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DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

FEBRUARY-MARCH, 1955



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THE PILEATED WOODPECKER

by

O. A. STEVENS



O. A. Stevens

Among the American woodpeckers the pileated is only slightly exceeded in size by the rare ivory-billed of the south. It is about twice the size of the flicker, the next largest of our common species.

The back of the bird is black but white wing patches show in flight. The large red crest is a distinctive feature.

The birds are not migratory and are, or were, found over a large part of the United States and southern Canada. They are mostly restricted to forested areas because they need large trees for nesting and sleeping. Thus they are essentially absent from prairie areas. Records for North Dakota seem to be only two instances some years ago in the Red River Valley. In South Dakota they probably were originally not uncommon in the southeastern corner though Nebraska reported no records since 1895.

The work of the pileated is easily seen. Large holes are often made near the base of trees to secure ants that are working in the heartwood. Sometimes these holes penetrate several inches of living wood to reach the insects. Nesting holds are not in the trees that have been worked for food but in sound wood, usually a dead limb or stub from which the bark has disappeared.

Mr. Bent summarized 33 nesting records and found that 30 were in deciduous trees, 15 to 70 feet above the ground and in trunks 15 to 20 inches in diameter. The cavities are usually used but once and only one set of eggs is laid. The most common number of eggs is four. They are about one and one-half inches long, somewhat narrowed at one end and white in color as with other woodpeckers. John Bachman, one of Audubon's correspondents, told of a nest hole that was taken over by bluebirds early the

next year. The woodpecker returned, threw out the young bluebirds and used the place themselves.

Ants and other wood-boring insects comprise most of the bird's food. Acorns, fruits of grape, Virginia creeper, dogwood and other plants also are eaten. One bird's stomach had over 2500 ants. Another had 469 of the large carpenter ant and one had 131 seeds of poison oak. The bird was first described by Mark Catesby, that pioneer naturalist of Carolina, who reported that it broke into ears of corn for the grain. Alexander Wilson said he had examined many without finding corn and later workers have not found it.

While the pileated is usually regarded as shy and difficult to observe there are a number of reports to the contrary. Twenty years ago Maurice Brooks of West Virginia wrote of his observations from a farm home where the birds could be seen almost any day. They showed considerable curiosity and could be attracted by pounding on a tree. He tried to attract them to his feeding station without success but food was placed on a rock in the woods and there a blind was set up from which the birds were observed and photographed. An alarm clock was used to accustom the birds to noises so they would not leave at the click of the camera shutter. Then the alarm was set off and the bird showed curiosity.

The topknots of the woodpeckers were prized by the Indians for ornaments. With the coming of the white man the birds were often shot. One name for them were log-cock or wood-cock which led some to think it was the game bird of the latter name. Major Bendire wrote in 1895 that he had seen them in the market at Washington, D. C., but that he found them very ill flavored. In recent years the birds have increased somewhat in numbers.

Dad: "When we were kids, 10 cents was big money."

Junior: "How dimes have changed."—ARGUS-LEADER.

One good way to save face is to keep the lower half of it shut.

—ARGUS-LEADER

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

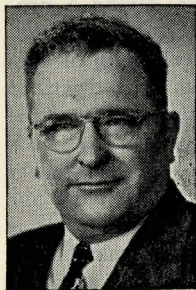
	Page
The Pileated Woodpecker.	
O. A. Stevens.....	18
Newsletters. H. A. Graves.....	19
Garden Club Gleanings.	
Mrs. Vern Tompkins	20
Manitoba News Letter.	
W. R. Leslie.....	21
President's Message.	
Mrs. Earl Kindred.....	22
Experiences in Horticulture.	
R. L. Wodarz.....	23
Roadside Development in S. D.	
Mrs. G. R. McArthur.....	24
Landscaping for Least Work.	
P. H. Wright.....	25
A Successful Garden Club.	
Mrs. Flora K. Jeffries.....	26
Fruit and Vegetable Notes.	
F. X. Wallner.....	27
Bird Chairman's Message.	
Ruth Habeger	28
Presidential Prattle.	
J. M. Atkinson.....	29
Arbor Day Proclamation.	
Gov. Joe Foss.....	30
Williamsburg Meeting.	
Mrs. G. M. Jorgensen.....	31
Poems. Mary Louise Kinyon.....	31
Secretary's Corner. W. A. Simmons.....	32

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

NEWSLANTS

by

HARRY A. GRAVES



Graves

Researchers around the country seem to agree that Kentucky Bluegrass is the best all-around lawn grass where adequate water from the sky, or sprinkler, is available.

I was glad to see support for North Dakota recommendation of cutting down the rate of seeding to cut the cost of seeding a new lawn. Four to five pounds of bluegrass seed per 1000 square feet is quite all right when grass seed is moderate in price. However, at \$1.00 per pound, one pound per 1000 square feet will give a good stand if ample attention is given to soil preparation and water is applied generously for the first ten days after seeding. Some folks suggest mixing the pound of grass seed with five pounds of cornmeal to get a more uniform job of seeding.

Telephone calls and the general tone of correspondence coming to our desk indicates that hope springs eternal in the breast of every gardener. This prompts us to believe that we should give some time and space in this issue to Vegetable Garden Varieties. Basis for this discussion will be our garden leaflet, "Garden Varieties for North Dakota" for 1955. I shall not attempt to discuss all the garden crop—in fact not all the common ones—but will try to lift from the list some I think should receive special consideration. Whatever you do—don't use the shotgun method of buying your garden seeds. Remarks like "I bought the first package of seeds I saw" are what help horticulturists grow old prematurely. Here are our recommendations:

Snap beans: Pencil Pod Black Wax if you want a waxbean. Wade, Topcrop or Tendergreen for green podded varieties. Wade and Topcrop resist disease better than Tendergreen. Otherwise, the difference isn't too marked.

Cucumbers: Mosaic has been a serious disease in cukes for several of the

last 10 years. Last year, however, there did not seem to be much mosaic on any cucumbers I saw. We had Niagara which is resistant to mosaic. Our neighbor had Straight 8, a fine cuke but with little or no resistance to mosaic. However, vines of both varieties were healthy last season. Personally, however, I am not going to take any chances on anything but mosaic resistant varieties in 1955. Any of the hybrids or Niagara in the slicing group and York State Pickling or M. R. 25 in the picklers. It costs so little to have the best and the difference can be success or failure. By the way, we planted a couple of nasturtium seeds in each cucumber hill last year and never saw a cucumber beetle near the plants. Don't ask me why, but it is cheap insurance and I am convinced there is something to it.

Carrots: Nantes or Coreless are very similar and very good for eating fresh from the garden, for carrot sticks on the table or for canning or freezing. Both of these varieties are very crisp and sweet. In fact they are so crisp that it is difficult to get them out of dry soil without a spading fork. Better keep a fork handy! Red Cored Chantenay is an excellent all-around variety. It stores well and, while not quite so tender or sweet as Nantes or Coreless, is good enough.

Leaf lettuce: Slobolt and Salad Bowl are put up to the head of the class because they don't bolt to seed at the first sign of a hot day. I don't know how much they surpass Black Seeded Simpson in quality. I do know that after Black Seeded Simpson has bolted to seed either Salad Bowl or Slobolt will furnish good quality leaves for a few weeks. Of the two, I prefer Slobolt because it is more tender in our opinion.

Peas: Little Marvel and Lincoln have been in our Demonstration Gardens for some years. We have tried many other varieties but still think these two "fill the bill" best of all. Little Marvel is not too heavy a yielder but it is very high in quality. This extra quality plus earliness makes it a fine companion for Lincoln which is later but a good dependable yielder of high quality peas.

Winter squash: Buttercup and Banquet still seem to be the best for North Dakota gardens. Butternut is a good

squash and quite different but has not become widely popular in North Dakota. It prefers a longer growing season than we frequently have in much of North Dakota. Table Queen has been quite popular with some gardeners but I could never understand why. It is a pumpkin botanically and tastes like one on the table. The small size of Table Queen and Uconn may attract some people but will not impress a Buttercup fan.

Summer squash: Certain nationality groups and people from certain areas are fanciers of summer squash. Some folks who tried it with distasteful results have waited too long before using the fruits. They are only good when picked and cooked at a very immature stage. Early Prolific Straightneck and Caserta are two good varieties. Both grow in bush form so take up little garden space compared to a long vine squash. They should be picked when about the size of an average banana. Keep them well picked and they will keep on bearing.

Sweet corn: There are so many good sweet corns on the market that it may seem a bit arbitrary to lift out a dozen or so as being outstanding. However, in the earlier we have four very fine varieties in Miniature, Golden Rocket, North Star and Washington. Miniature is especially outstanding both as to quality and the fact it fits the small garden well. It can be planted in rows 24 inches apart and plants left to stand 6 inches apart in the row. Don't confuse Miniature with Midget. Midget is just too small for most gardeners and also smuts badly. Mid-season varieties to plant include Dr. Yeager's Sunshine which is one of the few open pollinated varieties to stand up against the invasion of hybrids. Earligold, a mid-season hybrid, is another very good mid-season sort.

Golden Cross Bantam still holds its own in competition with several other good late sweet corns. It is one of the oldest hybrids and can extend the roasting ear season in your garden by nearly 2 weeks. Plant a couple rows of Golden Cross Bantam this spring.

Tomatoes: A lot of folks, if restricted to one garden crop would choose tomatoes. Experiment Station researchers in the Department of Horticulture at N. D. A. C. have

(Continued on page 27)

GARDEN CLUB GLEANINGS

by

MRS. VERN TOMPKINS
Highmore, S. D.



Mrs. Tompkins

The first month of 1955 is gone, which means that spring will be here before we know it. I want to thank the club members who remembered me at Christmas time. It was so nice hearing from so many of you. My

copy for the January magazine had to go in early, before I got too involved in the rush of the holidays, so the reports have really stacked up.

Mrs. R. K. Morrell, Pierre, sends the list of newly elected officers of the Pierre club: President, Mrs. Harold Widdoss, 808 W. Pleasant Drive; vice president, Mrs. Ray Pool, Blunt; secretary, Mrs. Roy Baker, 107 S. Willow St.; treasurer, Mrs. D. C. Carmine, 200 E. Capitol. The membership being quite scattered in this club, I give the details for the benefit of members. In September Mrs. Garret showed a display of her home-grown peaches; Mrs. Carr gave an interesting paper, and Mrs. E. C. Thomsen showed an interesting slide collection. Mrs. Warne was hostess to this meeting. In October Mr. and Mrs. Dean Carmine entertained the club in the Lincoln school auditorium. Plans were made for plantings at Mary House. Mr. Harry Woodward, guest speaker, spoke on "Wild Flower Preservation," and showed a film taken near Randall dam showing work done by recreation people. In November they decided not to participate in a "Lighting Contest"; Mr. Thomsen showed and discussed the plan for the Mary House planting, and the club decided to purchase five dozen tulip bulbs at once, members to do the planting. Robert Gage, of Spearfish, showed movies of Feeding the Deer, and Planting Wild Turkeys in the Black Hills. Mrs. A. E. Munck was hostess at this meeting. The club was invited to the nurses home for their Christmas party, each one taking a gift for a shut-in. Mr. Thomsen dem-

onstrated the making of Christmas decorations; a group of student nurses sang Christmas carols, and a delicious lunch was served. The January meeting was at the Harold Widdoss home, roll call topic being "Garden Resolutions for 1955." A "Quickie Boka" to be made by the hostess, for a door prize at each meeting, was the suggestion of Mrs. Widdoss, who made one of mums and pussy willows. Mrs. Carr was the lucky recipient. Mrs. E. N. Warne gave an interesting talk on her recent visit to the Ken Gardens in England, the Versailles Gardens in Paris, and Flanders Field, in Belgium. Sounds very interesting. Keep the good reports coming, Mrs. Baker.

The Sunshine Garden Club, Highmore, held their Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Geo. Sporer. The "Christmas Story" was shown in picture, with records, by Mrs. H. E. Bloomenrader, and games were played. The members enjoyed a gift exchange, and 35 pairs of sox were brought for the Sioux Falls Orphan's Home. We again sponsored the lighting contest, which we feel is worth while. This club sponsored Helen Sporer, as snow queen candidate. The January meeting was held at the Goldsmith home, with Grace Campbell and Gwen Reher as assistant hostesses. Roll call topic was "Care of Christmas House Plants." Program was presented by Violet Bouzek, on vegetable gardening in Kentucky, and Bessie Cermak, on

New Jersey agriculture. The report comes from Mrs. Floyd Campbell.

Nita Jorgensen sends a newsy report from the Dell Rapids club. In October, the Juniors took over, giving a program on "Collecting Insects Is Fun." They showed a good collection of butterflies, mostly named, and described methods of catching them. One of the juniors, using a huge net to catch butterflies, gave a most realistic answer when asked what she made it of. She said "out of mother's petticoat." It is that simple. Just use the material at hand. In November the club was entertained with a dramatic review of "Green Cargoes" by Anne Dorance, given by Mrs. Oscar Berg. This club built bird feeders last fall, using juice cans, tin pie plates and wire coat hangers. These, they say make very satisfactory feeders, attracting juncos, brown creepers, nuthatches, downies, hairies, flickers, red heads, chickadees, blue jays, as well as both male and female cardinals, and, of course, sparrows. These girls made tray gifts for shut-ins, using crocheted flowers, decorated jellies, etc. They had guest night, including honorary members, members over 80, families and friends of the members. Program, festive decorations and pot luck supper were the order of the evening. Nothing selfish about these girls. By the way, thanks just lots for the lovely program, Mrs. Duea.

Mrs. Burrell Collins, reporting for

(Continued on page 24)

Morden Mums for 1955

An excellent listing of Chrysanthemums and other perennials suited to the Northern Plains States. Featured are the new UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA mums; our new early cushion mums *Copper 'N' Gold*, *Maple Mound* and *Amethyst Cushion*; and such new extra hardy perennials as *Aster Eventide*, *Lythrums Morden Gleam* and *Morden Rose* and *Veronica Minuet*. A copy awaits your requests.

Fleming's Flower Fields

3100 LEIGHTON AVE.

LINCOLN 3, NEBR.

MANITOBA NEWS LETTER

by
W. R. LESLIE



Leslie

Hawthorns form a group of spiny deciduous shrubs or small trees of much interest at the Morden Experimental Station. A few years ago another ambition was to develop extensive plantations of the Rocky Mountain junipers. They come in diverse shapes and in various interesting shades of green, blue and silvery. Unfortunately, the two plant groups, junipers and hawthorns, serve as alternate hosts for a destructive fungous disease, Cedar Apple Rust. Grown together, both kinds die from the disease. Isolated a half mile, each kind thrives. Seeing only one could be tended successfully in the borders, the hawthorn tribe was retained. Although they are not evergreen, they do retain beauty into the dormant season with their colorful fruit. Many species have stratified branches and their outline harmonizes with the broad reaching horizons of the prairie scene. The bushes and trees are very attractive when full of spring-time white blossoms. Summer foliage is neat and in autumn it tends to become more or less richly colored. Many types carry interesting thorns, usually red or brown.

Manitoba has two native hawthorns, *Fireberry* hawthorn or *Crataegus chrysocarpa*, and *Fleshy* hawthorn or *C. succulenta*. The former is a denizen of prairie woodlands, being a dense thorny bush bearing red fruits with yellow flesh which are freely eaten by native grouse. The fleshy hawthorn, growing to 15 feet high, is found in the southeastern part of the province. It tends to assume a conic form. The 2-inch spines are less plentiful than those of fireberry. The bright red fruits, about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch across are favorites with sharptail grouse. It is a parent of Toba hawthorn.

Toba hawthorn (*Crataegus oxyacantha* x *C. succulenta*) grows to 16 feet. Its glossy, deeply lobed leaves, its

double showy pink to deep pink flowers and its persistent scarlet fruits make this subject one of the choice large shrubs or small trees for landscape planting.

The next group in prominence at Morden consists of three species. Each has large, bright red or orange-red fruits which are pleasing as dessert. They are the Christmas, Arnold, and Downy hawthorns. All make sizable small trees adapted to town properties.

Christmas hawthorn, *C. durobriensis*, grows to 18 feet. Flowers are an inch across and fruits over one-half inch. A conspicuous round-headed tree.

Arnold hawthorn, *C. arnoldiana*, reaches 20 feet. Branches tend to be zigzag. The large three-quarters inch orange-red fruits fall during autumn.

Downy hawthorn, *C. mollis*, native to South Dakota, may attain a height of 30 feet. It is a handsome small tree with bright green foliage which turns reddish bronze in autumn. The one-half inch fruits have sweet mealy flesh when ripe.

The numbers of species of hawthorns run into the hundreds. These notes continue comment on some more of the kinds found interesting at the Morden Experimental Station. Many others on trial are passed over at this time.

Washington hawthorn or *Crataegus phaenopyrum*, may reach a height of 30 feet. It is of interest every season of the year. The upright dense tree blooms bountifully, the small bright red fruits cling on into spring, and the lustrous green leaves become bronze and scarlet in autumn.

Cockspur hawthorn or *C. crugalli*, is a thorny small tree with wide spreading branches which make it useful as a hedge or barrier. Foliage turns scarlet in autumn. The red fruits are retained into winter. It has sometimes suffered light winter injury.

Canada hawthorn, or *C. canadensis*, native to Quebec, grows to over 20 feet. The slender flexuous branchlets are very thorny making it a subject for hedges. The crimson fruits have mellow flesh.

Ontario hawthorn or *C. pedicellata*, from eastern Canada, to 21 feet, with stout thorns, has dark green leaves and lustrous scarlet fruit.

Chinese hawthorn or *C. pinnatifida*,

from the Orient is notable for its deeply lobed, lustrous leaves and its large bright red edible fruit. It has suffered somewhat from fire blight.

Fanleaf hawthorn or *C. flabellata*, of upright habit but many stems, has long thorns and crimson fruit.

Kansas hawthorn or *C. coccinoides*, to 21 feet is round headed, with many thorny branches. Foliage becomes highly colored in autumn. The dark red fruit is retained into winter.

Spike hawthorn, or *C. macracantha*, is a dense shrub with long sharp thorns, shiny dark green leaves and numerous small dark red fruits which are long retained. Valuable for hedge planting.

Thicket hawthorn or *C. intricata*, from New England, is a shrub to 9 feet with long curved thorns and reddish brown fruit.

Redhaw hawthorn or *C. sanguinea*; from Siberia grows to 20 feet. The spreading branches bear short sharp spines. The small fruits are bright red.

Four species thriving here which have black fruit are Douglas hawthorn, or *C. douglasi*, a native from Alberta, Blackfruit hawthorn or *C. chlorosarca*, from Manchuria, Cerro hawthorn or *C. cernonis*, from Colorado, and River hawthorn or *C. rivularis* from Wyoming. These add variety but are less esteemed than those with bright fruit.

Potatoes in Manitoba

Red skinned potatoes are favored in Manitoba. Many consumers as well as potato growers like them. This was particularly evident in the provincial potato show held in Winnipeg in October.

The red Pontiac variety has taken the lead in the acreage planted to potatoes in recent years. The prize winning exhibit of thirty, nearly perfect tubers at the potato show were of the Pontiac variety. They were grown by Okalita Brothers of St. Vital. The highest yield of No. 1 and 2 grade tubers, namely 574 bushels per acre was obtained with Pontiac by A. Magas of North Kildonan. The tubers of Pontiac are of good quality especially when grown on a medium loam or sandy loam soil. They are favored in the kitchen because they cook up white and fluffy.

The new Manota potato is drawing much interest. It is an attractive
(Continued on page 22)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by

MRS. EARL KINDRED



Mrs. Kindred

The beautiful pointed buds on the Viburnum bush just outside our living room window have begun to swell, a chronicle of the nearness of spring.

At this time of the year many garden clubs are beginning a new year's work, so let us review and pledge ourselves anew to the objects of our federation. These objects are: To coordinate and advance the interests of the garden clubs of South Dakota and to bring them into closer relationships of mutual assistance by collaboration, conference, and correspondence.

To cooperate with affiliated organizations in their various activities.

To further conservation of our natural resources and all wild life.

To study and promote all aspects of the fine art of gardening.

We welcome the three new clubs that have federated in the past six months. They are: The Hendricks Garden Club with Mrs. O. A. Thompson president; The Java Garden Club with Mrs. Hazel Zeller, president, and the Town and Country Garden Club of Milbank, Mr. Lowry Elliott, president. We too want to welcome back the Friendly Garden Club of De Smet with Mrs. Maude Renner, president. We missed you the months you were away from us. We hope that the association with other gardeners of the state will be mutually beneficial. 1984 new clubs were federated in the United States in 1954.

Registration blanks have arrived for those who plan to attend the National Council meeting in Chicago, May 22-27. Anyone planning to attend please write me for one.

Several new names have been added to the list of committee heads and department chairmen. Mrs. Ed Paeth, Groton, is chairman for District 8, comprised of Spink, Edmunds and Brown counties. Mrs. Leo Montieth will act as chairman for District 4

comprised of Brookings, Duel, Kingsbury and Moody counties. Mr. H. N. Dybvig has agreed to act as contact man for the Blue Star Memorial Highway project. On Miss Laura Sexauer's committee for judging yearbooks are Mrs. Binniweis of the Brookings Garden Club and Mrs. Montieth of the Petal Pals Garden Club. Please send your yearbooks to Miss Sexauer, 1326 4th St., Brookings, as soon as they are ready before April 1st if possible.

Mrs. L. B. Severance, Fair City Garden Club, Huron, is chairman of the General Awards Committee and her helpers are Mrs. Frank Kuehn, Huron Garden Club, and Mrs. John Bushfield, Garden Gate Club, Miller. They will judge all contests except yearbook. I am sure they will welcome your entries early in order to evaluate them without hurry.

May I remind all who plan to take the flower judging school course to send in your reservations at the very earliest possible date and the deadline is April 1st. If you plan to attend the school at Webster, send your reservation to Mrs. L. O'Connell, Webster, and if you plan to attend the course in Huron send it to either Mrs. L. B. Severance or to Mrs. R. R. Burns, Huron. Hope that all who are planning to take the work for credit have secured the required books and are reading them.

Mrs. Edgar Irving, regional director, has announced that there will again be a Rocky Mountain Region Garden Club post convention tour. The Lincoln Tour and Travel Agency has planned for the fourth year, a wonderful chartered bus tour in a comfortable bus with stops each night in good hotels for Garden Club members of the region. The tour will leave either Omaha on May 26 or Denver, May 27 to tour New York, New England and Canada. The cost to depend on the number signing up. With a group of 30-34 the cost of everything except personal expenses and meals will be \$199. With 25-29 members the cost will be \$221 and with 20-24 members the price will be \$253. Among the attractions will be three days in New York City with sightseeing of upper and lower New York City, Harlem, China Town, Statue of Liberty, Empire State

Building, N. B. C. Radio and Television Studios, Little Church Around the Corner, complete tour of the United Nations Building, and a famous Broadway stage show. There will also be one free day in New York City. On to Boston, Plymouth Rock, Lexington, and Concord up through picturesque Maine and Vermont to Montreal where there will be sight seeing tours by motor coach and tally ho of ancient and modern Montreal. On to Ottawa there will be a stop at the Canadian Department of Agriculture Experimental Farm and Gardens. On the way back the tour will include Niagara Falls, Horeshoe Falls, Whirlpool Rapids. After other interesting sights you will arrive back in Omaha at 5:30, June 10, 1955. Doesn't that sound like a wonderful vacation. If you would like a folder with the complete itinerary and details please write me or send directly to the Lincoln Tour and Travel Agency, Lincoln, Nebraska, care of Mr. W. E. Carley.

MANITOBA NEWS LETTER—

(Continued from page 21)

white, smooth and shallow-eyed variety. An interesting feature of this potato is the russet skin which may develop under certain growing conditions. A number of the 4-H exhibits at the potato show had this russetting which is not an undesirable feature. Manota potatoes have a fancy appearance on the market and also they have good cooking quality.

An early red potato of impressive merit is the Waseca variety introduced by the University of Minnesota. The growers who have tried it are anxious to have it licensed for sale in Canada. Waseca is almost as early as Warba, yields well and has excellent quality.

Warba and Columbia Russet were exhibited at the potato show indicating that they are still favored by some growers. Warba continues as the earliest, high yielding variety in spite of its deep eyes. In cooking quality it is rated highly. Columbia Russet is probably the best quality baking potato.

Available statistics show that there are too many potato varieties in circulation in the Manitoba potato industry. The number used by growers could well be limited to the varieties mentioned in this article.

MY EXPERIENCE IN HORTICULTURE

by

R. L. WODARZ
Wyndmere, N. D.



Wodarz

Working with horticultural subjects I find my shortcomings in not using the notebook more than I did. One thinks I'll remember this, or well, this is not of much importance, or in times when things go wrong,

having a feeling the whole thing is not worth the effort. During the course of years, much happens in an orchard. Of the different varieties each one has its individual self. Some put up with a lot of grief from hard winters, diseases, bugs, but still make good, others fall far short, I would remember in a general way. But that which-how-when, only the notebook can tell for sure. Happenings seemingly unimportant, I have found very important years later.

Some of my interest in fruit-breeding centered much around Dr. Hansen's creation of new fruits. One couldn't help but realize that much of what he has done was really a beginning, a stepping stone to something better for our prairie northwest. In the very early thirties, I received from Dr. Hansen one of those Redflesh crab apple trees. Being something new, at the time, and also quite different, I made up my mind to experiment with seedlings of this variety. So as soon as

the first fruits showed up, their seeds were saved, and planted in due time. As soon as the planting emerged, I noticed that not all of them were of the redvein variety, but a goodly proportion were not having those redflesh leaves. I want to say that it was not in my mind to get something very worth while out of this, but curiosity carried me away. I moved all those seedlings to a permanent place for fruiting. They all proved uniformly hardy but to be sure there was no desert quality to be found among them.

Of the white fleshed apples there is one resembling the Duchess in size, shape and color and maybe a little more tart, as far as taste is concerned. One tree showed up with an apple round as a ball. Another, an odd shaped long conical. All others smaller than these two, in fact one showed up with the smallest of cherry crabs, the size of a small bean. Of the red-fleshed ones, the fruit is a nice glossy dark red. The apples are all beautiful to behold, especially when still on the tree. The flesh runs from light pink to dark red. When in blossom most of them are very pretty. Many of them are covered with those red and pink blossoms before any leaves show up. Those producing larger fruits of this sort have fewer blossoms and they are scattered among the leaves. I want to mention too that these redvein fruits are red from the beginning, unlike apples like McIntosh that color the last week or two before ripening.

The seedlings of Bismarck (Bismarck x Mercer) have given me a pleasant surprise. Some of them I consider better than the parent itself. Then there is the White Russian progeny, not much of value. Linda Sweet seedling gave me a tree unlike its parents

or grandparents (Sweet Russet crab x seedling of Malinda). The fruit of this is large, dark red and sweet akin to the quality of Dr. Hansen's Caramel. I raised a number of seedlings from the seed of the large Adno apple. The fruit of this progeny is large, useful either out of hand or for cooking. Adno has one weakness, it is somewhat subject to fireblight, which disease it passes on to its seedlings. Some of the trees in the orchard have not been recorded in my notebook, so I do not even know what the seed parent is. One especially, I have in my mind. It is not very useful in itself; the fruit is dark red with blue bloom two inches or better in diameter, round as a ball with 10 elevated dots around its calix-end. It is immensely productive setting the fruit in ropes.

A tree that ripens its heavy load late in the season and goes through a hard winter unscathed, is indeed hardy. Now speculating on its pedigree, there is only one variety at this place that has 10 dots around its calix end and that's Dr. Hansen's Redflesh. I would guess it to be McIntosh x Redflesh, but I don't know. I should have been more busy with my field notes. In regards to plum seedlings, I mean those hybrid plums, I planted hundreds of plum pits of Waneta, Underwood, Fiebing and others in rows along the north side of the orchard, more for protection than anything else. I did really think that from so much there should be some large plums. But that was not the case. The trees proved uniformly hardy, however, the size of the fruit was only what we find among native plums. The bulk of them are clingstone, very few free stone, and I must say the quality of nearly all of them is fine.

HOME OF *Seeds and Trees That Grow and Satisfy*

Gurney Seed and Nursery Co.

YANKTON, SOUTH DAKOTA

ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH DAKOTA

by

MRS. G. R. MCARTHUR
Chairman



For several years the South Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs has been interested and encouraged roadside development in our state, it is now most gratifying to publish a report sent to the chairman by Mr. Bert Tollefson, Jr., retiring secretary of the South Dakota State Highway Commission. Much progress has been made the past three years and many other prospective roadside parks are being completed this year. Following is the report of Mr. Tollefson:

The South Dakota Highway Commission, during the past several months, has developed Roadside parks throughout the State of South Dakota. Governor Sigurd Anderson has been especially interested in the development of roadside parks, and it was upon his suggestion in 1952 that the roadside park program was undertaken. Today there are twenty-five completed roadside parks in South Dakota. There are ten other prospective locations for roadside parks that should be completed by spring.

The roadside parks and their locations are as follows: Wasta, 2 miles east of Wasta; Beaver Valley, at Beaver Valley church east of Sioux Falls; Gull Hill, east of Edgemont; Plankinton, 6 miles east of Plankinton; Mc-

Ninney, west of Spearfish; Rosebud, Little White River west of Mission; Huffman, state Highway 83 and 212 south of Selby; Mertz, 2 miles west of Bowdle; Presho, 2 miles west of Presho; Lake, south of Sisseton; Forestburg, 1 mile west of Forestburg; Orton, west of Marvin; De Smet Forest, 1 mile east of De Smet; Gibson, east of Kransburg; Nicholson, east of Madison; Conservation Park, Sioux river south of Brookings; Dupree, 1 mile east of Dupree; Reva Gap, west of Reva at Reva Gap; Hayes, 1 mile east of Hayes; Cahalan, 3 miles west of Miller; Geddes, 4 miles south of Geddes; McIntosh, junction south of McIntosh; Hill, Highway 34 at Farmer; Gregory, at Gregory; Wicksville, east of Wicksville.

The prospective areas that should be completed by spring are: Krakow, east of Bridgewater; Blunt, east of Blunt; Jim and 50, east of Yankton; Ft. Randall, west of Chamberlain; Stamford, east of Stamford.

The State Highway Commission has received many letters from tourists, as well as South Dakotans who appreciate greatly the provision of roadside parks.

At the present time, the State Highway Commission is making efforts to cooperate with individuals and organizations throughout the state in an attempt to further beautify these roadside parks.

South Dakota is known throughout the world as "The Land of Infinite Variety."

With the development of roadside parks to beautify our highways, many more tourists will leave the boundaries of our state marvelling about South Dakota, the Land of Infinite Beauty.

Accompanying the article was a very interesting letter from Mrs. McArthur, as follows:

Enclosed is the report of Mr. Tollefson, Jr., secretary of the State Highway Commission. He made up this report at my request that we might know what the Commission was doing in roadside development, a very necessary improvement in our highway beautification. I think it most interesting and since the Fed. has long been interested, it might be worth printing, when ever you have space and if you think it good copy.

(Continued on page 28)

GARDEN CLUB GLEANINGS—

(Continued from page 20)

the Community Garden Club, Miller, states that the December meeting was with Mrs. H. B. Lilly, with Mrs. F. Warren, co-hostess. The Christmas story was given by Mrs. Louis Hemmingson. Mrs. Don Crossman, Mrs. Natalie Bassinger, Mrs. Ralph Porter, and Mrs. Burrill Collins conducted an open forum on spraying, new roses, African violets, annuals, and planning the spring planting. Mrs. Bassinger was hostess in January, assisted by Mrs. Don Rock. Mrs. Emma Dixson gave an interesting report and showed pictures on the National Council Permanent Home in St. Louis, Mo. Mrs. Mildred Breeding gave a report on "How to Grow Gloxinias."

Mrs. J. B. Taylor sends the following information about the Brookings club. Officers for 1955 are: Mr. W. G. Binneivies, president; Mrs. Leslie Wilson, vice president; Mrs. E. M. Barnett, treasurer, and Mrs. J. B. Taylor, secretary.

Mrs. D. Davoux, of the Tri-State Garden Club, Valley Springs, tells of their Christmas meeting, which was held at the home of the president, Mrs. A. Torkleson. The hostess and Mrs. H. F. Klutman went all out in their display of indoor and out decorations. So many lovely things it is hard to know how to describe them. An S shaped door display of evergreens and a tinsel flower with colored ball center, with blue lights on each side; colored milkweed pods made beautiful poinsettias; a straw hat in half to make two wall baskets to hold decorations. The hats were first gilded. One gold arrangement demonstrated design, scale, balance, and harmony. The base was a gilded pie tin, using three gold candles in graduated heights, gilt milkweed stem and pods, grain stems and salina leaves, flowers made from sliced cones, colored. A copper screen funnel, trimmed with miniature balls, ribbon, and evergreen made a card holder. Some of these were made later for hospital patients. Roll call topic was "Christmas Party Suggestions." This sounds interesting to me. I'd like to have been there myself. At their January meeting Mrs. Crawford reported on "Plant Unusual Shrubs." The four basic principles of flower arrangement

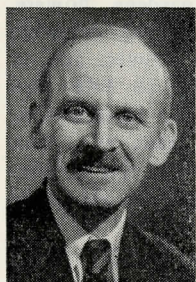
(Continued on page 30)

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

LANDSCAPING FOR LEAST WORK

by

PERCY H. WRIGHT



Wright

A few years ago I would have said that there were not ten farmers in the whole province of Saskatchewan who had made a serious attempt to landscape their home grounds, or to create anything even approaching

the design that is basic to all governmental pamphlets and bulletins on the subject. Farmers doubtless are as much interested in the beautification of their homesteads as anyone else, but the nature of their daily labors, so much akin to the care they will have to give their planted grounds, does not inspire the undertaking of anything either large or elaborate. To do so would be like asking the postman to go for a walk.

And yet, just a few days ago I was motoring through the Nipawin-White Fox district of the province, where a favorable climate has created a good deal of prosperity, and where moisture conditions are such that trees and shrubs are able to survive periods of neglect, even to growing in grass, provided only that the grass is trimmed occasionally. I was much struck with the percentage of farmers who had in fact done what I never expected to see—begin a landscaping design. The surprising thing was not only the number, but rather the fact that in many cases there had been no evident attempt to follow the advice of authorities on the subject (except for one man, the most successful of all), but that each farmstead had seemed to grow out of a sort of chance beginning by a process of addition. That is undoubtedly, to some extent at least, the way it should be. How else can a farmstead possess any individuality, unless natural features seem to have played a part in the formation of the basic design? Also the individuality of the owner must seem to be reflected in the individuality of the place. That design is pleasing which seems to have

grown—grown according to a law which determined it before hand, a law that took account both of necessity and choice, a sort of combination of freedom and pre-determination.

The first thing to do, in order to persuade any farmer to landscape, is to convince him that he is not adding so much to his work that all his spare time will be taken up in doing something which is no relief in itself to do, no relief because it is so like his regular work. A man wants some chance to read, to play with the children, to visit with the neighbors, to see the occasional ball game and the better shows, perhaps even to play pool. Any activity must be either work or pleasure, definitely either the one or the other. If maintaining the home grounds is to seem like pleasure in spite of its outward similarity to work, it must, first not promise too much work, and second, must promise quick returns in shelter and beauty. Designing the home grounds is fundamentally an art, and like the other arts, is a form of self-expression, and results in something in which one can take a pride. The difference between this art and regular art is a double one, of which the first is that one has more sympathy with plants than with mere blobs of color (though the plants may be blobs of color too) because they are living. This is the positive difference. The negative difference is a painting does not have to be "kept up." It is done once and for all, and makes no chores.

The first principle of beauty is that the curve should replace the straight line, and that the places where straight lines meet, that is, the corners, should so be filled in that their angularity is softened by the effect of a curve. The first principle of a layout that will make little work is that cultivation should be possible, preferably by fairly large implements. Is there a conflict here? Does the necessity of straight lines, which would seem to follow the necessity of cultivation by machinery imply that we cannot have the curves that the eye desires?

Straight hedges and windbreaks are undoubtedly easier to cultivate than curved ones, but, if the curve is not too marked, not enough easier that we should refrain from having any curves. One of the most attractive layouts that I saw was given beauty and dis-

tingtion by a curved hedge. The limitation is not only that the curve should be relatively gentle, but also that the space for the cultivator to turn in should have been provided for in the original designing.

The principle of the filling in of corners is perhaps not quite so easy to follow. To be sure, there will be fewer corners, and less angular ones, if curved hedges are used in place of straight ones, but the need to "fill in" a corner can hardly be avoided every time. This is particularly true of the corners of buildings, where the upright line of the corner meets the horizontal line of the foundation in one dimension, and of the ground in another dimension. The double angularity of house corners is the reason for planting a taller shrub at such corners. The chief contenders for the position the lilacs and honeysuckles. The suckering lilacs are the most beautiful, but their suckering makes work, and may create an eyesore in a spot where the eye beholds it every hour or so. The non-suckering lilacs are coarse in texture, and so tall and stiff that they are not well adapted to the softening of angles. Honeysuckles are better adapted to the purpose, especially the Tartarian and Blueleaf species. The Albert Regel honeysuckle, with its flowing lines, resembling a wave of the sea, is good for some foundation planting, but not tall enough for the corners.

No one, of course, will object to the small amount of hand labor that is entailed by the planting of the foundation of the home. It is not necessary to provide for any cultivation here, for the area involved is not large enough to discourage anyone's doing it by hand. At the same time, if the passage of many feet has packed the soil, deep and frequent loosening of it is desirable, and if some of this can be done by a small-size garden tractor, so much the better.

The lawn is always the main feature of beauty in the home grounds, provided that it gives a sense of spaciousness and is trimmed often enough not to look unkempt. Even though the weather should be too dry to make the grass look thrifty and green, the effect can be pleasing if only the grass is at a uniform height and there are no flower beds or other obstructions to
(Continued on page 28)



A SUCCESSFUL GARDEN CLUB

by
MRS. FLORA K. JEFFRIES

The Rapid City Garden Club now has a membership of 58. As you know we have both men and women in our club and they are pretty evenly divided. We meet in the Extension Club room in the basement of the court house, and there is no charge for the use of this room. However, in the summer we take our meetings to Canyon Lake Club House or the Community House in the park which is also available free of charge.

All of our meetings are started with a pot luck supper, at 6:30 in winter and 7:00 p.m. in summer, and do we ever have wonderful meals. This seems to be the best means we have found of making everyone feel relaxed and at ease so they can really enjoy themselves and the meeting, and all the other people that come to the meeting.

Our programs are mostly arranged by Mr. Atkinson, our program chairman, and he really provides us with interesting programs. We have a number of sources located here in Rapid City, that are available for informative speeches, such as the state foresters, Keep South Dakota Green, etc. These can always be obtained without charge, as they are glad to pass their information along, if we are willing to help

them, which we always are. We also have many visitors to Rapid City that are glad to visit our club and give us a talk. We are always glad to have them, and if they are here on our meeting night Mr. Atkinson usually can prevail upon them to make us a visit. Mr. Mears, our County Extension Agent, also brings us some interesting speakers when they happen to be here.

Then some of our programs consist of pictures. These are secured from various sources, some from the forestry department, and many from individuals living in Rapid City, who have taken interesting pictures, some local and some when they have been traveling. Recently we had pictures taken on a trip to Alaska over the Al-Can Highway. Also, recently a man stationed at Ellsworth Air Force Base showed us pictures of wild flowers, and gardens taken in Alaska when he was stationed there. We had pictures of Dr. Wick's trip to Hawaii, showing many of the native flowers and plants in the Hawaiian gardens. At our meeting this month, we are having pictures taken of the New Year's Day Parade at Pasadena, California, by a Rapid City man who went out to see the Rose Bowl game. We have also had the picture on roses put out by Jackson & Perkins, and the picture on mums put out by the Lehman Gardens. We had the picture of "The

Natchez Pilgrimage" and some films of the homes and gardens in Virginia as they are kept today.

Another feature we have is a "question box." Everyone can ask questions on any subject they wish, but usually having to do with gardens, flowers, trees, etc. There is usually someone who can furnish the answer, and in this way, we are able to help each other. I hope from this information, you will be able to select what you want, to go along with the picture, but then I forgot to tell you about the picture.

Each year we have our November and December meeting combined about the middle of December. This year it was December 16th. On Sunday, prior to this meeting as many of the members as wished to help went up in the woods and gathered greens consisting of pines, spruce and other plants available, and brought this material to the meeting for use in making Christmas decorations. Mr. Atkinson demonstrated how to make wreaths, sprays and door swags, and anyone who wished to make one or more for themselves paid the club 50c for the material used in each. There were 21 made, netting the club \$10.50. The ones of us who went after the greens took a lunch with us, made coffee over a grate in the park and had a wonderful time, as well as getting us each a Christmas tree for free. Mr. Mears took a picture of the people holding their wreaths after they had them completed, and that is the picture he sent you.

Our August meeting was held at the Olen Reed farm near Custer. This was held on Sunday, so more of our members could attend. We had a pot luck dinner and Mrs. Reed furnished us with all the roasting ears we could eat to go with the dinner. I think Mr. Atkinson sent you a picture of the wonderful glads they had blooming at that time. They have a big spring there so are able to irrigate their flowers and garden.

We had a flower show last spring, and plan to have another this year. We had it when the peonies were in bloom, and really had a wonderful exhibit of cut flowers as well as plants from Fort Meade Veterans Hospital and local people. We hope to have much more this year.

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE NOTES

by

F. X. WALLNER



Wallner

The new highway from Portland to Spokane will be much shorter by crossing the Columbia on the new bridge at McNary dam, then in Washington to the new bridge over the Columbia at Pasco, near Richland and Kennewick. The old Columbia river highway from Umatilla to Portland is all torn up and being changed to a four-lane speedway.

John brought me all the way—Twin Lakes, where our cabins are to Richland, his home, then just before New Years, to Portland and Oregon City, by car, and of course we had to get lost between Portland and Oregon City, on those many winding roads.

It takes ten pieces of slab wood to build a rigid lawn chair. We have three here at Kay Lou Acres and am sending this to John to have pieces cut for 4 chairs—two at each cabin—1 long piece 62 inches, 2 seat pieces 22 inches, 2 long legs 42 inches, 2 arm braces 32 inches. One center piece up to 26 inches, 1 cross piece top 19 inches, one back brace 36 inches; the only expense is a few nails.

Jan. 8th—Just seems to be impossible to get any fish for the pools so I invested in 5 more goldfish and put them in two of the same pools today although the water is 10 degrees colder than the tap water in the tank where they came from.

This evening, just before cutting my birthday cake, the telephone rang, calling me. The children from five states were singing "Happy Birthday," the Doctor in Illinois came in much clearer than Iowa or South Dakota. The debate was mostly about my age—some have me a year older than I really am.

The three waterwheels are still in good condition and going most of the time. The pools are all holding and all erosion has been stopped and I keep adding rock and earth to strengthen

the spillways and dams as the sudden rains and flash floods does find the weak spots in the man-made dams.

Jan. 26th—Frosty but foggy morning, but it is common winter weather here. Very little snow at any time and just for a few moments. I have just built a niche for a St. Francis statue with the birds, but feed and water about, so have plenty of live birds every day. The big addition to Grotto Park is a small outdoor chapel, built of free slabwood with bark attached. Benches inside and outside will be built in the next few days.

I have just finished repairing the railing to help you get up or down the deep trails to the lower level where most of the pools are located. Of all the signs and names in the park the one on the big walnut tree, "Sit a spell," is noticed most, so am debating what to put over the new chapel entry way. As so many wish to be alone with their thoughts and troubles, I remember a retreat master's topic, "You and God," so I expect that is what I will use. The fog is disappearing and the violets, primroses, heather and some other hardy shrubs are blooming.

Jan. 27th—I am on a project to make about 50 flower boxes out of slab wood that will be used mostly for begonias and fuchsia but they can be used for most any nice blooming plant to set any place or hang up on the porches or breezeway. This afternoon we turned woodsmen, went to a neighbor to help saw up several piles of evergreen wood.

NEWSLANTS—

(Continued from page 19)

moved the tomato belt several hundred miles north in the past thirty years. The most recent variety to come from this line of tomato breeding is the variety, Cavalier. Cavalier fruits average 20 per cent larger than the fruits of Bounty. Originators of Cavalier feel that it will eventually replace Bounty, Victor and Firesteel. Cavalier has a very desirable interior. This wasn't true of some of its ancestors. For more difficult situations, the smaller fruited and earlier variety, Early Chatham has made many friends on the Northern Great Plains. Early Chatham is the best variety to grow where seed is planted directly in the garden late in May. Doublerich, another new va-

riety, represents a successful attempt on the part of the plant breeders to improve the food value of our vegetables. This variety carries twice as much Vitamin C as does standard varieties. In fact Doublerich fruits contain as much Vitamin C as the average orange. Two years of trials in home gardens and on the trial plots at N. D. A. C. indicate that Doublerich is a very desirable and well behaved adapted variety for North Dakota.

There are several other garden crops that perhaps should have been listed herewith. However, we think we have covered the ones generally considered the most important. Our new garden variety leaflet for 1955 is available from any North Dakota county agent or the Information Department at N. D. A. C. Why don't you also ask for the circular, Fertilizers for Gardens and Lawns when you write.

The last week in December 1954 saw the passing of one of the great men of modern times. He was Liberty Hyde Bailey who would have been 97 years old next March 15. Dr. Bailey was born on a Michigan farm of parents who loved freedom so much that they named their son, Liberty. He lost his mother when he was four. She had been an outstanding gardener—Liberty inherited her interest in plants. His stepmother was partly responsible for sending him to Michigan State College. He became head of Horticulture at Michigan State and later Dean of Agriculture at Cornell. He was Mr. Horticulture for over 60 years. His cyclopedia of Horticulture and Hortus have been THE books in the field of Horticulture.

In fact, justice can not be done Bailey and his work in any short summary. I note that most magazines have not tried. Someone will write a large book about him and then only report the high spots. Cornell planned a big birthday party for him on his 90th birthday but it had to be postponed 6 weeks because Liberty Hyde Bailey was on a plant exploring trip all alone on an island in the tropics.

The late Dr. C. B. Waldron was a student of Bailey's at Michigan. He never tired of telling of events and incidents of their long friendship. I suggest you watch other Horticultural magazines for more detailed accounts of his contributions.

BIRD CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

by

RUTH HABEGER
502 N. Egan, Madison, S. D.



Miss R. Habeger

Now is a good time to begin your bird study program. There are a few ordinary all-year resident birds at the bird feeders which should be studied carefully. Even the lowly House Sparrow can be used as a measuring

stick and comparative study for birds that come later. Locate its white, chestnut and black markings. Be sure to identify male from female. Do this for the Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers, and also the White-breasted Nuthatch and the Black-caped Chickadee. Then, when the migrant sparrows and other birds appear, you will need *A Field Guide to the Birds* (\$3.75) or *How to Know the Birds* (35c). Both of these references are written by Roger Tory Peterson, and may be obtained at the Sioux Falls Book Store. It is really very satisfying to be able to tack the proper name to a bird all by yourself!

For your bird programs there is a splendid bird film strip and lecture notes on *Birds—Their Value to Agriculture* (\$1.00), prepared by the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of Agriculture Extension Service, Washington 25, D. C. This can be used again and again in adult and junior bird studies. It has a splendid background on bird conservation and should belong to the library of every small town or club library.

From the same address similar film strip and lectures are available for club use, and may help in planning a program for the year.

165—Nature of Plant Disease	.90
502—Soil and Water Conservation by Beaver	.90
503—Insect Pests in the Garden	.95
507—Famous Trees in the United States	1.00
558—Soil Conservation Benefits Wildlife	.90

633—A Dozen Don'ts for Gardening	1.20
637—Backyard Vegetable Garden	.95
641—The New Gardens	.90
704—Summer Care and Harvesting	.90

We wish to congratulate all of you who have become members of S. D. O. U. We are sure that there is good source material in its official publication, *South Dakota Bird Notes*. Besides you are helping a very worthy cause and will be eligible to attend the big Tri-State Ornithologists meeting in Sioux City in May.

We hope you are helping teachers who have YCL (Young Civic League) bird conservation programs this year. Write me for any help you may need.

LANDSCAPING—

(Continued from page 25)

reduce the sense of spaciousness. Any breaking of the lawn should be done by peninsulas rather than by islands, or, if islands are used, they should be small, be tucked away in a corner or placed much to one side. Specimen trees and shrubs, if placed in a lawn at all, should be either so dwarf that they do not seem to reduce the lawn, or trimmed so high, if they are trees, that they do not obstruct the view. In dry districts, each such specimen must have a generous area cut away from the grass around it, to give it a chance, and possibly to provide a shallow hollow for watering. In a moist district such as mine, trees and shrubs will thrive even though planted in grass. This fact, however, should not tempt us to destroy the value of the lawn merely because we can do so if we want to.

A tree, or a windbreak of trees, of course, also makes an angle with the ground line, and this angle should not be left harsh every time. Shrubs at the base of trees are good, but only if we choose our trees wisely, and have none that are going to rob the soil of so much moisture and nutriment that the shrubs have no chance. The evergreens are least demanding and least injurious to their neighbors, and such trees as poplars and cottonwoods are worst. Even tall shrubs can rob the soil to a considerable distance, for instance caragana.

In attempting to make a house seem like a home, and the home grounds like a garden, it is not necessary to "go the whole hog" and undertake a great deal all at once. One can remember this, that every little bit of beautification is welcome to the eye, as long as the plants are kept thrifty and look as though they were enjoying life—in other words, as long as the undertaking is successful. The first provision should be for shelter from winds, both for the home and for the gardens and orchards, and the second should be for foundation planting. The third should be for the lawn, but if other work presses, the lawn can be relatively small and no harm done. It is better to undertake a little than none, and it is better to undertake a little and give it care, than undertake a great deal and give it neglect. One should grow into his landscape by adding to it gradually, as he sees opportunities and feels needs. Planting that is designed all at once and executed all at once, is sure to leave one with a wish for changes. On the other hand, plantings that grow up too haphazardly are criticizable too. In suggesting lack of forethought they suggest lack of mind.

ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT—

(Continued from page 24)

We had a happy ten days over the holidays with our daughter and family in Chicago. Weather treated us rather rough all that period, in fact threw the book at us for we had rain, sleet, hail, snow, fog and thunder and lightning in the midst of the snow storm. This was a phenomenon, which had only happened once before in that area in the history of weather bureau, or so the T. V. told us, caused by the warm air from the lake meeting the cold blast from the north. It ended up in 9 inches of snow when we left after New Year's day. We were surprised to find no snow or ice here at Huron.

I am president this year of Fair City Club and our year book will be coming to you very soon now. See what you think of it.

Joe: "When I marry someday, it will be to a beautiful girl and a clever economical housekeeper."

Moe: "No, you can't do that, it would be bigamy."—SUCCESSFUL FARMING.

PRESIDENTIAL PRATTLE

by

J. M. (JOHN) ATKINSON



*"When ere you look upon this face,
You gaze upon a friend,
Who in your memory wants a place
And wants it till the end."*

Our good secretary has finally prevailed, or haggled might be a better word, into sending him a likeness of yours truly to add to the rogues gallery.

He has contended that people like to see who is saying what. I have steadfastly maintained that what they say is the important thing, not who said it. It seems he has won the argument.

I have inquired of many garden club members concerning what I should write. I received a number of varied answers. The best answer was by a good friend who asked, "Why not write on something you know about?"

And after reading some of the articles published in so-called garden magazines and the local paper I can see what he meant. One lady has suggested as long as my pursuits all pertain to horticulture in one form or another I might write about some of the things I am doing from day to day. This sounds like a logical idea and as I have nothing in particular which I care to discuss at present I have decided upon this course of action.

I arranged with a good neighbor to look after the fire in the house and greenhouse and water the plants. My

wife and I took off for a week's vacation back to our old home in southeast Nebraska to spend Thanksgiving with my sister and brother and also visit our daughter and son-in-law in Lincoln.

On our way down we picked up our daughter Janet who is attending State College in Brookings. While in Brookings I was fortunate to visit with McCrory and some of his staff. The college greenhouse is well taken care of and one was full of potted mums in full bloom.

When we arrived in my old home town I noticed that most of the people my age were getting old. Made me realize I'm not so young any more.

I spent most of my time visiting and eating, two of the things I do best.

I noticed several changes in the countryside, namely the nature of the wild timber had changed since my childhood. Now there are many honey locust, Russian mulberry, red cedar, and Chinese elm growing along the streams. All of which seem to have naturalized themselves in the last thirty years. I saw few young red elm; less cottonwood; less maple and less box elder. I saw more hackberry, more ash and about the same amount of white oak and black walnut as I remembered making up the natural timber.

I visited the old homestead (the place where I was born) and dug two Russian mulberry, several small persimmon sprouts, a number of wahoo and bitter sweet and some elderberry.

I intend to plant these around our new home and hope to be able to naturalize at least part of them.

We had to get Janet back to Brookings to register for the second quarter and intended to spend some time on the college campus. But Tuesday morning there was a blizzard so we started for home and drove in a blizzard clear across the state.

Here at home we had gotten eight inches of snow containing about one-half inch of much needed moisture.

I still had 1500 tulip and 150 Hyacinths not planted. I scooped the snow off the terrace which I had built this fall and filled with fresh soil and planted my bulbs, trying to get the tulips in at least six inches deep and the hyacinths four inches. Then I watered the entire bed thoroughly. I planted several dozen of tulips on the 18th of December last year which bloomed beautifully this spring although a week or ten days later than the other tulips. It will be interesting to see the blooming dates of tulips planted in October, November and December.

On December 12, a group from the Rapid City Garden Club went up into the "Hills" for green, Kennenick, spruce, and cedar, for the wreath making meeting held annually by the club. A small charge is made for material and the public is invited. The club has followed this plan for the past several years and have found it to be very popular with the public and the members.

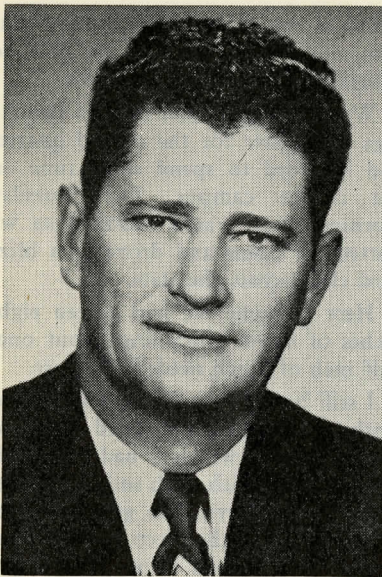
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JOE FOSS, Governor

PROCLAMATION

Pierre

Whereas, our trees, forests, forest products and forest influences are essential to the livelihood, well-being and recreation of the citizens of the state, and

Whereas, our trees and forests are one of our few renewable natural resources, and

Whereas, the experience in the past years in the shelterbelt and other related tree planting programs has furnished living proof that trees will live and grow if properly planted and cared for, and

Whereas, the Keep South Dakota Green movement and the Tree Farm program, in which outstanding farmers and timber owners are recognized, are proving a success, and

Whereas, it is most desirable that schools, civic organizations, farmers, newspapers, youth groups, young and old alike, participate in programs and ceremonies which emphasize the need for planting of trees and shrubs;

Now, therefore, I, Joe Foss, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim Friday, April 29, 1955, as

ARBOR DAY

and respectfully urge that appropriate exercises be held in the public schools; that the newspapers of the state lend their assistance; that civic, church, farm and youth organizations unite in

directing the attention of the people to the need and importance of conserving and increasing our vital supply of timber. Let Arbor Day be a tree planting day and a new and greater interest will be stimulated in our true appreciation of trees, tree planting and conservation. I earnestly request that the day be observed in a loyal and public spirited manner by all our people, and that Arbor Day will become a symbol of our faith in the future.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota to be affixed this 15th day of February, 1955.

JOE FOSS, Governor

Attest:

GERALDINE OSTROOT, Sec. of State

GARDEN CLUB GLEANINGS—

(Continued from page 24)

were taught by Mesdames Sanford, Torkleson, Davoux, and DeVaul.

Hats off to Mrs. D. S. Baughman, of the Madison Garden Club, for her strikingly beautiful mantle wreath, the only entry from South Dakota to make the Flower Arrangement Calendar, by Helen Van Pelt Wilson. Mrs. Berther, club president, says over 300 persons registered at the Holiday Tea and Flower Show. Theme—holiday music in design, featuring decorations, arrangements, and compositions for the home. The show was held December 4th, at Episcopal Guild Hall. From among 131 entries, a golden crescent of cones, fruits, and pods, made by Mrs. Milton Schrepel, won the nod of the three judges, as the best in the show. There were 67 out-of-town guests. Mrs. Berther was hostess to the Christmas supper party, assisted by vice president Ruth Habeger. The 27 members brought small Christmas trees, which were taken to patients who spent Christmas in the hospital.

Officers of the Start a Plant Club, Britton, are Mrs. Art Opitz, president; Mrs. Russel Fortner, vice president; Mrs. Sidney Nelson, secretary-treasurer. In her report, Mrs. Nelson states: During the past year we have given shrubs, garden and vegetable seeds, plants, and magazines for the Good Samaritan Home at Groton, as well as a basket of treats at Christmas time. The club donated money toward the permanent Christmas display proj-

ect, sponsored by the Business and Professional Women's Club. The sale of that very good little helper "Garden Gimmicks" was one means of raising money. A box was packed for a needy family. Their theme for this year is "For Beauty We Strive in '55." The club was organized in 1935. One of the year's projects will be the landscaping of a strip 8 feet wide on the west side of the city park. They donated \$5.00 to Abbott House and \$21.00 to the permanent home of the National Council. Members are fined 25 cents when absent from a meeting.

Mrs. O. Ulvilden, reporter for the Rural Garden Circle, Crooks, sends the following: Newly elected officers are: President, Mrs. Clara Orstad, Renner; vice president, Mrs. Cora Otterby, Rt. 4, Sioux Falls; secretary, Mrs. June Ring, Crooks; treasurer, Miss Alice Tidemann, Renner. The Christmas party, with pot luck dinner, and gift exchange, was held at the Otterby home. Gifts were sent to shut-ins. It was learned that two members raised 89 varieties of flowers and trees, 17 varieties of vegetables and 7 kinds of fruit. The lesson topic for January was "Winter Birds and Bird Feeding" and roll call, "Interesting Birds in Our Yard." Potted blooming plants are sent to shut-ins.

Mrs. L. N. Brakke, reporting for the Lyons Garden Club—The December meeting was a family party with 15 members and 11 husbands enjoying the pot luck lunch, gift exchange, music and social time. Several pictures were taken of the group.

The Centerville Garden Club had Family Night in November, at the Masonic Hall. Pot luck dinner served to 40 members and guests. Mrs. John Charleston showed slides and moving pictures of her trip to Europe. As a surprise, Mrs. Edgar Schmiedt showed a few pictures taken at the city dump last summer.

The Centerville Country Garden Club elected the following officers for this year: President, Mrs. Vernon Anderson; vice president, Mrs. Robert Holmberg, secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Ed Vick. A donation was sent to the Crippled Children's Hospital and School in Sioux Falls. They vacation in January.

THE WILLIAMSBURG MEETING

by

MRS. G. M. JORGENSEN



Jorgensen

Williamsburg, Va.—The complete program for the Ninth Annual Williamsburg Garden Symposium, featuring noted horticulturists from coast-to-coast, has just been announced by Colonial Williamsburg.

The annual event for home gardeners will be scheduled in two three-day sessions beginning March 9 and March 16, 1955. Morning programs during each of the three-day sessions will center on illustrated talks by horticulture and landscape experts. The afternoon programs will include informal discussions of the problems of home gardeners and garden clubs as well as guided tours of Williamsburg's 70 acres of restored 18th century gardens. Evening activity will include flower arranging demonstrations, color slide programs and gardener's banquets honoring two colonial Virginia botanists. The Symposium is jointly sponsored by Flower Grower Magazine and Colonial Williamsburg each year and attracts garden enthusiasts from more than half the states of the nation.

The first session beginning March 9 will be devoted to the general theme "Future Garden Trends" and will open with an illustrated talk by Hubert B. Owens of the University of Georgia on "What's Next in Garden Design?" Also on the Wednesday program will be Alden Hopkins, Resident Landscape Architect of Colonial Williamsburg, discussing "What Garden Designers of Today Can Learn From the Past," and Marget Cochran Cole of Flower Grower Magazine demonstrating "Flower Arrangements for Tomorrow's Homes." On Thursday, March 10, George Peyton, Secretary of the American Peony Society, will talk on his specialty, "A Plant With a Past and a Future," followed by information on "What's New in Soils," from U. S. Department of

Agriculture soil expert Charles E. Kellogg. Thursday evening, T. H. Everett of the New York Botanical Garden, will deliver the first John Curtis Williamsburg lecture, "Plants in Tomorrow's Design." The schedule for Friday, March 11, will have R. Milton Carleton, research director of Vaughn's Seed Company, speaking on "New Discoveries in Horticulture," and Richard D. Thompson, rose specialist of Philadelphia, discussing "What's Ahead in Roses."

During the second session, March 16-18, the speakers will deal with the techniques and pleasures of "Living With Gardens." Wednesday morning Ralph Bailey, garden editor of House and Garden Magazine, will speak on "The Garden as Part of Your Home"; Alden Hopkins points out the place of "The Colonial Garden in Modern Life," and author Esther Grayson Rockwell will give an evening demonstration of "Flower Arrangements to Live With." Thursday, Fred F. Rockwell of Flower Grower Magazine will discuss "Bulbs the Year Around," George Pring of the Missouri Botanical Gardens will take up "Plants for the Garden Pool," and Garrett Eckbo, noted California landscape architect, will give the first John Clayton Williamsburg lecture "Living with Gardens." Harold Epstein, New York horticulturist, and Harry Wood of Swarthmore College, will close the session on Friday with talks on "New Ideas from Old World Gardens" and "The Care and Feeding of Lawns, Trees, and Shrubs."

Special tours of historic Virginia homes have been arranged for the Symposium participants each week. Both sessions begin with an informal Tuesday evening reception and conclude with a special candlelight concert in the colonial governor's palace.

Registration for the 1955 Symposium is handled by Mrs. Alma Lee Rowe, registrar, at the Goodwin Building, Williamsburg, Va. Special rates for accommodations at Williamsburg Inn and Williamsburg Lodge have been set for persons attending the Symposium.

Domestic harmony is imperiled the minute somebody realizes he is being forced to play second fiddle.—W. EARL HALL.

POEMS

by

MARY LOUISE KINYON

COLLECTOR

*I tore one tiny little poem
From out an old dull looking tome.
I thought it was a treasure rare
As this small poem—I did tear.*

*The book was all yellow with age
Who would care for one old page.
Later my husband roared—"Perdition
Some one has torn my first edition."*

*The book I tore was very rare.
The tiny verse beyond compare.
But from now on—I'll take a look
At the first page—of any book.*

PREFERENCE

*I love a thick white pea soup fog
—A curly mutt—that's just a dog.
The throaty croakings of a frog
And springy feeling of a bog.
A sprig of blossoms in the spring
The pungent smell that spruce trees bring.
A fire burning on the grate
The goofy programs that come in late
To lay in bed till almost noon
And scoop my peas up with a spoon
To sop my bread in the gravy brew
When eating a luscious Irish stew
You say no one will be my host
Well—let them entertain Emily Post.*

The conspicuous broom-like bunching of twigs on the branches of the Hackberry is a deformity known as Witches Broom. Although the exact cause of the disease is unknown, a gall mite and a powdery mildew fungus are believed to be responsible. No effective control measures are known.—MORTON ARBORETUM BULLETIN.

Smart: "Yes, my maiden aunt adores her goldfish so much that she keeps them in her bathtub."

Alec: "What does she do about the fish when she takes a bath?"

Smart: "Oh I think she blindfolds them."—SUCCESSFUL FARMING.

It has been said: Moderation is a little stream which flows softly, but it freshens everything along its course, Madame Swetchine.—MASON CITY GLOBE GAZETTE.

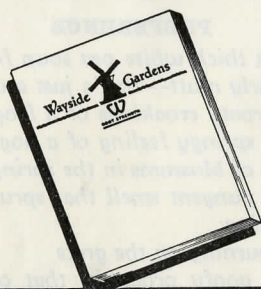
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Gardens

SECRETARY'S CORNER

by
W. A. SIMMONS



Simmons

In sending in his dues, Mr. Eldred Buer, of Canby, Minn., writes as follows:

"We put out better than a thousand seedling lily bulbs of various crosses, last fall and are carrying a couple of thousand more

over in the greenhouse, to be set in '55. So far the weather has been most kind with a nice covering of snow for protection against what little cold we have had. Last night was the first time it has gotten below zero this winter. 1954 was a very good year in our locality. We had ample rainfall, most of the season, which not only gave us a bumper corn and bean crop but we were also rewarded most generously in the orchard and garden. Mrs. Buer and

I wanted so much to attend the annual meeting, last year, but work here was very pressing and we didn't feel we should take the time. Now that it will be so near in 1955, perhaps we will be able to attend."

Those that visited Mr. Buer's garden in 1953, can imagine what his garden will be like when all those lily hybrids come into blossom.

Am sinfully proud of being able to induce Mrs. Jeffries to write that fine article about the eminently successful Rapid City Garden Club. Had often wondered what made it tick so regularly and well. Food seems to be one of the main reasons, and having so many food appreciating, lovely male members, another. If we have any club that is barely hanging on, without going any place, they should try the Rapid City way. In case you haven't any men in your club, just try the potluck plan, inviting friend husband, and in a short time you can easily double your membership, for hubby will become an enthusiastic member once he finds out about the good food obtainable at the club meetings.

In our club, we do not send them

away hungry, but wait till the end of the meeting, when we feed them coffee and sandwiches, with a social visit around the lunch table. But of course, this is not as luring as a solid meal of groceries would be. The women have to feed them anyway and it costs no more to feed them at the meeting, than at home and there is no chance for them to growl, in case everything is not just right.

Too many motorists seem to labor under the delusion that the function of their horn is to blow people out of their path.—W. EARL HALL.

In London Chas. Finlayson-Hunter was dragged into court on the charge that he was driving under the influence of something stronger than tea. To prove it the doctor submitted a specimen of the prisoner's handwriting. The magistrate dismissed the charge on the ground that Finlayson-Hunter's writing was much better than that of the doctor.—TED STEELE.