

Volume 33, No. 2

March-April, 1960

SOUTH DAKOTA

**SOUTH DAKOTA
STATE COLLEGE**

MAR 24 1961

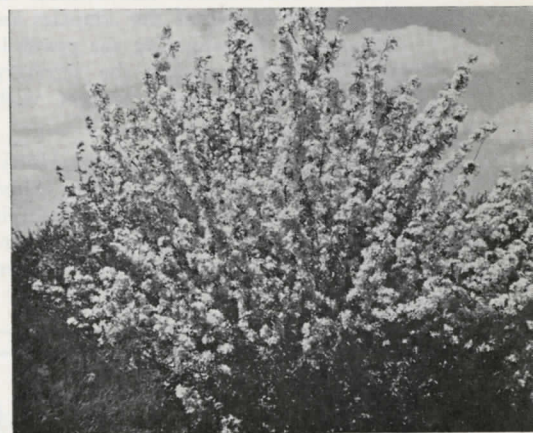
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ARBOR DAY Issue

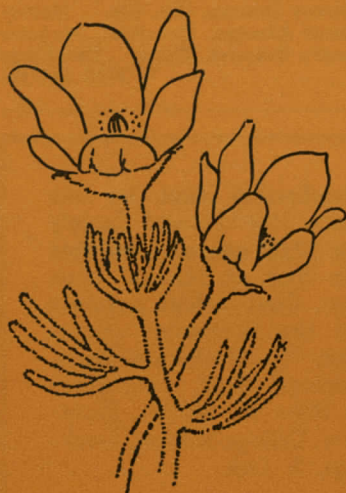
TREE PLANTIN' DAY

This year the Hopa Flowering Crabapple (right) is suggested for planting on Arbor Day. Developed at South Dakota State College by N. E. Hanson, they will be planted to commemorate the 75th anniversary of that institution. Read about the interesting history of Arbor Day and details about plans for this event in South Dakota during 1960 on page 3.



SOUTH DAKOTA ROSE

Read about this pink rose that is well suited for South Dakota. This rose, called the Lillian Gibson, was also developed by N. E. Hanson. The deep pink buds open into a flower that measures over two inches across. A picture and story can be found on page 5.



Pasque Flower
Anemone patens

State Flower for
South Dakota

34.05

1811.63

1.33 #2



'hort' flashes

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

We have been quite pleased with the response received in the matter of dues and subscription money being sent in early this year. We are not up to last year's figure yet and we hope that these will be coming in shortly.

Basketball is in the air. If there is a better indicator of spring not being far away than the basketball tournament season it would have to be a good one. Of course my eight-year-old had me playing marbles on the living room rug the other night.

Congratulations to the Pennington County Horticultural Association. This group is off and running in its second year with many fine meetings and accomplishments behind them.

We were hopeful that by this time we could report that several other counties had formed associations. If the leaders in any of the counties are interested in investigating the possibilities of such a group the secretary would be very happy to meet with them.

"Well done" to the College Horticulture Club for receiving the "Most Beautiful" banner for their exhibit during the State College Little International Show. The Show was held on the campus March 4 and 5, 1960.

Correction! There was an error of one day in the dates listed for the 1960 Federation of Garden Clubs and Horticultural Society Convention in the last issue of "Plains Talk." Yours truly wishes to call your attention to the correct dates. They are: June 15, 16, and 17, 1960. Just one day earlier than listed in "Plains Talk." Thank you.

Sioux Falls will be the site for the 1960 Convention. The meetings will be held on the Augustana College Campus. We are happy to hear that the committee is hard at work on the local arrangements. Our May-June issue should have the program and flower show arrangements for your information. We are looking forward to a big crowd and an outstanding convention.

The Spring meeting of the South Dakota Nurserymen's Association was held at State College on February 29. The all-day session covered a wide range of subjects and problems.

The annual meeting of the South Dakota Farm Forestry Council met at Huron on March 3. There was a good representation of the various agencies in the state. Many problems of the day were discussed.

(Continued on page 8)

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March-April, 1960

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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.

April 29

TREE PLANTING DAY

By

DEAN MARTIN

Extension Horticulturist

Tree-planting festivals are probably as old as civilization. Sacred trees and groves, planted avenues and roadsides, shaded academic walks, and memorial trees were common long before North America was discovered. Arbor Day, as such, however, is purely American in origin and grew out of conditions peculiar to the Great Plains, a country practically treeless over much of its area but supporting a flourishing agriculture.

Arbor Day originated and was first observed in Nebraska in 1872. The plan was conceived and the name "Arbor Day" proposed by J. Sterling Morton, then a member of the State Board of Agriculture, and later United States Secretary of Agriculture. More than a million trees were planted on that first Arbor Day.

The time of the observance of Arbor Day varies greatly in different states and countries. Arbor Day was first observed in South Dakota in 1890. The State Legislature has now designated the last Friday in April as Arbor Day. The Governor of the state annually issues a proclamation providing for a suitable observance of this important day.

Arbor Day is often associated with some other important event. This year South Dakotans are asked to also observe and commemorate the seventy-five years of service rendered by South Dakota State College on Arbor Day, April 29, 1960.

There will be a special tree planting ceremony on South Dakota State Col-



Scenes such as this one taken in a South Dakota school yard over 40 years ago have been repeated many times since. Many of these trees have grown up to give future generations both beauty and shade. This same tree planting ceremony will be repeated in school yards again in 1960. This year many schools will plant the Hopa Flowering Crabapple tree developed by N. E. Hanson.

lege camuus where trees will be planted representing every state in the Union. A small amount of soil from each state will be placed in the planting hole for the appropriate tree. Trees will also be planted for each student enrolled from a foreign country.

A state-wide tree planting activity is also planned. This project will be carried out on a county level. County superintendents of schools, County extension agents as well as other organizations in the counties will cooperate in these events. All schools in the state are invited to participate in this program.

The South Dakota Nurserymen's Association has made arrangements to provide Hopa Flowering Crabapple trees for these plantings. This tree was developed by Dr. N. E. Hansen, longtime head of the Horticulture-Forestry department at South Dakota State College. It has become very popular as an ornamental tree throughout the country. Three- to five-foot trees will be furnished for about \$1.25, plus transportation. These trees will be individually wrapped and sent as a bulk shipment to the county seat. Local cooperating groups will be responsible for distributing the trees to the individual schools.

A tree planting ceremony and planting instructions will be furnished

for each school. In addition, a certificate of participation will also be presented to each school.

Other groups participating in this 75th State College Anniversary-Arbor Day festival are: Keep South Dakota Green Association; Black Hills and Badlands Association; Soil Conservation Districts; Crop Improvement Associations; Department of Game Fish and Parks; and U. S. Forest Service.



'The Hopa Crab'

NJVGA Program Announced for 1960

The National Junior Vegetable Growers Association now enters its 26th year of activity for a continually expanding educational program. During the 25th Anniversary Convention held last December in Washington, D. C., the United States Department of Agriculture saluted NJVGA "for outstanding achievements . . . to help prepare young people for careers in Horticulture."

Although thousands of young men and women are reached by NJVGA activities, the need is even greater than ever to recruit trained personnel for the diverse, specialized field of production, marketing, manufacturing, business, and industry.

The NJVGA program of projects and activities for 1960 has just been announced. The program is open to youths between the ages of 14 and 21. The program has contests in: (1) Production and Marketing; (2) Demonstrations; and (3) Judging, Grading and Identification.

State winners are eligible for national competition. The 1960 National Convention will be held in Denver in December.

Dean Martin, State College Extension Horticulturist is the State Chairman for this project.

Pennington County Association Completes First Year of Activity

The Pennington County Horticultural Association marked its first year of operation when they met on January 12, 1960. The program for the meeting was presented by Mr. William Glendenning. He discussed annuals, perennial and rockery plants. Mr. Glendenning gave an excellent and vivid description of the plants listed. He also named a list of flowers good for cutting. A short discussion followed the talk.

Pickles can kill you! Every pickle you eat brings you nearer to death!

Amazingly, most intelligent people have failed to grasp the obvious significance of the term "in a pickle."

Although leading horticulturists have long known that *Cucumis sativus* possesses an indehiscent pepo, the pickle industry continues to expand.

Pickles are associated with all major diseases of the body. They can be related to most airline tragedies. There exists a positive relationship between crime waves and the consumption of this fruit of the curcubit family.

Nevertheless, more than 120,000 acres of fertile U. S. soil are now devoted to the production of the pickling cucumber and our per capita consumption is nearly 4 pounds.

The harmful effects of pickles can be conclusively proven using a method of logic widely acclaimed by certain government officials and commonly observed in TV commercials.

The nominating committee recommended that the present slate of officers be re-elected for another year. The officers are as follows: president, Merle Gunderson; vice president, John Nobel; directors, John Atkinson, Leslie Kiel and William Glendenning; secretary-treasurer, (ex-officio) Kirk T. Mears.

At the close of the meeting John Atkinson gave a short report on being snowbound in Texas.

'Pickles Can Kill You'

By JOHN CAREW
Michigan State University

Recent surveys have shown:

that 86.8% of all Russian sympathizers have eaten pickles.

that 79.7% of the people involved in traffic accidents consumed pickles within 14 days preceding the crash.

that 63.1% of juvenile delinquents come from homes where pickles are served frequently.

Perhaps you seek evidence of a long-term nature:

Of the people born in the year 1839 who later dined on this vegetable, there has been a 100% mortality.

All pickle-eaters born between 1839 and 1873 have wrinkled skin, brittle bones, and failing eyesight.

Even more convincing is the report of a noted team of medical specialists: rats force-fed with 20 pounds of pickles per day for 30 days developed bulging abdomens.

If you are a skeptic, try this experiment: buy 5 quarts of pickles from your neighborhood grocer. (You'll be shocked to learn this dangerous food is actually on sale near your place of worship.) Grind the contents to a pulp and place in a bowl! Drop in one live guppy.

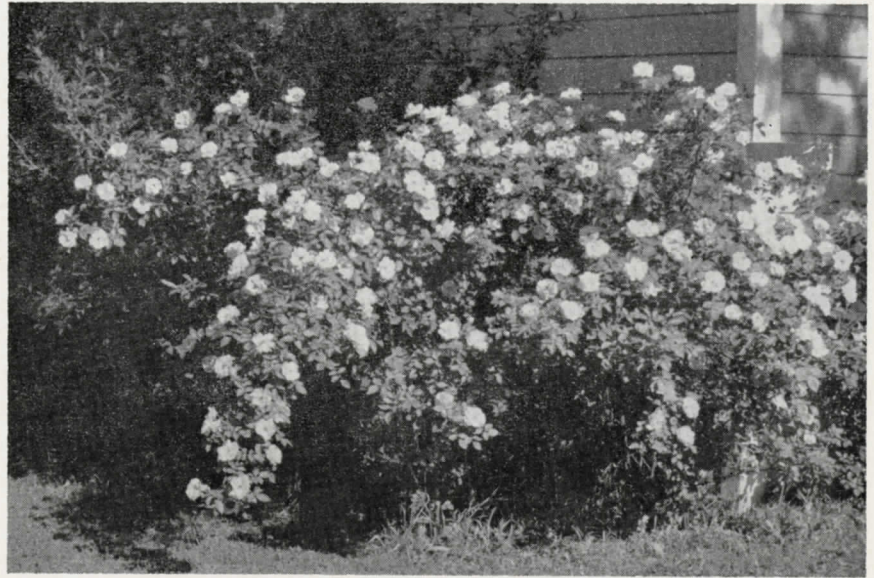
It will die within four hours!

If this sounds ridiculous, compare it with the logic that condemned the entire cranberry industry because of the actions of a few growers.

* Courtesy American Vegetable Grower. From the column, "As It Looks To Me."

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

South Dakota Rose



This is a story of an orphan looking for a home. This is no ordinary orphan. It is a twenty-two-year-old granddaughter orphan. Perhaps you will be interested in giving this orphan a home if you know more about it.

This orphan's grandmother was also an orphan and was first put up for adoption in 1938. Dr. N. E. Hansen found it on his doorstep that year and immediately set about to find a home for it.

The Morton Arboretum of Lisle, Illinois offered to adopt the orphan. We are happy to report that the curator of the Arboretum, E. Lowell Kammerer has been able to make a very favorable report on his adopted daughter. His report follows:

An informal hedge of the Lillian Gibson Rose would be a spectacular sight indeed, and while possible to use it as such, the plant would seem more appropriate for planting along a fence, preferably a white one, where the lovely coloring of its pink blooms could be featured to greatest advantage.

The deep pink buds open into darker centered, semi-double clear pink roses almost two and a half inches in diameter and borne on long pedi-

cels. They are generously distributed along the stems and have an extended period of effectiveness. Peak bloom is reached during the second week in June, tapering off toward the end of the month. Long, arching canes armed with widely spaced, sharp, narrow pointed spines, are further identifying features as is the clean appearing, fresh green foliage of medium size. Each leaf consists of from five to seven leaflets.

The Lillian Gibson Rose was developed by Dr. N. E. Hansen at the South Dakota Agricultural Experimental Station at Brookings and introduced in 1938. By virtue of its hardiness, prolificacy of bloom and overall attractiveness it would seem destined to great popularity once it is made available in the nursery trade.

As in the case of human events there has also been an explosion in the population of the South Dakota Rose at the Founding Home. This year the offspring are available for adoption. Arrangements will have to be made with adoption centers to secure these offspring. Interested parties should investigate the possibilities of adoption as soon as possible.

Woody Plant Registration

For many years the American Association of Nurserymen has maintained a register of new woody plants, including such information as the common name, parentage (if a hybrid), origin if not a hybrid, (bud sport, seedlings, etc.) originator or discoverer, date of origination, brief characteristics, etc.

The American Association of Botanic Gardens and Arboretums has now been designated by the International Horticultural Congress as the official registering agency for ornamental woody plants not currently being registered by any other society. The genera Camellia, Fuschia, Hibiscus, Ilex, Rosa, and Rhododendron are being registered by others. The American Association of Botanic Gardens and Arboretums has designated the Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain 30, Massachusetts for a two-year period, as the National Registration Center for woody ornamentals except for the genera as indicated above.

As a result of this agreement to which the AAN was a party, the AAN will turn over its registry to the Arnold Arboretum. Nurserymen introducing new plants starting January 1, 1960, should register then with the Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain 30, Massachusetts.

A GARDENER LOOKS AT . . .

ALASKA



By JUANITA JORGENSEN

PART II

It was at this show too, that I saw the finest and most complete collection of Wilderness Society sale items I have ever seen. Nothing was missing, and the club must have increased their bank balance considerably if they sold everything which was displayed. Alaska garden clubs lean on National Council for help and have applied for admittance as a federation, though only seven clubs were represented at the organizational meeting in Anchorage in May. It was a very real pleasure to meet the new vice-president, Mrs. Ruth Schreiber at the flower show, and to talk about garden club work and fun. There are a total of 14 garden clubs in Alaska at the present time, but with the enthusiasm evident among the members I met, there are sure to be many more in a short time.

"Gardening makes the whole world kin"; and I might add that strangers become friends at the mention of gardens and will turn their whole home over to you at the drop of a petunia! Because the gardened home of Mr. and Mrs. William Mikkola had been among those featured in the January 1959 issue of *American Home* magazine, we called upon them in Fairbanks and were welcomed into their home and garden.

It was here I saw that the yellow flowers climbing to the roof of their house in the *American Home* story, were actually yellow nasturtiums, trained by loving hands and a few strings to clamber higher than the house top. There were blue lobelia complementing the gold of California poppies, canary vine and asters, and

many, many more growing in riotous color.

Talking to Mrs. Mikkola and watching her expression, I glimpsed something of the mystic spell which Alaska weaves upon lovers of Nature. "Often I'll still be working in the garden at one or two o'clock in the morning," she says. "That is the most beautiful time — our midnight sun overhead, birds singing, the strange beauty and stillness all around." The trees surrounding their home are native trees, with the garden borders planted between and around them so as few as need be were cut down. And again, "Every spring my husband and I make a trip to the mountains with our cameras when spring flowers are in bloom. It is a sight you will never forget. You are away up above everything. You feel the nearness of God. And flowers — millions of flowers covering the mountains — colors so brilliant — you've never seen anything like it." Yes, the beauty and stark reality of life in Alaska grips the soul of people who live close to Nature, and I sometimes long for the peace and quiet of the long dark winters which must have already begun as I write.

We, too, experienced some of the beauty of the mountain flowers, though it was late in the season for most of them. "The earliest flowers the closest cling to earth" — our bloodroot, pasque flower and Dutchman's breeches grow and blossom on short stems early in the spring because they have no time to waste in making growth. Most of the flowers in Alaska grow close to earth because of the

short season, and are therefore not spectacular in the sense that the flowers of Hawaii are noted.

We saw mountain sides covered with sheets of white in McKinley National Park; and fireweed which made mountain slopes look like a scarlet and green comforter in the Chugach Range south of Anchorage, but most of the flowers were just sheets of color like that until you got out and hiked among them. Then only could you see their rare beauty of form and delicate coloration. There are few red flowers in Alaska except the fireweed glowing in the sunshine, but there are many, many blues. You may miss them as you drive past, even when on the lookout, unless the sun happens to be shining directly upon them.

Campanulas, aconite, mertensias, forget-me-nots, the state flower of Alaska, and acres and acres of lupine were among the blues. It was a clump of blue Alpine campanula waving at me from a cut bank within arm's reach of the car that caused us to stop and discover the only Arctic poppies we saw, growing on the bald domes of the Ogilvie Mountains on the extreme eastern border of Alaska.

This drive west from Dawson City in the Yukon, was one of the most thrilling of the trip, comparable only to a roller coaster as our car pitched forward on the down grade, stood on its hind legs going up the next incline and acted as though it wanted to shoot off into space on the one-lane curves. The wild beauty of the lonely peaks with their panoramic views in all directions, was reward enough for the drive without the added bonus of wildflower variety. Red fireweed and white sourdock intertwined along the roadsides reminded us of a crocheted lace edging on a long narrow handkerchief.

McKinley National Park was another Nature lover's Paradise, as yet, not as much frequented as other parts because the gravel road is rough, and was newly opened but a year ago. Mountain goats cavorted among the rocky precipices, and a mother moose le dher twin calves in ungainly haste away from the highway when traffic became too heavy. Moose were frequently seen standing belly-deep in long narrow lakes nestling between the mountains and the roadway, their heads buried so deeply as they foraged for water plants beneath the surface

(Continued on page 8)

How to Make a Compost

1. Start building compost heap directly on the ground in either sun or shade.
2. Spread green and dried waste materials in a layer about six inches high.
3. Add two-inch layer of manure, or sprinkling of activator or garden fertilizer.
4. Dust with bone meal or phosphate rock.
5. Cover with an inch layer of soil.
6. Add a sprinkling of ground limestone or wood ashes.
7. Repeat layering until pile is complete, with soil as the top layer.
8. Keep pile moist as a damp sponge.

BIG THREE IN COMPOSTING:

- Proper proportions of material
- Moisture.
- Aeration.

Do not make pile too large, 4 feet x 6 feet x 3 feet high is large enough. The smaller the ingredients are broken up, the faster they break down. If pile is large, ventilating hole may be made by driving in a crowbar. Turning the pile once or twice during the season hastens the process.

MATERIALS THAT CAN BE USED IN COMPOSTING:

Garden refuse	Sawdust,
Leaves	shavings
Kitchen wastes	Cornstalks
Crass clippings	Sod
Hay and straw	Tea, coffee
Weeds	grounds
Hulls, roots	

Avoid fats, oils and grease. Leaves break down faster when mixed with green materials and animal manures. If it is not possible to have a compost pile, the above materials may be spaded directly into the garden soil.

ADDED TO YOUR GARDEN, COMPOST WORKS FOR YOU:

- Makes soil loose and friable.
- Makes soil absorb water.
- Stimulates beneficial bacteria.
- Adds food.

—From the *NEWS of the Federated Garden Clubs of New York.*

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

A Birthday... 400 Happy Years of TULIP GROWING

The tulip is having a birthday this year, and Holland, naturally enough, is giving a big party. In fact, there will be several parties in celebration of the arrival, four hundred years ago in Holland, of the familiar flower that has come to mean spring all over the world.

Surprisingly, the tulip is not originally Dutch. It has a decidedly international history. The flower first came to the attention of Europeans when a Flemish ambassador named Busbecq discovered tulips in the gardens of Constantinople. Busbecq was an ambassador from the Viennese Austrian court of the Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand I to the Turkish Sultan Suleiman the Magnificent.

He wrote home to friends about the strange and remarkable flower "which the Turks call tulipam." Actually, the Turks called the flower "lale," but apparently the interpreter referred to the similarity between the shape of the flower and a turban turned upside down. "Turban" is tulband in Turkish, and the sound "tulband" stuck. The flower has been known ever since as a tulip to all the world except Turkey, where it is still lale.

A rattling old horse-drawn mail coach will re-enact the history of the tulip's travels from Turkey to Holland this spring. Following the once well-traveled post roads up through the Balkans and across Central Europe to Holland, the coach will arrive in the old Dutch university city of Leiden, on Holland's Liberation Day, May 5th. "Busbecq," in full sixteenth century costume, will step out of the coach bearing the tulip he has brought all the long 2,500 miles from Turkey. There in Leiden, will be repeated the historic presentation of the tulip to the great botanist "Clusius," also in sixteenth century dress. The first tulips in Holland bloomed in Clusius' garden in Leiden in that long-ago spring of 1560.

The next day, May 6th, on the 100th anniversary of the Royal Dutch

General Bulb Growers Society, the two tulip "heroes" will ride together in the old mail coach from Leiden to Rotterdam, for ceremonies in which they will present the symbolic tulip from Turkey to Dr. O. A. H. van Nispen tot Pannerden, President of the Society.

The handing over of the tulip to the Dutch Bulb Growers takes place in Rotterdam at the Floriade, the biggest and best birthday party the Dutch could possibly have arranged for the tulip. Floriade is the largest international horticultural exhibition since before the Second World War. The city of Rotterdam in its 125-acre Central Park will be host to this world's fair of gardening, to which the countries of Europe and the United States are bringing the best of their own flowers, fruits, trees, shrubs and vegetables in a six-months' show of horticultural skills and accomplishments.

From March 25 to September 25, when the Floriade closes in an autumnal blaze of chrysanthemums, visitors will wander through halls of flowers and landscaped acres of gardens that

(Continued on page 8)

1960 Rose Buying Guide

Selecting roses for the garden can be as befuddling as a woman choosing that new spring hat—she wants them all! Most gardeners face limits of space and funds, so must select only a few of the lovelies. The 1960 Guide for Buying Roses can help in this selection.

The Guide lists 455 varieties of roses, each evaluated by the "numbers" 10 (a perfect rose) in a descending scale to 5, which is of questionable value. There are 253 hybrid teas, 92 floribundas, 11 grandifloras, 58 climbers and 13 miniature roses. Average height, color class and fragrance rating are also included.

Write the American Rose Society, Columbus 14, Ohio, for a free Guide.

A Birthday for Tulips—

(Continued from page 7)

prolong Holland's annual flower festival well-beyond the climax of the tulips in bloom. Of course, in this birthday year, the tulip will be the star, and the Keukenhof Gardens will open its gates this year on a spring garden surpassing all those that in other years have enchanted millions of delighted visitors. The Keukenhof is a lavish sixty-acre display garden in Lisse, in the heart of Holland's bulb country, where the Dutch bulb growers show the fantastic spectacle of the flowers that are their life's work.

In 1960, poetry and pageantry and news of the gentle art of horticulture will preempt front page space for weeks at a time, which makes good sense to the Dutch, who have made history—and a living—by exporting for generations those most intangible of commodities: the beauty of flowers and the very feeling and atmosphere of spring.

Hort Flashes—

(Continued from page 2)

The Lillian Gibson Rose, referred to in another article in this issue will be offered for sale by a few South Dakota Nurseries this spring. Dr. Jesse Rawson of State College has developed a very efficient method of propagating this rose. It appears that this technique and the production of quantity stock of the plant should now be turned over to commercial operators.

Alaska Cont'd—

(Continued from page 6)

that one had to look twice to be sure it was an animal instead of blackened stumps. Frequent heavy fogs and rain often prevent sightseers from seeing Mt. McKinley, the highest peak in North America. We were most fortunate in seeing "Denali, the High One" comparatively free of clouds, in catching mouth-watering grayling in the creek which leaped merrily down its rocky bed, seeing the reflections in shrub-covered hillsides in search of Wonder Lake, and in exploring the rare wild flowers. There were moments of pure reverence as we were stopped in our tracks by a mat of dainty pink silence, and other moments of sheer exultation as we came upon the glacier lilies for which we had been searching.

No one can miss the cotton grass in this area for its startling whiteness looks like drifted snow beside the highway and across water-filled depressions; and closer inspection reveals its individual heads are like small balls or tufts of cotton, for which it is named. The rose-like flowers of the shrubby cinquefoil were everywhere, and bedstraw (galium), yarrow, columbine and others brought home the universal character of some plants, for we have encountered them growing from Alaska to Mexico under highly contrasting conditions. Other plants are so rare they are to be found only under specialized conditions in our 49th state.

No trip to Alaska would be complete without mention of the Matanuska, Valley where the cleared land is practically rock-free, and very fer-

tile, and where all the leafy and the root vegetables, as well as the berry crops are king. Even so it is a much greater thrill to pick your hat full of juice-dripping raspberries from the roadside than to buy the biggest strawberries you ever saw.

Garden catalogues which give instructions for "plenty of water, but good drainage" will in future bring to mind a picture of the living jewels cascading down the walls along Turnagain Arm, south of Anchorage, their feet bathed in the icy water from the melting glaciers above them, but which never stays on them a minute. Turnagain Arm is that romantic body of water where Captain Cook was forced to turn around again, and go back to sea, when his search for the Northwest Passage was unsuccessful, and it was here that the red, as well as the yellow monkey flowers found a footing among the dark, mossy crevices of the rock wall.

A stop at the lakeside cabin of Alaska Nellie, on the Kenai Peninsula, was planned to see where she had fished while sitting at ease inside her home, but the biggest dividends in sight-seeing satisfaction came when we beheld the patch of purple iris. Iris, the richest color of royal robes, with petals twice as wide as any other species, and at least four inches in diameter, were growing by the deserted cabin. Nellie has been dead for several years now, but the profusion of wildlings she loved remains the same.

Still looking through a gardener's eyes, there are other vivid impressions of the trip such as the tragedy of fire-blackened stumps where once were forests to shelter woodland creatures

(Continued on page 10)

CONNELL RED

"THE APPLE THAT HAS EVERYTHING"

Unexcelled for Flavor, Color, Production, Storage and Hardiness

Mr. Gordon Yates, a commercial orchardist from Minnesota writes, quote, "Connell Red stores with Winesap and has the flavor and texture of Delicious."

For Quotations Write to:

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SOUTH DAKOTA

Federation of GARDEN CLUBS NEWS

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

National Award Applications Needed Before May 1

MARJORIE WHITMORE, Brookings
Chairman

As National Awards chairman for the state I received ten applications from our clubs in 1959. This is a fine showing, but more would be welcome. The deadline is May 1. Since applications are all based upon work accomplished during the past year, they should have been completed during the winter months.

I strongly urge each garden club president to appoint an awards chairman for her group. It will be her duty to study the award list, evaluate the projects accomplished by her club, and then determine which of the awards to apply for. This system works out beautifully in our own club, and we never had a meeting last year without stressing awards.

Please do not send the applications direct to me. Each application goes to the department chairman for which the work was done—the request for a flower show ribbon is sent to the State Flower Show Chairman, that for recognition in therapy is sent to the State Therapy Chairman, etc. Department chairmen have been listed in your Horticulture magazine. Each chairman selects the winners in her category, and these in turn are the ones which are sent to me. Get material to the state chairman early, as she needs time to judge, which is often a time-consuming task.

I would like to see more interest shown in the National Council Award No. 8. This is the Helen Hussey Champin award for \$25.00, given to the senior club which contributes the most outstanding service toward promotion of gardening among youths. Mrs. Champlin, President of National

Purposeful Planting For ARBOR DAY

"A home without trees is charmless,
A road without trees is shadeless,
A park without trees is purposeless,
A country without trees is hopeless."

April brings Arbor Day—"the only American holiday that turns its face to the future instead of the past."

It is appropos that our Gardener of the Month is a man who has planted trees all his life, and whose grandfather was friend and neighbor of J. Sterling Morton, founder of Arbor Day.

The Ivy Circle Garden Club of Roscoe has a standing project for Arbor Day when they always plant trees in their city park, and their request that interested citizens do likewise, has met with good response. Dell Rapids has had an annual Hopa Crab planting program for many years when these lovely flowering trees were distributed to anyone who would care for them, at cost.

Plant a tree for Arbor Day.

Council in 1945-47 believes that future horticulturists will come from our present junior garden clubs. So let's organize our juniors. And just what club could not use that extra \$25.00?

It has been a great pleasure to work with the garden clubs the past two years, and I hope for still greater co-operation the coming year. If at any time I can be of any help, drop me a line, or stop to see me if you are in Brookings.

The ten applications were as follows—two from Dell Rapids; two from Hurley; one from Webster; and five from the Petal Pals, at Brookings.

NOTICE

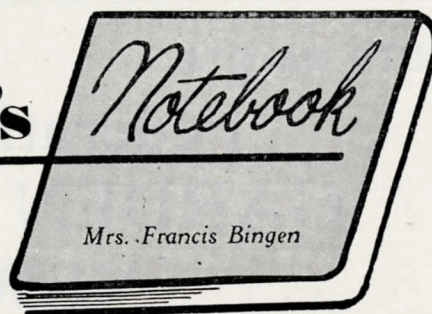
Mrs. Henry DeVries, Cavour, has asked us to clarify her position as Circulation chairman for National Gardener in the state. Send all subscriptions for National Gardener to her. Mrs. G. R. McArthur of Huron is on the national board in a capacity to promote sales, but has no part in securing subscriptions from individuals.

You Violate a Law If You—

1. Leave a fire unquenched near forest, brush or prairie land;
2. Carry a naked torch or exposed light in the woods;
3. Throw or dump a burning match, lighted cigarette, cigar or pipe ashes;
4. Drive over forest lands without a muffler on exhaust pipe of car or tractor;
5. Burn without a permit;
6. Refuse to fight a forest fire;
7. Fail to report a forest fire;
8. Allow a fire to spread;
9. Cut state timber without a valid permit;
10. Fail to clear ground of combustible material in a radius of five feet from a campfire;
11. Fail to report timber cutting;
12. Destroy, injure or deface any sign, guide post, building, or property of any kind belonging to the state.

The above was taken from the book "Trees of Minnesota" free from the Department of Conservation, St. Paul, Minn.

President's



Civic Projects and Awards

We hope many of the clubs are working on civic projects and are planning to apply for the award ribbons. Will you please send a short notice to your chairman so that she can enumerate them and report at convention time? Even if you do not wish to apply for recognition, we like to know what you are doing. If we show enough interest in this project, maybe some day we will be getting a grant from the Sears Roebuck Foundation for civic improvement. This Grant is given to help communities arrest the spread of neighborhood blight and decay, prevalent in many urban areas.

Many civic projects are in need of attention, viz., general clean-up, fix-up program. Improving approaches to cities, to towns and cities, always mindful of safety. Improving and building parks. Cooperation with city officials to beautify the public buildings. Help landscape new school buildings. You can think of many more. Keep up the work you have been doing and add some more.

If you wish to apply for an award, you will need a "before and after" picture and description of the work, by whom done and an approximate cost of the project. If the project will take some more time to finish, sketches of the finished work and proposed work will be accepted.

Now we will come to the new contest which we are going to start this year and which will run till May 1, 1961.

We will give an award to the city that presents the best evidence of civic improvement by that time. There will be two divisions, namely the cities of 6000 population or over and cities of under 6000. The application must come through the Federated Garden club of the city applying. Garden clubs can contact their city officials

and plan this together. Projects such as park beautification, school grounds, industrial plants, streets, etc., are eligible. Let us get to work on this right away and make a good showing. First you must believe in it yourself, and then you can sell it to your town. Both winner and sponsoring club will be honored. Complete Awards will be announced later but get the project started now.

Your Civic Chairman is Mrs. Evangeline Schnaidt, 2113 South Holly, Sioux Falls.

Alaska Cont'd—

(Continued from page 8)

and provide mossy beds for hundreds of wild flowers, berries and seedling trees. Not least is the beautiful wilderness campgrounds with the inevitable white-water streams cascading near by, from which the do-it-yourself tourist dips his own bath and drink. The scenery along the Alaskan Highway is unsurpassed in beauty anywhere, and the whole trip is so highly rewarding that we hope to traverse it again quite soon.

DATEBOOK

National Council meeting—Houston, Texas, May 8-13

International Lily Society—Madison, Wis., July 8-10

FSS III, Minneapolis, Minn., May 19-21

Flower Arrangement Demonstration, Minneapolis—2nd week in July—

"It takes News to Make News"

Deadline for SD Horticulture articles, April 15

Please send your news and flower show dates far ahead of time. It is very frustrating to read about a flower show we might have attended had we known the date.

Some Hints for Program Planners

At this time of year Garden Club members are busy planning or completing their 1960 programs for the year. A good well-balanced program is a "must" for every Garden Club. It is necessary to plan interesting and informative programs to keep members active.

Three suggestions for planning of the yearly programs have been made by the National Chairman, namely:

First—To include in the program a comprehensive study of one phase of gardening during the program year. Select a theme and then interpret it.

Second—To study the National and State program committees prerequisites in judging of the yearbooks.

Third—Each Garden Club should purchase the new program book, "Program Patterns," edited by Faye Mayes.

This year, in planning the program, be sure to include the objectives of SDFGC, which are Horticulture, Roadside Beautification and Development of Junior Gardening, Conservation, and Landscape Design. Each of these subjects covers a vast field of *Learning* in garden club work.

It is well to have horticulture information at every meeting. This could include the recognition and growing of unfamiliar plants, information on latest horticultural news, unusual plants for your locality, propagation, plant histories, garden maintenance, correct pronunciation of common or botanical names and numerous other phases of gardening. A wealth of Horticulture information is available from the various gardening magazines, Nursery catalogs, and from County, State and National sources.

A few suggestions in planning programs are to plan the program for an entire year; do not try to cover a whole subject on a certain plant or flower in one short club program, but divide the subject into several sections; review gardening books; study the seed and nursery catalogues, make use of movies and slides; hold "Question and Answer" programs; plan flower shows; for variety and interest have special programs or picnics; tour gardens of members; and above all publicize your Garden Club activities.

Let the public know the accom-

(Continued on page 12)

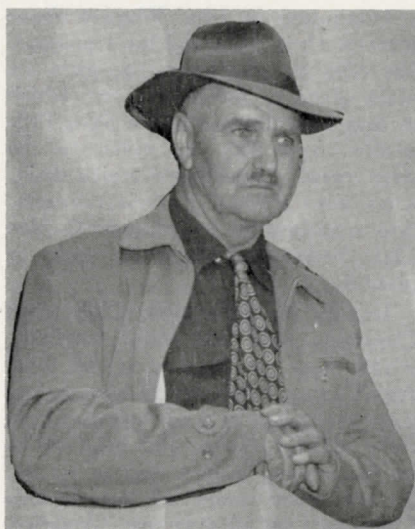
A SDFGC Past President *with a* Million Dollar Personality

By MRS. G. M. JORGANSON

This month's candidate for the South Dakota Gardener's Hall of Fame is a millionaire, not in dollars, but in his capacity to love life, plants, and plant lore. His unquenchable enthusiasm inspires new converts to savor the flavor of the life which he finds good. Like most "millionaires," John M. Atkinson is a modest man, so modest that we were forced to turn to sources outside his home for this story. From his sister, Mildred, and daughter, Mrs. Margaret Kubler, we learn of the horticultural heritage of three generations of Atkinsons which molded the fourth generation, J. M., into a gardener at the tender age of seven years. From that time on, plants of some kind, in nursery, greenhouse, orchard or landscaping have dominated his life, and wild plants have been a constant source of fascination to him.

It was J. M.'s great grandfather who came to America; his fierce pride in personal freedom caused him to leave England rather than buy a permit to hunt and fish on his own lands. (If he had joined one of Robin Hood's bands as a protest against the King's decree, SDFGC members might never have heard of J. M.!) J. M.'s first job as a child was to pick peaches for store delivery and work in his father's greenhouse in Pawnee City, Nebraska. At the age of 20 his college work at the Nebraska School of Agriculture was terminated by the death of his father and he became manager of the business. During the drought of the 1930's Nebraska crops were buried in dust. J. M. visited the Black Hills and then moved his family to Rapid City, where the trees were green and it looked like a "real heaven."

Though his "gardening" activities have varied from planting trees for a shelterbelt, to a contract for the landscaping of 107 houses in one operation, his life has revolved constantly around plantings of some kind. He has been co-owner of a nursery in Rapid City, owner of a flower shop, and is now a landscape architect. He is head of the Modern Landscape Service.



JOHN ATKINSON

Wherever J. M. may be, the community and everyone in it benefits because of his knowledge and activities. The Rapid City park and many other plantings in the city testify to his artistic skill. There was no garden club in Rapid City until he helped to organize one. John began a project at Fort Meade which resulted in a perm-

anent greenhouse there, and a therapy program which is invaluable to the patients. He also had the first Tree Farm in South Dakota. He has been a consultant in the National Parks 66 Program, is past President of the SDFGC and of the S. D. Horticulture Society.

In addition, his interests encompass all youth work. He became manager of "Atky's Antelopes" baseball team, he has taught Sunday School, and he has been a leader in 4-H clubs. His eager delight and capacity for fun keeps him young at heart. Light on these characteristics is given by his sister, who says, "He tastes all plants, either root, stem or both, and is in the height of glory if he can get anyone else to taste some especially pungent or bitter specimen—I know from sad experience!" Though he prefers to pay a telephone bill to composing a letter he is an inveterate writer of lim-ericks, and can express his thoughts beautifully in verse.

If his influence in his own family continues as it appears to be doing the horticultural tradition may extend into the 6th generation of his family. One daughter, Beth, received the first Horticulture Scholarship from two states, and is making this her life work. Another daughter, Margaret, says, "Some children are born with a silver spoon in their mouth, but we were born with a green thumb in ours and this is quite evident in the grandchildren, too. Our daughter had a wondrous 4-H garden plot last year, and it is her grandfather who is her guiding light in all 4-H work."

In 1953 J. M. and Iva bought seven acres of rolling land with a trickling brook added for variety, in the Canyon Lake area of Rapid City. There they built a new home. Landscaping for the beautiful location follows the natural contours of the land—shrubs and trees around the modern home, and banks of flowers flowing along with the stream—to form a setting that reflects his artist's soul as well as his horticultural knowledge and ability. John feels that it will take ten more years of work to transform the estate into his mind's ideal, but it is already a showplace and a horticulturist's paradise.

The SDFGC may well be proud to have a man like John Maurice Atkinson as a member and a booster.

Alice Platt Sends Greetings From Colorado Springs

GREETINGS GARDEN CLUBBERS AND SOCIETY MEMBERS,

As some of you know, I have been in Colorado Springs since October, taking a course in Practical Nursing at the Penrose Hospital here. It is a beautiful new \$7,500,000 structure and faces the Rampart Range of the Rockies. Pike's Peak is the center of interest. The main lobby is as beautiful as that of the finest hotels, and there are always foliage and flowering plants there, as well as a lovely arrangement on a table. You can imagine what it does to my flower-loving soul.

I cannot attend meetings of the many local Garden Clubs, as they all meet week-day afternoons, when I am in school, but I have talked twice with Mrs. Wagner, formerly a National Bird Chairman, by phone. From her I learned where the Rocky Mt. Regional meeting in Denver was to be held, after I knew that our class had to go to Denver that day to the State Convention of the Colorado Practical Nurses' Ass'n. I was through there in time to go on the tour of the Denver Botanical Gardens and to attend the banquet.

I nearly shed tears I was so happy to see our South Dakota girls, Mrs. Bingen, Mrs. Metzger, Mrs. Baughman and Mrs. Kindred. I changed clothes for the banquet in Mrs. Mattock's room, and was surprised when Evelyn Mooney answered my knock. They shared a room. Mrs. Mooney is so gracious and friendly, I know she made a wonderful National President.

The banquet was excellent as were the speakers. Our new Regional Director, Mrs. Lowell Storm of Wyoming, presided, and presidents of the Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Kansas, and South Dakota Federations were there as well as the vice president from Utah.

Following the banquet we enjoyed a lecture with slides the president of the Utah Federation had taken, by a commercial photographer from Wyoming. He is an artist, and showed how he uses the same principles and elements of design as we do in our

flower arranging. His comments displayed a wit and imagination which lifted the lecture and slides out of the commonplace into a never-to-be-forgotten experience. I rode home with Mrs. Baughman and her daughter, Nancy Phelps, who lives here.

I asked Nancy, who has lived in many parts of the U. S., "Where would you say is the nicest place to live that you have been?" She replied, "Oh, I don't know, once you've lived in South Dakota, it's hard to get away from it." Those are my sentiments, and I hope to be back before too long, much as I like Colorado.

I was here on my back for twenty-eight months in 1926-1928, so am happy to be here now, on my feet. I am hoping that I can get my two-week vacation next summer at a time so I can attend the State Convention. I haven't missed one since I started in 1951.

I inquired of Mrs. Wagner about some of their State and local projects. She tells me that memorial gifts are often given to the local clubs, which in turn send them in to the State Federation, and they are given to the state forestry department which designates some section of their reforestation plantings as a Colorado Garden Club Federation Memorial park or planting.

Locally the Broadmoor Club trims Christmas trees for some hospitals, which were on display at the Fine Arts Center a few weeks ago, before they were taken to the hospitals. Other clubs make corsages, and bake cookies for nursing homes, just as we do. So the good work of the Garden Clubs goes on all over our "America, the Beautiful"; and I know that the garden clubs everywhere are doing a very significant part in making and keeping it such. Auf wiedersehen in what I hope will be a wonderful year for our two societies.

ALICE PLATT

First Vice President, SDFGC

(Alice thinks it is her secret, but she scored 99% in her exams, to be among the top one per cent from over 600 students.—Ed.)

Planner Hints —

(Continued from page 10)

ishments and aims of your Club. Stir up interest in your community by telling others what you are doing while you really are working for better gardening knowledge.

I, myself, being a new member of SDFGC, do hope the above information will be of service to the program chairman and committees of the various Clubs. If I can be of further service to you in either supplying available materials or information, do not hesitate to write to me. In closing I would like to include the following useful information on "Lettuce," which was printed in a recent National Gardening Circular: "Lettuce is the most desirable of all salad plants, and can only be grown by strictest attention to its moisture, soil, and climatic requirements. It adds that certain appeal to an ordinary meal when served. So grow and serve the following "LET-US" in your programming:

LET'S BE ALERT—Have an open mind and explore new ideas or apply new approaches to old ideas.

LET'S BE SENSIBLE—Study your objectives and purposes.

LET'S BE STRONG—Depend on good leadership, apply good administrative practices.

LET'S SHARE—Keyword is participation—community service, stage flower shows; share your knowledge.

LET'S BE STIMULATING—Sponsor projects. Organize junior gardeners.

LET'S BE SERIOUS—Believe and uphold the objectives of our National and State Garden Clubs.

LET'S BE SENTIMENTAL—Review, uphold, and preserve our History. Select a club flower—learn all about it.

LET'S HAVE SUGGESTIONS—At the last meeting of the year, take a poll for suggestions and ideas for next year's program."

HAPPY PROGRAM PLANNING—for 1960!

Your SDFGC Program Chairman,
MRS. ERVIN BADER
Roscoe, S. Dak.

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

Garden club cleanings

Theme—"Dakota Winter"

Spring, summer, autumn or winter—there are always flower shows in South Dakota, to the utter amazement of the uninitiated, so flower arrangers never have time to stagnate.

The Sioux Empire Farm Flower Show with workers from the area Federated Garden Clubs near Sioux Falls, is the only flower show of which we have heard that is staged in January. It is a beautiful show, expertly staged, and draws entries from a wide territory in South Dakota and Minnesota, and from an array of experts in the field.

This year's chairmen were Mrs. W. E. Poley, Mrs. Clifford Scott and Mrs. Dick Flint who bore the brunt of the local labor involved, but thanks are due to all the wonderful people who braved the cold and snows of winter to bring entries, some entries came from 70 miles away. The exhibitors make the show, and we are happy to congratulate winners from a distance for their efforts.

Winner of the open class plaque was Mrs. G. C. Egge, from the Tri-State Garden Club at Valley Springs, for her handsome black and white entry in the class called "Twilight Reverie"; while the beautiful white composition by Mrs. Risa Kizer, Sioux Falls, won the plaque for new exhibitors.

Junior entries were greatly increased, and of superior quality, so the exhibit by Roger Moen, Baltic, was a real triumph.

Other blue ribbon winners in various classes were Mrs. Evangeline Schnaidt, Mrs. Dick Flint, Mrs. Anne Berdahl, Mrs. Walter Mortenson and Ronald Huls from Sioux Falls; Mrs. Harry Crisp and Mrs. Jonas Duea from Dell Rapids, Mrs. J. M. Patton, Mitchell; Mrs. Deia Mandler, Baltic, and Mrs. Ken Roder, Luverne.

Plaques were provided by the Sioux Empire committee, which sponsored the show.

Confusion at Centerville

We admit we have always had to look twice when the garden clubs of Centerville Country Garden Club, the other simply Centerville Garden Club. This confusing situation has now been eliminated by omitting the name of the town from the former, which will hereafter be known as the Country Garden Club—but we still need to use care not to confuse it with the Country Garden Club of Highmore! It is worth the effort to keep the group in mind for they gave generous gifts of \$10.00 each to Abbott House at Mitchell and to the Children's Home at Sioux Falls. Their gift to themselves was a family Christmas dinner party with all the trimmings. New officers for the Country Garden Club are: president, Mrs. Ed Vik; vice-president, Mrs. Ervin Stevens; secretary, Mrs. John O. Hanson and treasurer, Mrs. Art Carson. The group has a recess during January and February.

No Time Wasted By Ivy Circle Garden Club

Evidently the Ivy Circle is not going in circles, but is so busy doing things they have little time to write about them. Their year's accomplishments include many improvements in their city park, made possible with

proceeds from a Tulip Tea and a helping hand from the husbands. In addition to an annual planting of trees there on Arbor Day, the big news this year is a stainless steel kiddie slide which they purchased. Planting and up-keep of the flower beds is also an annual affair, as well as the Litterbug Contest. At Christmas time their efforts must have made a great many little folks happy for they collected and purchased gifts for the home at Redfield; collected toys for the Aberdeen Fire Department to repair and distribute to poor children, and also made collecting coffee strips a club project.

Iroquois Club Elects New Officers

Iroquois garden club is another group from whom we seldom hear. At their last meeting Mrs. H. Hoevedt showed colored slides of Gavin's Point, Oahe and other state scenes. Leaders are: Mrs. Earl Stroup, and Mrs. William Walls; with Mrs. Ralph Joseph and Mrs. Robert Habberstad taking care of the money and the books.

Lowry Elliott Writes from the Milbank Garden Club

"Our garden club is doing fine and we have had very interesting meetings the past year," writes Mr. Elliott, and we certainly agree when we hear about their projects. At their December meeting the group made 40 small table Christmas trees, 10-12 inches high, and distributed them to the elderly people at a local Home together with a gayly wrapped box of mints. Material for the trees came from the extensive plantings of three of their members, so were fresh and gayly decorated. Two large door wreaths were also made.

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and Satisfy*

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Gurney Seed and Nursery Co.

YANKTON, SOUTH DAKOTA

How to Judge a SCRAP BOOK

Garden Club Scrap Books are judged for subject matter and appearance. It should be a record and a history of the club for one year, a reference for future officers and members. All material should relate to the objectives and purposes of a Garden Club.

Point Scores

1. Cover, 5 points.
Durable, practical, attractively designed.
2. Size and type, 5 points.
13" x 15" recommended, not less than 9" x 12".
Loose leaf type.
3. First page information, 5 points.
Name of club, town, year covered, name of the scrap book chairman.
4. Brief History, 5 points.
5. Index or table of contents, near front of book, 5 points.
6. All pages numbered, 5 points.
7. Current year book included, 5 points.
8. All material neatly, attractively, and securely entered.
Use both sides of pages. 5 points.
9. Originality and artistic merit in compiling the scrap book. 10 points.
10. Publicity, 15 points.
This includes announcements of meetings, articles concerning club activities, Picnic or tours, snap shots, group photographs of club members, or special events with names, dates, etc.
Name of the paper or magazine, and date, must be included with all clippings.
11. Projects, 15 points.
Civic—6 points, state—3 points, regional—3 points, National 3 points.
Should be dated and arranged chronologically, as a permanent record of club's work.
12. Programs, 20 points
Good choice of interesting details of all meetings, roll call, hostesses, speakers, etc. Informative comments.

Scrap books should be mailed to Scrap book Chairman, Mrs. L. B. Severance, 1308 Utah, S.E., Huron, S. D., by May 15th, 1960.

"WE VISITED FLORIDA"

In Florida we saw beautiful roadside parks, fully equipped, and at frequent intervals, each with a prominent sign, "OVERNIGHT PARKING PROHIBITED." Now what good are the roadside parks if one is not allowed to use them at night? We were given to understand the order was made to prevent hold-ups.

South Dakota's welcome roadside parks are the conversation piece of every visitor traveling through, and we are happy to count the number of overnight accommodations they provide. "We visited your beautiful state—" say people from every state, and express their appreciation of our thoughtful hospitality. The Petal Pals Garden Club continues to reap rich rewards from letters like these, because of the spot of beauty their labor created east of Brookings. According to Mrs. Marjorie Whitmore they have received letters from a pair of 80-year-old twins from New York, who call themselves the Traveling Twins. A favorable comment came from a couple at Teme, Arizona; and a family from Pennsylvania took the time to say their roadside park had been put to good advantage. The club has a sign which designates them as the creators of the park.

The Petal Pals even remembered their pet project at Christmas time when "Monty" Monteith helped the cause by playing Santa Claus with a lovely weather vane bird feeder which he made and erected. A duplicate was also put up at the Water Tower Park in town. (Did the girls take turns to wade out in the snow and keep those feeders filled all winter??)

If tourists never see another park but the one at Roscoe, that one will surely be a vivid memory. The Ivy Circle Garden Club had Christmas Cards made with a picture of the park which is their project, and sent to all tourists who registered in their guest book! Thus it is that because of our garden clubs many beautiful spots have arisen, cities cleaned up, and municipal gardens planted. We salute the clubs whose energy helps other folks to enjoy the beauty of our state.

Delegates are responsible for returning scrap books to their clubs after display at the spring convention in Sioux Falls.



SEE THEIR WORTH

A mighty army from o'erhead descends to earth each fall;
Its numbers mass on village street and rest on garden wall.
No discipline this army has, no general at its its head.
The uniforms are many-hued, brown, yellow, orange, red,
But these aren't dead, these falling leaves—

If you but see their worth.
As compost in some future year,
They will enrich the earth.

—From New York Federated
Garden Club News

"Reside in Pride"—is the Litterbug campaign slogan of the Utah Association of Garden Clubs, whose President makes a plea that can well be repeated for South Dakota. "The UAGC can do more to improve our state, in my opinion, than any other service organization, for no matter what is your profession, you are dependent on the gardeners of the nation to supply you with food and shelter. In fact all animal life is dependent on plant materials. We must emphasize the importance of our organization, and unitedly work for a strong state organization."

HARDY 'MUMS'

Colorful — Easy to Grow

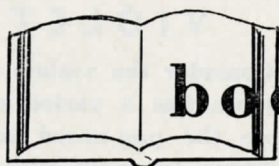
Reliable even in Prairie Areas

Write for Complete Listing to:

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Vermillion, S. D.

(Right on Highway 50)



book review

By JUANITA JORGENSEN

The Gardener World

By Joseph Wood Krutch, G. P. Putnam and Sons, New York 16, \$8.95

"The Gardener's World" is a world of gardening literature illustrated with the art treasures of the ages. It is a book of delight for the aesthetic gardener, for the Nature historian, the researcher and biographer. The author, Joseph Wood Krutch, has assembled the best of everything written about gardening and related subjects from the time of Homer and John Evelyn to David Douglas and Edwin Way Teale and contemporary naturalists.

The *Gardener's World* is a big book with large type which makes it easy to read, and the many etchings and other illustrations copied from famous artists are as fascinating as the printed material itself. Among the 128 excerpts from other authors the botanist will find the chapter on "Mechanics and Mysteries" includes "The Sleep of the Seed" by Peattie. The story of the discovery of sexuality in plants and how it led to improved varieties has affected the life of the whole world.

For the adventurer there is a chapter on "Exploring for Plants" in which an English pirate describes the strange cotton trees of the New World; and the adventures of David Douglas confronted by eight Indians when gathering cones of the sugar pine.

There is a section devoted to myths, fantasies and hoaxes; and there is the paragraph in which Olga Wright Smith describes the miracle of the sudden opening of a night-blooming cereus, and under opposite conditions, Peter Freuchen tells about the fascination of an Arctic spring where hundreds of wild flowers have been identified on the tundra.

The *Gardener's World* does not offer a single how-to instruction, but oh, how much one can learn from it, nevertheless. It tells how man has moved to investigate and use the natural world which surrounds him, and

how we can learn from Nature as well as about her.

It describes those fabulous gardens of Ancient Mexico, and the tiny gardens of Japan which were being cultivated at a time when the Indian tribes were the only inhabitants of the United States; and it tells how Linnaeus created the system of classification which has made it possible to identify a plant in any part of the world. There is no part of plant literature which has been omitted by Mr. Krutch, and you will find the book an exciting one to pick up at any time.

The only thing wrong is the lack of an index. This lack does not affect its readability but is annoying when you use it for reference, and I hope future printings will remedy this.

Landscaping With Vines

By Frances Howard

The Macmillan Company, N. Y.
\$6.50

Nature's most versatile plants are the vines which adapt themselves by clinging to walls, cascading over trees or arches, matting the ground like a carpet, or which may be trained to stand alone as specimen plants. Vines are more useful than trees for quick shade, for colorful blossoms, for fruit or for cut flowers, and Frances Howard's new book tells you all you need to know to make the best use of them.

Vines reflect indifference and lack of proper knowledge more emphatically than any other type of plant, but this book, made possible only by many years of research takes all the guesswork out of growing them. One of the best features of "Landscaping with Vines" is its adaptability to all parts of North America. There are Hardiness Zone maps and quick reference lists on every plant according to the zone in which you live, while another table enables you to see at a glance the main facts on some 350 varieties of vines. Half a hundred

The Wild Hydrangea

The *Rumex Venosus* is one of the most beautiful and least known of all our South Dakota wildlings, spreading its lush florescence from mid-May into June along the roadways, the railroad cuts, but especially on the sand bars of the Grand, the Moreau and the Missouri rivers, and in the sand drifts of the Badlands.

Its beauty lies not in the true flowers which are negligible, but in large clusters of bracts closely crowded on the stem, each individual segment composed of three heart-shaped sepals, shining with a frosty iridescence, tinted from a delicate green through pink to a lovely rosy red—all in the same cluster.

The clustered bracts are graceful and lovely in arrangements, exotic in corsages, their keeping quality unsurpassed, lasting to three weeks as cut flowers—and they dry well for winter arrangements.

Their only drawback is their negative attitude to transplantation under any condition and their habit of refusing to form bracts about once in every four or five years—producing in that year only the small seedy true flowers.

That might be their means of propagation and a reason too for their obscure place in the ranks of our better known wild flowers. Another reason could be that the gray-green foliage is rank and sometimes completely hides the beauty of the colorful bracts, except in the almost inaccessible spots along the rivers and in the badlands, where the clustered bracts rise above the foliage in tall, proud loveliness.

Margaret Davidson, Mobridge

drawings and 28 black and white photographs help you to ascertain the plants you wish to use. I was fascinated by the origin of each vine, its common and botanical names and the pronunciation of each, and marveled at the tremendous amount of study and research which must have been necessary to write a book that was so valuable to such a wide area and under so many varying conditions.

Our northern gardens too often lack the exotic touch given by the many vines which are available to us if we only knew about them, so Frances Howard's book should be a wonderful incentive to plant more vines for landscaping our homes.

Some Things to Know When Planning a Good Flower Show

—Mrs. Francis Nelson,
Hurley, S. Dak.

Good flower shows are the show windows of good garden clubs. Good horticultural practices and artistic use of plant material in arrangements reflected through these windows stimulates the love of the beautiful and strengthens the human urge to grow what is beautiful.

I am urging more garden clubs to stage a Standard Flower Show and to apply for awards. (See page 12 of Sept.-Oct. issue.) A series of good shows does much to raise the standards of horticulture and floriculture in the community. Amateur gardeners are more likely to become worthy horticulturists if they are encouraged to compete with friends and neighbors who are successful in raising fine plants, fruits and flowers. Having exhibits classified and evaluated by qualified judges is one of the best ways to gauge the progress of the club. Without such a measuring stick there is a tendency for exhibits to improve very little from year to year.

In full realization of the fact, that many of our clubs do not have a single member who has attended a Flower Show School, I believe it is possible for any club to stage a standard show. These main requirements are easy to fulfill:

1. The club must be a member of the SDFGC.
2. A written schedule.
3. One half the classes or more must be horticultural classes.
4. Be judged by accredited judges.

The Handbook for Flower Shows is necessary reading material before staging a show. From the information given on schedules; staging; committees and their duties; awards and judges, it will be easy to give a good show.

The Handbook may be obtained from National Council of Books, Inc., Box 4965, Philadelphia 19, Pa. The cost is \$3.75. It would be a fine idea for every club to have one or more copies of the Handbook in the club library for the use of new mem-

bers and exhibitors. It is the text and the constant reference of the students and judges.

The Flower Show chairman should be given time at one of the first meetings of the year to discuss flower shows. How many shows? What kind, Indoor, Outdoor, Home and Garden? Should it feature a special flower? Decide now and extra growing efforts on that flower may produce a better show. The date should be set as early as possible. This is not always easy since our seasons vary greatly. As soon as a date is decided upon let the State Flower Show chairman know, perhaps we can prevent some of the conflicts that have happened in other years.

The Flower Show chairman now begins her work by appointing committees and outlining their duties. The schedule and the staging chairmen are necessarily the first to start work and must work closely with the general chairman and with each other. Thought must be given to space available for carrying out a theme, whether the number of classes can be shown successfully. The most successful show is the product of many minds and hands. Consider the talent and labor available when selecting a theme. A theme that can be well executed in a simple manner may be more impressive than a more elaborate one poorly interpreted.

Every member of the club should know on what committee she is to work and be instructed in her duty if it is new to her.

Write to me if there is any way in which I can help. I will try to make a list of themes and some class suggestions for schedules, although I feel that the original ideas fit the needs of the clubs better than those copied from other schedules.

I firmly believe that any public display of well grown flowers, properly labeled, arrangements placed in windows or public buildings, or above all, a good flower show is the very best advertisement any garden club can have.

VIOLETS

Consider the violets — South Dakota has a varied collection from the pug-nosed little gold Johnnie Jump-up with its tiger striped pansy face, to the lordly crow's foot with its royal purple velvet single flowers on eight-inch stems. From the shy white lavender-tinted woods-child to the little ubiquitous orchid colored common violet; all have one denfiite characteristic—back of the two drooping front petals sits the little red headed queen with her feet in a bathtub. The little figure is perfect only in the wild violets.

Margaret Davidson,
Mobridge Garden Club

WANTED—Garden Clubbers To Help Promote Arbor Day!

REWARD—The satisfaction of knowing that every school boy and girl in your community has had the opportunity to experience the meaning of Arbor Day.

As indicated in the story on page 3 all county superintendents of schools and all county extension agents are heading up county committees to make arrangements for the Arbor Day observance this year.

Garden Clubbers can be found in most of our counties. You can be very helpful in making this 1960 Arbor Day a success. Offer to assist the committee. Encourage teachers and help them to carry out the tree planting ceremony. Purchase trees for schools where this may be a hardship for the students. (Available for about \$1.25 from South Dakota Nurserymen). Encourage tree planting on the basis of conservation and beauty not on whether or not a school is going to continue to operate. Consider the possibility of planting a tree on the courthouse lawn rather than the school ground.

Your help will be appreciated. We hope to plant at least 1,000 Hopa Flowering Crabapple trees on April 29, 1960.

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE