested plants for Houston gardeners was almost identical with that of the Minnesota Rose Society. With the exception of climbers, we may grow almost all of the new roses. Naturally, some will do better than others - but extra winter protection should insure several years of blo

The item of winter cover is interesting and controversial. Although Al Nelson is probably more thorough than anyone in the Club, he will not even agree with himself as to the most effective method, always having that variable, the type of winter, introduced into the formula. This winter with its heavy covering of snow should show excellent results - if we don't have any early thaw followed by a quick freeze.

Of interest to all of us is the success of new introductions. We can become starry-eyed in January by gazing at the brilliant displays and reading the accompanying blurbs. The fact that a few live up to their advance notices keeps us vulnerable.

Considerable information of value has been obtained through the Rose Testing Program of the Minnesota Garden Clubs of America. Some new varieties that have met with favor are listed herewith:

Hybrid Teas:	American Flagship Applause Juno	Early Niner Tallyho Sutters Gold Grace Moore	Rose of Freedom Golden Anniversar Bravo
Floribundas:	Fashion Curly Pink	Valentine Pinkie Goldilocks	Pink Satin Irene of Denmark (excellent new wh

Climbers: (a personal viewpoint) Only two climbers - New Dawn and White Dawn - can be successfully grown in this territory.

### CORRECT YOUR 1951 ROSTER

Change initials of Malloy from D.J. to L.A.  
Change address of E. R. Thompson to 522  
Minnehaha Blvd., Zone 10. Strike out business telephone of G. S. Titus. Add to Professional Members Phillip, R. A., 5401 Woodlawn Blvd., Zone 6, Ne 4616, Pa 2915.