

NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

*South Dakota State
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MARCH, 1942



Mr. I. W. Studer, Lac Pelletier, Sask., Canada and his home made orchard cultivator, attached to Fordson tractor.



THE HERRING GULL

By
O. A. Stevens



O. A. Stevens

Large gulls without black heads seen in the Dakotas may be either herring, ring-billed or California. The last two are somewhat smaller and have a black mark across the bill. They nest in suitable places in this region. The herring gull is the largest, its bill is yellow with a reddish spot near the tip, and the feet are somewhat pink in color. This is a northern species, nesting from the northern edge of the United States to Alaska and Baffin Island. It is said to be the most abundant winter gull along the coasts of the middle and southern states, found often in harbors, around shipping wharves or following ships. It is likely to be seen in our region during early spring migration.

The species as a whole inhabits a large part of the northern hemisphere. North America has one race of it, Europe another and Asia several more. The American one rarely gets as far south as Cuba. Some Asiatic races reach the Persian Gulf and Red Sea, one breeds on the Azores, Madeira and Canary Islands, extending down the African coast as far as 15° N. The American form is slightly larger than the European.

Dr. Roberts states that a few herring gulls remain along the north shore of Lake Superior as long as there is any open water. There they nest from late April to June, eggs sometimes being seen in July. Only one brood is raised but late layings result from destruction of earlier ones. An European observer reports that most pairs lose at least one clutch. They are said not to breed until three years old. The eggs are two or three in number, about two and seven-eighths inches long. Their color varies from whitish to grayish brown, with brown markings. The young take to the water as soon as hatched except where they nest in trees or high up on rocky cliffs when they remain in the nest until they can fly.

The nests are quite large, as much as two feet across, composed of whatever material is most convenient. Nests in trees are not uncommon. At the Duck Islands off the coast of Maine, Audubon found the birds nesting in fir trees in 1833. He was told that the birds had adopted that method since people came. Later observers found in 1856 that fewer birds were nesting in trees and in 1904, very few, the nests being then well protected. One writ-

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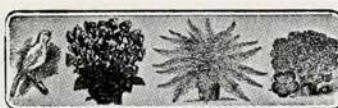
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er in 1913 estimated there were 4,000 pairs on Great Duck and 6,000 on Little Duck. A recent author reports the largest colony, about 25,000, on Kent Island in the Bay of Fundy.

The scavenger habits of these gulls are commonly regarded as a strong point in their favor. They secure a large amount of food by following ships, especially fishing boats. They search the beaches for dead fish and other animals cast up by the waves. They sometimes rob nests of other gulls though this is said not to be frequent. They secure food from the

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NEWSLANTS

By
By H. A. Graves



H. A. Graves

C. L. Jensen, owner of an evergreen nursery at Esmond, North Dakota, and formerly Superintendent of Schools at Scranton, is now connected with the Benson County Agricultural School at Maddock. When I last visited his nursery he was growing 500,000 evergreen of various sizes.

In the interests of saving postage and paper, I wish, on behalf of the North Dakota Society, to take this means of thanking premium donors for their contributions.

Again we have a fine list of premiums. Some of the premiums can contribute to our Food For Freedom program, others of an ornamental nature can help to bolster our morale in this time of stress.

North Dakota has launched a state-wide, coordinated, Victory Garden program. Formulated at a state-wide meeting at which some 40 organizations were represented, the plan calls for an adequate garden on every farm in 1942. In addition, town and city gardens are to be stressed where suitable lots of soil are available. However, folks are warned against spading or plowing up lawns, parks, or cindered areas for three good reasons: 1. Plenty of good garden soil is available. 2. Such areas would not produce for several years. 3. Garden seed and energy must not be wasted.

Rex Pearce in his 1942 catalog claims that *Penstemon grandiflora* cuts well. That has not been my experience. The flowers last well if left on the plant but when cut often fall in a few hours.

My secretary just informed me that some of the 1942 officers have not paid their dues for the current year. Further research revealed that I was one of them. Needless to say, I am now a bona fide member.

Western North Dakota had an abundance of rain last year according to the weather bureau. Further proof came in the form of a picture last week from Leo Krank of Dickinson. What I first took to be a picture of someones millpond turned out to be his garden.

From 529 Leland Avenue, San Jose, California, comes a card signed J. R. Prante. He says NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA HORTICULTURE is like a letter from home. He and Mrs. Prante, formerly of Milnor, send greetings to their friends. They are enjoying the California trees, shrubs, and flowers as one might expect.

An article in the February 1 issue of MARKET GROWERS JOURNAL commenting on new vegetable varieties contains the following paragraph:

"A. F. Yeager, now head of the Department of Horticulture at New Hampshire, has left a trail of tomatoes behind him as he moved across the country. From his new home he has released Home Garden, which is an earlier tomato than Victor, but the fruits are smaller and the yield is apparently lower. It may have important possibilities for the more northern climates. Bounty from the North Dakota Experiment Station, where Yeager did his earlier work, is very similar to Victor and the North Dakota Station reports replicated trials indicating heavier yield than from Victor, a finding which has found support elsewhere."

The diary of General de Trobriand who spent two years at Fort Stevenson on the Missouri in charge of several forts in the area has recently been translated from the French by horticulturist Doctor George Will. One of the Lakeside classics, it presents a new slant on Indians and their behavior. General de Trobriand was a Frenchman who served with the Union Army during the Civil War. Following the Civil War, he was called into active service for a time in the Middle West. While not horticultural, I am sure the book will be intensely interesting to many of our readers as it was to me.

POLLEN BOUQUETS

Fooling the bees is one way of getting a war-production crop this summer from self-sterile fruit trees that have not been bearing for lack of cross-pollination. This can be done without waiting several years for the permanent remedy—top-working some of the trees to a variety known to be an effective cross-pollinizer blossoming at the same time as the self-sterile trees.

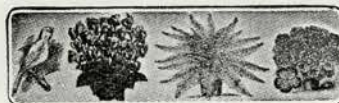
A temporary expedient suggested by the U. S. Department of Agriculture frequently proves quite effective, and is often adopted in commercial orchards. When the tree that will not fruit is in bloom, cut a big bouquet of blossoming branches from a fruit tree of the same kind but of another variety. Put these branches in a pail or can of water hung on a branch of the tree. Bees working the trees will visit the blossoms on the pollinizing bouquet and transfer pollen to the blossoms growing on the tree.

For full production of fruit, single trees and small groups are also likely to need the same care in cultivation, spraying and pruning that commercial orchardists find profitable.

She—You remind me of the ocean.

He—Wild, restless and romantic?

She—No, you make me sick.—The Earthworm.



SAVE THE PEMBINA

By
Charles M. Bryant
St. John, North Dakota



Charles M. Bryant

The awful crime being committed in the Turtle Mountains is against hundreds of thousands of birds, and tens of thousands of people.

The Turtle Mountain area is noted for its abundance of wild fruit, Juneberries, pin-cherries, plums and high-bush cranberries, the latter ranking of first importance, for they are not found in many places, and without doubt we had the finest and greatest number for a given

area of any place in the United States.

But now our hills are being denuded to help fill the coffers of a patent medicine company in Lynn, Massachusetts. They have been in business for between 70 and 80 years, and it appears that they have cleaned up the New England States and other sources of cranberry bark, and have come half way across the continent for ours.

This is how it is handled: Cut a load of bushes, take home, peel off the bark, dry it and get 20 cents a pound. Now here is what will stun you. It is hard for the writer to believe. They have shipped from five to eight carloads of this bark. I did not suppose there were enough bushes in the United States to make this quantity.

What are we going to do about it? Isaac Walton League of America, Chapter Number 1, St. John, North Dakota, has signed up for the duration of the war, and if we can't win we better fold up the flag and hand it to a worthy organization. This organization goes on record as demanding some action, legislative or otherwise, immediately prohibiting the above-mentioned shameful practice, and saving to North Dakota her valued high-bush cranberry.

Time is precious, and we hope for aid, active or moral, of all good American citizens and organizations.

THE HERRING GULL

Continued from Page 26

surface of the water by swooping close to it or alighting on the water. They ordinarily do not dive but can do so. A recent report from Holland states that they are being reduced there because of destructive habits, but another from Sweden gives the contrary view and says that ducks fare better when gulls are present because crows are kept away.

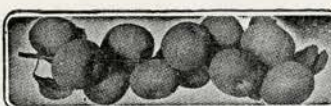
A large amount of material is published on this species. In recent years from 15,000 to 20,000 per year have been banded in America. In 1937 a project for marking them with colored bands was begun. The usual numbered bands are used but in addition several colored ones with a different pattern for each colony. The birds are so often seen at close range where they feed about dump heaps and boats that the colony of origin can thus be identified without capturing the bird. In three years over 22,000 birds were so marked and 1,000 sight records were secured. From 23,000 banded at Kent Island, 773 ordinary return records were secured. These birds seemed to keep closely to the coast, and were found all the way down to Mexico. Birds banded on the Great Lakes flew cross country and were found on the Texas coast but few on the Atlantic coast. One, recovered in Panama, established a farthest south record.

The herring gull reaches a considerable age. There are a number of records over 20 years. One bird picked up when injured and raised as a pet, died at the age of 49 years, leaving a mate 45 years old and three descendants of 30 years or more. One of the youngsters went to sea one day. He found the master's boat, rode home and never ran away again. The master found they had no preference for dead flesh but preferred fresh meat, fresh fish or baked beans.

Professor Warder C. Allee, of the U. of Chicago, ran 42 experiments with 900 goldfish to prove that: Goldfish need each other. Try this experiment. Put goldfish into clean water (one goldfish for every 8 gals. of water). Don't let them stay long, a day will be enough. Into that same water place young fish; let them grow there a month. Compare their growth with that of young fish brot up in water in which no goldfish had previously lived. You will find that the young fish grow faster where other fish have lived before them.—Gib Swanson in CAPPER'S FARMER.

Wieland—"What is the technical charge for swearing and using bad language in public?"

John—"Impersonating an officer."—The Earthworm.



MANITOBA NEWS LETTER

By
W. R. Leslie



W. R. Leslie

A rather extensive garden pea trial was conducted at the Morden Station during the 1941 season, including a number of the varieties commonly grown on the prairies. Early precipitation was adequate and the plants made a good start. Extremely hot weather towards the latter part of June, and drought in July, caused low yields in some cases, and afforded the opportunity for some interesting comparisons.

Alaska is in the first early class.

This variety produced moderately vigorous growth, the light green vines reaching a height of 32 inches. The small pale peas were in edible condition 54 days after planting. It takes a good deal of work to shell enough peas of Alaska for a meal but, to many, the earliness of the variety makes up for this defect. Mammoth Potted Extra Early produced a similar yield and was ready for use two days after Alaska. The pods of this variety were longer, the peas larger and of deeper colour. Neither was of high quality.

In the second early class are several good varieties. Little Marvel, a week later than those mentioned above, was considerably more productive. Pods were rather short, straight, blunt tipped, and bore excellent quality peas of deep colour. The foliage was quite dwarf. Thomas Laxton, in the same season, did not seem so well suited to the conditions. Its vines were much taller and did not appear to thrive during the hot weather. The peas were of excellent quality but the yield much less than that for Little Marvel. Carters Eight Weeks, also in the same season, was dwarf in habit, very productive, but only of medium quality. Laxtons Progress strains were from two to three days later and produced large, dark green pods with peas of good size and quality. The variety was dwarf in habit and comparable to Little Marvel in yield.

The midseason Lincoln was outstanding in the trial in point of yield. This popular variety was hardy and drought resistant. Pods were rather small, slightly curved, and well filled. The peas were of moderately good quality, the vines dwarf and, in general, the variety performed in a satisfactory manner. Onward was similar in season but, although the quality of the peas was excellent, it did not seem to be resistant to drought and produced a light yield.

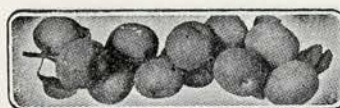
From year to year at the Morden Station a num-

ber of varieties of both muskmelons and watermelons are grown, some with indifferent success, others producing very satisfactory crops of tasty fruits. As with so many other vegetable crops, one of the most necessary characteristics of a well adapted variety is earliness. Unless a variety will ripen in good season at Morden, it cannot be recommended for the farther prairies, as any borderline varieties will probably be too late to mature in most other districts.

While, in general, the early watermelons are of satisfactory quality, such is not the case with muskmelons. In most instances, muskmelon maturing sufficiently early are of rather inferior quality, the fruits tender rined, soft fleshed and often of poor flavour. Golden Champlain, Chipman strain, has been one of the prominent varieties. It is early, of good flavour but the rind is soft, and the flesh tends to become mushy rather quickly. Other varieties have had some success, but have not always given such good results as one could wish. In this category are Northern Honeysweet, Zephyr, Extra Early Knight, Sugar Rock and Delicious. Some of the good quality varieties, such as Hales Best, Benders Surprise, and Milwaukee Market, have had some success at Morden, but are probably too late for most sections of the Canadian prairies.

Breeding work at the Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head, Saskatchewan, has been conducted for a number of years with the object of incorporating quality and earliness. A seedling called Farnorth is at present being purified and before long may be introduced to prairie gardeners. In trial at Morden, it has proved to be very early, prolific, and of acceptable quality. To the same end, work has been commenced at the Morden Station, and a number of controlled crosses made. Some of these seedlings show promise, and in purified form may possess many of those characteristics sought after today by muskmelon growers.

Watermelons were a light crop at the Morden Station during the past season because of drought. Again, however, the early Asiatic varieties appeared to be best adapted. Although they have thin rinds and will not ship well, they are well suited to the needs of the prairie home gardener and possess fine flavour and texture. They are early enough in season to be grown year after year with success in many sections of the prairies. Early Canada and Sweet Sensation are good in the red-fleshed class. Favorite Honey is a small, very early amber-fleshed variety. Honey Cream is a well-flavoured, white-fleshed melon.



LETTER FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE

By

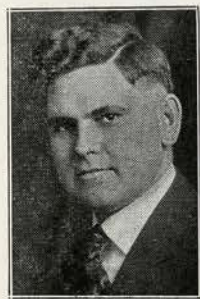
Dr. A. F. Yeager, Head, Department of Horticulture, Durham, N. H.

January 26, 1942

Dear Dakota Friends:

Some items in this letter are a repetition of something said previously, if so, please forgive it.

As mentioned in the letter Mr. Simmons published last month, there was a short trip made to the West last summer. However, it covered a period of only 18 days altogether, and included besides 5000 miles of travel, the following stops: at Geneva, New York to see



A. F. Yeager

cherry breeding work in particular; then, Vineland, Ontario; Michigan State College; through the Upper Peninsula of Michigan; Minnesota and North Dakota with a two day stay at Fargo; then south to Nebraska; and Kansas; from there back to the East through Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Nearly all the fruit trees through Kansas and Nebraska were dead. From the middle of Missouri east they began to show life again, and in Illinois the peaches had a nice crop. The trip as a whole was pleasant but not entirely satisfactory because of too little time. I'd like to spend a month in North Dakota alone if I could. The things I miss mostly here in New Hampshire are you, my friends. The pheasants and the ducks of North Dakota are also an attraction of first rank.

Now for more special horticultural items. Interesting new plants to us last year included Minnesota 1166, Everbearing strawberry, which made a huge crop of wonderful fruit and which continued to bear until frost cut it down. In fact, there was some ripe fruit in our fields up to the first of December. Another Minnesota item which looked promising was selections of *Prunus japonica*. Numbers 20 and 60 set out a year ago produced an abundant fruit crop this year, these were very nice to eat out of hand, even in competition with regular sweet cherries.

With the War on we are near enough to the seacoast, only 11 miles from the submarine base at Portsmouth, to be directly affected. I am one of the air raid wardens at Durham, and have the job this weekend of checking up on black-out equipment, fire fighting apparatus, including shovels and buckets of sand. Actually, however, we are really not much worried about it. A greater worry to me is the possibility that the rats may get into the greenhouse tonight and eat off some of the hundreds of young muskmelon and watermelon plants which were just

set out yesterday. These plants represent the second generation in the greenhouse since the summer crop last year. We expect to get ripe fruit from them and have the seed ready for field planting. In muskmelons we are aiming at extreme earliness from perfect flowered plants, (no more purely male blossom) and high quality. The watermelons are small, about the size of an ordinary cantaloupe with a thin rind, bright red flesh, high quality and extremely early. Some planted the middle of June had ripe fruit the middle of August last summer.

Tomato breeding is still on the list, only now these are practically all from crosses between South American species with small, green fruit carrying high disease resistance and ordinary tomato varieties. There may be something come out of this quite different from the present varieties.

There are in the greenhouse about 75 pots of various kinds of blackberries and raspberries including several thornless wild ones, which will be crossed in due season. We are particularly interested in some of the everbearing varieties. Perhaps something really worthwhile could be made of them. There is a scattering of "Rubus" plants on which we will try to make some crosses, probably without success, but which add a bit of interest. Among these are strawberry, raspberry and the native wild flowering herbaceous raspberry. Several flats of blueberry seedlings occupy the same shelf as raspberry seedlings from crosses made last year. Variegated popcorn, some unusually beautiful horticultural shell beans, apparently adapted pepper plants, hybrids between pumpkins and squash on which some colchicine solution is to be used, make up a part of the rest of the odds and ends in the vegetable line now to be seen. Very shortly there will be 100 or more potted strawberry plants in bloom including a goodly number of wild selections that seem to have some merit for breeding purposes to be used in attempting to get hardier and better late varieties.

Again this year among the June bearing strawberries the Pathfinder was a standout, and Dresden a close second. Both were better producers than Premier.

The Floricultural projects in the department include a considerable amount of work with house plants in which peoples homes are used as a laboratory. Quite likely Mr. Holley, our Floriculturist, will be publishing something in that line before long. One of the interesting outdoor projects has been the control of poison ivy by spraying. Our results show rather conclusively that Ammonium Sulfamate sprayed on the plants most any time during the growing season so as to wet the leaves using solutions of $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. per gallon of water will practi-

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BEEBE'S PHILOSOPHY

By
H. E. Beebe

MARCH MIXES MAGNIFICANT MAY MIRACLES



H. E. Beebe

The other day altho I read, "When Winter Comes," years ago, the latter part of the quotation came to me, "Spring is Not Far Behind." The March work decides what the May plants will be, and by the way have you seen Dr. Hansens list of five varieties of Apple seedlings? A clump of these, flowering in the spring for beauty with shelter and food for the birds later would dress up any Dakota yard. Maybe Bro. Simmons could be induced to give these as premiums with memberships.

From the February number, Wallner is enjoying the west coast, but why he insists on some one paying for onions, is hard to figure. Any way, what sort of a man is it that would give a lady friend onions? It's fantastic.

One of the best signs of careful thinking is in Prof. McCrorys article—Existing ornamental gardens, should be continued as such. During the other war quite a few well meaning people dug up their flower garden and put in vegetables with indifferent results. Right now or rather during the year of 1942, if the time spent in talking about the war would be spent in gardening (when not doing Red Cross work), the United States would have a face lifting.

May I quote from an advertisement of the Boyd Nursery Co., "Did you know 4,000,000 tons of top soil are washed and blown away yearly? Plant forest tree seedlings for re-forestation." Ford is doing a magnificent piece of work along this line, and might I repeat previous advice—plant a clump of trees, where they will protect each other, and seedlings are the best bet.

WOSNUK WIDENS WINTER WIND BREAKS

Along that line one of the most practical tree growers of Dakota, Theo Wosnuk of Aberdeen, wrote some time ago regarding trees for bird feed, as follows— "For Ipswich winter bird feed bearing trees and shrubs, recommend Hackberry, Russian Olive and Buckthorn, as their berries hang on all winter. Buckthorn is charged with harboring oat rust, but its value as winter feed for birds is very good.

All summer and fall use Sandcherry, Wild Plum and Honeysuckle, as well as black cherry,

which is very hardy with us here. Our birds have plenty of feed during summer and fall, but for the few that stay late and winter with us, like robin, blue jay and woodpeckers, the hackberry, Russian olive and buchthorn will hold winter feed best.

Have plenty of black cherry seedlings in my yard if you want some this spring. These ripen about the same time as honey suckle but are preferred by robins, blue jays and flicker."

Perhaps this summer will see many groups of these hardy and rather ornamental Dakota shrubs started. The Buffalo berry is ornamental any time when in leaf.

PORTER PICTURES PAST—PHILOSOPHIZES PHUTURE

The February magazine was especially good—in the first place I took a trip at just the time I might have written some wanderings and in the second place Mr. Porter put up an umbrella of Dickens shielding us from a shower of Latin. His contemplation of the scene at the Paris Guillotine from "Tale of Two Cities," is worth re-reading. I agree with Porter that Dickens is a delight, and compared with many modern novels is as roast beef to macaroons—not but what I would take a macaroon now and then. We all hope that Mr. Porter will philosophize again—we miss Robertson.

Harry Graves supports the idea of trading shrubs, extra bulbs, etc. between members but he has had experience and says it is not so easy, perhaps like the weather a lot of talk about it, but very little done. It would probably be like chow in the army—"come and get it." Some Garden Clubs might report how it has worked, if.

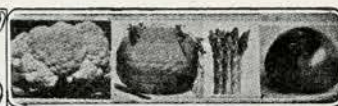
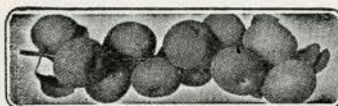
Talking about Soldiers, why not drop a horticultural card to the soldier boys from your vicinity? I sent out cards as Treas. of Red Cross to all the soldiers from Edmunds County, and it certainly yielded some fine letters. Why not do it now? The boys are far away and turning away empty from the mail delivery is no fun.

For those whose bibles are dusty, where is the first mention of a gardener? What is more important, who was the gardner?

DAKOTA DOES DELIVER DELIGHTFUL DAYS

Now for a few samples of Dakota weather in 1942 in winter. The Roscoe Independent says that Mrs. Herman Tschirley repotted some ground and found it full of grasshoppers. This may be a warning. In the same issue, A. P. Downer reported a meadow lark had spent the winter at his place. This bird knew of the love of all natural things held by A. P.'s grand parents.

In North Dakota the Killdeer Herald maintains
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FRUIT & VEGETABLE NOTES

By F. X. Wallner



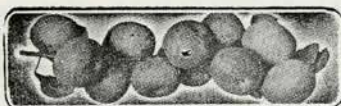
F. X. Wallner

Dec. 31st. Today we went for a drive to the ocean, on the new Wilson River highway, a short cut of 80 miles to the beach at ocean side. This is thru the Coast Range and the trees on the mountains are about all dead, on account of the many forest fires that have ravaged them. Some of the trees are still standing, some on the ground; some cut up for fire wood and cheap lumber. No doubt most of this terrible waste and destruction was caused by careless smokers.

Surely we must take precautions to prevent the trees in our Black Hills being destroyed like those of the Coast Range, of Oregon. Two hours spent on the beach, getting agates and shells, and a view of the sunset over the Pacific thru trees, the clouds on the horizon looking as tho they were afire. At the Fisherman's headquarters in Tillamook there were several steelhead trout and one 38 lb. salmon. A Jap Sub has been in Tillamook bay. Here we also bot two big crabs that we ate after we got home, but crushing their bones and legs with pliers to get out the only eatable meat was quite a task for me. I wondered how Emily Post would handle them. On the way home I dug more holly, evergreens, and ferns to bring home. Two years ago they reported I took away 4 big boxes full, but there is so much snow on Mt. Hood it will be impossible to get near enough to get tree or ferns from there. Jan. 2nd. One public market does very little business because most of the growers are Japs and Italians. Oriental shops remind me of the World's fair and I feel sorry for the American Japs who must close out in the next few days. This evening I went to a small church where Holy Hour service was being held and the prayers were for our country and home. Jan. 3rd. Today we took a ride around the new airport where all bombers and fighters are placed far apart and big holes and piles of dirt appear all around the port and outside among the woods and gardens, are hidden fortifications. Jan. 6th. Bought a good glass to see insect life better, also diseased plants and the stones and agates. Also finished stringing the 1400 sea shells so I have 18 bracelets and 15 necklaces. Bought a Canadian watch at a pawn shop that has 24 hours on the dial instead of 12, so there will be no A. M. or P. M. in my talk hereafter. Attended a course in Horticulture given by the Oregon system of higher education but the public is still not aware how scarce food is at this time and, seed is scarce

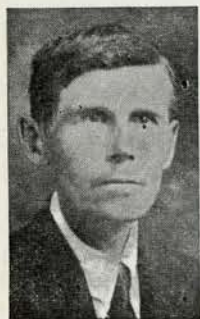
and very high and must not be wasted. Last night a radio report was that Washington state cabbage seed was 85% lost. Jan. 8th. Another milestone passes and this three weeks vacation is mindful that the pace is slackening up, tho I do not seem to be aware of it. Still, so many dear ones have passed on; friends and fellow workers. Oregonians blame the Columbia gorge for this cold but no one does anything about it. It seems to me that engineers could build dams with walls so high that all the cold would stay on the other side of the mountains, but maybe we to the east would have too much cold, if they did that. Most all vegetables have more than doubled in price in the three weeks I have been in Portland, onions, carrots, turnips, parsnips, spinach, ruta bagas are all 8 cents a pound, 2 lbs. for 15 cents, sweet potatoes 10 cents per lb., white potatoes 3 lbs. for 10 cents, celery 20 to 25 cents. Laborers refused to harvest carrots of Jap growers and the price to the consumer is going out of sight. Many of the wholesalers are keeping a good watch on their crops in the field or storage to insure delivery. Celery, cauliflower and lettuce has doubled in price in the last few days. Even canned salmon of good quality, is rapidly disappearing. In floral shops Christmas trees are selling for \$1.00 per foot; back home I think a dollar will buy a big tree. While I have not exactly been jay-walking about Portland, most drivers motion for me to cross the street; they all give the pedestrian the right of way. An exciting chase took place Sunday in a swanky club when a cockroach was being run down by four waiters; he came my way and I crushed him underfoot. While not as big as a rat, he was as big as one of our big winged grasshoppers. I had a notion I could use the 90,000 Rose Bowl tickets that are giving the managers such a severe headache but they think the public will get big hearted and buy them at \$1 each, just as souvenirs. They say a bonfire would act as a beacon for Jap planes and, anyway its been raining every day, so that would put out the fire. I thot I could use them for my early set vegetable plants, for cutworm guards and disks for Canadian maggot fly.

Back in 1861 the chewing gum industry started with an outlay of \$53 while today they spend about a million dollars a week in America on chewing gum. Jan. 9th. Had a hard climb to Washington park where the snow and ice was breaking many trees and shrubs. The tall bamboo canes most all are down but the bears, cats and other animals did not seem to be alarmed by the crashing trees. "Tinker's dam" is not profanity, but who knows the definition without looking it up? There are big piles of sawdust or wood in the street or parking of many homes that have had to put in extra fuel supplies on account of the long cold spell.



GARDEN NOTES

By
W. E. H. Porter



W. E. H. Porter

Jan. 1st. Greetings to all our members! Our weather forecast blackout means neither forewarned or forearmed, yesterday's west wind developed a vicious bite overnight, causing extreme reluctance to arise and shine on New Years day and with fires either dead or very dormant, fluids had become solids and this also applied to a row of house plants in the kitchen window a penance however withstood by *Linaria faucicola*, now entering on its second year, and evergreen *Daphne odora*, which had at least one flower bud. The only farm animals that seem to rather like such conditions are horses and turkeys; the latter's bedroom is the highest and bleakest spot on the premises. Apropos of turkeys, Mary Harding in "My Irish Garden" gives us this delightful passage: "Bridgie has seventeen turkeys, amiable and friendly. Why every man's hand should be against them I do not know. To me they are interesting birds tho distinctly uncanny. They seem to hold some eerie intercourse with the unknown. Out of the blue comes to them some secret intelligence and instantly the whole flock take to their wings in sudden flight. They forsake the daintiest morsel in answer to this signal which I have never seen or heard. When occasionally they saunter thru Paddys preserves, they eat as they walk, without regard for Paddy or his possessions." Jan. 6th. A day to be remembered in the annals of discomfort—a high north wind with temperature 18 to 22 below zero, whirling eddies of snow and sand everywhere. The only time I sat down was for an unpleasant half hour on a milking stool and when indoors retaining bodily warmth spread-eagle style over a stove. However, around midnight wind and temperature dropped, the latter to 32 below zero and this episode in life's struggle passed into the arms of Morpheus. My *Cheiranthus kewensis* is in bloom, sweet fragrance, color pale hue of English primrose that stars the hedgerows in early spring. Jan. 11th. 38 above zero. Jan. 14th. Continued mild with pools of water on roads and prairie as brown as in April. Just heard of the passing of Mrs. E. F. Smith, an English lady who liked the get-up and general style of our little magazine so well that she became a life member. She had a beautiful home near Stroud, in county Gloucestershire. Jan. 17. It is really hard to realize that this is January; the lightest night frosts and day

thaws that permit the use of canvas gloves to do farm chores and cattle roaming at will over the prairie. A stroll thru the garden reveals green, rather than brown, as dominant color, fine upright growing tufts of *Yucca filamentosa* with *Daphne cneorum*, willow leaved *blagayana* and ground hugging yew-leaved *petrea vinca minor* and the humble common English wilding *Sedum acre*, mats of green that seem to shout at you; *Violas* and even Swiss Giant pansies that had no snow cover during last week's purgatory and all the tribe of creeping *Veronicas* and *dianthi*, beautiful are silver dusted shoots of *Beatrice*. Its variety of Silver mine tho green is flattened; green also are silver ciliated tufts of *Kidney vetch Anthyllis dillenii*, a native of Cornwall, known as the English Riviera, tho the sage *Salvia verbasciolia* from the Caucasus has its elephant ear foliage burned off. The leafy swans down *coerulea alba* from Brazil is undamaged nothing could be brighter than the red shiny stems of *Betty Bland rose*; what a warm winter hedge that would make. And, *Salix purpurea* still retains some 1941 on its purple branches, some of which are greening up but I suppose such weather must seem like summer to this denizen of the arctic tundra. The most precocious of all seems to be protruding greenish leaf shoots on a sweet briar rose bush. My Hatfield yew has also come thru last week's ordeal unscathed, a vivid green with no fresh burning; perhaps, as it was the last gift of a departed loved one, the first years killing back and pining unto death was to be expected. Jan. 22nd. Cloudless sky, shade temperature in eye of light west wind 38 above zero. How green and thrifty are the sweet williams, but alas, two of my tree peonies will not bloom in 1942 for the field mice have gnawed the shoots almost to the base.

Chickens Came Home to Roost

A railroad man was ready to make his regular run. His wife instructed him to get her some turkey eggs to set.

In passing through a small town, a dirty country lad approached the engineer and asked him, "Don't you want some buzzard eggs?"

Seeking to play a joke on his wife, he gave the lad a nickel for them. About a month later he asked his wife, "How are your turkeys getting along?"

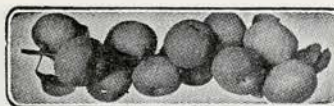
"Oh, I decided it was getting too late for turkeys so I just put them in your lunch pail."

"So you complain of finding sand in your soup?"

"Yes, sir."

"Did you join the army to serve your country, or to complain about the soup?"

"To serve my country, sir—not to eat it."—The Earthworm.



SECRETARY'S CORNER

By
W. A. Simmons



W. A. Simmons

The many readers of "Old Jules" will be glad to know that the extensive orchard established by Jules and Mary Sandoz in the sandhills of western Nebraska is being well cared for and extended. One of Jules daughters, Mrs. Flora Sandoz Kicken, recently sent in her dollar for 1942 membership and says, in part: "Mr. Kicken and I were in partnership with Mother at the time of her death and then bot the home place from the estate. Not much experimenting has been done in the last 15 years so we are anxious to catch up and keep up. The commercial orchard had to be neglected during the years mother was alone here, but some of the visitors this summer said they were a credit to what was left in eastern Nebraska, since the big freeze.

We have a new block, 2 year old now, of 1000 plums, cherries and pears, that is beautiful, even tho nature sent us hail in severeness unknown to this region before. Many trees were killed but have mostly been replanted. However, we are not interested in producing fruit commercially and make these planting only to demonstrate that it can be done here. Experimenting is our line, trying the new varieties in our soil and conditions and, perhaps we may do a little plant breeding also later." In sending in his renewal for 1942 Mr. I. W. Studer of Lac Pelletier, Sask., Canada, whose picture appears on this month's cover page says, in part: "We live in an area where we are always surprised if we get even a small crop, due to our very low annual rainfall. In this area, every morning, the year around, we unconsciously scan the horizon as soon as one arises to try to determine if a cloud, or the atmosphere or anything, holds any significance in regard to hope of rain, and being it seems to never happen, we utilize all our time trying to make things grow without it. And when that happens, sooner or later trees come into the picture as they are about the only thing that will, if not grow and thrive without rain, at least live when nothing else will. We built our own cultivator for hydraulic Fordson tractor. As we have some 9 to 12 miles of trees to hoe we tried to develop some method of not only cultivating between the rows of trees but also between the trees in the row. This contraption works like a charm, reaching out about 2½ feet between the trees, practically eliminating hoeing entirely. It was

made out of odds and ends and parts of garden scuffler. It has been a life saver for us as far as hoeing is concerned. The tree in picture is one named Heyer No. 12 apple, an apple that does very well in our area and developed by Mr. A. Heyer, Neville, Sask., the one in picture is four years old, and, as you will note, we prefer to grow our fruit trees more in bush-like form in this area. We have some 300 fruit trees growing now and hope to have at least a little fruit in a few years. We have between 40 and 50 different varieties of both apples and plums of those varieties only that have possibilities of being happy in this area." Mr. Studer is a native of St. Cloud, Minn. and his father and 9 brothers now live in Excelsior, Minn., when not out on contracting jobs which have taken them to Yellowstone Park, Casper, Wyo., Ft. Peck and Billings, Mont., and Gettysburg, S. D. Am sure that all our readers will enjoy, as I have, the fine article in this issue, from Dr. A. F. Yeager. It is very fine of him that in going on up to added triumphs, he never forgets his many Dakota friends. We want our friends the North Dakota Society members to make full use of our library and our magazine subscription agency. Those that use the latter have no trouble saving as much or more than their yearly dues amount to, while our charge of 10 cents for the use of our fine new books, is merely to establish a fund for re-binding them, when that becomes necessary. Probably the enemy knows it by this time, so it will not be treason to tell that the groundhog had no chance to see his shadow on Feb. 2nd, and, also we kept our mouse hound pup tied up all that day, so if he became alarmed it was from some constitutional complaint and not anything connected with his environment. As we are thus promised an early spring, we are getting ready to plant shamrock on St. Patrick's day.

Bob Hope told a good one in his radio program recently. Telling of an efficient scare crow he had constructed, he said the crows were so scared they brot back corn they had stolen four years ago.

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Sheyenne, N. D.



BOOK REVIEWS

By
Mrs. F. Briley



Mrs. F. Briley

DIET IN SINUS INFECTIONS AND COLDS. By Dr. Egon V. Ullman, published by The Macmillan Company, 60 Fifth Ave., New York, Price \$2.

Now just who ever heard of an honest to goodness gardener having colds, much less sinus infections and, even if he or she did have such things, what gardener you could name would go on a diet? But this diet is different. The author of Diet in Sinus infections and colds is very convincing in describing, or perhaps we should say prescribing a diet that includes a good meal, from soup to nuts. It takes only five lines in which to write the names of forbidden foods, according to the author, while there are whole chapters on foods permitted, some of course, in limited amounts. There are also chapters on preparation of foods, recipes and menus. A large number of patients, since they were put on a proper diet, have been free from colds for two years or longer, while prior to that they suffered from four to six colds each winter. This new edition of the book should be of assistance to physicians as well as to their anxious patients who are looking for an answer to the question of "How shall I live and what shall I eat in order to get rid of my cold."

TABULAR KEYS FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE WOODED PLANTS. Compiled and arranged by Florence B. Robinson, Assistant Professor in Landscape Architecture, University of Illinois. Published by the Garrard Press, Champaign, Ill. Price \$2.50.

This set of Tabular Keys, compiled in convenient form for use in the field and for study, has been evolved for the use of students and others interested in the more used woody plants of the northern states and Canada.

It is designed for quick reference and comparison as well as for use in the field. With this key identification can be made thru observation of external characters. It includes the five hundred trees, shrubs, vines, conifers and broad-leaved evergreens described in the card file entitled "Useful trees and shrubs." These keys supplement and complete that work. I like it because it tells how the genus and species are recognized in winter and, again in summer. The glossary is very helpful to the amateur. Horticulturists are going to like this set of "Tabular Keys."

LETTER FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE Continued from Page 30

cally eradicate poison ivy. This material is made by the DuPont Company.

It seems now that it may be possible to control some tree diseases by injections into the trunk, at least the Connecticut Experiment Station is getting very promising results in the control of canker of Maple and there is some indication that similar treatments may be effective on the dreaded Dutch Elm disease.

For any one doing plant breeding work the report from the New York Experiment Station that they have been able to keep apple pollen for four years in good germinating condition should be real news. So often it is difficult to get pollen at the time it is wanted for crossing purposes.

Even here in New Hampshire where the McIntosh apple is so much at home, there is still need for better apple varieties. Our growers hardly know what to plant along with McIntosh for their crop.

In case you are not well acquainted with the thinwood method of pruning fruit trees, it would be well worth your while to write to the Michigan

Continued on Page 36

Introductory Offer To New Readers 8 Issues For \$1.00

GARDEN DIGEST'S purpose is to show you the "how" and "when" of successful gardening and to bring you news of all the fascinating new developments in plants and ways to grow them.

This year GARDEN DIGEST has dedicated itself to helping gardeners participate in the Victory Garden Program—with the greatest economy of time, effort—and money. The editor-in-chief, Andrew S. Wing, has been appointed Secretary for the Committee in Washington.

**MAIL THIS NEW-READER COUPON
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LETTER FROM NEW HAMPSHIRE Continued from Page 35

State College at East Lansing, Michigan, for their bulletin on the subject. It is rather revolutionary and seems to be working out.

A most interesting plant which has been neglected is our wild juniper, *Juniperus communis*, which grows so abundantly all over the New Hampshire hillsides. Anyone who will spend his time making selections from the wild and propagating them will find things of great interest and value to landscape men. In this region this juniper is a weed, and anyone who would plant one in his yard for ornamental purposes, would probably have his head examined. Nevertheless I like them.

Mr. Simmons may have to run this as a year-round serial if I do not stop soon, but it is really hard to know where to quit when I get to talking about the experimental work. Only a very few of our projects have been mentioned at all and those very inadequately. With 10 of us in the department only a few high spots have been touched. In the last two weeks we received by Trans-Pacific air mail a letter from Hawaii with a request for new tomato selections to try there in an effort to overcome the disease problem by ripening a crop ahead of the disease. Naturally, they received what they asked for. Evidently horticulture is considered a wartime essential.

Some day soon we hope to send plant material back to North Dakota which will be useful and carry our message of good will. Until then, words must suffice.

Editor's Note: The idea; As if an article by Dr. Yeager could possibly be too long.

BEEBE'S PHILOSOPHY Continued from Page 31

that Mrs. Leone Rosborough brought in a bouquet of pansies picked in her yard and Linton, in Edmunds County states that lilac bushes are budding and pussy willows were out. Of course that county is fairly close to South Dakota.

A Chinese proverb is, that no man need feel poor if he has a house and a half an acre of ground and his wife has a spade and a hoe. What is the idea of mentioning the wife?

Some time ago, one of the grand sons asked Mrs. Taylor here in Ipswich how it happened that Grandpa John didn't have much hair. Mrs. Taylor replied "because he thinks so much." After a minute of thought, the boy asked, "Grandma why have you so much?" Grandma replied, "You had better go out and feed the chickens."

The other day our good Librarian sent over, "Weeds are More Fun," which I enjoyed a lot. Try it some of these evenings. A dime sent to Mrs. Briley

at Dell Rapids, will bring it providing of course that you are a member of the North or South Dakota Horticultural Society. Why not inspect the list of premiums in the February number, and make a gift of a membership to some friend, who will remember you twelve times in a year.

Charles K. Field speaks of March snows, as follows—

With some, a fury breathing doom,
On wind-swept hill and drifted lane;
With us, a bride in orange bloom
And veiled with silver rain!

To get down to earth however, I want to quote "Making Gardens" by Jeanette Leader, and here's wishing you all the perfect garden of which she speaks, and I know this wish will come true.

There never was a garden
So wonderful and clean.
The flowers are much larger
Than the largest ever seen.
No weeds, no imperfections—
It makes my head just hum,
For I've made a perfect garden
Since the catalogues have come.

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