

August 19, 1958

Regular meeting of the Upper Keys Garden Club was called to order at approximately 2:00 p.m. by President Gertrude Thompson. It was held at Ginny Wiklund's home, with 24 members present, including Mrs. Hazel Culley, who was introduced as May Wallace's guest, and became a member. We are happy to have Hazel with us.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Vera Kirtley reported 91.16 in General Fund, 310.80 in Book Fund, a total of 401.96.

On sickness - Dottie Brink's father died. We extend our sincere sympathy to Dottie and to Nicki Beare. Bill Kinzy is in the hospital in Texas, and Vivian will find how Willa can be reached.

Committees - Flower Arrangement Class - Gertrude, in Ardinelle's absence, said that Mr. McLean from Homestead will teach free of charge (we would merely pay his expenses here and back), bringing the Japanese girl who is known for her skillful arrangements, with him. It was decided that this class would be held at the October meeting, starting at 11:00 a.m., followed by covered dish lunch from 12 to 1:00, followed by further "workshop" until about 2:30. Helen Brunton volunteered her house, which has a wonderful roomy covered porch for work. This offer was accepted with thanks. Gertrude will call McLean to check on this, and report to us at the next meeting.

Sign for School - Lotte was not present, so Mary Easton reported that Jim Abbott did beautiful work at reasonable prices, and could do one for about \$7.50. Gertrude suggested that he submit a "sample", on cardboard or similar material, in the exact size, for approval. Motion made, seconded and passed to this effect.

School Committee - Francis Tracy said that Mary Perez had donated the sugar apple and the sour sop. She said that the plants in general were in good condition, the present fruit trees bearing, to the joy of "Prof." Albury and others at the School. She said that more fruit trees were wanted, apricot, caribola, etc., and that trees should be at least two feet tall for transplanting. Otherwise, their survival chances were not as good. Thelma suggested that we write the Experiment Station for the Apricot, and Peggy Ely suggested that we write them for the entire order, since parks, etc., are a large part of the Experiment Station's work. Vivian moved that Mrs. Tracy be allowed to write an order for anything that was wanted for the school fruit trees, and procure the same. Seconded and passed. Mrs. Tracy will give list to secretary, and we will go ahead from there.

Leaflet - Alida said that the leaflet was now being printed at the



Keynoter Press, in green ink on white paper, and that the cost would be \$37 - odd - for 3,000 - or a fraction over a cent apiece.

While she was on the floor, she read a letter from Lea Smith, thanking us for the Philodendron Seleum we sent her, and for our response to her at her time of deepest sorrow.

Scrap Book - Mrs. Tracy said that she had pulled together the Scrap Book, and brought it up to date. She explained the original purpose of the Scrap Book - a permanent record of Garden Club doings, with monthly newspaper reports, articles of interest to Keys gardeners, pictures of the plants we grow or attempt to grow - a book for everyone's use and enjoyment. We have been talking of turning it over as an inspiration and help to mental patients, but she brought out the fact that the doings of the Upper Keys Garden Club would not interest them, while if we gave up the Scrap Book, we have only the minutes for record, and it is impossible to pass the minute book around. Also, the minute book lacks illustrations, a big help.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to keep the scrap book, and to form another especially for the purpose of sending away.

Nobody was appointed as yet to start this new scrap-book, but the present one is "on its feet" again, and let us try to keep it that way.

Library - Flame Bird still unpurchased. Alida authorized to procure it.

Next meeting - George Stevenson would like to talk to us, as he did recently to the Key Largo Garden Club. Alida to contact him, and see whether he can talk at the September meeting at Dottie Brink's.

November Meeting - Considerable discussion as to how to get the two movies from the Miami Public Library. This problem seems to have solved itself, with several volunteers to get it and return it. It cannot be mailed. Alida passed around a booklet so that members could list what they expected to bring to the November sale of plants.

The program, Questions and Answers, with Mrs. Tracy the principal Answer giver, proved instructive for all. I have not listed each question and answer, trusting that each questioner will remember her own answer. Questions were on such things as insecticides, lady-bugs as fruit protection, when to prune hibiscus, oleander, etc., and seaweed as fertilizer. Perhaps one point we should remember is that the more we use organic fertilizer - and a compost from seaweed is one of the very best - the more strength we give our plants to resist the insects. Manures are of course excellent, but use of rinsed out seaweed surely cheapens the fertilizer bill, and is an effective dampness-holder for our sandy soil.



There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned,  
and Ginny Wiklund and Norah Dickerson served us the most delicious  
~~xxfishxsalad~~ crawfish salad, with iced tea. It was so good  
hat Ginny should be in business, but maybe the touch would be lost  
in the over-work -- one last few words. This was one of the  
hottest days so far this summer, and yet - the attendance was  
as good as it often is in the winter season!'.  
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Respectfully submitted,

*Alida Tjader*

Alida Tjader, Sec.