

THE GARDEN SPRAY

Jack Cohen, Editor

Ed Montgomery, Associate Editor

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Officers of the Club

Pres. E. R. White
Vice-Pres. H. R. Kahlert
Sec'y. W. R. Menzel
Treas. A. S. Nyberg

NEXT MEETING

August Garden Tour
New and unusual
gardens on view

August 22, 1944 5 P.M.

Start at G. G. Cerney's
garden, 1927 E. River
Terrace, East end of
Franklin Ave. Bridge

Directors

W. C. Addy
William Block
Chas. Comings
J. T. Hanson
Upsher Smith

THE FIRST MEN'S GARDEN CLUB FLOWER SHOW

As reported by Walter Menzel

Getting in practice for the big, city-wide flower show that we are going to sponsor one of these days, the members had their own private flower show at the Park Board greenhouse on June 13th.

The fellows started bringing their displays of flowers of various kinds, vegetables and plants quite early in the evening. Displayed on the long bench, they made a beautiful showing. Peonies were in the majority, some lilies, tuberous begonias, amaryllis and many smaller blooms from perennials in members' gardens.

Eating started promptly too with a fine staff of cooks, helpers and waiters. There was plenty for second helpings and no one left the long greenhouse table without being well satisfied as to the inner man, and all set for the formal part of the evening.

Roll call showed 39 present, not counting some guests. Your secretary reported

64 members in good standing with dues all paid up.

The judges - our own commercial members and others - were Luxton, Henry Rosacker, Chris Mosberg and Henry Bachman.

Winners were: For best display, Herb Kahlert, 1st; E. R. White, 2nd (with tuberous begonias); Walter Menzel, 3rd.

For best bouquet: Comings, 1st (mixed perennials); Rowell, 2nd (lilies); Cerney, 3rd.

For best bloom: Hanson, 1st (peony); Kahlert, 2nd (peony); Cerney, 3rd (peony).

Winner of the booby prize was Walter Quist with a fine specimen of quack grass.

There still being plenty of daylight, the group migrated over to the Park Board rose gardens, where, under the expert guidance of Charles Doell, we were shown the most hardy and showy varieties.

FIRST GARDEN TOUR, JULY 18, 1944

The first garden tour of 1944 was a huge success, judging from the turnout we had, as well as the fine group of gardens that we had the opportunity to visit. As usual, everything went according to schedule with Herb Kahlert as the nervous prompter, and we were fortunate to visit the gardens of ten members and have a delicious supper - all in one evening.

We assembled at the Armory Gardens and had an opportunity to see what the Park Board is doing. The Gardens are up to the usual high standards set for them by their caretaker, Mr. Hanson, whose baby the Gardens have been for the past 30 years.



A delightful buffet supper served on the beautiful lawn of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Hanson was enjoyed while we wandered through the garden and that of their neighbor, Callendar. The features in his garden were the climbing gourds, the beautiful tuberous begonias, the herb garden, as well as the unusual red peststemon. The vegetable garden across the way looked more luxuriant, healthy and well kept up than last year. The Supper Committee of Kahlert, Hanson and Bishop did themselves proud.

The next stop. I guess you can't beat the Bishop-Flack combination. With Flack as advisor (and don't we envy his gardening knowledge gained at the Kew Gardens in London) and with Bishop and his wife and daughter doing the work, the Bishop estate is becoming an outstanding example of what sincere, hard work and intelligent effort can do to build up a beautiful garden. This is only the third year, but the lawn is remarkable and the unusually beautiful clematis was growing on the wall.

The vegetable garden was an eye-opener, for on July 18th, cucumbers and cabbage were ready to be picked. Charlie David says the credit is taken by Bishop, but his wife and daughter do all the work. Be that as it may, it will be a showplace in a very few years. Like a proud father, Flack will expiate on the wonders of Bi-

Ed Montgomery is one to experiment and the new and unusual; for this reason we found his garden very interesting. Nowhere but here did we see sweet potatoes, peanuts and apricots growing, and he deserves credit for his enterprise. He has beautiful perennials, brocolli ready to cut, a nice fishpond with growing water lilies.

On the Cristman place we found an interesting rose garden, as well as a flower garden well kept up and planned in the quaint old English style. An open fireplace is a feature of his garden, for it is built in front of a miniature reproduction of his own home on the front part of the lot. This little building is his workshop in the winter, and in the spring months he does all his seeding and transplanting in it, as well as using it for storage for his garden tools. His large picnic table is equipped with wheels to get the most sun and shade.

Ed White had a lot of hard luck this year for "winter kill" just about ruined his garden and eliminated most of his phlox, iris and other perennials. You couldn't tell this, however, from the luxuriant growth that was present and the number of flowers in bloom. As usual, his tuberous begonias were outstanding.

Frank Janes and Walter Menzel have a beautiful community garden on a neighboring lot with a fine planting of certified potatoes, tomatoes and sweet corn.

The garden of Walter Menzel was one of variety and great esthetic interest. His rock garden is delightful, the pool churning with hungry goldfish. His blooming lemon tree and glowing poinsettias were unusual.



Tom Hughes did not show up at the meeting. Tom still offers ten cents for every weed found in his garden, and he hasn't had to make good on the offer yet this year. As usual, his garden was deep in the tints of all the zinnias and other tall-growing flowers, and he had some nice red tomatoes to show. His formal garden with borders

Happy Birthday to you, Tom, from all the Garden Club members, and may you have more of them through the peaceful years to come.

The almost hidden garden of Charlie Comings was a big surprise, not only because of the formal layout, with curved borders, lily pond and ferns, but also for the many perennials and interesting evergreens, such as larch. We found some vegetables tucked and hidden away among the flowers. One of the highlights for all of us was the clematis in bloom

in blue, blue and white cross and red. Sorry to have missed you, Charlie, but we hope you'll be home next time we call.

So ended a most unusual and interesting evening, thanks in the main to the planning efforts of Herb Kahlert. He had a map mimeographed of the entire tour so it was a simple matter driving from garden to garden.

P.S. Whatever happened to the car of Chris Mosberg and George Filbert and others who got lost on the way?

GIVE-AWAY DEPARTMENT

Thanks of the Club go to John Hanson for the delicious coffee he prepared and served for our buffet supper.

Harold Noerenborg is the one that furnished the ismene bulbs that were given out by Upsher Smith at the June meeting. Thanks, Harold.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Board of Directors met on August 2nd and made the following recommendations to the membership:

In order to remain members in good standing of the State Historical Society and the Men's Garden Clubs of America, it was decided that dues be payable on October 1st for the following year, and that dues become delinquent after January 1st, the start of our Garden Club's business year.

It was decided to combine the offices of Secretary and Treasurer in one person. The entire membership is to be acquainted with the fact that a few openings exist for new members. As of this date, there are 64 members in good standing, of which 4 are commercial members. The limit of active members is set at 70, which leaves a vacancy of 10.

THE BACHMAN WAY OF GROWING GLADIOLI

Henry Bachman has 12 acres of gladioli and plants about 2,000,000 bulbs every year. Thrip seems to be the bane of the glad grower, and Henry told us that Lysol, 4 teaspoonfuls to a gallon of water, with bulbs soaking at least 6 hours, not only starts the bulbs sprouting sooner, but gives them vigor until the plants are tall enough to spray with 2 teaspoonfuls of Paris Green, 1/2 cup molasses to 1 gallon of water. Plant bulbs fairly deep, 3 1/2 inches, in double rows 5 or 6 inches apart and only 1 to 2 inches apart in each row for support. In cutting the blooms, leave as many of the leaves as you can so as not to weaken the bulb. Depend on your bulblets and corns for new, vigorous plants.



The bosses of the Star-Journal must think a great deal of our member, George Luxton. Last month they broadcast large advertisements in newspapers and national magazines telling how good George is as an editor, the fine work he did last year in furthering the Victory Garden movement, the number

EARLY BIRDS

Walter Menzel had a delicious dinner from his garden. On one of his dinner menus he had sweet-tasting corn, potatoes, tomatoes, cucumbers, radishes and kohlrabi. Everything home-grown except the meat. If Walter can induce some of those pheasants who have been feeding off his potatoes to wander into his kitchen oven, then Walter's satisfaction will be complete.

Harold Kaufman almost equals Walter's record. On July 15, Harold had eggplant, tomatoes, cucumbers and sweet corn for a complete, garden-picked dinner.

Jack Cohen can't brag about early vegetables, but he did have carrots, onions, beets, radishes and tomatoes accompanying a course of sunfish caught across from his home at Lake Harriet.

Speaking of Harold Kaufman, according to the authority of Herb Kahlert, Harold has one of the nicest and most complete home-made gardens in the city. The variety is large, the blooms are bountiful, the plants are healthy, and the ground is clean of weeds. The result is remarkable when one considers the shade and hard clay soil the he has to work with.

Andy Nyberg has left his next-door neighbor, Bill Block, and moved down the street to a lovely home with excellent space for expanding beautiful beds. In the ambitious project that Andy took on, we wish him lots of luck in his new home and with his experiments.



Bill Holmberg is heading to be the dahlia king of the Northwest. In his beds up at Camden Place are growing some of the most unusual and interesting Australian dahlias raised in this part of the country.

Herb Kahlert's philosophy for Garden Club members on tour is: "Be sure to take in all the garden tours; visit all the gardens of our club members. Then you'll find that you're not quite as dumb as you think and that there are some things that you have done better than some of the other members."

C. B. David was a druggist in younger days. Now he is retired and doesn't have to work any more. Moral: start off life to be a druggist.

"FEED AND SPRAY"

The "green thumb" of Bill Block consists of three words - feed and spray, feed and spray. He just put in some new roses that are growing beautifully. Before he put the plants in, he mixed the soil with generous doses of bone meal and Vigoro. His tuberous begonias are also doing well because he feeds them as soon as the first leaves come above the ground and feeds them heavily all during the summer. Evidently good diet makes for good health in plants as it does with people.



HELP WANTED!

The Garden Spray is for the members of the Men's Garden Club as an outlet of expression available to the whole membership.

If you have some experience you would like to relate on garden studies you have made, or some interesting experience you have had yourself, sit down and write them out and send them to the Secretary. Contributions are always welcome!

PERENNIALS - MAY TO NOVEMBER

By F. A. Upsher Smith

The average home gardener will have less planning to do by using about three-fourths of his flower bed space for perennials. There are so many excellent perennials that are hardy in Minnesota that it becomes difficult to narrow our choice down to a reasonable number.

These notes are planned with the idea of suggesting some beautiful, hardy, floriferous perennials that are not found in every garden, but which are all known to be hardy in this climate.

No attempt is made here to suggest the well-known and well-proven favorites, including tulips and other bulbs, iris, oriental poppies, peonies, delphinium, lilies, day lilies and phlox. There is a wide variety of choice in this group of plants which should be represented in every well-planned herbaceous border.

Rather, let us briefly describe a few specific perennial plants of exceptional value, some of which may be unknown to you. They cover the blooming season from May to November. Most of them are exceptionally good for cutting.

ANTHEMIS (Chamomile), Moonlight. Pale yellow, daisy-like flowers, 2½ inches in diameter. Blooms in summer months.

ASCELPAS TUBEROSA, Butterfly Flower. Umbels of bright orange flowers. July-August, 1½ feet high.

ASTER FRIKARTI, Wonder of Staffa. Lavender-blue flowers. June until frost.

CENTAUREA MACROCEPHALA, Knapweed. Thistle-like golden-yellow flowers. July-August. 3½ feet.

CAMPANULA PYRAMIDALIS. Blue and white flowers. June to August. 4 to 6 feet.

CHRYSANTHEMUM, Autumn Lights. Coppery-bronze flowers, orange overcast. September, 1½ feet.

DIANTHUS, Loveliness. Very finely divided petals, mauve in color, unlike any other dianthus. July.

HELENIUM, Riverton Gem. Flowers golden suffused with terra cotta, changing to wallflower red. August to October, 3-4 ft

HELIOPSIS INCOMPARABILIS, Summer Gold. Rich, golden-yellow flowers, nearly double, over 3 inches across. July to frost, 3 feet. This variety is not infested with red aphid.

MALVA ALCEA. A beautiful mallow, hardy in this climate. Deep rose flowers in great profusion, with finely cut foliage. June-July, 3 feet or more. Best results the second year after seeding. Extra good

MERTENSIA VIRGINICA, Virginia Bluebells. Loose panicles of rich blue, rose-tinted in early spring. 1 foot.

PATRINA SCABRIUSCULATA, Golden Valerian. Sprays of small, golden-yellow flowers, with attractive, finely-divided foliage. July-August, 1½ feet. An unusually good addition to an herbaceous border.

PLATYCODON, Chinese Bellflower. Comes in two colors, deep blue and white. These bell-shaped flowers on a long stem bloom well in July and August, into September, 2 feet in height.

RUDBECKIA, Giant Purple Coneflower. Purple flowers with brown center. July-October, 3 feet.

SPIREA PALMATA ELEGANS, Meadowseet. Billowy clouds of light pink flowers in June and July, 3 to 5 feet. Another variety, Venusta (Martha Washington Plume) has rosy carmine flowers. Both like damp situation

SPATICE, Sea Lavender. Immense spreads of minute, purplish flowers on slender stems. Useful in bouquets. July-August.

VERONICA LONGIFOLIA SUBSESSILIS. Blue

ROAMIN' 'ROUND OUR MEMBERS' GARDENS

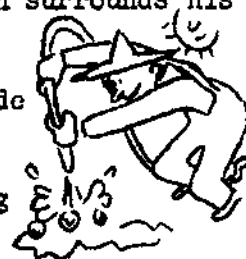
By Ed Montgomery - Associate Editor

Garden tours by our Club are an effective means of eliminating the unsociable and lonely feature of gardening as a hobby. These tours not only give us all an opportunity to apply the ideas of others to our gardens, but should also serve as an inducement to many individual visits between members of the club throughout the season.

As we review what we saw on our hurried tour of July 18th, we can think of many things we want to go back to each garden to see again, or see at a different time of the year.

From John Hanson, out at Interlachen Park, we want to learn more about the colophane greenhouse that he constructs on his porch each winter in order to raise the great quantity of annuals he uses in that exquisite border which surrounds his perfect lawn.

We want to keep an eye on that grand border surrounding the acre-wide yard of H. W. Bishop at Mirror Lake, and we want to be there some time when he picks one of his mammoth cabbages. We wouldn't advise anyone visiting that cabbage patch at the lonely end of Bishop's big vegetable garden alone after dark; they should probably be attacked with a commando technique when picked.



Come back to Ed Montgomery's plantation at 4320 Wooddale Avenue this fall, if you want to see whether the sweet potatoes and peanuts really produced a crop. Did you see the 20-foot pear tree and the young apricot trees there?

Fredy White's tuberous rooted begonias are always worth stopping to see on the north side of his house on France Avenue.

At the Menzel-Janes adjoining gardens on Glenhurst Place, there are promising chrysanthemums that will bear inspection in September and in this joint Victory Garden on 26th Street, there is real merchandise.

Tom Hughes at 2847 James Avenue South has one of those gardens you can walk into and feel yourself among the flowers and vegetables (as contrasted to a border which you gaze at from the safety of a lawn as one gazes at animals in a cage at the zoo) His planting of datura should be a sight next month.

If you want to see a perfect garden house, call on L. E. Cristman, 4302 Branson Street, Morningside, and see him at work in the brick garden house he built with his own hands, with its outdoor fireplace where he undertakes such ambitious barbecue projects as little pigs.

LUCKY FRED!

Dr. Fred Olson is spending a sabbatical year in Los Angeles but is still keeping up his membership in the Garden Club. He writes: "Regards to all the members and best wishes for a good growing season."

VICTORY GARDEN FAIR

The Victory Garden Fair, according to Upsher Smith, will be held in the lobby of the Northwestern National Bank, September 18 and 19th. It will include classes for children's exhibits, vegetables & fruits.

DDT - MAGIC BUG BULLET

The Army's typhus preventive, DDT, promises to be the most effective general insecticide found to date. In one test of its effectiveness, a DDT solution was sprayed on a wall and cages of flies held up to the wall at intervals so the flies could walk on the surface covered with dried DDT. For four months after the spraying, all flies coming in contact with this spot died. In another test, two applications of DDT on a barn's inside walls (one in July, one in August) kept the barn free of flies all summer despite the presence of cows within the barn and fly-breeding manure just outside the door.

In commercial apple growing, a DDT spray applied as the petals fall off may replace as many as ten other sprays normally used subsequent to that time. One application of DDT to a serviceman's underwear will keep him free of body lice, the dread typhus carriers, for about a month, even if the underwear is washed once a week.

Like the now commonly used plant products, pyrethrum, rotenone and nicotine, DDT is a contact poison, paralyzing the insect's nervous system. However, these other organic contact insecticides are in general short-lived, losing their potency several days after application. The stomach poisons, such as lead arsenate or Paris Green, remain good indefinitely, but must be eaten by the insect to kill him. Besides contact and stomach poisons, there are two other general methods of insect control, fumigation and egg destruction. In some instances, DDT spraying or dusting may be more convenient and direct in action than these methods.

DDT is a whitish, odorless powder, insoluble in water, but readily dissolved in alcohol and acetone. It is a synthetic organic chemical, technically known as dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane. Although like all insecticides, commercially effective only against certain insects, it is astonishingly potent against many species.

Toxicity to man and plants is still being studied, but apparently DDT may be safely used on humans as a dusting powder or in dilute water suspensions. However, it appears toxic to man when taken internally or absorbed through the skin in solution.

While much must still be learned about methods of preparation, application and toxicity hazards, indications are that DDT will find wide civilian use. One limitation of its use lies in its strength so lasting that it may kill not only harmful insects, but also beneficial ones, such as bees, which pollinate fruit and flowers.

In application against household pests, DDT is singularly effective against bedbugs, lice and roaches. However, it is not particularly effective against some kinds of plant lice and the Mexican bean beetle. In combatting agricultural pests DDT is in some instances effective where previous control measures have been difficult or impracticable. Notable among these problems are the Japanese beetle, codling moths, European corn borer, Oriental fruit moth, and certain leaf hoppers. (From the May, 1944, issue of the Industrial Bulletin of Arthur D. Little, Inc., via "The Stamen", Pittsburgh.)

GET A MEMBER!

Have your neighbor join us!

There are still a few vacancies in our membership roster. Our limit of 70 has not yet been reached and a few more members are needed to reach our maximum. If you have a neighbor or friend