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DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER, 1955

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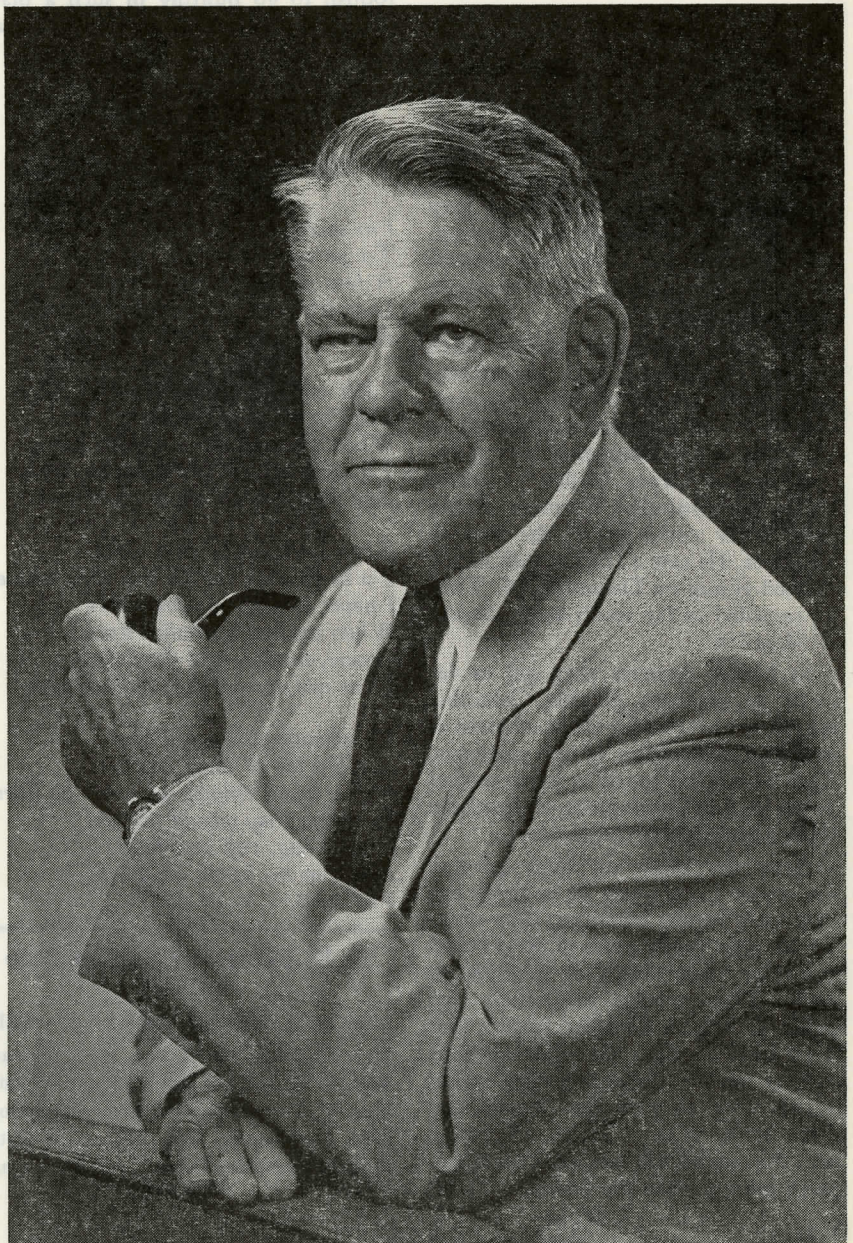
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The Late
DR. GEORGE F. WILL
(1884-1955)



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THE CINNAMON TEAL

by
O. A. STEVENS



O. A. Stevens

This duck ranges west of the Great Plains area and is only rarely found farther east. The male is similar to a blue-winged teal but the head, neck, and underparts are reddish brown, much like the head of a redhead.

The back also has much reddish color. The female naturally is similar to a female blue-wing but is somewhat darker.

A question that is often asked is whether birds nest again in the south where they spend our winter. This is always answered in the negative even for those that go far enough so they have weather similar to our summer. The cinnamon teal is the only known northern species that has a southern hemisphere group.

The northern ducks scarcely reach tropical regions on their migrations so the two groups remain separated. The American Museum expeditions to Colombia found cinnamon teal abundant in the Cauca Valley at about 3500 feet altitude. Wetmore found them fairly common in the Buenos Aires area. He saw a female with newly hatched young on December 16. They are recorded as far south as the Straits of Magellan.

In North America they get as far north as southern British Columbia and since the Pacific Coast climate is mild their migration is not extensive. They nest as far south as south central Texas and in some parts of northern Mexico and Lower California.

Nests are often on high ground, well away from water or in fields but frequently in wet locations. The number of eggs varies from 6 to 14 and the color from buffy or pinkish to white. They average just about two inches in length. Another feature that is unusual is that the male remains to help care for the young. One writer records that he saw one female and three males with a group of young and the males all seemed concerned, much more so than the female.

General habits of this duck are similar to that of the well known blue-winged teal. It feeds largely upon vegetable matter, the seeds of pondweeds, sedges and grasses making up about 70 per cent of the total.

Elliot Coues, in his Birds of the Northwest (a useful report, published in 1874 and still available from dealers) wrote at length of his observations on the headwaters of the Rio Verde in November. Ducks of several kinds were numerous in the pools formed by beaver dams but they were quick to take off when alarmed. Coues was an army surgeon and "the only trails were Indian trails, here always war paths." He felt they were a bit foolish to go hunting in such a place but since no trouble was encountered it remained a wonderful experience.

SUPER MARKETS

by
MRS. MARY LOUISE KINYON

*I'm saving up my energy
To go upon a shopping spree,
A few simple things I need
Laundry soap, a package of seeds,
A quart of milk, bottle of cream.*

*Little enough it would seem
Yet I'm worn to the bone,
When I get these groceries home.
To walk around these super marts
And push one of those metal carts.*

*Then wait a long hour drear
To be checked by the one lone cashier.
I never thought it was a bore
When we had a smaller store
Grocer, butcher and the baker
Were not spread over half an acre.*

*We always got special care
Saved a lot of wear and tear
A few small things, a pound of liver
Even less they would deliver.
Now I lug, tug and haul
And I'm no better off at all,
I'm tired.*

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DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

NEWSLANTS

by
HARRY A. GRAVES



Graves

Horticulture on the Northern Great Plains lost a good friend in the passing of Dr. George F. Will. George passed away early on the morning of Sunday, October 2. While he hadn't been in the best of health for the

past few years, his brief stay in the hospital had not caused any great concern. As late as the night before he died, he was expected home in two or three days. He would have been 71 years old on November 8.

George Will gained renown as an outstanding authority on North Dakota history and was known widely for his work in the introduction and propagation of new varieties of seeds and plants in North Dakota.

A member of the Bismarck Board of Education for 13 consecutive terms, his name was almost synonymous with the public school system in Bismarck.

As president of the Oscar H. Will and Co., Mr. Will had been active in Bismarck business community since being graduated from Harvard University in 1907. But he was equally devoted to his studies in the field of history.

At Harvard, he studied botany in preparation for the business he knew he would enter. But only a few years ago he confessed that his "first love" still was anthropology and archeology. In his spare time, and a president of the North Dakota Historical Society, he followed this inclination to important findings.

George Will was associated with the North Dakota State Horticultural Society from its organization in 1923 until his death. He was its president in 1931, 1937 and 1941. He was the honored friend of a host of people. Recently I learned to know George Santee, a Sioux full blood, on the Standing Rock Reservation in Sioux County. Santee is well known in the area for his good gardening. Santee was at Carlisle in the days of Jim Thorpe but he is more proud of the fact that he was a friend of George Will.

During his junior year at Harvard College, George Will was a member of an archeological expedition which studied remnants of the Mandan Indian "double ditch" earth lodge village north of Bismarck. In recent years he assisted in archeological investigations in areas along the Missouri River either already or soon to be flooded by Garrison Dam. He was an outstanding authority on the Mandan Indians.

One of Mr. Will's most startling works was reported by him in a bulletin entitled "Tree Ring Studies in North Dakota," published by the North Dakota Agricultural College agricultural experiment station in 1946.

In it he told how his study of tree rings had determined the number and length of wet and dry cycles the state experienced over the preceding 500 years. By studying the cross sections of trees and observing the distance of one ring from another, he was able to tell whether any given year was a wet or a dry one.

The National Park Service, in 1949 said his findings helped lead to a "new interpretation" of climatic fluctuations in the Plains area.

For Mr. Will, the study of botany and history and, indeed, all phases of his native North Dakota was a labor of love.

He liked nothing more than an early morning walk across the prairie or through the woods with his dog at his side and his pipe in his mouth.

Clad in rough and worn clothing, with his dog "Thor" ranging close at hand, Mr. Will kept up these walks until about a year ago, in winter taking to skis to carry on his explorations.

Numerous honors came to Mr. Will during his life for his work in history and botany.

He was awarded an honorary degree of doctor of science by the North Dakota Agricultural College in 1940 for his research and writing in seed and plant development and in anthropology.

He was a student of Indian lore and life and of Indian agricultural practices, and had written several books and many scientific articles as a result of his research.

Published books by Mr. Will included "Corn Among the Indians of the Upper Missouri," "The Mandans; A Study of Their Culture, Archaeol-

ogy and Language," "Corn for the Northwest," "Notes on the Arikara Indians and Their Ceremonies," a translation of "Army Life in Dakota," by De Trobriand, and many valuable papers of historical significance.

He was a contributor to anthropology papers of the American Museum of Natural History, and to papers of the Peabody Museum concerning a tree ring study of the plains area.

He was a member of the Bismarck School Board for more than 30 years, and served on the state park commission and the Bismarck City Zoning Board for many years.

He was a former president of the North Dakota Historical Society, and president of the board of directors of the Bismarck Public Library.

He was a member of the Rotary Club, Sons of the American Revolution, American Association of Advanced Science, American Anthropological Association, past treasurer of the American Society for American Archaeology, and the American Newcomen Society. He attended the Episcopal church.

Born on Nov. 8, 1884, in Bismarck, he was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Will. He received his early education in Bismarck Public Schools. He was married to Katherine Sterrett on July 4, 1909, who died in 1919.

He leaves his wife, the former Elvira Kangas, whom he married on June 15, 1924, two sons, George F. Will, Jr., who is connected with the Will Seed House and nursery business here; and Oscar H. Will, II, music instructor in the Bismarck High School; two daughters, Mrs. Richard B. Exton, Orcas Island, Washington, and Mrs. Miles Arman, Bismarck; a sister, Mrs. Worthy Lumry, 311 Third St., and 6 grandchildren.

We are indebted to the Bismarck Tribune for much of the material in this tribute. Much more will be written about George Will in the next 10 years. Even though I only knew him for not quite 20 years, his passing seems to me to mark the end of an era in Great Plains Horticulture.

The Bismarck Tribune carried this editorial the day of his funeral. It said so much in a few paragraphs that I am quoting it verbatim here.

"For a man who did so much in so many ways for so many purposes, George F. Will of Bismarck was an

(Continued on page 136)

GARDEN CLUB GLEANINGS

by
MRS. VERN TOMPKINS



Mrs. Tompkins

I enjoyed attending the south eastern South Dakota Regional meeting at Hurley, and I do hope that they have, in this issue, a report on it, for it was very worthwhile. There is an advantage to being

closer together, etc., but those girls really have what it takes. Some very clever ideas were worked out in the flower show, of mostly dried arrangements, using driftwood, corn husks, gourds, pumpkins, as well as a few late blooming flowers.

The crisp November wind of today brings to mind a verse I read recently:

WIND TAG

The wind is playing tag with the seeds,

*Among the bushes and rustling weeds,
Whirls them up and whirls them down,*

*Over the meadows and over the town;
Fluffy seeds with little wings,
Fly like kites that have no strings,
Puffy round ones roll and roll,
Landing in a mossy bowl.*

*Stick-tites cling to man and beast,
Hitch-hike south and hitch-hike east,
Others snuggle down to stay,
Beneath a rock until that day,
Springtime winds will find that these,
Are lovely flowers and baby trees.*

—Author unknown.

Mrs. O. Ulvilden, publicity chairman of Rural Garden Circle of Crooks states that their September meeting was held at the home of Laura Nytroe, with Pearl Nelson assisting. Alice Tidemann presented the program on flowers for winter bouquets. Clara Orstad, club chairman, gave a report on her recent trip to the Canadian Rockies. Election of officers resulted in the following: Flora Steer, chairman; Laura Nytroe, vice chairman; and Cora Otterby, secretary.

The Miller Community Garden Club met with Mrs. Charles Grey, in September, with Mrs. Roland Boldt co-hostess. Roll call topic was "what I can do to make my yard more beautiful." After the report on the flower

show Mrs. Joy and Mrs. Porter were appointed to meet with the park committee to purchase something for the park. Slides shown by Mrs. Robert Dixson were enjoyed. In October the meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Burrell Collins, with Mrs. Emma Spicer co-hostess. Roll call topic was "my success with my flower." Mrs. A. B. Crossman led a discussion on dahlias. The following officers were elected: president, Mrs. Robert Dixson; vice president, Mrs. Natallie Basinger; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. Marion Borah. Mrs. Burrell is reporter for this club.

The Pierre Garden Club met on Farm Island for a picnic supper. Roll call "trees that have made history" proved very interesting. Marven Strand was guest speaker and told how to identify trees, and recommended trees that would grow well in South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Thomsen assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Vanderwald, were hosts to the picnic supper using wild flowers as table decorations. Mrs. Roy B. Baker sends this report.

Mrs. Harold Limmer sends the report of the South Sioux Falls Garden Club. In June Mrs. E. W. Elmen demonstrated corsage making at the afternoon meeting held at the home of Mrs. Martin Johnson. In September they entertained the Sioux Falls Garden Club at a potluck supper at the town hall. Dr. S. A. McCrory, from State College gave an informative program on State College and what it can do for the people. Floral and fruit arrangements in autumn tones added to the setting. A popularity vote was taken and prizes awarded.

Mrs. L. N. Brakke sends news of the Lyons club. A picnic in McKennan Park, Sioux Falls, was one of the summer activities. For an open meeting Mr. F. X. Wallner and his son, Frank, came from Sioux Falls and showed slides of scenes in Hawaiian Islands, and of Frank's trip to Europe. In October a talk on "winter protection of plants." Election of officers was held at this time, with Mrs. Alec Sundal elected president; Mrs. Louis Howe, vice president; Mrs. Alfred Otterby, secretary and treasurer, and Mrs. L. N. Brakke, corresponding secretary.

Mrs. A. M. Odland writes from the Home Garden Club of Britton:

We are happy to have as our president this year, Mrs. Frank Mock, who is also first vice president of the South Dakota Federation. One of our plans for the coming year is the second Iris Show, which we will have in connection with the National Iris Society. Our study work for the coming year will be material from the Woman's Home Companion Book on Gardening. Additional plantings at the city park will be made this year. We will wrap Christmas packages for the Children's Home.

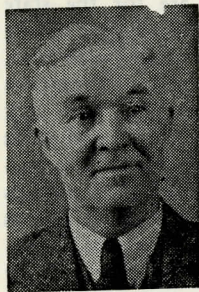
Nita Jorgensen says, from the Dell Rapids club, and I quote: "It is safe to say the city hall, where the Dell Rapids Garden Club meets has never before witnessed such a parade of lovely blossoms and arrangements as have been brought each month this year. While no theme was mentioned in the year books, most of the programs were based on some phase of flower arrangement, and each month's exhibit was closely correlated to that theme. In June movies of the Laura Lee Burroughs flower arrangements, through the courtesy of Coca Cola, the refreshing tang of ice cold cokes which were served that sweltering night, being as welcome as the pictures. Leonard Young was the gracious and generous demonstrator on flower arrangements at the July meeting, bringing gifts of beautiful corsages for honored members of the club. The August program brought a combination talk, demonstration, and Koda slides of centerpieces for special occasions, with Mrs. Jorgensen leader. House plants were used in the October program, by Mrs. Ernest Greening and Mrs. Peter Wick. Their clever treatment of the topic 'Dramatize Your Houseplants,' made them arrangements in the truest sense of the word. A few candles, figurines, bases, and backgrounds combined with the most simple pots of planted material can make it truly a 'conversation piece.' Fall is a wonder time to garden said Mrs. H. N. Dybvig, in her talk on fall planting for spring gardens. She showed how many planting chores can be accomplished and enjoyed at this time of year. Dell Rapids is proud of the citation recently received by our president, Mrs. Joe Flamo, for 100 per cent participation in the fund raising campaign for National Council permanent home. \$71.00 was sent from the club."

(Continued on page 141)

MANITOBA NEWS LETTER

by

W. R. LESLIE



Leslie

Dr. George F. Will, scientist, historian, plantsman, scholar, anthropologist, gentleman, and generous, warm friend has passed on. His death occurred in a Bismarck hospital, Sunday morning, October 2nd. A

very large number of people outside of his immediate family mourn. Certainly the staff at the Morden Experimental Farm are deep in sadness.

George Will has been one of our most treasured associates since 1917 when he guided a couple of Manitobans over the fields and mounds along the Missouri River where the first notable tillers of the northern prairies, the Mandan Indians, had farmed. As pieces of clay pottery and other artifacts were unearthed, he would explain them and estimate the period of their long-ago manufacture. Through the intervening years no available opportunity to enjoy his unusually enriching fellowship has been lost. Alas, the occasions, now ended, have been too few.

Almost 71 years of age, a native of Bismarck, he never imparted the impression of being a rather young man. His keen zest for living and his wide and deep understanding, and appreciation of his surroundings, account for the effect. He graduated from Harvard University in 1907. In 1940 he was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Science by the North Dakota Agricultural College in recognition of his research in and writing on plant development and anthropology.

Among his published books are "Corn Among the Indians of the Upper Missouri," "The Mandans; A Study of Their Culture, Archaeology and Language," "Corn for the Northwest," and "Notes on the Arikara Indians and Their Ceremonies." His numerous articles on trees, plants, and Indians as published in Dakota Horticulture have added to the distinction of that esteemed gardening journal. Dr. Will a few months ago wrote

giving sanction to use the substance of his articles freely. A series of six issues of Morden Experimental Farm Notes have been written from his writing and will shortly be distributed. They deal with plant uses by the Indians of the prairies.

As president of the Oscar H. Will & Co., Seedsmen and Nurserymen, he has introduced many varieties of field corn, squash, beans, and other vegetables. Two of his woody introductions of much value in Manitoba are Schubert Chokecherry and Northwest poplar.

Among the notable prairie citizens who have derived much pride and enrichment from frequent and intimate association with the great man of the northern prairie plains are Dr. M. R. Gilmore, Dr. David Stewart, Russell Reid, Harry A. Graves, Dr. A. F. Yeager, Dr. F. L. Skinner, W. P. Baird, Professor V. W. Jackson, and Professor F. W. Brodrick.

Peonies are beautiful hardy herbaceous perennials, esteemed by all prairie gardeners. Many queries come as to the color of varieties. For reference brief notes are here given, with the comparative ratings, on a basis of 10 as the possible, of many of the well established double-flowered varieties.

White

Albatre 8.7—considered identical with Avalanche.

Alesia 9.0—white, symmetrical, large, excellent at Morden.

Alice Harding 9.5—light flesh pink guard petals to creamy white center, fragrant, large.

Alsace-Lorraine 8.8—white tinted cream, large, strong fragrance, late.

Baroness Shroeder 9.0—flesh-white tinted cream, fragrant, very large.

Betty Blossom 8.9—globular, white with clear yellow staminoides in center.

Boule de Neige 8.0—white with fluffy center of narrow petals and stamens, prominent crimson flecks on some petals, pungent fragrance, large.

Couronne d'Or 8.1—white, center petal tipped crimson, strong odor, late.

Duchess de Nemours 8.1—white guards with light canary-yellow center, impressively fragrant, large, early.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning 9.2—creamy blush becoming white with a pale yellow glow, red markings on some petals, very fragrant, late.

Enchantresse 8.9—white with lemon tints and some crimson edging,

faint fragrance, very large and very late.

Festiva Maxima 9.3—white with a few prominent crimson flakes on some central petals, fragrant, very large, early. As grown at Morden, requires staking to support the rather weak flower stems.

Frances Shaylor 8.6—white tinted yellow in collar, pleasant fragrance, large.

Frances Willard 9.1—pale pink buds opening white with a few faint red lines, large, medium to late.

Grace Loomis 9.2—white with lemon tints in the deep petals, large, late.

Isoline 8.3—anemone type, cream-white, canary yellow center, marked with prominent crimson spots, rank odor, large.

Kelways Glorious 9.6—white, crimson streaks on outside guard petals, strong rose-like fragrance, large, superb.

La Lorraine 8.6—creamy white, tinted pink, large.

Laura Dessert 8.8—anemone type, guard petals pale pink turning cream to white, center of yellow petaloids, fragrant, early.

Le Cygne 9.9—white tinged ivory then white, early. Has won highest of official ratings but at Morden it lacks vigor and is less adapted than some others.

Marie Jacquin 8.3—pale pink becoming creamy white, pungent perfume, large.

Marie Lemoine 8.5—lemon white, some crimson edging, richly fragrant, large, late, popular.

Mary Woodbury Shaylor 9.0—pale flesh-white with some strong crimson blotches, golden stamens; dwarf plant, large flowers.

Mrs. Edward Harding 9.3—pure white, golden stamens, tall plants. Much like Enchantresse but larger plants.

Primevere 8.6—anemone type, flattish, creamy-white, center canary yellow, fragrant. Much like Laura Dessert.

Pink

A. P. Saunders 8.6—Pale flesh-pink to white in center, fragrant, large, late.

Blanche King (unrated)—glistening dark pink with silvery sheen. Very large, very late.

Claire Dubois 8.7—bright rose-pink with mauve tinting, large, late.

(Continued on page 143)

FLOWER SHOW CORNER

by

JUANITA JORGENSEN, *State Chmn.*
Dell Rapids, S. D.



Jorgensen

Most flower shows will be relegated to the past before this is printed, but more and more clubs are staging exciting fall and winter shows featuring the use of dried materials, and of living plants. The Madison Garden Club stages a beautiful show, in late November that is worth driving far to see.

We want to congratulate the garden clubs who had the courage to sponsor flower shows in late summer this year when many clubs postponed their plans because of drought. Over 300 persons viewed Pierre's "Symphony of Flowers" in mid-August to see how "Ave Maria," "A Little Bit of Heaven" and "How Dry I Am" would be interpreted in flower arrangements. All classes in the arrangement section were song titles and helped to make a fascinating show. Hurley's Green Thumb folks held a flower show on October 17th in connection with the District 5 meeting, that was a great credit to them. Fall blooming iris, roses, and delphinium, as well as many other flowers combined with plenty of mums, driftwood and dried materials made a show of beauty and a variety of ideas.

Word has just been received from Mrs. John Everett, National Council

accrediting chairman, who points out several errors in the requirements we have been using for standard flower shows. She says there has never been a ruling which would bar a garden club from selling tickets for a show; and that contrary to our former beliefs, commercial exhibits are permissible and welcome. The latter ruling, especially, is good news, for it has always been a matter of regret to me that the educational value of commercial exhibits should be eliminated from our shows. Thank you, Mrs. Everett.

The following are required for a standard flower show: 1. a theme; 2. two divisions—horticultural and arrangement; 3. a panel of judges (three suggested), one of whom must be accredited by National Council. Most states require two accredited judges, and we will undoubtedly come under that ruling as soon as we acquire more judges within the state.

In addition, if your club plans to make application for the National Council purple rosette for flower show excellence, your show must have been sponsored by one federated club only. The process of applying for a purple rosette is begun when you first decide upon a show—not after the show is over.

1. Notify your state flower show chairman that you plan to apply for a purple rosette. This is to allow her time to contact members of her committee and make arrangements for someone to visit the show and evaluate it.

2. Local chairman must make up a scrapbook, folio, or folder of some kind containing all the data, pictures, publicity and schedule, which would help in any way to put your show in a favorable light.

3. Mail this data to your state flower show chairman. The requirements of "one photo, one story, one schedule" which have been widely circulated and were understood to be all that were required, are for the state chairman only, and the original ruling about making a folio still holds true.

It is the state chairman who removes the above data from the two best scrapbooks submitted to her, and sends these to the state president for forwarding to National Council awards chairman. Your state president acts as your representative in National Council. We hope next year there will be still more purple rosette applications from which to choose.

Memo to club treasurers and finance chairmen: For gifts and fund raisers the products recommended for sale by your National Council sales department are tops. Your own treasury gains from 1/4 to 1/3 the price of your investment on Barton-Cotton Products, are Handy Hoe (a jewel, I can vouch for), E-Z Fill Bird Feeders, Soft Touch Gloves (I won't use any other), and Auto Ti-Dee Litterbags. Write to Mrs. Ida Bingen, Andover, South Dakota.

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

by

ALICE H. PLATT

During the past year I contributed 5 articles to SOUTH DAKOTA HORTICULTURE and answered every request for material promptly, always writing a letter with suggestions, as well as sending whatever material I had. I have given out material to nearby clubs for which no postage was charged. Ten packages of year books mailed out, 18 letters written.

HOME OF *Seeds and Trees That Grow
and Satisfy*

Gurney Seed and Nursery Co.

YANKTON, SOUTH DAKOTA

BOOK REVIEWS

by
MRS. R. G. FERRIS

Greedy Gardeners by Richardson Wright. J. B. Lippincott Company, East Washington Square, Philadelphia 5, Pennsylvania. 96 pages, 14 photographs.

Boxed, price \$3.50.

Another of Richardson Wright's books worthy of your attention for pleasurable and serious reading. He puts into words the spirit and inspiration of gardening. Perhaps it is true that all gardeners are greedy, always wanting more and more to sprout in their own briar-patch. One kind of plant does not satisfy them. What is one variety of rose, one of iris, one kind of peony, one lilac? The author's witty treatment of this subject is delightful. The wash-tubs of the WACs, used in pool gardening, is something you should read about. This book would make a nice gift for your garden-minded friend.

Growing Plants Under Artificial Light by Peggie Schulz. M. Barrows & Company, Inc., 425 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, N. Y. 192 pages, 28 black and white photographs, full color frontpiece. Price \$3.50.

Now we have a book dealing with man-made sunlight. This is the first book to be published on growing plants under artificial light. No greater boon to the gardener, than the discovery, in our time, of incandescent and fluorescent lighting to enjoy plants indoors. Now the apartment dweller, the home owner with only north and west windows and we who live where winters are long and dark can have beautiful displays of violets, begonias, gloxinias, amaryllis, tulips, geraniums, even in a shaded living room, hallways or basement. Detailed culture is given for 155 plants under light, also the setups, where to buy, how to install, how much it will cost and estimated use of electricity.

For those of you fortunate enough to have a greenhouse, the chapter on "Lights in the Greenhouse" gives information on seed planting, rooting cuttings, and a chart of 42 annuals and perennials with recommended periods for lighting. You can extend the

day and bring plants into quicker and better bloom. Everyone interested in growing plants indoors will find valuable information on this modern aid to gardening.

Bonsai: Miniature Trees by Claude Chidamian. D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc., 120 Alexander Street, Princeton, N. J. 96 pages, 10 line cuts and 15 halftones. Price \$3.95.

Now we have a book on the magic of Bonsai, the cultivation of miniature potted trees, never more than a foot high. A straight-forward text, giving instructions on plants, collecting, buying, propagating, containers, soil, potting, shaping, pruning and maintenance will make the culture of bonsai almost irresistible. It can bring the glamor and mystery of the Orient to your garden.

The author, Claude Chidamian, understands the rich Oriental history and true meaning of the little trees. He grows them with success and affection. Quoted from the Preface of the book: "After I began this book I understood why it had not been written before—why it must perhaps be written again by others in years to come. For bonsai are far more than potted plants, they are works of art. The author writing on them might as easily explain how to compose a fine symphony, paint a masterpiece, or write great literature.

"The mechanical aspects of bonsai are simple enough to explain. There is no magic in bonsai culture. Its techniques are based on sound horticulture principles, experience, and patience. But the artistic side of these tiny trees is well-nigh impossible to convey. Bonsai are planted in philosophy, shaped by art, grown with love. Without some grasp of this intangible artistic process, the bare technique of making bonsai amounts to nothing.

"If this book succeeds in bringing this feeling and appreciation for bonsai to the reader, it may deserve to be the first complete book on the subject in English."

"Do you like conceited men better than the other kind?" "What other kind?"—ARGUS-LEADER.

WINTER CARE OF ROSES

by
MRS. CARL METZGER



Mrs. Metzger

Old man winter will soon be "a comin' round the corner," so now is the time to winterize your roses; at least to take the first step. Now in late October or early November, water until the ground is soaked down

deep. Next use any dirt available to mound each bush from 8 to 10 inches high; this may be obtained from around the roses, but be very careful not to disturb the roots.

If you have a rosebed, dig a rather deep trench in the center, filling this trench with cow manure (not too well rotted). In this way you can "kill two birds with one stone"; you have the necessary dirt for winter protection and come spring, the fertilizer necessary to insure healthy, vigorous plants ready to give you many and beautiful blooms. At that time remove the mounded dirt and water well. Water each week making sure that the roses have the equivalent of one inch of rain. A mulch of cow manure or peat moss will help retain this moisture. Apply Vigoro or any similar commercial fertilizer when needed.

Roses are heavy feeders and also like plenty of moisture at regular intervals. Their roots lie near the surface so cultivate lightly. But back to our winterizing: wait til the ground is well frozen. Then if you have just a few roses, fill deep, well-ventilated boxes half full of leaves and invert over the bushes, pushing them well down over the mound. If you have a number of roses in one place, make a pen of 12 inch boards around them and fill it with leaves so that the roses are completely covered. By the way, experienced rosarians tell us to go easy on fall pruning. There are just two steps to take your beloved roses through the long hard winter:

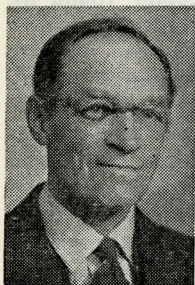
1. Hill them up in October.
2. Cover with boxes of leaves when the ground is frozen.

(Continued on page 139)

EXPERIENCES IN HORTICULTURE

by

R. L. WODARZ



Wodarz

This current year, drawing to a close, I availed myself of the opportunity to attend two out of three meetings held in the Dakotas. I missed out on the Watertown meeting, being in June, there was too much to do around the farm. However, I took in the Northern Great Plains meeting at Brookings, as well as our North Dakota State gathering at Dickinson, N. D. Going to such places, thoughts enter my mind of what and how much we bring home by observing of what is going on.

Some of you who took up psychology in your young years, likely remember that paragraph where different people passed by an oak tree. The first man coming to it examined the leaves, acorns, the shape of the tree, trying to ascertain what kind of an oak it was. He was a botanist. The second man passing by sized up the trunk, mentally estimating the number of feet it might have. He was a lumberman. Another man seemed to be interested in the bark. He was a tanner. The fourth man comes along, taking a good look at the whole tree, as though he was searching for something. That man was a hunter. What I want to bring out is that there may have been many things at those meetings that I have not noticed while certain things were very interesting to me.

At Brookings, I learned about the danger of covering strawberries too early. We have seen John Robertson, black raspberry. About these we were told by Dr. McCrory that they were worthy of much more dissemination than they have received so far. We have seen some of Dr. Hansen's pear trees. We were shown the Russian apple orchard, noticing it was amply spaced and the individual trees are mulched. We viewed thousands of apple seedlings growing on clean, un-

cultivated ground. By knowing how, we were told, these seedlings would attain from two to three times the size in one year as they usually do. We were told about the "know how" to keep viable apple pollen for as long as ten years, which means being able to remove trees from the orchard that were there solely for the pollen.

All in all, it was a place of great interest.

The 23rd and 24th of September I attended the North Dakota State Horticultural meeting, held in Dickinson. Here most of the interest centered on exhibits of fruits. From the Mandan Great Plains station we had 50 plates of apples. Most of them were new varieties. Some of the early maturing sorts had to be kept in the refrigerator. We thank Wm. Baird for his untiring efforts. In addition to these we had around 150 plates of apples, pears, plums, nuts and one plate of strawberries. The surprise to me was that they could produce such fine specimens in the southwestern quarter of the state. Some apples came from trees 30 years or more of age. Plates of apples came from Rhame, Dickinson, Lefor, Taylor and Edinburg. Outside of Edinburg, the eastern border counties had no fruit to show, because of that late frost. The largest apple I have ever seen came from Taylor, N. D. Knute Stanger had a plate of 5 of those very large yellow apples. Mr. Stanger also brought a branch with a cluster of the reddest apples in the exhibit. We could not ascertain what variety either one of them was.

Chris Geir of Edinburg exhibited several plates; one was an early-ripening yellow apple of a very good taste. He called it Pembina No. 1. Ernest Biel of Dickinson, besides plates of apples, showed a plate of pears. Frank Dvorak, of Dickinson, is another fruit grower. He brought many plates of fine apples. Henry Biel of Lefor, whose home nestles in one of the finest groves in that region, pleased us with many plates of fruit. These were only a few of the exhibitors, and I personally thank all those that showed so much interest in showing the fruit that they had produced.

NEWSLANTS—

(Continued from page 131)

uncommonly anonymous personality in his home town. Perhaps thereby

hangs the clue not only to the kind of a man he was but also to much of the success he enjoyed.

"George Will was born and raised, and lived and died, in Bismarck. He served for 30 years on Bismarck's school board, chairmanned for many years the state corn show here, belonged to service and civic organizations, gained a statewide and even a nationwide reputation for his work in the fields of botany and history.

"But still a lot of people who have lived a long time in Bismarck couldn't have told you who George Will was if they met him on the street. They knew him by name and reputation, but that was all.

"It wasn't because he was standoffish or hard to meet, because he wasn't. There wasn't a friendlier, more down-to-earth man in town than George Will. He liked people, and he liked to visit with them, and he liked to do things for them.

"He loved Bismarck, and the prairies of North Dakota, too, and that's why he gave so many years to the Bismarck schools, and to helping to build up the state historical society so that the history of North Dakota could be preserved.

"But George Will was an excessively modest and unobtrusive man. His name got into the newspapers once in a while, but not because he wanted it there. It got in because the things he did were so important that it just had to get into the news. He never pushed George Will. The job he had to do—that was the thing. Quietly, carefully, thoroughly, studiously, selflessly he went about his work. And that probably explains why he did so much so well and yet retained the personal peace he apparently treasured.

"George Will was the rare combination of businessman and scholar that appears so infrequently. Born into his father's business, he headed it successfully for 38 years, and at the same time played his part in community affairs while following with a dedicated scholar's zeal his avocation of historical research.

"Truly he was an unusual man, worthy of a community's honors. To the late George Will—modest, quiet, friendly, scholarly, kindly—we pay our respects today."

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

VINES FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

by

MRS. WALTER MASEMAN

The uses of vines: One reason we plant them is that we get results faster than with other types of shrubs. They may be used on a trellis, or on a wire to grow up the side of a house in a space too narrow for shrubs. They are useful to partially cover porches, where they give shade or privacy. Used on brick or stucco buildings they help to soften the harsh lines. Making the appearance of green against a light wall is very effective.

Vines give us a contribution of foliage, flowers and fruit effects. They can be used on fences to give a pleasant background and help blend with the general planting scheme, or to hide a poor looking fence, or obscure an unpleasant view. When used on banks vines make an excellent cover. In the eastern U. S. they are used a great deal as lawns. The front lawn of the United Nations building is of English ivy. They are used a lot in the east as grave covering, too. Hardy vines are more permanent and desirable than annual vines for most of the above purposes, but annual vines can be used while the hardy vine is getting its start. Grow vines for climate control. They make a shady spot in a yard when trained to grow over an arbor. This can be used as shade while you are waiting for the trees to get big enough to afford shade. The hardest vine grown in South Dakota is the poison ivy, but we do not advise its general planting on that account. Keep away from it, and it can be readily recognized by its 3 leaves.

Before going into wooded areas, use a 5 per cent solution of ferrichloride in water, alcohol and glycerine to rub on the hands and you may escape being hurt by it.

Virginia creeper, or woodbine Engleman's creeper have 5-pointed leaflets and are desirable vines. Obnoxious vines to get rid of are creeping jenny, wild morning glory, common buckwheat and dodder. Since the widespread use of weed spray, we don't have as many of these any more. The Bristly Greenbrier type of smilax, a native of South Dakota, is a rank, weedy sort of vine that spreads rapidly by underground rhizomes. The

stems are covered with prickles and large rounded leaves and the flowers have a strong undesirable carrion odor. The smilax florists use is a climbing asparagus, one of the lily family. It cannot be recommended for house culture, only for conservatory or greenhouse. The odor from the flowers of this plant is very agreeable. The best hardy vines for lattices, pergolas and arbors are the Virginia creeper or woodbine, the wild grape, the Beta grape, the trumpet vine, bittersweet, or the silver lace vine, the latter gives shade very quickly. The fox grape is a native of eastern U. S. and it is the parent of most of the cultivated grapes of today. It is not as hardy as the native riverbank grape, sometimes called the early wild grape. The fruit may be used for jellies and pies and an arbor can be quickly covered with a few vines for ornamental purposes. In taking vines or cuttings of grapes, take only the bearing vines, as the male vines have fragrant flowers only. The amur grape is a native of Amurland, Korea, and of China. It is a very vigorous and has unusually fine hues of crimson and purple in the fall and it is very hardy. The Virginia creeper is a hardy climber with compound five-follette leaves, which turn crimson in the autumn. It is found in wooded places along streams and lakes. It has small blackish berries. It is the most common and easiest perennial to train and is even beautiful on a chimney.

Englemann's creeper or ivy has smaller foliage. It is used to cover the field house at the North Dakota Agricultural College at Fargo. It has little sucker attachments on its tendrils that enables it to climb brick, stone and stucco walls. Boston ivy is hardy from the Twin Cities south. It grows up on big trees, clings to smooth surfaces and climbs. American bittersweet or wax-work plant is common in the woods and thickets throughout the state. It has large glossy leaves. It is a twining shrub with orange-yellow pods, which burst in autumn and expose the crimson fleshy seeds. You must plant both male and female plants to get berries.

Evergreen bittersweet or big leaf wahoo, is a native of north and central Japan. It is the best evergreen hardy plant for South Dakota. It is rapid growing, has thick glossy leaves and lots of orange and scarlet berries which remain on all winter. It clings to brick,

stone and concrete. Trumpet honeysuckle is a beautiful high climbing vine with scarlet trumpet-shaped flowers and red berries. It blossoms all summer and is green until November and good on a trellis. There is a very hardy new flame-gold honeysuckle.

Hall's Japanese honeysuckle is a native of China and Japan. It has yellow and white blossoms all summer long. The foliage is almost evergreen at Sioux Falls. Yellownet Japanese honeysuckle is hardy at Sioux Falls, and is valued for its handsomely nettled leaves and creamy white fragrant flowers. There are several other types of honeysuckle in South Dakota, not as abundant as those mentioned.

Baby winter creeper is related to the evergreen bittersweet. It is a low dense-growing creeper especially valuable for shady spots and rock gardens. The Kudzu bean vine (pronounced could-zoo) and called Jack-in-the-beanstalk vine, is the fastest Japanese climber of all. It will grow 70 feet in one season in rich soil. Its leaves are shaped like lima beans, and are dark green, soft and wooley. The trumpet creeper is a tall climber, and has large, leathery, trumpet shaped flowers of orange-scarlet. They are very showy and last a long time in summer. This vine will cling to wood and is drought resistant, when established.

Dutchman's pipe is an excellent vine for porches, owing to its large heart-shaped leaves, 4 to 10 inches long. It affords a dense shade and the leaves are free from insects and fungus attacks. The yellow, green and purple flowers are tubular and inflated, bent like a siphon, resembling a Dutchman's pipe; it may grow 30 feet in one year and is hardy at Sioux Falls and Brookings. Other vines will be mentioned in a later article.

REPORT OF AWARDS COMMITTEE

There were 30 year books received for judging, although 5 were sent in too late. Seven clubs received 99 or over; 13 clubs rated over 90. The awards were as follows: first, Green Thumb Club at Hurley with 100; second, Tri-State Club at Valley Springs with 99.8; third, Dell Rapids Club with 99.7 and an honorary

(Continued on page 142)

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE NOTES

by

F. X. WALLNER



Wallner

October 15—
In spite of the early frost, over a month ago, we are still selling tomatoes. While the crop as a whole has been very short and disappointing, I can recall no time that the crop has been so short, except

in a time of hail. The boys did not get any late seeding of turnips, rutabagas and that class of vegetables in, so we miss them at the stand, as we have always had them at this time and the public misses them as they are at this time top grade roots. Squash, like tomatoes, are also a short crop. The public seems at last to want nothing but Dr. Yeager's buttercup squashes, and in the food stores, these are selling for 10 cents per pound, while hubbards and other kinds are priced but 7 cents per pound. The new pie pumpkins are of good quality and shape but lack the pumpkin color, so does not move out as it should. I may find a way to paint them a pumpkin color.

Two more weeks and my time will be up here at the stand, and I suppose I will be east for Thanksgiving and out on the coast for the winter. The readers and the editor may tire of this column and want something more interesting. A few of us old-timers feel sad today as the voters decided to join up with the city of Sioux Falls, so this village of South Sioux Falls will be no more after the new year begins. Sioux Falls just had to take us in for fear one of the other cities of the state would be the largest city in the state.

In the October issue Mr. Beebe wants to know what progress the fire weed is making. I suppose he refers to the worst annual weed we have in South Dakota today the Kochia. I have found it in many places and it sure is in all parts of the state. There is no plant whatever that gets started ahead of it, and there is no other seedling of any kind that sprout in Febru-

ary and March. Our yard shows them sprouting that early, and to think that we helped to spread this weed the first years here, when we had a short hedge on the north side of the house, and there were a few nice clipped specimens in the city that attracted much attention. This all started from the same sort of nice specimen plants in the ground of the Mexican exhibit at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893. It is now the worst annual weed we have in the state and spreads far and wide very fast, not even fit for pasture, when young, as is the Russian thistle.

October 29—Most of the ground has been fall plowed in spite of the dry condition of the soil, and most of it has had manure spread on it, so it lacks only moisture, to be ready for spring. Today I showed the new owners of the high ground of the Lincoln county farm and they assured me that they would not harm the four terraces that protect our garden on the lowland, and the bank of the dam, that has 24 small pines growing on it, would also not be harmed. I have tended the trees and shrubs on these terraces in spare time, so they may be a personal memorial, as the big evergreens are to Huset that planted them long ago, but never built his home there.

The apples from the Lincoln county orchard have all been picked and sold. The Northwest Greenings were the largest, but the Golden Delicious were a nice clean apple. The other varieties had more color and came in earlier, but I was not sure of the varieties, but people do want a red apple. The last sales at the stand is the pumpkin deal, and its been a hard one because we do not have what the public would like. The old type pie pumpkin is too small and flat. The new brown or buff color is good shape and size but not the proper color; can't seem to get all the good points into one pumpkin.

The cook book that says to soak pickles overnight or 24 hours, sure are all wrong. If it stated salt water or ice water it might be alright, but some of the mess some women brought back to show me and blame my pickles was not the fault of my pickles. We also have often seen pickles left in the tank all night, get soft and spoiled but it must be humid, sultry nights when this happens. Then others blame

the city water and come out to South Sioux Falls to get fresh well water with nothing removed and nothing added to the water. I am not sure what is the cause of pickles getting soft or spoiled, but am sure it is not the fault of the pickles.

DISTRICT SEVEN GARDEN CLUB REPORT

by

MRS. MAURICE HARTMAN

District number 7 comprises Buffalo, Faulk, Hand and Hyde counties. There are 6 garden clubs in the 4 counties, 3 in Hand and 3 in Hyde. Three clubs in Hyde county were visited in month. Suggestions were given along garden therapy, civic achievement and work with the juniors. The flower show school in Huron, offering Course 2, was attended by several members from each club.

District 7 garden clubs will be in cooperation with 3 clubs of Highmore in having Carl Starker in August give his very interesting demonstration on flower arranging. Three clubs in Miller have been contacted regarding the above trend of work also. On May 9th, a district meeting was held, a noon luncheon was served to 35 garden club members. District 10, at Pierre, had a nice delegation attending the meeting. Mr. Lloyd Ayres had the workshop on "landscaping," a very interesting lecture along with slides. Definite contact has been made with a group near Miller for the organization of another garden club.

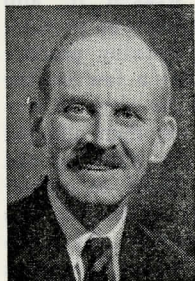
President Mrs. Kindred writes: With the approach of the Christmas season, we like to think of the meaning it has for us and always comes the thought that the one whose birth we celebrate, teaches us how to live without fear, how to have courage. May the spirit of good will, the joy of happy memories, and the peace of true contentment, and all the joys of the Christmas season be yours.

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

REMEMBERING POTATO CROPS

by

PERCY H. WRIGHT



Wright

In 1919 we lived on the eastern side of Tramping Lake, in western Saskatchewan. Our garden area was in a slightly low spot just east of a willow hedge that each winter filled deep with snow drifts. The snow

water in the spring of 1919 was particularly abundant, and nearly a foot of it soaked away into the soil of our garden. The summer was hot and dry, and practically rainless till August 1. The wheat crops were ripe by then, and the sheaves consisted of short straws about as long as the stubble left on the field, turned every way, with as many heads down as up. The rains that began in early August sprouted the kernels, and we had to turn the stooks three times. Finally we harvested 6 bushels per acre of low-grade, sprouted wheat.

The potatoes fared very differently. They were able to thrive on the snow-water until August 1, at which date the tops of one row nearly touched the tops of the next. If August had been dry, the yield would have been very light, for, as most people appreciate, the yield of potatoes depends to a large extent upon the moisture supply in August. However, the same copious rains that compelled us to turn our stooks three times arrived just in time to make best use of the huge tops which had been produced on snow water. When I was digging the potatoes in mid-September I was so impressed with the size of the crop that I measured a certain length of row and weighed the potatoes got from it. Figuring out the yield on the per acre basis, I was struck by the figure I got. The yield was five-hundred and thirty-three bushels per acre!

In 1943, I had a potato patch on a piece of rented farm land in the Carrot River Valley, near the hamlet of Moose Range. The year was a good one, and the moisture supply was good

throughout. But the land proved inadequately fertile for such a greedy crop as potatoes. It was old muskeg soil that had had the humus layer burned off the top during the process of clearing. The reader will doubtless say that such land was ruined forever, but the truth is that such land produces good crops of grain, which seem to require a much lower level of nitrates. My yield of potatoes was at the rate of only fifty bushels per acre, and most of the tubers were just under the size suitable for marketing.

In the same year, my brother-in-law had a patch of potatoes planted on the site of an old pig run. This pig run was a large one, being enclosed by an electric fence. The result was that the level of fertility was not absurdly high, as it well might have been, but was about at the optimum. Anyway, his yield, which I did not measure, but estimated by my memories of the 533-bushel yield, was in the neighborhood of eight hundred bushels per acre. Remember, this yield was secured in the same year as my yield of fifty bushels per acre, and on a spot less than a quarter of a mile from mine. The land, to all appearances, was much the same, but there had been no less of humus in the clearing operations. An increased supply of fertilizer, particularly of nitrates, had resulted in a yield sixteen times as great.

After that experience, if I did not have manure for my potato patch, I would fertilize heavily with ammonium nitrate 16-20, applying as much as five hundred pounds per acre. In every case, I was rewarded for my expenditure. In any spot where the humus supply from the remains of the original mossy covering of the muskeg was not burned off, or was only partially lost, the crop would be quite good without any fertilizer, though not so good as where there was both humus and fertilizer.

In 1952, various circumstances prevented me from planting my potatoes until June 15. At that date, the tubers reserved for "seed" were badly sprouted. I planted them carefully in an attempt to compensate for the lost time, leaving the sprouts on whenever possible, and letting these protrude slightly above the soil as I planted. In the fall I dug the patch hill by hill, and found that the return from those which

had not had the sprouts broken off accidentally, but had been so planted, was over double.

In 1954 we had a very wet season throughout. Some of my neighbors planted on low or level land, and had their seed-sets rot in the ground. In other gardens, the potato plants struggled along till August, and then rotted away, new tubers and all.

My potato patch, by good luck, was in that year on high land. However, that fact did not protect me from the plague of late-blight, which was itself due, probably, to the moist atmosphere that accompanied the excess rainfall. Anyway, within one week of the date at which the late-blight spotting was observed, the field was virtually ruined. The yield of tubers was light, and we used them all up before the New Year. Since there was infection in the tubers too, that was a lucky chance, for they would doubtless have rotted away at a rapid rate thereafter.

What are my conclusions from these experiences? First, potatoes need plenty of moisture in August. Second, potatoes need a high level of fertility, and will respond especially well to nitrogen if the soil is naturally low in that element. Third, in our short-season country, potatoes need to get an early start. Fourth, too much rain can be as fatal as not enough. Fifth, late blight must be controlled if it appears, either by spraying or by the choice of a resistant variety.

WINTER CARE OF ROSES—

(Continued from page 135)

That's it! Doesn't sound too hard does it? There's one sticker: you may forget to do it and that's not good, not for roses in this climate. Just keep reminding yourself how much a good rose will set you back, come spring.

Just have to tell you that we visited the test gardens in Minneapolis last summer and came away just running over with rose dreams. The boss man himself took us around, and believe me, we treasured his advice. He showed us the roses which do best for him and I will tell you all about it in our next issue. I know you will want to include them in your 1956 rose order.

Fashion experts say there will be little change in men's clothing during the coming year, especially in the pockets.

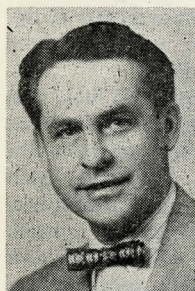
YOUR YARD AND GARDEN

by

LEONARD YAGER

Horticulturist

Montana Extension Service



Yager

Dried Arrangements

The use of dried plant materials lend themselves to the construction of attractive arrangements that will bring color into the home throughout the winter months.

Some garden plants, especially those in the everlasting flower group, hold color well when dried. Gomphrena and Helichrysum are two of the more popular flowers of this group. The plants can be gathered from the garden when the flowers are fully formed, tied in bundles and allowed to hang upside down in a dry cellar or shed. No other treatment is necessary in handling these.

Other garden flowers can be dried, but care must be taken in handling these so the flowers retain their original color, form and shape. Many garden flowers are successfully dried in clean, moisture free sand. Care must be taken when placing the flowers in sand so that they do not become distorted and put out of shape.

Many interesting seed pods and grass spikes of native plants make interesting plant materials for dried arrangements. Ripe wheat, barley and oat heads make interesting subjects, as well as the spikes of native grasses. Seedpods of yucca, Burdock, poppies, milkweed are only a few of the interesting native plants that can be used effectively in arrangements. Dock seed heads are found in rich green, brown and red shades and provide plenty of color. Dried sagebrush plants add interesting greys, blues and greens to the dried arrangement. The late summer blooming purple liatris or blazing star, if properly dried, is another good native wild flower to add color. Colorful autumn foliage from trees and shrubs is another important source of color for the fall arrangement.

Containers which match or complement the colors of the dried plant materials are most suitable. They should

also be of a texture related to the plant materials used. Since no water is used with these arrangements, flat containers are very suitable. In fact slabs of wood of irregular form, or irregular pieces of flat stone, highly lacquered serve as fitting bases or containers for fall arrangements. Copper and brass containers fit in beautifully with the color scheme of many fall arrangements, so are very useful.

Pin point holders are useful for holding the plant material, but even more useful is a small amount of floral clay, or plasticene, fastened down to the container. Use enough clay so that the plant material holds up well without falling over because of its weight.

The same principles of design used for fresh flower arrangements can be employed with dried arrangements. Dock, grasses, sagebrush are useful in developing the line or form in the arrangements. Seedpods, dried berries, rounded forms of dried flowers can be used as focal points. The types of arrangements that can be made are endless.

While many plant materials used in fall arrangements are gilded or painted, it is more desirable to use the materials in their natural colors. One needs to work with these materials only a little to realize that there is much natural and beautiful color in our plant materials without the need of coloring them artificially. Judges disqualify artificially painted dried arrangements exhibited in flower shows in order to encourage the use of naturally colored dried materials.

Lilacs

The lilacs is one of our more popular tall shrubs. Their ability to flower profusely, the wonderful fragrance of the blossoms and their ease of culture are points favoring the popularity of this shrub. One of the main drawbacks is the fact that most of the species do not give good fall color.

Although there are as many as 250 varieties listed by nurserymen in America, it is unfortunate that a greater number of these varieties are not used in Montana. Many of the varieties are quite hardy, and with proper selection, one could extend both the color range, and the season over which they bloom. In fact, some of the late blooming kinds might fill an important place in areas in Montana where late spring frosts are a frequent hazard.

Pruning is one of the important practices in producing abundant blooms on lilacs. Many varieties of the common lilac send up numerous suckers and if these are not removed, they compete with the parent plant for available nutrients, weaken it, and reduce its potential ability to produce flowers. The correct pruning practice is to remove all except a few of the suckers at the base of the plant. A few young sucker shoots are then allowed to develop to take the place of old branches when they begin to appear too straggly and leggy. Following this renewal method of pruning, the shrub will always retain a young, vigorous appearance. If all the young shoots are continually removed, the bush grows tall and leggy and does not present a beautiful appearance in the shrub border.

One practice suggested for the quick renewal of an old lilac bush is to remove one-third of the old branches each year, allowing about the same number of new shoots to replace them. Continue this practice over three years, and the shrub will have regained its youthfulness and vigor. More drastic treatment, is the entire removal of old branches at one time. In removing old branches and young shoots, cut them back fairly close to ground level. Another important practice is to remove the flower clusters before they go to seed, cutting them out just below the blossom cluster.

A few good single and double flowered varieties comprising all color classes are: Vestale, Edith Cavell, De-Miribel, Marechal, Pres. Lincoln, Olivier de Serees, Jacques Callot, Victor Lemoine, Lucie Baltet, Katherine Havemeyer, Congo, Paul Thirion, Ludwig Spaeth and Adelaide Dunbar. These are all varieties of the common lilac species and are popularly known as French hybrids. All have in varying degree the bad suckering habit of the common lilac species.

Some good early hybrids are S. dilatata, Necker, Lamartine, Pochontas, Louivois, Montesquieu, Vauhan and Evangeline. Some excellent late blooming lilac hybrids are Lutece, Isabella, Coral, Hiawatha, Royalty, and Donald Wyman. These latter are mostly hybrids of the Hungarian or the late lilac. They do not sucker like varieties of the common lilac. Because they bloom at least two weeks later

(Continued on page 143)

GARDEN CLUB GLEANINGS—

(Continued from page 132)

The October meeting of the Sunshine Garden Club, Highmore, was held at the John Mewes home, with Mrs. Dan Sunding and Mrs. Mark Durfee co-hostesses. Roll call topic was "putting the garden to bed," which brought forth much interesting discussion. The program on Missouri's vegetable plants, and native plants of Nebraska, was presented by Francis Fisher and Gertrude Salmon. Bertha Christensen was re-elected president for the coming year; Mrs. Nellie Coates, vice president; Mrs. Dan Sunding, secretary, and Mrs. P. G. Matre was re-elected treasurer. Installation will be held at the next meeting, when the family potluck dinner will be served in Pilgrim Hall. Mrs. Stanley Mueller is a new member.

Mrs. Cliff Rist, Centerville, sends names of officers elected for the coming year. Mrs. Vernon Anderson was re-elected president; Mrs. Cliff Rist elected vice president, and Mrs. Ed Vik was re-elected secretary-treasurer. The meeting was held at the Ann Snoozy home. The next meeting will be an exchange program with Viborg, Nov. 10. At this time slides on Iris, their care, etc., will be shown. In December the club will have "family night Christmas party." Instead of a gift exchange, money will be sent to the Children's Home at Beresford.

Miss Mary C. Berther of Madison just gets under the wire with her report. Highlights of the club activities are: panels and papers on delphiniums, glads, conservation, roses, and flower arranging. Slides on Bellingrath, Williamsburg, and Mount Arbor gardens were enjoyed. Workshop where each member made a wren house from a clay flower jar proved amusing and helpful. Plant sale and exchange in May followed by an auction of arrangements in "white elephants" in Sept. aided gardens and the treasury. Many members attended the district meeting in Brookings, and the state convention in Watertown in June. A rose tea was held in the Schrepel home, featuring 24 arrangements by club members, and viewed by more than 200 guests. Many ideas were gleaned from the annual pilgrimage and picnic in the city park. The club entered a float in the form of an old fashioned garden, in the Diamond Jubilee pa-

rade; they also decorated a window with china and silver antiques, featuring two flower arrangements, for the celebration. Garden flowers were furnished for the stage and hall, and arrangements made for the banquet tables for 500 people. Plans are now being made for the fourth annual Holiday Show to be held Dec. 4th. Miss Berther states, "We believe this show to be original with us." She says, "Quoting State President Mrs. E. Kindred, who visited the show Holiday Music in Design, last year, I feel this show is a definite contribution to the city in its approach to the Christmas season." There were 131 entries and 320 guests. The Christmas party will be held at the home of Miss Berther, who is president of the club.

Miss Adeline Jenney, of Valley Springs, writes: The Tri-State Garden Club has had a very successful year. In spite of unpredictable weather in the spring, the flower show was voted the most beautiful we have ever had. There were masses of iris, roses and lilies as a background for designs and separate entries. The tea brought a happy social touch to both afternoon and evening receptions. The June meeting was held at the Aaron Shafer's Gardens on the bluff over the Split Rock just before it enters the Big Sioux. The picnic tables overlooked the little dam and the pond where snow-white geese and ducks were feeding under the shadow of

what is said to be the largest cottonwood tree in the county. The landscaping of Mr. and Mrs. Shafer lent ordered delight to the session. A tour of the Shafer gardens with especial emphasis on their many types of lilies followed. July brought to the meeting a breath-taking display of gladiolas from many gardens, climaxed by a sheaf of several dozen grown by Mrs. Hans Klutman who grows them by the thousands and who gave an illuminating talk on their care and propagation. Mrs. Marion Scott, president, and publicity chairman for the South East Garden Club United Nations' Tenth Anniversary exhibit to be held in Sioux Falls October 23, 24 outlined plans for that and asked for volunteers for radio and other publicity. At Mrs. Hans Hoiland's home in Beaver Creek the August meeting discussed the 1956 year book and heard reports on orchid culture, which Mrs. Hoiland demonstrated with her plants. Our September meeting was enlivened and instructed by Mrs. Roy Sanford's showing of the lovely gardens she saw on her summer tour of Europe. The work on our 1956 year book was spurred by our receiving the second place white ribbon for 1955.

From a sixth grade examination paper: "People in this country are allowed only one wife. This is called monotony."—ARGUS-LEADER.

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PEAT MOSS

by

VICTOR H. RIES

Peat moss is one of the best and most economical forms of organic matter to use in the garden. Mixed with clay soil, it loosens and aerates it. Mixed with sandy soils, it increases their moisture holding capacity. Mixed with an equal amount of sand, it is one of the best seed beds available. As a mulch, it is good, although not as good as chopped corn cobs. For acid soil plants, such as rhododendrons and azaleas especially in the alkaline soil parts of the state, plant them in pure peat. It will be necessary, however, to add fertilizer, a 3-inch cupful to one bushel of peat to supply the necessary nutrients.

There are two kinds of peat, usually sold for garden use. Sedge peat is from reeds and sedges. It is usually from this country and is sold in bulk or bags as it does not compress too well. The other kind of peat is peat moss, which is dried and compressed in bales. The bulk of the peat sold is from Europe, although some is obtained from Canada.

The Federal law requires that peat contain a minimum of 75 per cent organic matter, but good sedge peats will be well over 85 per cent organic and peat mosses will be well over 90 per cent organic. On the other hand, much of the so-called peat dug locally and sold in bulk may be more muck than peat and may have as low as 50 per cent organic matter. This is inferior material and usually not worth the price, no matter how cheap.

It is confusing to the average home owner to buy peat, since there are many different size bales. The smallest is usually $4\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. measuring approximately $14 \times 18 \times 30$ inches. Next comes 6 cu. ft. approximately $17 \times 17 \times 36$ inches and $7\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft., $19 \times 19 \times 36$ inches. And although not often sold to home owners, there are 9 cu. ft., $10\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. and 12 cu. ft. bales. The latter measuring approximately $23 \times 23 \times 38$ inches. One cu. ft. of compressed baled peat will fluff out to $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. When buying baled peat, compare the prices per cu. ft., rather than price per bale. In buying sedge peat, the price for $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. should be the same as 1 cu. ft. of bale peat. There are about 5 cu. ft. in 4 bushels.

By the time you buy peat by the bushel rather than by the bale, the price is considerably higher. Since peat will keep more or less indefinitely, in the bale, that is the most economical way to buy it. Plain baled peat is usually far cheaper and just as good as the so-called super peats, which have been activated or have bacteria added or had hormones added or some other treatment. Incidentally, peat moss is usually cheaper to buy per given amount of bulk than rotted manure, mushroom compost and similar materials. And since you are buying really organic matter and no nutrients to amount to anything in them, buy that which is the most reasonable. Beware of the trucker who comes to your door with some gorgeous black material that he tells you is super peat, but which is in reality only muck, and relatively worthless for soil conditioning.

NOTES FROM PARLIAMENTARIAN

by

MRS. W. E. DRUMMOND, SR.

*To members of South Dakota
Federation of Garden Club:
Dear Co-Workers:*

Is there a parliamentarian in your roster of garden club officers? In the standing rules book of National Council of Garden Clubs we find this:

"A parliamentarian shall be in attendance, and prepared, when required, to quote from Robert's Rules of Order (the adopted parliamentary authority) covering the point at issue."

The affairs of the smallest club should be conducted with the same pattern of order as those of the largest. Juniors, too, would do well to make proper procedure in business sessions a study.

The four basic principles upon which such law rests are: justice and courtesy to all; one thing at a time; the rule of the majority, and the right of the minority. Such regulations prove the importance of proper procedure in conducting business within our garden clubs. It is an easy thing to follow such simple rules as these: say "I move"—never "I make a motion." Make motions in the positive form always; be sure that a motion which has the necessary second is pending be-

fore discussion takes place. One way is right, the other wrong. Let us proceed with the conducting of business properly. A booklet titled "Parliamentary Helps for Garden Clubs and How to Organize," published by National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. (1954) may be secured by writing headquarters, 25 cents enclosed. This is a complete book based upon "Robert's Rules of Order" in simplified form. It is highly recommended that at the least, every club officer and each standing committee chairman secure a copy. Requests come for a copy of an installation service. In a later issue of this good magazine we hope to give you such help. Let us remember that all rules of parliamentary procedure are in harmony with good sense, courtesy and good breeding. Yours for more proper conducting of business.

REPORT OF AWARDS—

(Continued from page 137)

mention to Bloss and Bulb Club of Miller who had 99.6. There were 17 scrap books judged and 3 received too late for judging. They were all excellent and it was difficult to choose the first 3. Blossom and Bulb of Miller received the blue ribbon with a 94. Green Thumb of Hurley was given second with a 92 and Madison Garden Club received third with 91. Fair City Club of Huron was awarded a purple ribbon for outstanding publicity, their scrap book containing a copy of their column on gardening which appears in the HURONITE each Sunday, therefore making it more than just a scrap book. There were only 2 junior clubs who entered their books, Madison received first and Huron, second. There were only 2 clubs who applied for any of the other awards; they were excellent applications and very deserving of the ribbons given them, but we hope next year some more of the clubs will make an application. Garden therapy and civic achievement went to Blossom and Bulb Club of Miller. Dell Rapids received the ribbons for horticulture and junior achievement. The Lawn and Garden Club of Webster was awarded the blue ribbon for their excellent flower show. There were 2 purple rosettes from National Council awarded for outstanding flower shows, one to Fair City Garden Club of Huron and one to Madison Garden Club.

MANITOBA NEWS LETTER—

(Continued from page 133)

Cornelia Shaylor 9.1—pale rose, collar flesh-white, large, late.

Eduzia Superba 7.6—bright old-rose-pink, with collar of lighter narrow petals, very fragrant, very early. Good for cut flowers. Thrives on heavy soil.

Jeannot 9.2—pale rose-pink, darker in the center, with violet overcast, faintly fragrant, large, late.

Judge Berry 8.6—light rose-pink, vivid yellow stamens, large, early.

Katherine Havemeyer 9.0—light rose pink, outer petals droop, mild rose fragrance, large.

Lady Alexandra Duff 9.1—pale blush-pink with few central petals and many yellow stamens, large. Laterals produce semi-double flowers.

La France 9.0—clear light pink with crimson splashes, fragrant, large, late.

La Perle 8.5—globular, rose-pink with lavender tone, flaked red, spicy fragrance.

Livingstone 8.1—old - rose - pink flaked on a lighter base, crimson markings, fragrant, large, late.

Martha Bulloch 9.1—old-rose-pink rose-like perfume, very large, late, narrow leaves.

Milton Hill 9.0—light, shell-pink, luminous, with a few red blotches at center, large, late.

Mme. Geissler 7.9—light old-rose-pink, tipped with silver, stems weak, late.

Mme. Jules Dessert 9.4—light shining pink with flesh-white long petals in funnel-like center, very large, late.

Mons. Jules Elie 9.2—light rose-pink, fragrant, very large, early.

Myrtle Gentry 9.1—rosy white suffused with tints of flesh and salmon, pleasing fragrance, late.

President Wilson 9.3—bright rose-pink, paler with age, spicy fragrance, very large, late.

Rosa Bonheur 9.0—old-rose-pink, with red lines, rose-scented, very large, late.

Sarah Bernhardt 9.0—dark rose-pink, agreeably fragrant, large, late.

Silvia Saunders 8.7—semi-double, cup-shaped, rose-pink, yellow stamens, small, extra early. Effective in the garden.

Solange 9.7—compact, globular, creamy-white suffused buff-salmon,

unpleasant fragrance, large, late. Cover buds with paper bags to assist the tight very double flowers in opening.

Souvenir de Louis Bigot 9.1—vivid rose-pink, paler center, large.

Therese 9.5—pale old-rose-pink, paler on outside, strong stems, large.

Tourangelle 9.4—compact flower, cream-white, flesh-pink in center, fragrant, large, late.

Venus 8.3—old-rose-pink with lavender tone, fragrant, large.

Victory Chateau Thierry 8.9—bright clear pink, fragrant, very large, low plants.

Walter Faxon 9.3—shining shell-pink, mild fragrance.

W. F. Christman 8.8—blush-white shaded pink, rose-like fragrance, large.

Red

Adolphe Rosseau 8.5—deep maroon-red, lustrous, shows some stamens; foliage dark, tinged red, very large, early.

Auguste Dessert 8.7—vivid light red, silvery borders, large.

Benjamin Franklin 8.1—dark crimson, shows stamens, tall, wiry stems, midseason.

Cherry Hill 8.6—dark crimson with glistening sheen, often lacking fullness.

David Harum 8.4—light crimson, like Felix Crousse.

Felix Crousse 8.4—brilliant crimson, silky, poor fragrance, large, late.

Francois Rosseau 8.2—rich crimson, stamens showing, fragrant, large, early.

Grover Cleveland 8.2—bright crimson, mildly fragrant, large, late.

Inspectour Lavergne 8.5—globular, crimson, long straight stems, early, large.

Karl Rosenfield 8.8—very bright crimson with faint tinge of blue, not fragrant.

Longfellow 9.0—bright crimson, stamens near center, dwarf plants, large flowers.

Mary Brand 8.7—clear crimson, brilliant sheen, fragrant, large, midseason.

Mme. Gaudichau 8.2—very dark crimson with blackish sheen, unpleasant fragrance, medium size, late.

Mons. Martin Cahuzac 8.8—maroon-crimson with silky black lustre, frequently loosely formed, with many stamens, not fragrant, early.

Philippe Rivoire 9.2—pure crimson red, richly rose-scented, small, stiff-stemmed, early.

Richard Carvel 8.8—bright crimson-red, slight fragrance, tall, large, early.

Souvenir de A. Millet 8.7—amaranth-red with metallic reflex.

Victoire de la Marne 8.2—purplish red with lighter edges, unpleasant odor, very large, midseason. The magenta color is displeasing to some growers.

Victor Hugo—(considered to be identical to Felix Crousse).

Winnifred Domme 8.3—dark maroon-red, small.

There is room for some more improved red peonies. Many of those available tend to be somewhat loose in formation with stamens showing more or less prominently. Another drawback to most reds is lack of pleasing fragrance, some having a displeasing odor. A contrast is seen in the scent of Philippe Rivoire.

Singles are esteemed by some growers. Two popular ones are Le Jour 8.6—white with two rows of overlapping petals, very large; and L'Étincelante 8.4—very bright pink with lighter border, very large, stiff stems. Two others are Helen 9.0—dark shell-pink; and Pride of Longport 8.9—pale rose-pink.

Among the Japanese single varieties of pelasing effect are Fuyajo 9.2—maroon; Isani Gedui 9.3—white; Kukeni-jishi 9.5—silvery flesh; Mikado 8.6—crimson; Rashoomon 8.7—red; Tamate-Boku 9.4—dark rose-pink; and Tokio 8.9—dull rose-pink.

YOUR YARD AND GARDEN—

(Continued from page 140)

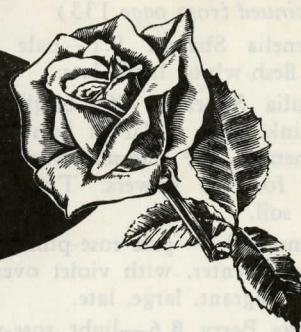
than the common lilac varieties, they make a valuable addition to any garden.

There are many species of lilacs worth considering for landscaping. The late or Villosa lilac is especially attractive. *Syringa chinensis*, *S. persica* and *S. amurensis japonica* are but a few of the species that should be better known. The latter is commonly known as the Japanese Tree lilac. It is the latest to bloom of all lilacs, usually bearing its flower in July. It is tree-like in habit and grows 12 feet or more in height.

Wayside.....



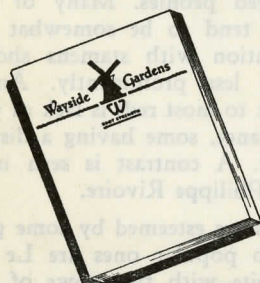
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