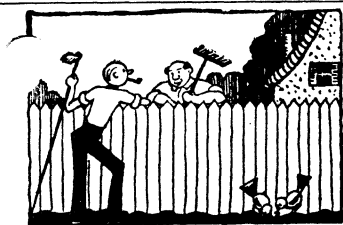


# THE GARDEN SPRAY



BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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

Volume 8  
Number 2  
Vic Lowrie, Editor

February, 1950  
Associate Editors  
Jack Cohen, Ed Montgomery

## FEBRUARY MEETING

Tuesday February 14 5:30 P.M.  
Colonial Room - Hasty Tasty - Dinner \$1.50  
1433 W. Lake St.

### PROGRAM

6:30 P.M. Short Business Session  
Cortis Rice, Jr. presiding

6:45 Elementary Botany and Practical Applications  
Archie Flack

7:15 Excerpts from Exchange Club  
Bulletins -Rene Dufourd

7:45 African Violets  
Dick Miller, Bachman Associates

8:15 Questions & Answers  
G. B. Germain  
(Bring your garden questions on  
any subject)

### Your Officers for the Year 1950

Cortis Rice, Jr.  
President

G. B. Germain  
Vice-President

Rene Dufourd  
Secretary

C. F. LaCrosse  
Treasurer

William E. Swain  
Past-President

Office of the Secretary  
and Exchange Editor

5020 Second Ave. South  
Minneapolis 19

### SEND IN YOUR RESERVATION CARD - PROMPTLY!

Have you mailed your 1950 dues to our Secretary? Rene Dufourd is waiting for them . . . NO unpaid member gets his name on the roster.

### WHAT IS YOUR SPECIAL INTEREST?

Register with George Germain, our Vice-President, your special interests and join with other members in pooling your experiences and experiments. Here are the Special Interest groups ready to go into action for 1950:

Annuals  
Chrysanthemums  
Delphiniums  
Garden Photography  
Greenhouses  
House Plants

Hormones  
Lawns  
Lilies  
Perennials  
Primroses  
Roses

Trees & Shrubbery  
Tuberous Begonias  
Vegetables  
Violets (garden)  
Wild Flowers  
Sweet Peas

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My membership in this club for these past few years has been a constant source of joy, not only because of so much learned about gardening, but more because of the fellowship and many friendships developed within the group. This being the case, I see no reason for any radical change in policy. It will be my objective to continue the promotion of gardening as an inexpensive, pleasurable and healthful hobby, and to emphasize directly and indirectly its benefits in man's social relationships. When we have learned the secret of the little seed, we shall have solved the mystery of life, and whether we know it or not, perhaps this is what we seek.

The time that we devote to our hobby is pretty much our own this year. We have no convention to consume time and effort. Our financial position is better than ever before and we need no major money-raising projects. We are not pointing our gardens to a specific date; we are again gardening for the fun of it. We are free to resume our learning and experimenting. We are free to enjoy our own, and will have time to visit the other fellow's garden. We all like visitors and therefore should do more visiting.

As a result of the convention, we, as individual gardeners, and collectively as a club, have gained a reputation both locally and nationally. Overnight we became one of the leading clubs in M.G.C.A. Whereas in the past we have not been too active in its affairs, it is likely that the national organization may now rightfully expect greater participation in its activities. If, in the ordinary course of events, we can be of service, we should do so. Furthermore, there are dozens of small local clubs seeking speakers and other assistance. We should not force gardening upon anyone, but with experts on so many different subjects, we are in a position to, and can, without much inconvenience, help those who ask. It might be well to have an orderly plan for such work.

As to specific plans for the coming year, our purpose is to follow the general trend of past years which seems to have been generally approved, to introduce a new idea or two for variety, and particularly to give you what you want if you will make your desires known. No untried ideas - and we have two or three - will be promoted without your prior approval. We will inform you as to what is going on in the Executive Committee, and, in fact, invite any who desire to attend. Consult the secretary for date and location each month.

The basic committees and practically all other committee chairmen have already been appointed and approved. You will find new names on the list and more new ones when all committees are filled. This is to relieve those who have performed so faithfully for so long, and also to provide opportunities for others. These committees are already at work - if it can be called work - and their success is already assured by your never-failing interest and support.

CORTIS RICE, Jr.

## OUR ANNUAL MEETING

Acclaimed by most everyone of the fifty-two members present as one of the best meetings of the year just passed. Your secretary hastened to add that it was one of the better attended, and your editor suggests one of the more fruitful.

What with the unanimous election of a new slate of officers for the year 1950, the overwhelming adoption of the recommendation of the Constitution and By-Laws committee; the enthusiastic acceptance of the plush treasury report, the vociferous applause which greeted the secretary's narration of the state of affairs, and the spirited commendation paid the retiring officers for their leadership during the year just passed - the actions of the members present clearly reflected the strength, vitality and earnestness of purpose of the Club as a whole.

It was therefore only fitting that at this triumphant meeting we recall and pay homage to those among us who brought this Club into existence and who together with the charter members and past leaders and officers are primarily responsible for our growth and stature:

## OUR CHARTER MEMBERS

Tom D. Hughes	George E. Luxton	Gardner Eustis
Upsher Smith	Fred Paul	George H. Filbert
Herb E. Kahlert	W. C. Addy	C. L. Comings
Jack Cohen	Ed R. White	Charles David
Oscar F. Gustavson	Elmer Smith	A. P. Brown
Dr. F. H. Olson	Walter Quist	Chris Mosberg

## OUR PAST OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

1942  
President: T. D. Hughes  
Vice-Pres.: Upsher Smith  
Sec-Treas.: W. C. Addy  
Directors: C. E. Doell  
G. T. Eustis  
H. E. Kahlert  
Fred Paul  
Walter Quist  
C. H. Stewart

1943  
President: Upsher Smith  
Vice-Pres.: E. R. White  
Sec-Treas.: W. C. Addy  
Directors: Chas Comings  
Chas Doell  
Geo. Filbert  
Oscar Gustafson

1944  
President: E. R. White  
Vice-Pres.: H. E. Kahlert  
Sec-Treas.: W. Menzel  
Directors: W. S. Block  
J. Hanson  
Chas. Comings  
Upsher Smith  
W. C. Addy

1945  
President: H. E. Kahlert  
Vice-Pres.: G. G. Cerney  
Secretary: H. Kaufmann  
Treasurer: W. Menzel  
Directors: Fred Paul  
Ed White  
Ed Montgomery  
W. Block  
W. C. Addy

1946  
President: G. C. Cerney  
Vice-Pres.: Walter Menzel  
Secretary: L. E. Cristman  
Treasurer: H. E. Nelson  
Directors: A. H. Flack  
H. Kaufmann  
Ed Montgomery  
H. E. Kahlert  
Fred Paul

1947  
President: H. Kaufmann  
Vice-Pres.: H. W. Bishop  
Secretary: R. J. Dufourd  
Treasurer: A. H. Flack

1948  
President: Stanley Lund  
Vice-Pres.: W. E. Swain  
Secretary: R. J. Dufourd  
Treasurer: Cortis N. Rice, Jr.

1949  
President: W. E. Swain  
Vice-Pres.: Cortis Rice, Jr.  
Secretary: R. J. Dufourd  
Treasurer: Ralph Sherman

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP REPORTS

Although little of the activities of the special interest groups this past year under the direction of Corbis Rice - has come to the surface, their exploratory studies, cultural tests and general progress were revealed in a series of extremely enlightening summations given at our annual meeting by the chairman of each group. They included:

Roses	Stan Lund
Chrysanthemums	Harold Kaufmann
Violets	Rene Dufourd
Dwarf Apple Trees	Archie Flack
Small Garden Dahlias	Andy Nyberg
Perennials in Minnesota	Gleann Carney
Lilies	Morris Elfrson
Begonias	Jim Christman
New Annuals	Vic Nowitz

Only the highlights were touched upon by the speakers but the completed documents of the year's experiences are being processed and will be distributed to each member attending our February meeting. We believe you will find these studies not only helpful in your own garden activities but also quite interesting as well as educational - accumulatively over the years they should prove invaluable to horticulture in Minnesota.

### THE STEWARDSHIP OF YOUR CLUB

With this issue of The Spray you will receive the 1949 annual reports of your retiring officers. Study them carefully, for as well as making good reading, they reflect mighty good stewardship.

1949 has been one of our most difficult years; one of our most challenging, yet under the direction and able leadership of our officers, it turned out to be a year of unusual accomplishment. We salute each and every one of them in admiration and appreciation . . . and to those who we have placed in command for 1950, we extend our best wishes for an equally successful year.

### STARTING YOUR GARDEN INDOORS

If you don't number yourself among "plush bottoms" with greenhouses, then go slow starting your seeds in the house. Seeds of most annuals will germinate and be ready for transplanting into the garden from 8 to 10 weeks after sowing. Allow too much time to elapse and they will grow spirally and weaken. Seeds should be strong and healthy at transplanting time; otherwise they rarely will grow well or bloom satisfactorily. Seeds left over from last year should be tested to see if they are good enough to plant. Allow a few to soak in water for the period of time required for proper germination.

### THREE VEGETABLES IN ALL-AMERICAN SELECTIONS FOR 1950

**SQUASH** - Uccan, a new form of Acorn squash or Table Queen type in a true bush form. Easy of cultivation, free of runners and occupies a space of only 2x3 feet. Produces an abundance of early fruit, has good winter-keeping qualities with shape, color, consistency and flavor of the Acorn.

**WATERMELON** - Congo, a striped fruit, but darker, tougher and with smaller seeds than the Garrison. Ripens early and has good keeping qualities both on and off the vines. Will size up to 60 pounds. Resistant to anthracnose and fourneck but susceptible to downy mildew as are other varieties.

**SNAP BEANS** - Topcrop, a heavy producing bush snap bean, providing more than its share of the popular varieties. Round-podded, stringless, fiberless and tops eating quality. It bears early and remains in edible condition over a long period.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !

\* \* \* \*

We are happy to introduce you to four new members:

Robt. C. Adams, 5012 Wentworth, Lo 8797  
Chas. W. Crewe, 3009 James So. Re 1647  
Frank Heschmeyer, 3993 Dakota Wa 8353  
H. H. Strachauer, 5605 Interlachen Blvd.  
Wa 8997

Drop in for a chat with Ernie Thompson who is resting at Swedish Hospital with a troublesome ticker. Just have a little patience, Ernie; it will come around - and a quick recovery, fellow!

\* \* \* \*

Now, look them up at our February meeting and make yourself known; you undoubtedly have many garden interests in common.

A hand of welcome is extended to all four. We are proud they have joined with us and we look forward to sharing our experiences with them.

We were all grieved to learn of the passing of Herb Spencer. Herb was forced to curtail his club activities this fall due to ill health. . . We were equally distressed to hear that Swanie Halle had passed away. A foreman of the Park Board greenhouses, most of us knew Swanie and could always count on his assistance and co-operation. Our most sincere sympathy is extended to both families.

M.G.C.M. - PRESIDENT'S REPORT - 1949

It is evident from the reports of the other officers, committee chairmen, club testers and special interest groups that all have exceeded your President's fondest hopes. These reports are typical of the kind of effort that has made possible the progress that we have enjoyed. The activity and progress of the M.G.C.M. in 1949 is a tribute to its founders, charter members and past leadership.

You will recall that on election in January, 1949, I asked your co-operation in the attainment of two objectives: (1) to stage a convention for the M.G.C.A. in co-operation with M.G.C. St. Paul, and (2) to continue our club activities and not allow our convention effort to diminish our normal progress.

YOU succeeded in accomplishing these objectives (or should I say "exceeded") beyond my most optimistic expectations.

YOU DID IT!

KEEP GOING, for "nothing succeeds like success."

At a Presidents' meeting during the M.G.C.A. convention, recommendations for the operation of "A Perfect Men's Garden Club" were made. Eighteen points were listed and with one exception, it was a blueprint of M.G.C.M. in action. The exception: "Send delegates to M.G.C.A. convention." The report included thirteen "Suggested ways and means." Two of these I suggest you consider: "Publish and offer for sale a Garden Handbook;" and "Take member's subscriptions and renewals to garden magazines."

May I urge you to consider these recommendations - and may I add that we continue to work together in the same spirit that has been displayed in the past and by being free to concentrate solely on our club's activities this coming year, make 1950 the biggest and best year in our history.

I'll be in there pitching with you and so with Good Luck and Good Gardening,

Thank you.

## FEBRUARY CHORES

1. You may bring all your potted tulips, hyacinths and daffodils indoors now; they'll force quickly. Keep them in a cool place (55 degrees) until foliage turns green and flower buds emerge.
2. Cuttings of geraniums for summer plants may be made this month.
3. Should your house plants become leggy, pinch the tops back. A feeding of commercial fertilizer, dissolved, or liquid manure would do them good. Plant food or hyponex will do the trick, but follow directions on labels.
4. Get your seed boxes cleaned out and ready to use. A good dusting of chlor-dane or DDT will assure cleanliness. Deep flats are more desirable for slow-growing seedlings. A good soil mixture may consist of 2 parts garden loam, 1 part sand, and 1 part leaf mold, peat moss, or humus.
5. Later in the month you may force spring blooming shrubs and trees like flowering almonds, forsythias, Japanese cherries, spirea thunbergi, flowering crabs and Japanese quince. Keep them in deep water in moderately warm room. Pussy willows may also be forced.
6. Some of your Easter lilies, held in storage for rooting, may be brought into a sunny window and forced into bloom. Make sure the root system has fully matured.
7. Check your garden layout (you know, that plan you drew up last month) before ordering seeds - to make sure of your full requirements. But order your seeds early and avoid disappointment of the newer varieties that may be in short supply. Plan your colors for harmony.
8. Watch for a break in the weather (it's bound to come). When the snow clears, examine your newly-planted perennials and press the plants back into place if thrown out by frost. Cover up all tender perennials exposed by the wind; remember, it is the thawing and repeated freezing that does the most damage to plants, not the winter-long severe low temperatures.
9. Keep your bird feeders well filled with food - and don't forget a little suet for energy, say the experts.
10. Should your dahlia tubers become too dry and shrivel, sprinkle them lightly with water - do not allow them to dry out.

### FOR HE'S A JOLLY GOOD SECRETARY

. . . and does he ever deserve - and more - the collapsible photographic screen selected for him by our officers as a last- ing gift and presented to Rene at our annual meeting.

How about those dues? Mail 'em quick to our secretary . . . to get your name on the roster, become a paid-up member.

### PHOTOGRAPHERS, ATTENTION!

We are trying to build a library of slide films, both for our own guidance and interest and to exchange with other clubs. If you have some really good shots in color which you can spare, mail them to our secretary, Rene Dufourd, 5020 Second Ave. S. and remember, every time you take an unusual photograph this coming growing season, keep the club's slide library in mind. We want to build a good one and need all the help you can