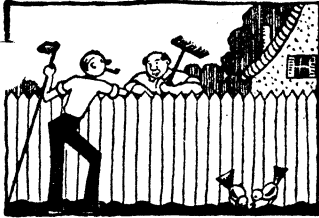


# THE GARDEN SPRAY



BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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

Volume 3  
Number 6  
Jack Cohen, Editor

June 1947  
Associate Editor  
Ed Montgomery.

## JUNE MEETING

Place: Hasty Tasty Cafe  
1433 West Lake Street  
Colonial Room  
Date: Tuesday, June 10, 1947  
Time: 5:30 P.M. sharp  
Dinner: \$1.25 per person

### PROGRAM

6:25 P.M. To cultivate or not to cultivate  
(That is the question)  
Dr. A. E. Hutchings  
University of Minnesota

7:00 Why I Like Annuals  
George Luxton,  
Minneapolis Star-Journal

7:10 Your Favorite Annual  
(Pick one out for open discussion)

7:30 Things you can plant now for blooms  
this year

Flower Show - Jim Cristman

Gardens to Visit in June - Stan Lund

### Officers

Harold Kaufmann  
President  
H. W. Bishop  
Vice-President  
R. J. Dufourd  
Secretary  
A. H. Flack  
Treasurer  
G. G. Cerney  
Retiring President

### Office of the Secretary

5020 Second Ave. So  
Minneapolis 9

### ENTER THE JUNE FLOWER SHOW

Due to the late spring, our June Flower Show has been postponed from the 14th to the 21st and 22nd of June - Saturday and Sunday. The classes have been slightly revised to meet the blooming conditions (see enclosed sheet).

This is your Show. Plan now what classes you will enter (as many as you can). Read the rules enclosed with this issue. Place your exhibits in time and bring your wife, family and friends Saturday evening and Sunday to see what a good flower show good gardeners can put on.

## THE MAY 1947 MEETING

On May 13th was held one of the unusual meetings of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis in that it took place at the Park Board tool-house and the feature of the evening was the auction, about which more later on. It was featured by excellent turkey and roast beef sandwiches, assisted by coffee, ice cream and cake, and the entire lot was served to us for the small sum of 85¢.

There was a good turnout considering the place and the confusion attendant on holding the meeting in a different spot than the usual Fountain Terrace Cafe.

### VISIT TOM HUGHES

Tom Hughes has been ill for some time but is home now and would be glad to see members of the Garden Club who care to visit him. Archie Flack and his associates are taking care of Tom's garden during the summer months.

The entire assembled membership rose for two minutes of silence in memory of Usher Smith and Ralph Cornelison, two members who recently passed away.

### TEN BEST PERENNIALS FOR MINNESOTA

Ed Montgomery gave us an interesting talk on what he considers the 10 best perennials for this climate. As usual, such selections are a matter of personal choice, but in the main, Ed's grouping seemed to win the favor of those who listened intently to him. The definition of a perennial, according to Ed, is that it is a plant that dies down for the winter and grows again in spring.

1. Phlox. Favorite because it has a long period of bloom, a large variety of color, and is usually free from disease. Phlox divaricata is an unusual form.

2. Hemerocallis have the advantage of blooming all summer when different varieties are used for they will be in flower from early June until the first of September. While called lilies, they actually are not of the lily family, although they resemble lilies in form. Hyperion is the best of the hemerocallis for it has large blooms, is fragrant and tough, and is one of the first to bloom.

3. Chrysanthemum. A fall flower that is usually hardy when the Minnesota varieties are planted

4. Oriental Poppy. The pink and soft lavenders etc. are preferred to the reds. They are hardy and no spraying is necessary. (Editor's Note: He lost his entire bed of Oriental Poppies this spring so they are not quite so hardy as they are claimed to be.)

5. Iris. The new developments as created by Schreiner and others give a wonderful orchid flower to the garden. Every garden should have them and they spread and expand and the newer varieties certainly add color to the garden while iris are in bloom. Siberian iris is a favorite in the garden border because it keeps its foliage.

6. Peony. Lives long; needs nothing but a good housekeeping in the fall.

7. Dictamnus. This is also called the gas plant and is a novelty that should be in every garden. It has nice foliage and records indicate that it will live 100 years. It is an early bloomer, coming out just after the tulips, and is a nice thing to have around.

8. Funkia. Subcordata alba. This particular funkia grows in the shade and has a large white, lily-like flower. It needs covering in winter but has a delightful fragrance that justifies the extra work of giving it a winter covering of straw. Ed's plants are heirlooms from his grandmother who brought a few of the roots when she came by way of covered wagon to this area.

9. Veronica. This gives color and background to the garden.

10. Platycodon. This gives a nice blue or white flower in July and is very hardy.

## MAINTAINING A FLOWER BED

Herb Spencer started quite a heated discussion when he brought up some simple questions and asked for answers that he felt he as a beginner in gardening should know about building and maintaining a garden.

The following are some of the simple questions he brought up and the varied answers he got, which would indicate that experts are men who have the right to their own opinion whether it is right or wrong.

Question: How shall I prepare my bed for flowers?

Answer: Dig deep; give a heavy top dressing for well-rotted manure and dig in so that you have altogether a 4" thickness of manure dug into the soil.

Bishop favors green, fresh manure. Herb Kahlert, on the other hand, has had bad experience with fresh manure and stated that the humus value is the best part of manure.

Bill Holmberg, continuing the argument, said that manure 15 or 20 years old is not worth hauling home. He believes that green manure with urine in it is the best for gardening purposes.

Ed Montgomery uses granulated sheep manure, mixes it with the soil, and says it is fine for small garden plots.

Concluding the discussion on fertilizers, the sentiment seemed to be that no particular fertilizer should be recommended, but the analysis of the content of nitrogen, phosphates and potash should be considered in selecting for the particular job that had to be done.

Question: How can I tile my garden?

Answer: Write the University of Minnesota School of Agriculture for a pamphlet on how to tile a garden.

Question: What is the best location for a new flower bed?

Answer: Depends on the sun as well as on the amount of space available and just where it is located. Harold Kaufmann answers this question by putting his plants

Question: What about soil composition?

Answer: Most garden flowers need a slightly alkaline soil, about a pH 6.

Question: What is the best way of watering the garden?

Answer: If you want good blooms, don't sprinkle, but water until a soaking of several inches is accomplished. It is preferable not to get the water on the leaves and flowers but to use the soil-soaking system. This will prevent mildew and other diseases to which plants are unfortunately heir.

Someone brought up the question that greenhouses always water overhead and they ought to know what they are doing. This was answered by saying that they sprinkle all day long so there is a thorough watering of the soil taking place.

## CORRECT NAMES BY CULBERT

We got our regular lesson in the correct names of flowers, and this meeting was devoted to the meaning of common terms. Ed Culbert showed that the Wayside Gardens catalog for instance used the terms 'Caucasicus,' 'Germanicus,' and 'Sibericus' to describe the original nationality of the plant.

Aero Caucasicus - lives in air  
Australis borealis - Southern and Northern as to origin  
Occidentalis - West  
Orientalis - Far East  
Aquaticus - Water plant  
Oceanicus - Water plant  
Alpinus or Montanus - from mountains  
Rupertoris or saxatilis - rock-living plants  
Sylvaticus or Sylvestris - plants of the woods  
Riparius - plants of the river banks  
Terrestris - plants of the earth  
Agrarius or Agrestus - plants of the fields.

## GARDENS TO VISIT IN MAY

Stanley Lund reported on the gardens to be visited in May, but the season is so late that the probability is that what was planned to be featured in May is probably going strong in June. Some of the gardens that he recommended to be visited

Tulips - Cerney, Holmberg, Bishop and Harold Nelson.

Harold got stuck with a thousand blooms and they were in bloom May 12th. He also had an exciting tale to tell about the overstock of tulip bulbs that he had on hand and that he had to work on during the early spring days.

Ed Montgomery is listed by the State Flower Society as one who has a garden worthy of a visit.

The Armory Gardens have 35 varieties of tulips, of which there are 12,000 bulbs in a few beds.

Chris Mosberg has unusual tulips in his garden as he has the opportunity of making a preview of the newer bulbs as they come from Holland.

#### THE BIG, BIG AUCTION

The feature event of the evening, of course, was the annual plant auction, consisting of plants raised and donated by the members and put up for sale. It is a case where the merchandise cost nothing and all income was net profit.

From a financial standpoint, there were 177 different items sold and the cash brought in to the coffers of the Club amounted to \$143.70. This is a nice, easy way of raising funds and at the same time the members who purchased what they needed got good value for their expenditures.

Under the influence of the magic voice Frank Janes, and the booming overtones Bill Swain, members bought easily and readily and got the satisfaction of buying good plants raised by their own membership and knowing that the funds go right back into the Club's treasury.

A few of the sales and what they brought might be of interest.

Tuberous begonias, \$1.50. Bone meal, 10 lbs., 75¢. Violas, 75¢. Water wand, \$2.50. Seed potatoes, 6 for 75¢. 12 aquilegia (Mrs. Scott), \$1.20. One large delphinium (Summer Skies), \$1.25. Six small delphinium, \$1.50. 50 marigolds (Goldsmith Seedlings), \$1.60. 6 yellow canna lilies, \$2.60. A bushel basket of pots, \$1.50. 24 tomato plants, \$1.50. 18 asters, 60¢.

#### WHAT TO DO IN JUNE

Give liquid manure or plant food to roses if you want them to repeat their bloom next month and next year. You can try watering in the morning - evening moisture is an inducement to fungus diseases. Keep up the spraying.

Tie tomatoes to stakes, support spires of bloom as well as seedlings that have grown tall.

The first glads should be sprayed for thrips and the rest of the summer bulbs planted.

Start home-grown perennials this month.

Move potted tuberous begonias into a shaded place.

Prune shrubs that have flowered to keep them within bounds.

Feed trees with a commercial fertilizer dropped into holes made with a crowbar.

Transplant, thin, stake and seed. Six-foot bamboo poles hold delphinium straight six-foot stakes for tomatoes and dahlias.

Hoe out weeds, going over every foot of the garden once a week to keep ahead of them.