

March 18, 1958

Regular monthly meeting held at Mrs. Rae E. North's home. Due to Mr. Thompson's illness, Pres. Gertrude Thompson had to turn over the meeting to Vice-President Francis Tracy. Called to order 2 p.m. There was no roll call, but a generous attendance, and two guests, Mrs. Genevieve Wiklund, and Mrs. Turner, who may become members.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. Treasurer Vera Kirtley reported a balance for March 18 of \$432.87 - in the Book Fund, Feb. 18 - \$251.70, Deposit Feb. 28 of \$8.50, making a total, Book Fund, of \$260.20. General Fund, Feb. 18 - \$182.67 Check for Sec.'s expenses, \$10.00, making General Fund total of \$172.67.

Our guest speaker was introduced, and it was suggested she give her talk before the committee reports and correspondence.

Her Subject was "How to Enjoy a Flower Show". Mrs. Sheffield instigated the first Garden Club on the Keys and is President of South Florida Garden Clubs.

She said one of the first steps in enjoying a flower show was to work in one, and then contributed many ideas which could be to our benefit. There was considerable question and answer and discussion throughout her talk - a good, lively sign.

She spoke of the importance of color in a flower show - that there was a tendency to be too green - and told how one Miami club had created an English country garden on the floor, really better than the real thing.

As an educational feature, she suggested that plants be classified according to their original country. Also, an exhibit of protected plants. She said that an "authentic" show, by National Garden Club rules, was not necessary to make a good show. She suggested a corsage exhibit, cut flowers exhibit (not "arrangements", just good specimens of cut flowers, and a horticultural exhibit, that is, potted plants, classified as to family, rather than the way we are classifying them in our show - Foliage Plants and Flowering Plants. She recommended Latin name learning as part of our education-though even they change, they give us a clue as to plant family relationships.

Then she spoke about Tetanus Shots as advisable, and handed a pamphlet to the Sec. to file. It is by the Florida State Board of Health, and suggests we contact our doctors and ask whether he thinks we should have them.

Then she spoke about Garden Therapy in the South Florida

State Hospital. Gardening and Music, she said, had been found the most successful therapy for mentally ill patients. It was moved, econded and passed to donate \$10.00 plus the door prize money to this cause, and a total of \$16.00 was raised. This money to help their Garden program - build slat houses, pay an instructor to teach flower arrangement, since patients can take that kind of job when they get well, and there is a demand for flower arrangers at florists's. The door prize, pecan cookies, donated by Susan Lund, was won by Thelma Miller.

Then ,she spoke about the road dept. landscaping funds - said they "never had enough money" to landscape roads, which is particularly necessary in city areas when new roads appear. Though they are supposed to take care of roads and public schools, the actual job gets done by Garden Clubs, but it should be done by the state, since there is an official on a salary for just that purpose. Suggested we get in touch with legislators and ask why the work does not get done. There is no force like a group of women.

Then came the regular business-

Correspondence - Sec. said she would not read the long letters about the flower show, but gave a resume, to the effect that Key West was coming in, and that she had reassured them that should they not have exactly the plant they thought they would have, never mind, bring in something else - we have quite some flexibility.

School - Mrs. Tracy said planing would start about April 1, that she had put in 25 lbs. fertilizer and weeded our plantings. No mention was made of reimbursing Mrs. Tracy, which should be done.

Flower Show - Tjader emphasized that plants could be brought in at the last minute, but she would rather know as much as possible in advance. She reported on the meeting of the commercial exhibitors, where a floor plan of the show was laid out, and said that tickets were ready, posters out, and she passed around plant tags. She also explained that anyone could have as many entries as she or he wished, but only two per class competitive. Additions in the competitive class would have to be labelled non-competitive. She said that Marathon might come in with us, too.

April meeting to be at Ann Baldwin's, with Peggy Ely on Rooting Mediums. Co-hostesses, Hester Rawley and Vivian Gross.

Respectfully submitted,

Aida Tjader