

Volume 33, No. 1

Jan.-Feb., 1960

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

**SOUTH DAKOTA  
STATE COLLEGE**

MAR 24 1961

**LIBRARY**

# Horticulture

## *In This Issue*

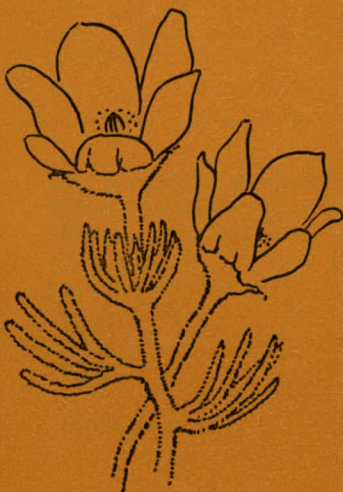
### *Conservation*

#### **THE STAKES ARE HIGH**

Accumulating in reservoirs along the Mighty Missouri River is one of the nation's most valuable resources—WATER. So precious is this resource that states everywhere are filing legal claims to every drop available. Unless South Dakotans establish their right to present supplies, they could lose the right to use it, even though it is being stored in our own state. If we don't claim it we could also lose a promising industry. Read about this on page 3.

#### **WHAT DOES "HORTICULTURE" MEAN TO YOU?**

There are seven major areas in the field of horticulture. See if you can name them. Then turn to page 5 and see what they are. You will see that it has taken on a new look.



Pasque Flower

*Anemone patens*

State Flower for  
South Dakota

34.05

1811.63

1.33 #1





## 'hort' flashes

by DEAN MARTIN  
Extension Horticulturist  
South Dakota State College  
Brookings, S. D.

*Happy New Year!* Well, here we come with Vol. 33, No. 1. I don't like to be a pessimist but I think we are all concerned whether or not there will be a Vol. 33 No. 6 or a Vol. 34. Without some unexpected source of funds being uncovered this is a serious question.

*Conservation.* This issue of the magazine is featuring conservation as the theme or keynote. We trust the collection of articles included with this thought in mind will be of interest to you.

*Our Loss, Campbell's Gain.* Dr. "Nick" Nickeson resigned his position with the State College Horticulture Department to accept a position as plant breeder for the Campbell Soup Company December 31, 1959. Nick and his family will be located in the west Chicago community of Geneva, Ill. We wish them every good fortune in this new assignment.

*We have been busy* here in the Extension office with Annual Conference, Annual Plans of Work and Annual Reports to say the least. However we did find time to have an enjoyable holiday season. We hope you did the same.

*Mrs. Jorgensen, our Garden Club editor,* submitted her copy for this

issue just before Christmas. Mr. Pates found time in his busy schedule over the holidays to get this section all laid out for the printer. We have been holding up the works getting copy together for the Society section, especially our feature story on new developments on water conservation.

A *Watershed Workshop* was held on the State College Campus January 4 and 5, 1960. There were many outstanding speakers on the program. It was interesting to learn of the progress that is being made to control water where it falls and to protect the lowlands from the ravages of flooding. This program as well as the Water Conservancy District program certainly merit your attention if not your whole-hearted support.

*Pictures submitted* to the magazine for publication should be good sharp black and white snapshots. (Polaroids work well too.) These can be used to make engravings for use by the printer. We tell them what size to make the "cut" and the next thing we know the picture appears in print.

*What did the November "deep freeze"* do to our trees and shrubs and other perennial plants? I don't know. We'll keep our fingers crossed with a wait and see attitude.

## Table of Contents

### SOCIETY SECTION

The Stakes Are High .....	3
1960 Arbor Day Activity .....	4
What Does 'Horticulture' Mean .....	5
A Gardener Looks at Alaska .....	7

### GARDEN SECTION

Former South Dakotan Breeds New Penstemons .....	9
President's Notebook .....	10
Garden Club Gleanings .....	12
Elections .....	13

Jan.-Feb., 1960

Vol. 33

No. 1

Entered as second class matter at the Post Office at Brookings, So. Dakota, under the act of August 24, 1912. Published bi-monthly at Brookings, S. Dak., by the State Horticultural Society. Dean M. Martin, Secretary; John Pates, Editor.

### South Dakota Officers

S. A. McCrory, President.....	Brookings
Harry Woodward, V. P.....	Pierre
Dean M. Martin, Secretary.....	Brookings
Leon Begalka, Treasurer.....	Clear Lake
Jesse Rawson,	
Librarian .....	Brookings

### Executive Board

F. X. Wallner, 1 year.....	Sioux Falls
Mrs. D. S. Baughman, 2 years .....	Madison
John Atkinson, 3 years.....	Rapid City
R. E. Jack, 4 years .....	Arlington
A. R. Schamber, 5 years.....	Rapid City

### Editorial Board

#### Horticulture Society:

Russell Rulon .....	Yankton
Henry Dybvig.....	Dell Rapids

#### Garden Clubs:

Mrs. G. M. Jorgensen .....	Dell Rapids
Mrs. Andy Photokas.....	Huron

#### Chairman:

Dean Martin .....	Brookings
-------------------	-----------

### S. D. Federated Garden Club Officers

Mrs. Francis Bingen,	
President .....	Andover
Miss Allice Platt, 1st V.P.....	Langford
Mrs. O. Haag, 2nd V.P. ....	Huron
Mrs. Dewey Benson, Cor. Sec. ....	Hurley
Mrs. Oscar Akerson, Rec. Sec. ....	Webster
Miss Laura Sexauer, Treas. ....	Brookings
	1326 4th St.

Membership dues for the State Horticultural Society are \$2.00 annually, payable the first of January each year. Dues include payment for the bi-monthly magazine, "South Dakota Horticulture." Send remittances to Dean M. Martin, Secretary, College Station, Brookings, S. Dak.

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE



# The Stakes Are HIGH!

By JOHN L. PATY, *Assistant Extension Editor*

It's no secret that water is fast becoming one of our most sought after natural resources. The Public Health Service reports that cities of 10,000 population or more average about 180 gallons per person per day. Many of these people are already very familiar with the phrase "water on even numbered days only." Farmers too are constantly eyeing the clouds in anticipation of rain—and with good reason. Water, or rather the lack of it has been a limiting factor in crop and livestock production ever since the plow was introduced into South Dakota. This single factor is one big reason why this state has never been able to support much over 700,000 people. It may also be the main reason why

20 per cent of the farmers and ranchers in the state gross less than \$2500 a year on the average. This makes them poor competitors in the field of agriculture.

While other states have grappled with the problem of diminishing water supplies and increased uses for water, South Dakotans have apparently become so used to being short of water that they have never worried too much about this problem.

Some concern has been shown. Most of it appears when a Federal or state project has been proposed and is up for consideration. At this point people are either enthusiastically for the project or just as enthusiastically against it. Once these emergency water

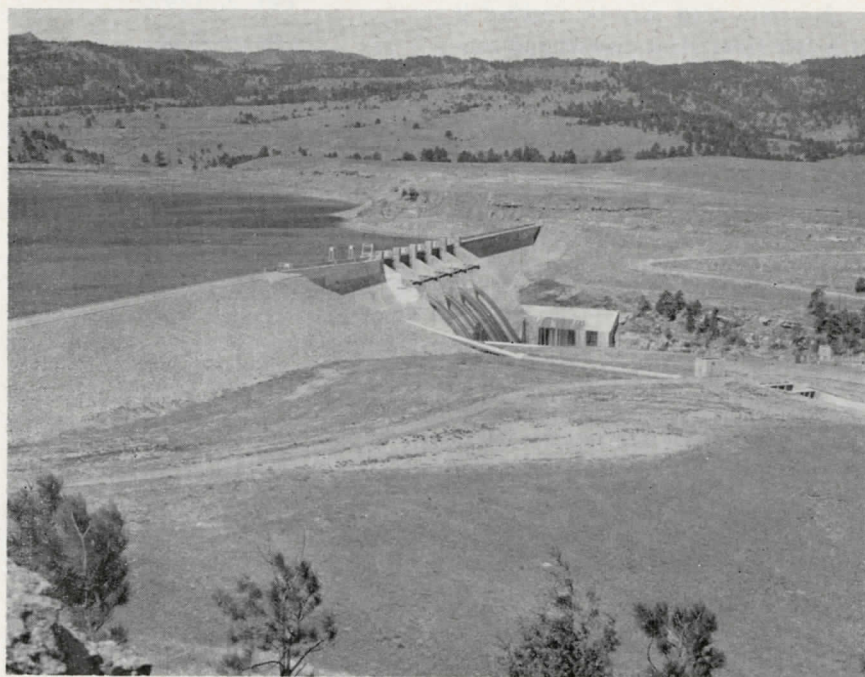
problems are taken care of, South Dakota citizens again become unconcerned.

It is this lack of public interest that worries people like Joe Grimes, chief engineer for the South Dakota Water Resources Commission. With increasing competition for water, South Dakotans could lose the right to use waters from Missouri river reservoirs for a multitude of purposes such as irrigation, city water supplies, wildlife, recreation and maintaining levels of water in lakes, etc., unless they lay claim to it soon.

Enabling legislation called the Water Conservancy District Act was passed during the last legislative session, provides for the establishment of sub-conservancy districts. (The last legislature has already established the entire state as a conservancy district.) This legislation provides the means for South Dakotans to officially express their desires concerning future water development on a area basis. Unless this interest increases, some areas may lose the right to use water now available, simply by default, because they never bothered to lay official claim to it by forming a sub-district.

Another program designed to conserve water and protect valuable land is the watershed program. Unlike sub-conservancy districts, watershed districts are formed by boundaries of the watershed itself. It is also locally operated.

At present there are 16 watershed  
(Continued on page 6)



← This is a picture of the Angostura reservoir located in southwestern South Dakota. Water from this dam is used primarily for irrigation purposes.



## 1960 Arbor Day to Emphasize 75th Anniversary of SDSC

Arbor Day 1960 will be commemorated as one of the series of events planned to give special recognition to the 75th Anniversary of South Dakota State College.

The period from September 1, 1959 to June 30, 1960 has been designated as the official observance of this Anniversary. The theme for the observance is "75 Years of Service."

J. Walters McCarty, Clarence Shanley, E. K. Ferrell and Dean M. Martin of the State College faculty are serving on a committee planning the Arbor Day activities.

The committee is encouraging each county to take part in this special observance of Arbor Day this year. All schools in the state are invited to observe the day with the traditional tree planting ceremony.

The committee has selected the Hopa Flowering Crab as the tree to be planted this year. This tree was developed by Dr. N. E. Hansen who started fruit breeding work at the South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station in 1895 just 11 years after the College was founded. For the next 50 years much of Dr. Hansen's work was devoted to collecting plants of the most hardy sort from all over the world. The Hopa Crab is one of the results of this work. It was introduced in 1920 primarily for its ornamental value. The blossoms are deep red showing some blue before the petals fall. The fruit is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter and not edible. The foliage and bark show a red coloring all through the growing season. It has been free from fire blight disease and shows little scab infection.

Arrangements are being worked out with the South Dakota Nurserymen's Association for supplying the trees to each county for distribution to the various schools participating in the program.

More specific details for this special observance will be publicized as the plans are developed.

---

## Certified Potato Acreage Down in South Dakota

Members of South Dakota Potato Growers Association raised 1523 acres of potatoes for certification in 1959 as compared with 1571 acres in 1958, according to John Noonan, Watertown, area extension potato specialist.

A potato crop may be certified if it is free from plant diseases and conforms to variety characteristics after three inspections in the field during the growing season. The inspection is performed by Noonan, who works under the auspices of South Dakota State College. He is secretary of South Dakota Potato Growers Association.

Certified potatoes are in demand for seed purposes, both locally and by growers in distant states. Ten varieties were grown this year by South Dakota growers for certification.

These include Red Pontiac, Red LaSoda, Bliss Triumph, Kennebec, Irish Cobbler, Early Ohio, Norland, Red Warba, Chippewa, and White Cloud. Red Pontiac leads in acreage this year with 578 acres.

## CONSERVING OUR POPULATION S. D. Population Put at 716,000

South Dakota's population rose from 653,000 to 716,000 in the last nine years, a new compilation by the State Health Department estimates.

Its figures indicate, however, that more people left the state than came in during this period; that means it took an assists from the stork to produce a net gain.

The estimates, which compare July 1, 1959, with July 1, 1950, show population decreases in 22 counties.

They bear out other indications of the movement from the farm to the city, with urban counties Minnehaha and Pennington showing the big gains.

On a migration basis, only nine counties showed more people coming in than left during the period. These include Minnehaha, Pennington, Hughes and Stanley counties with their Oahe Dam, Butte, Jackson, Shannon, Todd and Walworth.

The figures, explained Statistic Director W. D. Johnson, were compiled from birth and death records and from the school census. The school census was used to determine migration.

The official federal census will not be available until mid-1960.

(*Sioux Falls Argus-Leader*,  
Jan. 3, 1960)

---

## Nominations Needed For John Robertson Award

Mr. Harry Woodward, Director of the Department of Game, Fish and Parks, Vice President of the State Horticultural Society and custodian of the John Robertson Memorial Fund has requested that nominations for the 1960 award be submitted to him before March 1, 1960.

Nominations should include a brief biography of the nominee as well as a listing of the contributions he has made in the field of horticulture.

The award will be presented at the 1960 Convention of the Society and State Federation of Garden Clubs to be held in Sioux Falls in June.

Nominations may be sent to Mr. Woodward at his office in Pierre, South Dakota.

**DAKOTA HORTICULTURE**



## 1959 Grass Seed Production Down

**SMOOTH BROMEGRASS SEED:** South Dakota production of smooth brome grass seed in 1959 at 900,000 pounds was only half the 1958 production. The average price received by farmers for smooth brome grass seed is estimated at \$15.00 per cwt. for the 1959 crop compared with \$8.80 per cwt. in 1958.

**CRESTED WHEATGRASS SEED:** South Dakota crested wheatgrass seed production in 1959 totaled 330,000 pounds, sharply lower than the 600,000 pounds produced in 1958. The average price received by farmers for crested wheatgrass seed was \$20.00 per cwt. for the 1959 crop and \$10.00 per cwt. in 1958.

The 1959 U. S. crested wheatgrass seed crop is estimated at 2.2 million pounds of clean seed, 13 percent above last year's small crop. Growers received an average price of \$21.90 per cwt. in 1959 compared with \$12.40 in 1958.

**BLUEGRASS SEED:** South Dakota stripped no bluegrass seed during 1959 due to drought conditions.

U. S. 1959 production of common Kentucky bluegrass seed is estimated at 9.2 million pounds of cured seed. This is only one-seventh as large as the 1958 crop and is the smallest production since 1934. Growers received an average price of \$8.52 per cwt. In 1959 compared with \$6.53 in 1958.

*(From S. Dak. Crop & Livestock Reporter)*

### SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

It would be appreciated if all Federated Garden Clubs and all other individuals subscribing to "South Dakota Horticulture" would send their money in as soon as possible. Federated Garden Club Treasurers should send their list of members and money to Miss Laura Sexauer, 1326 4th Street, Brookings, South Dakota, on the forms provided by Miss Sexauer. Individuals may receive the magazine subscription by sending \$2.00 for dues in the State Horticultural Society to the Secretary, Dean Martin, Hort. Dept., SDSC, Brookings, South Dakota.

Subscriptions not renewed by the mailing date of the March-April issue will be discontinued.

**DAKOTA HORTICULTURE**

# What Does HORTICULTURE Mean To You?

DEAN M. MARTIN, *Extension Horticulturist*

Originally the word horticulture meant "garden culture" or the culture of garden crops and plants, and this implies cultivation within rather restricted or limited areas. Today horticulture is considered an occupation, a business, a science and an art dealing with the various phases of plant production, handling, processing and marketing of specialized crops.

There are seven major phases of horticulture. They are: Fruit Growing; Vegetable Growing; Flower Growing; Nursery Operation; Landscaping; Food Processing; and Parks and Recreation.

**FRUIT GROWING:** This phase includes the production of apples, pears, quinces, peaches, plums, cherries, apricots, pecans, walnuts, oranges, lemons, limes, blackberries, strawberries, raspberries and other fruit crops in various parts of the country.

**VEGETABLE GROWING:** This phase includes both greenhouse and field production of such crops as tomatoes, cucumbers, lettuce, beans, peas, onions, potatoes, mint, melons, sweet potatoes, pumpkin, lima beans, sweet corn and pop corn and other vegetable crops. Truck gardening is an important business in this phase of horticulture.

**FLOWER GROWING:** This phase includes the greenhouse production of roses, carnations, chrysanthemums, orchids, pot plants and other miscellaneous plants. It includes the field production of gladiolus, peonies and other Herbaceous plants. This area also includes wholesale florists and retail florist shops.

**NURSERY OPERATION:** Nurseries provide a source of plants used in the home orchard and garden. Wholesale nurseries produce trees, shrubs, flowering plants, and vegetable plants. Retail nurseries supply these plants to the local consumers and often offer planting services.

**LANDSCAPING:** This phase of horticulture consists of planning the arrangement of home grounds, farmsteads and public areas. This involves the use and placement of horticultural plants, walks, drives, and other esthetic and utilitarian features of the landscape.

**FOOD PROCESSING:** This phase includes the canning of such crops as tomatoes, peas and corn; the freezing of such crops as apples, cherries and small fruits; the fermenting of pickles, sauerkraut and cider; the dehydrating of apples, potatoes and juices and the packaging of such crops as peas, carrots, corn and apples.

**PARKS AND RECREATION:** This phase of horticulture is concerned with the development of areas which are set aside for enjoyment and recreation. It includes the development of local, community, state and federal parks. It is also concerned with the development of church, school and other public areas. This phase is also concerned with the wise use of our natural resources and in developing these resources for the enjoyment and recreational use of all our citizens.

If people ask you the question, "What is Horticulture?" perhaps this will help you to give a satisfactory answer.



## Tree Farmers Promote Conservation

South Dakota now has 175 certified Tree Farms covering 28,386 acres. During 1959 we added 24 new Tree Farmers to reach the present total. Forty seven states are now participating in this nation-wide program to encourage better management of privately owned timberlands. Owners of about 51 million acres of forest land have qualified as Tree Farmers by dedicating their properties to the continuous production of forest crops.

In South Dakota the Tree Farm program has a Shelterbelt Section and a Woodland Section. In order to qualify a *shelterbelt* or *windbreak* planting as a Tree Farm, an applicant must meet these qualifications:

1. Own at least 3 acres of field shelterbelt of farmstead windbreak with complementary shrubs.
2. The plantation must be at least 3 years old.
3. Agree to protect the planting from grazing by livestock.
4. Agree to protect the planting from damage by fire, insects, disease and rodents.
5. Agree to keep it as free from weeds and grasses as practicable.

Property owners who wish to qualify their *woodlands* in the Tree Farm program must meet these standards:

1. Follow approved forest practices that assure production of repeated crops of forest products.
2. Protect the area from forest and grass fires, insects, disease and rodents.
3. Permit no grazing on plantations unless specifically authorized by the Tree Farm Committee. Provided it is not destructive, limited

## The Stakes Are High—

(Continued from page 3)

districts in the process of organization in this state, and they include over a million acres of land.

The purpose of the watershed program is to establish conservation and water holding practices on the uplands. Water retention structures are placed in strategic locations and are designed to let the water run off slowly to prevent flooding on lowland areas.

What does all this talk about water conservation mean? It means that our land will be more protected and more productive. It means that the drought hazard can be overcome in many areas by preserving and controlling the water.

grazing is permitted on native woodland types.

4. Have a minimum of 20 acres of woodland in tract.

Each South Dakota Tree Farmer receives a certificate and a diamond-shaped green and white sign to mark his wooded areas. These signify that he is managing his woodland or shelterbelt in the best interests of his farm, community and country. He also receives the American Tree Farmer, a publication issued quarterly by American Forest Products Industries, Inc.; Conservation Digest, a publication issued quarterly by the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks, and South Dakota Forestry Notes, a newsletter issued bi-monthly by the State College Extension Service.

South Dakota needs a lot more Tree Farmers. Readers of South Dakota Horticulture can help promote good forestry by sending us the name and address of anyone whom they feel can qualify.

In most states irrigation is the largest single consumer of water. In South Dakota irrigation attempts have been successful on such crops as sugar beets, grasses, tame pastures, corn and small grain. Irrigation possibilities for horticultural crops have not been getting as much attention, yet new developments in marketing and transportation could help growers in South Dakota find ready markets for such crops as strawberries, cabbage, tomatoes, cauliflower, cabbage, asparagus, sweet corn and other vegetables.

Horticulturists at South Dakota State College point out that irrigation farmers could raise horticultural crops in this state that could easily provide them with incomes from \$300 to \$600 per acre where a good marketing situation exists.

Dean Martin, extension horticulturist, points out that 37 per cent of the food consumed in the United States comes from horticultural crops such as those mentioned above. Yet less than three per cent of the crop land in this country is in commercial horticultural crops. Another 83 per cent of the cropland is in field crops. This acreage provides 45 per cent of the food we eat (dairy products, grain and sugar).

South Dakota State College experiments clearly point out that growers in this state could also produce some of these horticultural crops. Irrigation water holds the key to successful production.

Experiments at Brookings in 1954 indicated that the number and pounds of marketable tomatoes was doubled by irrigation as compared to dry land production.

In 1953 4,000 cabbage seedlings were planted and irrigated near Redfield. Seedlings were 14 inches apart

(Continued on page 7)

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

**Gurney Seed and Nursery Co.**

**YANKTON, SOUTH DAKOTA**



## The Stakes Are High—

(Continued from page 6)

in 36 inch rows. The crop was cultivated three times, hoed once and sprayed three times for insects. Harvest started on June 30. Over four tons of cabbage was harvested off this half-acre plot and gross returns from it totaled \$411 or \$822 per acre.

In 1954 a 1.6 acre field of tomatoes produced 671 bushels. Buyers did their own harvesting and the farmer grossed \$1,006.96.

Naturally the amount of money taken in wasn't all profit, but cost of production is estimated to run from a hundred dollars an acre to produce a thousand dozen ears of sweet corn up to \$300 an acre to produce a good tomato crop.

This indicates that South Dakota can produce high value horticultural crops. One of the toughest problems at first would be the marketing. Until growers become familiar with truck garden know-how, beginners would have to be content with a small operation. Until such an enterprise got firmly established, sales would probably have to be in the immediate area—perhaps on a "pick your own" basis. With modern transportation small acreages should be able to take care of the needs of area supermarkets and support some roadside stands.

Once acreages became well established and large enough to support processing plants these would undoubtedly become established. Already a canning company from a nearby State has offered to contract with South Dakota growers who would go into asparagus production. The company can use 4 acres of asparagus to supplement its operation.

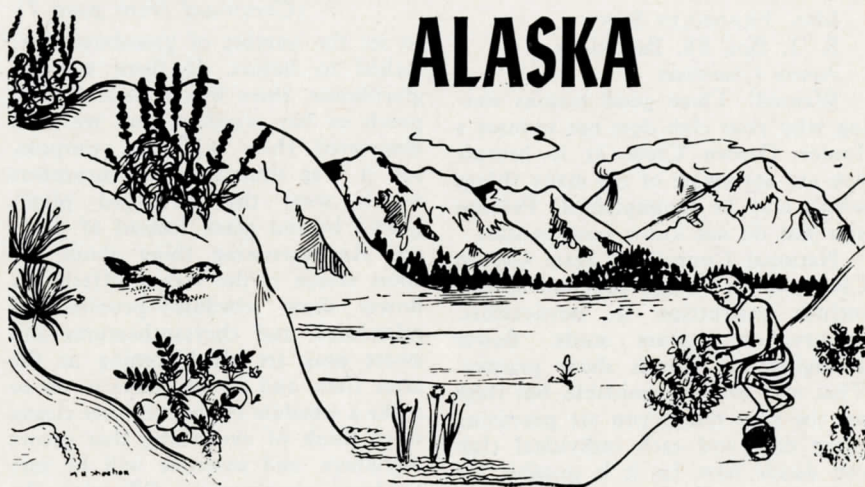
There are still some questions to be answered concerning grower-processor enterprises in this state. What competition might there be? What price fluctuation could be expected? What is the labor supply? These and other factors affecting the operation should be studied now to provide answers that could be used by prospective growers.

These answers could be worked out, but this effort would be futile if South Dakotans do not preserve and conserve the one thing that will determine the future of growing horticultural crops—our water resources. We should take full advantage of these resources if we expect to bolster the economy of South Dakota.

## DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

## A GARDENER LOOKS AT . . .

# ALASKA



By JUANITA JORGENSEN

Alaska spread a welcoming carpet of wild flower color over mountain domes and fertile valleys; its garden blossoms beckoned from the homes we were privileged to visit in Fairbanks; and finally we saw the Fairbanks Flower Show—so a cross section of a horticulturist's Alaska was laid before us for our trip in late July.

The motor tourist to Alaska sees very little of the vast country that has become our 49th state. From the 11,000 miles we chalked up, only about 1000 miles, or one-tenth of it was made in Alaska, even though we drove on almost every mile open to car travel, and some that are not depicted on road maps as yet, such as the road to Mt. McKinley.

The most surprising thing about the small portion of Alaska which we saw was that it was so familiar. We hear so much propaganda about the Eskimos and the polar bears, the barren lands and the warm coastal cities that we sometimes forget the car traveler never reaches these places unless you leave your car and go by plane or boat. The Alaska which we saw, then, reminded me very much of our western mountain states south of the Canadian border, in summer. Folks dress just as we do, they speak our language, and in the cities they have all the modern conveniences to which we are accustomed. I was particularly impressed by how well read they are, and that they know more about world events and opinions than we did! They grow almost anything we do; and when I walked into the flower show I felt exactly as though I had

entered the show room in Sioux Falls or Mitchell where the shows are staged in the banks!

To a gardener the most interesting thing is the way the seasons telescope into each other. We read about this phenomenon over and over, but it is not until you see the results that it really impresses one. Summer weather is much like that in South Dakota as a rule, with sunny days which may reach 90 degrees, and then a cool spell when a jacket is necessary to be comfortable. This summer was one of the coolest on record, and pictures show us wearing jackets most of the time. The big difference between there and here is that the spring is late and winter comes early, so long season fruits and vegetables which are tender do not have time to mature. When we reached Dawson City we were amazed

(Continued on page 8)

## New Publication On Iris Growing

"Growing Iris in the Home Garden" is the title of a new publication of the United States Department of Agriculture. It is Home and Garden Bulletin No. 60. This publication came off the press in October 1959 for the first time.

The bulletin discusses the principal types of iris, (with illustrations), how iris grow, and varieties. The publication also has sections on planting iris, care of plants, propagation, disease and insect control.

This publication is available at the State College Agricultural Publications Bulletin Room.



## Our Juniors

MRS. FRANKLIN SHAW  
R. 1, Box 88, Brookings  
Junior Chairman

Wanted! Three good reasons stating why your club does not sponsor a Junior Garden Club. Is it because you are not aware of the many things which may be accomplished? Perhaps you just do not know how to start.

National Council of State Garden Clubs says a Junior program should include instruction in horticulture, conservation, nature study, flower arranging and flower show practice. That may sound formidable, but these are the very things you are practicing every day, and each individual club can decide how far it is possible for them to go. Frequency of meetings varies greatly. I know of one club which meets once every month, while another finds that six meetings during the growing season fit their membership best.

As I write this it is nearly six months before the first meeting of the new club year for our Junior Gardeners, yet program planning is underway. It really started many weeks ago—at all of our club meetings this past summer. Whenever an idea came to mind, we jotted it down and filed it away. Once you get started you will find more ideas than you can find time to use.

March or April are good months to get started when enthusiasm and eagerness is renewed at the appearance of the first blades of green grass. The most natural thing in the world would be to talk about planting—where and when—maybe have them plant a tree on Arbor Day—or visiting greenhouses would be fun!

Then comes May, the perfect month to go on a bird tour, for so many species are to be seen at this time. Bird hikes have always been voted the most popular meetings in our club. June, July and August call for lessons in flower arranging, especially suitable just before the sponsoring club stages their show. This is also the time when it is fun to visit each other's gardens, or to hike through the fields or park and identify the trees and flowers, or learn to know the weeds by name! Just think of the variety of materials to be found these months for scrapbooks, too.

And what is there to do the rest of the year? How about planting some tulip bulbs at the local Convalescent

## Alaska—

(Continued from page 7)

to see the number of greenhouses attached to homes. If there was no greenhouse, there was a glass-enclosed porch or bay window, and we soon discovered their utilitarian purpose, for it was tomatoes and cucumbers which were the privileged plants grown behind glass, instead of flowers. An interesting thing about the short season is the way it affects the flower show schedule—peonies and calendulas, and chrysanthemums and sweet peas are all blooming at the same time, and all you have to do to make a schedule for horticulture classes is to think of everything that grows anywhere, and someone will be sure to have some entries. Offsetting the short season are the long summer daylight hours, and it is true that flowers ARE bigger and more brightly colored, and the vegetables ARE more crisp because the short season and long growing hours forces them into quick growth and blooming.

All plants which enjoy a bit of coolness and moisture in the air become giants in this far north state. Delphinium tower like totem poles to eight and twelve feet; and nemesia, pansies and stocks flaunt brilliant colors from stiff-standing stems usually unknown in our hot summers. Delphinium are being promoted as the city flower of Fairbanks and were the featured flower at the show where the Fairbanks Garden Club had charts and reference books displayed with exhibits, and each visitor to the show received a leaflet "Delphinium in Alaska" printed on delphinium blue paper, giving cultural requirements of the plant. Everywhere we went, the delphinium was the most prominent cultivated flower in bloom, and it was a thrill to see them growing lustily beside weatherbeaten log cabin "road-houses"—motels, to you—in a forest

Home? You may make terrariums, or cigar box gardens to share with someone; you may make bird feeders—or a ceramic dish using a hollyhock leaf as a pattern—or—or. Yes, you do have lots of good ideas, don't you? And the whole thing is fun! So please, each Garden Club, will you consider sponsoring a Junior Club? The write and tell me why you either will, do not, or will not. Perhaps that way we may have a better understanding of the problem.

wilderness. Our visit to the flower show sparkled with happy surprises at the wealth of horticultural specimens—peonies, glads and calendulas hobnobbing together in mid-July, and pansies as big as saucers.

"New Stars for Old Glory" was the theme for our 49th State's first show as a state, and Hawaii had sent a royal congratulatory gift in the form of tropical plants. This collection, including red and pink gingers, trelitzia, anthurium, and foliage plants was dramatically displayed beneath the three flags of the United States, Alaska and Hawaii as a focal point of the show. Design classes to follow the theme included such intriguing titles as The Stars of Old Glory, Northern Lights and Southern Shadows, A Sourdough's Dream, The Melting Pot, Tundra Topics, and Oloha Oe, and the entries were as lovely and original as any it has been my privilege to see. No "coffee" was served at this show, but a tape-recorded slide show "Land of the Midnight Sun" was held in the basement, where truly superb colored slides were shown. These slides were varied enough to suit the general public as well as gardeners, and included animals, birds, wild flowers, homes and flowers, scenery, and a few flower arrangements. The musical accompaniment and lecture make the show exceptionally valuable, and we hope South Dakota garden clubs may be able to see them some time as they may be rented to use.

(To Be Continued)

## HARDY 'MUMS'

Colorful — Easy to Grow

Reliable even in Prairie Areas

Write for Complete Listing to:

**Sletwold  
Greenhouses**

Vermillion, S. D.

(Right on Highway 50)

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE





SOUTH DAKOTA

# Federation of GARDEN CLUBS NEWS

*Edited by* MRS. GEO. M. JORGENSEN, DELL RAPIDS, S. DAK.

## Board Okays Money For Flower Show Schools

Plant Promotion for the Horticulture Award was put in charge of Horticulture chairman, Dr. Jesse Rawson, State College.

The sum of \$50.00 was allocated to underwrite the Flower Show Schools, if necessary.

Up to \$150.00 was earmarked for promoting the Litterbug Poster contest among all grade children of the state, regardless of whether they are in garden club work or not.

It was suggested that the Blue Star Memorial area be made more attractive, and Mr. Begalka and Lowry Eliott were appointed to attend to it.

Mr. Begalka, landscape Chairman, offered to come to the aid of anyone with problems along that line.

Mrs. Metzger suggested that travelers enhance the fun of their trip by asking for visiting gardens cards which will admit them to private gardens they could not otherwise see.

Mrs. Eugene Whitmore listed 33 award classes it is possible to enter. Please ask for blanks, listing the type of award sought.

Mrs. Charles Egan reported that Radio and TV stations often sponsor Women's Service programs, and are often glad to set aside time for garden club programs.

The Bird Contest will be continued. See announcement elsewhere by Mrs. Drissen.

**DAKOTA HORTICULTURE**

## FORMER SOUTH DAKOTAN BREEDS NEW PENSTEMONS IN NEBRASKA

*By* MRS. G. M. JORGENSEN

Ten years time and thousands of seed crosses were necessary to achieve fame as a breeder of an exciting new line of colors in penstemon grandiflora type, but that was all in the joys of gardening for H. J. Donaldson, Fremont, Nebraska.

Garden club members of a dozen years ago will remember "Herb" Donaldson as the power behind the movement which created the SDFGC in 1942, and will be happy to know that his work has brought him renown in his adopted state. He has been an active gardener and experimenter all of his adult life, and Sioux Falls friends will recall his avid interest in the growing of lilies. He first came into garden club prominence as president of the Sioux Falls Garden Club, and was then elected president of the State Horticulture Society. Fremont gardeners were quick to appreciate his knowledge and leadership, and have kept him in office ever since he moved there. This summer he was nominated as Town Gardener to represent Fremont at the Midwest Flower and Garden Show at Omaha, and was featured in Hormel Magazine. If his expectations come true he will be hailed with delight all over the gardening world.

Penstemon grandiflora, the common beardstongue of our dry, rocky hillsides, is one of the more spectacular wild flowers of the state. Viewed close-up its tubular bell-flowers in tints of lavender, are refreshingly lovely. The height of the stems, and

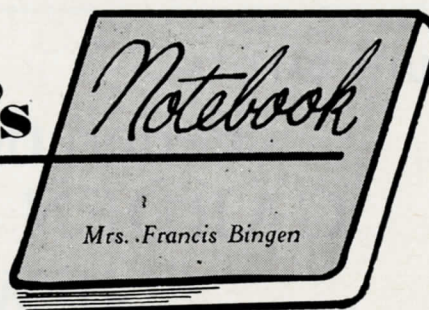
size and number of its large bells make it a valuable addition to the spire type of border flowers, and a highly desirable acquisition for any garden. Imagine its greatly enhanced value if it can be had in an array of tints and tones from all three of the primary colors, which seems to be where Herb's breeding experiments are leading.

His experiments began in 1949 when he transplanted a red and a white penstemon grandiflora close to an ordinary lavender one. From these bee-pollinized seeds he grew a few good pinks and purples. In the spring of 1958 his seedlings became so numerous that he rented an extra lot on which to plant them. "This spring in June they gave me over 6000 blooming stems" he says, "in all colors of lavender, purple, red, pink, near white, and pure white. Three plants were orange. Orange is indicative of yellow. Since I know of no yellow in this grandiflora type, I shall segregate these orange plants and let them seed next year. If they live and produce, after several generations of careful selection, maybe a yellow grandiflora will be forthcoming."

If it is possible for anyone to achieve this goal, it could be Herb. He is an indefatigable gardener with an intensely seeking mind, and an exhaustive energy which allows him no rest from the pursuit of his hobbies. All gardeners will wish him continued success.



# President's



DEAR GARDEN CLUBBERS  
AND OTHERS:

By now, as you read this we are well into the new year and many resolutions have been made and many have been broken. I hope the one in which you resolved to work a little harder this year to help organize new clubs, will not be among the broken ones. With an increased membership, we could do so many things for our state. Wouldn't it be nice if we planted a model mile of Hopa Crab trees or surround one of our beautiful lakes with them?

Then there should be a "Garden" developed to which we could point with pride and which would grow more beautiful with the years. This could be years in the making but we should start it now.

If we are going to have a new generation of gardeners, it behooves us to organize more Junior clubs. We must instill in them the love of the beautiful and love of nature. Many young people do not have the opportunity to learn it at home and they are thrilled with their accomplishments when they exhibit their plants and flowers.

Our new radio program is now a fact and we are heard over KSDN Aberdeen, every second Monday of the month at 1:15 to 1:30. This time is given to us free and we want to thank the radio station for it. If you like the program, the station will be glad to hear from you. And we welcome questions to answer over the air. Later on, the clubs in this area will have a turn in putting on the program.

We want to welcome the new club from Roslyn and shall be happy to help them get acquainted with the work we are doing. They are an enthusiastic group of people and I know that they will be a help to us.

For those interested in flower show schools, I want to say that they will have to ask to have a school set up.

Your President has no way of knowing where the interest in these schools lies. But will be glad to help set them up if there is enough interest.

I hope the new catalogs have been an inspiration and that you do not wait too long to place your order for your garden needs. Help the seedsmen help you.

Until Spring, Your Truly,  
IDA BINGEN

## Mrs. Bingen Attends Rocky Mountain Regional Meet

At a pre-convention session attended by the state Presidents of the region, the matter of succession to Regional directorship was discussed. South Dakota was in line for this place. Although South Dakota did not accept this year, we did not jeopardize our position.

The theme was "Maturity thru Growth." Following state regents we elected a regional secretary, treasurer and auditor. Mrs. Delmer Wolff of Montana, Mrs. R. V. Hutchins of Utah, and Mrs. C. C. Buckbee of Colorado were chosen for the respective offices.

A film showing the rose arrangement winners in the Jackson-Perkins Contest was shown.

At the luncheon meeting, Mrs. D. S. Baughman was honored for her service as Permanent Home Chairman. She was presented with a citation and plaque from National Council.

A tour to Denver Botanic Gardens was conducted in a snow squall. The recently acquired grounds and building should be a good potential for disseminating garden knowledge.

After the banquet, Mr. Earl Read showed slides of wild flowers in their natural habitat as seen through the artist's eyes. Mrs. Carl Metzger, of Huron, Mrs. Earl Kindred of Miller, Mrs. D. S. Baughman of Madison and Mrs. Bingen attended from South Dakota.

## National Board Meeting Held in Albuquerque

Report of the National Board Meeting held at Albuquerque, Oct. 18, 19, 20, 1959. Mrs. Jamie Johnson presiding.

The theme was "The Great Plains of The Southwest" and Debs Smith, head of English Department, Eastern New Mexico College, gave a talk on folklore of the southwest. In his humorous way he showed us the difference between how he writes western stories and how the stories come out in print and over television.

At the luncheon on Tuesday, we had as our speaker Dr. Knox Millsap, chief scientist at Air Force Missile Development Center, Holloman, New Mexico. Let it suffice that he said "The brightest flower that is seen over New Mexico is the Missile. If it were not so, there would be very few flowers anywhere soon."

There was an orchid display at the hotel and those attending received a lot of information on this particular industry.

The banquet was formal and we were honored by the appearance of the Governor and his lady. During the meal, we were entertained by a Spanish troubador and Spanish dancers and a style show of western fashions.

"Art of Japanese Flower Arrangement" was discussed by Mrs. Harold Neely and arrangements which she had made were shown. The highlight of the banquet was when the lights were dimmed and the waiters brought in the flaming dessert. It was indeed the crowning event to the theme "Fiesta under Western Skies."

## ATTENTION LITTERBUG CHAIRMEN!

At the time our Poster contest rules were announced we were not aware that Keep South Dakota Green had again generously offered to take our winner on tour of the Black Hills. Would you please advise your teachers?

Mrs. Alden Scott, Artesian  
Litterbug Chairman

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE



## Organic Matter Helps Release Plant Food

We all know that heavy clay soil is a problem child when it comes to growing plants in it. We know it is necessary to add humus to "lighten" it, but how many of us know what happens to change the clay into friable soil? Much of the change occurs in making the minerals in the soil available to plants, dissolving the minerals, and in storing them for future use. "With humus you can turn rocks into plant food," says Charles H. Coleman, Science Editor in "Organic Gardening." Humus is the miracle substance that makes life possible. Without it there would be little or no plant life on earth. Proper use of humus can make soil more fertile, yields more abundant, and food more nutritious."

It is the organic compounds in humus which do the trick with a claw-like action. "Some of these compounds stretch out like an earthworm. As they swim around in the soil water they come into contact with minerals in rocks and both ends swing together and grab hold of the mineral. The CLAW THAT IS FORMED IS SO STRONG THAT IT CAN YANK AN ATOM OF MINERAL RIGHT OUT OF A PIECE OF ROCK. This gets the atom of mineral right out in the open where plants can use it for food."

A very important property of humus is its ability to store mineral nutrients.—Humus is like a sponge in absorbing water and helps hold mineral elements in the upper soil layers. It is the seat of the greatest microbiological activity, and acts as a nutrient reservoir. Experiments show that humus supplies plants with 95% of the nitrogen they need, up to 60% of the phosphorus, up to 80% of the sulphur, and similar amounts of other minerals. These minerals are supplied to the plant as the plant needs them for food.

"Soil scientists recommend adding fresh supplies of organic matter at frequent intervals. Compost may be added any time. Undecomposed materials such as grass clippings, leaves, shredded cornstalks, alfalfa, clover, etc., are best turned under after the fall harvest."



Standing before the fireplace in her home, Mrs. D. S. Baughman holds the citation received recently from National Council for her work in promoting the building of our permanent home in St. Louis, Mo. This is now our national headquarters. The citation was presented at Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting held in Denver this fall.

## YEARBOOK STANDARDS

MRS. CARL RAU  
215 Third Ave. S. E.,  
Watertown, S. D.

We can make 1960 a *good year* to cultivate the gardening interests of our club members and our community. To accomplish this most Garden Clubs have their new programs well planned, and their Year Books close to completion. I hope you have found original themes and inspiring activities for your club's programs.

The more Year Books entered for the award, the better. So send me a copy of your book by *April First* (Mrs. Carl Rau, 215 Third Ave. S.E. Watertown, S. D.)

The following standards may be of value in preparing your book.

### —YEAR BOOK AWARD—

#### I Classes

- A. Clubs of 10 to 25 members
- B. Clubs of more than 25 members

#### II Physical Make-up (35 points)

- A. Convenient size
- B. Cover
  1. Durability of material
  2. Attractiveness (beauty of design, color, etc.)
- C. Title Page
  1. Club Name
  2. Name of town, state, and district
  3. Date organized, date of membership in Federation

4. Day and time of meeting.
5. Affiliations—National, Regional, State and District.
- D. Subsequent pages
  1. Securely bound
  2. Legibility, neatness, good spacing, uniform margins, (Printed, typed, mimeographed, or written.
  3. Club Officers and committee chairman, club projects.
  4. National president, National headquarters, Regional Director, State Officers, District Director, National Books.
  5. Membership list with mailing addresses and telephones.

#### III Program Content (35 points)

- A. At least nine meetings a year.
- B. Monthly program topics listed
- C. Member participation
  1. At least one guest speaker a year is desirable.)
- D. Constructive study of some phrase of the following:
  1. Conservation
  2. Horticulture
  3. Nature
  4. Beautification (Civic and Roadside)
- E. Use of exhibits—Specimen, arrangements, or any others relative to the subject of the day or activity.
- F. Use of slides or films
- G. Workshops, demonstrations and study of flower arrangements

#### IV Community Projects (15 points)

- A. At least one meeting open to the public every year.
- B. Sponsoring a Junior Garden Club or helping in a 4-H project.
- C. At least one Flower Show or Garden Pilgrimage open to the public.
- D. Contributions to the civic betterment of the community (in line of gardening activity) such as book funds, public plantings, supplying flowers and arrangements regularly to hospitals, libraries or other public buildings.

#### V Federation Project (15 points)

- A. Conservation
  1. Ft. Randall Dam, Lewis and Clark and similar projects.
- B. Landscaping
- C. Roadside development
- D. Horticultural Therapy
- E. Junior Garden Club
- F. Garden Center



# Garden club cleanings

Mrs. Dewey Benson,  
Hurley, S. Dak., Corres. Sec'y

## Rapid City in News

The September meeting of the Rapid City Garden Club consisted of a plant sale netting a profit of \$32.20. If the members do not have plants or bulbs, other saleable items are brought. The October meeting was held at the Sioux Park Hospitality Room with 52 members and guests present. The Halloween theme prevailed at the pot luck dinner in charge of Mrs. Blackmore and Mrs. H. Watermeier. The annual greens-gathering trip into the Black Hills was taken on a Sunday, November 22nd, to allow participation by the families. Lunch in the open with plenty of hot coffee stirred people into action to gather the greens for making Christmas decorations. Baskets of pine spruce, kinnikinnick, cedar and juniper were gathered to be used at the December wreath-making workshop for the public. At the time the public is invited to make their own decorations with assistance if needed, and all materials furnished for a charge of 50c. This friendly and generous project helps to add new members to the club.

## Centerville Makes Wreaths

The members of the Centerville Garden Club made wreaths for all the churches in Centerville, one in Viborg, and one in Wakonda, as their Christmas gift project. Members and their husbands enjoyed a 6:30 buffet supper at the home of the club president, Mrs. Thomson. Entertainment was in the form of bingo, with prizes donated by the club members.

## Hobby Show Well Attended

A Hobby Show and Guest Night were features of the Town and Country Garden Club of Milbank, held at the First National Bank Community Rooms in October, when 35 visitors were entertained. After the opening by President Mrs. Riss, the Hobby Show committee Mesdames A. C. Bucholz, H. Wendland, and P. Killion, took charge. A brief talk by Mrs. Bucholz mentioned the value

of having a hobby, and those present were given an opportunity to present and explain their exhibits. Thirty displays made up an interesting and diversified exhibit. Included were hats from the Philippines; stamps, buttons and spoon collections; painted and embroidered pictures, hand-made rugs, dolls, winter bouquets, Bibles, telephones, bird feeders, driftwood items, crocheted work, salt and peppers, convention buttons and badges, reed baskets, game boards, grind organs and china pigs.

Slides of nature scenes were shown and narrated by Mrs. Bucholz. At the November meeting a squash and pumpkin will be the special feature.

## Dell Rapids Sponsors Arts and Crafts Sale

The Dell Rapids Garden Club held a workshop demonstration in preparation for an Arts and Crafts Sale. Miss Mable Merry demonstrated gold foil stars, red mitten corsages, door decorations and gift enclosure cards. Mrs. John Janssen showed how to make styrofoam candles and holders, wreaths, crocheted items and gifts made from aluminum pans. Mrs. John Hillman chose copper work, plaques, unicorn birds, and papier mache deer heads with horns as her medium of expression for gift items. Mrs. Ernest Greening's exhibit consisted of wire trees, nut cups, corsages and of place cards, nut cups and plaques made from sea shells. Friday November 13th held no terrors for the group who held their sale on that date. Profits will be allocated to a fund for landscaping at the new Community Hospital.

## Petal Pals Hold Flower Show

On June 30th the Petal Pals Garden Club of Brookings, held their 10th annual Delphinium Tea and Standard Flower show, the theme being "Delphinium Days." The Little Green Thumb Junior Garden Club, sponsored by the Petal Pals, had a nice display of birds, showing them in color, with original bird nests beside each. They also presented a Litterbug play, while a group of 4-H Juniors demonstrated a folk dance. Mrs. Franklin Shaw showed slides of flowers from this area. Prizes for a drawing held on the hour each hour of the afternoon and evening were Astolot Delphinium plants. Judges

(Continued on page 13)

## Bird Contest Popular, New Awards for 1960

MRS. EDWARD DRISSEN,  
Britton So. Dak.

Because of the popularity of the garden club bird contest last year, we would like to repeat it with one change, the awards. Instead of the cash award of two dollars in each division, a cup or a plaque for display and publicity purposes will be awarded. The rationale of the cup or plaque, which could be held by the club secretary, would be that it be displayed for a time at some suitable mainstreet location (storewindow) to gain publicity for bird study and bird watching.

Anything which calls attention to any phase of bird study, to the fact that it is a continuing interest and hobby of our garden clubs, is worth our while.

Along the same line, might it not be worth while to "plant" a variety of bird books in our local libraries, municipal and school? Books worth owning:

1. A Field Guide to the Birds by Roger Tory Peterson
2. Audubon Bird Guide by Richard Pough
3. A Guide to Bird Watching by Joseph Hickey.
4. Birds Over America by Roger Tory Peterson
5. Wild America by R. T. Peterson and James Fisher
6. The Lives of Wild Birds by Artas A. Saunders
7. An Introduction to Birds by John Kieran
8. Stalking Birds with Color Camera by Arthur A. Allen

Bird lists from December 15 to May 31 will again be kept, we hope, by each member. Awards will be made:

1. To the club with the greatest percentage of members participating.
2. To the club reporting the greatest number of species identified.

Please send lists to me by June 4, 1960.

JUANITA DRISSEN  
Bird Chairman

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE



## Garden Club Gleanings—

(Continued from page 12)

for the show were Mesdames Jorgensen, and Claude Sherard and Dewey Benson for Hurley. The guest register showed a total of 292 visitors who enjoyed the show.

## Green Growers Are Active

Members of the Green Growers Garden Club of Baltic had a busy summer and fall, the highlight of the year being their second flower show held in August. Mrs. Melvin Myron and Mrs. Gordon Thompson were sweepstakes winners. Mrs. Walter Mortenson of Sioux Falls was the judge. This club has always been generous toward local sick folks and shut-ins, and their project of making bird feeders to place near the windows of the shut-ins was a particularly interesting gesture. The group was also first to consider the landscaping needs of the new Community hospital at Dell Rapids, and have donated the sum of \$20.00 toward this project. Nice going! Eight members of the group attended the District V meeting held in Valley Springs October 6.

## Winter Shows Spark Christmas Season

At least six garden clubs in South Dakota sponsored a Christmas show. Madison, Webster, Irene, Artesian, Mitchell, and the Rural Garden Circle of Crooks are among them.

The Rural Garden Circle held their show, "Christmas at Our House" on December 3rd, at the West Nidaros Church. In addition to the twenty-three classes of lovely Christmas arrangements, there were craft items for sale, the proceeds of which go to charity. Mrs. Walter Mortenson was judge.

"Christmas Artistry" was the theme of the Irene show held on November 28th, at a time when icy roads made travel a hazardous procedure. Despite this handicap there were 135 registered guests from six nearby towns: Canton, Sioux Falls, Tyler, Minnesota, and Denver, Colo. Of the 92 entries, there was an especially good showing in the horticulture division, with 23 exhibits. Names of the various design classes were written on star-shaped markers, while wee Christmas trees were used for other markers. "Real cute," especially since this is their first attempt at a Christmas show. Thirty-seven

ribbon awards put Mrs. Charles Christensen way out on top among the winners, which was one for every entry, with 19 being blue ribbons. Mrs. Benson, Hurley, judged the show.

Madison, long time leader in the Christmas show field in this state, held their holiday spectacular two days, December 11 and 12th, in the Lake County Courthouse.

Reports from Webster indicate a most successful show there the second week in December.

Artesian—The little Prairie Flower Garden Club also staged a show on December 5, to the delight of 96 visitors. This is an unjudged show, and everyone brings anything which comes to mind.

Mitchell—The Mitchell Garden Club is another old hand at the Christmas show business, staged in the Northwest Security National Bank. Mrs. Lewis Severance was the judge this year.

## Hurley Wins Again

The little Green Thumb Garden Club of Hurley has again won Honorable Mention in the Massachusetts Horticulture's annual year book contest, with literally thousands of entries, the record made by Hurley is indeed an enviable one. Congratulations!

## ELECTIONS

**Annual elections are a signal to check your records and bring your list of officers up to date. The following clubs have revised their officer lists of late.**

### Baltic

#### THE GREEN GROWERS

President, Mrs. Cortland Johnson

Vice President, Mrs. Willard

Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs.

Mandler

Vernon Lewis

Reporter, Mrs. Iver Oyen  
Britton

#### THE HOME GARDEN CLUB

President, Mrs. Herman Carlson

Vice President, Mrs. A. M. Odland

Treasurer, Mrs. August Beck

Secretary, Mrs. Henry Prchal  
Lyons

#### LYONS GARDEN CLUB

President, Mrs. N. C. Beadle

## BOOK REVIEW

### "ENJOYING AMERICA'S GARDENS"

Joan Parry Dutton — Macmillan  
Co. N. Y. PE.JJ

Travel literature eulogizes the glorious gardens of Europe, Asia and Hawaii; garden clubs organize tours to them, and books extol their beauty and profusion of bloom; but Joan Parry Dutton has written a book in reverse. She came from Europe for a brief tour of America's gardens, found them more lovely than anything on the European Continent, lost her heart completely to our wildlings, and finally returned to make this her home!

"Enjoying America's Gardens" is more than a "travel" book; it is a botanical treatise written with such sheer delight in her surroundings that the leisure-time reader fails to realize the vast fund of horticultural knowledge and history hidden within her enchanting phrases. The first reading of this book is for pure, exciting armchair pleasure; the second time you will skip from chapter to chapter as you search for half-remembered descriptions and information, and the third time it will be your companion for reference wherever you travel to visit the gardens and wildflower fields described therein. (I wish it had an index.)

From the gardens of Longwood ("No other garden in the world can compare with Longwood") to the last real wilderness of the Olympic Peninsula where "so many of our native plants are native nowhere else in the world," Mrs. Dutton makes you see our heritage of beauty in plants. History, biography, botany and geography are brought to you in a sugar-coated capsule of delight in this exciting new travel book.

Vice President, Mrs. Roy  
Thompson

Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Andrew Lemme

Officer-at-large, Mrs. Gene  
Johnson

Webster

#### LAWN AND GARDEN CLUB

President, Mrs. Fred Hasse

Vice President, Mrs. Alton Andersen

Secretary, Mrs. Harvey Newman

Treasurer, Mrs. E. H. Locke



## NOTICE FOR CLUB TREASURERS

January is the month I am looking to YOU for DUES.

You have received forms on which to list names and addresses of all paid-up members. Send me \$1.50 per member, or \$2.00 per couple. This pays for SOUTH DAKOTA HORTICULTURE MAGAZINE, your dues to National Council, and your State Federation dues, allocated thus:

Horticulture Society \$1.00

National Council 10c

SDFGC 40c

Make checks payable to South Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs.

Dues are due NOW, and are delinquent after February 15. No magazines will be sent to delinquent members. Send dues to me:

LAURA E. SEXAUER,

State Treasurer

1326 Fourth St., Brookings

## National Headquarters Dedication

by Mrs. Glenna R. McArthur

Sunday, May 10th, 1959, was the opening day of the thirtieth annual convention at St. Louis, Mo. We gathered at the Headquarters Building for the dedication program, held on the broad patio steps of the main entrance. This wide plaza of concrete, with raised flower-beds and striped textured traprock squares, made a perfect arena for the impressive ceremony. Mrs. Daniel J. Mooney, National President, presided.

Following a brief program the entrance ribbon was cut by Mrs. Mooney. She was escorted by an honor guard of past national presidents. Tea was served in the upper-level and lower-level conference rooms for the remainder of the afternoon. Delegates, members and friends enjoyed conducted tours of the building, adjacent botanical gardens, and Shaw's Museum.

The National Headquarters is a dignified structure of white rose brick and pink granite with walls of glass in aluminum. Nestled against a slope just east of the lagoon at the south edge of the Henry Shaw Botanical Gardens, it is a shrine to Horticulture and Conservation.

The split-level structure will function as a national record center and mailing office with rooms for meetings of the Board of Directors and secondary conferences. Over-looking the garden slope is the assembly room. This room is flanked by a glass walled patio on the inside of a hollow square

with a circular opening to the sky. The inside patio is a jewel of beauty. From the center rises a lacy-leafed locust tree.

The lower-level looks out upon the garden and contains the conference room, a kitchen, mailing room, filing room, and a small apartment where guests may rest after a long journey.

Extending from the main entrance to the west is a tall fence of pink brick and pink granite capping. The center section of the wall is of sculptured granite-pickets forming a fountain which plays into pools on either side of the wall. On the garden side are large granite blocks engraved with the names of garden clubs and individuals who made large contributions to the financing of the building. This area is called "The Garden of Givers." Club members are invited to visit the headquarters at any time.

## DIRECTORY

The list of officers for our year book?

—see below

Accredited flower show judges?

—May-June, '59

The SDFGC directory?—May-June 1959

List of Awards and the winners?

—July-August '59

Year book Contest rules?—January-February 1960

State Chairman?—September - October, 1959

List of National Awards and rules?

\*\*National Gardener September-October '59

### ADD TO STATE CHAIR LIST

Programs—Mrs. Erwin Bader, Roscoe.

Flower Show Schools—Mrs. R. K. Morrell, 1115 Clark St. Rapid City

### FOR YOUR YEARBOOKS

National President—Mrs. Jamie L. Johnson, 1414 Belmont Road, Dearborn, Mich.

National Headquarters—Mrs. Earl Hath, Ex. Sec. 4401 Magnolia Ave., St. Louis 10, Missouri

National Council Books, Inc.—Box 4965, Philadelphia 19, Pa.

Regional Director — Mrs. Lowell Storm, Chugwater, Wyoming

State President—Mrs. Francis Bingen, Andover, S. Dak.

1st. Vice-President—Miss Alice Platt, 2428 N. Cascade, Colorado Springs Colorado

(temporary address)



*Co-operation for Conservation—* The Pioneer Organic Club in Omaha and the City Public Works Department combined efforts to produce some of the finest compost in Omaha. The club asked the department to dump leaves raked from city streets, on a vacant lot, and the city was glad to cooperate. Now there are two compost piles, and the one begun in 1957 has decayed to a rich humus. Club members are sifting, sacking and selling the product! What a wonderful project.

*Straw for Strawberries—*is OK, says the New York Agricultural Experiment Station. Since straw and leaves are our most available mulching materials, it is well to know that they need be placed only 2 or 3 inches deep. Too heavy a cover may smother the plants. Mulch after freezing but "before severe occurs." The last phrase may mean winter plant losses after our extra early temperature drop last fall. Straw is lower in nitrogen content than leaves and may need extra fertilizer next year unless you spade them well under after being removed from the plants. Leaves decompose faster and easier.

*Demise in December—*Those of us who have grown up with Nature Magazine will mourn its passing with the December 1959 issue. Subscribers who are paid up in advance will receive their money's worth in Natural History magazine with which it has merged. Subject matter will be similar, but it will never be the same.

(Continued on page 15)

2nd Vice-President—Mrs. Oscar Haag Huron

Recording Secretary—Mrs. Oscar Akerson, Webster

Corresponding secretary—Mrs. Dewey Benson, Hurley

Treasurer—Miss Laura Sexauer-1326 Fourth St. Brookings  
(Also list District Director for your district)



## From the Compost—

(Continued from page 14)

**Praise for Paintbrush**—The pretty "Wyoming Paintbrush" with its spray of their state flower on the cover, is now the official organ of the Federated Garden Clubs to the west of us. The Editor is none other than our friend Mrs. Jerry Urbanek. Mae Urbanek will be remembered by those who attended the 1951 convention in Rapid City. The 16-page, purple-inked publication sparkles with enthusiasm and cheerfulness for the future of their federation.

**Flower Flop**—Our nation is still without a National Floral emblem. The powerful General Federation of Women's Clubs is backing the rose with all its strength of thousands of members, but there is still much more opposition to it because it is the national flower of so many other countries, and would seem to favor some of our states who have chosen it as their own. The "corn tassel lady" from Minnesota, Margo Cairns, is promoting her choice; while the lowly marigold is backed by the powerful persuasion of David Burpee, and many members of the legislators on the committee. The rose received only 34 votes as compared to 55 for the marigold, upon vote by the committee. Surprisingly the corn tassel received 36, while the carnation's vote was 20, and grass received 5 votes. Nebraska would like the goldenrod. The wild phlox has never had a strong promotion, but it is another flower that is native to the United States, but NO OTHER CONTINENT, has no objectionable odor or pollen problem re: allergic people, comes in varieties which bloom from April to October, from wee rock garden plants to tall prairie varieties, grows from Alaska to Texas, and is one of the brightest darlings on the wild flower scene. If your club has a favorite flower candidate, you can help your cause by writing to the office of Sen. Paul Douglas, at Washington, D. C.

**"Talking Trees"**—If you have not yet requested your copy of TREES of SOUTH DAKOTA, waste no time about getting it now. The pictures really "talk" by showing exactly "How Nature Labels Trees" with leaf shape, placement,

type, size, etc. The book was written for boys and girls, but do not let that deprive you of the finest tree identification book ever written for the state. Congratulations to the Extension Department men who edited it. Write for Circular No. 566.

**Pungent Paragraphs**—from National Gardener make a good addition to any program. Each garden club should reserve a five minute period at each meeting for a report about National Gardener. The Christmas issue has an exceptional variety of readable articles, and a cover of classic beauty designed by the editor. Better yet, send in \$1.00 for a subscription.

**Scrapbook SOS**—President Bingen requests the loan of any pictures you think might add interest to our State Scrapbook. This is to be displayed at Houston at the National meeting next spring. Send directly to her at Andover.

**North for Nelle**—After roaming all over Florida, New Mexico and Arizona in search of retirement living, the R. K. Morrells decided that "home" is the best place after all, and have now settled in Rapid City. Lucky the Rapid City Garden Club! Nelle, the "lady who talks with her hands" is one and the same who gave you the vivid word picture in Gleanings, when she was our corresponding secretary. Welcome back to the fold.

**Joyful Judging**—Congratulations to Mrs. Lewis Severance on achieving high score in her flower show school Refresher Course IV at Omaha in October. All amateur accredited judges are required to attend a refresher school during their third year after receiving their certificate. This refresher course is to assure that judges keep up with all new developments. Mrs. Severance and Mrs. Jorgensen were the only ones from the state taking the refresher at this time, though Mrs. D. S. Baughman, Mrs. Francis Nelson and Mrs. Evangeline Schnaidt are also due to renew their accreditation. It was a great privilege to take Course IV under such renowned instructors as Mrs. Ruth Kistner of New York, and Mrs. Hazen C. Pettit, of Iowa.

While you are studying the catalogues this winter, you might include plants for a garden named for your-

self. While "Juanita" is a common name among Spanish speaking people, it is not so common in the mid-west and I am surprised to find so many flowers given that name. Latest is an American Home Achievement Medal Winner dahlia named Nita. At 22 shows last fall, this dahlia was the winner. It is of medium size (a boon to flower arrangers), about 7 inches across, cactus-flowered type, delicate cerise in color and grows about 4 feet high. Color, form, stem and foliage were all considered when awarding Nita top honors.

May all your gardening experiences be happy ones in 1960.

—NITA

## Chemicals and Cranberries

MRS. L. G. ELSINGER,  
Conservation Chairman, Dell Rapids

The cranberry crises serves to emphasize again the stand taken by wildlife conservationists, Audubon Magazine, and Organic Gardening, against the indiscriminate use of pesticides and herbicides chemicals, until they are proven to be safe. DDT has virtually eliminated the robins on a 185 acre tract at the University of Michigan where it was used to control Elm Bark Beetles. To the astonishment of officials, it not only killed the robins when they ate insects from the leaves but also killed them when they ate earthworms the following spring. It was later determined that the earthworms which fed on decaying leaves under the sprayed trees retained the poison in their bodies.

Conservationists have been calling for:

1. Additional research into all effects of pesticide and herbicide compounds;
2. Additional investigating to discover selective chemicals which will solve particular problems without danger to valuable resources;
3. Less emphasis on broad spectrum chemicals;
4. Additional safeguards against indiscriminate or improper use of dangerous chemicals.

Send to the National Audubon Society for materials and program information. Address them to Washington, D.C.



## Book Bouquets and Brickbats

by JUANITA JORGENSEN

**A winter evening, a comfortable chair, and a good book—what greater joy hath any man? Make your New Year, and that of your friends, happy with a book from the following selections.**

### Symbolism in Flower Arranging

by Ervin S. Ferry, *The MacMillan Co.*, N. Y. \$4.95

"Symbolism in Flower Arrangement" is not another book on how to arrange flowers; it is a book of plant and flower lore and its relation to the art of expression through plant materials.

Can a flower arrangement suggest anxiety and conflict, or indicate a trip around the world? Ervin S. Ferry says it can, and proceeds to explain how to make arrangements to express a mood, arouse the emotions, or interpret ideas. The basis for symbolism may lie in the type of growth of a plant, or often in the legends concerning it, and one of the most fascinating chapters in the book is "Branches and Flowers That Speak." This is good reading for anyone, for it is a veritable encyclopedia on the meanings of plants and what they signify.

The most notable types of interpretive arrangements belong to the Japanese schools of flower arranging, and the book is an excellent treatise for the student, but holds much of practical value for the flower show arranger, also. There are suggestions for the correct flowers to use for special occasions, from "Good Wishes" and Weddings, to Arbor Day; and one chapter is devoted to the use of "Accessories of Symbolic Importance." After Dr. Ferry's world wide research into the legends of gods and goddesses and their symbolism, he ends the book with a splendid chapter on helps in handling and keeping flowers.

### What Flowering Tree Is That?

by Edwin Menninger, *Stuart, Florida* \$2.50

Did you ever see a "baby redhead," "jewels on a string" or an orange

colored "caterpillar" growing on a tree? Every visitor to Florida has asked about the unusual array of flowering trees to be seen there—perhaps it was the "tulip" tree or the "pink cloud" mimosa. We can now thank a dedicated plant lover for a book which can "talk" to you about them and help you to believe the wonderful things you see. "The day will never come when there are no more new flowering trees to brighten our landscape in Florida" says the "Flowering Tree Man," Edwin A. Menninger. The fascinating stories of these trees are easy to read and authentic, exciting to the imagination, and so very helpful in identifying the colorful blossoms you see along the highways of the sub-tropics. Black and white photographs of each tree enhance the value of the book.

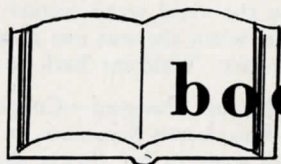
Seeing is believing, and you can see each one of the 1000 trees mentioned in the book, in Mr. Menninger's garden, plus another two thousand, and receive a rich reward in wonderful tropic beauty. The book won the National Horticultural Award, and is a splendid investment for the traveler, the Florida home owner, or the armchair traveler alike.

## Modern Art in Flower Arrangements

by Emma Hodkinson Cyphers  
*Hearthside Press*, N. Y. \$4.50

If you are wondering how to advance to "modern art" in flower arranging here is help of a concrete kind. This is the seventh book on flower arranging by Mrs. Cyphers, and few are in a better position to explain this new approach to the old art of decorative designs. Strong, bold lines using a minimum of material characterize the modern style. It emphasizes stark simplicity, bare branches, and large leaves, which form strong geometric patterns with nothing to subdue them, with structural aids exposed, and is anything but repetitive.

Dramatic pictures take the place of words in almost half the book and challenge the viewer to achieve something equally modern with those trumpet vine and okra pods down in the basement or that weathered wood and palm spathe dragged home from Florida a few years ago. They make you realize that strength and force can give character to your arrangement and that there is a new concept of self expression in making decorative designs. This is the book they are all talking about.



### Foliage Arrangements

by Emma Hodkinson Cyphers  
*Hearthside Press*, N. Y. \$3.50

Foliage Arrangements is not a new book but is still one of the most valuable reference books for flower arrangers because it deals with a subject which is so often overlooked. Foliage Arrangements is the only book devoted to the use of leaves in making decorative designs. All around us, in garden, yard and borders, along the roadsides and in the woods, as well as on our window sills, plants supply us with leaves in exciting shapes, sizes, colors and textures. You have undoubtedly pressed them between the pages of a magazine where a house cleaning spree brings them to light once in a while. How much better to

display their beauty with appropriate combinations, and enhance them in the proper setting, where all who come may share your own delight in them.

"Life is enriched by anything that kindles a spark of enthusiasm" and this book will quicken an awareness of the decorative possibilities of the leaves which are so easily available to you. The subject is further treated as to cutting and conditioning, preserving in various ways, and finally with their use in arrangements. The book shows how to create a big effect with little effort, and like most of Mrs. Cypher's recent works, is especially valuable for its splendid photographs. Many of these arrangements have a modern feeling akin to her newest book on "Modern Art."