OBJECTIVES OF THE COLORADO FORESTRY AND HORTICULTURE ASSOCIATION

• To preserve the natural beauty of Colorado; to protect the forests; to encourage proper maintenance and additional planting of trees, shrubs and gardens; to make available correct information regarding forestry, horticultural practices and plants best suited to the climate; and to coordinate the knowledge and experience of foresters, horticulturists and gardeners for their mutual benefit.
HOW MAY WE HELP YOU?

The purpose of this association is to promote Forestry and Horticulture in the state. We would like to be of the greatest possible help to gardeners with their individual problems, and we would also like to encourage the preservation and development of all horticultural features of Colorado. Included in our program are the following activities. Will each member take the time to look over his list and let us know which of these things, in his estimation, are the most important.

1. Publication of The Green Thumb.
2. Articles on seasonal problems in newspapers and magazines.
3. Radio talks.
4. Talks to garden clubs and other organizations.
5. Evening meetings conducted by various experts.
6. Large gatherings of the membership and the public conducted by imported experts.
7. Establishment of societies of specialists, such as roses and iris.
8. Landscape schools in a central location.
10. Arranging of trips to the mountains to study native plants.
11. Arranging for tours of good gardens or parks in the city.
12. Answering questions on personal gardening problems by phone, mail and person.
13. Promoting the establishment of state and roadside parks.
14. Encouraging street tree planting and civic beautification over the state.
15. Arranging for the setting aside of botanical areas.
16. Establishment of botanical gardens for experiment and study.
17. Setting up of a library of horticultural books, bulletins and magazines.
18. Assembling of an herbarium of native and cultivated plants.

Do you want more talks and demonstrations arranged for small community groups, or do you think that the horticulturist should make more personal calls?

JULY SCHEDULE

July 3-11—8-day botanical collection trip to the wild country above Monarch Lake. Call Horticulture House for particulars as to time, equipment and transportation. July 16-19—3-day visit to the Colorado A. & M. College Forestry School at Pinegar Park. Camp out or cabins. Call for details. No Friday evening meetings in July. Other trips or meetings arranged on request.

Statement by Delegates to the National Garden Conference Washington, D. C., December 5-6, 1946.

It is highly desirable to provide for teaching gardening in the schools. It trains youth to be self-sufficient in times of personal or national emergency. Study of nature is a strong influence in building character and morale.

Highways, streets and parks have an intimate relationship to home and community living. Landscaping and zoning with the cooperation and guidance of local groups can protect our highways from the rash of roadside blights that now line with ugliness so many of them.

O R C H I D S T O M R S .

CHARLOTTE A. BARBOUR

Formerly a resident of Denver, of late years Mrs. Barbour has been a resident of New Hampshire, where she was employed in forestry work. Upon her return to Denver last fall, her interest along that line brought her to Horticulture House, soon after her arrival, as a member of the Association and an addition to the administrative staff.

Here her knowledge and experience in the actual practices of forestry, publicity proved invaluable, as she voluntarily assumed a part of the load borne by Mr. Kelly.

For several months she gave generously of her time and ability with no recompense except the pleasure she found in her job as Editorial and Advertising Assistant to the Green Thumb. Almost unaided she solicited the advertisements which have appeared in the magazine this year and gave assistance in proof-reading and other routine work at the House.

Her forestry interests have taken her to New Hampshire again for the summer, where she has a sizeable plantation that needs her personal attention at this time of the year. However, we have her assurance that she will return in the fall to take up the duties she temporarily relinquished.
The Green Thumb

The Plight of Horticultural Research
In The Great Plains-Rocky Mountain Area

Dr. A. C. Hildreth

Extracts from speech delivered at the Rocky Mountain Horticultural Conference
Denver, Colorado, February 3, 1943.

Well developed horticulture means more than extending an interesting hobby; it has broad social and economic implications. Better horticulture means better living, more tractive home surroundings, parks and roadsides, a more adequate diet, better balanced agriculture and a more stable population.

A highly developed horticulture is a sign of a highly advanced civilization. Primitive peoples and pioneer folks do not develop such refinements. His present up-surge of enthusiasm for horticulture, touched off by the Colorado Forestry & Horticulture so’n, shows that our pioneer period over and that the civilization of this great region is becoming mature.

Dr. A. C. Hildreth has been conducting research to get at some of the fundamentals of horticulture in this region and this recent show of public interest is most heartening to us.

These high plains and mountains were the last region of the United States to be settled by the white man. He eastern and mid-western states were settled first. Then people passed through here on their way to settle in Oregon and California. Within the lifetime of people still living U.S. senators hunted Buffalo where Denver now stands. At the time these first white settlers came to Denver the western seaboard had already had 250 years of development, and there was no sign of things to come. At the time these first white settlers came to Denver the western seaboard had already had 250 years of development, and there was no sign of things to come. At the time these first white settlers came to Denver the western seaboard had already had 250 years of development, and there was no sign of things to come.

The whole area was called the "Great American Desert". Plains Indians were hunters, not farmers, and could contribute nothing to horticulture. Settlers who tried to import plants from the East found them generally unsuited to our climate and soil. They also found that many of the traditional horticultural practices do not apply here. They could not draw on the old world for their horticulture as the only part of the old world with similar conditions were the remote plains of Siberia and Mongolia and the high inter-mountain plateaus of Central Asia. The people of these areas had developed little horticulture and nowhere in the world could be found a reservoir of ready-to-use horticulture plants and practices that could be transplanted bodily to our plains and plateaus.

Only very recently have attempts been made to breed strains particularly for our own conditions. Of course our cultural practices are still rather hopelessly European and eastern American. Such a situation is only natural because horticultural research and horticultural writing have been done in the East; horticultural plants are selected and grown there, gardeners trained there. To get our Plains horticulture on an equal basis with other parts of the United States we must do horticultural research here and not in Massachusetts. From our own research we must build up our own horticultural literature. We must breed plants adapted to our conditions. Our schools and colleges must teach Plains-Rocky Mountain horticulture to our future gardeners, seedsmen, nurserymen, landscape architects and researchers.

Let us consider in what ways this part of the country differs from the East or the Middle West. First of all this is a land of cold winters, although with our dry atmosphere and bright sunshine we do not seem to feel this cold. Winter injury to plants, however, is determined largely by the minimum temperature and its duration—not by the way we feel.

Above are the minimum temperatures ever recorded in several Colorado cities and also in several of the supposedly cold eastern cities. Of course such low temperatures do not occur here every winter. But temperatures approaching these minima do occur here frequently enough to limit our planting lists to species with more cold endurance than will be necessary in most parts of the United States and Canada. For the past twelve years this region has enjoyed comparatively mild winter temperatures and people have been planting tender species with a great deal of confidence. Mankind always wants to stretch the culture of plants beyond their natural climatic range—and he always gets into trouble by doing so!

This is a dry country. Our total precipitation is low and decreases rapidly from east to west. There is more difference in rainfall between eastern and western Colorado than between Philadelphia and Kansas City. The total precipitation of Denver is about one-fourth that of the Atlantic Coast cities. The seasonal distribution of the rainfall is also different. Along the eastern seaboard each season gets about the same amount of precipitation. Because evaporation is low in winter this means that in winter eastern soils are saturated with moisture and the tops of plants are usually wet. In the high plains all seasons are dry but our winters are particularly so, getting about a fourth as much precipitation as in spring and summer. Our winter precipitation falls mostly as snow and our Chinook winds often evaporate it without adding any moisture.

### Table I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Minimum Temperature</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greeley</td>
<td>-45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Collins</td>
<td>-38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sterling</td>
<td>-33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boulder</td>
<td>-33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Junction</td>
<td>-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado Springs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duluth, Minn.</td>
<td>-41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, Minn.</td>
<td>-34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madison, Wis.</td>
<td>-29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montreal, Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bangor, Maine</td>
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<td>Detroit, Mich.</td>
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<td>Boston, Mass.</td>
<td>-18</td>
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### Table II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Burlington</td>
<td>4.69</td>
<td>8.13</td>
<td>2.99</td>
<td>1.07</td>
<td>16.88</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denver</td>
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<td>4.33</td>
<td>2.85</td>
<td>1.56</td>
<td>13.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand Junction</td>
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<td>2.26</td>
<td>2.39</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td>8.76</td>
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<td>Philadelphia, Pa.</td>
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<td>9.07</td>
<td>9.87</td>
<td>41.86</td>
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<td>Indianapolis, Ind.</td>
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<td>10.45</td>
<td>7.87</td>
<td>7.92</td>
<td>38.26</td>
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<td>Kansas City, Mo.</td>
<td>10.27</td>
<td>11.77</td>
<td>9.51</td>
<td>5.08</td>
<td>35.73</td>
</tr>
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</table>
the soil. Therefore we have to do with unorthodox things as watering our lawns and our evergreens in winter, whereas in the East gardeners are more concerned with winter drainage.

Table III

RELATIVE HUMIDITY AT NOON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>June</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>45–50%</td>
<td>30–35%</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>65–70%</td>
<td>55–70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>70–80%</td>
<td>60</td>
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PERCENTAGE OF POSSIBLE SUNSHINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Summer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>60–70%</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>50–70%</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>40–50%</td>
<td>70–80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our sunlight is very intense. This is because of our high altitude and our low humidity. In the vicinity of New York a light intensity of 5,000 foot-candles is considered bright. At our Cheyenne station we have recorded light intensity of 14,000 foot-candles—nearly three times as great. Likewise Denver has about 20 percent more winter sunshine hours than Chicago and when the sun shines it is two or three times as bright.

Our western soils are generally alkaline, having a pH of from slightly below pH 7 to pH 9 or higher. Acid soils are not found except in high mountains where the rainfall is heavy or on the plains where someone has acidified the soil by chemical means. This explains why so many trees and shrubs become chlorotic in this part of the country and also why we cannot move many high mountain plants onto the plains. The remedy of course is to select and breed plants particularly suited to alkaline soils.

We have reviewed some of the ways in which our climate and soils differ from those of the East and the Middle West. Let us now see what we are doing to develop horticultural plants and practices suited to our peculiar conditions. One way to determine this is to ascertain how much effort we are putting into horticultural research. Then, to see if we are really keeping up with the world, we should compare our research with the horticultural research in other parts of the country.

Here are shown the number of research workers engaged in horticultural research in state and federal experiment stations according to the latest Government listing. The fifteen Eastern states which represent, combined, a smaller total area than our region have in the state experiment stations eighty-five full-time research workers and eighty-eight part-time. Our region has only five full-time and five half-time state employees. For the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, the proportion of horticultural research people for the eastern area and for the Plains-Rocky Mountain region is 108 to nine! In Washington, D. C., however, some research agencies direct work in other parts of the country.

Another way to judge the adequacy of research is to compare it to the value of the industry it serves. According to the last U. S. Agricultural Census in 1945 the total value of all horticultural products sold or used at home in our region amounted to approximately seventy-seven million dollars. (It is probably nearer ninety million dollars today, due to the increase in prices.) Now what are we spending for horticultural research? This is a difficult figure to obtain exactly but as nearly as I can estimate it, the annual cost for our ninety-million-dollar industry is not over $125,000! Thus our total allotment for horticultural research represents a little over one-tenth of one percent of the total annual value of our horticultural production. This appropriation, moreover, is devoted almost entirely to research on agricultural crops. The organized research program for ornamental horticulture is negligible.

To summarize: this region got a late start in horticulture; we were handicapped by having a soil and climate different from the older, settled parts of the United States; nowhere in the world was there a large group of horticultural plants and horticultural experience that could be transplanted bodily to our area; and, finally, we are getting further and further behind the East and Mid-west because our horticultural research efforts are so pitifully small by comparison to theirs.

Recommendations: that funds be made available to expand the work at the already existing state and federal experiment stations in this area; that private enterprise should consider establishing Botanic Gardens and Arboreta for the preservation and study of plants and trees.

Table IV

HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH WORKERS

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Region East Central</th>
<th>Full Time</th>
<th>Area 322,110 Sq. Miles</th>
<th>Part Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>J. S. Dept. Agriculture</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>88</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Great Plains-Rocky Mt. Region</td>
<td>108</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Region East Central</th>
<th>Full Time</th>
<th>Area 317,700 Sq. Miles</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J. S. Dept. Agriculture</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REMEMBER THE CHESTNUT!

Extract from American Forests Magazine of April, 1948.

Though it struck many years ago, the tragedy of America's native chestnut trees lives as a constant warning of what happens when we are unprepared to deal with tree-killing insects and diseases.

To the present generation of young Americans the disappearance of the chestnut from the eastern woodlands is little more than a chapter of history. And to their great misfortune they have been deprived of an association that is still deeply etched in the memory of many of their elders.

The story of the chestnut is one every American should know and ponder. For not only is it a tragic reminder of what can happen to a valuable resource when danger signals are ignored, but it points with millions of dead and ghastly snags, to all that is left of one of the most magnificent trees indigenous to our woodlands, to the fallacy of the kind of thinking that adds up to "too little, and too late." And unless the American people and their representatives in government offices show greater understanding of the destructive power of tree-killing diseases and insects, the tragedy of the chestnut can be re-enacted. The present plight of the American elm is eloquent testimony to this.

"The leaf of a shrub, a flower, an insect—all have style because they grow and are developed and maintain their existence according to laws essentially logical. We can subtract nothing from a flower for each part of its organism expresses a function. ... Proceed as Nature does in her works and you will be able to invest with style all that your brain conceives."

VIOLLET-LE-DUC.
FIFTY thousand acres of timbered slopes, sharp peaks, knife-edge dges, glacial cirques, hanging valleys, and undisturbed alpine flora and fauna, are available for recreation and study by any hardy explorer who penetrates into the Gore Range–Eagles Nest Wild Area. This area, within the Arapahoe and White River National Forests, includes the most rugged section of the Gore Range on the west side of the Blue River along State Highway No. 9 about half-way between Kremmling and Dillon, U. S. Highway No. 6 on the west side of Independence Pass is not far from the western boundary of the Wild Area.

Except for a limited amount of grazing by domestic sheep on the west side there is a trail from Highway 6 up Main Gore Creek, another up Booth Creek, and the Piney Trail will take one to Piney Lake and the northern part of the Wild Area. On the east side trails from Highway 9 make it possible to reach the Wild Area on North Willow Creek, Slate, Black, and Cataract Creeks. Any of the trails can be used to establish a base camp from which the surrounding area can be explored on foot.

The season, of course, is the summer time, from about June 1 to September 30. Plenty of snow will be encountered in drifts in the high country until about July 1, however, and, after September 1, cold weather and even snow may occur.

If you want a vacation in an uncrowded and undeveloped area, we recommend a pack trip into the Gore Range–Eagles Nest Wild Area.

Editor’s Note: The Colorado Mountain Club plans to hold their annual outing in this area from July 31 to August 8.

Are you interested in a Colorado Tulip Society? There is a movement now to organize one. Call Mrs. F. S. Mattocks, Box 468 Boulder, Colorado, or Horticulture House.
On his retirement in 1940 the staff gave him a complimentary dinner and on this occasion the committee appointed to visit the arboretum (representing the Fellows and the Board of Overseers of Harvard College) presented him with a very liberal purse that enabled him to take his wife on a tour to the Pacific coast. He is modest, unassuming, is slightly handicapped by an impediment in speech, is productive and through the innate ability has reached the top of his profession. As Curator of the Herbarium at the Arnold Arboretum he occupied a key position and was of very great assistance in building up our remarkable library and the herbarium of woody plants, now containing about 620,000 specimens from all parts of the world. He is now just as keenly interested in productive bibliographic and systematic work as he was in the years before his retirement.

THE BALANCE OF NATURE

By Randall Henderson

Reprinted by permission from Desert Magazine.

I am averse to anything that upsets Nature's balance. When we human beings do that we nearly always invite trouble from some unexpected source. For instance, in Arizona the ranchers made war on the coyotes. Coyotes prey on rodents, and as their number decreased the rodent population increased. Rodents eat seeds, and as they became more numerous there were fewer of the Giant Saguro seeds left on the ground to germinate replacements for the aged cacti which are dying of disease and old age. One of Arizona's greatest scenic assets is endangered. Any Park Service naturalist can relate innumerable examples of the woes that follows when we disturb the natural order of things.

We human beings know so little about the Great Plan of life on this earth it is rather surprising that they have survived as long as they have. And while we know much of the intricate manner in which Nature maintains a balance in the world of plants and animals it is infinitesimally small, we know much less about the fine art of keeping the world of man in equilibrium. We permitted so much selfishness to creep into our capitalistic system that we have yet to go a long way toward solving the problems of human relationships.

Most businessmen live in a tiny world bounded by the business office, the home, the lodge or service club, and a two-weeks' annual vacation which seldom takes them beyond easy walking distance of a paved road.

It is good for them to break out of this squirel-cage routine and go out and become acquainted with the fundamental things of this earth. Too continuous association with other humans in the superficial environment we have created breeds only confusion and a sense of insecurity. It is in thoughtful contact with the world of Nature that men and women most readily develop the poise that comes from inner peace. One cannot live close to the desert without acquiring a reverent respect for the God who created all this—and a faith in the ultimate survival of that which is good and true.

What are the features in the Green Thumb that you get the most benefit from, and what new features would you suggest? Let us know.
So You Love the Wild Flowers!

Florence W. Myers

When the first anemones of spring open their delicate lavender flowers along the edges of the canyon snow banks, amateur nature lovers and plant hunters will flock to the mountains to load their cars with plants and wild flowers.

A few of these seekers of wild plants understand the needs of the wildlings they take from their native haunts, but the vast majority know nothing about them except that they are pretty flowers which they would like to see blooming in their flower borders. And bloom in the ordinary flower border is just what most of these plants won’t do. It is a common misconception that a wild flower brought into the garden from its unprotected, unfed, competitive life in the mountains should reward its savior with lush beauty. But such is far from true. When planted in the rich rock free loam of the irrigated garden, they soon yellow and die.

Because of the wide-spread transplanting and picking of the wild flowers and their subsequent loss, many of the most beautiful species are becoming scarce and, before many years, will disappear entirely.

The native blue columbine, Colorado’s State Flower, is one of the plants most often destroyed by the so-called nature lover. There is a law protecting this flower, but one seldom, if ever, hears of it being enforced. This is one of the easiest of the wild flowers to grow from seed or one may obtain well-grown plants from local nurserymen at the proper planting time.

Another, but harder to grow plant is the anemone or Pasque flower. This is one of the first flowers to bloom in the rocky canyons and few ever survive amateur transplanting. They seem to resent a pampered existence in the garden and prefer the bleak, windy slopes where Nature planted them. Here their roots are anchored by small, sharp stones which hold warmth and aid in draining away the water from the melting snows or summer rains. They disappear after blooming and will die if over-watered at this time.

Native phlox, mariposas, penstemons, blue flags and many others suffer from plant hunters and all of these are comparatively easy to grow from seeds sown in the fall. Wildlings grown from seed will often adapt themselves to our gardens where transplanted wild plants refuse to grow.

If you are truly a lover of wild flowers, by all means give a corner of your garden over to native plants. Any one choosing to be an expert in their growing can do so without stripping the mountains of their beauty. By the time he has mastered the requirements of native plants as to soil and moisture, studied their species, and learned their natural habitats he will know the varieties best suited to his purpose and how to acquire them without loss. He will then have a hobby, inspiring and full of allurement and can point with pride to his bed of natives, knowing that he has learned to preserve rather than to destroy the fast-disappearing wild flowers.

PERENNIAL COMBINATIONS

Jesse M. Nevills

For a bed twenty feet long and seven feet wide.

For a background plant hemerocallis (Hyperian), four feet apart, leaving two feet at each end of the bed. Two feet in front of these put, four feet apart, white peonies spaced so they will not be in line with the hemerocallis. Select rather a tall Shasta daisy and plant a foot and one-half in front of the peonies and a foot and a half apart. Now a border of yellow English primulas between which later you will transplant a pink geranium. The geranium will provide the shade so much desired by the primula in summer.

The primulas will bloom in April and May, the peonies in June, followed by the Shasta daisies. The hemerocallis will grow over all and bloom in July and August with lovely yellow blooms every day, having a border of pink geraniums.

Always in any bed, between each plant, can be planted daffodils, eight or ten inches deep away from harm, to bloom in April and May.

Purple and White for Early Spring

Iberis sempervirens will make a border about a foot wide completely covered with white flowers for a long period. Back of this place an early deep purple iris. Mrs. Roosevelt. Clip the iberies when thru blooming and it will be a good looking border all summer. It stays green all winter. It covers the iris during the summer, grows from a central root, therefore does not spread and can be propagated by cuttings. It is a most desirable plant.

Back of this for Fall blooming I have chrysanthemums, Harbinger and September bronze. Between the iberies are planted marigolds (Spry) as a border in summer for the mums.

Trollius and Maggie Mott Violas

Trollius, which has a yellow flower and likes a cool, damp location, is even more beautiful if bordered with blue (Maggie Mott) violas, which also like a shady cool place.

Bleeding Hearts and Primulas

The good old fashioned bleeding heart, which likes shade, is lovely with an edging of yellow English primulas, which also thrive better in the shade.

Shasta Daisies and Monarda

Late Shasta daisies and either red or pink monarda will give color and bloom to the garden in July after the Spring perennials are gone and the Fall plants are not yet ready.

Color Early in May

Tulips and phlox divaricata canadensis bloom in May. The phlox bluish-lavender flowers make a lovely border for white, pink, or yellow tulips.

In front of these, to bloom in March and to be in nobody’s way, may be put many crocus. In fact, every bed and border should be surrounded with crocus, thereby having flowers and much color in March, when badly needed.

The foundation of any border can be for three successions of bloom—iris, peonies and chrysanthemums. To this can be added an endless variety of plants and bulbs.

In Colorado all plants do not bloom at a given time every year. The above I have had bloom together more times than not.

Do you want to know how to raise bees, beetles or berries? Refer to the books and bulletins or the subject at Horticulture House.
THE WEEKEND GARDENER

I noticed as I drove home today that many of the early flowering shrubs had finished blooming and the flowers had dried up. According to the Oldtimer that is the time to do the necessary pruning on them. He explained that by doing it now it would allow the plant to make new growth and produce bloom buds for next year. I saw some shrubs that my neighbor next door had trimmed and taken out all the small twigs from the bottom 3 feet. They really looked awfully naked to me, and as tho they should have some of the "new look" skirts to cover their bare legs. I'll ask the Oldtimer if that is the best way to trim shrubs. He tells me that that is not the best way as it spoils their natural shape and character. It is usually better, he says, to take a few of the old stems out to the ground each year, after they are a dozen ears or so old. This allows new growth to fill in and keeps the shrub looking young for many years.

I noticed some white flowers on my flowering plum a few weeks ago. I wonder if it is another case of plants "going back" to original varieties. I'll look around and see if I can find the trouble. I notice all these stems which had white flowers also had leaves which were larger and a different size from the others. The Oldtimer tells me to look and see if these are not scions from below the graft, and if so to cut them off as close to the main trunk as possible. He tells me that this is a frequent occurrence on flowering almond and flowering plum, as they are often grafted on wild plum roots.

I read somewhere that it was a good practice to cut off the seed heads after lilacs were through blooming. The Oldtimer tells me that this is to prevent the plant using up valuable energy trying to produce many unnecessary seeds. I also think that it helps the appearance of the plant.

Do you realize that your garden might be more beautiful if it had been planned better? There are dozens of books at Horticulture House about planning a garden that you may read. Does the material that you find in the Green Thumb help you with your garden problems? Pass the word on to your neighbors. The more members we have the better service we can give.

Spectacular Rock Formations Along The Hogback Near Denver

These should be preserved as a State Park.

See Pictures on following pages reading from left to right, top to bottom.
MINNESOTA’S state park system, in operation since 1889, now includes 82,650 acres in 57 areas varying in size from 1/10 acre to 32,000 acres. The value of this property is about $61/2 million dollars. Various classes of areas are included, designated as State Parks, State Memorial Parks, State Recreational Reserves, State Scenic Reserves, State Waysides and State Monuments. The average size of the first three classes is 2363 acres, the State waysides 50 acres and the State monuments 1/2 acre. Seventeen of these areas include facilities for overnight camping, all of them have provision for picnicking, and many have arrangements for playfields, boating, swimming, nature trails, museums and amphitheaters.

There is about one acre set aside in state parks for every 30 residents of the state. It is the plan that no citizen need go further than 30 miles to be able to enjoy these recreational facilities. These areas are selected for their scenic, recreational, historical, geologic and botanical interest. While they are provided primarily for citizens of the state they have proved a great attraction to out-of-state visitors, attracting much business to the state.

The policies which have governed the administration and operation of the Minnesota State Parks have evolved gradually through lessons learned by experience in meeting and solving the problems created by the public, through their use of the areas. Every attempt has been made to so develop the facilities as to best serve the public and at the same time to afford protection to the dominant natural assets which give the parks their value. Parks are justified not for themselves as such, but for what they contribute to public enjoyment. State parks attempt to provide for the more extensive types of recreation not afforded by municipalities, and at the same time to preserve the natural values to the maximum in order that posterity may enjoy some of the God-given beauties of nature which this generation has been privileged to inherit and enjoy.

Two hundred and seven full or part-time people were employed by the Minnesota state parks in 1946. The expenditures that year amounted to $233,000.00. The management of the parks is invested in a Director of State Parks, which is a division of the State Conservation Commission.

The state park system supplements and cooperates with the U. S. Forest Service, the U. S. National Park Service as well as municipal and county park systems.

Colorado might learn much from the experience of Minnesota in providing for the recreational needs of their citizens and visitors. The immediate needs are two—to provide picnicking and recreational areas where there are now none available, such as in the eastern and western ends of the state; and to preserve while they are yet unspoiled, outstanding areas of botanic, geologic, scenic and historic interest wherever they may be located.

Is there a new bug in your garden every day? Would you like to know more about them and how to control them? There are many books and bulletins in the library at Horticulture House that tell of insects and their control.

Are Roses, or Iris, or Cactus your hobby? Read all about them and many others in the library at Horticulture House.
Wild Flowers Suitable For Cultivation

L. J. Holland

T is impossible for me to select any one wild flower as a subject for e home garden, but I would like to ll attention to some of the lesser town natives that are truly gems to the rock-garden or low border.

All of these are hardy perennials and require a minimum of attention, king only full sun and a hot, dry tion. None are particular as to il, for in their habitat they are und in adobe as well as sandy loam. Neutral to slightly alkaline condition is indicated.

Let us begin with the lowest growing and one of the earliest to bloom, Os Daisy (Townsendia excapa), is a very perennial daisy that snuggles close to its tufted foliage. blossoms usually appear in April.

Sand Lily, (Leucocrinum montana), with its waxy-white, star-like leaves nestled in the grassy foliage is about the same season and is only few inches taller. Since it is Summer-dormant it should be placed here later flowering plants will cover e space it leaves.

Only slightly later is Fringed Puc coon, (Lithospermum linearifolium), with its tiny golden trumpets and gray-green foliage, growing about six to eight inches high.

Golden Evening Primrose, (Lav auxia brachycarpa), the low growing cousin of the Scented Evening Primrose, is of a deeper golden color and has as large flowers with even longer trumpets. It is decidedly at home on a bank or terrace.

Callirrhoe involucrata is variously known as Poppy Mallow, Buffalo Rose and Wine-cups, with deeply cut leaves and bright carmine flowers requires more space than most, as it may attain a diameter of three feet, but is in no way coarse, nor apt to crowd out other specimens.

Lastly we come to one of the oddities of the plant world that is at the same time exceedingly beautiful. Sensitive Brier or Rose (Schrankia Morongia) uncinata is really a small shrub, about a foot high, has bipinnate leaves that fold tightly when touched. The flowers are fluffy rose-colored balls about an inch in diameter, interspersed with stamens like golden pins and are deliciously fragrant.

There are many more worthy species, but these will suffice for the time.

Easter Daisy  Photo By C. J. Ott

GIVING

God gives us joy that we may give, He gives us joy that we may share; Sometimes He gives us loads to lift That we may learn to bear For life is gladder when we give And love is sweeter when we share And heavy loads rest lightly, too, When we have learned to bear.

ANON.
TREE CARE IN LANSING, MICHIGAN

(FENNER PLAN)

THE GREEN THUMB

(Continued)

PRUNING

TREES are pruned systematically, street by street in rotation. We are at a four-year rotation. Special pruning requests are denied, unless a condition of the tree demands attention to prevent injury to persons or property in the public street. Trees are pruned for clearance and vision, we could prune every year we could not prune so high.

Tools used on trees known to be infected with a contagious disease or trees that indicate possible presence of disease by characteristic discoloration of certain sapwood areas are reinfected with wood alcohol immediately after use.

All dead, diseased or structurally weak limbs are removed. Occasionally it is necessary to prune misshapen trees to restore a semblance of balance. In the pruning of young trees the growth habit or form for that species is taken into consideration in order to help the tree into a normal characteristic shape.

REPAIR

Trees injured by storms, horses, children, motor vehicles, girdling roots, etc., are given prompt treatment according to individual needs. Persons responsible for injury of trees are assessed the costs of repair.

The edge of the wound is cleaned with a sharp knife and shellacked. The whole wound is shaded from the sun by a sun shade frame covered with burlap, so that the delicate cambium layer will not dry out. In two months the cambium begins to thicken to bark. Three years later there is complete coverage of wound with normal bark developed simultaneously over the entire surface.

The symptoms of girdling roots are yellow and thin foliage. Roots have to be removed before injury is fatal and the tree restored by a helpful program of soil fertilization, cultivation and watering.

Street sidewalks which have been raised by tree roots to a height dangerous to pedestrian traffic are repaired or replaced by the City Public Service Department upon recommendation of the Forestry Department without cost to the abutting property owner. When trees are good specimens of standard species the roots are carefully pruned and new walk sections are curved around the tree base to allow for future root growth. In case of undesirable varieties, the adjoining property owner is urged to allow the removal of the tree and its replacement with a standard variety.

A tree in natural forest floor conditions has plenty of water, air and food; rainfall is caught and held by decaying material. In the city the leaves and dead branches, which should decay to become tree food, are removed. Street trees are surrounded by paving and the hard surfaces shut out water, food and air.

Practically all street trees would benefit greatly from feeding. However, due to the expense involved, only certain classes of trees are given this type of assistance. To qualify for the feeding process, trees must come under the following classification:

a) Tree must be very plainly in need of feeding assistance but not so far gone as to be hopeless.

b) Tree must be standing alone or a standard planting distance from other trees at the location in order that it may have every advantage to regain and maintain good health. Crowded trees are not fed.

c) Tree must be of a variety known and recognized to be satisfactory and desirable for street use.

SPRAYING

The spraying for the control of insects and diseases is accomplished according to the spraying schedule prepared for use by the Forestry Division. This schedule states pests to be controlled, time to apply spray, formula of material, etc.

Adequate precautions are taken to prevent spray materials from falling onto vehicles, houses, lawn furniture, etc. When it is evident that sprays drift onto buildings, it is advisable to wet the building thoroughly immediately before and after spraying. Sulphur sprays are not used near painted buildings as the sulphur combines chemically with the paint to the detriment of the latter. Dormant sprays are applied only when the temperature is above 40 deg. f. and probably will not fall lower than 40 deg. during the following night. Night spraying is preferable when feasible because traffic during daylight hours slows up operations.

REMOVAL

Street trees may be removed by the owner of abutting property on written permission of the City Forester under the following circumstances:

To allow installation or widening of driveway; if tree is of the "weed variety" or is dead and owner does not want to wait until City can make removal; if tree, although it is of an approved variety, is crowding other more valuable or better located tree or trees to the point of injury.

Consent of the owner of the abutting property is required for the removal by the City of all living trees. The City removes street trees for the following reasons and purposes:

a) Dead and decayed trees.

b) Trees of species that are known to be unsatisfactory for use as street trees.

c) Trees of all species that are planted too close together to allow space for proper and normal development of top and root systems. Under this classification all crowded, misshapen, undesirable and weed trees on a particular lot frontage must be removed. In other words, the city will not remove an inferior tree and leave other inferior or weed trees standing on the same lot frontage.

In the operations a gasoline powered saw is used. Some of the wood can be utilized in park picnic stoves. Occasionally a log is found that is suitable for sawing into lumber at a local mill.

During 1947, 475 trees were removed at an average of $30.00.

APRICOT SHERBET

For that siesta you should take before growing too tired in the garden. Prepare at any odd time and have in the icebox when you need a lift. Easy to make. It's horticultural—it's made from lemons, oranges and apricots.

2 1/2 cups of water
1 2/3 cups granulated sugar

Boil together about 20 minutes and cool. Add juice of 2 1/2 oranges, medium size. Add juice of 2 1/2 lemons, 15 halves of canned apricots, run thru a sieve. Freeze. When slightly congealed, add one well-beaten egg white. Finish freezing.

I remove tray from icebox frequently and stir sherbet to keep smooth. Very delicious.

HELEN FOWLER.
HERE are many reasons for preserving intact the remaining remnants of our American wilderness.

It is an appreciation of even the most "practical" of these reasons is a respect for Nature and for life in all its forms and for the earth that gives it a sense of the mystery and beauty in a process continuous since the earth's beginning. They realize that each creation is one and that man is a part of it along with the ant, the whale, and the lady slipper.

Such an attitude is fundamental to a truly effective or long-time policy for the preservation of natural resources, of scenic values, and of the wildlife both animal and plant that exists about us. It is fundamental to the perpetuation of a living wilderness. Whether our peculiar concern is forests, wildlife, or wilderness, our fundamental undertaking must be the propagation of this philosophy, or religion, or plain common sense—whatever you wish to call it. If we are to conserve—we Americans—we must be conservationists.

ELMER EUGENE BARKER.

Reprinted by permission from "The Living Wilderness."

Several plants of Firethorn (Pyracantha) were noticed in full brilliant fruit last fall. We once thought that it was impossible to grow this plant in Denver. All the plants we have noticed have come from Salt Lake City where the Firethorn is one of the most valuable shrubs. It may be that they have developed a harder strain there which has a better chance of surviving in our climate.
**BLADDERPOD**

**F. Binkley**

The Bladderpod makes itself readily at home in a sunny garden, wherever drainage is good, and its pale yellow flowers are to my mind quite satisfactory, though not so showy, as the well-known Alyssum saxatile. This little mustard plant may be found in dry, sandy places, Lesquerella Engelmanii and L. stenophylla in the plains, and L. montana in the foothills and mountains. The rosettes of gray and white-hairy leaves are decorative in the winter garden. The flower clusters, on prostrate stems from eight to 12 inches, form a second circle of yellow bloom about the central plant, from May on through early summer, and the inflated pods are interesting in the fall. Probably its best use is on a rocky slope (as I have seen it in Maude Reed's garden in Boulder), in the wild garden. One December I put several of the neat little gray rosettes into sand, in a bulb pan, and had the yellow flowers in the window garden for early spring.

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What was that wild flower that you saw in the hills today? Look it up in the library and herbarium at Horticulture House.

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**THE WEEK-END GARDENER**

What is to be done in the garden today, Mom? Seems to me it should be in pretty good shape now. "Everything but the roses." O.K. I'll look at them. Yes, everything seems to be wrong with them. They are a job of themselves. Suppose that I take care of them and you look after the rest of the garden. That should be about 50/50. Well, first there are aphids on the buds. That's easy. I'll get the spray gun and give them a shot of Black leaf 40 with a little soap mixed in to make it stick.

Here is some damage that is not from aphids. The buds are deformed and have some holes in them. I don't see anything. The Oldtimer says that it is probably the work of snout beetles, and that they are hard to kill with any of the known poisons. I'm going to try chlordane on them and see if it doesn't keep them away. If I find any I'll try John Roberts Cypress cure on them. (Mash them between two blocks of cypress).

Now what is this powdery white stuff on the under side of the leaves of my climbers? I'll have to look that up. The book says that it is mildew and caused by watering late in the evening, and cured by dusting with sulphur or some such fungicide.

Here are some plants that seem to have the green eaten right out of the leaves in spots. Ah, there is a tiny transparent little slug doing it. The Old-timer tells me that they are easy to kill, but work so fast that they should be treated at once. They are soft-bodied, so killed with a contact poison; are chewers and so susceptible to stomach poison, and are also easily killed by throwing ashes or dust on them.

You know, a gardener would have to be pretty smart to know all the pests that trouble roses. I guess that I'm just lazy and don't want to think these things out. I'll get some of that new three-way dust and just close my eyes and give them a shot of it once a week, and hope that it cures everything. I may waste a little dope but I'll be sure that there is nothing bothering my roses.
He Has No Enemies—So He Lost His Shell

RICHARD HEADSTROM

Reprinted by Permission from Horticulture

The garden slug belongs to the same group of animals that includes the snail, oyster, clam, scallop, winkle and other seashell creatures and along the shore. All of these animals have one or two shells which serve as a protective covering but the slug lost its shell long ago and today is only a thin plate embedded in the mantle as a reminder that it, too, once possessed armor like its relatives.

The loss apparently did not greatly inconvenience the animal or prove much of an obstacle to survival. The slug, however, is not entirely without means of protection although its fans of defense do not seem to be particularly effective against an enemy.

Seaking of enemies, I cannot recall at it has any. Its greatest source of danger is dryness, a condition which the slug can stand for long. Against danger is the slug secretes a thick heavy mucus about itself. The end which secretes this mucus is at the anterior part of the foot and as the animal moves along the slime or mucus is laid down as a smooth road over which it can glide. Thus the mucus also serves as lubrication.

The mucus is not only a protection against drying out but also serves a protection in another sense. If a razor is placed in its path, the animal is able by means of the mucus to slide over the sharp blade without suffering the slightest injury. It is said at some slugs, after ascending trees, stretch their mucus into a thread after the manner of spiders. I have never seen this done, but I cannot vouch for it.

One of our most common species of gray slug measures up to five inches long and is gray with black spots and stripes on its upper surface. Unlike most mollusks which breathe by means of gills, but in common with the land snails, the slug breathes by means of a lung—or what serves as a lung. The external opening to this "lung" may be seen as a small pore on the right side of the dorsal surface. Also, like the land snails, the slug bears two pairs of tentacles and eyes and behind the base of one of the tentacles is the reproductive orifice.

Slugs are found for the most part in deeply shaded, damp places, under boards and rocks, in glens and chasms and in the dusk of cellars where they are most active at night. They are primarily vegetarians and scavengers on dead animals, especially upon earthworms, which they consider choice morsels. They are also partial to rotting cabbage leaves and it has been reported that some species will eat the or no chlorophyll in it, such as lichens and fungi. Certain small species that are found in our gardens are destructive in their feeding habits consuming garden vegetables, plant leaves and even meat left out in the cellar or pantry.

Slugs hibernate in much the same way and places as land snails. One would not think of them as especially hardy animals but they are harder than they appear and in gorges and other protected places they seek their Winter retreats only after hard frosts. Each slug generally hibernates alone, excavating a nest-like hollow in the earth into which it crawls. Curling its body into a ball, it secretes mucus enough to cover it entirely. Those that live in our cellars are semi-active over the sharp blade without suffering the slightest injury. It is said at some slugs, after ascending trees, stretch their mucus into a thread after the manner of spiders. I have never seen this done, but I cannot vouch for it.

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Everything For The Garden
If the bugs are bad, we have just the thing you need in the way of Sprayers, Dusters and Insecticides.

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THE WEEK-END GARDENER
Hey Mom, do you remember that a week from today we start on our vacation? What needs to be done to the garden to get it ready to leave? Do you remember how bad everything looked last year after we came home? I guess that the boy had mowed the lawn once and maybe watered it once while we were gone, but nothing looked good except the weeds.

I believe that we should have started some time ago to train the lawn to get along with less waterings. If we would water it less often and more thoroughly it would stand neglect and the hot weather better. I'll give the lawn a mowing and trim the edges so that will not look so bad.

Two weeks is a long time to let a garden go without checking for insects and disease. I'll go over everything carefully and look for aphids, worms, beetles or yellowing leaves. I'm going to try some DDT on plants that are liable to have insects working on them. That has residual effect enough to keep things off for a couple of weeks. I hate to kill the good bugs too, but guess that can't be helped.

I'll get out the clippers and go over everything looking for dead limbs and loppy branches. Some of the shrubs that are just through blooming can have some of the stems taken out clear down to the ground. Some of the tulips are now entirely dried up and I can clean them up.

I see little weeds coming all over. If I get them now they will not have a chance to grow as they did last year. I believe that I'll put some peat over the perennial beds. It should help to keep things from drying out and keep some weeds from sprouting.

I'll soak everything thoroughly so it will have subsoil moisture enough to draw on to last the whole two weeks. O.K. Mom, I'll be in to supper right away. Shall I bring in an armload of Shasta daisies as I come? Let's take some of these fine lilies to church tomorrow. They are too nice to keep to ourselves.

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LAWN MAINTENANCE
By J. Melvin Easterday

A soil which will hold moisture must be at least ten to twelve inches deep. Obtaining such a seedbed is expensive, but it is better to construct a lawn once and have it permanent than continually to seed and reseed.

The success or failure of a lawn may be dependent upon the care given after planting. Mowing should leave not less than one and one-half inches of turf, and the clippings should be allowed to remain. Frequent mowing is better than allowing grass to grow too long. One-half to three-fourths of an inch of growth between mowings is the maximum allowed.

Watering is a difficult problem and in many cases is more harmful than beneficial. When watering is necessary, a thorough soaking should be given. In order to prevent puddling, it is a good practice to move the sprinkler and later rewater the same area. The desirable penetration to a depth of four inches will demand long periods of sprinkling.


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V

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OBJECTIVES OF THE COLORADO FORESTRY AND HORTICULTURE ASSOCIATION

To preserve the natural beauty of Colorado; to protect the forests; to encourage proper maintenance and additional planting of trees, shrubs and gardens; to make available correct information regarding forestry, horticultural practices and plants best suited to the climate; and to coordinate the knowledge and experience of foresters, horticulturists and gardeners for their mutual benefit.