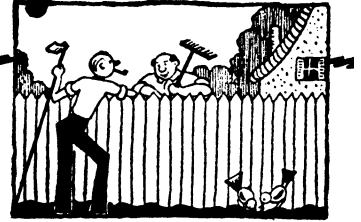




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

Member--Men's Garden Clubs of America • Minnesota State Horticultural Society



March 1958
Volume 16, Number 3
G "Vic" Lowrie, Editor

Associate Editors
Wm. H. Hull, Joe Witmer
Don Methven, Bob Adams

MARCH MEETING

Date: Tuesday, March 11, 1958
Place: Mount Olivet Lutheran Church
Knox Ave. So. & W. 50th St.
Time: 5:45 P.M. Sharp
Price: \$1.50

OFFICERS

W. W. Brooks	President
P. W. Young	Vice President
W. H. Hull	Treasurer
N. W. Christopherson	Secretary

Office of the Secretary
N. W. Christopherson
6145 Clinton Avenue South

PROGRAM

- (a) Arthur Buzicky, Director, Metropolitan Mosquito Control - a 6-county program
- (b) Albert J. Nelson, member and "Rosarian" for the Capitol Approach Rose Gardens in St. Paul
- (c) Arthur J. Fakler, member, demonstrating success with seed germination in sphagnum moss
- (d) William F. Ost, member, demonstrating how "teeny-weeny" seeds can be grown without a greenhouse.

Office of the Exchange Editor
G. Victor Lowrie
417 Essex Building

Here is a practical garden program if there ever was one. Don't miss these timely demonstrations. They will help you get a really good start for a successful gardening year.

The newly instituted mosquito control program, which will cover over 3,000 square miles, is a subject we are all vitally interested in learning about.

Few in this area know their roses better than Al Nelson. I'm sure the varieties he plans to plant in the Capitol Approach Rose Gardens would do well in our borders.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Remember this is our State's Centennial Year, the official colors being maroon and gold. Might be a good idea if in every garden we had a bed with maroon and gold flowering plants. Encourage your neighbors to do the same. A front bed of maroon and gold would be particularly effective. We have many plants of those two colors to choose from in both annuals and perennials, far too many to attempt to list here. Make this a must and encourage every gardening friend to do the same. Maybe this year instead of the Club having a flower show, we could have a flower garden contest to determine who did the best job of reflecting the Centennial Year in his garden. Does the idea have any merit?

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You no doubt read Joe Witmer's reference to "The World in Your Garden" published by the National Geographic Society in the current issue of the MINNESOTA HORTICULTURIS. My copy of the book arrived this week, and I found it equally as delightful a garden book as it was vouched for by Joe. It is a cloth bound book, 248 pages with 80 in full color. Price: \$6.50. Write Secretary, National Geographic Society, Washington 6, D.C. I'm sure you will be delighted to have a copy in your gardening library.

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Your editor unfortunately missed the February meeting and by the time of our March conclave, it is to be hoped the Sun will be showering her rays on the sands of the Florida Keyes where the Lowries are heading for a much needed rest. Will be back for what most likely will be our April Arboretum plant auction, thanks to Leon Snyder.

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I was reading the other day of the many curious ways by which plants increase themselves, some of which are quite fantastic. Take, for example, the Morisia hypogaea, a native of Italy, not unlike our Dandelion. The flowers turn downward and bury their seed capsules underground to incubate in the soil.

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You no doubt read with apprehension in the local paper the medical profession's warning regarding the serious ill effects on one's health supposedly caused by DDT. Now these medical men did not mention how much of a dose was necessary for contamination of the blood, but the warning was sufficient to cause considerable alarm. When one considers the wide use being made of this insecticide, especially in the home, it is to be hoped that the scare is no more serious than the attack these same folks are making on smoking. If they keep this up, looks like we are going to have to retreat to the caveman age.

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This Spring give some consideration to an occasional grouping of hardy ferns. When properly placed and grown they do produce a beautiful effect in the garden. For shady areas they have no equal for their feathering foliage, lend a grace and charm to areas too shady to grow much of anything attractive. Varieties range from as low as 6 to 8 inch stems of the Dwarf Woods Fern to the 4 foot height of the Ostrich or Cinnamon Ferns.

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You have undoubtedly heard of the new apple variety, "Connell Red," being introduced this Spring. It has been agreed by the fruit growing experts and pomologists to be a true color sport of the University of Minnesota's popular "Fireside" apple. The "Connell Red" will be distributed this Spring by Connell, Schneider, Connell, Inc., Box 89, Menomonie, Wisconsin.

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The Men's Garden Club of Syracuse in the March Issue of the "Spreader" will feature D. L. H. Bailey's 100th Anniversary and will contain illustrations and material hitherto unpublished. Quantities to clubs: 25¢ per copy, individuals 50¢. Send orders to: Harvey Sanderson, University College, Syracuse, New York. Proceeds go to Bailey Hortorium at Cornell University.

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INVENTORY OF CLUB PROPERTY

If you have in your possession any property belonging to the Club, whether records, table silver, correspondence files, signs -- whatever it may be -- please drop a note to the Secretary, so we can establish an inventory of all club material.

SPEAKERS WANTED

The Club Speakers' Bureau is under the direction of Glen Cerney this year. Bob Adams has handled this big job most successfully during 1957 and requests more volunteers for speaking jobs. If interested, talk it over with Glen.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA 1958 INTRODUCTIONS

Garden Chrysanthemums

Minnehaha and Princess are two new varieties which were introduced in 1958 by the Agricultural Experiment Station. Minnehaha has full -- double, large, rosy -- salmon blooms. The plant is medium tall and the flower sprays are especially good as cut flowers. Princess has double 2 inch flowers of old rose with gold centers and gold-tipped forked petals. The plant is low-moundlike in growth.

Flowering Crabapple

Radiant is an outstanding new flowering crabapple variety. Flower buds are deep red. The single flowers are deep pink of medium size. Annually the trees have been covered with flowers which remain colorful for almost two weeks. Small $\frac{1}{2}$ inch bright red fruits reach their peak of color and size in September. The fruits persist on the trees throughout the winter if birds don't devour them earlier. Birds are especially fond of the fruits. New foliage is reddish-tinted, later becoming green. In autumn the red pigment in the leaves becomes very pronounced and the leaves are very attractive. The trees are compact and upright in growth. They are completely hardy in all parts of Minnesota, where they have been tested.

Apple-Crabs

Centennial and Northland are the names of two excellent new varieties developed by crossing Dolgo with a commercial apple variety.

Centennial has medium sized dark yellow fruits with bright to dark red stripes. The crisp, tender, juicy flesh is very delicious when eaten. Fruits ripen from late August to early September. The flowers are large, white and showy. The medium to small sized trees are compact and sturdy. Fruiting habit tends to be biennial on mature trees.

Northland is an extremely hardy variety developed especially for northern Minnesota regions. The highly attractive deep red fruits resemble Dolgo in shape and general appearance. They are larger and much better for dessert purposes. They are useful for sauce, jelly and pickles. The trees are medium in size, open in habit, relatively hardy and very productive.

Gooseberry

Welcome is a new variety of gooseberry, which is virtually thornless. The medium large fruits have prominent veins which are green but inconspicuous when ripe. The light dull-red fruits have pink flesh and few, small seeds. The flavor is mildly tart, of good quality. The fruits can be used to make jam and pies. The bushes are vigorous, medium upright to spreading, relatively free from disease and very productive.

OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

by Bill Hull

The exodus for winter vacations is now in full swing. In addition to those we've already mentioned in SPRAY, we know that the P.W. Youngs left for California on February 12th. The Koesters took off for Phoenix and points west on February 15. The Lowries desert La Jolla for Florida on about March 1st. And I'll be in California on business by the time you read this. Anyone else on vacation?

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While you're planning vacations, don't forget the number one invitation you have in 1958. To attend the National MGCA Convention in Cleveland, August 18-22, as a guest of the MGC's of Cleveland, Akron, Kent and Mansfield. It's sometimes hard to persuade a member to attend his first national convention. After that, he's sold and will return yearly. There exists a spirit of camaraderie unequalled in most conventions. Learning opportunities abound galore. Lots of field trips. Yet the goal is to entertain and to learn, not to work you to death. You'll have fun and return home refreshed, not with your tongue hanging out and your feet dragging the ground as if you had been at a business convention. Could become a deductible expense for some of our members.

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Programs for the year were discussed at the last Board of Directors Meeting (the first under new president, Brooks). Bill Ost has lots of plans but needs constant ideas and reactions to his programs. Help him. Would you like the job?

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Can you grow plants in your office? They represent a challenge because of the lack of control over humidity and perhaps heat. My office geranium has caused much ribaldry. Now the plant has decided to come to my rescue and grow. The day it blooms, I throw it out the window.

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A friend is addicted to chocolates. He eats a boxful as if they were something less innocuous. He's now discovered that he can temporarily kill his desire for sweets by visiting a sweet shop for a few minutes. The terrific smell overpowers him. Imagine a gardener visiting a greenhouse in winter and coming away tired of gardening? Most of us probably purchase more than we intended when we visit our commercial friends' establishments.

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When visiting those commercial greenhouses, ask to see their technics of growing plants under mist. Most interesting. Being used outdoors sometimes too. It's a true intermittent mist, not simply overhead watering, and is used on cuttings and seedlings. Could you use this idea in your garden?

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Recently when addressing a ladies' garden club, we discovered the ladies were unfamiliar with the word, "cuttings," or that technic of propagating plants. Gives us an idea of the unlimited contribution you fellows could make in disseminating your gardening knowledge to others. Glen Gerney always needs speakers for the Speakers' Bureau.

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Did you see our man, Vic Lowrie, appear on various TV programs when he presented the University with the Arboretum Deed and an accompanying check? Done in his capacity as President of the Minnesota State Horticulture Society.

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Various members still receiving out-of-town letters from friends who saw our write-up in BETTER HOMES & GARDENS. One gardener writes, "I don't know what you fellows have, but you've really got it to get a BH&G write-up." It does present a challenge to us, though, doesn't it? What's our first step?

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Who would be willing to label the plantings in the Lyndale Gardens? Someone must see that those crabapple trees are labeled by variety at blooming time.

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Where can I find room to grow some vegetables?

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A friend recently sent a quotation I intend to use frequently: "The trouble with one's leisure time is that there are too many people trying to use it up for one

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS
Committees for 1958

PROGRAM COMMITTEES:

- (a) Indoor Meetings - Bill Ost, Chairman
- (b) Summer Garden Tours - Leo Stillman, Chairman

FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE:

Leslie W. Johnson, Chairman
Committee to be announced later

AUCTION COMMITTEE:

Ev Haedecke, Chairman	
Benny Benson, Chairman Emeritus	
Lloyd Bachman	Greg Lucking
Arnold Brastad	Walter Menzel
Glen Cerney	Jerry Olson
Art Fakler	Sherm Pinkham
Archie Flack	Bob Savory
Carl Holst	Herb Stevens
Eng Hoyme	Leo Stillman
Harold Kaufmann	Bill Thorne
Bill Kelley	Joe Witmer
Dick Lehman	Don Young
Vic Lowrie	Fred Paul

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Harold Kaufmann, Chairman
Al Blackbourn
Glen Cerney
Tony Koester
Fred Paul
Joe Witmer

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE:

Vic Lowrie, Chairman
Bob Adams
Bill Hull
Don Methven
Joe Witmer

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

To be announced later

AUDITING COMMITTEE:

To be announced later

CIVIC ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:

Joe Witmer, Chairman
Committee to be announced later

GRUB COMMITTEE:

Bob Adams, Chairman

PHOTOGRAPHY COMMITTEE:

Vern Roufs, Chairman

AWARDS COMMITTEE:

Cortis Rice, Chairman
Joe Witmer
Al Blackbourn

HORTICULTURIST:

Archie Flack

TELEPHONE COMMITTEE:

Bruce Warner, Chairman
Paul Burt
Dan Chabot
Clyde Chamberlin
Bill Kelley
Fred Rodda
Frank Vixo
Don Young

SPEAKERS' BUREAU:

Glen Cerney, Chairman

HISTORIAN:

Fred Paul