

## GARDEN CLUBS SPONSOR BIG SHOW IN CHICAGO

### Local Group to Have Active Part in Arrangement of Exposition March 7-12

Never have the garden suburbs which surround Chicago experienced keener rivalry than is being developed in the contests for garden clubs in the coming Chicago Garden and Flower Show, Hotel Sherman, March 7 to 12, it was stated this week.

Thirty Garden clubs are entered, so far, and each has assigned its ablest decorators to the job of preparing exhibits for the two main competitions open to the clubs, which are the contest in table decorations, and the contest in floral arrangements.

It is the first time since Garden clubs began to assume their present importance in suburban life, that the suburbs in the Chicago metropolitan district have had an opportunity to compare skill in an exhibition of national scope. Local flower shows are annual events with most of the clubs, but it has been fifteen years since a great Chicago show was held, and that was before the day of garden clubs.

In the last decade, the garden club has come to be the center of social life in each suburb. Lake Forest has set the example, with its exclusive organization whose members own gardens of such extent and artistic merit that a graduate school of landscape architecture has been established there to enable the most promising of each year's crop of landscape artists to study the wonderful gardens to be found there.

#### Start Chicago Movement

It was from Mrs. Walter Brewster of Lake Forest, and Mrs. Frances King of Alma, Mich., who will probably be conceded to be the leaders of the garden club movement in the United States, that the suggestions for the contest in the Chicago show came.

Mrs. Brewster and Mrs. King were members of the committee which planned the show. Coming in March, they faced the fact that only the owners of private conservatories would have flowers to show. With the extensive private and commercial greenhouses in and near Chicago, all of which will send their prize blossoms to the exhibition, an ample supply of flowers was assured, but both women were insistent that the garden club members be given an opportunity to participate in some way.

"Let them make table decorations," suggested Mrs. King. "And baskets, or bases," supplemented Mrs. Brewster. And so it was decided. At a meeting of club representatives in January, Mrs. Frederick Fisher of Glencoe was chosen secretary. And at subsequent meetings the details of the competition were worked out as follows:

**Table decorations**—Each club entering this contest will become responsible for two tables, one a formal dinner for six; the other a garden tea for two. Tables will be supplied by the show, uniform in size and shape. The club must provide the china, linen and decorations. No flat silver will be used. Both flowers and china may be obtained gratis from dealers on conditions which will be furnished on inquiry by the chairman. The flowers must be renewed if necessary to insure their good appearance throughout the show.

**Floral arrangements**—Each club entering this contest will provide a vase, basket or other receptacle containing a bouquet arranged for effect, which will be placed in a lighted shadow box, lined with black. These arrangements will be judged for the skill with which

the flowers are combined with the container, and color balance as well as the composition in form.

#### Color Important Factor

Interest in floral arrangements has always been keen among the garden clubs. The modern garden, indeed, depends upon color for its chief attraction. This is due to the teachings of Miss Gertrude Jekyll of England, whose lessons have been so ably spread in this country by Mrs. King and others. Both in the flower border and in the arrangement of flowers for the table, or the vase, the color scheme is studied expertly. Ladies of the garden clubs have attained such skill in flower arrangements, thanks to their annual shows held locally, that it is generally conceded they surpass the professional florists, and the contest of the garden clubs will bring out examples of this art in its highest form.

Each club is doing its best to present an unusual combination, and is naturally keeping secret its exact plans. But it is rumored that treasured linens and highly valued vases and candle sticks from private homes will be used by most of them in order to obtain carefully studied effects.

An interesting sidelight on the contest is that State street stores have offered the clubs the loan of anything they have to be used in the contest; and the wholesale flower market has volunteered to supply the flowers. The exhibits will be staged on Monday, March 7 and judged at once by expert judges. They will be voted on during the week by show visitors.

#### Many Clubs Enrolled

The clubs which are participating, and the names of their delegates to the flower show committee are as follows:

Lake Forest Garden club, Mrs. Roy E. Sturtevant; North Shore Garden club, Miss Amy Rothschild; Garden club of Oak Park and River Forest, Mrs. J. H. Heald, Jr.; Glencoe Garden club, Mrs. Frederick Fisher; Kenilworth Garden club, Mrs. R. B. Stolp; Lombard Garden club, Mrs. Nora Wagner; Garden club of Hinsdale, Mrs. J. F. Jones; West Chicago Garden club, Mrs. C. P. Flanders; Elgin Garden club, Mrs. Nelson Childs; Wilmette Garden club, Mrs. B. L. Davis; Wheaton Garden club, Mrs. W. H. Liefert; St. Charles Garden club, Mrs. T. B. Gray; Evanston Garden club, Mrs. John Blunt, Jr.; Deerfield Garden club, Mrs. William W. Geary; Barrington Garden club, Mrs. G. R. Hammond; La Grange Garden club, Mrs. W. E. Conrad; Western Springs Garden club, Mrs. Maxted; Winnetka Garden club, Mrs. C. R. Strong; Beverly Hills Woman's club, Mrs. B. E. Buttles; Morgan Park Woman's club, Mrs. S. N. Murdoch; Garden club of Glen Ellyn, Mrs. G. M. Kendall; De Kalb Garden club, Mrs. Thomas Olson; Park Ridge Improvement club, Mrs. H. B. MacCurdie; Riverside Garden club, Mrs. Ernest Hoefer; Freeport Garden club, president; Downers Grove Garden club, Mrs. H. B. Downes; Glencoe Library club, Mrs. Andrew McLeish; Crystal Lake Garden club, Mrs. L. H. Mason; Batavia Garden club, Mrs. Marcia Sterry. Patronesses of the Flower Show are: Mrs. Arthur Meeker, Mrs. Edith Rockefeller McCormick, Mrs. Cyrus McCormick, Jr., Mrs. Robert R. McCormick, Mrs. Lawrence Viles, Mrs. Walter Brewster, Mrs. Frances King, Mrs. Arthur Ryerson, Mrs. James Simpson, Mrs. Edward I. Cudahy, Mrs. Philip D. Armour, 3rd., Mrs. T. Philip Swift, Mrs. Edward Hines, Mrs. Samuel Insull, Mrs. Charles G. Dawes, Mrs. Waller Borden, Mrs. J. Harry Felz.

### N. T. Dean of Girls to Talk at Dallas Meeting

Miss Elizabeth Packer, Dean of Girls at the New Trier High school, will address a joint meeting of the deans of women of high schools and universities, which will be held at the Baker hotel in Dallas, Texas, the last of this week. She will discuss the health program now in effect at the New Trier High school.

The meeting, while not directly a part of the National Educational association program, will be held in connection with it and the people attending the deans' meeting will also attend some of the general sessions of the other program, it is said.

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James Kozak, Director

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Louis Lohmann  
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Mon., Feb. 28. Richard Dix "Paradise For Two"

Wed., Mar. 2. John Gilbert "Bardley's the Magnificent"

Fri., Mar. 4. Leon Errol "The Lunatic at Large"

CONTINUOUS 2 TO 11:30  
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CLYDE ELLIOTT

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Harry Minturn and Margery Williams

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