

# NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

MARCH, 1948



Two of the nice gals that attended our last annual meeting. Mrs. L. N. Brakke, Hartford, President of the Lyons Garden Club, left, and Mrs. Pete Pearson, Lyons, also a member of the Lyons club. Picture taken in front of the Legion Inn, at Legion Lake, and from the satisfied look of the ladies, evidently after dinner.





## THE WESTERN GREBE

By  
O. A. Stevens



**O. A. Stevens**

Swan grebe is another name for this bird because of its long, graceful neck. It is one of the largest grebes and was not described until 1858 in the report of the Pacific Railway Survey. It has been suggested that this bird might be mistaken for a half grown loon. The under parts are white, the back somewhat spotted but mostly black, the top of the head and back of the neck black. The bill is yellow, very slender and sharp.

This species inhabits the northern interior regions from southern Saskatchewan and Manitoba to Utah and southern California. There are a few records for Minnesota. It occurs in winter along the Pacific Coast. Nests are built among the tall reeds in lakes, floating on the water where it is several feet deep. They are quite bulky masses of dead reeds, a foot and a half to two feet wide and rising several inches above the water. The eggs are usually 3 or 4, rather long, slightly larger at one end, yellowish or bluish, about two and a quarter inches long. Other grebes usually cover the eggs when they leave the nest, but this species does not so.

The young take to the water as soon as hatched, and often ride on the backs of the old birds. Mr. W. L. Finley described the old birds lowering themselves into the water so the chicks could float on board. They are easily concealed among the feathers. He saw the old birds feed the young as it rode on her back. But if the birds were frightened and dived too suddenly the chick was likely to fall off.

The birds are such experts at diving that it certainly would be difficult for the young to hang on. The usual method of diving is said to be for the bird to spring forward, almost out of the water, but they also may just sink out of sight. Small fishes and other water animals comprise their food. A peculiar fact which has not been explained is that many feathers are regularly found in stomachs, even in very young birds.

The Klamath Lake region of northern California and southern Oregon was one of the greatest nesting grounds. At one time the breast feathers of the birds were used in millinery. The raids on the Klamath Lake colonies resulted in the establishment of the area as a national refuge in 1908.

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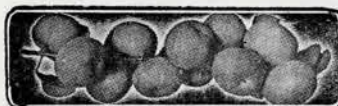
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fuage in 1908.

A few years ago I had the opportunity to see the first showing of a motion picture of western grebes taken in North Dakota by Dr. W. F. Kubichek of the Fish and Wildlife Service. It was hailed as one of the great pictures of the year and showed the grebes rising and pattering along the water for some distance the body mostly out of the water. This had been described by Mr. Finley, who also saw pairs of the birds rising and treading water in their courtships.





## GARDEN NOTES

By  
W. E. H. Porter



W. E. H. Porter

To the residents of the wind swept prairie, with its subarctic winters, March brings a feeling of relief, that our hopeful dreams of a green world again will be soon realized. My notes record that a week before Christmas the 9 inch potted Ilex aquifolium, English holly tree arrived, but owing to stormy and cold conditions, it was not collected until two days after arrival. A few leaves showed frost burn, otherwise fresh and vigorous and also a heavy drinker; its shiny gold margined foliage and symmetrical upright carriage make it a unique window sill attraction, and reminder that there are places where this thing of beauty can be grown out of doors. Here for the next few months one has to guard against dry, overheated day atmosphere and night freezing. Dec. 25th. Nature celebrated Christmas Eve with an all night vicious whip-up of drifting snow which gave me occupation with shovel, most of Christmas morning, but amends were made on Boxing day with temp. of 37 and all day sunshine. Reports of Christmas weather tell of snow in only 3 European countries, Norway, Sweden and Lapland. Announcer from England says mild, cloudy and some drizzle with roses in his Hampstead garden and a Yorkshire man took a swim in the North Sea, the mildest Christmas in 70 years. Paris also reports one of record mildness: Moscow says snow and -2, and all parties here under deep snow excepting S. W. Alberta, where a chinook gave a green Christmas, with a temp. at Calgary 52, in the evening. I tuned in to the King's speech, broadcast over Canadian networks, a message of hope, resolution and friendship, and what a relief, no mention of communism. One wishes that some of our politicians would show in their utterances similar tact, poise and moderation. Norway presented England with a 48-foot Christmas tree which was placed in Trafalgar Square, and round which carol singing was indulged in with music by the Brigade of Guards. An amusing sidelight appears in Manchester Guardian, on England's austerity program, telling of a lady who appeared in an elegant two-piece suit of fine black serge the envy of her neighbors. The tailor who made it and had been in business for 30 years, could not understand where cloth of such quality had been procured; it transpired that

it was a remnant of mourning cloth sold in Victorian times to equip funeral horses decently. Jan. 5th, 1948. Our post-Christmas cold wave of -25 and blowing snow changes with a rise of 45% and south wind. First spring flowers come into bloom; they are two pink hyacinths with fragrance like that of a London park in April; also find a pullet's egg in poultry house, my reserve was down to six. Radio tells of Holy thorn of Glastonbury in English county of Somerset in bloom. Regarding this strange and seemingly miraculous phenomenon the Abbot of Glastonbury has this to say. That Joseph of Aramithea reached Glastonbury in dead winter, stuck his staff in ground, which the next morning was in leaf and flower, is pure and simple legend. Actually it is a sport of the common English thorn or May Crataegus monogyna, that unlike its parent blooms twice a year in January and May, instead of only once in spring like other thorns. Shrubs grown from seeds of the Holy thorn invariably flower only in spring, whereas cuttings taken from same, bloom also in midwinter. Incidentally, the double pink thorn in my garden is a variety of this species, but as yet has never flowered for me. The big event of the new year is the nationalization of British railways and their appurtenances such as docks, canals, hotels, etc., a realization of a hundred year old dream! It was in 1867 that a Royal Commission was appointed to consider the matter, at which time Sir Rowland Hill warned not to expect too much. The tens of thousands stock holders will be fully compensated by a new issue of 3% Government stock. It was in 1923 that the 120 railways were merged into 4 great companies which between 1923 and 1938 caused a saving of 15% (twenty-three million pounds). Before the war they were conveying more passengers than whole of U. S. Railways put together and in the 1930's even exceeded American passenger miles in spite of greater distances traveled in the United States. In current issue of Countryman here's a good dog story told by Mr. Bagley Parker: "Robin, my golden retriever, was very fond of bananas. One day when I left a banana uneaten on my breakfast tray he looked at it thoughtfully, then he trotted off to the kitchen, fetched the most prized bone and laid it gently on the tray. Looking me straight in the eye and wagging his tail he equally gently removed the banana." Jan. 15th. The depth of snow is appalling and still it comes. Yesterday in a blinding storm a cow got down in a drift and lay there moaning; without the help of the dog I'd never have got her up. Clear overhead today the ground blizzard continues; froze a

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**NEWSLANTS**

By  
Harry A. Graves



H. A. Graves

Mr. Elwyn Meader, who spent some time in 1937 at NDAC, has just returned from a year in Korea and has written this interesting letter to us from his home in New Hampshire. I am sure you will enjoy it.

"My one year contract with the U. S. Army Military Government in Korea was up in December, so I have returned to the good old U. S. A. where I'll stay for a while, I expect. It certainly seemed good to get back and be with my family again. It is surprising how children can grow in a year when you don't see them for that length of time. My girl is now eight and my boy is six years old.

Professor Blake of New Jersey to whom you made reference in your letter died in December. He was one of the country's leading plant breeders and his peach varieties are standard in the eastern states. He sent me some peach trees for planting in Korea.

It is interesting to me that the Koreans do not care for yellow-fleshed peaches but prefer the white ones. Most of them are cling stones also. the bush cherry, *Prunus tomentosa*, is much grown in the northern part of Korea and is much liked. Apricot is grown and a useful fruit tho it is not dried, only being used in the fresh condition. Japanese plums are also used in a fresh condition. The persimmon is widely grown from Seoul to the southern part of the peninsula and is not only greedily eaten in the season of fresh fruit but is sold all winter in the markets and into the following summer as a dried fruit. Chestnuts and walnuts similar to the English or Persian walnut, are much appreciated and used. Pine nuts and gindego nuts are common in the markets. All apple varieties are ones introduced from the U. S. A. or Europe or Australia by missionaries. Jonathan grows to perfection in Korea. Pears are almost wholly of the Oriental varieties—large, coarse, and filled with grit or stone cells. But the Koreans like them so why should I complain? Chinese cabbage and large winter radishes are the two most important vegetables. Then hot red peppers, garlic and leek are much grown since they are used as seasonings. Such savory vegetables make rice more palatable. Of course, rice is No. 1 crop. Irish potatoes have been successfully grown in the northern prov-

inces since 1939. Interestingly enough, the Irish cobbler seed potatoes in amount of 500 tons which were imported for Korea this fall came from Hillsboro, North Dakota. I can't remember the grower's name now. Corn is grown in the northern provinces but sorghum is more common or millets take its place. Soybeans and adzuki bean, a small red bean, are grown interplanted with sorghum and/or corn. Cucumbers, melons, eggplant are grown but tomato is still only grown occasionally. Spinach and lettuce are important greens. Carrots are not appreciated. Celery is unknown, also beets. While not strictly a horticultural plant, sesame is grown and the oil much used in cooking, also the seeds. I saw no flax, a crop that I well remember in North Dakota. It was most interesting to me to see and learn about the agriculture of Korea. I was also able to collect much plant material and seeds for trial in the U. S. A."

**GARDEN NOTES**

(Continued from Page 35)

lobe of right ear getting out hay; I now have two pullets laying so get a fresh egg daily. My Oregon holly tree thrives in a cool sunny room; leader and top branching show clustered spring foliage burst. Holly is the whitest of English timber, very durable and can be stained the blackest, hence used to simulate ebony for teapot handles and picture frames. Radio tells only 32 left of noblest of American birds the whooping crane whose call can be heard for 3 miles. At one time its favorite nesting place was Saskatchewan; it has been thot that the panther had been extinct in New Brunswick for 60 years. Now tracks have been found, photos taken and casts taken which Smithsonian Institute identified as panther; it is an animal somewhat smaller than a leopard. Also reported arrival at Shanghai from Montreal a shipload, not of food but war equipment which is one way of converting the heathen to Christianity. In our cold wave, still continuing here with a low of -35, the coldest spot in the U. S. was Gordon, Wis., where it dropped to -54, an all time record, and at Memphis, Tenn., 12 inches of snow, heaviest since 1892. Jan. 21st. At long last, as temp, falls below -20 the swirling mist of wind driven snow ceases and the horizon is visible from kitchen window, an endless terrain stretches to the blue timber line of Turtle Mts., 24 miles distant, which in settled weath is islanded in the form of a mirage and lit up by the glowing fires of sunset, a cruelly cold lanscape, with a beauty all its own and from southern Alberta we hear of the mildest winter on record with garden flowers picked for Christmas decoration, farmers finishing their 1947 harvest and lilacs budding.



## MANITOBA NEWS LETTER

By  
W. R. Leslie



W. R. Leslie

The University of Ohio at Columbus holds an Annual Short Course for Arborists, Landscape Gardeners and Nurserymen. The three days of meetings, January 19, 20 and 21, had over 300 in attendance. A few notes of the very instructive sessions are here reported.

Accidents encountered by tree men repairing large trees result mostly from carelessness, improper training of workmen, dead branches, ladders, sawdust

in the eyes, chain saws, and hot wires.

Customers ordering large trees involve high charges. They are costly to grow as well as to dig, ship and replant large specimens. Many purchasers of ornamental trees and shrubs desire the nurseryman to make subsequent follow-up visits to prune and train the stock in later years.

Dr. P. E. Tilford, Executive Secretary, National Arborists Association, treated Shade Tree Values. It is considered that the United States spends between ten and fifteen million dollars per year to maintain shade trees on private properties. The total is probably one hundred million dollars for maintenance of trees when expenditure of states, cities, institutions and utility companies are included. Two eastern cities value their shade trees at an average of one hundred dollars per tree. Shade trees have cash value in giving physical and mental comfort, in imparting beauty, and in bringing people closely in contact with living nature. In supplying shade, trees moderate temperatures. All people have innate desire to be associated with living things.

Dutch elm disease and necrosis have been spreading rapidly in American elm plantations. Bark beetles are vectors of the diseases.

In seeding lawns where washing is probable, the surface is protected with a straw mulch held in place by stakes and twine. Grass seed should not be sown deeper than one-quarter inch.

The Blowers are replacing hydraulic Sprayers in many territories where insects are troublesome. The former are much quicker, involve less labor, are less costly for equipment and material used.

The subject listed as Horticultural Spray Materials Since DDT, revealed remarkable developments in new spray materials. It appears that insect enemies are in for less and less freedom

of successful residence. Some of the newer chemicals are effective against sucking insects as well as those which chew.

Landscape Gardening considerations were prominent at the Short Course, University of Ohio, in mid-January. The following comment was gleaned from several informative addresses.

The day of the large estate is mostly past. Folks want privacy on their grounds, excellent lawns, continuous bloom, and evergreen plantings about the house. Majority of town lots are not larger than 50 by 150 ft. This limits what can be planted. Tendency is to wish for five times the amount of utilities the space possessed can accommodate.

Gift material from friends removing shrubbery is "usually rubbish." It is much better to get fresh, well-grown, young nursery stock.

Hedges are excellent as fences for the back yard. Choose a plant that naturally grows into hedge form, and one not entailing spraying.

Don't crowd plantings. Edge beds with dense low shrubs or low evergreens. Have all the lawn in one piece—smooth and unobstructed. Rectangular areas are easiest to maintain. The secret of edging is good maintenance. Otherwise it is policy to depend upon brick or stones.

The front yard is the least used section. Treat it simply. Emphasize the architecture of the house. A single specimen shrub at each side of the door is desirable. Also bank the house corners with one or more shrubs of moderate size, such as a viburnum. Build up side plantings from the corners to the outside of the property. On small lots no large trees are suitable. Cottonwoods and other fast-growing trees take much food and limit the utility of a small area. The center of the lawn is left untreed. Small flowering trees are particularly valuable for home grounds. An example is the Rosybloom class of crabapples. Large trees belong to parks.

Beware that costly novelties frequently are merely old plants with new names.

Acid peat is very helpful in planting trees and borders.

A foundation planting usually will require or deserve re-doing in 15 to 20 years time. Shrubs have a limited span of life in attractive form. The faster-growing the stock the shorter is the period of usefulness. Soil preparation is comparable to having the house on a solid foundation.

Don't plant vines on utility poles.

Earthworms thrive only if humus or vegetable matter is plentiful in the soil. If the garden is rich in organic material earthworms will be present and do the subsurface cultivation. (It was

(Continued on Page 42)



## GARDEN CLUB GLEANINGS

By

Mrs. G. M. Jorgensen, Dell Rapids



**Mrs. Jorgensen**

No wonder some of the garden clubs in our State Federation are reporting great membership gains and city-wide interest in their work—they are the ones who use the newspapers. Here is the ad which sometimes appears in the Yankton daily:

**"Join the Yankton Garden Club**  
For solutions of your garden worries, join the Yankton Garden Club NOW and enjoy its many benefits in your efforts next season. Those interested

contact Miss Lucy French. Elmer Lundberg, Oscar A. Grosshuesch, or any member." Every meeting is publicized with a notice which runs in the social calendar of the paper, daily, for a week previous to the event; and with a write-up about the program after each meeting. Mr. Grosshuesch the secretary says: "We make a special effort to bring out all the points of interest on the topic covered by the speaker. At the same time this gives a printed summary for the members who keep clippings of their club's activities." For special programs with outside speakers the club gets additional publicity in the About Town Column. At the time of writing his letter Mr. Grosshuesch reported a membership of 31 for their club, but at the rate they are going it may be double that by now, and we can heartily endorse his statement that "We feel good about the way our club has been going." So do we! Recent speakers and topics on their program have been Mr. Rulon on Bulbs; Mr. Geo. Gurney on Care of Roses; Mr. D. Chrstensen on Dahlias and Cannas; Mr. M. L. Boyles on the History of the Gladiolus; while Mr. Novotny, owner of one of the greenhouses there, spoke on house plants after which all present were presented with a collection of rainbow tulip bulbs donated by the Gurney Seed Co.

"Heralding spring, the Fair City Garden Club built its February meeting into an Audubon program spot-lighting our feathered friends of the garden," is the interest-awakening introductory sentence in Mrs. G. R. McArthur's recent write-up for the Huron daily. That would make anyone sit up and read the item. The continuing article in praise of Mrs. S. W. Keck's fine program on birds also contains the following sentence: "Only a person with an understanding heart, a keen eye good field glasses and an inquiring mind could

speak so interestingly of the birds and their habits as did Mrs. Keck." A collection of wren houses and a 44-room Martin Castle designed and made by James Sypes Phillips of St. Peter, Minn., "a bird house to end all bird houses," were on display. Of the latter the reporter says, "This super-house does not accept tourists; it can open only to the Martin family and when the fledglings have flown it will be cleaned and closed until next season." And after that it is no wonder folks feel the urge to belong to a club with such fascinating programs. However, no club can attain a great civic value through programs alone, and the youthful Fair City Club has accomplished two projects of worth and far-reaching results. Entering whole-heartedly into the national Seeds of Peace campaign, the club purchased 25 units of seeds which will take care of the vegetable needs of 25 families or 125 persons in Europe for one year. Closer to home, but still of state-wide importance, is the work of the club in revising and enlarging the premium list for the horticulture department of the State Fair. Mrs. F. H. Hoffman, chairman of exhibits, Mrs. Oscar McFarling, president of the club, and a committee were asked to meet with the State Fair Board. They report splendid cooperation, with the Board adopting all suggestions as to re-classification and doubling the prize money requested for amateur exhibitors. The work of the club is the more remarkable since they have had no experience in conducting flower shows themselves, so it will be up to all clubs and individuals to make their work worth while with many entries at the Fair. "Names are news," and this club has no less than 18 members who were mentioned by name as participating in program or activities, in the report of this meeting.

Just a few words of welcome to the general public in their regular club notice in the Argus-Leader, brought enough visitors to "make us scurry around the other rooms looking for a chance to swipe a few chairs," according to secretary Simmons of the Sioux Falls club. Not only that, but of the 8 or 10 strangers attending, two promptly paid membership dues, and others expressed their pleasure and future interest in the club. Perhaps some of these persons had heard of the ardent enthusiasm with which these meetings are conducted by the program chairman, Mrs. J. L. Severance. Let her take over concerning a talk on Soil Conservation by Mr. L. J. Wylie of the Soil Conservation Office in Sioux Falls: "I just can't find words to tell you how good it was. I'll simply ask you to urge all clubs to contact the conservation office here immediately and try to get Mr. Wylie to give them a lecture soon. I say





immediately because later they will be busy with field work and will have less time to spare for clubs." Mr. Wylie showed slides of actual conditions in Minnehaha County and over the state; and then answered questions for an hour more. So many of the programs from the Sioux Falls club are good that you may like to list them for use in your own meetings: Strange Flowers of the World, by Mrs. L. B. Mitchell; Demonstration of Flower and Jewelry Making with Shells together with a Brief History of Ceramics, by Mrs. Asa Wilson; and colored slides of wild flowers and rock scenes taken near his home at the Palisades of Garretson, by Mr. Carl Heinson. Not long ago we had a request for a speaker on landscape work, and since two new landscape architects have joined the Sioux Falls club, we pass their names along to you for future reference: Mr. Walter Cozine and Mr. D. E. Johnson.

It isn't official at this writing, but the grapevine tells us that the third Sioux Falls Garden club known as the Wednesday Club, has voted in favor of re-joining the Federation. We have been hearing about so many good papers written by members of this club, especially Mrs. Mitchell, that we are looking forward to their affiliation with great pleasure. We hope the pleasure will be mutual. Spring feeling was translated into action by this club last month when the president, Mrs. C. M. Foreman, suggested that each member start two plants to have in bloom for Easter. These plants will be given to the ladies at a Nursing Home as an Easter gift. What a nice idea! One of the new members of this club is Mrs. J. G. Hansen, a former state officer of the Nebraska Federation of Garden Clubs, from whom we would like to hear more. Welcome to South Dakota.

The Britton Home Garden Club started it; but when Gleanings passed along the idea of having a contest and asking each member of a club to make their own year book cover, we had no idea of what we were getting into. Judging the covers of year books did not seem like much of a job until we were confronted with the 22 varied and original ideas evolved as cover designs by the members of the Lyons Garden Club. Never having seen a score card for such judging we finally evolved one which is filed for the use of anyone who has occasion to use it. Mrs. C. H. Edwards, Mrs. Henry B. Olson, and Mrs. Pete Pearson were first, second and third place winners; while Mrs. Wilmer Questad, Mrs. C. R. Langloss, Mrs. C. A. Lemme and Mrs. L. N. Brakke had covers of noteworthy design. Mrs. Olson's Food for Freedom train was especially significant at this time. Evidently garden club meetings do not come often

enough for these ladies of the Lyons club for they take on an extra meeting at Sioux Falls or Dell Rapids whenever possible; and Mrs. Brakke reports a 60% attendance at their own meeting on an 18 below zero night. This in spite of the fact that most of the members live several miles from the town of Lyons.

The Lazy Gardener was the book chosen for her annual review by Mrs. Dell Smith of the Flaudreau Green Fingers club. A good book, entertainingly reviewed, was the verdict of the group, according to Mrs. F. Cherney.

At Mobridge a talk on Shrubs for Sun and Shade, was given a more personal adaptation when Mrs. Orson Clark listed shrubs growing in her own city. Lilac time in Mobridge is a glorious sight as the City Park and the library grounds are both beautifully landscaped with these and other shrubs. Mrs. Briley is happily appreciative of the fact that the park is directly across from the library where she rules supreme. We wonder if the many shrubs has any connection with the fact that cedar waxwings and cardinals were seen in some numbers there this winter. The club is discussing the adoption of a city flower, the petunia, iris and peony being favorites, though Mrs. Briley suggests that the gumball lily might be given recognition. Whenever a city is favored by the presence of a native flower, outstanding in beauty or in numbers, we favor it over an introduced variety.

If your club does not receive the Country Gardeners' Program Service, be sure to send for it. Mr. Ries lists 11 motion picture topics available to clubs free. We would like to see When Flowers are Born, a 16 mm. color film, 45 minutes duration, put out by National Garden Bureau, 407 W. Dearborn St., Chicago. A personal note from Mr. Ries states that the Ohio Federation of Garden Clubs is looking to a goal of \$1,000 to add to its treasury from the sale of the Audubon Bird Notes in one year.

We have been busy sending helps and articles from our files on the following topics: strawberries, cyclamen, program titles, sample year books, columbines, delphinium, flower arrangements, preparing flowers for the flower show, ferns, dried material, wild flowers, blue flowers, the exchange committee, and Seeds of Peace. Are you backing the latter?

We should like to see the Garden Clubs in Codington, Clay, Beadle, Yankton and Walworth Counties sponsor the dedication of a tree for the governor from their county. These are to be planted in the Governor's Grove at Pierre.



**JOHN ROBERTSON—A Biography (Part III)**

By

H. R. Woodward



H. R. Woodward

John Robertson's philosophy of life was grounded in good common sense and underlaid with a deep stratum of human kindness. He believed in advancement and in making this generation better than the preceding one. He had unlimited faith in the future, and was sincere in his desire to leave this world in better condition than he found it. He believed everything had its purpose. While he was sometimes affected by failing banks, he was unhampered. Dry and unproductive years with late frosts in the spring and early freezes in the fall did not dismay him. He had long before learned that a big crop one year meant lighter ones to follow. He understood nature and was a true naturalist.

When the Hot Springs Kiwanis Club was given its charter in 1923, John was asked to become a charter member and he did. The plan of a service club appealed to him and he seldom missed a meeting unless it was during his harvest season. He enjoyed the hospitality of business men and was interested in any program of any educational nature which was offered by the club. This and his church were about all the organizations to which he belonged. He did serve on the rural school district board for thirty-four years and was president of a rural telephone company.

Aside from building one of South Dakota's most famous fruit farms his knowledge in the fruit industry was freely given to others. He proved that the degree of success is in direct proportion to the effort. He lectured at Farmers' Institutes throughout the state and devoted much time and thought to the South Dakota Horticultural Society. He enjoyed exhibiting his fruit at the State Fair and when he did exhibit the ribbons he won and the cash awards were always equal to and often greater than those of any other exhibitor.

In recognition of his marvelous ability, he was pronounced "Eminent Farmer" and placed in the Hall of Fame at Brookings, by the State Board of Regents and the faculty in 1928. In 1935 the South Dakota Horticultural society presented him with a gold medal as a token of his accomplishments in the horticultural field and for his service to the society over a long period of years, and the last two of which he served as its president.

On July 18, 1935, at a meeting of the State Society in Hot Springs a large granite shaft was erected on a four and half acre tract of land five miles west of Hot Springs, on U. S. Highway 18 and dedicated to him as the Robertson Memorial Park. The bronze tablet on the shaft epitomizes his great work as an outstanding pomologist in the Northwest States.

In March, 1935 Mr. Robertson got off the train on a return trip from the eastern part of the state and he came to our house. He said he was not feeling well and I noticed from his facial expression that he had suffered a slight stroke. From that time on until his death on July 28, 1937, he put up a valiant but losing fight against disease. He was buried near the monument at the Robertson Memorial Park two days later. He was 71 years of age at the time of his death.

Comparatively few have memorials in their honor during lifetime, but in this John Robertson was an exception, as he was himself exceptional in many ways. The Robertson Memorial Park, dedicated to him in July, 1935, is this memorial and he was laid to rest there at his own request.

Shortly after his death, at a suggestion of the editor of the Dakota Farmer and with the help of the Hot Springs Kiwanis club, contributions were made to purchase a substantial fence to enclose the area. This was done and Tom Miller, a man with whom he labored for many years and to whom he bequeathed his orchard, put in the fence a year later.

No definite plans have been formulated in regard to the future development of the Robertson Memorial Park at this date. It is true that the planting of trees and shrubs in a more or less orderly fashion has gone steadily forward. It will be continued as time goes on. On the ridge of Sundance sandstone which crosses the park, trees and shrubs will appear in due time from seeds that have been planted. Many young trees and shrubs have been planted about the monument itself and a fine stand of buffalo grass about it is kept mowed during the summer month. The rainfall may be more favorable in coming seasons. From 1937 to 1941 the rainfall was light indeed.

(To be continued in April)

We often wonder when these flyin' farmers get their farm work done. Maybe some non-flyin' farm wife could tell us.—Foxtail in Prairie Farmer.

During the 1941 blitz on London, engineers found wood frame buildings standing amid the wreckage of stone, concrete and steel structures.—Trees.



## BOOK REVIEW

By  
Mrs. Morris Harter



Mrs. M. Harter

superb full color illustrations on 48 plates that are placed in the center of the book, making them more accessible. The contents list Family and Species, Genera, number of color plate where bird is illustrated, and the page where one can find a full discussion of each species. These discussions include identification, habits, voices, nest and range. To make the best use of this book it is essential that you read the foreword thoroly

Audubon Bird Guide, Land Birds of Eastern and Central North America, by Richard H. Pough, Research Associate, National Audubon Society. Published by Doubleday & Co., Inc., Garden City, N. Y. Price \$3.

One seldom finds a book so nearly perfect as this one. It is a sturdily constructed volume of encyclopedic nature, yet small enough to carry in your pocket when taking a walk in the country. There are over 400 really

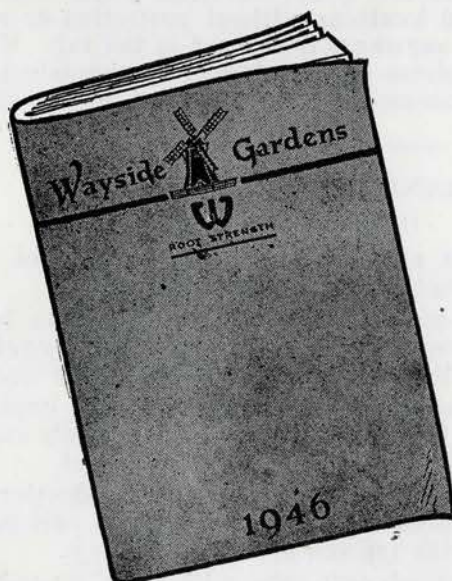
and follow its valuable suggestions. If you wish to make a more detailed study of certain phases of bird life there is a four-page bibliography of references for each phase. This is undoubtedly the best bird book for this section, in a lower price range. It would be advisable to get a copy now and study it before the birds start to make their spring appearance, then they may be readily identified. It covers everything you want to know about birds, calls, songs, flight, nests, eggs, range, color, size, plumage, food, habits, etc., of land birds north of Mexico and east of central Nebraska.

## Book Review by Mrs. H. N. Dybvig

The Art of Flower Arrangement, by Tatsuo Ishimoto. Published by Crown Publishers, 429 Fourth Ave., New York 16, N. Y. Price \$2.50. Tatsuo Ishimoto uses a new approach to the subject of arranging flowers, in his book, the Art of Flower Arrangement. Instead of beginning with rules, he gives us the delightful suggestion to take a walk in the garden and into the woods to observe how flowers and other plant material is arranged in nature. He explains that flower arrangement is a natural art; and as nature is a

(Continued on Page 48)

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**Wayside Gardens**

Mentor, Ohio





## FRUIT IN NORTH DAKOTA

By  
Dr. G. F. Will



DR. G. F. WILL

A long time resident of the State asked me the other day if it really was possible and practical to grow any fruit in North Dakota and, if so, just what kinds. In spite of publicity on the subject of adapted fruit and a good deal of extension service work, it would seem that there is still a very considerable lack of information on this subject.

Fruit growing in our state has come a long way since its first settlement but this development has been confined largely to a few enthusiasts. In fact only as our residents gradually cease to look on North Dakota as a mine or source of wealth to be spent elsewhere as soon as any considerable amount has been acquired does interest in more permanent crops and homes appear.

Meantime in the past forty years through the efforts of Prof. Hansen of the South Dakota Experiment Station in South Dakota, of Prof. Yeager, formerly of our A. C., of the Northern Great Plains Station of Mandan, of the Morden Dominion Station at Morden, Manitoba and of the Minnesota Fruit Breeding Farm a very large number of new fruit varieties adapted to Great Plains conditions have been produced and distributed.

A catalog of fruits suited to our conditions will surprise many of our residents. Of course certain rules must be observed in making fruit plantings, but that is true in New England and Iowa as well as North Dakota. The first essential is a proper location for the fruit plot. Any fairly marked depression and particularly a sloping sided coulee if properly drained, is very satisfactory. A wind break around the north and west is pretty necessary and sometimes it is carried across the south also. Fruit should not be planted too close to the windbreak which exhausts the soil moisture for quite a distance on either side.

The list of different fruits which we can rather easily raise is somewhat surprising. Among the small fruits may be mentioned strawberries, raspberries, black raspberries, gooseberries, currants and sandcherries. Strawberries to give really good results should be planted where some water may be supplied during the bearing season, and should be covered in the winter. Raspberries of which there are a number of adapted varieties may be covered for winter but it is by no means

absolutely necessary. As to currants the regular cultivated red and white varieties are adapted, and we also have the native black and the large fruited buffalo current. Juneberries or Saskatoons are also well worth cultivating and are perhaps our native fruits with the greatest development possibilities. Work is being done with them at several experiment stations. Gooseberries produced by Prof. Yeager will succeed anywhere.

Sandcherries have given us a number of extremely hardy and delicious selections and hybrids which are outstandingly suited to North Dakota. Included among them are the Tom Thumb, Champa, Oka, Compass and Dura. In the way of Plums, there is now a list of perfectly hardy large and sweet fruited varieties which are adapted to every part of the state. These have been bred from our native wild plum, from the Canadian wild plum and from combinations of them with the more tender varieties from the east and west.

There is a very long list of crab apples and a number of excellent quality large apples which seem to be entirely at home far north into Canada. These must of course be budded or grafted on extra hardy roots.

There are several varieties of apricots which have been developed for harsh conditions and seem to be entirely at home in the Northern Plains. There are also several kinds of hardy pears, some developed in Manitoba, which seem to withstand the vagaries of our climate, and there are several grape varieties which survive in sheltered locations without protection or may be planted anywhere if covered in the fall. That about completes our list but it is certainly long enough to assure us of lots of fruit for our diet.

## MANITOBA NEWS LETTER

(Continued from Page 37)

agreed that at least one thing in favor of the worms is that they make good fish bait).

A pool on the backyard lawn should be level and not surrounded with any planting. If against shrubbery the pool is partly banked with plants.

Select slow-growing plants which improve with age. They tend to be durable, easily cared for, and will tolerate considerable neglect.

Almost any soil can be made productive if generous amounts of barnyard manure, acid peat, humus or rich top soil are worked into it.

Ground fresh corn cobs, with sizes to one-half inch makes an excellent mulch for roses, evergreens and plants.



## FRUIT AND VEGETABLE NOTES

By  
F. X. Wallner



F. X. Wallner

The first day of February is sunny, bright and cold here. Yesterday, Sunday, was one of those exceptional days, wet, heavy snow in the heights and the east side, a snow we sometimes like to see in S. D. in April. Sure glad we did not go to Mt. Hood as radio reports tell of a young married soldier found standing frozen just a short distance from Timbalid Lodge. I still have notions that should a volcano erupt a mass of molten rock up the Columbia gorge, about the size of Mt. Hood, this Coast range would always be warm and moist. To build a big dam or iron curtain over the river should be given more serious thought, maybe. The freeze and drought down in California has boosted fruits and vegetables still higher. South African chinker'nchee or chinks were sent by mail from Cape Town Nov. 1st, came by boat all the way, arrived New Year's eve; stems were waxed for the long journey. "Rose Day" is the mum for 1948, and all mum growers will plant it in hopes of having the prize bloom this fall. A Christmas cactus 12 years old with branches 47 inches long, 54 inches across and about 500 buds was shown at the meeting. A damaged amaryllis bulb was thrown into a sawdust pile in the cellar last fall, bloomed early in February and won a prize. A nurseryman planted two oriental shrubs for the two New Year's babies born in 1948. Seven autos have slipped from the icy highways the past seven days and all were drowned in the rivers. Today I walked about 50 blocks to the east side to look up U. C. Narver, for Mr. Simmons; I find he edits a Hort. magazine for the Oregon State Grange. Also went thru Grand Central market, a full block under one roof containing most everything, but few customers for such a big store. The bulbs and plants looked dried out, and I was not tempted to buy. In another big packing shed Italians were handfilling cellophane bags with 8 oz. salad mix. Today a hunter brot in 5 cougars, \$50 state bounty, \$10 county bounty and \$10 to \$25 for each hide, a very profitable hunt. Feb. 3rd. Today I had a choice of pruning demonstration in the country, or a school here in Portland. I went to school, a retail produce school sponsored by the Merchandising Institute of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture and the United Fruit and Vegetable As-

sociation. This is the fourth city of the nation to have this school. A class of about 12 grocery store managers takes the course, lasting one day. A different group comes each morning, for the next two months. The most important lesson taught was how to know how to keep vegetables for 2 or 3 days overnight. Water, ice and cold moisture for all solid vegetables and root crops. All these vegetables are about 90% water and were kept fresh in a common barrel with crushed ice, and wet sack over the top, while vegetables over night in a basket or on the shelf were wilted and were second grade produce. Seven and a half billion was spent for produce the past year and 507 pounds is now the average per person a year, but dieticians say it should be 728 pounds. The public library here is a big, busy place, 4 or 5 floors, covers a block. I have been looking thru 25 or 30 directories for an address but could not find it. I noticed that they put up a card "Guide to the law of libel," "Dangerous words": Grafters, liar, skunk, hypocrit, blackmailer, thief, swindler, drunkard, crook, slicker, fraud, bigamist, slanderer, seducer, communist, libeler, forger, adulterer, imbecile, so be careful. Feb. 11th. Left Portland early by bus for a road trip to Mt. Hood. Most cheerful careful driver, greets all truckers; no snow till we reach Sandy. From there on east snow is deep, several snow plows working; considerable activity at Gov. camp 8 miles from Timberline, all put on chains there; skiers pack the bus full to return to the Lodge. They have made the 8-mile trip down the mountain this morning; many places the drifts are higher than the bus and the road only a big cut in the drifts; cold and clear at the Lodge, many skiers, the lift is taking them a mile higher, but not others nor me as we have no skis nor snow shoes so we can get down, and they will not let us make the round trip because of the deep snow. A big blower was clearing the roads and parking space; costs the Gov. big money for snow removal. About 12 ft. of snow here and the short distance to the lift, most of us without skis or snow shoes, broke thru to our knees. The Lodge is 6,000 ft. up, the top 3 1/2 miles more, or 11,245 feet. Mt. Jefferson is 46 miles south. The bus left at 3 for the return trip; no sign of skiers or bob sleds but there are slides in many places on the mountains. It would be fun to be on a bob or toboggan coasting on the 8 miles to Gov. camp. We also pass Barlow trail, often mentioned in "Lost Mountains." Daughter Margaret May has taken 6 mos. leave from Safeway stores to enter Toller Drug at Sioux City, Ia. Lincoln's birthday we spent at the Grotto. If ever you travel this way you must spend a few

(Continued on Page 44)





## IRIS GLEANINGS

By

Rev. E. L. Jackson



E. L. Jackson

but also tops the Symposium this year.

This past week when the weather was a little mild I went thru my patch and was surprised how good it looked this year. Altho the new plantings have a thin cover of straw over them I notice that the William Mohrs look fresh and green where I thought there would be only a vacant space and so while there are many misses there will be a grand start for another year and the rest of the patch looks now, in this preview, as though it might come thru in good shape.

Bulletin 108 which has just arrived has so much that is good in it that no real Iris enthusiast would care to be without it. It is published without profit by the National Society at Nashville, Tenn. By the way I am hoping that the National Society affiliates this year with the National Horticultural Society. Our own State Horticulture ought also to affiliate as it would save its membership \$1.00 a year on the National Horticultural Quarterly. So here is hoping. Its cost is very small compared with the benefits. It, after all, is the daddy or perhaps I should say "the mother" of all Horticultural quarteries and it would do us and them good to know each other better. How about it, Mr. Secretary? This last issue of the Bulletin of the American Iris Society is dedicated to the memory of that gracious lady, Grace Sturtevant, who has just passed on home and I should like to dedicate my current article to the gracious lady who has been the "mistress of the manse" for the past 25 years and who this past week was promoted by the Great Gardener of us all to the Celestial Gardens. I shall miss her wise council and help for all along the way she has been the authority on botany in our home and has loved flowers as well as I do. I shall miss her careful help in labeling and cataloging and

Just a year ago I was writing to the Bulletin about the Judges Symposium for 1946 and here it is another year, the 1947 Symposium is out and we are trying to catch our breather over the decisions of the Judges. Kenneth Smith again has done a grand job and there is a new champion which I am afraid will not be seen in many gardens as the stock is scarce and the price is high. Chivalry, by Jesse Wills has won both the Dykes medal

note books. Not long ago she said to me, "Will you be carrying on this summer?" and knowing what she was thinking I said, "Yes, I will," and she smiled and seemed content.

So look for your regular column this year the same as last and I shall try to make it worthy and helpful to the average grower and lover of Iris. I am glad I am not behind the door when Mr. Simmons corrects my typing for I know there is nothing heavenly about it. But what I don't hear doesn't bother me at all. I still hunt and peck. When the next issue comes along the first dwarfs will be in bloom and I am not sure but that I love them best of all. They will be followed by the intermediates and who does not glory in the purity of their colors. I am forever grateful that I have known them especially the Sass and Hill originations. They have what it takes to stand our northwest winds and the chill of April. And then the glory of the Iris world, the Tall Bearded. I hope some of you will visit the plantings this summer when you go thru and I shall do my best to play host to you. I am planning on extending my hedge and may try something new. Drop in and see what you think of Zabel Honeysuckle as a hedge plant.

Plan this year on a few new plants and get the best ones you can afford. Not too many but get quality Iris and start building a lot of joy both for yourself and others.

## FRUIT AND VEGETABLE NOTES

(Continued from Page 43)

hours here; cars from all states are here, about 18 acres on the lower level and 40 acres 150 ft. higher up. The largest collection of evergreens I have ever seen. Flowers, ferns and greenery up to the altar steps, chapel and sanctuary. St. Ann's chapel is filled with Madonnas from all over the world. Some produce has come down in price but some fruits and vegetables are going still higher here. California growers are reported spending millions to save their crops from frost and drought. Onions at 15 cents per lb. is highest ever here, rutabagas are cheap at 4c, but parsnips, turnips and carrots are 10c to 15c per lb., potatoes \$5 to \$6 per 100 lbs. An 8 oz. cello salad package retails for 15 cents. This is something I would like to pack for our market, next summer.

Price of pork is higher'n a cat's back if you get it at the butcher shop. It's about the same as always if you get it across the fence of some city slicker that's farmin' to cut his income tax.—Foxtail in Prairie Farmer.



## SECRETARY'S CORNER

By

W. A. Simmons



W. A. Simmons

According to the Maryland Fruit Growers' News Letter, peach growers have been getting poor results from para-di-chloro-benzene, as a control of the peach tree borer, of late. Some think this is due to a poor product, while others think it was due to cold weather in the fall. But whatever the reason, many are now using DDT for this purpose. The recommendation is to use 6 lbs. of 50% DDT powder to 100 gals. of spray, and apply this to the trunks and lower branches, using about one quart per tree. For the Maryland climate they recommend applying this about July 25th, with a second spray about 30 days later. Here our battle with the borer is mostly on our plum trees, and there don't seem to be so many of them as there was 20 years ago. Probably the presence in our grounds of many sparrows may account for the borers ceasing to be a problem. Under date of Jan. 27th, from Donna, Texas, Mr. Geo. W. Gurney writes as follows: "I was just reading one of the local paper's Garden club news, which reminded me of you, and the Hort. Society. The Garden clubs are very active down here the year around, as they plant every month of the year. Eighty per cent of the roads have citrus groves on both sides. The other 20% have large vegetable farms, carrots, beets, cabbage, lettuce and onions predominate; the tomatoes look sick, due to frosts. The citrus growers are not happy over conditions, but the vegetable growers are doing well. Mexicans do all of the work; they look well, keep reasonably clean and most of them are thrifty. The story is different on the Mexican side. I was thrilled at the sight of the citrus groves, and the palms, which are planted extensively along the roadsides and in the parks and boulevards. but after being here two weeks, I wonder if the large palms are real beautiful. The natives refer to one variety as the "shirt tail" palm, due to the dead leaves hanging below the live ones. There are several varieties that are real beautiful; they don't seem to grow so tall. I have been learning to identify the trees and shrubs, and do get a kick out of it. The best tree in the valley seems to be the southern ash. The hackberry is fairly good but can't compare with its northern sister. The live oak does not

seem to grow here but are plentiful north of here. John Taylor and his good wife are here and we are enjoying the sunny days, and cussing the cloudy, cold ones. I have read of some very cold weather up there; it has frosted twice down here." The American Cyanamid Co. has brot out a new insecticide which they have named Thio-phos 3422, which is said to control some insects better than DDT. It was tried on a limited scale in 1947 and will be available in 1948. It was termed one of the most promising of the new insecticides by Ray Hutson, entomologist at the Michigan Expt. Station. Quick kills of roaches, cabbage worms, grasshoppers, blister beetles, plant lice and mites, are claimed for it. They caution, however, that it is toxic to warm-blooded animals, which I suppose means red-headed people, just how much so will have to be determined by further tests. According to Capper's Farmer our poultryman at State College, William Kohlmeier, has found it possible to repair cracked hatching eggs with Scotch tape so as to get a 50% hatch from them, in incubators. Under hens or turkeys, the success might not have been as great, as they might get crushed, as they naturally would not have been as strong as perfect eggs. In Editor Campfield's fine Virginia report appears an article by Dr. Geo. D. Oberle, formerly at the Geneva, N. Y., station, but now of the V. P. I., Blacksburg, Va., on the N. Y. Experiment Station plant; excerpts from which follow: "Much of the reputation of the New York Station can be traced back to the early work in variety testing. Extensive variety testing must precede and accompany any breeding program. It is necessary that the breeder should know what is already available in the Hort. world in order that he may know what varieties to use as parents in his breeding program and also that he may not waste a lot of time and effort in trying to produce a type which may already be in existence somewhere in the world. For these reasons the workers at the N. Y. Station have brot together a huge collection of trees and small fruit varieties. In 1942 the Station's plantings included 514 varieties of apples, 206 varieties of pears, 146 peaches, 100 plums, 102 sweet cherries, 83 sour cherries, 485 grapes, 128 raspberries, 98 strawberries and a host of blackberries, currants, gooseberries, filberts, walnuts and other less important kinds of fruits and nuts. A continuous cycle of new material is being brot in to replace material that has been given trial, evaluated and discarded." With so many existing varieties to work with, it is small wonder that this Station turns out so many good new sorts. The author

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By  
Carl Christol



The immediate concern of the members of garden clubs is to join and aid in the vast American undertaking of providing food and clothing for the suffering, undernourished and starving peoples of the world. It is not only that the unfortunate and unhappy millions have not nearly enough food, but what they have is not at all a properly balanced diet. Growing children not only are suffering now, but as a result of the long malnutrition, they will not develop into happy and satisfied men and women. As a result of their present untoward experiences they will be handicapped physically, mentally and morally for the rest of their lives. In the United Nations, it is to our own advantage that all the nations of the earth live on a prosperous and cultured foundation.

The so-called Marshall Plan envisages and provides for two things, namely to send much needed food abroad and to furnish the people with the necessary means to help themselves as speedily as possible. Among other things, we are expected to send farm and garden equipment such as seeds, tools and machinery.

In the last two issues of this magazine I have pled the cause of Twenty Million Freedom Gardens. It may be stated again that a great deal of preliminary planning and organization is necessary. Many of the gardens not only will have to be on the outskirts of cities and towns but even some miles out in the country. Many of the families have no cars. The problem of transportation to and from the gardens will be difficult to solve. Families may organize themselves into groups and either have a community garden or at least have their individual plots together.

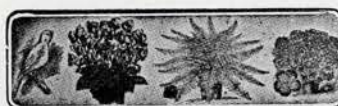
In past years, people working in the same factories, business establishments, offices and buildings, or living in the same neighborhood have formed common plans and worked their gardens together. They not only have had remarkable success in their immediate undertaking, but have received many social and recreative benefits as well. Some associations have raised from \$75 to \$100 worth of vegetables per person. During the present world food emergency, real sacrifices on the part of all of us is urgently requested.

It would be a splendid thing for us to give up some of our other recreations and concentrate our efforts on gardening, on raising and conserving food products. For that matter, we could well compete and vie with each other in the raising of the best gardens. Junior gardeners may earn the Liberty Hyde Bailey medal. Even with the utmost endeavors and the best of intentions, it will be impossible to supply the needs. We can do much, however, to alleviate the intense suffering. May we urge our garden clubs to establish centrally located offices where garden information is made available? Literature, catalogs and personal advice should be made accessible.

As stated, the Marshall Plan includes not only sending food to the countries of Western Europe, but also, sending the means with which they can as speedily as possible become an economic going concern again. It is impossible for America to provide all the food that is needed. It is also impossible to furnish all the seed and other equipment that are lacking and required. The National Council of State Garden Clubs, the American Garden Institute and other benevolent associations have started a nation-wide movement to solicit funds with which to purchase seeds. The slogan is **Send Seeds of Peace**. It seems to me that no finer appeal to our good will and love of mankind can be manifested by us than the sending of Seeds of Peace. "Food means peace. A tiny seed takes a small space in shipping, but this precious cargo carries with it the miracle of life and gift of hope and friendship—it will be planted with the knowledge and assurance of your interest and concern for its welfare, and in the realization that you have sent and will continue to send the Seeds of Peace." Seeds of thirteen kinds of vegetables in garden units to plan approximately 360 square feet of ground, enough to sustain a family of five, will be contributed by members of the garden clubs and state federations in a national project. The garden units will cost only 50 cents—the retail value of which is \$1.65. Mrs. Helen B. Hull, the president of our National Council, states, "This is a very low price to pay for the satisfaction of saving from hunger a family of five." The Chairman and Treasurer for the National Council, Mrs. Nicholas J. Mertens, 4 Harvard Avenue, Tuckahoe, New York, will receive all money and order the garden units as fast as donations come in. Mrs. T. H. Everett, the Horticultural Consultant, with a representative of the Burpee Seed company and a representative of the Church World Service comprise the committee to determine the selection of seeds suitable for the conditions, climate and food hab

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## DDT AS AN INSECTICIDE AGAINST THE ONION MAGGOT

By

Dr. J. A. Munro, Entomologist  
NDAC Experiment Station



J. A. Munro

for examination were taken at random from well distributed points throughout the plantings.

There was slight variation in the maggot incidence in the samples examined from field plantings, but wide variation in samples taken from gardens. This is probably due to a combination of factors including (1) the wider assortment of varieties grown in the small garden plantings, and (2) the fact that the small plantings were in the city where the closer proximity of gardens probably contributed to heavier infestations.

The heaviest infestation encountered in the small garden plantings examined, was a victory garden planting which included both the "Shalot" onions and "Bermudas" grown from seedlings. The "Shallots" were apparently 100% infested, while the nearby planting of "Bermudas" showed less than 10%.

To test the effectiveness of DDT, it was decided to treat one-half of the plot of "Shallot" onions and leave the balance untreated. The treatment given consisted of a suspension of 1 ounce of 25% DDT in one gallon of water. The mixture was applied from a garden sprayer (with the nozzle removed) to the base of the plants, as a coarse stream. Only enough spray was applied to dampen the soil at the base of each plant. The application was made promptly after the maggots were first observed—before the plants began to "go down."

Within four days after the application of the DDT, it was apparent that the damage to the treated plants had been arrested; the plants in the untreated portion of the plot, however, showed rapid deterioration. A final examination made

three weeks following the application of the DDT suspension showed 90% survival of the onions in the treated portion of the plot as contrasted with a 12% survival in the untreated portion. It was also noted for the surviving plants, that the treated plants showed a marked increase in growth over the untreated survivors. At the examination made three weeks following the treatment, a measurement of the surviving plants showed the treated plants to average 16 inches high, while the untreated survivors averaged 11¼ inches. It was apparent that the more vigorous growth and greater survival of the treated plants was due to the DDT destroying the maggots. The results, while of a preliminary nature, point the way to more effective control of a pest which has at times caused serious loss to growers.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from Page 46)

its of the countries to which the seeds are to be sent.

By the time the March issue of our magazine reaches the readers Spring will be here. Speed is of the essence. Collect and send the money to Mrs. Mertens before April 1st, if possible. It is hoped that at least as many dollars will be sent for this wonderful undertaking, Seeds of Peace, as we have members in our South Dakota Federation.

## TOMATO DIP

Early-set tomato plants can be protected from leaf-feeding insects by a New Jersey Experiment Station treatment. Tops of plants are dunked in an insect poison as they are set. The dip is a mixture of one half pound of acid lead arsenate to 12½ gallons of water with enough summer spray oil to give one fourth of 1 per cent oil.—Capper's Farmer.

Don't tell me people can't have foot-and-mouth disease. There's millions so sick in the feet they can't start walkin', and so sick in the mouth they can't stop talking.—Foxtail in Prairie Farmer.

Kids don't have to go to school to be smarter'n most grown-ups. But they need a whole lot more'n schoolin' to get by in the world the way it is today.—Foxtail in Prairie Farmer.

Won't be long now till we'll have somebody besides the Weather Bureau to blame if we're short of moisture. We'll cuss out the rainmakers' union.





### BOOK REVIEWS

(Continued from Page 41)

rule breaker, we may be justified in following her example, if we so desire. Most of the written material in the book is used to explain the 150 easy to follow, step by step photographs with the 78 master flower arrangements which use the common garden flowers such as aster, sweet peas, dahlias, gladiolus, zinnia, daisies and other well known flowers. Some of the photographs explain the following subjects. Containers come first; tools are few, but important. Flowers wake up a room and if you don't have your own garden, he tells about the different kinds of flowers that are good buys at the florists. This book should prove very helpful to anyone in arranging flowers for the home and invaluable to those who bring their arrangements to flower shows.

#### Book Review by W. A. Simmons

The Lazy Gardener, by William C. Pryor. Published by Longmans, Green & Co., 55 Fifth Ave., New York 11, N. Y. Price \$3.

This is a very interesting book, giving many short cuts for gardeners, saving much labor in doing the things needful for maintaining a healthy and productive garden both of flowers and vegetables. The author takes up the months as they come with the needful work to be done in each, and then another chapter which elaborates on the work, with the easy way to do them. While the author takes up the various garden pests and ways to circumvent them, he admits that there is one destructive pest he has never found any adequate remedy for. This is the neighbor's small boy, who is very fond of tulips and other showy flowers, and wanders in when there is no one on guard and pulls up the flowers he admires. He always has his suspicions as to the culprit, but never can get any proof. While written about the conditions surrounding his home in northern Virginia, he warns of different conditions farther north, or south. It is a very readable book, and while enjoying the interesting text, one absorbs many gardening points that he may not have known before.

#### SECRETARY'S CORNER

(Continued from Page 45)

proceeds with "The need for carrying on work in fruit breeding is based on the assumption that all of our existing varieties have some inherent weakness. Examples of this are the poor fruit qualities of the Ben Davis apple, the susceptibility to diseases, such as the scab of McIntosh, as well as it not turning out a good processed pro-

duct; the poor storing quality of Rhode Island Greening, since it scalds badly, etc." Mrs. Bertha Trask, of Terry, Mont., just sent in her renewal and with it a new member; of such is our Hort. kingdom of heaven. She writes: "There has been some trouble of fruit trees not blooming and bearing apples when they had spurs to bloom, but did not bloom. I have found if you fertilize them with barnyard manure real good and work it in the ground around the tree as far or farther than the limbs of the tree, the tree will bloom and bear fruit the next year, and thereafter. I have done it, and my friends too, and it worked all right."

The ferocious, bellowing Brahman bulls which travel the rodeo circuits today are descendants of Zebu, the sacred cow of India. These humpbacked animals are portrayed in ivory, stone, and earthenware dating back to 3,000 B. C. The hump on the Brahman's back is not skin, bone, and gristle, but good, tender meat—makes a good pot roast. From the skin glands of this animal exudes a secretion which keeps flies and other insects away.—Capper's Farmer.

Why shouldn't the guvverment control the cost of livin'? It controls the kind of livin' we do.—Foxtail in Prairie Farmer.

## The PIONEER SEED HOUSE

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