

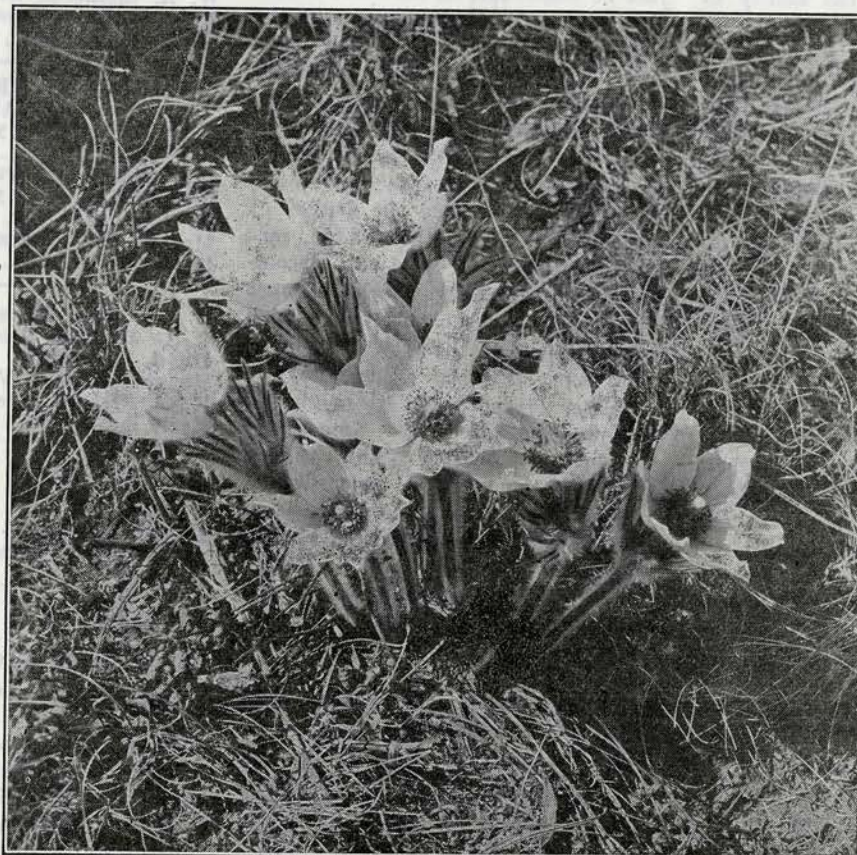
# NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

APRIL, 1951

SOUTH DAKOTA  
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Crocuses

Gold and purple crocuses, happy thots they bring,  
First among the messages of the coming spring.  
Purple as the twilight mist, golden as the sun,  
Straight and strong because frost kissed them |  
everyone.

—Marian A. Bowers.



## BAIRD'S SANDPIPER

By

O. A. Stevens



O. A. Stevens

Some of the bird watchers have become as enthusiastic over sandpipers as sportsmen over ducks. No doubt these birds have a considerable appeal. They are extensive travelers and move in large

flocks of mixed species. These flocks are a familiar sight along shores during migration. There are many similar species and the recognition of them taxes the ability of the observer.

The present species is a good sample. It nests along the Arctic coast from Alaska to Baffin Island "and probably Greenland." For the winter it makes the long trip to Chile or Patagonia. During migrations it is seen from the Mississippi Valley westward and perhaps this is why it was not recognized until described by Elliot Coues in 1861. Most of our species had been recognized long before that date.

Spencer F. Baird first came to notice when as a boy of 17 he wrote to Audubon that he thought he had found two new species of flycatchers. These were no other than our familiar least flycatcher (See July 1941 issue) and the yellow-bellied flycatcher which Spencer and his brother William formally described in 1843. Later Baird described three more flycatchers from the southwestern states. He described many other birds and animals, was the first curator of the National Bureau and a leading scientist of that day.

There is further reason for overlooking this sandpiper. Dr. Roberts commented that this "plain-colored" species is one of the most difficult of the smaller shore birds to recognize. \* \* \* It has no prominent distinguishing field marks peculiar to itself, possessing characters common to several of the smaller waders." The present writer then can be excused from attempting to tell the beginner how to recognize the bird.

Explorers in the north have found only a few nests. They are placed in

low grassland and usually have four eggs which are about an inch and a quarter long, pinkish buff, spotted with brown. The birds do not reach their nesting ground until the last of May and by late August all have left for the south.

Wetmore, in his winter travel in South America, noted only three birds of this species at Buenos Aires on March 5. Oberholser reported it very rare in Louisiana in migration. Its principal migration route is between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains.

## MULCHES

There are several so-called unseen or invisible benefits of mulches for the flower garden which are probably just as important as moisture retention, states D. C. Kiplinger, of the Dept. of Horticulture at the Ohio Agri. Expt. Station. Such materials as manure contain some nitrogen fertilizer, provided the manure is not too well rotted. Altho fresh manure is objectionable because of its bad odor, weed seeds, and the danger of the fumes burning the foliage, manure that is only partially decomposed is an excellent mulch. Manure also contains other substance which are beneficial to the growth of plants. Peat moss may be either acid or alkaline, depending on its origin. It seldom contains any appreciable amount of fertilizer and certain types, as the sphagnum peat, decomposes slowly. Ground corn cobs is an excellent material for a mulch. The presence of this raw organic matter stimulates the development of microorganisms, and they utilize soil nitrogen for their growth. Liberal and frequent applications of nitrogenous fertilizer are necessary when ground corn cobs are used as mulch. Cobs also loosen heavy, tight soils and permit better drainage. Chopped straw is often used as a winter mulch and should be allowed to remain on the soil. Its decomposition requires the use of nitrogenous fertilizers to prevent starvation of the plants. There is some fire hazard if the straw becomes dry. No matter what material is used, it should be applied to a depth of at least two inches. Less than this doesn't accomplish the desired purpose and greater depths may encourage stem rot.—Trees.

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South Dakota • HORTICULTURE



## FRUIT GROWING IN SOUTH DAKOTA

By  
C. A. Nash, Platte



When North and South Dakota Horticulture was first published a large proportion of it was devoted to fruit growing. Now, to my dismay, there is seldom an article by a fruit grower who is not employed by some Agricultural College, or Experiment Station, and but few of these.

I love flowers, and flower gardens, but I also like to hear of the experience of people who have actually tried fruit growing for the pleasure and profit they can get out of it. As one of the members of the Society aptly put it some years ago: "Fruit growing has moved northward some two hundred miles in the last twenty years" and we hear but little of the adaptability of the new varieties, and how they compare in hardiness, desert and cooking qualities with such older sorts as the Wealthy. Judging from the little that does appear, they are far superior, and from the limited experience I have had, I find the claims of the originators very well substantiated.

I enjoy and get much help from articles by Leslie of Manitoba and Graves of North Dakota, and the few we have had from McCrory of Brookings, but conditions in Manitoba, and even in North Dakota, are not the same as in Southern South Dakota where I live.

Having been a life member of the Society for some twenty-six years, I will endeavor to pay back some of the indebtedness I owe the society for the inspiration, information and pleasure I have had out of the Reports and Magazines during these many years, if our excellent Secretary deems my contribution worthy of a place in the magazine.

In 1944 I started a four acre orchard and windbreak. I had long been a member of the Society, but having been engaged in educational work, I had to wait for a more settled existence before I could try out the prac-

tices of John Robertson so eloquently advocated.

Around my orchard I set out a windbreak consisting of a row of Black Hills Pines, a row of mulberries and other rows consisting of buffalo berries, Russian olives, Black Hills spruce, hackberries, ash, elm, oak and boxelder. The Russian mulberries not only made the best windbreak and snowbreak, but also provided an abundance of fruit which the birds prefer to any strawberries, raspberries, cherries, or any other fruit I grow, so long as they last, and that takes care of everything but the apples and pears. When I said that the windbreak was around the orchard I referred to the north, west and south sides, only. The east I left open for ventilation and to avoid frost pockets.

In selecting my fruit trees I disregarded Robertson's very good advice to confine my selections to a few of the best commercial sorts, and tried everything of promise advocated by the more reliable nurseries of North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota, even including a few of the hardier from Iowa. I was influenced in this by the fact that John Robertson has not been with us to try out the newer sorts which were not available in his day. Of course I have more Haralson and Wealthy apples than any of the newer sorts and more of the Opata Sapa and Kaga plums than of any other plums, but the real thrill comes from trying out what seem to be in this region the unsung old sorts. To 'summon' standbys I added apricots, pears, Nanking cherries, sand cherries, June berries, gooseberries, currants, raspberries and strawberries.

Not one of these fruits has failed, except that a few of the apples and pears have not yet come into bearing. In my opinion all have proved worth while, except the sand cherries. These may be all right if one cannot produce better fruit, but why waste time and valuable space on a fruit that after all is little but "skin and bones" and that cannot stand "prosperity" when better fruit is so easy to grow.

The Kochia, or Mexican fire weed has been the greatest obstacle to my success in the orchard. Whenever growth makes it no longer possible to cultivate with tractor, and acreage

makes the hoeing of trees impractical, Kochia takes over, even in the shaded areas of the windbreak where forest conditions should prevail. A well grown Kochia is a tree in itself and doesn't seem to suffer much from the competition of the trees. I have cut them off two times in a season with the scythe, but still they thrive and raise an enormous crop of seed.

So far my greatest success has been with Ruddy raspberries. I have also tried Latham, Chief, Sunrise, Taylor, Sodus and Cumberland. Of these Chief did the best, but even it was far behind the Ruddy in earliness and production. Late frosts and hail have never spoiled a crop of them. While the yield has not been phenomenal, it has been very gratifying, considering that they have never been covered in winter, nor irrigated in the driest season. In 1950 when small grain hardly paid for the threshing in this area, my raspberries produced about 1,500 pints from an original planting of about 300 bushes. Their yield per plant has not varied much in the three years they have been in production. As for quality, one customer who has spent much time in the berry producing area of Washington and Oregon, thinks they are wonderful. He calls them seedless raspberries. They are the surest fruit I have.

Our strawberries have been somewhat of a disappointment. They require much more handwork, and with my acreage they must of necessity be somewhat neglected. The May 11 frost of 1947 killed back all of the fruit buds of that year since I had no everbearing at that time. The everbearing do not seem to be able to take the drought as well as the raspberries, and do not do well unless we have a wet fall. In 1950 one patch of well mulched everbearing strawberries produced excellent berries which went like hot cakes while those which had not been mulched were hard to sell at any price.

The Pixwell gooseberries do very well here. Some of our plants bear as much as three gallons per bush. I like the sauce from them about as well as any kind of sauce we have except raspberries. We like them very much when canned with mulberries, June berries or currants. With mulberries they are often mistaken by the uninitiated for some

(Continued on Page 52)



## NEWSLANTS

By  
Harry Graves



H. A. Graves

Forty-two annual flowering plants are briefly described in Farmers' Bulletin No. 1171, "Growing Annual Flowering Plants." Authored by S. L. Emsweller of the USDA Station at Beltsville, the bulletin has 26 pages and the cultural information can be applied thruout the country. This bulletin was revised in October, 1950, so is spanking new. Many of our readers will want it. You can get it from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D. C. The cost is 15c.

It seems that geese will keep the weeds down very satisfactorily in a strawberry planting. George Slate of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station has this to say about the practice: "To put it briefly, it works. Where can you buy a hired man for \$3.00, work him all summer for his keep, and eat him in the fall?"

R. R. White of Clarksburg, West Virginia, writing in the March issue of The American Fruit Grower, has this to say about Wild White Strawberries: "These strawberries grow wild in this area and were the first ones I knew when I was a child on the farm. The berries are much smaller than the red ones but have a more delicious flavor than any of the red sort I have ever tasted. I have given up hope of ever being able to develop them into a valuable commercial berry, however, because they become soft as soon as ripe and are too mushy to handle and will only keep a short time. Although I have been able to develop them into a much larger berry than the original, I do not believe they will ever become valuable unless by cross-breeding."

Having never seen or tasted white strawberries, I am in a poor position to argue. I do, however, take a dim view of most white fruited sports. White Junberries are different, but not to the good side—quite tasteless.

White fruit of *P. tomentosa* does not sparkle like the red fruit. Likewise in vegetables, yellow, white or orange tomatoes have never caught on. People like a tomato that tastes like a tomato or a juneberry that tastes like a juneberry!

Past President A. L. Truax of Crosby has written another of his fine articles on "Hardy Roses for the Prairies" for the Iowa Rose Society. We are glad these priceless observations are being written down where lazy researchers like the writer of Newslands—and many others—can refer to them over the years. It is a distinct honor to count a layman among our membership who commands such respect.

According to Parks and Recreation magazine, ice from Clear Lake keeps drinking fountains spouting cool water throughout the summer in the city park at Clear Lake, Iowa. Forty tons of ice are cut from the lake each winter and placed in a deep pit in the park. Coils of pipe carry the water among the ice blocks, which last all summer.

You should be reading this in time to drop a card to the Information Dept., N. D. A. C., Fargo, for the free kit of garden information. This kit contains information on varieties, insect control, garden fertilizers, a few garden tools plus other information.

Relatively new vegetable varieties you should try this year include Topcrop and Tendergreen green-podded beans, Miniature Sweet Corn, Burpee's Hybrid Cucumber, Midget Muskmelon and Midget Watermelon. We also plan to plant the new hybrid Sweet Corn from Iowa—Iochief.

Spiderflower, or Cleome, can now be had in three colors. The Pink Queen variety has now been supplemented by a white variety and a new yellow. These three are all recommended by Gretchen Harshbarger, Garden Editor for Household Magazine. I hope to try these three Cleomes. We have a native Cleome in North Dakota. This native is lavender flowered. Also include in your plans some Cuthbertson Sweet Peas. They have done much better for us than Spencers.

Member Andy Fritch of Valley City says Tithonias are a very good annual for the fellow selling flower plants, commercially. The new Tith-

onia, Torch, is also recommended by Miss Harshbarger. Torch is a 1951 All American winner.

Speaking of plants, calls to mind again the new manual by Dr. O. A. Stevens, "Handbook of North Dakota Plants." We understand this book is to be reviewed soon in North and South Dakota Horticulture. We won't try to steal any thunder from the reviewer but suffice it to say that a large number of our members will want a copy of this book for their library.

## FRUIT GROWING IN S. DAK.

(Continued from Page 51)

kind of raspberry or blackberry sauce.

Currants have not borne so well. We have the Red Lake, Cascade and Wilder. I do not believe that they have ever averaged more than a quart per plant, and sometimes they have very little.

My wife is very fond of the Nanking cherries. Some cans are excellent, but to me, some cans of the sauce are rather insipid. I cannot imagine what makes the difference, unless it is the stage of ripeness. Our chief difficulty with these cherries is that when snow blankets the ground so that rabbits cannot get at their usual winter feed they seem to like nothing else so well as a Nanking cherry. Sometimes they have eaten the bark so devastatingly that it seems as though the Nankings would surely perish, but so far every one has survived. Each year I have tried some kind of repellent. It is only the shrub like character of the bush which keeps the rabbits from completely girdling them so that they would die.

Wife (angrily): "And I suppose you expect me to believe you came straight home from the office?"

Husband: "Sure did; just like the crow flies."

Wife: "Yes, so I see; stopping frequently for a little corn."

Visitor: "If your mother gave you a large apple and a small one and told you to divide with your brother, which apple would you give him?"

Johnny: "D'ye mean my big brother or my little one?"



## MANITOBA NEWS LETTER

By  
W. R. Leslie



W. R. Leslie

Hedges of many and diverse kinds are growing successfully across fields and around gardens in prairie Canada. The present discussion is restricted to clipped hedges.

More than 110 kinds of trees and shrubs have been tested in the formal hedge garden at the Experimental Station, Morden, Manitoba. A large proportion has given pleasing results.

Planting is usually done in April. Mid-August is favorable for moving Spruce and other coniferous evergreens. Soil of moderate fertility, free of grass and weeds, and deeply tilled is desired. The land should have free drainage to avoid smothering of roots by ice following winter thaws. A single row is much preferred to a more costly double row. It is more easily kept clean and evenly filled. Spacing of most trees and shrubs is 18 inches. Dwarf edgings as Pigmy Caragana and Dwarf Euonymus are set 8 to 12 inches apart. Evergreens usually are allowed 2 feet of row. The larger Caraganas are usually placed at 12-inch intervals. Deciduous materials are mostly beheaded at a height of 4 to 8 inches. In contrast, evergreens merely have their leaders removed to the first side branches at planting time.

Cultivation should extend at least 2 feet at each side of the row. To invigorate old tired hedges, top dress with partly rotted barnyard manure, grass clippings, or acid peat enriched with commercial fertilizer such as ammonium phosphate.

Clipping is usually done in late June when the main flush of spring growth is slowing. One to three subsequent trimmings will be given most broad-leaved hedges. Siberian Elm and Cherry Prinsepia benefit from three or four shearings. Conifers are clipped once a year, usually in early July. Secondary growth on

side branches soon arises to cover the wounds and re-clothe the trunk.

Desirable deciduous hedge plants possess the ability to put forth a whorl of new branches close to the ground after being cut back severely. Hence a practical manner to rejuvenate an old hedge, such as Caragana, is to cut back the whole row to height of 8 to 18 inches in April. Rampant hedges which have been permitted to become overly-wide, or otherwise out-of-bounds, should be cut back heavily in early spring and reshaped as vigorous shoots arise.

Shape or form of hedge is important. Sunlight is required to stimulate a healthy growth of buds on the lower branches. To maintain health, vigor and shapeliness, the Conic form, resembling the outline of a native Black Spruce, is favored. The resulting hedge is considerably wider at the bottom than at mid-height and comes to a dull point at the top. There are only two sides to shear. Width is restrained with ease. The contour is pleasing to the eye and the hedge should remain serviceable and attractive for a relatively long number of years.

Hedge materials are many. The following are esteemed:

Very dwarf as edgings and pony-sized clipped hedges; Dwarf Euonymus which is almost fully evergreen, Shortleaf Caragana, Pigmy Caragana, Dwarf European Cranberry bush,

Two to four feet height: Tibetan Crabapple, Hedge Cotoneaster, European Cotoneaster, Scotch Rose, Amur Privet, Japanese Barberry, Bush Cinquefoil, Alpine Currant, Garland Spirea, Skunkbush Sumac, Sweetberry Honeysuckle and Winged Euonymus.

Four feet: Cherry Prinsepia, Peeking Cotoneaster, Silver Buffaloberry, Saskatoon, Siberian Dogwood, Siberian Currant, Purpleosier Willow, Littleleaf Linden, Strathmore Crabapple, Spiny Caragana, Chinese Lilac, Vanhoutte Spirea, Altai Rose, and Arborvitae in variety with Ware variety being first choice.

Five feet high: Fireberry, Chinese, Cockspur and Fleshy Hawthorne; Colorado Spruce, White Spruce, Swiss Stone Pine, Rocky Mountain Juniper

if not in vicinity of hawthorne which impart cedar rust, Tamarisk, Siberian Larch, Ural Willow, Amor Maple, Hungarian Lilac, Amur Lilac, Dahurian Buckthorn; Russianolive, and Amur Tamarisk.

Tall Hedges for Screens: Siberian Elm, Nannyberry, Laurel Willow, Redstem Willow, Yellowstem Willow, and Amur Lilac. Some of the subjects listed for restricted hedges may be included here. Probably the most satisfactory species for a quick screen effect is Siberian Elm, Manchurian strain. It is hardy, widely adapted, dense with fine branchlets when clipped and exceptionally rapid in growth. Bear in mind the strain from China, commonly sold in the trade as Chinese Elm, is not dependable owing to its lack of hardiness.

Summer Hedge: Where an edging is desired along a drive or walk for summer beauty, the Morden Pink Lythrum is a pleasing choice. This hardy herbaceous perennial will bloom from June until September. The tops are cut off in October so that they will not catch drifting winter snows to impede the driveway.

Subjects armed with repelling spines or prickles include Barberries, Roses, Prinsepia, Spiny Caragana, Hawthorne, Ussurian Pear, Canada Plum, Buffaloberry, Seabuckthorn, Salt-tree and Tibetan Crabapple.

Winter fruits cling to Buffaloberry, Hawthorne, Barberries, Cotoneasters (Roses, Seabuckthorn and Russianolive).

The lightest and airiest subject for northern hedges appears to be the Amur strain of Fivestamen Tamarisk. Its winter bark is a colorful maroon. It is common practice to cut the canes back to the crown each April.

Emphasis is placed on the duty of restricting plantings of Barberries and Buckthorns to those species recognized as innocent of harboring cereal rusts.

Oculist: "You say you have spots before your eyes?"

Patient: "Yes, sir."

Oculist: "Well, I'll tell you. Just let me fit you with glasses, and you'll be able to see the spots much better."



## GARDEN CLUB GLEANINGS

By  
Mrs. L. N. Brakke



Mrs. L. N. Brakke

By the time this issue of Horticulture reaches you, I hope the snow and severe winter weather is all forgotten and you are busy planning your gardens. The Good Earth Garden club, Brookings, held their birthday Tea Feb. 21st; 120 guests signed the register. The social afternoon opened with the group singing America. A panel discussion was held on birds with Mrs. D. S. Baughman, Miss Ruth Habeger and Mrs. E. Dobler of Madison taking part. A vocal solo, "In My Garden," was sung by Dadee Bruce. Dr. S. A. McCrory gave a very interesting and instructive talk on trees and shrubs. There were 12 beautifully decorated cakes, one for each month. Mrs. Fred Aeltas, club president, presided at the silver service, corsages were presented to each of the Madison speakers and three flower arrangements were given as prizes. About 50 floral arrangements were brot by the club members. Visiting clubs came from Madison's two clubs, Watertown, Huron and Flandreau. New officers for Yankton Garden club are: President, Mrs. A. Bjornsen. vice president, Harry Robinson; secretary, Miss Emma Meistrik, and treasurer, Miss Lucy French. "His Way With Sweet Peas," a man's idea in regard to preparing the seed bed, planting and care of sweet peas, was given by Mrs. Van Tassel at the Iroquois Garden club and proved most interesting. "Plant Miller, to Plant South Dakota" was the subject given by Mr. H. N. Dybvig at the Community Garden club. Color movies, pictures of Miller gardens taken last summer were shown. The Miller ladies are helping with the new club being organized at Wessington Springs, also have a Junior Garden club in view. An interesting chalk talk on landscaping, showing good and bad examples, by Mr. D. E. Johnson, the club president, was given at the Sioux Falls Garden club meeting. The club remembered the Red Cross with a \$5

donation. Colored slides of wild flowers were shown by Mr. C. W. Heinson. The club's year books are to be mailed to Mrs. Oscar McFarling, Box 739, Huron, before June 1st. If you have an extra book, send it to Mrs. Jorgensen. The Watertown Garden club has been having topics on "Winter Bird Feeding," "Garden Pests and Their Control," "Life of Luther Burbank" and on "Various Spring Wild Flowers" found in this section of the state. The highlight of the programs was their guest Tea held in the home of Mrs. Melham, with 60 guests entertained during the afternoon and evening. There was a wonderful display of blossoms from spring bulbs, and many house plants, including African violets with purple, pink and white blossoms. Her indoor garden was a riot of colors with daffodils, hyacinths, tulips and crocuses. A bouquet of yellow and white tulips centered the tea table, with various other flowers thruout her home. The Mobridge Garden club had a very instructive talk on roses, each member was given a typed list of the hardy roses listing colors and season of bloom. They report an increase in membership. The Colome Federated Garden club reports a talk on African violets and other houseplants, also a talk on the birth flower of the month. Two new members and several interested guests at their last meeting. Pierre Garden club reports early plans for a lilac Tea in May, with display of lilacs and tulips by the members. Plants, seedlings, bulbs and seeds will be sold and the proceeds go towards buying flowering crabs for highway planting. An interesting roll call with each member answering with "I see by the papers," the members reported on topics from "roses to plant" to the situation of Orphan Annie and Chester Gump. Mr. Martens talked on "Ferto Pots" and gave each member a sample. Mr. Zieman of the Fish and Game Dept., showed a film entitled "The Other Side of the Fence," showing serious results of mineral deficiencies in the soil. A lovely blue hyacinth was given as a door prize. The In and Outdoor Garden club, Sioux Falls, enjoyed a tour of the Anderson greenhouse. Kent Winbaur explained plants and their growth. Flower arrangements were demonstrated and each member was presented with a gift from the Florist

Shop. The newly elected officers of the Dell Rapid Garden club were installed at the February meeting. Each new officer was presented with a lovely corsage. Reports of past officers and committee chairmen under the leadership of Mrs. L. G. El-singer proved that the past year had been an active one. Plant donations for the park flower beds, hospital ground and the I. O. O. F. home planting by members. The planting of 58 flowering plums by residents of the city will be made this spring. The hospital cheer committee report many bouquets brot to the patients and shut-ins. Mrs. H. N. Dybvig and her committees are planning an interesting program for the coming year. Hope to have more information in regard to the new Garden clubs at Kidder, Lake City, Britton and Wessington Springs for next month's report. Would like all clubs to please send me your officers' names and number of members, as soon as possible.

## REPORT OF CHAIRMAN OF THE WAYS ASD MEANS COMMITTEE

By

Mrs. Clifford Stoneking,  
Iroquois, S. D.

A few timely tips on ways to build up the treasury of any of our garden clubs are: "The Christy Flower Arrangement Kit," nationally advertised, and is not a season item. Enough material to make over 100 different flowers. Now offered to garden clubs exclusively at a special price of \$10 per half dozen and \$18 per dozen. Sold in lots of six or more only, postpaid. The address is Christy Floranger Co., Skaneateles, New York.

Jonnum's Mfg. Co., Pittsburg, Kansas, sends out an attractive offer on world's finest garden hoes of stainless steel and proposed list price. They offer garden clubs six samples of their best sellers on consignment and pay when sold. All shipments prepaid in U. S. A., no risk to clubs. Want to get rich, garden clubs This would seem to involve having the members become traveling salesmen, or as an old lady store keeper once termed the fraternity "road agents."

South Dakota • HORTICULTURE



## NATIONAL PARKS AND MONUMENTS

By  
Mrs. G. R. McArthur  
State Chairman

Our wilderness treasures need not be sacrificed. They MUST be saved. Only a precious few such areas are left. Less than one per cent of our land area is being so preserved YOU can help by writing to your congressmen and senators. Tell them to study carefully any bill authorizing dams and advocate an amendment to protect our National Park System.

"Theodore Roosevelt believed his link with the Badlands of the Little Missouri a vital one in the chain of experiences that led to his success," said Secretary of the Interior Julius A. Krug in his address in dedicating the Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park at Medora, N. Dak., on June 4th, 1949. "Mingling with the pioneers and building a new settlement on the range gave him an insight into the real functioning of democracy. Here he found a wilderness laboratory where he could observe nature in her original design. Roosevelt emphasized the policy of maintaining parks unimpaired for future generations, he was keenly aware of the priceless character of natural phenomena, such as the scenery of the Yosemite, the aged giant Sequoia trees, the rugged beauty of the Grand Tetons, the wonders of the Yellowstone and the remarkable beauty of Grand Canyon. He urged that they be spared the vandalism of internal development. He expressed the view of many conservationists when he said concerning the Grand Canyon, 'Leave it alone. You cannot improve upon it. The ages have been at work on it. Man can only mar it.'"

### Mammoth Cave

There is still great opposition to the Mining City Dam Project which would flood Mammoth Cave National Park, in Kentucky. It was purchased at a cost of approximately \$3,000,000 and given to the state of Kentucky and to the people of the nation. There is a Congressional mandate on the Department and the Federal Government to protect the priceless geological phenomena within the cave and a moral obligation to administer the area in accordance with standards and principles expected by the people

of Kentucky and the nation. The Mining City Dam Project is a part of the "comprehensive plan" for flood control and other purposes in the Ohio River Basin approved by Congress in 1938. The plans for the dam call for a maximum flood retention at elevation 450 feet. Any retention above elevation 421.2 would interrupt trips into the Cave, not only during the periods of retention, but for considerable time thereafter during which repairs would have to be made to bridges, boats and trails in the cave and sludge and debris removed. In addition there is little doubt that the characteristic geological formations in the cave would be permanently damaged by repeated flooding and the rare species of cave life, including the internationally known "blind fish," would be destroyed by making muddy lakes of the underground streams. The people, therefore, should support any provision which would rescind any authority for appropriation of funds for this project which would adversely affect Mammoth Cave National Park directly or indirectly.

### Wildernesses

Glacier in Montana, Yellowstone in Wyoming, Sequoia and Yosemite in California, Grand Canyon in Arizona, Mount McKinley in Alaska, Lake Louise and Waterton in the Dominion Parks, and many other reservations and national forests—ought truly to be called by some other name than "Parks." In England they would be called "Retreats." In the Bible they were called "Wildernesses," resorts for meditation, for refreshment, for inspiration. People should not visit these areas in a spirit of curiosity but rather as pilgrims of Nature. One comes to these places to be alone with nature, to find rest and relaxation. Therefore these areas should be preserved as Wildernesses. The term "wilderness" should apply to areas retaining their primeval environment or influence, or to areas remaining free from routes which can be used for mechanized transportation. Wilderness preservation is a part of the conservation of soil, water, forests and wildlife. The conservation of all these resources is essential to the survival of our civilized culture. The wilderness is a valuable natural resource that belongs to the people and they must be enlisted in its preservation.

The nation is losing something of value when super-highways are built into the primeval forests, when airplanes and mechanical civilization encroaches in any way into our last remnants of wilderness. The noise and sights of civilization frighten the wildlife, they take on new and different ways of self-preservation, the remoteness, the peace, the tranquility is lost forever.

### The Wilderness Council

The Council urges that the reclassification of national forest primitive areas into either wild or wilderness areas be accelerated to assure these areas the additional protection of the regulations governing these classifications. Among the many wilderness areas dealt with by the Council were the Calaveras Grove in California, and the area of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, affected by the proposed Bridge Canyon Dam. Regarding the Bridge Canyon Dam the Council by resolution requested the Department of the Interior to take no final action "pending completion of comprehensive basic studies on all land and water resources problems and developments affecting the Colorado River Basin." Overgrazing on some public lands in areas of wilderness character has caused serious erosion of soils, impairment of watershed value, and hazard to downstream users as well as total destruction of wilderness value.

Wilderness can be destroyed by overuse, the granting of Resort-permits on publicly-owned lands, and permitted unrestricted aircraft travel through the areas will deplete all wild-life, will overload the capacity of the area, destroy the wilderness environment of relaxation, good fishing, canoe trips and primitive camping enjoyed by the hardy nature lover. From the early efforts of the pioneers in the movement to preserve and protect natural resources for future generations, right up to today, success or failure has been determined by the degree to which conservation groups have been vigilant and ready to take cooperative action. Speaking before a Recreational Planning Board, a representative of the National Park Service said, "Acceleration in construction of water-control projects have provided the National Park Service with a "king-

(Continued on Page 56)



## REPORT FROM BIRD CHAIRMAN

By  
Ruth Habeger



This is a good way to contact all Garden Club Bird Chairmen. I am sorry that I have not had time to write letters to each of you. I appreciate the fact that many club members are very interested in birds, and I have tried to answer

promptly letters asking for help.

Perhaps a brief outline of the work done by the Madison Garden Club may be a help to you. At each meeting we have had short talks or discussions on birds, or we have had a bird panel. The latter has proven most successful because the chairman can guide the questioning period and keep the members on the topic under discussion. Our garden club plans to have an early morning May bird breakfast for the members of the club interested in birds. We will report on it at a later date.

Our most surprising result has been with the Junior Garden Clubs of the city. On a nice day in late April or in early May before the trees leaf out, notices are sent to our three Junior Garden Clubs that there will be a meeting in the city park for bird study. We have handled nicely ninety children at a time by the following procedure:

The children are divided into groups of eight or ten (never more than ten). In order to separate children from the same schools and to eliminate the rivalry common between schools, we had the children count off into groups. Then we put all ones in group one, twos in group two, and so on. For each group there was a competent adult guide put in charge. You will be surprised how many of your adult garden club members, college students and teachers offer to help as guides and do a creditable job.

Methods used by guides should be uniform. Guides should come prepared with materials to keep records, bird books and bird glasses.

Each guide and his group are assigned a definite area of the city park

or farther afield if he has a car to transport all of his group. In this way various habitats are covered. The group chooses a secretary who, with the help of the guide, keeps a record of all the birds seen on their bird walk. There is a time limit, usually forty-five minutes, when all must return to a definite place to make a report of their observations.

When all groups have returned oral reports are given. It takes a whistle to quiet the children because they are always excited and want to tell children of the other groups what they found. Each secretary gets up where all can see and hear him and he reads off the list of birds his group has seen and answers questions the children may ask. It is important to compliment a group on accurate lists and good observations and to avoid too much competition over length of list. A complete list of birds seen by all the groups is compiled and is published in the city paper. Such a list not only stimulates city-wide interest but arouses also the interest of the children who have participated. It is always gratifying to have the children remember from year to year some of the less common migrants.

I hope some of the other garden clubs of South Dakota try a similar bird hunt and write me of their experiences. The children are always eager participants. All you need is some guides and a few well-laid plans for such an excursion. You will find the experience rewarding.

Mrs. H. J. Wagner, 1818 E. Boulder St., Colorado Springs, Colorado, is the national bird chairman. She has a limited number of pamphlets called "Save Our Birds."

Fortunately there are excellent bird books, many of them dealing in great detail with birds of this region. Consult your city and school librarian about these.

Indispensable for the beginner or the advanced student are Roger Tory Peterson's "A Field Guide to the Birds" (\$3.50 (or his "Field Guide to Western Birds" (2.75). Both are published by Houghton Mifflin Company. A simple guide for beginners also by Peterson for only 35 cents is "How to Know the Birds," published by The New American Library.

## PARKS AND MONUMENTS

(Continued from Page 55)  
sized" headache. We are constantly being pushed by the Corps of Army Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation to make studies of individual reservoirs without full knowledge of what the entire basin development will be."

The above excerpts from many articles on Conservation which have come to your chairman's attention proves that Garden Club members as well as every other American citizen must be constantly alert and register protest when scenic destruction is inevitable. It is done at your expense, why not know what your money is doing? For information re-

(Continued on Page 57)

# The PIONEER SEED HOUSE

NURSERY-GREENHOUSES OF THE  
NORTHWEST

Founded at Bismarck, in Dakota Territory,  
in 1892

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE

OSCAR H. WILL & CO.  
BISMARCK, N. D.



## BOOK REVIEW

By

W. A. Simmons

The Lorette System of Pruning, by Louis Lorette. Translated from the French by W. R. Dykes. Second edition newly revised with the 8th French edition by F. J. Chittenden, with a chapter on a modified system of pruning by A. H. Lees. Illustrated with the original photos and new drawings by L. R. Brightwell. Published by The Rodale Press, Emmaus, Pa. Price \$3.

This is a very interesting book for the amateur fruit grower with plenty of time to experiment with his orchard trees. Many have seen pictures of the espaliers, pyramids, vases, arches, etc., and wondered how it was done. Many would like to be able to teach such tricks to his own trees. If so, in this book he will find full instructions, illustrated so that each step of the work can be clearly seen. Then many illustrations of the results, the strange shaped trees loaded with fruit, will be found. The author advocates what we would think, too close planting, but perhaps this is permissible in France and possibly

made necessary by the high cost of land there. All methods of budding and grafting are clearly explained and illustrated, so that all who possess a sharp knife and some ambition can perform the work. He explains every step in making those funny looking double U shaped trees. He starts with a year old tree and at a height of about 2 feet, inserts a bud on each side. On the following year the top of the tree is cut off just above the buds and all growth thrown in to the buds, which are weighted down so as to have to grow straight out from the little trunk. These are allowed to grow about 3 feet long when they are turned up at the ends and made to grow straight up. Then 2 other buds are inserted about 18 inches from the trunk and growth from them is trained up, so viola, as the French say, now you have your double U espalier. This all takes time, of course, but after 8 or 9 years this much bossed tree is ready to produce large crops of fruit. If you get this book and the sharp knife, you will find things to do that should keep you out of mischance for some time.

## PARKS AND MONUMENTS

(Continued from Page 56)

garding out Wilderness Treasures write to any or all of the following:

American Forestry Association, 919 17th St. N. W., Washington, D. C.

American Nature Association, 1214 16th St. N. W., Washington, D. C.

Colorado Forestry and Horticulture Association, 1350 Bannock, Denver 4, Colo.

Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, Box 443, Mill Valley, Calif.

The Garden Club of America, 15 E. 58th St., New York 22, N. Y.

The National Audubon Society, 1000 5th Ave., New York 28, N. Y.

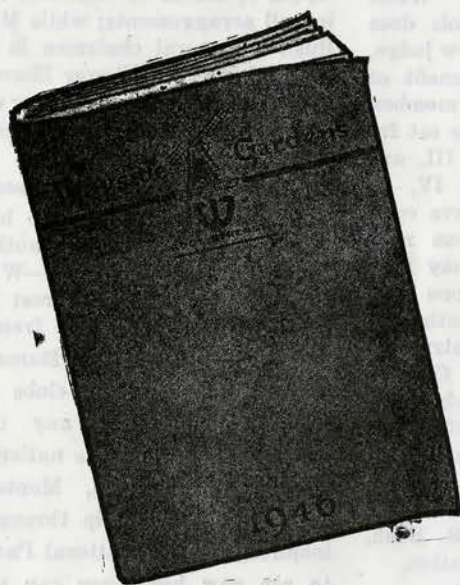
The Wilderness Society, 1840 Mintwood Place, N. W., Washington 5, D. C.

Mechanic: "The trouble with your car, madam, is that there's a short circuit in the wiring."

Woman Driver: "Well, can't you lengthen it a little?"

A man came in to cash a check against a joint account. The teller said, "Sorry, your wife beat you to the draw."

## Send for Our New AUTUMN CATALOG



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Wayside Gardens

Mentor, Ohio



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By

Mrs. G. M. Jorgensen  
51 in '51



Mrs. Jorgensen

Our "51 in '51" campaign is progressing. Six new garden clubs have been organized in South Dakota since last September, the latest being the Young Homemakers club at Britton and the Garden club at Wessington Springs. Britton, with a population of 1,340, now has two garden clubs with Mrs. Richard Dyer as president of the new one. At Wessington Springs it was Mrs. L. C. Garvin who sparkplugged the movement which resulted in the garden club. We will happily welcome these new clubs into the Federated family and hope to be of mutual benefit.

### Garden Traditions

If you see the buttons pop off my blouse you will know it is because of justifiable pride in the work accomplished by our Garden Traditions chairman, Mrs. A. W. Davidson. Not only did she conquer almost insurmountable obstacles in assembling her material immediately after her appointment at Huron last September, but I have just received word from headquarters that her contribution is one of the best in the nation. Congratulations. I knew it must be as soon as I read it, so I was horrified to learn it was necessary to reduce it because of space limitations. What you will eventually read will be somewhat condensed, without the poetic phrasing and sympathetic treatment of Margaret's lovely brain-child, but it is still among the very best of the state traditions stories which will be included in the National Council book. We all applaud the gifted personality which produced it. The State Historical Society and the State Library Board have both requested copies of it for the state files.

### Flower Shows

The season for flower shows will be upon us before you can say "Jack-in-the-Pulpit". If you have not al-

ready done so, get hold of some good schedules and rules and study them before planning your show. South Dakota is one of the states favored for the growing of iris, and most shows include a few classes, but how many shows call for a section of named iris I'll bet I can count on the fingers of one hand the total classes calling for iris in the shows of our state. When we find a plant species that is as easy to grow as the iris we should make the most of it. The American Iris Society is stimulating interest in this flower by offering their silver and bronze medal awards to exhibitors who show iris in any standard show. The main requirement for your show is that you have at least 20 classes in the horticultural section for iris. If interested, please contact me for further information.

### Flower Show Schools

Flower Show School — a short course in gardening from the soil in which you grow your flowers, to the final results on your living room table or at the flower show. That is how I would define the Flower Show School, and the vast popularity of the Short Courses in other lines should assure the appeal of the school for all gardeners. Flower Show School is the more popular name for the courses which started out as Judging Schools, because the latter seemed misleading. While completion of the five schools does fit one to become a flower show judge, the chief aim is for the benefit of the individual garden club member. Dates for our next school are set for June 14, 15, 16 for course III, and June 18, 19, 20 for course IV, at Brookings. Students who have completed the first three courses need not attend course IV but may take both on a refresher basis if you have the time. It is also interesting to repeat courses under new instructors to get a different viewpoint. Courses are also open to students who have never been enrolled heretofore, as they need not be taken in chronological order. Anyone who has found a hobby in gardening needs these courses. Write to Mr. L. S. Bush, Yankton, for further information.

### Liberty Gardens for Defense

Gardeners have been wondering what part they will be called upon to contribute to the National War

Effort in 1951. Literature from the United States Department of Agriculture, National Council, and other advisory groups indicates that our gardens can again make a big contribution to Civil Defense. However, the main idea seems to be to provide a better diet for the individual, conserve foods by freezing and processing, to encourage gardening tendencies in our youth, and to provide morale builders for everyone. They definitely want us to expand our present garden program, preserve all the fruits and vegetables possible, and go all out in educational work among the young people and our city cousins. Such a program will help relieve shortages of transportation, manpower and packaging, and be of great benefit to both health and morale of the nation. On with our Liberty Gardens;

### Convention Planning

Convention dates are August 6 and 7. The big worries of convention planning have been shifted to the competent shoulders of the program committee and the general chairman. At a meeting called by Mr. Dybvig, president of the Horticultural Society, a joint program planning group from both organizations was appointed, consisting of Mrs. Leo Monteith, Mr. Russell Rulon and Dr. S. A. McCrory. At Yankton Mrs. Bjornsen has asked Mr. Rulon and Mr. Harry Apter to act as co-chairmen in making all arrangements; while Mr. L. S. Bush is general chairman in charge of the big State Flower Show which will be a new feature of our convention. Doesn't that whet your interest?

Arbor Day, April 27—Observe it—Write to your governor to help get action on your highway beautification and hopa crab plantings—Write to your Senator in the interest of saving National Park areas from flooding by the Reclamation Bureau. Encourage more garden clubs among friends, children and any contacts you make. Attend the national convention in Missoula, Montana, in June with a side trip through awe-inspiring Glacier National Park. Plan to see new hems you can grow in your own garden at the hemerocallis meeting July 14 and 15.

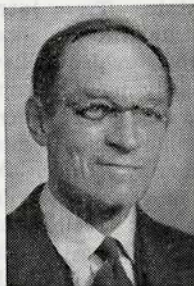
Happy Gardening!



## EARLY EXPERIENCES

By

R. L. Wodarz,  
Pres. N. D. Hort. Society



It was a great surprise to me, a few years ago, when I received the Annual Report of the S. D. Hort. Society of 1944. There under the caption, "Horticulture at Home and Abroad in Wartime," Dr. Hansen on his first tour to Europe, saw one of the largest schools of horticulture at Proskau, in Silesia, eastern Germany. Here in this vicinity I spent my boyhood years. One of the schoolmasters that the doctor writes about, gave me the first lesson in tree planting. Proskau (Pruskow now), is one of the smaller towns. It is not far from the larger town of Oppen on the Oder, a navigable river at that place. From what I could make out there must have been a kind of horticultural society started. The principal of the public school had the school land planted to apple and mulberry trees and some of the highways were lined with

fruit trees, planted by the government. Father had a farm of 59 acres in ten separate patches and nearly in as many directions, tho most of the land was not much more than one mile from the house. We raised fruit for home use, especially apples. There must have been as much as eight varieties; I would not know them by name. One I remember so plainly because of its fragrance when getting ripe, a greenish apple, not very conspicuous, but that lemon fragrance while standing under that tree, I never forgot. After spending a few short years away from my parental home, I found myself on the prairie in west central Minnesota, working on a farm, still being interested in fruit trees, I inquired about apple trees. Such trees worth the name will not grow on this land and in this climate, was the answer; I believed it and forgot about it all. Years later I settled on a quarter section of land near Wyndmere and nursery agents advised me to plant a few fruit trees. They prospered a year or two and then passed out. As time went by I found out there was a horticultural society in Minnesota so I joined. Just about that time North Dakota organized its society; I joined that too. From this time on I had no trouble raising any of the orchard fruits and if something went

wrong, I knew why. Planting in sod and near large trees was my greatest mistake. Our Horticultural Society has accomplished a great deal of good. Other states find it profitable to subsidize them with a little cash and in time we may be able to make our legislature see its great usefulness. Frederick William, the second king of Prussia, the father of Frederick the Great, had another way to encourage fruit growing. He made in compulsory for prospective couples, about to be married, to plant a stipulated number of apple trees, perhaps with the idea that the marriage might go sour, it would not affect the sugar contents of the fruit and that the children of that union would have the time of their lives, climbing those trees.

The greatest field for success is probably right where you are.

Accidents subtract from your pleasure, add to your discomfort, divide your income, multiply your worries.

All that is old is not bad; all that is new is not good. New ideas should be tested before they are accepted.

The man with time to burn never gave the world much light.

A good safety rule is good for everyone. It's good for you.

Deal with the faults of others as gently as your own.

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## FRUIT AND VEGETABLE NOTES

By  
F. X. Wallner



F. X. Wallner

Oregon's Arbor Day is about two months earlier than back in Dakota, but it seems impossible for the eastern half of the state to plant much before we could, back home. Some clubs here are anxious to have children take more active interest in tree planting on Arbor Day. It seems Arbor Day has been forgotten out here where trees are grown so easily. I have planted more than a hundred evergreens here at Grotto Park, in all sizes, including Yew, cedar, arbor vitae, white and Douglas fir, hemlock and possibly others as I have not learned to distinguish between all the native varieties. Also have planted the red huckleberry, elder and other native shrubs. The first small trout put into a pool, has dashed back and forth so fast you could hardly see it; finally it hit the side, head on and went in so far that I was unable to find it. The American Forestry Association is ready to spend 100 million dollars for roads into the National Forests of Oregon and California. It may be the biggest road building in the history of the nation. This may be the proper time to get out millions of feet of lumber under proper supervision, whereby there will not be so much waste. The oldest apple tree out here seems to be in Vancouver, grown from seed brot from England, and is now 124 years old. The old-

est orchard, where they are still picking apples is 103 years old and is near Portland. Four Baldwins, nearly as old, are also still bearing fruit. I spent the last two weeks of January in Richland, and the ice was moving down the Columbia from the Kenatshee river. It was sure cold, after two months of no frosts would again damage fruit trees and other tender shrubbery and there was signs of freezing all the way down the Columbia to Portland. But the cold does not all come down the gorge from the east, but comes down the coast west of the Cascade range, so I fear the big iron curtain at the narrows is only a dream. Sixteen thousand workers at Richland receive 66 million dollars annually and 250 million dollars annually, for the past three years was spent for new construction. Telephone bills cost \$37,000. The new railroad bed between Pasco and Umatilla is almost finished and will be used later this year. Two hundred homes in Kennewick and 600 in Pascoe must be moved. The whole town of Burbank, Two Rivers, Cold Springs and a few other towns will have to be moved back to higher ground this summer, because the river will soon be backed up to form a long, deep lake. The big number of dams being built and planned, on the Columbia, Snake and other streams, makes this the biggest undertaking in the northwest. At Wishram, where the Columbia is narrow and 150 feet deep, a big new bridge goes in for the new highway. The old ship yards are cleaned up and newly repainted and Kaiser has already taken charge. The new seedlings, planted the first week in February, are ready for transplanting, the geraniums that were frozen, had

recovered and most of them have come out in good condition. A new pamphlet of 80 pages, "Trees To Know in Oregon," was sent me from State College and it is a very good book to help identify the many evergreens found here in the moist western part of the state. Trees introduced into the state are the Black locust, Russian olive, golden willow, green ash, Lombardy poplar, caragana, Chinese elm, Russian mulberry, Scotch pine, Austrian pine, Chinese arbor vitae and Norway spruce. All these were brot in by settlers, as most of the state was treeless, except along streams and west of the mountains. Here is another of the new potato varieties that shows great promise in a vital matter:

"With copper now one of the limited-use metals, any way of reducing demand for it by limiting the need can be a great gain. The Kennebec variety of potato, released two years ago by the National Potato Breeding Program of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and State experiment stations, provides an example of such a gain 'come by' in a round-about way.

This potato variety—with such good characters as high yield, cooking quality, and wide geographic adaptability—has that rare factor of high resistance to late blight. Its special disease resistance makes undiluted Bordeaux mixture and copper-containing spray that is the only thing that makes it possible for some varieties to produce a crop—for example, the Green Mountain variety, long the favorite of New England farmers, many of whom cling to it in spite of its costly weakness.

"But the sturdy banners of Kenne-

(Continued on Page 61)

**HOME OF** *Seeds and Trees That Grow  
and Satisfy.*

**GURNEY SEED & NURSERY CO.**

Yankton, South Dakota



## BOOK REVIEW

By  
Mrs. L. G. Elsinger



Mrs. Elsinger

### TREE CROPS—

"A Permanent Agriculture." A "Friends of the Lands" book.

By J. Russel Smith, Sc. D. — Emeritus Professor of Economic Geography, Columbia University. Price \$6.00 Published by The Devin-Adair Co., 23

East 26th St., New York 10, N. Y.

Bernard Baruch said of this book, "Anyone with a plot of ground large enough to plant a tree, will want to read this book." J. Russel Smith has spent fifty years with experiments in raising nut trees, and his work in humanizing geography is said to have revolutionized the teaching of geography in the schools of America.

If your farmland is washing away, and gullies are opening up . . . If you have rocky, hilly pasture land which is yielding little or no profit . . . If you need a windbreak which will also pay you money . . . Or, if you unfortunately have a poor stand of nut trees and want to improve the stand, add new varieties, and gather a larger harvest, then "Tree Crops," A Permanent Agriculture — is the soundest investment you can make. This book discusses variety, right soils for each, nuts to suit your soil and your climate. Harvests are for human, animal and industrial consumption. They are an old age insurance, good source of income, and will keep your land from running off or blowing away, also help conserve moisture in the soil. Some trees discussed in this book are honey Locust, Keawe, Carob, Mesquites, Mulberry, Oak, Chestnut, Persian Walnut, Pecan and other Hickories, and Black Walnut. Farmers can and should try out experiments with tree-farm management, cross-breeding and fertilizing, soil conservation and others. I am sure you will find this a very informative book.

We began with the richest of continents, but (you finish it-) What

happens to an eroded country? We can see by looking at China. Years ago, AGES AGO, evidently forests had been cleared, slopes plowed, and settled, year after year crops grew, rains washed fields down the slopes, the crops failed because the good soil had all washed down the slopes. Sheep herders took over the land, gullies and all, that wasted land, the whole continent. Are we headed down the same road?

The cycle of our agriculture—Forest, Field, Plow, Desert—with the aid of our modern machinery to hurry destruction, MUST NOT be our downfall. Our land is going faster because the Europeans at least did not have row crops to cultivate—corn, cotton, etc.—their grain roots at least helped to bind the soil together. Thunderstorms, in our country, are a source of vast destruction whereas in Europe they were almost unknown. Even Oklahoma, a newer state, so recently taken from the Indians who, by the way, did not destroy it—has its millions of miles of gullies and a kingdom of good land—ruined and abandoned. Oklahoma makes a good example for us—it proved to be good land, so the poor Indian got pushed farther west (1890-1893) when two great rushes of white settlers came. They grew cotton in the summer and oats in winter on those rolling hills, so that by 1910, lands were already abandoned. Without a doubt, the American is the most destructive animal that ever trod the earth.

Chief H. H. Bennet, chief of the Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, says that, "If present rate of erosion continues, by the end of twenty years we would have severely damaged or even completely lost our productive soil." He states further that now is the time to hold what is left. Don't wait until it is all gone—keep it. Conservation means to prevent loss of resources, not try to get back what is already lost. Tree crops is one way out. The tree is an engine of nature put to work. Let's use a two-story agriculture—trees above and crops below. Plant to suit your soil and climate. I am sure you will find Tree Crops

a very informative book. Leave your will so successors cannot destroy what you have done. Keep the best of the crop for posterity. Many times large growers and collectors of trees which could be used to benefit scientific bodies, have been lost because they were left to someone to whom a tree was just a tree.

The last paragraph in this book says, "State experiment might with great profit, from their point of view, lease such collections for a few years to harvest the scientific results—provided they had staff members with time and mental competence. That means a tree-crop specialist, perhaps more than one. You just can't go out and pick up competence."

## FRUIT AND VEGETABLE NOTES

(Continued from Page 60)

bec have been spreading over the country, and now the Department reports a half million bushels of seed available for planting this spring, a sizeable quantity but far from enough to plant all the late blight areas even if all growers of susceptible sorts suddenly decided to make the shift

At present about 50 million pounds of copper sulphate is used each year in spraying potatoes against late blight. In that quantity there is approximately 20 million pounds of actual copper. So, when potatoes highly resistant to this fungus are grown on most of the late blight acreage, the potato breeders will have made a big contribution of "critical" copper.

## PUBLICATIONS REPORT

By

Mrs. R. G. Ferris

Books reviewed in "The National Gardener" are reliable and the latest publications. Every club member is urged to subscribe to this, our national magazine, published six times a year, and avail themselves of the help offered. Subscription price is \$1 per year. Address: The National Gardener, Essex House, 160 Central Park South, New York 19, N. Y. All publications reviewed by this maga-

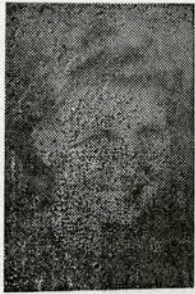
(Continued on Page 63)



## LANDSCAPING THE FARM HOME

By

Mrs. Lona Crandall



Lona Crandall

Landscaping the farm home presents the same problems and opportunities that landscaping the country estate presents. The farm home is a slightly more exacting situation in that it must provide for utilitarian features that

often are not required on the country estate. All of the opportunities for artistic design which are so important in the plans for planting the country estate are of equal importance in planning the farm home.

The house should be located first. From its windows the "views out" should be those which are the most beautiful. As the owner stands on any spot on his land from where he sees a beautiful picture, he should locate on that spot the room in his house in which the family will spend most of its time, and that room should have a picture window opening onto the view. If there is more than one good "view out," two rooms may be provided with windows to bring those views into the house. The house should be located on the ground which is the least valuable as farm land, and this ground is often the most attractive as grounds for the home lawn. Also, this may be a hilly spot, and by using it for lawn it can be kept grassed and trees and shrubs planted to hold the soil that might be difficult to hold if planted to crops. The house should stand on an elevation higher than the barns, but need not be on the top of a hill. More sun will get into the house if it is set at an angle to the points of the compass rather than square with the world.

Location of trees and farm buildings should depend first on keeping the "views out" clear. With the house located on paper, and the "view out" indicated with lines out from the house, the plans can proceed to the location of the barns, granaries, machine sheds and so forth. Many farmers raise registered breeds of

cattle, sheep or horses, and it often is desirable to provide for a pasture which is called a show pasture for such animals. This pasture is located near the highway passing the property and may have a hedge planted along the fence. If such a pasture is part of the plan, the house will no doubt be located beyond the pasture, a considerable distance from the highway. Farm houses are frequently located too close to the highway, and usually face the highway. This is undesirable from considerations of privacy and convenience. Many farm homes make use of the back door because the front door is inconveniently located in relation to the drive leading from the highway.

What is called the service area in city homes is necessarily much larger in country homes, but its limits should be very definite. The area from the back door of the house to the garage will almost automatically become the service area. For that reason the garage should be located with that fact in mind. Coal deliveries will be made here, so a door to the coal bin should be accessible from this area. Milk, cream, eggs and other produce from the kitchen or garden will be loaded here, groceries brought in, and all these activities should be provided for with convenience and efficiency ever the first consideration.

A plan for locating the utility buildings of the farm home that has been considered convenient and efficient, and desirable for the protection it affords is called the closed court plan. The court and the barns should be visible from some of the windows of the house, probably one side of the kitchen, but not from the picture window in the living room. So after the living room window has been located, the farm yard and barns can be located on another side of the house. On this side, a square or rectangular court is drawn on the plan. For convenience and help with housekeeping a concrete sidewalk should be provided all the way around this court. Then, according to the kind of farming that is done, the utility buildings are located around the court. Poultry house and kitchen garden should be nearest the house. Beyond the garden it may be desirable to plan an orchard. If it should happen that this is an exposed spot, windbreak

should be located to protect it. On the far side of the court, around the first corner, is placed a machine shed, corn crib, granary with a service yard around these buildings to provide for space between them in case of fire in any of them. There should be a road from this area out to the farm acres. The corn crib will locate the hog barn on the adjoining lot, with cattle barns and feed sheds and pasture lots beyond. Around the second corner of the court the horse and cattle barns can be placed with their pastures. With this plan the center court may be planted to grass or otherwise beautified except that the view of the barns and pastures should not be obstructed. There is no need for traffic of any kind on the court, but it should be large enough to provide for space between the various buildings in case of fire.

The other major consideration in the overall plan is the drive in from the highway. It should lead directly and conveniently to the front entrance of the house. It should continue beyond to the garage or service entrance, but the front entrance should be the first and most obvious place to stop. There should be, however, provision for the inclination to drive right up to the door, the front wheels of the car practically leaning on the front steps as though they were a curb. It is not necessary to have the lawn fenced, but some owners may want to do so, and if there is danger of loose livestock coming onto the lawns, it may be desirable to do so. But the fence can be softened with hedges, or it can be a decorative fence. The gates should be easily opened and even more easily closed and should be attractively planted with shrubbery and trees.

The foundation planting of the farm home can be much more attractive and offers much greater opportunity for original design than the city home. There is room for large trees to soften the outlines of the house, and these should be considered a part of the foundation planting design. Anything which becomes a part of the outline of the house should be so considered. There is also room to plant the small shrubs and evergreens far enough from the foundation to allow them to develop naturally. If there is ample sun, spruce and small pine may be used

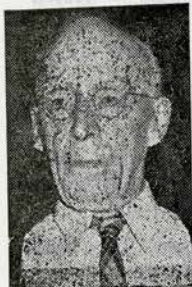
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## SECRETARY'S CORNER

By

W. A. Simmons



W. A. Simmons

What to do? That is the \$64 question facing the directors of the South Dakota Horticultural Society. As most of you probably know, the 1951 Legislature adjourned without passing the appropriation bill for our running expenses for the next biennium.

The Horticultural Society has been functioning since 1884, even before statehood, collecting and disseminating knowledge about horticulture, what to plant, how to plant, hardiness of fruit and forest trees. Who can compare our present state with the vast treeless plain it was in 1884 and say that our efforts have been in vain? We were so convinced that our appropriation was thoroughly worthwhile and encouraged by the fact that it was included in the governor's budget that we did not incur the expense of engaging a lobbyist. It was not until the last three weeks of the session, when we were advised by friends on the appropriation committee that our appropriation was in danger, that our president, Mr. Dybvig, made two trips to Pierre in an effort to save it. However, it seems to be a fact that the appropriations committee is always faced with demands for many thousands of dollars more than it has to spend, and consequently the most vociferous groups with active lobbyists are able to secure their appropriations, and our small \$3,000 per year was lost in the shuffle.

Consequently your board of directors is confronted with the problem of how to manage our finances during the next biennium until we can approach the 1953 Legislature and hope to impress upon them the necessity for continuing the appropriation. This is your Society and your magazine, and we would very much appreciate any suggestions you can give

us. The Society has not increased your dues in many years, though the cost of putting out the magazine has been substantially increased. It is a fact that our neighboring state, Minnesota, now has annual dues of \$1.50 and dues for garden club members of 75c for nine magazines per year. We would appreciate your reaction to some increase in your dues, and any other suggestions you may have. These will be carefully considered by the board in its forthcoming meeting.

## LANDSCAPING THE FARM HOME

(Continued from Page 62)

in the foundation planting. If the area is shaded half of the day, junipers will be more satisfactory, and in denser shade, and provision made with further planting to protect it from drying winter winds. As with evergreens, the choice of deciduous shrubs should depend first on the sun available. Then from the list of such shrubs as will thrive in the location available such characteristics as height, color of bloom, season of bloom and so forth can be considered.

Every effort should be made to make use of the natural beauties of the property. If there are beautiful trees, take them into consideration for it takes a long time to grow a beautiful mature tree. If there is an unattractive slope of ground, it may provide an opportunity for partly underground buildings which are often desirable. All such features should be approached with an open mind, giving the imagination full sway so that the greatest possible use of the land can be made, without regrading if that has been the first thought.

There has been some inclination to use "gardenesque" features in country places, such things as iron deer or dogs, very large formal flower beds or foliage beds, carpet beds of intricate pattern, too many varieties of weeping or unusual trees, and unnaturally winding roads. All these things are inappropriate in a home garden as are busts of Venus in the living room, or plush draperies in the doorways. Modern homes provide many conveniences and luxuries for comfortable living, but we are quite agreed that we have little use for

those gew-gaws which are only ornamental. There are many garden features which are useful and attractive which can be provided in the country home because of the unlimited space available. Such features include summer houses where a picnic fireplace may be built, small retreats with rustic benches or wrought iron chairs, bird houses, baths and feeders.

There should be recreation areas in the home lawn, depending on the ages represented in the family living there. Young adults will want a tennis court, or croquet or some other active game. Horseshoe is enjoyed by all ages, and space should be provided for it. If there are small children they will want a sand pile, or perhaps even a small wading pool which can later be turned into a lily pool. The sidewalk around the court will provide place to skate and ride tricycles.

After the plans for the location of buildings is completed, a wind-break should be located beyond the north and west sides of the buildings with the pastures and gardens. If the "view out" is in one of these directions, an open space may be left with appropriate trees planted to frame it.

## PUBLICATION REPORT

(Continued from page 61)

zine are offered for sale, and will be delivered by the postman at no extra cost.

Books that will be helpful:

Complete Guide to Gardening—Montague Free.

America's Garden Book—Bush-Brown.

Annual Flowers—Dorothy H. Jenkins.

Perennials Preferred—Helen Van Pelt Wilson.

Bulbs for Beauty—Charles H. Mueller.

Complete Book of Flower Arrangement—Rockwell & Grayson.

Flower Arrangement for Everyone—Biddle and Blom.

The Plant Doctor—Cynthia Westcott (new edition).

Trees and Shrubs for Landscape Effect—M. C. Coffin.

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## REPORT OF HORTICULTURE CHAIRMAN

By

Mrs. Earl Kindred, Miller

A living progressive horticulture depends upon a genuine interest in plants. This interest should be limited not only to the plants we presently cultivate, but should include the introduction and trial of plant kinds that are new to our gardens.

In the December issue of this magazine Mrs. Jorgensen, in naming me your chairman, promised that I would tell you about new and newsworthy plants of all kinds for your gardens. Since I am a "run of the mill" gardener, that is quite an assignment. However, I shall try.

I would like to mention this month one perennial and one vine which I believe would enhance the beauty of any garden. Have you tried growing *Doronicum*—commonly called Leopardbane? It is a hardy, showy, yellow flowered perennial with large, daisy like flowers, excellent for cutting, attaining a height of 2 to 2½ feet. It is good in the border in the spring as it blooms in April and May with many of the iris and combines well with them. *Doronicum* thrives in heavy soil in sunny or partially shaded places. The beautiful heart shaped leaves disappear in July and August when the plant is dormant, permitting the area to be planted with shallow rooted annuals then. They may be grown from seed which germinates easily when planted from early spring until July. Clumps should be divided every three or four years.

Seeds may be obtained from the Pioneer Seed Co., Diamondale, Michigan, and from De Giorgi Brothers Co., Council Bluffs, Iowa. Plants may be secured from Wayside Gardens, Mentor, Ohio.

My choice of a vine is one which attains a height of fifteen feet or more in one season. It is the Silver Lace Vine or Chinese Fleece Vine—*Polygonum Auberti*. In the milder

climates it is hardy, but in my garden here at Miller, I have been unable to winter it. I have grown it as an annual since it may be secured at a small cost. I have seen it listed for as little as 75c for a 2-year-old root. The foliage is an attractive, fine leafed glossy green, and is pest free. From midsummer until late fall it is completely covered with with feathery sprays of white that turn rose colored as they begin to fade. It is ideal for porch, pergola, or trailing over a fence or stump.

Most of the nurseries list it and I have found it at Interstate Nurseries at Hamburg, Iowa.

Just a word regarding a project which I know is dear to the heart of our state president, namely increased planting of the Hopa Crab along highways and in our yards and gardens. There is no time like the present to include plantings of this strikingly beautiful small tree in your spring gardening plans. Perhaps not much need be added about the Hopa Crab since nearly everyone knows it—it is an introduction of the late N. E. Hansen. That alone speaks for its hardiness. It may be planted in a group with tall growing shrubbery or as a specimen tree. Its fruit makes excellent jelly, and when included in the shelter belt it is valuable as food for wild life.

Just a word of caution—since it is subject to cedar apple rust, the Hopa Crab should not be planted in the same shelter belt with cedars or near them in a yard planting.

You will remember that at the State Convention we were reminded to contact the State Highway Department before choosing a site for a highway planting.

Lets all get behind the job of Planting South Dakota, and Keeping South Dakota Green.

### Spring Gardeners

Some haven't green thumbs,  
Most only lack  
A bright agile hoe  
And a supple, strong back.

—Richard F. Armknecht.

## PUBLICATION REPORT

(Continued from Page 63)

The African Violet—Helen Van Pelt Wilson.

Geranium, Pelargoniums — Helen Van Pelt Wilson.

Roses for Every Garden—R. C. Allen.

Chrysanthemums for Pleasure—Scott & Scott.

Conservation minded people will enjoy "Malabor Farm" and "Pleasant Valley," by Louis Broomfield.

In regard to magazines, The 1951 Home Garden Guide, 50c, and Better Homes and Gardens, "Gardening Guide," \$1.00, available at most news stands, are two good buys. Every subject from Building Terraces and Fences to House Paints and How to Make a Ming Tree is covered in these two periodicals. A good addition to any gardener's library.

Don't forget your County Agent's office is a good source of material or pamphlets and information on Agriculture. Also the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture has bulletins available on every subject from the Production of Garlic to the Culture of Orchids. Write Karl E. Mundt, U. S. Senator from South Dakota, Washington, D. C., for a list of these bulletins and leaflets.

"Garden Gossip" in the Sunday edition of the Argus-Leader, written by Sioux Falls clubs, are condensed articles of information. Look for it. "Gardening News," by George Luxton in the Minneapolis Sunday Tribune, is well worth your time. Articles are timely, interesting and apply to our locale.

A few articles worth while reading in current magazines: Ivies. New and Old, Nov. and Dec. issues of Flower Grower; Easy Fruit to Grow—Raspberries, Feb. issue of Farm Journal; Bush Fruit (pruning), Feb. issue of Popular Gardening; First National Gladiolus Symposium, Feb. issue of Popular Gardening; Add That Touch of Green with a Dish Garden, January Better Homes and Gardens.

For more detailed information contact Mrs. R. G. Ferris, Publications Chairman, Route 3, Sioux Falls, S. D.