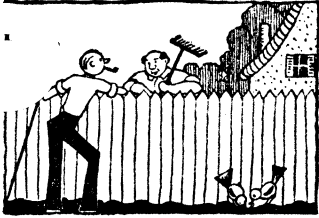


THE GARDEN SPRAY

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS



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

Volume 5
Number 1
Jack Cohen, Editor

January 1947

Ed Montgomery, Associate Editor

Office of the Secretary

4302 Branson St.
Minneapolis, 10

Officers

G. G. Cerney,
President
Walter Menzel
Vice-President
Jim Cristman
Secretary
Harold Nelson
Treasurer

Directors

Archie Flack
Herbert Kahlert
Harold Kaufmann
Ed Montgomery
Fred Paul

THE ANNUAL MEETING

Date: Tuesday, January 14, 1947

Place: Fountain Terrace,
Medical Arts Building

Time: 5:30 P.M. Price: \$1.25

PROGRAM

6:30 P.M. Business Meeting

President's report
Secretary's report
Treasurer's report
Committee reports
Other business

Election of new officers

7:20

Speaker: Dr. A. O. Dahl, Botany
Department, University of Minnesota

Two years ago Dr. Dahl gave us an enlightening and interesting talk on elementary botany. Last year he reviewed briefly, by request of many members, his elementary botany topic and intended it to include "The Growing Plant." This year he will again review, if requested, but the prepared subject will be "Unusual Worthwhile Plants that can Be Grown in Minneapolis."

8:00

Questions & Answers. Walter Menzel

DECEMBER-CHRISTMAS MEETING

A grand and joyous occasion was the December meeting, held at the new Hasty-Tasty Cafe on West 50th Street. The attendance was excellent; about 70 husbands and wives sat down to an excellent holiday dinner, and laughter and gaiety was the order of the evening until President Cerney called the meeting to order.

The program was light but interesting, especially to the ladies, and a good time was had by all. As they left the restaurant to buffet the strong cold wind and 25-below-zero weather, a cheery "Merry Christmas" and "good gardening weather" rang in their ears.

How to Make Corsages

Mrs. George Lang, the first lady to address our Men's Garden Club, gave us an interesting and enlightening talk on how to make good use of flowers after they have been cut, and how to make unusual corsages and bouquets out of them.

To give long life to flowers in the vase, she recommends Nu-Life, but puts thumbs down on aspirin. A cool place and fresh water are the best treatment of all.

There are many tricks, we found, on the preparation of flowers after cutting. In the case of chrysanthemums, crush and pound the hard stem and it will take up water. Gardenias should be kept in a cool place, on cotton and in a cellophane envelope. Roses should be cut at a slant to enable the cambium to take up more water.

Baby iris and Pinocchio roses, each wired separately, make a simple but beautiful corsage. If a bow is put on, the blooms can be pointed up or down. There is no set rule except the one of personal preference.

A corsage of jonquils brought 'oh's' and 'ah's' from the ladies with its fresh, springlike appearance. An Xmas corsage was made of poinsettias to be worn in the hair or on the shoulder (for ladies only).

The hat corsage was the hit of the evening. A simple hat was bought for \$1.00 and roses and pompoms were placed on it to make it look like a creation right out of a Bjorkman hatbox. All colors and types of flowers can be used to go with any costume (all but that worn by Archie Flack, who acted as corsage demonstrator).

Orchid, ivy and holly made up into a long-lasting Christmas corsage beautiful to behold.

Blue juniper and holly also made up into a nice holiday corsage, as did the chatelaine creation of rose and azalea blossoms.

By using a "split" carnation, Mrs. Lang gave us a simple demonstration of the florist's art of making corsages with wire, tape, ribbons and flowers.

Raffle Winners

The dozen or so corsages that Mrs. Lang brought with her were given to the Club and the "Raffle Committee" immediately got busy and passed out slips. Here are the winners:

Best Joke of the Evening

Mrs. Archie Flack (after seeing Bill Block's films of the Garden Tours): "Archie says he goes to Garden Club meetings but I don't see him in any of the movies!"

Our Movie Department

Bill Block is becoming the historian and documentarian of the Club with his movie of garden tours. He is recording on film both our activities and our membership. And, may I add how we're looking a bit older year by year!

The films of the 1946 tour and of those taken in the past are of Bill's usual excellence. It's good to see them for they give romance to our labor, and the colored film seems to give added beauty and life and sparkle to the members' garden. You're doing a swell job, Bill, one that is appreciated by all.

A new star among movie photographers is Jim Cristman, who showed us movies of a trip to Bay Lake on the North Shore. In addition there were close-ups of giant tuberous begonias and giant delphinium in his garden that made the rest of us gardeners resolve to do nearly as well as he does in 1947.

BACHMAN ON BULBS

Keep lots of hay on forcing bulbs.

Take in when they have plenty of roots and have 1/2" top growth. Put in a cool, dark place for a week or 10 days, then to room temperature and they will flower.

Water well when in the basement; do not let them dry out.

Do not let bulbs freeze, but after January 1st, if well rooted, freezing will do no harm.

Any good soil mixture is okay, but do not use any manure.

It does no harm if roots come out at the top.

FOR 1947 CHRISTMAS

If you are foresighted enough, you can have a living, fireproof Christmas tree next Christmas and thereafter for several years simply by buying a young tree of suitable size from Bachman or Bak and have it set in a small tub of soil. Watered properly but given no fertilizer the tree will not grow too rapidly and it will be possible to keep it as a permanent family pet while the children are growing up.

After each Yuletide use, it can be set out, or even have the pot sunk into a hole so that it becomes a part of the yard shrubbery. If it does become too big for convenience in the house, it can be taken out of the tub and set out permanently and a new evergreen potted in its place.

TIPS FOR 1947

A new headache for "glad" thrips, "666," sprayed on the ground and young galdioli gives those little dears such awful tummy pains that they suck and suck and die!

Then there is that new Evercide for leaf hoppers on dahlias that hops them right into heaven.

Wilcox says Fermate in the Massey dust with a jigger of Rotenone does about

around roses; and Hypo-nex on slow-ticks starts in the spring; and a new V-type mole trap that really gets them.

Our old pal, crabgrass, has come up with a friend. Seems that strawberries so on like the little pest. It comes on late it lets the June bearers do their stuff and then forms a mulch around the plants and makes a good spring fertilizer.

THINGS TO DO IN JANUARY

Poinsettias often drop their leaves when the flowers fade, which is usually a few weeks after Christmas. This indicates that the plant is going into its natural resting period.

Lilies of the valley can be brought into flower in three weeks from the time the pips are planted at this season, provided they are given a temperature of from 75 to 80 degrees the first week.

Dahlia tubers should be examined for signs of damping-off or dry rot and all diseased parts cut away. Dust the cut surfaces with sulphur.

Knock potted plants out of their pots to see that their roots are not too crowded. Some of them may do better if repotted in larger container.

Examine gladiolus bulbs, clean and pack in paper bags with naphthalene flakes at the rate of one ounce to every 100 bulbs; store in a cool place. Remove flakes or open bags in three weeks.

Branches of Christmas trees may be used as a mulch over the roses, bulb beds, the rock garden, perennials which have evergreen foliage, and plants in the cold frame. The boughs make a light, airy mulch which is most desirable.

Save the wood ashes from the fireplace and keep them dry. They make excellent garden fertilizer but only if from hard wood.

- From The Gardener's Almanac

OUR CORSAGE LADY

Our sincere thanks go out to charming Mrs. George Lang who gave us the interesting and inspiring talk on Corsages at the December meeting.

Mrs. Lang, of Lund & Lang Florists, St. Paul, spent the afternoon in rehearsing the preliminary work for the evening's talk, drove from St. Paul and brought over an abundance of flowers, ribbons, tape, etc. with which to demonstrate the art of corsaging, and for it all would accept no fee to cover cost of supplies.

House plants: Feed flowering kinds by watering once a month with liquid manure diluted to the color of weak tea; or with commercial fertilizer according to directions. Overfeeding is a common mistake; it is likely to result in root burning, especially with the prepared chemical fertilizers. Never exceed the applications recommended by the manufacturer; too little is much better for the plants than too much.

When watering, look for hard-shelled scale and the cottony tufts of mealy bug. Clean up mild attacks by syringing with a strong soap solution once a week; remove individually with a toothpick wrapped in cotton and dipped in rubbing alcohol.

Toward the end of the month, try indoor sowing of those seeds that need a long period of growth before setting out in spring. These include; pansies, lobelias, browallias, clarkias, verbenas, lantanas, vincas, petunias, delphiniums and snapdragons. Vinca roses and begonia semperflorens, sown now, make good plants for window boxes or bedding. Press begonia seed, fine as dust, into a soil; do not cover.

Plant seeds in flats, cigar or cheese boxes, or clay bulb pans, in light sandy loam that has been first sterilized with a formaldehyde compound obtainable (with directions) from your seed store. Seeds of late blooming perennials started this month will flower during the current year.

- From What to Do Each Month in a Garden

V.A. THANKS US

A letter was received from the Veterans Administration thanking the membership for the donation of the 2,000 Holland bulbs to the Veterans Hospital. We offered to plant them for the ex-G.I.'s. but the doctors felt that the patients would prefer doing it themselves.

SCANDAL

I loved my little garden but now my love is dead;
I found a bachelor button in the brown-