

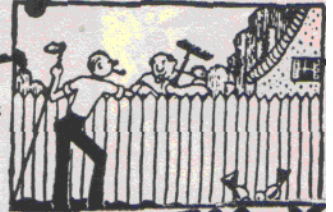


The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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

December 1978, Volume 36, Number 12



IT'S CHRISTMAS! OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

When I first addressed myself to the theme of Christmas and gardening, I was sure I had drawn a blank. Gardening at Christmas is at about its lowest ebb--at least in this part of the country. Or is there a connection? "Deck the halls with boughs of holly." "Oh, Christmas Tree, Oh, Christmas Tree." This is the time for telling the legend of the rose. The poinsettia has become almost synonymous with the day and season. There certainly is a connection between Christmas and the world of greenery.

The two are closely related universally and among all cultures people cannot celebrate sublime divinity without using the language and symbols of nature. All faiths employ the figures of flowers in their places of worship. The Druids who are the ancestors of most of us with Northern European roots, worshipped in the oak groves. The old German hymn, Fairest Lord Jesus, can compare the fairness of Christ only with that of nature, of which He is called Lord.

Archaeologists tell us that no great civilization of culture ever flourished without an adequate and dependable source of food and fibre. Agriculture perhaps began with the fertilization rites which taught man's dependence on the happy joining of the elements of nature making a settled life possible. This was his source of joy and of hope. This only could give him a measure of peace and contentment.

It is precisely when the fields and our yards are barren or snow covered that we realize our dependence on the fruits of nature--an absence which makes our hearts grow fonder. At this time we live on faith and hope, knowing that spring and summer will return with their abundance.

With this in mind it is not hard to see how this love of nature, our fascination with making things grow, translates itself into our devotion to what makes these lovely things happen--in whatever religion we embrace. Christmas almost has to be merriest to those who tend gardens and love their fellow men.

--Dick Hulbert

COMING

THE MGCM CHRISTMAS PARTY
at
MOUNT OLIVET LUTHERAN CHURCH
50th Street at Knox Avenue South

MONDAY EVENING DECEMBER FOURTH
Social Hour 6:15 Dinner 7:00

--BY RESERVATION ONLY
Deadline was Monday November 27th

THERE'LL BE



GAY TABLES, GAY ATTIRE



PUNCH BOWL



PARADE OF TURKEYS



FAVORS and DOOR PRIZES



SANTA CLAUS



?



OR A SNOWMAN?



PAST PRESIDENTS TO GREET YOU
AWARDS TO BE GIVEN
ENTERTAINMENT

WHERE YOU'LL ENJOY BRINGING
YOUR FAMILY, WIFE, GUESTS

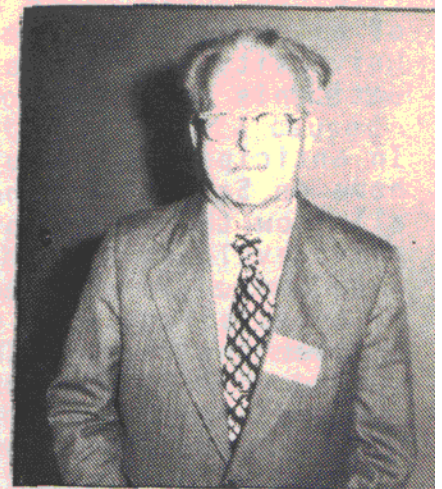


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Deadline: the 15th OF EACH MONTH.

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MGCM PRESIDENTS: DR. LEON C. SNYDER, 1976

Horace Greeley once said "Go west, young man, go west", but he didn't say what to do when your Model T Ford broke down in Spokane and you ran out of money. Well, young Leon Snyder went to work in the apple orchards when that happened and earned enough to enter the University of Washington that winter. There he stayed until he earned his doctorate.



Leon Snyder

A product of Shepherd, Ewen and Central Lake, Michigan, Leon graduated from Central Lake High School and entered Central State Teachers College (later Central Michigan University) at Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, where he earned a teacher's certificate with a major in agriculture.

It was 1928 when Leon and some friends ventured to the west coast where he would stay until he completed his education. His unscheduled work in the Yakima Valley orchards was to thin the apple crop in the summer and work until the harvest ended in November. This gave him just enough time to enter the University of Washington in Seattle for the winter quarter, majoring in Botany. After earning his B.A. and his M.A. there he was awarded his Ph.D. in Botany in 1935.

A year before Dr. Snyder received his doctorate, he married his wife, Vera, a student at the University. She has been a helpful companion in the travels and the trials connected with an ascending career in the academic world. The Snyders have raised four children. Their son, Leo Snyder, Jr., is a Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Missouri. Three daughters are married and live in the metropolitan area. All are acquainted in the horticultural community.

Dr. Snyder's first year in teaching Botany was at the University of Wyoming. It was there that he began working with the U. S. Forestry Service during the summer months doing Taxonomy research (Plant identification) in the field. He continued that summer work during his first two years at South Dakota State at Brookings, but then began teaching summer school classes in Botany in the field in the Black Hills. This called for campground living in tents with the students, and Vera joined in with the two children, one just four months old.

In 1942, Dr. Snyder was transferred from the Botany Department to the Horticulture Department at South Dakota State where he was also charged with the Victory Garden Program. In 1945, he was chosen to succeed Professor Eldred Hunt as Extension Horticulturist at the University of Minnesota when Professor Hunt became Executive Secretary of the Minnesota Horticulture Society. In this position Dr. Snyder became well known to Extension Agents and commercial growers throughout the state.

When Professor William Alderman retired in 1953 as Head of the Department of Horticultural Science, Snyder was asked to assume that position. At the same time Dr. Snyder became Superintendent of the Horticultural Research Center in Chaska next to the present Arboretum. In 1958 he was

also made responsible for the now developing Landscape Arboretum. He retained these three positions until 1970 when he asked to be relieved of all but his Arboretum duties. He was then named Director of the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. He held this position until his retirement in 1976.

In anticipation of full time Arboretum duties, the Snyders built their home on Schutz Lake near Excelsior in 1969. From our summer tours, we all know the excellent landscaping, flower and vegetable gardens they have developed there. But Dr. Snyder finds retirement a busier time than ever. In addition to his weekly column for the Minneapolis Tribune he appears regularly on WCCO radio with Boone and Erickson. He has written one book, "GARDENING IN THE UPPER MIDWEST", and is writing a second, "TREES AND SHRUBS", which will have been three years in the writing and probably will be published in 1980. He still teaches some classes at the Arboretum and is asked to speak before many groups. He is a member of many horticultural and gardening groups and is on several University and horticultural committees. The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis was indeed fortunate in getting Dr. Snyder to serve as President during the first year of his "retirement".

Now comes the fun part. The Snyders have hosted four world tours for the Arboretum already and are hosting another to South America in November. Then, next spring, off they go on another to England. Let this be a lesson to us. Retirement doesn't need to be a time to put our feet up and watch the world go by. It can be as full and rewarding as we want to make it. We owe this past president a special vote of thanks for his service to the Club and his inspiration to us all.

--Chet Groger

MORE ABOUT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

RESERVED FOR

Bob Gage says, "To facilitate socializing before the Christmas party you will be able to reserve your place(s) by writing your names on a "RESERVED FOR" tag which you will find at each place at every table.

Bob also says that each carver will be able to take home his turkey after the party. If there is any left over, that is. This latter item was supposed to go in the November SPRAY but it came late and we weren't so sure it was a good come on, anyway.

If you didn't get under the wire with your reservation for the Christmas party, check with Dean Schneider. It would be a shame to have a vacant chair at any table.

In late October Vera Snyder sent us the clipping which appears on page together with this note, "Even though Manley Jackson isn't in the MMGC directory now, I'm sure there are "old" members who would like to see this."

Indeed they would, Vera. Manley was the Lehman Gardens Trophy winner for 1971. His picture appeared in the GARDEN SPRAY for January 1972.

NEW MEMBER

Richard Scherer

454-4521

YELLOW ATTRACTS WHITEFLY

(Taken from Greenhouse Notes, Pennsylvania State University)

Greenhouse whitefly can differentiate between colors. Tests at the University of Illinois showed that various wave lengths of lights caused different stimulation in greenhouse whitefly.

The results: Yellow-green - strongly negative
Blue-violet - strongly inhibitory
Red - moderately negatively stimulating

Experiments with poinsettia plants proved the ability of the greenhouse whitefly to discriminate among white, red and green leaves or bracts solely on the basis of the visual response. (The light reflected from the green leaves of most plant species falls in the yellow-green wave length spectrum.)

Color response is the first stimulus that the whitefly apparently uses in finding a host plant. Greenhouse whiteflies showed some positive reaction to an olfactory stimuli provided by leaves. However, this olfactory (smell) response was effective only at close range--after the greenhouse whitefly landed on the plant in response to a visual stimulus.

The visual response played a very important role in the landing behavior of the greenhouse whitefly. They landed on any object which provided enough visual attraction, such as yellow paper or green leaves. The whitefly landing was all due to a visual response to color, irrespective of nutritional value, moisture content, odor or other properties of the material tested.

Once the whitefly has landed and finds a favorable feeding spot it stays. The greenhouse whiteflies showed the highest preference for young apical leaves for resting and egg laying. Lower mature leaves had the lowest preference as a "home" for the whitefly. Leaf hairiness reduced the preference by adult whiteflies for resting.

Dr. Ralph E. Webb, USDA entomologist at Beltsville, Maryland, has cleaned up whitefly in small hobby type greenhouses by using yellow cards placed through the greenhouse. The cards were coated with a sticky, tacky, colorless material. The whiteflies were brushed or disturbed from their resting/feeding spot on the greenhouse plants.

"When I travelled through China during the winter of 1973, two things impressed me. First I noticed the gardens, which were everywhere. Lawns were almost non-existent. Not even old patches of weeds could be seen, except on the steepest hillsides. Every bit of land that could be cultivated was being used to grow vegetables, fruits, or orchard trees. Most of the sloping land was terraced to prevent erosion and save water. These ubiquitous gardens were the basic food supply of the people. Each home, every village, and certainly each commune had its own places where food was grown. Following a policy dating back thousands of years, each Chinese province is basically self-sufficient in food production, making it unnecessary to ship vegetables and other foods for long distances. Even in the north in winter, local gardens are used to grow vegetables that supplement supplies of stored foods, such as cabbage. Clever wind-breaks, combined with strips of fresh manure to generate heat, warm winter soil in the north so vegetable production can continue during all but the coldest months."

Wed., October 25, 1978



HIKERS COME ALL AGES as these two octogenarians have proved. They are, from left; Manly Jackson, 87, Hillcrest Retirement Center, Wayzata, and Winfield Boice, 83, 4604 Drew Ave. S., Minneapolis. Jackson and Boice each have tramped enough miles in the past five years to earn a hiking staff and four medallions from Hennepin County park officials. Hardwood staffs are awarded hikers who walk designated trails in five of the six park reserves between Labor Day and Oct. 31 of any year. Each year the hiker repeats the feat he earns a medallion to attach to his staff. Jackson, a former architect and building contractor, adds membership in both a garden and camera club to his hiking activities. He and his wife, Katharine, also 87, are the only married couple living at Hillcrest. Boice, who acts as driver to the various parks, is also a veteran garden club member, specializing in roses. Holding a record of some sort, he's been an usher at Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church for the past 50 years.

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FIRST CLASS

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