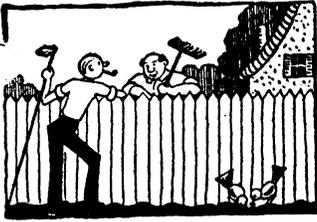


# THE GARDEN SPRAY



BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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

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Jack Cohen, Editor

November, 1949  
Associate Editors  
Vic Lowire, Ed Montgomery

## NOVEMBER MEETING

Our Always Stimulating -

### BULL SESSION \*

Tuesday, November 8th  
Hasty-Tasty - 1433 West Lake Street  
5:30 P.M. - Dinner - \$1.50

### P R O G R A M

- 6:30 Short business meeting -  
Bill Swain presiding
- 6:45 Pro and Con on Jim Cristman's Challenge
- 7:00 Bull session

Each member will be called on to speak  
for not over two minutes (by the clock)  
on any choice of the following subjects:

1. Gripes, criticisms and suggestions  
for the betterment of our Club.
2. My current year's greatest gardening  
success.
3. My current year's greatest gardening  
failure.
4. This year's greatest gardening thrill.
5. The most important gardening lesson  
learned this year.
6. My plans for next year based on this  
year's experience.

\* Every member should attend! Every member should  
participate in this popular, informative meeting.

## Officers

William E. Swain,  
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Cortis N. Rice, Jr.,  
Vice-President  
Rene Dufourd,  
Secretary  
Stanley D. Lund,  
Past-President  
Ralph Sherman,  
Treasurer

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## WHAT HAVE YOU TO CONTRIBUTE?

What new varieties did you grow  
this past season?

What experiments did you make?

What new experiences have you to  
share with your fellow members?

Please register them with your  
Special Interest Group Chairman  
so he may submit his final report  
before the end of the year

MAIL YOUR RESERVATION CARD TODAY!

## THE OCTOBER MEETING

It was good to get so many of us together again, after so busy a Spring and Summer; then with our feet well planted under the table and pipe at hand, lean back and reminisce over so many joyful occasions, as well as some rather difficult hurdles we leaped over or around together, all of which contributed to a very active and successful Summer.

HERB KAHLERT very modestly hit the high spots of the convention, closing his remarks with the good news that our finances were in good order.

STAN LUND passed bouquets around to most everybody for contributing to the success of our Fall Flower Show - when he was deserving of the largest. Stan also asked the members to give serious consideration to putting on a Rose Show in June for the public, not necessarily making it competitive but rather a presentation of how successfully so many varieties of roses can be grown in this supposedly difficult rose-growing country of ours.

BOB BRYANT, who was one of the two judges at our Fall Flower Show, told us what to look out for in exhibiting specimens and arrangements. It appears that winners are arrived at through the process of eliminating imperfections. Therefore, Bob warned us to watch out for mildew, insect disfiguration, withered petals, malformation of blooms, etc. Try for blooms of uniform size in classes calling for three blooms or stalks. Make sure buds don't open before judging time and make a fourth bloom when only three are requested. See that double blooms do not show centers. And - most important of all - be sure and harden off blooms to avoid wilting; if properly hardened, they should stand up for days.

TONY KOESTER gave us a few pointers on how to winter our Mums, Dahlias and Tuberos Begonias. In the case of Mums, the surest method of wintering is to place them in your cold frame - not having one, then cover the new tender shoots with a little soil - cut back the withered stalks to four inches above the ground, and cover the whole plant with marsh hay (watch out not to smother them, though). It is best to keep the whole plant dry if possible. This can be done by covering with a bushel basket or a cardboard box made into the shape of a tent.

Dahlias should be dug as soon as plant has been frozen off, and the roots packed in a mixture of peat moss and silt. Store in a cool, dry place. Tuberos Begonias offer no problem at all - just cut off the stem a few inches above the bulb and leaving the bulb in the pot, stack the pots one on top of the other in a cool, dry place in the cellar until you are ready to start them again in February or March. Tony went on to explain that there probably are many different ways of wintering over these three perennials, but he has been personally most successful using these methods.

JIM CRISTMAN was next on the program and he threw out a challenge to the membership "You Owe Your Club a Garden." As members of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, each and every member who displays the Club's insignia should have the outstanding garden in his immediate vicinity - not only to encourage neighbors to improve their gardens but also through demonstration invite neighbors to visit the garden, and through questioning, assist them with their own gardening.

Jim went on to say that there really is no excuse for any of us not maintaining a neat-appearing garden - and neither should we be handicapped in growing anything that conditions in our gardens will permit. We have among our membership the experience of growing most anything, and there isn't a member who would not be willing and happy to pass the benefit of that experience along to another.

At our meetings we have experts talk on their particular specialties, telling u where to grow them, how to grow them, and how to take care of them. Last Winte we had talks on Lilacs, Peonies, Clematis, Roses, Shrubs, Mums, Bulbs, Seeds, Spring-blooming plants, August-blooming plants, Annuals and Perennials - a weal of material help for the most inexperienced gardener; and we have seventy-five members ready and willing to help apply this knowledge to your particular garde situation. Jim's talk was climaxed with the statement that our constitution re quires a member to maintain a garden - he owes it to his Club to maintain a goo garden and all active members should have one that reflects the standard of the membership of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis.

LES JOHNSON followed Jim and actually demonstrated with flowers and vases how i teresting arrangements can be made with but a few flowers and foliage. A few o the fine points Les emphasized included: The height of your arrangement should not be over  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times the height of the container. You can make up for lack of height by greater width in the arrangement. Watch for color blending, blues an whites, blues and yellows, pinks and reds, etc. Keep large blooms and dark col ed bloom near the base of the arrangement. Break sharp edges of containers by covering with foliage or blooms. Don't allow frogs to remain exposed. Use mol ing clay for anchoring frogs and other accessories. Use florist wire to shape stems to your will.

GEORGE TITUS and BILL BLOCK wound up the meeting with the showing of colored slides which were truly beautiful beyond description. Most of them were Fall settings masterfully handled and exquisitely photographed, both as to coloring and situations.

As was said in the beginning, it was a good meeting and a fine program that our chairman, HAROLD KAUFMANN arranged for us. It was very well attended and every body enjoyed it, as well as the meal, which was tasty and served perfectly.

#### NATURAL HISTORY ENTHUSIASTS

Don't miss becoming a charter member of the newly-formed Minneapolis Natural History Society (limited to 500). Chair- man is Dr. Clayton Rudd, with Milton D. Thompson as Museum Director and Secretary. Annual membership fee is only \$7; special man-and-wife membership, \$13. Get in touch with George Titus if interested. He has application blanks and will give you the lowdown. Already a number of our members have joined.

#### M.G.C.A. AWARDS

Your Nominating Committee has met and will present at our November meeting the names of those Club members who have distin- guished themselves by making major con- tributions to the welfare of our Club and are deserving of special recognition.

#### "THE WONDERS OF PROPAGATION"

This is the title of the first chap of Alfred C. Hottes' new book entit "How to Increase Plants." It's a h - tells amateurs how to multiply de irable plants by the most suitable od of propagation - weeds, cuttings, divisions, grafting, etc. Price, \$ De La Mare Garden Books, 448 W. 37t St., New York 18.

#### MARK THOSE SPOTS!

Rene Dufourd has the remaining supp of heavy gauge etched aluminum gard markers. Better get some for marki the spots where you have just plant bulbs and where your slow-growing p ennials are set. Prices: 15" stake \$1.00 per dozen; 24" stakes, \$1.35 per dozen.

\* \* \* \* \*

We are sorry to hear that Dr. Arnold has been under the weather and is still oc fined to his home. Take it easy Doc; nature will take care of the garden for

## NOVEMBER TIPS

Did you ever try sowing seeds in the open ground before it freezes? Larkspur, snapdragons and cornflowers can be sowed now in the spot where you want them to bloom and you'll get a good early start in the spring. Give them a little protection; they'll lie dormant over winter and germinate in early Spring.

It's not too late to plant those tulip bulbs you had in mind. They can be planted until the ground is frozen too hard to dig into.

Don't forget to transfer your delicate perennials to the cold frame, if you have one; if not, cover them lightly with soil but do not smother.

Water those young evergreens well before winter sets in. If they are located on the North side of the house, some protection against wind burn is advisable.

Remove drifts of leaves from your lawn or they will destroy the grass underneath, if left all winter. It's better not to allow your grass to get too long before winter sets in - not over two inches high.

Some cannas are difficult to winter but most will carry through if lifted with dirt and packed close together in a cool place.

Hyacinths for forcing can be potted any time between now and the end of November. Wet the soil well before taking them to the cellar.

The strawberry bed should be covered with straw, peat moss or marsh hay after the ground has been frozen lightly - avoid material containing grass or weed seeds.

If your rhubarb is overcrowded, dig up a few clumps, taking care not to injure the fleshy roots. Cut into small pieces with a few eyes to each, replant in same ground and give a heavy mulching with well-rotted manure or compost.

Give your asparagus a good covering of rotted manure after cutting off the tops down to six inches and removing seedlings.

You can improve the flavor of your parsnips by leaving them in the ground all winter.

Remember to give your compost heap a thorough forking and watering before winter sets in - it will hasten disintegration.

### "ROSARIAN" CHARLIE DCELL

On very short notice - about two weeks ago - affable Charlie, newly elected president of the Minnesota Rose Society, heard through the grapevine route that George A. Sweetser, president of the national body, The American Rose Society, was going to pass through town on his way home from the Salt Lake City Rose Convention. Quick-like, in true Twin City Men's garden-circle fashion, a meeting at the Park Board Greenhouse, a breakfast, a display of specimen roses,

between 8:30 and 12 noon - 25 for breakfast; 35 at the meeting; practically trotted over to the Rose Garden - and don't think there weren't any celebrities. Professors Longley and Phillip also not so professorial Dick Wilcox, Mrs. Vogel, widow of Dr. Vogel of New Ulm, Eldred Hunt, secretary of the Minnesota Horticultural Society, and lot of good rose-growers and a few rank amateurs like your pinch-hitting editor.