

APRIL 19, 1955

The regular meeting of the Upper Keys Garden Club was held at the home of Wilabel Kinzy, Lower Matecumbe. Called to order at 2:15 pm by the president, Florence Booth, who read an inspirational poem.

Minutes were read and approved.

Treasurer reported four new members since the last meeting-disbursements of \$4.03 and balance in bank of \$113.97. Violet Carpenter presented a bill for \$1.00 as entry fee of Garden Guild Book Club and members. decided to purchase "Decoration with Home Plants" at a cost of \$3.50.

A list of library books will be passed to each member at the next meeting and selections may be ordered for delivery by librarian at the following meeting.

Get well cards were signed for Ann Baldwin and Margaret Bond

Decided to go to the Homestead Spice Garden for the next meeting. Will leave at 10:30 am and take a box lunch.

June meeting will be at the home of Florence Booth.

Lotte Uhe gave an instruction talk on planting of cuttings. She displayed a bag of paper which she places in the hole with vermiculite at the bottom. She places 3 notches below the ground and 2 notches above. Each cutting is dipped in rotone, but not too much. Dirt placed on top to hold the fine vermiculite. Two cuttings to a container. Discussion of vermiculite followed, may be used for many things. Questions about planting of cuttings and discussion about letting some of the leaves remain.

Lotte told of using heavy aluminum foil for mossing off when in heavy wind area. Press tightly against the limbs and use some rotone.

Peggy Ely said that lime and rubber trees may be mossed off at any time of year. Asked what to put in soil to prevent "damp off". Lotte suggested charcoal to help dry and sweeten the soil.

Lotte said that it is wise to prepare the parent plant before taking cuttings. Two to three weeks before it is well to fertilize, water enough so that there is good healthy foliage. Do not take cuttings during extreme dry weather. In cutting back shape from the bottom so that bush is irregular and more attractive. Lotte told of changing from blue green to the new Vigoro-use about 1 tablespoon per inch of stem. Also told of use of nutritional spray for citrus, ixora and hibiscus.

~~Beth Albury will bring Key melon seeds to next meeting.~~

Lotte reported that the Christmas Palm she planted from seed is 2 inches high. Kessie Myers who planted Christmas Palms ~~from seed~~ in March now has excellent growth. Blanche Sturdevant planted seeds of the Parrot Tree 6 weeks ago and it came up in three days.

Cuttings were distributed and a list will be kept and checked for growth at later meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 3:35, followed by delicious refreshments.

*Carolyn J. Chua*  
*Sady*