

May 19, 1959

Regular meeting held at Helen Brunton's. Her big, airy Florida room was packed solid with 35 members and 4 guests. The guests were introduced by Nicki Beare, Helen Brunton, Nora Dickerson and myself. My guest, May Oakford, became a new member, and we are happy to have her.

The meeting opened with a particularly arresting "Thought for the Day", excerpted by Florence Booth from an article by Norman Vincent Peale. This was followed by the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes of previous regular and board meetings read, corrected and approved. Treasurer reported a total of \$116.10 in our treasury. \$350. have been placed in the savings bank.

The table was loaded with secret pal presents, and members gave their thank-yous.

Co-hostesses for the June Splash Party at Florence's - Millie Gasser, Bobbie Pinder and Louise Wilson.

Florence gave a report on the May ramble at "Mrs. R. R.". 26 attended, and Florence said that Mrs. Robertson was a real horticulturalist, relying off Latin names, and showing plants that required knowledge and skill to raise successfully. Note - Mrs. Robertson saves all cuttings and leaves, putting them around her plants for mulch. If you want proof of the value of mulching, try some spot in your garden. Mulch it one year, and leave it alone the next. You will see the difference. Our hot sun and long dry spells make a need for mulch - so don't burn your cuttings.

Committee Reports-SCHOOL - Susan said all was in very good shape, the bougainvillea gorgeous. The Silk Oak Tree has been planted by Mrs. Tracy and James.

BEACH - Addye Turner absent due to illness. Alida reported that guard would be on deck with two prisoners to dig holes and initiate the Islamorada Public Beach planting, Thursday, May 21 at 8:00 a.m., and that she would join Addye Turner and Lea Smith to plant palms volunteered by Clifton Russell, Essie Fossellmann, Kessie Myers, Lea and herself. She said the Beach Committee would submit a landscape plan so that members would know what to get together for further planting, and suggested that when we do the full planting, we get together in a large group, as we did at the beginning of the School planting. Then the Committee can finish up and take care of the job.

FLOWER SHOW- Lea reported that a precise date for the 1960 show had not yet been set, as she was waiting to hear from Key West as to their date. She is being very careful not to have our date conflict with other Flower Shows, or events of particular importance to all of us. She has bought the book needed for handling a Flower Show. Louise Wilson said that she had a copy of the same book, and volunteered to give same to the Flower Show Committee. Lea said that she had appointed Lotte Uhe as her

co-chairman, and that Stella Bendixen, again chairman for the Key Largo Garden Club, had appointed Peggy Smith. She said that the Key Largo club would like to meet with us June 4 at the Tavernier Fire House. Moved, seconded and passed to have this joint meeting, secretary to send cards to all members. Lea asked the members to volunteer for their preferred committees, and said that she would have a list of committees necessary by the June meeting. Louise Wilson and Bobbie Pinder volunteered to take care of Publicity. Thelma Miller said she would not take the sale table again. Maybe she will, if we have a better showing of sale plants. Mrs. Tracy pointed out that one reason for our poor showing at that table was that so many good size plants were sold at the November meeting. Nobody - or very few - had anything of any size or distinction left. So, it was moved, seconded and passed that we have no plant sale at the November meeting, and that we have a Silver Tea instead, with Mrs. Tracy as Chairman of this new affair. Volunteers were called to serve on her committee. They were Dr. Lindstrom, Lisa Hokinsen, Millie Gasser, Margie Bond, Bonnie Shreffler, Thelma Miller, Pat Lett, Blanche Sturdevant and Kessie Myers.

Lea said that she had talked with Dr. Fred Bond, President of the Chamber of Commerce, and that he had said that he would prefer to have the two Garden Clubs take over the Show for 1960. It was moved, seconded and passed that we do this, and that secretary write Dr. Bond a letter telling him that we would do this, and thanking the Chamber of Commerce for their past help - and Dr. Bond for starting the whole idea!

Lea also asked for a Kitty for running expenses. Moved, seconded and passed to give the Flower Show Committee a first check for \$25.

MEMBERSHIP BOOKLETS - Nikki said that she would get copies to those who needed them.

NEW BUSINESS - POINCIANAS - Gertrude introduced the Poinciana Planting idea mentioned at the Board Meeting. Again, it was very enthusiastically received. This idea has been submitted to the Road Department, and when we have their permission we can go ahead with this, inviting the co-operation of every organization we have and that of the Marathon Garden Club. It was moved, seconded and passed that we start this project as soon as we have the required permission. If we can do this, we will have a highway of truly breath-taking beauty.

The subject of plant robberies came up. The Key Largo Garden Club has seen some of their hard work disappear overnight. Of course, we take this chance with all plantings - even homes have been robbed of bushes, while their owners were out for the day. One suggested "help" - ask Jane Thurston to put an article in the Keynoter.

Are your plants yours?

Other Announcements - Bonnie said that Mary Krome Jones was seriously ill, and in the hospital in St. Louis. She gave

Mary's address, and all who know her are sending cards.

Anne Baldwin was also ill, and unable to come to the meeting.

BOOKMOBILE - Nikki reported acceptance of this project. Within a year we should have a Bookmobile on the Keys.

Plants and seeds were exchanged and distributed. 4 Portia Trees were taken by Mrs. Tracy, to go to the Flower Show plant sale, or to the beaches, as needed. Mary Conner brought mimosa seeds, Thelma Miller Orchid Tree seeds, Nikki Beare some purple queen cuttings. Let's all start seedlings for the Flower Show sale.

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT CLASSES - Lotte Uhe said that the instructor she had found, Mrs. Kutnik, thought we should wait for lessons until about two months before the Flower Show. Gertrude suggested that we start in October, since the period two months before the show would be the holiday season, and we would be too busy with that to do justice to the classes. She suggested that we start in October, and then bring fresh or dried arrangements to the meetings for criticism (or admiration!)

Program - Margie Bond read us an article on Herb Gardening. This Program had been scheduled for October, but Vivian Gross, our Program Chairman, could not be present to present her own program because she had to stay on teaching at the School. Ferran Pinder was in the hospital, so Vivian had to substitute. Margie's article was interesting. Has anyone here done an herb garden?

The meeting was then adjourned, and we milled around and enjoyed lovely refreshments.

Well, did you have that amazed feeling when the Garden Club arrived? The cars unload, the people come in, and all of a sudden your great big room becomes something like the parakeet cage in the pet shop? Thank you for taking such good care of us!

Respectfully submitted