

Members of the Kew Guild will be aware that the Secretary, Mr. W. M. Campbell, has been seconded to another Government Department. In his absence I have assumed responsibility for correcting the final proof of the Kew Guild Journal and sending it to the press.

At the Annual General Meeting held in May, 1940, it was decided to combine the years 1939 and 1940 in a single number. To save expense, only essential corrections in the proof have been made and, with the exception of the lists of men serving with H.M. Forces and the list of women gardeners, both of which have been brought up to date, and the "Notes from the Gold Coast," no additional matter has been incorporated. The Journal now issued is, therefore, substantially as Mr. Campbell prepared it. I am greatly indebted to Mr. E. G. Dunk for his expert assistance.

A. D. Cotton,
President.

March 24, 1941.



THE
JOURNAL
OF THE
KEW GUILD

AN ASSOCIATION OF
KEW GARDENERS, Etc.
PAST AND PRESENT.

1939 and 1940 (Published May 1941)

LIST OF OFFICERS.

President : 1938-39 :—**Henry J. Davies**

„ 1939-40 :—**L. G. Godseff, F.I.P.A.**

„ 1940-41 :—**A. D. Cotton, O.B.E., F.L.S.**

Trustees : **Sir Arthur W. Hill, K.C.M.G., M.A., Sc.D., F.R.S., V.M.H., F.L.S., F.N.Z. Inst., and J. Coutts, Esq., V.M.H., A.H.R.H.S.**

Hon. Treasurer : **L. Stenning, Royal Botanic Gardens,
197, Kew Road, Kew, Surrey.**

(To whom all remittances should be addressed.)

Hon. Secretary and Editor of Journal : **W. M. Campbell,
197, Kew Road, Kew, Surrey.**

Members of Committee :

Retire 1941

S. A. Pearce, Kew
S. W. Braggins, Italy
E. Coward, East Sheen
M. Free, U.S.A.

Retire 1942

C. P. Raffill, Kew
F. G. Cousins, Torquay
W. Franklin, Southend
A. W. Maynard, S. Africa

Foreman :

P. L. BENTON

Retire 1943

F. Ballard, Kew
C. Jones, Ware
F. R. Long, S. Africa
H. Maw, Tooting
G. W. Robinson, Chelsea

Retire 1944

C. R. Stock, Beckenham
W. L. Lavender, Richmond
W. J. C. Lawrence, Merton
A. Osborn, Kew
W. H. Judd, U.S.A.

Student Gardener :

M. MASON

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playing fields for the native population, and who up to this time had no facilities such as a huge population like Lucknow demanded. The care of the Gardens and the many beautiful parks called for close supervision and constant full time work. Besides his duties at Lucknow, Mr. Davies made visits of inspection and gave advice to Government institutions as far apart as Barielly and Dehra Dun in the United Provinces. Other duties included the training of students in arboriculture; school lectures on the economic uses of plants; as advisor to the Economic botanist in the Agricultural department, and acting in an advisory capacity to the Government in matters relating to damage to crops when judicial proceedings had been instituted by contesting parties.

The Lucknow Gardens were also a centre where young men sent from Kew were placed to receive their early training in the duties of managing a large horticultural centre. Mr. Davies was one of a Committee of five styled "The Five Men of Lucknow" who were appointed by the Government to carry out necessary improvements in the City of Lucknow over a period of fifty years. The duties were often very exacting but to a Kewite of Mr. Davies' calibre, with a love of his profession and keen to do honour to Kew, and be a credit to himself, it has been said that every hour he passed during his career in India, was a source of much pleasure and satisfaction. The fifteen years he spent at Lucknow were the happiest of his life and were certainly of great benefit to Indian horticulture.

I have in these notes avoided specific dates and references but a detailed account of Mr. Davies' life and work will be found in the report of the 1938 Annual Dinner published in this issue.

As a young man Our President's recreation included such sports as cricket, golf and tennis; today he contents himself with bowls and his prowess is well known in the Bromley district of Kent. A quiet, unassuming man, Mr. Davies is a likeable personality, and his loyalty to Kew and the Kew Guild are unquestionable. Though of limited means Our President is ever ready to assist the Guild funds, and only recently during his year of office supplemented Mr. George Lamb's generous donation to the general funds. Mr. George Lamb, by the way, is one of Mr. Davies' very staunch friends.

Mr. Davies' son, "Harry" as we know him, is at present at the Botanic Gardens, Cape Town, South Africa; thus we have an example of father and son being fellow members of the Kew Guild.

E. G. Dunk,
1939.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1938.

The Annual General Meeting for 1938 was held at the Clarendon Restaurant, Hammersmith, W., on Thursday, May 26th, at 6.30 p.m. The Chairman was Mr. R. E. Gill and nearly sixty members were present.

The Hon. Secretary read the notice convening the Meeting, together with the Minutes of the 1938 Annual General Meeting. As there were no matters arising therefrom it was proposed from the Chair that they be passed as read; this suggestion received unanimous approval.

The Annual Report and financial statements were read by the Hon. Secretary and it was proposed by Miss L. H. Joshua, supported by Mr. E. Coward, that they be approved. This proposal was unanimously adopted.

Mr. G. Lamb proposed and Mr. A. Blackburn seconded a motion, "that Mr. H. J. Davies be President for the year 1938/39, in succession to Mr. R. E. Gill." This proposal was unanimously supported and the Chairman intimated the desire of the Meeting to Mr. Davies, who, in accepting the office, voiced his appreciation of the honour extended to him by his fellow Kewites.

The main business of the Meeting concluded, the Chairman asked whether any other business had to be discussed. Mr. A. Blackburn referred to the inconvenience which was caused to many Members by having to remain in London beyond the first public day of the Chelsea Show, in order to attend the Kew Guild Dinner, and voiced the opinion that it was desirable to hold the Dinner on Wednesday, i.e. the first day of the R.H.S. Show. Several other Members, in particular those associated with Parks Departments, expressed similar views, and the Chairman asked for a definite proposal. Mr. Blackburn, supported by Mr. J. J. Mackintosh proposed "that the Dinner be held in future on Wednesday, instead of Thursday, i.e. the first public day of the Chelsea Show." This proposal was adopted with one dissentient, though some Members abstained from voting.

The Chairman referred to the resignation of Mr. E. G. Dunk, as Hon. Secretary of the Guild and Editor of the Journal which was to take effect at the close of the year and expressed the Members' appreciation of the services which had been rendered to the Guild for upwards of fifteen years. He intimated that the question of a successor would be left in the hands of the Guild Committee. The Meeting closed at 7.15 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the Chairman and the Officers of the Guild for their services during the past year.

THE ANNUAL DINNER, 1938.

The Annual Dinner was held at the Clarendon Restaurant, Hammer-smith, London, W. on Thursday, May 26th 1938.

Mr. Henry J. Davies, the newly elected President of the Guild for 1938-1939 occupied the Chair and there was a distinguished company present of 140 members and guests. Among the latter were Dr. H. Taylor of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries; Mr. F. A. Secrett, the well-known and very successful market grower; and Mr. A. Dawkins of the old established seedsmen of Chelsea. Mr. L. R. Russell had hoped to have been present but following a strenuous day at the Chelsea Show, was unable to be among those who had been invited.

Telegrams and cables were read from Kewites of the Parks Department, Fleetwood; the New York Botanic Gardens and the Hamburg Botanic Gardens.

After an excellent repast Mr. H. J. Davies proposed the toast of H.M. The King and the Royal Family, and this was accorded full musical honours. The silent toast "For Absent Friends" followed. The President then proposed the toast "The Kew Guild" with the following introductory remarks:—

"Before presenting the Toast of the Kew Guild, I wish to tender my sincere thanks for the great honour you have accorded me in electing me as your President for the year 1938-1939. It is an honour I deeply appreciate and I trust that during my tenure of office I may in some small way be able to justify your selection. All the energy at my command will be used to further the interests of the Kew Guild and to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood and friendship among Kew men past and present. Second to none in loyalty to Kew and its Guild, I have always considered it my first duty to endeavour to uphold the traditions which inspire all Kewites, namely loyalty to Kew and Kew men.

From an early age, Kew held me fast in its grip. As a boy my ambition was to finish my horticultural training at Kew. I was encouraged to work hard to obtain a thorough practical knowledge of gardening, for without this a young man is handicapped both at Kew and in after years. When I entered Kew towards the end of 1889 I had fulfilled my first ambition. I then knew what Kew expected of me and I hope made full use of the facilities at the disposal of young Kew students at that time, and satisfied the authorities who have always been so ready to assist young entrants in every way.

Kew possesses the most wonderful and valuable collection of economic, botanical and ornamental living plants in the world. What an opportunity this presents to a keen young man, to store up for himself knowledge, which, for a great part will be needed after leaving Kew, and to fortify himself against the demands which will surely come when he is called upon to fill an important position in the horticultural world. He has full access to a library replete with

standard works on botany, horticulture, agriculture and kindred subjects and every advantage should be taken of this privilege. Lectures are given by the most able exponents at Kew's command. These in themselves are invaluable to any young man, representing as they do, a strong link in horticultural education.

The general atmosphere of Kew and associations with men imbued with the object of gaining high places in their profession, combine to add interest and gives zest to both work and study. The four years spent by me at Kew will remain among the happiest and most profitable of my life. Gratitude to Kew is due from me in very great measure for any success which came to me during my 28 years service in our Indian Empire.

Life at Kew in my days as a student was, I venture to say, more exacting in many ways than at the present time. Hours of duty were longer and facilities for recreation almost non-existent. Pay was small compared with the present day, yet I do not remember that we ever thought we were badly treated in consequence.

During my stay at Kew I came in contact with young men who, later in life, made names for themselves and did credit to Kew and its Guild. Names of such men as Dallimore, Lamb, Winn, Aikman, Curtis, W. Pettigrew, Irving, Pearson, Bliss, Guttridge, Harrow, Wakely, Skan, Krumbiegel, Proudlock, Lane, Humphreys, Hugh Pettigrew and host of others stand vividly in my memory. It gives me untold pleasure to see faces amongst us of old colleagues of the early nineties of last century, men with whom I worked at Kew and in India.

The honour accorded me in electing me your President takes me back to those memorable meetings in the Gardens' Library presided over by the late Mr. William Watson, at which resolutions were passed and resulted in the formation of the Kew Guild. Nowadays the Guild comprises many hundreds of members in all parts of the world, united together, irrespective of race or creed, in a bond of fellowship, so essential in these difficult days; may the Guild continue to flourish in size and usefulness. Nothing more beneficial to the human race ever emanated from Kew, than the Association which we know as the Kew Guild.

I have mentioned the name of William Watson, whom I know had the interests and advancement of Kewites always next his heart. We have a William Watson Memorial Educational Fund as one of the Guild's interests, and I would like to take this opportunity of asking you to take a special interest in it and support it financially to the best of your ability in memory of a great Kewite whose interests were always, as I have said, with the young men of his day. The right sort of young man comes to Kew and we who have had our day and our successes should do all we can to help the younger generation to success also.

I am happy to say, that my son Harry, who is known to many of you has followed the same profession and that thanks to the help of the authorities at Kew, has secured a post in the Cape Town Botanic

Gardens, where he has settled down and is hopeful of being a credit to Kew.

Before closing I feel it is my duty to say a word of thanks to our Hon. Secretary, who after fifteen years service feels compelled for health reasons to relinquish his position at the close of the year. During this long period Mr. Dunk has spared no efforts to produce annually, the little volume that means so much to members of the Guild who are scattered throughout the world. It has often been a difficult task, yet year in and year out the high standard has been maintained. Also we, who annually occupy the Presidency owe him a special word of thanks for his efforts in arranging these annual gatherings which have grown from strength to strength. On your behalf I wish our Hon. Secretary a speedy return to health and add that may he be with us for many future gatherings in which he will be able to join free from the cares of having to ensure the smooth working of such festive occasions.

I will ask you all to join with me in drinking the Toast of the Kew Guild, coupling with it the name of my old and valued friend Mr. R. L. Proudlock, a past President of the Guild.

Mr. Davies then announced the prize winners of the annual awards as follows :—

Dummer Memorial Prize (British Botany) : Mr. S. Rawlings.

Proudlock Prize (British Botany) : Mr. R. E. Purrott.

Mutual Improvement Society (Society's Prize) : Mr. J. McCartan.

Hooker Prize (presented by Sir Arthur Hill) : Mr. R. Hudson.

Matilda Smith Memorial prizes : Mr. F. Shaw and Mr. B. Perkins.

A musical medley "Kill or Kewer," composed by Mrs. M. Gilmour and Messrs. J. S. L. Gilmour and H. G. Langham, caused much amusement. The scene was laid in a potting-shed, where songs were rendered by a constable (L. J. Harding), a Kew landlady (A. H. Pettigrew), a student gardener (G. Urton), a visitor (J. S. L. Gilmour) and two American students (H. G. Langham and S. G. Cutting) with Mrs. M. Gilmour as accompanist.

After the interval the Toast of the President was proposed by Mr. Robert L. Proudlock in the following remarks :—

"It is my pleasant duty to propose the toast of our newly elected President for 1938-1939—Mr. Henry James Davies—to whom we offer our hearty congratulations on the honour which the members of the Kew Guild have conferred upon him; and, it is a great pleasure to all of us to give him a very cordial welcome here tonight.

Before proposing the toast mentioned, I will make a few remarks about my old friend and former colleague Mr. Davies, whom I have known since February 1894—forty four years ago—when he arrived to join the staff of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sibpur, near Calcutta.

He was appointed from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, where he had studied and worked for four years from 1890 to 1894; and during the last two years of his services at Kew he occupied the position of sub-foreman of the T Range and Orchids.

On his arrival in India, I think Mr. Davies must have found the conditions in the Calcutta Botanic Gardens very different to those he had been accustomed to at Kew. Everything would appear new, perhaps rather striking, and certainly highly interesting to him. Many of the species which he knew only as specimens in pots at Kew, he would see in the Calcutta gardens as full-grown trees, many of them of great size. For instance, he would see the wonderful "great Banyan" which covers a considerable area; *Casuarina equisetifolia*, many of them over 100 feet in height; a large mahogany tree, on the river bank, also over 100 feet in height and having a girth of 19½ feet at four feet from the ground; besides many other interesting species too numerous to mention here.

Mr. Davies soon began to learn Hindustani, and, in due course he acquired a working knowledge of the language which enabled him to converse with the Indian malies (i.e. gardeners) and coolies employed in the garden.

Whilst he was learning the language he was simultaneously being initiated into the different kinds of routine work of the garden. Besides this he was of great assistance to me in supervising the different kinds of special work which had to be undertaken from time to time in such extensive gardens.

Almost every morning, our much esteemed chief, Dr. King (afterwards Sir George King) who was Superintendent of the Royal Botanic Garden, came round in his four-wheeled pony conveyance to inspect the work that was being done in different parts of the garden and to issue such fresh instructions to his European staff as he considered desirable. Sir George took much interest in the work of improving the landscape effects in the garden, and, also, in the improvement of the roads.

A scheme for re-making the roads throughout the garden was accordingly considered and adopted. Work was begun in 1891 and was carried on, intermittently, until 1896; and I believe it was continued for several years afterwards. The roads were entirely re-made. They were raised and widened where necessary, re-aligned, accurately re-graded and well constructed. Mr. Davies was almost regularly engaged in supervising the coolies who were employed in this work and he also saw that the various operations referred to were carried out according to plan. He therefore obtained a good knowledge of road-making as it was carried out in the Calcutta Botanic Gardens at that time.

During his service at Calcutta he had full opportunities for increasing his knowledge of Tropical plants and of gaining valuable experience which qualified him for competently filling the more responsible positions which he subsequently occupied—as Superintendent at Allahabad and later on, as Superintendent of the Government Gardens and Parks at Lucknow. Mr. Davies was tactful and considerate in dealing with the garden staff of malies and coolies; and, I found him an excellent assistant—always pleasant, genial and friendly.

After being four years at Calcutta, Mr. Davies was transferred to Allahabad in 1898 to take charge of the Government Gardens and the Alfred Park. Besides the regular work of maintenance which had to be attended to, he undertook the more important work of replanning the Gardens and Parks, in order to improve them. He remained at Allahabad for eight years until 1906.

On the death of Mr. William Gollan, Mr. Davies succeeded him in 1906 as Superintendent of the Government Gardens and Parks at Lucknow. Lucknow has long been considered to be the Garden City of India. From all accounts Mr. Davies worked hard to improve and to extend the Gardens and Parks in that city and his successful work there is a tribute to his ability and industry. Mr. Davies led a busy life at Lucknow for, in addition to the care of the Government Gardens and Parks, he had many other responsible duties of which the following is a list, kindly supplied by him :—

- (1) Looking after Viceregal Lodge, Dehra Dun.
- (2) Visiting many native states to give advice.
- (3) Assessment of crops and value of land in disputes where Government and private parties were concerned.
- (4) Holding classes for students in Arboriculture.
- (5) Lectures to schools on horticulture, especially on the economic value of different species of plants.
- (6) Training young Kew men on their arrival from England.
- (7) Taking an active interest in the municipal affairs of Lucknow.
- (8) He was one of the five men of Lucknow appointed by Government (a) to formulate a scheme covering 50 years for the opening up of new roads through the city, and (b) to adopt measures for improving the amenities of the people, generally, as regards sanitation, water supply, drainage, open spaces, markets, etc. During his 15 years service at Lucknow Mr. Davies was credited with doubling the area of Parks and open spaces, also with planting a further 10 miles of roads as an addition to the existing 80 miles of roads planted with trees for shade, making a total length of 90 miles of roads planted on each side with shade trees.
- (9) Also wrote several small books for the Agricultural Department.

Mr. Hartless of Bournemouth, one of our former colleagues in India, has written to me expressing regret that he is unable to be here tonight. He has sent me a letter which he requests me to read to you in his absence.

My dear Proudlock,

I am glad to learn that you are going to propose the toast of our old friend Davies, as President of the Kew Guild for the next year. As the senior member of that band of Kewites who followed one another rather closely towards the end of the last century, to appointments in India, you are, I am sure the most fitted for the task.

Your chief association with Mr. Davies was at the commencement of his career in India, whereas mine was chiefly at the latter part. For about 14 years we were close colleagues under the same government—he at Lucknow and I, at Saharanpur, and during the whole of

that time our relationship was most cordial and helpful. His duties at Lucknow were of a most onerous character and the work he did in beautifying Lucknow, in particular, will be a lasting tribute to his energy and skill.

In him I may say the Kewite tradition was not only upheld, but enhanced, and I feel sure that as President of the Kew Guild, its high standard will be worthily maintained.

Wishing him and the Kew Guild every success.

I remain

Yours very sincerely,

A. C. HARTLESS

Mr. Davies while at Calcutta, Allahabad and Lucknow acquired a wide knowledge of Tropical and other plants, of their propagation and of their cultivation. He also gained very considerable experience in laying out new gardens and Parks, as, also, of the improvement and the efficient management of large Government Gardens and Parks in India. During his long services in the United Provinces Mr. Davies occasionally wrote articles on the cultivation of plants and also on matters of general horticultural interest, many of which were published in a Calcutta periodical named Indian "Planting and Gardening". Mr. Davies held the post of Superintendent of the Government Gardens and Parks at Lucknow for 15 years—from 1906 until 1921—when he retired on pension after 27 years service in India.

Mr. Davies who now occupies the honoured position of President of the Kew Guild received a very valuable part of his training at Kew. Like most Kew men, he never forgot what he owed to our great Royal Botanic Gardens, and to the wide opportunities which he had for acquiring a good theoretical and practical knowledge of his profession during the period of his stay there. He was proud of being a Kew man and always loyally upheld the honoured traditions of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

I would just like to end my remarks by saying to you that many Kew men have served quietly and patiently, and have done good work during their long service in India in the past; and Mr. Davies is one of them who is fully deserving of credit for valuable useful work which he has done for the Government during his service of 27 years in that country.

I feel sure that we all wish him a continuation of many long years of good health and enjoyment in his retirement. *Ladies and Gentlemen*, I now ask you to drink the toast of the President of the Kew Guild—Mr. Henry James Davies.

During the evening selections were played by an orchestra comprising Messrs. Berendt, Brown, L. N. Prosser, L. Ronco, I. Sinclair and F. Spiegelhalter.

Among those who were present should be mentioned the following from overseas :— Mr. G. Farley (India); Mr. T. H. Everett (New York); Mr. George Pring (Missouri Botanic Garden); Mr. W. J. Corkhill (Sudan); Mr. F. G. Harcourt (British West Indies); Mr. L. G. Richards (India); and Mr. A. B. Melles (Imperial War Graves Commission, France).

FOREMEN AND STUDENT GARDENERS SERVING IN H.M. FORCES.

P. L. Benton, Royal Artillery.	H. Mason, East Surrey Regt.
E. Bird, Royal Artillery.	L. F. McElroy, Royal Artillery.
A. H. Blowfield, Royal Army Service Corps.	J. Middleton.
E. H. Bourner, East Berkshire Regt.	R. F. Miles, Royal Air Force.
J. J. Boyle, Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regt.	J. L. Norris, Royal Navy.
J. Clark, Royal Air Force.	B. L. Perkins, Royal Air Force.
G. G. H. Cook, E. Surrey Regt	A. H. Pettigrew, Ryl. Engineers.
J. D. W. Cramer, Royal Nether- lands Brigade.	C. E. Puddle, Royal Engineers.
P.W.C. Davies, Royal Artillery.	S. W. Rawlings, Royal Artillery.
D. A. Downs, Royal Engineers.	T. W. Rayment, Royal Air Force.
A. J. Eaton, Royal Air Force.	J. Redman, Royal Air Force.
F. J. Ford, Royal Marines.	D. W. Sayers, King's Royal Rifle Corps.
F. J. Hebden, Royal Engineers.	W. J. Slade, Royal Air Force.
D. C. Hollis, Royal Air Force.	E. E. Smith, Royal Armoured Corps.
R. A. Hudson, Royal Artillery.	F. B. Stevens, East Surrey Regt.
K. H. James, Devonshire Regt.	J. W. E. Stott, Auxiliary Military Pioneer Corps.
G. S. Joy, Worcester Regt.	A. G. K. Will, Royal Army Service Corps.
D. C. Mackenzie, New Zealand Anti-Tank Unit.	C. J. Wilmot, Royal Artillery.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1938-39.

The Committee have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report for the past year, together with the balance sheets and financial statements (which are as on December 1st 1938).

The Annual General Meeting was held, as in former years, at the Clarendon Restaurant, Hammersmith, on May 26th 1938, at 6.30 p.m. with Mr. R. E. Gill as Chairman. The Meeting was followed by the Annual Dinner, when Mr. H. J. Davies presided over an assembly of 140 members and guests. Among the guests of the evening were Dr. H. Taylor of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries; Mr. F. A. Secrett and Mr. A. Dawkins.

The members of the Committee who are due to retire this year are Messrs L. Buss, C. E. Hubbard, W. Hales, J. Robbie, R. Binnington. The following nominations to fill the vacancies are submitted for approval:—Messrs H. Maw, C. Jones, F. Ballard, F. R. Long and G. W. Robinson. Mr. P. L. Benton has been elected to represent the Foremen and Mr. R. Mason the Student Gardeners at Kew. The duties of Hon. Treasurer will be carried out by Mr. L. Stenning during the coming year and Mr. W. M. Campbell has accepted the joint position of Secretary and Editor.

The Proudlock Tennis Cup Competitions for 1938 were won by Mrs. Milne Redhead (for the second year in succession) and Mr. A. A. Bullock.

Since the preparation of the balance sheets a loan of £10 was made from the Educational Fund to Mr. G. Urton, a student gardener proceeding to South Africa. A grant of £10 was made from the Benevolent Fund to the widow of the late Mr. T. Young.

Whilst the General Account shows a substantial balance, the feeling of the Committee is that this fund should be built up and, accordingly, they have under consideration steps which it is hoped will increase the reserve funds of the Guild. It is their wish to again appeal to Members to subscribe to the General Funds of the Guild in order that the Journal standard should not only be maintained but also improved on.

It is anticipated that the 1939 Journal, which is now in the printer's hands will be available at an early date and arrangements are then to be made for the publication to appear in January or February of 1940.

Your Committee recommend that arrangements be made for the Annual Dinner to combine in future a dance as well as a dinner and concert and that the student gardeners be allowed to bring a friend.

Since the publication of the 1938 Journal, we regret to record the deaths of Messrs J. Aikman, W. H. Young, T. R. Sim and J. Baum.

F. S. SILLITOE,
Chairman of Committee.
16th May 1939.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

WATSON MEMORIAL EDUCATIONAL FUND

(Assets £100 3½% War Stock and Balance in Bank £102 11s. 9d. Liabilities Nil).

DUMMER MEMORIAL PRIZE FUND

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1937 account ...	7	1 4	Purchase of 1938 Memorial		
Dividend on £70 4% Funding			Prize	2	3 0
Loan	2	16 0	Balance in Bank	7	17 9
Interest on Post Office Savings					
Bank deposit		3 5			
	<u>£10</u>	<u>0 9</u>		<u>£10</u>	<u>0 9</u>

(Assets £70 4% Funding Loan and Balance in Bank £7 17s. 9d. Liabilities : Nil).

MATILDA SMITH MEMORIAL PRIZE

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1937 account ...	8	1 9	Purchase of 1938 Memorial		
Dividend on £50 L.C.C. 5%			Prize	2	2 0
Stock	2	10 0	Balance in Bank	8	13 9
Interest on Post Office Savings					
Bank deposit		4 0			
	<u>£10</u>	<u>15 9</u>		<u>£10</u>	<u>15 9</u>

(Assets : £50 L.C.C. 5% Stock and Balance in Bank £8 13s. 9d. Liabilities : Nil)

THE BENEVOLENT FUND

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1937 account ...	68	11 1	Nil	0	0 0
Donations	12	8 0	Balance in Bank	82	15 2
Interest on Post Office Savings					
Bank deposit		1 16 1			
	<u>£82</u>	<u>15 2</u>		<u>£82</u>	<u>15 2</u>

THE PROUDLOCK PRIZE FUND

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1937 account ...	1	3 9	Purchase of 1938 Proudlock		
Dividend on £25 4% Funding			Prize	1	1 0
Loan	1	0 0	Balance in Bank	1	3 1
Interest on Post Office Savings					
Bank deposit		0 0 4			
	<u>£2</u>	<u>4 1</u>		<u>£2</u>	<u>4 1</u>

(Assets : £25 4% Funding Loan and Balance in Bank £1 3s. 1d. Liabilities : Nil).

BALANCE SHEET,
ANNUAL DINNER, 1938.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
By 132 payments at 7s. 6d. ...	49	10	0	Clarendon Restaurant ...	45	10	0
(N.B.—There were 3 guests of the Guild, while 5 Artistes were not asked to pay for their tickets).				Printing circular notices ...		14	0
				Printing Menu Cards ...	1	9	9
				Flowers for table decoration ...		10	10
				Postages and incidental ex-			
				penses ...		19	4
				Artistes incidentals ...		6	1
	<u>£49 10 0</u>				<u>£49 10 0</u>		

The foregoing accounts have been duly checked, compared with supporting vouchers, bank books, stock certificates, etc., and found to be correct.

Signed ARTHUR OSBORN } *Hon. Auditors.*
W. L. LAVENDER } May 8th, 1939.

THE CRICKET CLUB, 1938.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Cricket Club held in the Iron Room on April 7th, the following officers were elected for the season.

Mr. D. Sayers—Captain; Mr. R. Hudson—Vice-Captain. Mr. F. Selby—Secretary. Messrs. L. Stenning and S. Pearce—Committee members.

A total of sixteen matches had been arranged, the weather being favourable on all occasions, never once curtailing play. Of the total amount of games played, 4 were won, 1 drawn, 11 lost, although looking rather poor on paper many close games ensued, played in a good sporting spirit.

The season commenced on April 31st on Kew Green against our old opponents St. Luke's.

A very close game resulted in a win for our opponents by 53 runs against our 43 runs, indicating the superiority of the bowling on both sides, J. Glasheen bowling well for St. Luke's and F. Selby for our team.

On March 16th, we journeyed by coach to Wisley with quite a good number of supporters, which was very encouraging indeed.

The home side batted first and scored but 55 runs, sending our hopes sky high, and our batsmen commenced full of confidence, and indeed with 42 runs for only 5 wickets down we still thought we were safe, but to our amazement the remaining wickets fell, still 3 runs short of the required total. However, everyone enjoyed the game and the tour around the gardens which followed.

Our next game of particular interest was on June 4th, when the annual game against "Old Kewites" took place. Weather conditions were ideal and the pitch on Kew Green in fairly good condition, quite a number of "Old Kewites" and their friends turning up to watch the game.

The Old Kewites batted first, J. Glasheen and C. Rudd opening the innings, the former fell an early victim to l.b.w., but C. Rudd continued to bat strongly, making a score of 35 runs, ably assisted by Messrs. Walsh and Franklin, to make a final score of 122.

The present Kewites made a somewhat disastrous start against the accurate bowling of J. Glasheen and Harborne, the latter taking 7 wickets for 16 runs, and was mainly responsible for our low score of 44 runs. Nevertheless, despite our defeat, good spirits prevailed and quite a number were present at the Flannel Dance which followed at the Kew Pavilion.

Our annual match Students v. Staff took place on Kew Green, on June 8th and, incidentally, provided us with our first victory of the season. The Staff batting first could do little with the accurate bowling of the students, and only G. Preston could reach double figures, the whole side being all out for 42 runs. F. Selby took 8 wickets for 9 runs.

J. Jenkins and R. Hudson opened the batting for the students, scoring 32 runs before R. Hudson was caught off G. Preston's bowling.

Wickets fell quite quickly until a timely stand by our Captain, D. Sayers, and J. Berendt, scoring 42 runs and 18 runs respectively, enabled us to reach a total of 104, J. Sealy taking 5 wickets for 17 runs for the Staff.

With their customary hospitality, Sir Arthur and Miss Hill entertained the teams to tea in the tennis enclosure, and both showed a keen interest in the game.

For our usual mid-week fixture with John Innes we journeyed to Merton on June 14th and, much to our regret, we had to come away the losers by 71 runs.

Noteworthy performances were given for our opponents by Messrs. Quayle and Boait, contributing 41 and 74 runs respectively, the former also taking 7 wickets for 27 runs, and I think, but for these two players the result would have been a different story.

The return match played on Kew Green on July 27th also ended with our defeat, this time by 164 runs to our 60, Boait again playing a fine innings for 70 runs, including 11 boundaries.

Our batsmen were again unable to produce good form and 60 runs were our somewhat feeble reply to our opponents' total.

Welcome visitors on July 2nd were Sutton's C.C., the party being entertained to lunch prior to the match and all were in a jovial mood.

Play commenced on Kew Green at 2.30 p.m., our visitors batting first, but found our bowlers in their best form, dismissing the side for the moderate total of 69 runs, D. Sayers being mainly responsible by obtaining the excellent bowling figures of 7 wickets for 13.

Kew batsmen opened rather shakily and we were getting rather anxious with 4 wickets down for 20 runs, but a stand between J. Jenkins (29) and F. Selby (42) tided us over the bad start and we finished with a total of 108 runs and a fairly comfortable victory.

Visiting Cheal's Nurseries at Crawley for our return game we were able to record another somewhat remarkable win. The home team batting first, compiled quite a good total of 108 runs, and our batsmen commenced in cautious mood, a useful score by J. Jenkins of 37 runs put us on the way to victory and a late stand by Messrs. Stenning and Campbell produced the winning runs.

We ended our playing season on September 3rd by a match on Kew Green against Old Kewites, which, although not so well supported as the annual fixture, was enjoyed by all concerned and, strangely enough, resulted in a tie of 71 runs each.

Dr. Hutchinson very sportingly turned out at short notice for the Old Kewites and served to show us he can still turn the ball to the boundary.

In conclusion, the Committee desire me to express their appreciation to all those who have supported the club, especially those who often, at short notice, have enabled us to fulfil our fixtures, in particular to Mr. F. Goldsack for his keen support throughout the season and to Mr. C. Coates on the occasions he has rendered his services as umpire.

F. G. SELBY,
Hon. Secretary.

BATTING AVERAGES

Played 10 Innings and Over

	No. of Innings	Times Not Out	Highest Score	Total	Average
1. D. Sayers ...	10	—	42	137	13.70
2. F. Selby ...	15	—	42	166	11.06
3. J. Jenkins ...	14	—	37	145	10.35
4. S. Pearce ...	12	—	39	88	7.33
5. R. Hudson ...	11	1	24*	71	7.10
6. L. Stenning ...	13	—	25	68	5.23
7. M. Mason ...	10	2	20	40	5.00
8. W. Sheat ...	12	2	11*	40	4.10

*Not out.

Played less than 10 Innings

9. G. Joy ...	8	—	20	80	10.00
10. J. Eaton ...	6	—	15	27	4.50

BOWLING ANALYSIS

50 or more Overs

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Per cent.
1. F. Selby ...	110	25	329	55	5.98
2. D. Sayers ...	59	10	185	30	6.16
3. J. Jenkins ...	69	4	281	16	17.16

Less than 50 Overs

4. R. Hudson ...	20	1	93	11	8.45
5. M. Mason ...	15	2	87	6	14.50

Catches

	Number		Number
1. F. Selby ...	11	4. J. Jenkins ...	4
2. L. Stenning ...	5	5. W. Sheat ...	4
3. R. Hudson ...	5	6. S. Pearce ...	3

Highest score for an Innings 128

Lowest score for an Innings 42

FOOTBALL CLUB, 1938-39.

The Annual Meeting of the Sports Club was held on April 7th, 1938, and the following were elected officers for the football section. Mr. R. Hudson (Captain), Mr. S. Rawlings (Vice-Captain), Mr. H. J. Eaton (Hon. Secretary) and Messrs. E. Airey and D. Sayers members of the Committee.

In view of the poor season again experienced in 1937-38, it is very gratifying to report that during 1938-39 the long hoped for revival in association football thoroughly materialised; 25 matches were arranged and only one had to be cancelled because the Gardens were unable to raise a team. Four matches were cancelled by our opponents, generally due to waterlogged grounds.

Our record for the season is as follows:—

P.	W.	L.	Goals for.	Goals against.
20	16	4	96	38

The season opened with a trial match in the Old Deer Park, Richmond, in which 16 members took part. The first match was against the Old Ashfordians F.C., which we won 6—2. The following Saturday, October 2nd, we visited our old rivals the R.H.S. students at Wisley and, in spite of almost continual rain and a 3—1 deficiency at half time, we were victorious by 4—3. After the match we were entertained by our opponents.

Our first reverse was on October 29th, on our own ground, when we lost to St. Catherines F.C. 2—1. This defeat was avenged after Christmas by a 6—0 victory at Gunnersbury Park.

On December 14th, the team with a few supporters went to Reading to play the University in the annual mid-week fixture. Owing to our late departure from Kew, the team had to change in the bus and we had to kick-off immediately on arrival and were soon in arrears being 3—1 down at half time, but helped by good vocal support, the team rallied to win 4—3. After the game we were given tea by our opponents. The return fixture had to be cancelled owing to the University being unable to raise a team.

The Saturday following we lost 1—0 to Wandsworth Borough Offices F.C. The team played as though tired after the Reading match, but this defeat, however, was avenged early in the New Year by a 5—2 victory on our ground.

The return match with the R.H.S. Wisley was played on Saturday, January 21st, when we were again the victors by 9—1.

Our only reverse in 1939 was by Leadenhall Rangers by 5—2; this was our biggest defeat of the season. Following this match and until the end of the season, the team reached its greatest scoring power. February 25th against Messrs. Sutton and Sons, whose

team was weakened by the influenza epidemic, we won 14—1. March 4th Park F.C. won 6—3; March 11th Earlsfield Con. F.C. won 8—2; March 18th Saracens won 4—3 and April 1st Earlsfield F.C. on our ground won 5—2.

The outstanding event of the latter half of the season was by S. Holt, who scored 15 goals in the last 5 matches and was top scorer for the season with 19. Other goal scorers were D. Hollis, 14; F. Goldsack, who was particularly deadly from the penalty spot, 12; J. Jenkins, 10; J. Bird and D. Sayers, 6 each; T. Airey, 4; B. Wass, 3; P. Benton, J. Mayne and S. Rawlings, 2 each; and G. Cook, C. Mitchelmore and P. Bulpitt, 1.

The play of the defence was consistently reliable. G. Joy in goal was often outstanding, and the backs, B. Wass and G. Cook, played brilliantly on many occasions. All the half-backs played well and it promises well for the future that for these positions we have the best reserves for another season.

Special thanks are due to R. Hudson for the way he captained the team and for his assistance in arranging fixtures and to two old Kewites, F. Goldsack, who played at centre half on many occasions, and B. Wass, who was the only player to appear in every fixture, and to Mr. Ainsworth, who acted as referee for all home matches.

In conclusion, I should like to add that the greatest thanks are due to those members who were always willing to play if asked, to make up a team, often at very short notice, and to thank all members both playing and for their co-operation which has made this record season possible.

H. J. EATON,
Hon. Secretary.

THE SWIMMING CLUB, 1938.

At the annual general meeting of the Sports Club, held in the Iron Room on April 7th 1938, the following were elected to the committee of the Swimming Club :—

A. H. Pettigrew (Capt.)
S. W. Rawlings (Vice Capt.)
R. O. Stanion (Hon. Sec.)
R. A. Hudson.
R. H. Wildy.

In the early part of the season activities were not great, but once the weather became more summer-like the club came into its own, and though the attendance at the classes of instruction in the Richmond Baths was so poor as to hardly justify their continuance in the forthcoming season, the enthusiasm of those who could swim

ensued the success of the weekly club night. The diving boards were always well populated but apart from the two official practices held in the Thames immediately prior to the annual race few members did much training for this event, and I do feel that if a little more keenness was shown beforehand, not only would the standard of swimming improve but the race itself would provide a great deal more excitement amongst the students.

The actual entry of nine was good *and* interesting, including as it did the Curator, Mr. Campbell; a German; a Swiss; and a garden boy.

July 27th was dull and depressing, getting worse as the day advanced so that by the evening the competitors were going to the starting post in torrential rain.

The start was made difficult by having to have two launches but Mr. Raffill finally got them away and Rottgardt, who by his keenness during the practices had done so much to excite interest in the race, immediately went ahead, but by clinging to the inside bank of the river lost much of the impetus to be obtained from the strong tidal current, whereas Stanion, taking full advantage of this was finally able to get ahead and win by 75 secs. from the second man Wurstemberger the Swiss. Excitement became intense over the placing of the runners up, only 17 secs. dividing the second, third and fourth men, a remarkably close finish in a race of this distance.

The final positions were :—

1. R. O. Stanion	17 mins	45 secs.
2. W. Wurstemberger	19 "	
3. M. Mason	19 "	14 "
4. C. Rottgardt	19 "	17 "
5. J. W. Stott... ..	19 "	45 "
6. S. Rawlings	20 "	
7. C. Mitchelmore	20 "	5 "
8. A. H. Pettigrew	22 "	47 "
9. W. M. Campbell	23 "	

Colours were awarded to the first six men.

At the subsequent dance held in the Boat House the Director very kindly presented the prizes.

The unavoidable absence of Mr. Mingay was very much regretted, and our thanks are due to Mr. Raffill for deputising as starter, to Mr. Stenning for acting as time keeper, and to all those who so bravely faced the elements in the attendant safety boats.

Without spectators much of the excitement and thrill of a race are lost and all the competitors very much appreciated the enthusiasm shown by Sir Arthur Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Gilmour and other members of the staff and students who despite the appalling weather conditions turned out and helped so tremendously to make the event a success.

R. O. STANION.

THE BRITISH BOTANY CLUB, 1938.

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Iron Room on March 1st, 1938, when Mr. F. Ballard, B.Sc., presided over a large gathering of past and prospective collectors.

Mr. Ballard was re-elected President, Mr. S. Rawlings Hon. Secretary, and Messrs. G. Addison, B. Perkins and F. Shaw members of the Committee. Following the election of officers, Mr. J. S. L. Gilmour gave the usual warning against the uprooting or over-picking of rare plants. After this, Mr. G. Addison gave some useful advice on drying and mounting of specimens as a guide to prospective collectors. Specimens from the previous year's collections were exhibited as an additional guide.

The season commenced with a ramble in the Box Hill and Headley districts on March 19th, six members taking part. Numerous plants were collected, including *Helleborus foetidus*, *Daphne Laureola*, *Buxus sempervirens* and *Viola canina*. On May 7th, four members visited the Leatherhead district where some of the chalk-loving plants were found in abundance. Specimens collected included *Orchis Morio*, *Arum italicum*, *A. maculatum*, *Viburnum Lantana*, *Lamium Galeobdolon*, *Ranunculus bulbosus*, etc. On June 14th, Mr. C. E. Hubbard conducted a party of 22 members through the Queen's Cottage grounds in search of grasses and 28 different species were collected, four of these had never before been recorded at the Queen's Cottage grounds, i.e., *Alopecurus geniculatus*, *Cynosurus cristatus*, *Glyceria plicata* and *Bromus glabratus*. On June 19th we again paid a visit to the Headley and Mickleham districts. This ramble took place on a Sunday and was attended by 9 members. Some very useful material was collected on this outing, including *Gymnadenia conopsea*, *Cephalanthera grandiflora*, *Aceras anthropophora*, *Rhamnus catharticus*, *Euonymus europaeus*, *Orobancha minor* and a number of other interesting specimens.

The annual full day trip took place on July 13th, when a motor coach load of 20 members travelled to Wicken Fen, making a short stay at the Cambridge Botanic Gardens, enabling us to see over the gardens. The party was guided over the Fen district by Mr. Carter and Mr. Preston, both officials from the Cambridge Botanic Gardens, whose knowledge of the flora to be found on the Fens was a great help. Specimens collected included *Iris Pseudacorus*, *Lathyrus palustris*, *Juncus obtusifolius*, *Rhamnus Frangula*, *Chara vulgaris*, *Lysimachia vulgaris* and other specimens too numerous to mention in this report.

On July 23rd a party of 8 collectors made a trip to Runnymede to collect the aquatic flora which may be found growing abundantly in this district. The journey was made from Egham to Runnymede by rowing boat, by the use of which we were able to secure good

specimens of many aquatics, in particular, *Utricularia vulgaris*, *Nuphar lutea*, *Nymphaea alba*, *Hydrocharis Morsus-Ranae*, *Myriophyllum spicatum*, *Lemna minor* and *L. trisulca*.

On August 6th a trip was made to Sunningdale and Chobham Common, only 2 members taking part, the Secretary and one of the garden boys. Although poorly attended, the trip was well worth making owing to the collection of such plants as *Gentiana Pneumonanthe*, *Cuscuta epithymum*, *Clematis vitalba* and a few late specimens of *Narthecium ossifragum*, etc.

Our last trip took place on the evening of August 25th to Teddington Sand Pits, 8 members taking part. Again species of the rare *Scilla autumnalis* were collected but very little other material was collected worth mentioning.

At the end of the year, 8 collections were submitted for examination and all were awarded certificates.

The Dümmer Memorial Prize and the Proudlock Silver Jubilee Prize have been combined and awarded as two first prizes. These were presented to Mr. B. L. Perkins and Mr. F. Hebden, who sent in the most excellent collections. Distinctions were gained by Messrs. Benton, Eaton and Foster, and satisfactory collections were sent in by Messrs. Airey, Downing and Zaidenberg.

In concluding these notes on a successful year with the British Botany Club, Messrs. J. S. L. Gilmour, F. Ballard, C. E. Hubbard and other members of the Kew staff are deserving of our warmest thanks and appreciation for the valuable assistance that has been given to further the aims of the Botany Club and all its members during the past year.

S. W. RAWLINGS.

Hon. Secretary, 1938.

THE MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY 1937-1938.

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Garden Library on September 13th, 1937 with Mr. S. A. Pearce in the Chair.

The main business of the evening was the election of officers for the coming session.

Mr. C. P. Raffill and Mr. S. A. Pearce were unanimously elected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. Mr. R. Hudson was elected Hon. Secretary; Mr. P. Chandler Assistant Hon. Secretary; and Messrs. C. Coates, E. Cherry and A. Robson were appointed members of the Committee.

A syllabus of 22 meetings were arranged, of which 20 were devoted to horticultural lectures, one for the purpose of "Questions and Answers" and the remaining one for a debate with "The John Innes Institution."

With regard to the lectures themselves, they were well up to their usual high standard and nine had the advantage of being illustrated by slides.

The session was appropriately opened by Mr. C. P. Raffill who delivered an extremely beautifully colourful lantern lecture on "Gardens in the Riviera."

Other prominent lectures illustrated with slides were "Flowering Shrubs" by Mr. A. Osborn; "Gardens in Malaya" by Mr. Holtum; "Modern Methods of Framework Grafting Deciduous Fruit Trees" by Mr. F. W. Walker; "In Search of Lakeland Flora" by Mr. B. L. Perkins; "The Flora of N. E. United States" by Mr. S. G. Cutting. Other lectures of outstanding note dealing in particular with the practical side of horticulture were "Public Parks Administration" by Mr. W. M. Campbell, N.D.H.; "Horticultural Heating" by Mr. L. Stenning and those given by Messrs. McCartan, Pettigrew and Benton.

The debate arranged with "The John Innes Institution" was a great success, the only difficulty experienced was, the appointing of a suitable motion. "That species are more suitable than hybrids for modern gardening" was, after long discussions, decided upon, the voting showed the motion was beaten by a majority of six votes.

The Hooker Prize was awarded to Mr. R. Hudson and the Society's Prize to Mr. J. McCartan.

At the final meeting, having disposed of the annual formalities a "Spelling Bee" contest was held, two sides were formed and with such brilliant spellers as Messrs. Addison and Buckley being on opposite sides, it was fitting the result was a tie. Though this novelty introduction proved popular it has yet to be seen if it has come to stay, the Spelling Master was Mr. S. A. Pearce who was sound and tactful.

We are pleased to note the attendance is up on the previous year, the total attendance was 726, with an average of 33 per lecture, 48 individual members took part in the discussions.

During the summer the following 4 excursions were arranged, on May 1st a small representative gathering visited the "Spalding Bulb Fields," unfortunately these were not to be seen at their best.

On May 18th a visit was paid to Dell Park, this, the marvellous residence of Baron Schroöder was under the critical eye of 50 members each, having no alternative but to return with the idea well impressed that the establishment was most excellently kept up.

June 9th saw a small party make an interesting trip to Waterer's Ltd., Knap Hill, the nursery from a colour point of view was perfect and a better guide than the manager Mr. F. P. Knight could not have been desired.

The fourth and final excursion was made to Dartington Hall on June 26th. A carefully planned itinerary had been arranged for our visit, and we are greatly indebted to Mr. Lynch for the way in which he and several of his staff made our visit well worth while.

The Society wishes to thank all those who in the past have played their part in making the varied items of this Society a success, whilst the weekly duties of Mr. C. P. Raffill and Mr. S. A. Pearce have not by any means been forgotten.

R. A. HUDSON,
Hon. Secretary.

SYLLABUS, 1937-38.

1937.

Oct.	11.	*Gardens in the Riviera...	...	...	Mr. C. P. Raffill.
"	18.	Questions and Answers	...	...
"	25.	Commercial Propagation of Shrubs and Alpines	...	...	Mr. J. McCartan.
Nov.	1.	*Flowering Shrubs	...	...	Mr. Osborn.
"	8.	School Gardening	...	...	Mr. F. Goldsack.
"	15.	Mesembryanthemums	...	...	Mr. C. C. van Ryneveld.
"	22.	Plant Formative Forces	...	...	Mr. J. Darrell.
"	29.	*Bud Sports	...	...	Mr. P. Chandler.
Dec.	6.	Alpines suitable for Tufa	...	...	Mr. P. L. Benton.
"	13.	} Christmas Vacation.			
"	20.				
"	27.				

1938.

Jan.	3.	Public Parks Administration	...	...	Mr. W. M. Campbell.
"	10.	Meconopsis	...	...	Mr. H. Lawfield.
"	17.	Chrysanthemums	...	...	Mr. E. Airey.
"	24.	*New Zealand Conifers	...	...	Mr. J. G. Short.
"	31.	Kew v John Innes—Debate	...	...
Feb.	7.	Plant Propagation for Public Park Purposes	...	...	Mr. R. H. Wildy.
"	14.	*Dahlias	...	...	Mr. A. H. Pettigrew.
"	21.	*In Search of Lakeland Flora	...	...	Mr. B. Perkins.
"	28.	Gardening in Pretoria	...	...	Mr. J. Aves.
Mar.	7.	Horticultural Heating	...	...	Mr. L. Stenning.
"	14.	*Fruit	...	...	Mr. F. Walker.
"	21.	*Gardens in Malaya	...	...	Mr. Holtum.
"	28.	*Flora of N.E United States	...	...	Mr. S. Cutting.
April	4.	Secretary's Report for the Session.			

*Lantern Lectures.

R. A. HUDSON,
Hon. Secretary,
1937-1938.

THE RUNNING CLUB, 1937-38

At a Special Meeting of the Sports Club held October 1937, Mr. J. Short was elected Hon. Secretary to conclude the 1937-38 term. Due to his efforts evening runs were held around the Gardens during the winter and spring on Tuesday and Thursday evenings after lectures.

At the Annual General Meeting held April 1938, Mr. S. G. Cutting was elected Hon. Secretary. It was decided that a race be held on May 6th and colours be awarded to the first six.

The race was held in the Garden at 7.45 p.m., on the appointed day; Mr. Proudlock started the race and Mr. P. Chandler acted as time-keeper. G. Düsing (Germany) took the lead, coming in in 12 mins. 57 secs., followed close behind by N. Lothian (Australia), L. Lannie (New Zealand).

The following was the order of the finish:—

G. Düsing (Germany); N. Lothian (Australia); L. Lannie (New Zealand).

D. Sayers (Great Britain); J. S. L. Gilmour; R. Stanion (Great Britain); R. Balch (New Zealand); S. Cutting (U.S.A.); R. Hudson (Great Britain).

Thanks are due to all who took part in making the race a success and another link in the chain of activities of the Kew Sports Club.

STEPHEN G. CUTTING,

Hon. Secretary.

LEO GORDON GODSEFF

(PRESIDENT 1939-40)

Born in London opposite Old Cremorne Gardens on the 18th of January, 1876 and educated at St. Albans Grammar School, Mr. Godseff received his early training at Waddesdon Manor the seat of Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, under John Jacques the Head Gardener. From here he went to Messrs. Backhouse's Nurseries at York, where he worked in the Alpine Shrub and Fruit Department, leaving after two years for Messrs. Cochet et Fils Nurseries at Grisy-Suisnes, Seine et Marne, France, where he spent two years in the Rose fields and Vine growing departments. Then he moved to Germany to the seed growing establishment of Messrs. Haage & Schmidt of Erfurt, where in 1896 he learnt the method of grafting *Clianthus Dampieri* on to seedling stocks of *Colutea arborescens*, the plants subsequently being grown on hot beds for seed. Particulars of this he quoted in a paper on "Seed Growing in Germany" at the Kew Mutual in 1899, Mr. W. Watson, the then Curator remarking in the discussion which followed that "that was something new for Kew." He was awarded the Hooker Prize for the paper, which

was the Journal of the Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Banks during Captain Cook's first voyage in H.M.S. Endeavour in 1768-71 to Terra de Fuego, New Zealand, Australia, the Dutch East Indies, etc., and edited by Sir J. D. Hooker. Afterwards Sir J. D. Hooker kindly autographed the Prize, which is now one of our President's most valued treasures. From Germany he returned to France to the Nurseries of Messrs. Croux et Fils at Val D'Aulnay Châtenay, Seine. Here he had the opportunity of working in the trained fruit tree department, for which this firm was famous.

In May 1898 our President entered Kew as a student gardener, and followed Harry Thomas in the Mexican House under Mr. Dallimore. After a spell in the Herbaceous grounds and Rock Garden under the late Mr. Irving, he went to the propagating pits, and became sub-foreman. Then he was laid by with a severe attack of typhoid, but thanks to Dr. L. C. Burrell and careful nursing he recovered, and again entered Kew as a student gardener—certainly a unique occurrence. In 1901 he left Kew to take charge of Mr. A. K. Bulley's collection of rare Alpine and herbaceous plants at Ness, Cheshire. From here in 1903 he entered the service of the Liverpool Corporation at Calderstones, subsequently having charge of the Greenbank, Bowring and Allerton Estates. At these two latter places he laid out the first Municipal Golf Courses for the City. In 1908 he was appointed Chief Superintendent of Cemeteries and Street Planting, being responsible for the planting and development of Allerton Cemetery, for which the Corporation had bought an estate of 230 acres. In 1936 the City Council decided to co-ordinate all the horticultural services of the City under one Department, and he was appointed Chief Superintendent of Parks and Gardens to carry out this work. The Department now controls 117 Parks and Gardens, 6 Cemeteries, 31,000 Street Trees, Allotments, 35 miles of grass tram tracks, Playing Fields, Hospital Grounds, and a Farm of 100 acres, the whole embracing some 3,500 acres, with a staff of 1,000. The work, as can be imagined, has entailed a vast amount of organization and hard work.

The President's father was a well known horticulturist, at one time Manager of Messrs. Bull's Nurseries, Chelsea, and subsequently holding the same position with Messrs. Sanders at St. Albans. Several plants were named after him including *Cypripedium Godseffiana* and *Dracaena Godseffiana*.

The association with Kew and horticulture generally, is being maintained by the President's son, Mr. Eric L. Godseff, who was a Kew student in 1928-29, and who has now taken up a responsible position in municipal work.

Our President is a man very highly esteemed in all branches of life, and it is pleasing to record that the Institute of Cemetery Superintendents have seen fit to offer him the position as President for the coming year.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1939.

The Annual General Meeting of the Guild was held at the Empire Restaurant, Victoria, on Wednesday, May 17th, 1939, when Mr. Henry J. Davies, President for 1938-39 took the chair, supported by more than fifty members.

The Secretary read the notice convening the Meeting, along with the minutes of the 1938 meeting, and as no discussion arose, it was agreed that they be accepted as read.

The Annual Report, copies of which had been circulated, were approved by the meeting, and on the proposal of Mr. Maw, seconded by Mr. Pearce it was decided to adopt the financial statement submitted. The attention of the Committee was drawn to the financial side of the Guild's activities, and it was hoped that they would be able to build up the General Account to a more satisfactory position.

The election of President for 1939-40 then took place and on the proposal of Mr. W. H. Johns, supported strongly by Mr. E. Coward, it was unanimously agreed that Mr. L. G. Godseff, Liverpool, be elected. After several members had spoken in support of the proposal and expressed their appreciation of the work done for Kew by Mr. Godseff, the latter thanked the meeting for the honour conferred on him and accepted the position.

Nominations to fill the vacancies caused by the retirement in 1939 of Messrs. L. Buss, C. E. Hubbard, W. Hales, J. Robbie, and R. Binnington were submitted to the meeting, and the following were elected Messrs. H. Maw, C. Jones, F. Ballard, F. R. Long and G. W. Robinson.

Considerable discussion took place on a proposal brought forward by the Committee, that a dance should be held in future in conjunction with the Dinner and that Students should be allowed to bring their friends. Miss Joshua moved that the existing rules be adhered to, and she was supported by Mr. Bezant, Glasgow, and others. On being put to the meeting the Committee's recommendation was not carried.

The following resolution was then submitted by Mr. E. Coward and was carried unanimously. "That this Annual Meeting of the Kew Guild desires to place on record its deep appreciation of the services of the late Hon. Secretary, Mr. Dunk, and further, resolves that immediate steps be taken to circulate all members inviting them to subscribe to a Presentation Fund, each individual subscription not to exceed the sum of 2/6." It was decided to send out the appeal with the next copy of the Journal.

The meeting then closed at 7.30 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and to the Officers of the Guild, for the work done during the past year.

THE ANNUAL DINNER, 1939.

For the first time for many years a fresh venue was found for the Annual Dinner, this taking place at the Empire Restaurant, Victoria, on Wednesday, May, 17th, 1939, at 7.30 p.m., when a company totalling 152 sat down to dine.

The service was excellent and with no delay of any kind, a well prepared menu was enjoyed by all.

Following on the Loyal Toast which was accorded full musical honours, a moment's silence was given by all in remembrance of Absent Friends.

In proposing the toast of "The Kew Guild" Mr. L. G. Godseff said that first he must express a very hearty welcome to the special guests of the evening, Dr. K. Barratt, Swanley Horticultural College, Mr. A. J. Balfour of Suttons, and Mr. E. Gibson of the L.C.C. Parks Department, and at the same time regret that business pressure would not allow the other two invited persons to attend.

Briefly and wittily the President took the gathering back to Kew in the old days, and many of his remarks must have occasioned pleasant and other memories by the laughter that arose from time to time during his speech. His address was an inspiring one for the young men of to-day, showing how it is possible with hard work and study to attain the foremost places in the horticultural world. Before closing the toast Mr. Godseff called the attention of the company to the number of members present from overseas and expressed a special welcome to them all, there being present:—Mr. and Mrs. G. Pring (and daughter), Missouri; J. C. Nauen, Penang Botanic Garden; G. Wolstenholme, Bolivia; C. S. Walsh, Argentine; A. S. Elson, Persian Gulf.

Prior to the interval a musical programme arranged by Mr. and Mrs. J. S. L. Gilmour took place, and this along with the spot of conjuring by Mr. Sinclair helped to put the audience in a particularly pleasant frame of mind. The "Student's Lament" gave the opportunity for Messrs. F. E. Hazelwood, A. van Bellingham, R. O. Stanion, G. S. Joy, F. W. Fisher, A. Pettigrew and T. W. Rayment to show their paces, and it was agreed that the talent displayed was very promising. Those attending the Dinner of recent years have appreciated the violin solos of Mr. F. L. Spiegelhalter, who once again was kind enough to attend and entertain the guests.

The toast of The President was then given by Mr. A. Osborn who said:—

It gives me very real pleasure this evening to propose the toast of our President, Leo Gordon Godseff.

Before coming to Kew the name of Godseff was not unknown to me. Associated with the firm of Messrs. Sander of St. Albans, our President's father, the late Mr. Joseph Godseff, was one of the outstanding personalities in the introduction and cultivation of new stove and greenhouse plants at a time when they were very much more popular than they are to-day. *Dracaena Godseffiana* was named in compliment to Mr. Joseph Godseff.

Few young men on entering Kew under a watchful father's guidance can have been better equipped to take full advantage of the opportunities provided by Kew than our President.

Educated at the St. Albans Grammar School, Mr. Godseff, junior, commenced his gardening career at Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury, a famous garden belonging at that time to Miss Alice de Rothschild. From there young Godseff moved to the nursery of Messrs. Backhouse of York, at that time one of the leading landscape and hardy plant nurseries. Then followed experience in three continental nurseries, Messrs. Haage and Schmidt, in Germany, and two French nurseries.

Our President entered Kew as a student gardener on the 17th May, 1898. His ability as a plant cultivator must have soon attracted the attention of the late Mr. William Watson, at that time Assistant Curator in charge of the Tropical Department. In less than twelve months, on April 3rd, 1899, Mr. Godseff was promoted to be subforeman of the Tropical Propagating Department. I very well remember this particular date because it was the date of my entry as a student to Kew. I incidentally filled the vacancy of student gardener caused by Mr. Godseff's promotion to subforeman.

In January 1900 Mr. Godseff had a serious illness. The doctor would not agree to the return of his patient to work in the Tropical Houses and his pals at Kew did not expect to see Leo Godseff back among them. However, our President made a good recovery and re-entered Kew as a student gardener the following April after an absence of three months. There was a vacancy in the herbaceous department, which in those days was staffed by students. In the following October the subforeman's position in this department became vacant and no doubt because of the experience gained when with Messrs. Backhouses of York, the late Mr. Walter Irving felt fully justified in promoting Leo Godseff to the position. I know of several instances of subforemen being transferred from one department to another, but I feel sure our President can claim the unique position of being the only Kewite to twice enter Kew as a student gardener and to be twice promoted subforeman.

In March 1901 Mr. Godseff left Kew to take charge of Mr. A. K. Bulley's garden at Ness, Cheshire. He remained there until towards the end of 1903, leaving to take charge of Calderstones, an estate just then recently acquired by the Liverpool Corporation. Mr. Godseff was chosen for this post from among 87 applicants. This was the beginning of our President's 35 years' work for the Liverpool Corporation. Some here will remember a few years later

our President's transfer from Calderstones to take charge of the street trees and cemeteries of Liverpool. Several years ago another old Kewite, Mr. Guttridge, the General Superintendent of the Liverpool Parks and Gardens retired and these also came under Mr. Godseff's control, so that to-day our President, as General Superintendent of the Parks and Cemeteries of Liverpool, occupies one of the most important posts of its kind in the British Isles; I may even say in the world.

There is another generation of Godseffs following in father's footsteps, Mr. Eric Leo Godseff, a Kew student of 1927-28. At present he has charge of Arrow Park, Birkenhead.

The prizes were then presented to the winners of the Proudlock, Dummer and Matilda Smith Memorial Prize for the year.

Expressions of thanks having been made by the guests a suitable welcome was afforded the efforts of the artists and finally a word of thanks to the Dinner Committee who had been responsible for the arrangements.

KEW WOMEN GARDENERS' GUILD.

Women gardeners have come to Kew once more after an interval of nearly a quarter of a century, and though the costume has changed considerably, the fashion in clogs remains the same, as certain well-preserved specimens can testify. These clogs may now be seen and heard in most departments of the Gardens.

It is seven months since the first arrivals started their duties, and the K.W.G.G. now has twenty members, with more to come in the near future. They are all trained women, and are taking the place of men Students who have been called up for service in the armed forces. They are employed in the Propagating Pits, Decorative Department, Flower and Rock Gardens, and in certain sections of the Tropical Department, where they can each apply their own particular experience, and by endeavouring to set up a high standard of work, disprove the saying for all time that *Nepeta Mussinii* is the only plant a woman can't kill! In fact, the Kew women gardeners are now part of the Kew landscape.

(See Page 856 for list of women gardeners employed at Kew.)

B. C.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1939-40.

The Committee herewith submit the Annual Report for the past year, together with the financial statements and balance sheet for year ending December 31st 1939.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Empire Restaurant, Victoria, on May 17th 1939, at 6.30 p.m. when Mr. H. J. Davies acted as Chairman, some fifty members being present. On the meeting closing at 7.30 p.m., all sat down to the Annual Dinner, where Mr. Leo. G. Godseff, the President, presided over an assembly of 152 members and guests. As customary, special guests were invited for the dinner and amongst those able to accept were, Dr. Barratt of Swanley, Mr. A. J. Balfour of Messrs Sutton & Sons Ltd., Reading, and Mr. E. Gibson of the L.C.C. Parks Department.

The following members being due to retire this year—Messrs A. W. C. Anderson, F. N. Howes, F. S. Sillitoe and C. H. Middleton, the following nominations are put forward for approval to fill the vacancies—Messrs C. R. Stock, Beckenham; W. L. Lavender, Richmond; W. J. C. Lawrence, Merton; A. Osborn, Kew and W. H. Judd, U.S.A. Mr. P. L. Benton continues to represent the Foremen and Mr. M. Mason the Student Gardeners at Kew. Mr. Stenning has agreed to carry out the duties of Treasurer for another year and Mr. W. M. Campbell the position of Secretary.

The outbreak of hostilities last September and the black-out imposed curtailed to some extent the meetings of the Committee, though these were well attended. The last meeting of the year was held hurriedly on Thursday, May 16th, when, as many members as could be got together quickly, had to decide if the Annual Dinner should take place. It was agreed that in view of the serious turn of events, and the poor response for seats arising therefrom, that the Dinner should be cancelled, but that the Annual Meeting should take place in the Lecture Room, Kew, on Tuesday, June 4th at 6 p.m. Notices to this effect were immediately sent out.

At a meeting held early in March, the Committee met and discussed the Guild Journal and after discussion it was agreed to embody 1939 and 1940 under one cover and the Secretary was instructed to get this out as early as possible. It is not now anticipated that this joint copy will be ready for distribution until the end of this month. In view of the additional printing required, the Committee recommend an increase in price to the sum of 3/6d.

The Proudlock Tennis Cup competition for men for 1939 was won by Mr. D. C. Collett and the finals for ladies competition has yet to be played off, the two remaining players being Mrs. Milne Redhead and Miss V. Hutchinson.

Since the issue of the last report, the Committee regret to record the losses of Messrs D. Bliss, C. Harris, A. Hosking and S. A. Skan.

The appeal on behalf of the presentation to be made to Mr. E. G. Dunk has been prepared and will be sent to each member of the Guild with a copy of the Journal. It is hoped that the response will be of a generous nature.

F. S. SILLITOE,
Chairman of Committee.
1st June 1940.

WOMEN GARDENERS EMPLOYED AT KEW.

Name.	Entered Kew.	Previous Situation.
C. O. Bell ...	... 23 Dec., 1940 ...	Manor House School, Limpsfield, Surrey.
M. A. Canning ...	... 2 Oct., 1940 ...	Knight's Bridge House, Newbury, Berks.
V. M. Clark ...	... 23 Sept., 1940 ...	Ewell Castle Gardens.
B. Cooper ...	... 26 Aug., 1940 ...	Swanley Horticultural Coll.
K. D. Cornford ...	... 17 Feb., 1941 ...	Chaplin Bros., Waltham Cross.
D. A. Hutchinson ...	... 17 Feb., 1941 ...	Studley Horticultural Coll.
E. M. Jensen ...	... 24 Feb., 1941 ...	In Denmark.
E. F. Kelly...	... 26 Aug., 1940 ...	Glasnevin, B.G., Eire.
E. B. King ...	... 7 Oct., 1940 ...	Swanley Horticultural Coll.
M. H. Lancaster ...	... 16 Dec., 1940 ...	Southlands Training Coll., Wimbledon.
E. V. Paine...	... 30 Sept., 1940 ...	Battle, Sussex.
J. T. Pedgrift ...	... 23 Sept., 1940 ...	Ewell Castle Gardens.
E. Plummer ...	... 26 Aug., 1940 ...	Swanley Horticultural Coll.
N. Shallcross ...	... 10 Mar., 1941 ...	Mount Av., Hutton, Essex.
F. A. Sharps ...	... 28 Dec., 1940 ...	Liverpool Parks and Gar- dens Dept.
J. E. Sharps ...	... 8 Mar., 1941 ...	Women's Land Army, Lancaster.
M. V. Speake ...	... 16 Dec., 1940 ...	St. John's Nurseries, Pole- gate.
B. M. Tarver ...	... 2 Sept., 1940 ...	Swanley Horticultural Coll.
J. M. Thompson ...	... 17 Feb., 1941 ...	Quarry Wood, Burghclere, Newbury, Berks.
B. C. Watts ...	... 1 Oct., 1940 ...	Bidston, Denham, Bucks.

KEW GUILD GENERAL ACCOUNT
for Financial Year ending December, 1939

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1938 account ...	138	7 5	Printing annual report and balance sheets, etc. ...	1	3 10
Annual Subscriptions & arrears ...	1	19 0	Hon. Secretary's postages ...	3	6
Life subscriptions ...	10	4 0	Hon. Treasurer's postages and incidental expenses ...	3	7
Donation from Mr. Davies ...	5	5 0	The Proudlock Cup insurance premium ...	7	6
Dividends on £300 3% New South Wales Stock 1955-58 (less Income Tax deductions) ...	5	17 0	Wreath for the late Mr. D. Bliss ...	1	1 0
Dividends on £26 6s. 3d. 3½% War Stock ...	18	4	Wreath for the late Mr. S. A. Skan ...	1	1 0
Interest on Post Office Savings Bank deposit ...	3	5 9	Balance in bank ...	165	0 8
Balance from Annual Dinner account ...	3	4 7			
	<u>£169</u>	<u>1 1</u>		<u>£169</u>	<u>1 1</u>

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
206 Life subscribers at £1 at ½ rate ...	103	0 0	£300 3% New South Wales Stock at par. ...	300	0 0
264 Life subscribers at £2 at ½ rate ...	264	0 0	£26 6s. 3d. 3½% War Stock at par. ...	26	6 3
Assets exceed Liabilities ...	142	6 11	Valuation of Journals in stock ...	15	0 0
			Valuation of typewriter ...	3	0 0
			Balance in bank ...	165	0 8
	<u>£509</u>	<u>6 11</u>		<u>£509</u>	<u>6 11</u>

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance of Assets ...	78	14 3	£70 4% Funding Loan at par. ...	70	0 0
			Balance in bank ...	8	14 3
	<u>£78</u>	<u>14 3</u>		<u>£78</u>	<u>14 3</u>

MATILDA SMITH MEMORIAL PRIZE FUND

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1938 account ...	8	13 9	Purchase of 1939 Memorial Prize ...	2	2 0
Dividend on £50 L.C.C. 5% stock ...	2	10 0	Balance in bank ...	9	5 7
Interest in Post Office Savings Bank deposit ...	3	10			
	<u>£11</u>	<u>7 7</u>		<u>£11</u>	<u>7 7</u>

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

LIABILITIES.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance of Assets ...	59	5 7	£50 L.C.C. 5% Stock at par. ...	50	0 0
			Balance in bank ...	9	5 7
	<u>£59</u>	<u>5 7</u>		<u>£59</u>	<u>5 7</u>

WATSON MEMORIAL EDUCATIONAL FUND

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1938 account ...	102	11 9	Loan to G. Urton ...	10	0 0
Subscriptions ...	0	0 0	Balance in bank ...	98	9 9
Dividends on £100 at 3½% War Stock ...	3	10 0			
Interest on Post Office Savings Bank deposit ...	2	8 0			
	<u>£108</u>	<u>9 9</u>		<u>£108</u>	<u>9 9</u>

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance of Assets ...	198	9 9	£100 3½% War Stock at par. ...	100	0 0
			Balance in bank ...	98	9 9
	<u>£198</u>	<u>9 9</u>		<u>£198</u>	<u>9 9</u>

DUMMER MEMORIAL PRIZE FUND

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1938 account ...	7	17 9	Purchase of 1939 Memorial Prize ...	2	3 0
Dividend on £70 4% Funding Loan ...	2	16 0	Balance in bank ...	8	14 3
Interest on Post Office Savings Bank deposit ...	3	6			
	<u>£10</u>	<u>17 3</u>		<u>£10</u>	<u>17 3</u>

THE BENEVOLENT FUND

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1939 account ...	82	15 2	Grant to Mrs. W. Young ...	10	0 0
Donations ...	7	2 6	Balance in bank ...	81	15 8
Interest on Post Office Savings Bank deposit ...	1	18 0			
	<u>£91</u>	<u>15 8</u>		<u>£91</u>	<u>15 8</u>

THE PROUDLOCK PRIZE FUND

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1938 account ...	1	3 1	Purchase of 1939 Proudlock		
Dividend on £25 4% Funding			Prize	1	1 0
Loan	1	0 0	Balance in bank	1	2 4
Interest on Post Office Savings					
Bank deposit		3			
	<u>£2</u>	<u>3 4</u>		<u>£2</u>	<u>3 4</u>

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance of Assets ...	26	2 4	£25 4% Funding Loan at par	25	0 0
			Balance in bank	1	2 4
	<u>£26</u>	<u>2 4</u>		<u>£26</u>	<u>2 4</u>

ANNUAL DINNER

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
By 31 payments at 6/- ...	9	6 0	Empire Restaurant	46	14 0
116 payments at 7/6d. ...	43	1	Printing circular notices ...	11	6
(N.B.—There were 3 guests of			Printing Menu cards	1	9 9
the Guild, while 2 artists were			Postages and incidental ex-		
not asked to pay for their			penses	16	2
tickets.)			Balance	3	4 7
	<u>£52</u>	<u>16 0</u>		<u>£52</u>	<u>16 0</u>

The foregoing accounts have been duly checked, compared with supporting vouchers, bank books, stock certificates, etc., and found to be correct.

ARTHUR OSBORN, } *Hon. Auditors.*
 G. H. PRESTON, } May 10th, 1940
Signed,

CRICKET CLUB REPORT, 1939.

The Annual General Meeting of the Cricket Club was held in the "Iron Room" on April 26th and the following members were elected to hold office for the coming season:—

D. Sayers	Captain.
L. Stenning	Vice-captain,
F. Selby	Hon. Secretary.
J. Jenkins	} Committee members
S. Pearce	

Commencing our playing season with a match on Kew Green on April 29th our old rivals St Lukes gave us as usual a closely contested game, defeating our team by the narrow margin of 10 runs.

However, this slight setback did not deter our team from thoughts of victory, indeed so well did they play in subsequent games that only one team namely Kew C. C. succeeded in recording a victory against us, when we played our usual evening fixture.

It is with great pleasure we are able to record a convincing victory over the "Old Kewites" who for so long had thought themselves invincible.

The game provided attractive cricket the "Old Kewites" choosing to bat first, and in the early part of their innings we were delighted by some stylish batting by J. Patton who however, was the only batsman to seriously resist the steady and accurate bowling of the "Present Kewites" the whole of their side being dismissed for 108 runs.

The "Present Students" commenced batting confidently Jenkins and Middleton scoring 16 and 19 respectively in quick time. Selby following later with 39 not out enabled our opponent's score to be passed, the innings being declared closed with the score at 133 for 7 wickets.

A return game was played at Wood Green at a later date, but unfortunately had to be abandoned at an exciting phase of the game, our team having scored 177 for 7 wickets declared, and an exciting finish was likely to ensue.

Other notable victories it is my pleasure to record are against John Innes in our two mid-week games both keen sporting games, closely contested.

Combining cricket with our horticultural interests, a number of interesting coach trips were enjoyed including :—Cambridge Botanic Gardens, Cheal's Nurseries, Waterer's Nurseries, followed by the Aldershot Tattoo, and Gatton Park, Reigate, not forgetting of course our greatly anticipated game against Sutton's C. C. at Reading. On this latter occasion Messrs. Sutton's conducted us around their nursery and entertained us to lunch with their customary hospitality before our game commenced. Despite somewhat unfavourable weather conditions quite a good game ensued, our team winning, great credit being due to D. Sayers for an excellent fighting innings of 68 against the clock.

Our playing season was brought to a close by a convincing victory of over 100 runs against the Ilford Parks C. C. at Ilford, and I trust that our record of only 2 defeats, 2 drawn games, winning in all 14 games will be maintained if not beaten in subsequent seasons.

Our team maintained throughout an excellent standard of play and team spirit.

Mr. J. Glasheen and Mr. F. Goldsack assisted the Club on a number of occasions, serving to make the season one of the most successful and enjoyable in the history of the club.

F. G. Selby,
Hon. Secretary.

BATTING AVERAGES.

Played 10 Innings and Over

	No. of Innings	Times Not Out	Highest Score	Total	Average
1. D. Sayers ...	14	1	68*	321	24.69
2. F. Selby ...	17	2	48	295	19.66
3. G. Cook ...	11	5	32	118	19.66
4. R. Hudson ...	10	1	67	179	17.90
5. J. Jenkins ...	15	—	59	250	16.60
6. S. Pearce ...	15	1	36	138	9.80
7. G. Joy ...	16	—	29	149	9.30
8. J. Middleton ...	14	—	19	122	6.70
9. L. Stenning ...	10	1	12	34	3.77

Played less than 10 Innings

10. Collett ...	6	1	50	115	23.00
11. F. Goldsack ...	4	—	45	88	22.00
12. J. Glasheen ...	4	—	26	30	7.14
13. D. Hollis ...	2	—	8	13	6.50
14. J. Mayne ...	9	3	15	47	5.20
15. P. Davies ...	6	1	9*	17	3.40
16. R. Bird ...	4	—	6	9	2.22

*Not out

BOWLING ANALYSIS

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
1. D. Sayers ...	88	15	240	41	5.85
2. F. Selby ...	136	25	400	66	6.06
3. R. Hudson ...	21	—	106	13	8.15
4. G. Joy ...	44	6	166	19	8.70
5. J. Glasheen ...	26	6	70	8	8.70

Catches

	Number		Number
1. D. Sayers ...	7	6. D. Hollis ...	2
2. F. Selby ...	5	7. F. Goldsack...	2
3. G. Joy ...	5	9. L. Stenning ...	1
4. S. Pearce ...	5	10. G. Cook ...	1
5. J. Jenkins ...	5	11. H. Geary ...	1
6. P. Davies ...	3		

Summary of all Matches Played

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
18	14	2	2
Runs For	2,182		
Runs Against	1,226		

THE FOOTBALL CLUB, 1939-40.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Sports Club, held on April 6th, 1939, the following were elected officers for the football season :—

Mr. D. Hollis (Captain).

„ J. Jenkin (Vice Captain).

„ J. Eaton (Hon. Secretary).

and Messrs. F. Ford and R. Hudson members of the Committee.

It was unfortunate that, with the exception of Mr. R. Hudson, all those elected above failed to complete their term of office. Mr. Hollis found he was unable to give full support to the team, so, after a short period as Captain, he resigned, his place was taken by the Vice Captain, Mr. Jenkin, who left the Gardens about mid season. Mr. Joy was then rightly elected Captain.

When Mr. Ford enlisted for National Service, his place on the Committee was taken by Mr. C. Puddle.

The Club was sorry to lose the assistance of Mr. Eaton, who has taken a great interest in the football section for two years. He resigned in January 1940, and his place as Hon. Secretary was filled by Mr. G. Cook.

The season has been depressing at times, owing to the complications of war conditions, and one wondered if it was worth while

running a team. Week after week, early in the season, matches were cancelled, and it was not until October 28th, when we defeated Hammersmith Garage F.C. by 4-0, away, that the season was really started.

There was a feeling of disappointment when it was learned that our old rivals, the R.H.S. Students, at Wisley, were unable to raise a team.

Our first victorious opponents were North Sheen Athletic, who scored 6 goals in grand style against our 2. But I must add, without making excuses, that on this occasion a very poor team was fielded.

On November 25th, the team went forth to beat Hall & Hall F. C. at Bushey Park, 7 goals to 1, and so bring about our best win of the season. This match was followed by an encounter with Borough Road College, who proved to be masters of the art of football, and we were lucky to get away with a 6-0 defeat.

We had the pleasure of meeting the Royal College of Art for the first time, this season, and although on two occasions their team was superior to ours, the matches were both interesting, and enjoyed by all.

A number of matches had to be cancelled owing to the exceptional weather conditions experienced this winter, but it is gratifying to note that through all the difficulties encountered we have carried on to give the results up to March 2nd, 1940, as follows :—

P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals for	Goals against
12	4	1	7	32	54

Although the season has not yet ended, F. Ford is top scorer with 11 to his credit. Other goal scorers are; C. Puddle 6; J. Jenkin 4; B. Wass, R. Hudson and C. Mitchelmore, 2 each; with J. Bird, D. Hollis, D. Sayers, F. Goldsack and J. Sealy 1.

The almost impenetrable defence of last season, had, on many occasions, to be broken up to add strength to other parts of the team, but special praise should be given to G. Joy for the gallant way in which he tended goal.

We are sincerely grateful to Mr. F. Goldsack and Mr. B. Wass, two Old Kewites, who have helped the team on many occasions, and, in conclusion, I thank all those members who have assisted the team at short notice and so helped to make the season a success.

GILBERT G. COOK
Hon. Secretary.

SWIMMING CLUB REPORT, 1939.

At the Annual General Meeting held in the Iron Room on March 26th 1939, the following members were elected to hold office for the season :—

R. O. Stanion (Capt.); G. Cook (Vice-Capt.); R. F. Miles (Hon. Sec.). Messrs. M. Mason and A. A. Pettigrew (Committee Men).

The attendances at Richmond Baths were well maintained from April to September. The baths closed on September 1st owing to the war, but opened the following April. A number of our members took advantage of the professional instruction given at the baths and it is with pleasure to record that most of these were beginners.

The weather during the early part of the season was cold, but river practice for the Annual Race was well attended, five practices being held. The race was held on Friday, July 21st, over the usual course from Isleworth Gate to Kew Bridge. The officials were :—

Judge—Sir Arthur Hill; Umpire—Mr. Raffill;
Timekeeper—Mr. Stenning; Starter—Mr. Mingay.

Mr. Mingay kindly came up from Southend especially for the occasion. Illness and holiday leave reduced the field to eight, although at one time a record entry was anticipated. A good start was made in a very high tide although the rather sluggish current reduced the pace. M. Dalton quickly secured a good lead with his fine crawl stroke. The main interest of the race developed into a struggle for the second and third places between C. Mitchelmore, H. Bunzel, D. Abbing and J. Clark. J. Clark tired at Brentford Ferry Gate and dropped behind while C. Mitchelmore forged ahead gaining on the river bend opposite the Herbarium. H. Bunzel lost his lead in the last fifty yards with the result that he tied in a dead heat with C. Mitchelmore. The winner, M. Dalton, finished an easy first and had no need to call upon his undoubtedly reserved speed, while those far behind, although slow, finished in good condition. The times and places were as follows :—

1.	M. Dalton	...	19 mins	30 secs.
2.	{ C. Mitchelmore	...	20	„ 35
	{ H. Bunzel	...	20	„ 35
3.	D. Abbing	...	20	„ 40
4.	J. Clark	...	21	„ 10
5.	E. Willett	...	23	„ 25
6.	H. Geary	...	23	„ 35
7.	G. Cook	...	23	„ 55

It must be recorded that Messrs. Dalton, Mitchelmore and Geary were all apprentices—surely a record achievement although disconcerting to the students.

The weather on the race night was dull and damp, so all the officials and those who manned the safety boats must be sincerely thanked for coming along. The visitors on the bank all helped to make the race a success and it is worthy to note that a cinematograph film was taken of the race. These shots were shown at the Mutual on February 12th, 1940 in Mr. B. L. Perkins film "Flurry at Kew."

Sir Arthur Hill, donor of the Silver Challenge Cup, gave a replica to mark the meritorious performance of Michael Dalton. He also very kindly made it possible to present D. Abbing with a medal for his third place. Sir Arthur, in his speech after the prize giving at the Swimming Dance held later in the evening, referred to the immense value of the student's sports activities in promoting friendship between those of many countries. This is worthy of special note because a few weeks later war saw our first three competitors called prematurely away from Kew. D. Abbing to serve for Holland and H. Bunzel for Germany.

The Committee wish to thank all those who helped to make 1939 such a successful season.

R. F. MILES,
Hon. Secretary.

1. 2. 1940.

THE BRITISH BOTANY CLUB, 1939.

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Iron Room on March 15th 1939, when Mr. Ballard presided. Mr. Rawlings read the minutes of the previous meeting which were adopted. The following were then elected to hold office for the 1939 season:— Mr. Ballard, President; Mr. Hebden, Hon. Secretary; Messrs. Perkins, Benton and Eaton as members of the committee.

Mr. Ballard reported that the outlay on mounting papers etc. had almost been paid off, and it was hoped in future seasons to make a small profit.

It was agreed that in future submitted collections should be accompanied by a list of genera and species, also numbers instead of names should be used on the specimen sheets to ensure unbiased judging. It was decided that in the judging of collections, each sheet should be examined individually and marked according to a scheme to be drawn up by the judges. Mr. Ballard gave a general outline on the collecting and drying of specimens, and stressed the importance of ecological notes.

Fewer excursions than usual were held during the season owing to poor attendance, evening excursions proving the most successful.

The season commenced with a ramble over Box Hill and the Headley district, when an enjoyable afternoon was spent in the spring sunshine (April 1st). Numerous plants were collected.

The annual Grass trip through the Queen's Cottage grounds, June 14th, was led by Mr. Hubbard, and 22 different species were collected. The annual full day trip took place on July 5th, when a coach load of nineteen journeyed to Milford-on-Sea under the able leadership of Dr. W. B. Turrill. We arrived at Milford at 11.15 a.m. where before heading for the salt marshes and shingle beaches, Dr. Turrill gave us a very interesting ecological description of the area. Numerous specimens were collected, including:—*Glaucium flavum*, *Tamarix*, *Atriplex Babingtonii*, *Crambe maritima*, *Calystegia Soldanella*, *Salicornia herbacea*, etc. After lunch, a bathe and a visit to Hurst Castle. We returned fully laden to our coach. On the way back a halt was made at the Hog's Back where *Phyteuma orbiculare* was collected.

Runnymede was visited on July 25th, to collect specimens of the aquatic flora, e.g., *Nymphaea alba*, *Butomus umbellatus*, *Utricularia*, *Myriophyllum*, etc.

On the evening of August 30th, our last trip was made to Chobham Common where many heath plants were collected, including;—*Gentiana Pneumonanthe*, *Drosera rotundifolia* and *D. longifolia*, *Eriophorum vaginatum*, *Ulex nanus*, etc.

The outbreak of war in September robbed us of two very keen members, Messrs. Dalton and McKenzie.

Ultimately only two collections were submitted. The Dummer Memorial prize was awarded to Mr. R. F. Miles for a most excellent collection, which gained 88.5%. The Proudlock Memorial prize was awarded to Mr. T. R. N. Lothian with 75.5%.

The thanks of the club are due to Mr. J. E. L. Gilmour, Mr. F. Ballard, Dr. W. B. Turrill and Mr. C. E. Hubbard for their help and support throughout the season.

F. J. HEBDEN,
Hon. Sec.

THE RUNNING CLUB, 1939.

The Annual Races arranged by the Running Club took place on Tuesday, May 5th 1939 in the Gardens under conditions very favourable for these events.

Mr. C. P. Raffill kindly acted as Starter and Mr. J. S. L. Gilmour as Recorder and Mr. L. Stenning as Time Keeper. The first event over 100 yards was won by M. Dalton in the comparatively slow time of 14 2/5th seconds, P. Davies being second and A. van Bellingham third.

Eleven competitors took part in the long distance event this being won by H. Geary in the record time of 11 mins. 48 2/5th seconds,

thus beating by more than 1 min. the record previously held by G. Dusing in 1938. F. Fisher finished second some long distance behind the winner, whilst G. Cook who was third, fought out with Fisher very strongly for the second place, but failed to finish as well.

This was the first time that medals had been awarded for these events, these being kindly presented by Mr. J. S. Gilmour who also gave a challenge cup to the Department gaining the most points, this was awarded to the Temperate Department. The Tropical Department were runners-up.

The 100 yards event was a new innovation and was supported very strongly.

The prizes were kindly presented by Lady Geoffrey Evans at the conclusion of the events.

THE MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY 1938-1939

At the Annual General Meeting the following were elected to form the committee :—

Chairman	Mr. S. Pearce.
Vice Chairman ..	Mr. L. Stenning.
Hon. Secretary ..	Mr. R. Stanion.
Asst. Hon. Secretary	Mr. S. Rawlings.
Committee Men ..	{ Mr. R. Hudson.
	{ Mr. P. Benton.

The syllabus consisted of twenty-one lectures covering a great range of horticultural subjects both in this country and abroad, while one evening was given up to a very successful debate with the John Innes Society whose motion that "Private Gardens provide a better training in the fundamental principles of horticulture than do Parks Depts., for the young gardener" was adopted by an overwhelming majority.

The attendances throughout the session were excellent and the meetings made doubly interesting by the zest with which many members entered into the discussions following the lectures.

During the summer months most successful outings were held to the following places :—The gardens of Exbury House, where Mr. Lionel de Rothschild very kindly provided both lunch and tea. To the gardens of Trent Park ; Regent Park's nurseries ; and to the seed establishment of Messrs. Carters of Raynes Park.

The Hooker Prize went to Mr. R. Stanion, Mr. R. Miles gaining the Society's Prize for his very excellent paper on "Virus Diseases."

The thanks of everybody are due to Mr. Pearce for his regular attendance at every meeting as chairman and also to Messrs. Stenning and Preston for the keen interest and support they afforded the society in all its activities.

SYLLABUS, 1938-39.

1938.

Oct.	10.	*Gardens on the Riviera...	...	...	Mr. C. P. Raffill.
"	17.	*Liliums ...	...	...	Mr. D. Hollis.
"	24.	Melons for Exhibition ...	...	...	Mr. E. Bird.
"	31.	Bulb Farming in the Scilly Isles	...	...	Mr. J. Stott.
Nov.	7.	*Useful Trees found in New South Wales	...	...	Mr. F. Hazelwood.
"	14.	*Perpetual Flowering Carnations	...	...	Mr. F. Selby.
"	21.	*An Interesting Tour of Spain ...	...	...	Mr. S. Chantry.
"	28.	Cold Storage of Fruit ...	...	...	Mr. F. Fisher.
Dec.	5.	Horticultural Training...	...	...	Mr. W. Sheat.
"	12.	Random Botanical Reflexions in India and Elsewhere ...	...	...	Sir A. Hill.

1939.

Jan.	9.	Insects and Insecticides	...	...	Mr. F. McCartney.
"	16.	*Lost Opportunities at Kew	...	...	Mr. S. Rawlings.
"	23.	*Vinedel Diseases ...	...	...	Mr. R. Miles.
"	30.	Debate : Kew v. John Innes	...	...	(at Merton).
Feb.	6.	Bulb Forcing ...	...	...	Mr. J. Eaton.
"	13.	*Horticulture in Palestine	...	...	Mr. D. Zaidenberg.
"	20.	Hardy Fruits ...	...	...	Mr. J. Mayne.
March	6.	Rotary and Inter Cropping	...	...	Mr. M. Mason.
"	13.	*Flora of Australia	...	...	Mr. N. Lothian.
"	20.	Hardy Heaths	...	...	Mr. G. Joy.
"	27.	*Roses ...	...	...	Mr. F. Hebden.
April	3.	Secretary's Report for the Session	...	...
		* Lantern Lectures.			

R. O. STANION,
Hon. Secretary,
1938-1939.

THE LECTURES, 1938 and 1939.

Soils and Manures.—Lecturer, Mr. Warren.

Distinctions :—(1938) R. W. Balch, C. Last, B. L. Perkins, F. Shaw.

(1939) F. J. Hebden, R. O. Stanion, R. H. Wildy.

General Botany.—Lecturer, Mr. V. S. Summerhayes.

Distinctions :—(1938) R. H. Wildy.

(1939) H. J. Eaton, F. B. Stevens.

Plant Nomenclature.—Lecturer, Miss. M. L. Green.

Distinctions :—(1938) J. Aves, R. W. Balch, P. A. Chandler, F. J. Hebden, T. R. Lothian, L. G. de Wolf.

(1939) H. J. Eaton, J. G. Mayne, R. E. Miles, L. G. Riley, F. B. Stevens.

Plant Pathology (Insect Pests).—Lecturer, Mr. C. Potter.

Distinctions :—(1938) C. E. Cherry, H. Langham, B. L. Perkins, F. Shaw.

(1939) E. Chantler, F. J. Hebden, R. H. Wildy.

Elementary Systematic Botany.—Lecturer, Mr. F. Ballard.

Distinctions :—(1938) P. A. Chandler, F. J. Hebden, T. R. Lothian, J. L. Norris.

(1939) P. W. C. Davies, J. G. Mayne, R. F. Miles, L. G. Riley, C. J. Wilmot.

Plant Physiology and Ecology.—Lecturer, Dr. W. B. Turrill.

Distinctions :—(1938) P. A. Chandler, J. McCartan, F. G. Selby, R. O. Stanion, R. H. Wildy.

(1939) R. F. Miles.

Advanced Systematic Botany.—Lecturers, Miss M. L. Green and Mr. F. Ballard.

Distinctions :—(1938) C. E. Cherry, B. L. Perkins, A. H. Pettigrew, F. Shaw, G. Urton.

(1939) L. J. Foster, F. J. Hebden, T. R. Lothian.

Physics and Chemistry.—Lecturer, Dr. P. Haas.

Distinctions :—(1938) H. J. Eaton, M. Mason, J. W. E. Stott.

(1939) Lecturer, Dr. C. R. Metcalfe, C. J. Wilmot.

Plant Pathology (Fungi).—Lecturer, Mr. A. D. Cotton.

Distinctions :—(1938) F. J. Hebden, R. A. Hudson, L. G. Riley, R. O. Stanion.

(1939) A. H. Blowfield, H. J. Eaton, T. R. Lothian, M. Mason, R. F. Miles, J. W. E. Stott.

Arboriculture.—Lecturer, Mr. W. Dallimore.

Distinctions :—(1938) R. O. Stanion.

(1939) F. Hebden, F. McCartney, R. H. Wildy, R. O. Stanion.

MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY'S REPORT
SESSION 1939/40.

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Garden Library on September 29th 1939, with Mr. S. A. Pearce in the chair. The Society, in spite of the war, decided to carry on provisionally and it is to be recorded with pleasure that the syllabus was completed. The Officers for the coming season were elected. Mr. S. A. Pearce and Mr. L. Stenning were again kind enough to act as Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. Mr. R. F. Miles was elected Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. Selby, Assistant Hon. Secretary and Mr. J. Clark, Mr. F. Hebden and Mr. J. Redman were appointed members of the Committee.

The syllabus of 19 lectures arranged covered a very wide range of subjects, many of them new to the Society. Ten of the lectures were illustrated by lantern slides, the beautiful Dufay colour slides becoming the rule rather than the exception.

We are greatly indebted to our Director, Sir Arthur Hill, for opening the session with a lecture on "Pelargoniums and some other Flowers," which was illustrated by specimens, diagrams and lantern slides.

Colonial agriculture and horticulture received attention and we were fortunate in having Sir Geoffrey Evans to give an instructive lantern lecture on the "Savannahs of British Guiana." Mr. T. Rayment described the "Sugar Cane Industry of Queensland," while Mr. J. Waters took us to his home, "Niagara Parks Training School."

Our Chairman, Mr. S. A. Pearce, gave a comprehensive lecture on the important genus of "Liliums," while Mr. C. P. Raffill, brought along his coloured slides of the riviera gardens which were highly appreciated.

Other lectures of interest included new subjects such as "The Water Garden," "Germination of Orchids by Culture," "Horticulture and People" and "The Making of a Horticultural Record."

Mention must be made of the debate with John Innes held at Kew this year. The Society was forced by superior opposition to lower its colours to Merton. In a lighter vein, the Society enjoyed Mr. B. L. Perkins' film, "Flurry at Kew" which drew a record attendance of 62. This film included some excellent shots of the 1939 mutual trips.

The total attendance was 644, with an average of 34 per lecture, 48 members taking part in the discussions. This is a record of which

we are justly proud as it should be remembered that students leaving this session have not been replaced. The annual subscription for the Gardener's Royal Benevolent Institution was highly satisfactory, £2. 2s. being collected.

The Society was called upon during the winter by Kew Allotments Association for volunteer lecturers in the Richmond Council's "Grow more Food" campaign. Messrs. Cook, Eaton, Selby, Stott, Miles, and Wildy gave lectures in a series which proved to be the most successful in the Borough, the average attendance being 50.

The Hooker Prize, presented each year by the Director, was awarded to Mr. R. F. Miles for his work as Hon. Secretary and the Society's Prize to Mr. H. J. Eaton for interest and services to the Society.

The Society wish to thank all those who have helped to make this session an outstanding success in spite of such unsettled times, not forgetting the splendid services rendered by our Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

R. F. MILES,
Hon. Secretary.

SYLLABUS 1939-40.

- 1939.
- | | | | |
|------|-----|--|---------------------|
| Oct. | 16. | *Pelargoniums and Some Other Flowers | Sir Arthur Hill. |
| " | 23. | Germination of Orchids by Culture ... | Mr. J. Norris. |
| " | 30. | Seeds and Seed Sowing | Mr. C. J. Wilmot. |
| Nov. | 6. | *Smaller Hardy Trees and Shrubs ... | Mr. L. Foster. |
| " | 13. | *Lilies at Kew | Mr. S. A. Pearce. |
| " | 20. | *Dahlias | Mr. G. G. Cook. |
| " | 27. | Making a Horticultural Record ... | Mr. F. B. Stevens. |
| Dec. | 4. | *Plants of Horticultural Interest from New Zealand. | Mr. R. W. Balch. |
| " | 11. | *The Savannahs of British Guiana ... | Sir Geoffrey Evans. |
| | | Christmas Vacation. | |
- 1940.
- | | | | |
|-------|-----|--|--------------------|
| Jan. | 8. | *Garden Scenes of the Riviera ... | Mr. C. P. Raffill. |
| " | 15. | Debate with John Innes Mutual Improvement Society. | |
| " | 22. | Cultivation of Early Vegetables and Salads in the Open Ground and Frames | Mr. E. Willett. |
| " | 29. | Commercial Tomato Growing ... | Mr. A. Blowfield. |
| Feb. | 5. | *Sugar Cane Industry of Queensland ... | Mr. T. N. Rayment. |
| " | 12. | *Flurry at Kew. | Mr. B. L. Perkins. |
| " | 26. | *The Water Garden | Mr. J. Clark. |
| March | 4. | Niagara Parks Training School ... | Mr. J. E. Waters. |
| " | 11. | Horticulture and People | Mr. J. G. Short. |
| " | 18. | Colour from the Horticultural Standpoint | Mr. L. Laking. |
| April | 8. | Secretary's Report for the Session. | |

* Lantern Lectures

R. F. MILES,
Hon. Secretary, 1939-40.

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

VISITORS TO THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW, DURING 1938.—The total number of visitors during 1938 was 1,221,480, an increase of 57,231 over 1937. The total weekday attendance was 697,678, and on Sundays 523,802 persons entered through the turnstiles. The attraction of Kew in spring is emphasised by the fact that April was the month with the greatest attendance, this being 211,452. December attracted only 9,012 persons, this being the lowest monthly attendance. Whit-Monday, June 6th was the largest attendance throughout the year when 44,253 persons came to Kew, and Sunday, May 22nd with 29,934 people proved to be the best Sunday. Visitors on Students Days totalled 73,091.

1938				
January	...	...	...	17,078
February	...	...	...	32,242
March	...	...	...	146,432
April	...	...	...	211,452
May	...	...	...	161,008
June	...	...	...	210,340
July	...	...	...	137,674
August	...	...	...	155,927
September	...	...	...	83,322
October	...	...	...	38,071
November	...	...	...	18,922
December	...	...	...	9,012
				<hr/> 1,221,480 <hr/>

VISITORS TO THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, KEW, DURING 1939.—The total of visitors again exceeded one million, the actual figures being, 1,173,652, a decrease of 47,828 over 1938. Weekday attendances totalled 676,330 and Sundays 497,322. May proved to have the largest monthly attendance with 352,446 and September the lowest with 6,176. It must be noted, however, that during this latter month when hostilities broke out the gardens were closed from September 2nd to September 22nd inclusive. Whit-Monday, May 29th, again proved the highest attendance of the year when 84,725 passed through the turnstiles. Sunday May 7th was the best Sunday with 45,832. 68,807 attended on Students days.

1939.

January	...	...	...	13,075
February	...	...	...	42,424
March	...	...	...	38,448
April	...	...	...	234,436
May	...	...	...	352,446
June	...	...	...	144,977
July	...	...	...	134,925
August	...	...	...	167,516
September	...	...	...	6,176
October	...	...	...	19,910
November	...	...	...	10,989
December	...	...	...	8,330
				<u>1,173,652</u>

The total amount of river water consumed during the year 1938 was 36,941,000 gallons, an increase of 50 per cent. of that used in 1937 when the total was 24,046,000. As the total rainfall for the year was only 20.00 inches the necessity for such an additional amount of water is evident.

January	...	...	851,000	gallons
February	...	...	802,000	,,
March	...	...	1,478,000	,,
April	...	...	2,330,000	,,
May	...	...	5,436,000	,,
June	...	...	6,107,000	,,
July	...	...	5,852,000	,,
August	...	...	5,729,000	,,
September	...	...	2,786,000	,,
October	...	...	2,760,000	,,
November	...	...	1,312,000	,,
December	...	...	1,498,000	,,
				<u>36,941,000</u> gallons

In 1939 with a more normal rainfall of 28.50 inches the river water consumption was reduced considerably 26,890,000 gallons being used, a reduction of 10,051,000 gallons.

January	...	...	1,385,000	gallons
February	...	...	1,174,000	"
March	...	...	1,361,000	"
April	...	...	1,798,000	"
May	...	...	2,740,000	"
June	...	...	4,544,000	"
July	...	...	6,001,000	"
August	...	...	2,251,000	"
September	...	...	1,746,000	"
October	...	...	1,993,000	"
November	...	...	892,000	"
December	...	...	1,005,000	"
			<hr/> 26,890,000 gallons <hr/>	

From February 3rd to May, our Economic Botanist, Sir Geoffrey Evans, assisted on a commission set up by the United States Government to enquire into the possibilities of settling Jewish refugees of Mid-European origin in certain parts of British Guiana. Representing the British Government Sir Godfrey was able to be of great assistance to the Commission in view of his vast knowledge of Tropical agriculture.

The Eighth International Congress of Tropical and Sub-Tropical Agriculture was held at Tripoli in March, delegates from the following countries were present, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland, Poland, Germany, Bulgaria. Sir Arthur Hill attended as a delegate of H.M. Government.

Mr. N. Y. Sandwith collaborated in a collecting expedition by car across Libya during March and April, motoring hundreds of miles across desert roads and meeting with considerable success in the way of plant material.

The Curator, accompanied by Mr. Pearce, attended the Annual Conference of the Institute of Park Administration held at Aberdeen in Sept. 1938, other official visits being made by members of the staff to Edinburgh Botanic Gardens, Glasgow Botanic Gardens, Cambridge Botanic Gardens and various other establishments. Owing to the out-break of hostilities visits to Glasnevin and several well-known gardens in Eire had to be postponed.

Of recent years the number of casualties among the older trees increases and for public safety several old beech trees had to be removed. In many cases tie-rods have been inserted and every effort made to save specimens, a considerable amount of success being gained in this respect.

The examinations of the Royal Horticultural Society continue to be attempted successfully by the students, and in 1938 Mr. C. E. Cherry succeeded in gaining the final certificate for the National Diploma in Horticulture and Mr. R. H. Wildy passed the Preliminary Examination. In 1939 Mr. L. F. McElroy was successful in the Final and Messrs. R. F. Miles, R. O. Stanion and J. W. E. Stott passed the Preliminary Examination. It is hoped that 1940 successes will be even greater.

Mr. F. L. Squibbs who left Kew in 1924 and was later appointed Director of Agriculture in the Seychelles has now been appointed Agricultural Officer in the Gold Coast.

The outstanding feature of the year 1938 was the moving of the large Chilean wine palm, *Jubaea spectabilis*, an operation necessitating the utmost skill and care, and one that, thanks to Mr. Raffill and his staff, was carried out without a hitch. Though the distance traversed was only from 15 to 20 feet, the weight of the palm, ball of soil and the shuttering to hold the latter in position was estimated at 54 tons. The plant is now in a position where it can grow for many years without touching the glass, and seems to have benefited from its change of site.

The annual distribution of seeds in 1938 resulted in a total of 6,691 packets of seeds of herbaceous plants being sent out and 4,207 packets of trees and shrubs, an increase of 1,073 packets over 1937.

Unsettled conditions in 1939 resulted in labour economy in the collection of seeds for distribution, and in all 7,133 packets were sent out. Despite the outbreak of hostilities Wardian cases continued to be despatched, and very valuable material was forwarded to Amani, Jamaica, Penang and Western Australia.

The Herbert Medal of the American Amaryllis Society for the year 1939 was awarded to Dr. J. Hutchinson for his valuable services in the systematical treatment of the family.

In 1938 the number of Student gardener exchanges was reduced, men being sent to the Berlin Botanic Gardens, Ecole d'Horticulture, Brussels, Messrs. Duncan and Davies's Nurseries, New Zealand, New York Botanical Garden, and one to Italy. Overseas appointments secured by students numbered six in all, one proceeding to the Botanic Gardens Singapore, two to South Africa (Kirstenbosch Botanic Garden and Port Elizabeth Parks Dept.), two to Canada (Dominion Arboretum, Ottawa and Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph) one as Director of Horticulture, Dillard University, New Orleans.

The number entering as Students from Parks Departments continues steadily, and on leaving the balance is well maintained by those who obtain posts in Municipal work.

Of recent years many alterations have been made in the curriculum of lectures given to the Students, these aiming to strengthen the general horticultural knowledge so necessary for success in positions at home. Special attention has been given to Parks Administration, this subject being covered by a two year course of voluntary lectures.

The Bedgebury Pinetum, under the care of Mr. Dallimore continues to improve, and a further extension made in 1938 has given the opportunity of new planting, which will result in additional autumn colour and a wider range in the type of plants grown. Adjoining the Forestry Commissions plots, a visit there is always full of interest.

Mr. E. Milne-Redhead, Mr. A. A. Bullock, and Mr. J. K. Jackson, botanists on the Herbarium Staff, who were in the Territorial Army, were called to the Colours in 1939, shortly before War broke out. Capt. Milne Redhead is in the Royal Engineers, and Messrs. Bullock and Jackson are in the Royal Air Force.

The Assistant Director attended, as a delegate of the British Government, the "Primeira Reuniao Sul-Americana de Botanica" held at Rio de Janeiro in October, 1938. As a result of the visit many connections have been made with people in this part of the world, and seeds brought back are likely to be of great interest.

The copy of a letter from Mr. Cocker, Pallanza informs us that, "In order that the gardens and valuable collection of plants at Villa Taranto shall be preserved for all times, the owner, Captain Neil McEacharn, has offered them, through Signor Mussolini, to the Italian Nation. Il Duce has gratefully accepted the offer and plans are to be drawn up whereby the gardens will form the nucleus for a school and instructional centre where students can be trained in Horticulture. For the present, there will not be any important changes in the administration of the gardens, as the gift has been made with the provision that the present owner shall continue to live at the villa for as long as he desires. Eventually, the villa and gardens will be known as the "Istituto Botanico di Villa Taranto."

We are pleased to record that our old President, Mr. R. E. Gill, has been honoured by his election as Mayor of Falmouth for 1939-40. He has been a valuable member of the Corporation for over 25 years, having served as Alderman and also as the chairman of most of the chief committees. All old Kewites will wish him and the Mayoress a happy year of office.

The Gold Medal of the Horticultural Society of New York was awarded in 1939 to Mr. Montague Free, Horticulturist to the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens. The award was made "in recognition of his 25 years service to horticulture at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden."

KEW METEOROLOGICAL NOTES.

	Rainfall in Inches	Temperature (Fahr.)	
		Maximum (in screen)	Minimum (on grass)
1938			
January	2.23	48.4°	35.2°
February	0.31	46.2°	31.8°
March	0.26	58.3°	32.5°
April	0.09	54.1°	29.7°
May	1.30	60.3°	37.9°
June	0.35	69.6°	47.3°
July	1.02	70.0°	49.1°
August	2.70	71.8°	50.5°
September	1.94	66.2°	45.0°
October	2.06	57.2°	39.0°
November	2.60	54.5°	39.7°
December	3.29	44.4°	32.4°
Total rainfall for 1938 at Met. Station ..	18.15	—	—

Highest rainfall for a single day : 1.03 inches. Highest temperature in screen : 83.8°. Lowest minimum on grass : 15.6°.

	Rainfall in Inches	Temperature (Fahr.)	
		Maximum (in screen)	Minimum (on grass)
1939			
January	4.32	45.5°	34.3°
February	0.80	48.0°	30.4°
March	1.00	48.6°	32.2°
April	2.21	55.8°	34.5°
May	1.39	61.0°	37.9°
June	1.15	66.6°	45.9°
July	1.79	67.5°	49.1°
August	3.43	70.7°	50.2°
September	0.91	66.2°	46.2°
October	4.92	54.0°	37.6°
November	4.43	52.9°	39.9°
December	0.84	41.7°	29.8°
Total rainfall for 1939 at Kew Met. Station. ..	27.19		

Highest rainfall for a single day : 1.15 inches. Highest temperature in screen : 85.3°. Lowest temperature on grass : 12.0°.

NOTES FROM THE GOLD COAST.

Mr. R. Band writes from the Gold Coast :—

“ My object in writing is two-fold, first to enquire if Guild Journal for 1939 has been published and secondly to draw attention to an event in the history of the Gold Coast, which owing to the war was allowed to slip quietly by without being duly celebrated in a worthy manner. I refer to the fiftieth birthday of the Department of Agriculture, Gold Coast, which actually occurred in March of this year (1940).

The Department was started in March 1890 by Mr. R. Crowther, a Kewite, who was appointed Curator and arrived at Accra on the 16th March and proceeded in due course to Aburi, where he was engaged in laying out the Botanic Gardens. No doubt a search of back records would disclose that Mr. Crowther had brought out from Kew, one or more wardian cases of tropical plants, which were conveyed to Aburi and from which many plants were raised for distribution throughout the Gold Coast.

I was pleased to read in the 1936 Guild Journal that Mr. Crowther paid a visit to the West Indies during leave of absence from the Gold Coast, a trip that was no doubt arranged by the Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens.

Mr. Crowther unfortunately did not live to see the department which he was instrumental in starting, increase its usefulness to the farming community, and died of fever after only a few years service. The Kewites who followed however, helped to carry on the work which Mr. Crowther started, among whom were Mr. W. H. Johnson, F.L.S. and Mr. T. W. Brown, F.L.S., A.H.R.H.S. (better known as Long Brown).

In addition to those above mentioned, there must be nearly another twenty Kewites who have seen service or are still serving in the Department of Agriculture, of whom thirteen are known to the writer. Without access to past records, I will not venture to furnish a list of Kewites who have served or are still serving on the Gold Coast, as such a list would be incomplete.

The percentage of Kew men now serving in the Department of Agriculture is a very small one, as preference seems to be for men with a University Degree. Nevertheless when there is a practical job of work to be done, the Kew trained man can hold his own without difficulty, as the practical training they received at Kew, is a great advantage.

The development of the first twenty years were largely if not solely due to the services rendered by men appointed by the Director at Kew, and who played no small part in building up the Department of Agriculture during those years.”

WEDDING BELLS.

Mr. James A. Semple to Miss Helen M. Clark at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston, Mass., U.S.A. on September 14th 1938.

Mr. Thomas G. Curry to Miss Dorothy H. Nash, at Busbridge Church, Godalming, Surrey, on December 17th 1938.

Mr. Lawrence Lannie to Miss Mary Doidge at St. Stephen's Church, Twickenham, on May 12th, 1939.

Mr. Alfred J. Fordham to Miss Molly Redmayne at Kittery, Maine, U.S.A., on July 1st, 1939.

Mr. Herbert Ritchings to Miss Gladys Baines at Pendleton on September 9th, 1939.

Mr. Gordon Leith to Miss Viola Melhuish, on September 16th 1939.

Mr. Stanley W. Rawlings to Miss Peggy Summers, at Kingston on March 9th 1940.

Mr. Francis G. Goldsack to Miss Kathleen A. Bowler, at Kew Road Methodist Church, Richmond, on December 26th 1939.

Mr. Wilfrid G. Sheat to Miss Gwendoline D. Rockell, at St. Stephen's, Ealing, on March 16th, 1940.

Mr. F. J. Hebden to Miss Ruby J. Wilson at St. Pauls, Cambridge, on March 17th, 1940.

Mr. Gordon R. Groves to Miss Olive Waterworth in Bermuda, on April 18th, 1940.

Mr. John Lewis to Miss Beryl Ridley at Pelton Church, Co. Durham, on May 11th 1940.

THE ASSOCIATION OF KEW GARDENERS IN AMERICA.

The twenty-second annual meeting and dinner of "Old Kewites in America" was held at the Roosevelt Hotel, in New York City, on Saturday, March 18, 1939, at 7 p.m. The attendance was less than usual and it is hoped that Kewites residing within easy reach of our meeting place will make more effort to be present on these festive occasions where they can swap stories of their Kew days with men who graduated many years earlier or get up to date news from those who have only recently found their way to the United States, either in a permanent or temporary capacity.

We had hoped to have as our guest, Sir William Wright Smith, Regius Keeper of the Botanic Gardens at Edinburgh, but functions in Boston detained him in that city, where the Spring Flower Show had just opened. We did, however, have the pleasant company of Mr. Richardson Wright, chairman of the New York Flower Show, who delighted us with interesting aspects of a recent visit to the Island of Jamaica. Mr. H. M. Blance entertained us with remin-

iscences of the experience gained in fumigation during his days at Kew, and how by a process of barter some of the contraband became converted into tea. His work in the Finger Lakes State Park is still progressing, especially due to the Public Works Administration resources. Already this winter over two thousand white pines (*Pinus strobus*) have been planted.

Our reliable chairman, Mr. M. Free, again presided and was congratulated on being the recipient during the past week of the Gold Medal given by the Horticultural Society of New York for his eminent services to horticulture. This is awarded to outstanding members of our profession. Mr. Free is the first Kewite to be so honoured and we congratulate him on his good fortune.

After several attempts in the past to have our annual meeting in Philadelphia, Mr. J. Lambert again proposed it for 1940. All present were favourably inclined and his motion was unanimously supported. After some discussion as to date it was decided to hold it on the opening day of the Philadelphia Flower Show, March 18, 1940.

Those present were Mr. R. Barton, Mr. and Mrs. J. Birkentall, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Beale, Mr. H. M. Blanche, Mr. P. A. Chandler, Mr. A. W. Close, Mr. J. Ellis, Mr. M. Free, Mr. W. H. Judd, Mr. J. Lambert, Mr. and Mrs. H. Riebe, Mr. H. W. Swift, Mr. J. H. Watts, Miss Mary Dixon, and Mr. Richardson Wright.

Wm. H. JUDD,
Secretary-Treasurer.

TREASURER'S REPORT, MARCH 18th, 1939.

RECEIPTS :—

Balance on hand, March 19, 1939...	\$5.89	
Receipts from dues	20.17	
Interest ... ..	.17	
Seventeen dinners at \$3.75 ...	63.75	
Postage	1.08	
	<u>\$91.06</u>	91.06

EXPENSES :—

Eighteen dinners at \$3.50 ...	\$63.00	
Fees at 10%	6.30	
Sales tax	1.89	
	<u>\$71.19</u>	<u>\$71.19</u>
Balance First National Bank of Boston		\$19.87

ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND KEWITES, 1938.

The fourth annual re-union and Dinner of Old Kewites resident in New Zealand was held in the Hotel Occidental, Christchurch, on Thursday, January 27th 1938, at 6.30 p.m.

There were present : Mr. and Mrs. David Tannock, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice J. Barnett, Mr. and Mrs. James A. McPherson, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. C. McKenzie, Mr. and Mrs. C. Jones, Messrs. John Lewis, A. W. C. Anderson and B. P. Mansfield. Apologies were received from Messrs. G. Mills, A. G. Kennelly, D. H. Leigh, C. Little and F. J. E. Jollie.

Each year this function has to be incorporated with a whirl of activities associated with Horticultural Week and consequently members had to leave early to attend the Banks Lecture at Canterbury University. The usual toasts having been honoured the principal business of the evening was to present David Tannock with the working tools of a Master Gardener, which ceremony was performed in due and ancient form by James A. McPherson.

For the information of our younger or less enlightened colleagues the working tools of a Master Gardener are the Apron, Clogs and Knife. Having briefly explained their separate and conjoint significances, J. A. McPherson made the presentation on behalf of those assembled. In his reply David Tannock expressed his gratitude at the gesture and gave an assurance that he would continue to safeguard the interests of Kewites in general and those of New Zealand in particular.

We congratulate Dennis H. Leigh on his appointment as Curator of the Domain and Gardens of Ashburton and welcome Rupert E. Purrott who is in New Plymouth.

There are now eighteen old Kewites resident in this Dominion, which is the largest number at any period to date; but there is still plenty of room and opportunity.

Brendan P. Mansfield,
Secretary.
Invercargill.

25th, October, 1938.

THE ASSOCIATION OF KEW GARDENERS IN AMERICA,
1940.

After many years of endeavour to convince Kewites in America that Philadelphia was a "City of Brotherly Love" in which to meet, Jim Lambert was at last successful in persuading them to do so in 1940. The annual meeting and dinner was accordingly held at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel of that city on Saturday, March 16.

Those in town early that day met at the Spring Flower Show held in the Commercial Museum, at which the outstanding exhibit was the magnificent collection of Acacias, edged with blue cinerarias, from the estate of Joseph E. Widener. Here several Kewites met for the first time and the city welcomed us with a good old fashioned snow-storm which fortunately terminated at lunch time when we gathered at Houston Hall, of the University of Pennsylvania to eat.

Walking conditions prevented a tour of the Botanic Gardens during the afternoon, hence some returned to the Flower Show, while others wended their way to the hotel to prepare for the evening meal. A reception was held from 6 to 7.30 p.m. After some discussion it again fell to the lot of Mr. Free to preside which he did in his gracious and charming manner.

After the dinner, at roll call, each Old Kewite introduced himself to the assembly stating his year of graduation from Kew and subsequent history while abroad in the world. Mr. Lambert on behalf of his own city welcomed us as visitors for the first time and hoped we would all enjoy the two day programme which had been arranged for our edification. Moreover, he anticipated that we would again meet here on some future occasion. Mr. Ernest Hemming, who several of us had met at the flower show earlier in the day, was unfortunately taken very ill in his hotel room at dinner time and could not be with us. Regrets were received from Mr. J. C. Wister, secretary of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, that he was unable to be present.

Our guest of honor was Mr. Charles F. Jenkins of Germantown, celebrated for the remarkable collection of species and forms of *Tsuga* gathered from various sources into his garden. Mr. Jenkins acknowledged his pleasure at being invited and related the historic interest in Philadelphia held by the world of botany through such well known men as John and William Bartram, the Marshalls etc. He related the romantic history of *Franklinia Alatomaha*, which for over a century and a half has never again been found in a wild state. Mr. Jenkins had recently returned from a trip to California where he told us of all sorts of plants sold by the gallon, being grown for sale in various sized cans. In appreciation of Kew Mr. Jenkins recited Alfred Noyes's poem on lilacs (much to our enjoyment).

Another guest was Dr. Jacob R. Schramm, Director of the Department of Botany at the University of Pennsylvania, as well as having recently been appointed Director of the Morris Arboretum of the

University, at Chestnut Hill. Dr. Schramm in a brief talk expressed pleasure at being invited to our meeting. A close link with England was in the person of Mr. E. K. Balls, recently back from the Andes of South America where he had collected over two hundred varieties of potatoes for the British Government. Mr. Balls related some of his experiences as a botanical collector in the Near East and elsewhere since the days when Mr. Clarence Elliott first persuaded him to pursue that fascinating hobby.

The secretary followed with his report of our last meeting, which was accepted.

Mr. Downer read a delightful and naturalistic poem written some years ago by one of our members on a punting excursion from Kew Bridge to Eel Pie Island on the Thames. It was moved by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Lambert that our meeting in 1941 be held in Boston on Saturday, March 22, the last night of the Spring Flower Show. This was carried.

For the floral decorations we were indebted to Mr. Mullis of Longwood and Henry Riebe Jr. who is employed by one of the leading florists in town and did the arranging. His parents who were present were celebrating the thirty-first anniversary of their wedding day. Together with the guests already mentioned those present were C. J. Agate, J. H. Beale, H. M. Blanche, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Close, H. E. Downer and son Ernest, J. Ellis, G. W. G. Ford, M. Free, W. J. Ing, W. H. Judd, Mr. and Mrs. Lambert, E. Mathews, Mr. and Mrs. H. Riebe and son. The delightful occasion terminated at 10.30 p.m.

On Sunday morning March 17 several of us met at the home of Mr. C. F. Jenkins who conducted us around his collection of hemlocks, each to him a personal friend some of which differ from each other in a marked degree, and many still waiting for the varietal terminations that they are entitled to. Several clumps of winter aconite lent a cheerful feature to the situation amidst a blanket of snow. A few precocious flowers were already out on *Meratia praecox*, while those of *Hamamelis mollis* and *H. vernalis* were already well displayed as an indication that spring was just around the corner.

Next we proceeded to the Morris Arboretum where Dr. Schramm and Mr. Lambert did the honors. This was not the best season to enjoy trees and shrubs but a fine fruiting specimen of *Pinus Bungeana* was noted, as well as one of the finest trees of *Ulmus parvifolia* in cultivation. After lunch at Chestnut Hill several motored down to Longwood, the home of Pierre du Pont, where the largest private range of greenhouses in the United States were seen. We were personally conducted around by Wm. Mullis the General Superintendent. The different members of the party then wended their ways to distant parts after enjoying one of the most successful meetings in the history of the Association, this being the twenty-third since its incorporation.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR MARCH 16th, 1940.

RECEIPTS :—

Balance on hand March 18, 1939 ...	\$19.87	
Interest ... ..	.38	
Eighteen dinners at \$2.50	45.00	
Received for dues	3.50	
	<u>\$68.75</u>	\$68.75

EXPENSES :—

Twenty-one dinners at \$2.50 ...	\$52.50	
Postage	1.20	
Printing	3.00	
	<u>\$56.70</u>	\$56.70
Balance on hand		<u>\$12.05</u>

W. H. JUDD,
Secretary.

KEWITES AT THE GHENT FLORALIES.

With only a week to go before the opening of the Ghent Florales, I set about to form a party to pay a visit to this magnificent show. It was on April 14th that the small party of five met at Kew Gardens station, ready for a night's travel to Belgium.

Our party consisted of Messrs. S. Rawlings, Salford; J. Aves, South Africa; D. Zaidenberg, Palestine; S. Cutting, New York, and a member of the fair sex, Miss P. Summers. Boarding the train at Victoria, we left at 10.30 p.m. en route for Dover, arriving there at 11.40 p.m., and sailing for Ostend at 1 a.m. During the channel crossing, Mr. Aves, poor chap, gave the fish a treat although after being in digs at Kew, one should be able to face anything. 5 a.m. came and everyone was ready to get off the boat and seek the warmth of the train which was to take us on to Bruges, where we made our headquarters for the short stay in Belgium. On arrival at Bruges at 6.10 a.m., the party was met by car and taken to our new home for the time being, the Hotel British and International. Oh for a wash and some breakfast and then to explore Bruges!

At 9 a.m. we set out full of high spirits not knowing where to go first, but after a long and interesting walk we made our way back to the hotel for lunch. During our first tour of Bruges, one thing in particular caught our eye, no matter which part of the town you were in, the roads were packed with processions of people going and coming from the various churches, this being Good Friday, April 15th.

After lunch, the party boarded a coach for a tour calling at the following places of interest, Blankenberg, Zeebrugge, Heyst, Knocke and then on to Sluys in Holland.

On Saturday, April 16th, all were up early and ready to make the journey to Ghent where we arrived at 9 a.m. On leaving the station, the first thing one saw was a large sign directing visitors to the Floraries, a short walk and then we were at our journey's end, so to speak. In turn, each paid the 50 francs (8/-) and passed on through the turnstiles into a beautifully laid out approach of bulbs. I might mention here that the grounds used are those of one of the City's Parks and that the layout of the beds at the entrance is permanent. Walking further along, we came to the usual avenue of sundries, most interesting, but nothing to what was in store for us inside the large building where the Floraries is housed.

The wide entrance corridor was our first glimpse of the show. Here we saw many beautiful and interesting new hybrids of orchids and Azaleas, etc. At the end of this approach to the main hall, known as the Azalea Palace, we had our first glimpse of a sight we shall never forget for below us we saw dozens of groups of Azaleas exhibited chiefly by tradesmen, staged in such an ingenious manner that each exhibit was blended to form one gigantic colour scheme.

Walking down the steps from the long corridor, we wandered among the groups which seemed to dazzle the eyes. The cultivation and blooms in all groups were perfect. A few outstanding varieties being Azalea Dr. Bergman, bright salmon; A. Ernest Thiers, a deep reddish pink; then *Violacea* and a prize winning variety with frilled flowers of a soft pink shade, *Emile de Coninck*. It was interesting to note that the Sander Memorial Prize, given for the best new Azalea was won by Messrs. J. B. Hearens and Son, Somerghem, for Azalea Madame le Comtesse de Kerchore de Denterghem.

Passing further along the hall, we came across a section exhibited by the Antwerp growers, laid out in the style of a Japanese garden, complete with bridge, stream, tea garden, rockwork, stepping stones, paved paths and lanterns. The layout consisted chiefly of Azaleas, Hydrangeas, alpine in great variety and small Camellias. As a background, banks of roses and lilac blended well with tall and graceful palms.

Next we came to a very fine exhibit of Cacti and succulent plants arranged amid rockwork extending high up into one corner of the main hall. Although perhaps a little drab with regard to colour, the exhibit proved most interesting to all.

Passing on into yet another hall, this not quite so large as the Azalea Palace, we found the orchid section. This hall was heated and running down the centre was a long blue tank, known as the "Blue Lagoon," with jets of water along each side, helping to provide the atmospheric moisture so essential for the well being of orchids.

The first large group to catch our eye was one exhibited by Messrs. Sander of Bruges and St. Albans. This occupied a large triangular corner space of about 440 square yards, consisting of over two thousand plants. It was here we saw something new in the way of staging orchids, breaking away from the usual bank effect, we saw *Cymbidiums* set out in grass, gently undulating with a few pieces of waterworn stone here and there. Between the various groups, narrow paved paths wound their way, all adding to the beauty of the exhibit as a whole. A little further along, we saw groupings of well arranged *Odontiodas* and *Phalaenopsis*, followed by a splendid massed group of *Cattleyas* set amid ferns and moss. A very pleasing group of *Paphiopedilum* (*Cypripedium*) *Maudiae* over-hung by tall tree ferns (*Dicksonia antarctica*) opened up the *Paphiopedilum* section.

To list all species which went to make up this magnificent exhibit would have taken too long, so on we walked to the next, a delightful group of orchids exhibited by Sir Jeremiah Colman, Bart., of Gatton Park, Reigate, Surrey. Here again one could have spent hours noting the various species, but one of the most outstanding being a fine example of *Lycaste Skinneri* var. *armenace* producing 18 of its beautiful white blooms.

Further along still, we came to yet another English firm, Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., of Jarvisbrook, who also had a wonderful display of *Orchidaceae*.

Leaving the orchids we came across a section in the same hall of towering palms, 30-30 feet high, with smaller *Phoenix*, *Kentias* and *Coryphas* below. In the front of these foliage plants was a fine display of *Bromeliads*.

Before leaving the *Floralies*, perhaps I should mention the many fine groups of *Hydrangeas* and *Clivias*. The most outstanding of the *Hydrangeas* was *H. Ami Pasquier*, rose-red; *H. europa*, pink; *H. Miss Belgium*, rose-red and *H. Leopold III*, light pink.

By now our notebooks were getting full and pencils getting short as one might expect after a four hours tour of such a show. I should like to mention one little point which was very conspicuous, this being the absence of nearly all the tradesmen one is so used to seeing taking orders at any of our shows in England.

Leaving the *Floralies*, we set out on a sight-seeing tour of Ghent, our first discovery being the Castle of the Counts, one of the finest examples of a mediaeval chateau. Next came St. Baron Cathedral and many other historical places too numerous to mention here.

Sunday, April 17th, saw our party aboard a coach early in the morning enroute for Brussels. On arrival, we found our way to the Brussels Botanic Gardens which at this time of the year looked rather dull and empty but nevertheless interesting, especially the museum which adjoins the Palm House, the latter being similar to the museums at Kew. Entering the coach once more, we made a tour

of Brussels itself, visiting the Grave of the Unknown Warrior, The Market Square, the Town Hall and the Palace of Justice which is said to be the largest building in the world, covering actually more ground than the great pyramid. On our way back to Bruges, we made a short stop to see the place where Nurse Cavell spent her last days. Finally we arrived in Bruges just in time for dinner and tired out after a most pleasant day.

Monday, 18th April, was our last day in Belgium with many places to see and only until 3 p.m. to do so. Messrs. Sander's Nursery being close at hand, we made this our destination. After a few moments wait at the office, the necessary permission was kindly granted for our party to make a tour of this fine nursery. Our guide was none other than Mr. E. Cooper, an old Kewite, who now is a representative of the firm. Passing from one house to another, we were all impressed with the quantity, quality and methods of production of the various batches of plants. Just before leaving the nursery, fortune smiled on us and we were kindly shown through the laboratory which is used by Mrs. L. Sander for the sole use of raising new orchid hybrids. After some interesting explanations to our many questions, we thanked Mrs. Sanders for her kindness and so left the nursery in the company of Mr. E. Cooper for one of the many hotels in Bruges to have a farewell drink. Three o'clock saw our party at the Bruges St. Andre station ready for our journey back to Kew, a short train ride and we were back at Ostend ready to embark for Dover, arriving there at 7.40 p.m. One more inspection by the customs and then for the last few miles from Dover to London, where we arrived at 10 p.m. Half an hour later saw us back at Kew Gardens feeling tired out but thoroughly pleased with our trip. The whole cost of our long week-end, including all travel and hotel expenses, came to just over £4 per head.

In conclusion, may I say that I hope to meet the members of our party at the next Ghent Floralties in 1943.

S. W. RAWLINGS.

Kew, 1938.

PARKS AND PUBLICITY.

By F. R. LONG, A.H.R.H.S.,

Superintendent, Parks and Town Attractions, Port Elizabeth.

It was my privilege at the first annual conference of this Association held at Krugersdorp in 1935 to give you an address on the desirability of dealing with the approaches to towns and the cleaning up of untidy corners so that the impression on visitors should be as favourable a one as possible. This year I have been invited to give you another address, and have chosen as my subject "Parks and Publicity." It is my intention to deal with the requirements necessary to attract the visitor, especially the overseas visitor, to our towns, more particularly to the smaller towns which do not possess an outstanding, world-wide known attractive feature. It is not my intention to touch upon the publicity side that aims to attract our local people to their own parks, and I do not intend to make any reference to our parks as an asset to our local inhabitants. My object is to bring to the notice of our Municipal Councils, Parks Superintendents and our own citizens the enormous potential value of the overseas visitors who are coming to Southern Africa year by year by type of attraction that will prove most acceptable to our overseas visitor, and further to indicate what can be done to bring that objective year in ever increasing numbers. My endeavour is to indicate the way to fruition as far as our profession is concerned.

TOURISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

I make bold to say that the majority of my fellow-superintendents have never seriously considered the immensity of the tourist traffic or the value of the tourist industry to this country, an industry which is going ahead by leaps and bounds. We all have a vague idea that the tourist industry is increasing, and that many more people are now visiting the "high spots" such as the Cango Caves, Mount aux Sources, Kruger National Game Reserve, the Rand Gold mines and the Victoria Falls, than was the case a few years ago. We have not perhaps given a serious thought to the fact that these tourists have to pass through our own town; and further we have not fully realised that visitors have to travel many weary and monotonous days and hours before they reach these world-renowned "high spots" of interest. The Government, mainly through their Railways and Harbours Department, have advertised these main attractions in a very efficient manner, and have thereby increased the earning powers of the railway passenger services by conveying visitors to and from these main features. Little has been done, however to break down that monotony of travelling between these far-distant "high spots," and little has been done to entertain the visitor in between whiles; little has been done to give a sense of real South African life, except here and there, and to present a constant interest

during every 24 hours that the traveller is in our midst. It is my purpose to show you how you, as heads of parks and gardens, can assist in obtaining this objective.

In the first place, some of you may say, "Why all this bother about an industry that does not concern us?" It does concern every one of us. Tourism can become the greatest industry in Southern Africa next to the gold mining industry. It benefits everyone of us indirectly, and it can directly benefit many of our towns, villages and dorps. Every tourist brought to our town means new money left behind. It is therefore the duty of the Park Superintendent to assist, by every means in his power, for the good of his own town, apart from the general benefit.

Let us turn to a few happenings in the publicity world.

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

During the year 1937, 30,654 tourists and visitors landed in South Africa. The total has very rapidly risen, for in 1934 the figure was 9,038. Now this comparatively satisfactory state of affairs has been encouraged by the efforts of the Advisory Committee of the Publicity Department of the South African Railways and Harbours, the Publicity Department of South Africa House, the local publicity bodies and shipping companies, with a total annual expenditure of round about £50,000 (in 1935 it was £32,694). This work has been carried out largely by means of posters, brochures, articles and write-ups in the illustrated daily press in Europe, also by lectures, films, etc. Excellent work has been accomplished by many of the stalwarts interested in publicity.

The powers that be, however, looking with envy at the enormous tourist industry of France (estimated value, £80,000,000 per annum), Switzerland, Australia and other countries, decided that a bigger effort must be made if Southern Africa was to gather its fair share of the world's tourist traffic.

The Government has therefore just brought into existence the "Tourist Development Corporation," the chairman of which is Mr. D. M. Robbertse, of the South African Railways and Harbours (publicity manager), assisted by a board consisting of Lieut-Commander C. P. Newton, R.N. (Cape Town Publicity Association), Mr. H. J. Crocker (Johannesburg Publicity Association), Mr. Owen Grant (the Wilderness and Plettenberg Bay Hotels and Estates), Mr. A. M. Campbell (head of the Union Castle S.S. Co.), and Professor Norval (Pretoria).

This body or corporation has a secured income of £80,000 per annum, guaranteed for the ensuing 5 years. Its duties are to foster overseas tourist traffic to Southern Africa by lectures, literature, films, press and paper advertisement; it will include improvement of: (a) transport facilities by sea, land and air, (b) hotel accommodation, (c) presentation of the places of interest, beauty and amusement, (d) co-operation with the existing local publicity bodies. Its duties,

however, do not include the selling of travel, the booking of tours, the building of hotels or any expenditure on places of interest.

The corporation will definitely interest itself in promoting a conscious effort by many authorities to improve the quality of South African attractions at various points of scenic and other interest.

So you see that big things are now taking place, and big results are expected. Much new money is expected to flock into Southern Africa in the immediate future. The object of this address may be expressed in the following question: "How far and to what extent are the members of our Association prepared to assist in this expansion of the industry of tourism?"

I shall proceed to give you some hints and ideas as to the manner in which members of the horticultural profession could assist if they can obtain the backing of their municipalities or other public bodies under whose control they come.

THE TOURIST.

The type of person now visiting these shores is the type of tourist that one meets in France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland. They are mostly people experienced in travel, they are accustomed to seeing places under comfortable conditions, and they come mostly from Great Britain and the United States of America. They are mostly monied people. So it is obvious that they do not want to see buildings, new or ancient, they do not want to see factories—they have seen better in Europe and U.S.A.—or just pleasure resorts. But what they do want to see (and it is for this reason that they have travelled the extra thousands of miles to come to South Africa) is South African Native life and conditions, aborigines in their native districts, wild animals and wild plants, and South African scenery unspoilt by civilisation.

It is our duty as park officials, or so it seems to me, to present wild plant and wild animal life to our visitors in the best way possible, and furthermore to interest ourselves in the preservation of beauty spots and places representing typical South African life if our districts are to secure the benefits of this increased travel. The Superintendent or Curator of the local parks department should surely be the very man who is better acquainted with such local places of beauty and interest than most of his fellow-citizens.

LOCAL PUBLICITY BODIES.

Local Publicity Associations are found in many towns to attract local and overseas visitors. In many centres considerable sums of money are spent to achieve this object. Often any thought of preserving the local flora and fauna is quite overlooked, usually the many brochures published for distribution to the visitor contain little information or at best poor illustrations of the local flora. This failing could be rectified by the Parks Superintendent being invited

and co-opted by the local executive. When it comes to preserving a typical krantz, river bed, koppie, or area in which local animals are found, the local superintendent should be able to give good advice. When illustrations for brochures are needed, the superintendent should be in a position either to supply them or say where they can be obtained.

REHABILITATION OF LOCAL FLORA AND FAUNA.

More often than not, a local beauty spot that could be set aside to advantage for the use of tourists has been denuded of the native flora. This should be re-established with plants that were formerly growing there; local or indigenous plants only should be planted and not a mixed medley of all sorts of exotic species. Do not forget that the visitor who is being catered for has seen or can see the well-known garden plants grown to perfection in the large cities of the world; but they cannot see, except in South Africa, the glorious aloes, proteas, heaths, South African bulbs and South African trees, that are, more often than not, neglected by our own selves. Do not, therefore, try and beautify your semi-wild spots with cannas, dahlias or roses. These highly desirable horticultural subjects are best suited to your formal squares and gardens.

Much could be done along the main travel routes for the attraction and interest of the tourist if avenues of local trees or groups of trees were established. There is no doubt that the tourist value of the Pretoria jacaranda trees is very considerable. So also is the Caledon Wild Flower Garden, which has a decided pull on the tourist. The tourist value of the National Botanical Gardens at Kirstenbosch is placed very high, but I fail to see why the noble work carried out at Kirtenbosch could not be repeated in many other parts of our country.

Wild animals and bird life should not be neglected. There is nothing more attractive than to introduce the native buck in suitably fenced off areas. A case in point is the development now taking place in the East London Public Park. Here paddocks to house the local buck are being erected in the indigenous bush within the park grounds.

NATURE RESERVES.

It is well to remember that the class of visitor we are catering for has for the most part seen the finest zoological gardens in the world; and, unless such a collection can be presented in the grandest style, such as can be seen in London, Berlin, Hamburg and other large cities, it is a waste of money presenting animal life in small cages or enclosures. But what always gives a thrill is to take your visitor to some wild veld or bush country and there to spy out zebra, the many species of South African buck, or an ostrich running apparently wild.

These conditions are often possible by fencing off a few acres of unwanted ground. An excellent example is the Naval Hill Reserve at Bloemfontein (where by the way I should like to see aloes replacing the exotic agave).

Nature Reserves should be established in every district in Southern Africa, not only for the purpose of amusing our tourist, but also for the preservation of our wild life. To those of us who are interested in wild plants it has already come as a shock to see the steady decline and in some instances the total extinction of many species of plants, never to return. Legislation against this destruction helps; but if nature reserves, small as well as big, were scattered liberally throughout the country many species would be automatically preserved.

It is very pleasing to note that farmers in the Eastern Province, and I daresay elsewhere as well, are establishing herds of springbok, kudu and other species of buck. What an interesting sight it is to pull up on the roadside to watch a herd of springbok for half an hour! It breaks the monotony of a tiresome journey. That is the sort of entertainment our visitors appreciate.

In these days of town planning I have often noticed that if there is a piece of ground too difficult for the engineer or architect to develop as a residential area, it is marked down on the plan "Park" or "Open Space." Some of these spots, far from being hopeless from the superintendent's point of view, can be turned into a reserve for wild animals or local plants, to which the visitor can obtain easy access. It may be that, instead of a party of visitors leaving your town early in the morning to reach some major attraction miles away, that party, by visiting some such small reserve as described, will spend another 24 hours in your town, to the benefit of the baker, the grocer and the candlestick maker. This is the aspect to stress to your council if you want such a project pushed through. The £ s. d. side of any question is the one to watch out for.

There is great scope in this sort of thing, and much could be done by the rural authorities, which are not to any extent influenced by this Association. I must stress the importance of developing spots in between the towns as well as within our town boundaries. I wish it were possible that every Divisional Council could employ an official versed in the plant and animal life of their area.

A CHAIN OF NATURE RESERVES THROUGHOUT SOUTH AFRICA.

My ambition is to see a chain of smaller nature reserves and beauty spots throughout our land, linking up the "high spots" of the Cape, the Cango Caves, Drakensberg, Kruger National Park, Victoria Falls, etc. If this is achieved, the visitor will go away with a better impression of South Africa and the intervening towns will benefit by waylaying the visitors and keeping them in their midst.

You know the old story of the sailor who visited Johannesburg. When he got back to Simonstown his mate said: "Well, Bill,

what did you see? What was the country like?" "I don't know, mate; it was miles and miles and miles of sweet b—— all." A truer joke was never uttered when it comes to considering the impression left upon the average tourist who travels from Cape Town to the Rand.

I want for a moment or two to illustrate my point. A party of tourists arrive at Cape Town and proceed to do the delightful Cape, Western Province, Knysna and the Cango Caves. What is their next step? We must prevent them from rushing off to the next high spot—the Drakensberg. We in Port Elizabeth hope that the Elephant Reserve at Addo (where there are 23 head of elephants, the last of the once huge Cape herds) will draw them to our city, but this is a distance of 300 miles of rather dreary country.

What is there of interest in between Oudtshoorn and Port Elizabeth? There could be developed two very interesting centres, namely, Graaff-Reinet and Somerset East. From Oudtshoorn or the Cango Caves to Graaff-Reinet is a distance of 240 miles of rather dreary country, which could be broken by creating reserves at Willowmore and Miller; at the latter place there are several most interesting plants growing near the railway station, including *Lithops terricolor*, or "Stone Plant," *Pleiospilos simulans*, or the "Liver Plant," and many other examples of peculiarly South African flora.

POSSIBILITIES AT GRAAF-REINET.

Having reached Miller, it is but a short run of 100 miles to Graaff-Reinet. Now here is a town well worth a visit for its mountainous scenery alone, but in addition to this attraction there is the outstanding "Valley of Desolation": a more fascinating and awe-inspiring spot it would be hard to find. Leading up to the summit overlooking the valley are hundreds of fine specimens of "Elephant's Feet" (*Testudinaria elephantipes*), a very famous South African plant which should be preserved, cleared and made accessible to the tourist. It is the home of several aloes which the local Parks Curator could extend. This valley could be enhanced as a popular resort if animals were preserved therein, a collection of several species of buck, zebra, etc., could easily be maintained there at little cost. The town itself has already planted some of the traffic islands with local flora; these help to add interest for the tourist. There is also a very nice collection of succulent plants established in a natural rockery near the golf course, close to the picturesque Van Ryneveld's dam, which in itself could be turned into a waterfowl reserve, no doubt.

From Graaff-Reinet it is but a stone's throw (a South African stone's throw, I mean!) of some 78 miles to Somerset East. This stretch is relieved by several interesting places, one of which is Bruintjes Hoogte, where the aloes when in flower would make any lover of nature water at the mouth. I recently saw a field of the

red and yellow *Aloe microstigma* literally in their thousands, several flower spikes being 6 feet tall. It would take but a small effort to have this area preserved by the owner if only the owner could be made to see the objective in view.

SOMERSET EAST'S POSSIBILITIES.

Having reached Somerset East, what is there to see? Very little; and there seems no one to tell the tourist what there is. I am sure Somerset East will forgive me if I presume to set out what could be done to entertain the tourist for 24 hours, as I wish to illustrate the chief point of my lecture by using Somerset East as an example. Now, there are three attractive features that could be developed; these combined would make an attractive lure to the tourist that could not be resisted. First of all, the town is overshadowed by the magnificent pile of the Boschberg, the slopes of which come right down to the streets of the town. Here there is an ideal animal reserve, and, if well stocked with buffalo, buck, zebra, etc., it would create an easily accessible attraction. Secondly, there is a lovely mountain drive to the top of the Boschberg, where in half an hour one can rise from 2,400 feet to 3,750 feet; and from the summit a magnificent view in the four quarters of the compass can be obtained. If a tea-house were built at the top of the Berg overlooking the town, good business should be forthcoming. Thirdly, there is the waterfall on the Glen Avon Estate, a piece of typical South African scenery not easily surpassed and possessing many typical plants of South Africa. The attractions of all three of these places could be enhanced if attention were given by the local Park Superintendent to the preservation and planting of the local flora.

Having spent a very interesting 24 or 36 hours at Somerset East, the traveller would either turn north through Cradock, or, as we hope in Port Elizabeth, he would turn coastward to our City. A trap has already been laid for him in the shape of the Elephant Reserve at the base of the Zuurberg, only some 75 miles distant. This park is now open to visitors during certain months in the year. On the way, however, there are the delightful Zuurberg mountains to cross. This area, although sadly devastated by annual veld fires, can still show delightful heaths, the kaffir-bread tree (*Encephalartos caffer*), the tree composite (*Oldenburgia arbuscula*), the wild gardenia (*G. Thunbergia*), the wild Streptocarpi (*S. Rexi* and *S. parviflora*), Cape chestnut (*Calodendron capensis*), and the wild Cape honeysuckle (*Tecomaria capensis*) and plumbago growing together, several wild Pelargoniums, Proteas, Mountain Harebell (*Dierama pendula*), many Gladioli, Aloes, etc. Several kloofs and odd corners could be preserved to great advantage. A tourist traffic on this section of the National Road could be built up, fed on interesting views, beautiful plants and rare animals. Of course, this could only be done with the close co-operation of the botanist, park curator and local authorities.

Having reached the Addo Elephant Reserve, it would be only natural for the tourist to carry on another 40 miles in order to reach a first-class hotel on the shores of Algoa Bay, to the benefit of everyone in Port Elizabeth.

This idea of chain reserves can be developed throughout the country. I have merely illustrated my point by stating the methods that could be taken in the area I know best. Going north, say, from Aliwal North, it would be a competition between the towns whether the tourist would be enticed N.W. or N.E. Much could be done in many of the towns of the Orange Free State, and I am of the opinion that those towns and districts which make the greatest effort to create nature reserves and places of natural interest would derive much material benefit from the tourist who must pass through their territory on their way to the more famous interesting "high spots," such as the Drakensberg Mountains.

BIRD SANCTUARIES.

The formation of bird sanctuaries should not be overlooked. This is a form of native life that is specially appealing to the tourist. I have in mind the Heronry at Pietermaritzburg. Here is an old disused brickfield where countless thousands of white egrets and grey herons may be seen daily right in the precincts of the town. Here an enterprising Councillor has erected large perches made of branches over the water for the birds to rest on.

At Kirkwood, not far from the Addo Elephant Reserve and on the banks of the Sundays River about 45 miles from Port Elizabeth, a heronry has come into existence. The owner has closely preserved his farm, and he has allowed no shooting nearby for many years. Here on the river bank, facing east and nesting in some 10 or 12 Acacia trees, are myriads of birds consisting of the following species: The Darter, Reed Cormorant, White-Chested Cormorant, White-Faced Heron, Blue Heron, Night Heron, Buff-Back Egret, Greater Egret, Wood Ibis, Sudanese Ibis, Yellow-Bill Duck, Pin-Tail Duck, Black Duck, Shell Duck, Moorhen, Egyptian Goose, Jacana or Lily Trotter, and Water Dikkop.

Their nests are as thick as the twigs on the trees, often but a few feet away from the visitor, who may stand and view the arresting community life of these birds on the top of the river bank on a level with the tops of the trees. Down below may be seen the Wild Duck, Moorhens, Wood Ibis, and others in the river. This amazing collection of wild birds remain in this spot year after year, knowing full well that the kindly owner is their friend and protector. What would I not give to have such an attraction in the Port Elizabeth nature reserve!

CONDITIONS AT THE COAST.

We Superintendents at the coast have a special tourist problem to meet. It should be our aim to entice ashore 100 per cent. of the

passengers arriving by the boats that tie up to our quays. To accomplish this it would mean that we must have some special attraction to dangle before their eyes. In Port Elizabeth we have the Snake Park, which is world-wide known, and we also have "Happy Valley," a water garden now famous for its collection of water lilies.

We are, however, not resting content with this, for we are developing a nature reserve some 211 acres in extent, only 10 minutes by car from the quayside. Here all the flora found in the district, but largely destroyed, is being re-established and bird life encouraged. It is the intention of the Port Elizabeth Council to create in this small nature reserve a real piece of natural Africa, readily accessible to the tourist. Also in the beautification of our streets, traffic islands and odd corners, a large proportion of the plants used are native plants, which in our opinion are what the overseas visitor delights to look at. In mentioning this I do not wish to leave the impression that the ordinary garden plants are to be neglected. Far from it; a square or a traffic island stocked with any well-grown plants is always a joy to behold, but do not forget that in catering for the overseas tourist you have the whole world to compete with. If such subjects as dahlias or roses are grown, do not forget that these are also grown in Europe and America to perfection; whereas by using our Aloes, Gasterias, and Cape bulbs, you are striking a new note as far as the tourist is concerned, and therefore a note that will be remembered as an outstanding feature of your town.

CONCLUSION.

I hope I have been successful in giving you a few fresh ideas on a subject that perhaps, to some of you at all events, has not hitherto been seriously considered. I think I have introduced this subject to this body of Park Superintendents at the right moment. The whole question of South African Tourism is now being tackled in a very serious manner by the Government, municipalities, shipping and oil companies and all other directly interested bodies, a lot of money on propaganda is being spent, and it behoves us to see that our town receives its share of the benefits which are bound to accrue. Finally, I am of the firm opinion that all members of our Association should be alive to the possibilities and opportunities that are there for us to make the best use of.

If I have achieved some measure of success in interesting you on the subject of Tourism as it affects Parks Superintendents, then my efforts have not been in vain.

Reprinted from the Report of the Fifth Conference of the Association of Superintendents of Public Parks and Gardens (South Africa) held at Dunbar, August 1939.

HORTICULTURE AND THE HOME OFFICE APPROVED SCHOOLS.

While not claiming to be an authority upon this work, which is now quite an important part of the training given in these places; 18 months experience in a school has given me an opportunity to study the value of gardening to such as are brought under the control of the staffs appointed. From a horticultural point of view much of the work has of necessity to be of an elementary or early apprenticeship scale. The lads vary in age between 15 years to 19 years in senior grade schools in which my experience was gained and in the main have little or no knowledge of garden work. The instruction is however tending to become of a higher grade and progressive in its outlook both in the actual practice and scientific aspects of the work. The demand for highly trained scientific and practical instructors is increasing and quite a useful opening for young horticulturists is developing.

Perhaps an outline of my experience in the particular school in which I spent a happy and useful period after my Kew days will describe the work now being undertaken with the approval of the Home Office Approved school authorities. The Horticultural dept. was divided into 4 sections; 1, Glasshouses, 2, Market Gardening, 3, Nursery and Cut Flower culture, 4, Garden Maintenance, responsible for flower bedding, borders, lawns and drives etc. A sports field group was run under a trained sports master. Four instructors each with a group of 12-15 boys took charge of these separate sections, the lads doing 6-7 hours of practical work each day. A system of changing from section to section was organised and thus in a 2 years training a complete experience in garden work was made possible. One always had to take into account the standard of intelligence of the individual boy which unfortunately in these schools is very low and so the system of progressive training had occasionally to be somewhat modified.

Practical work is of the most importance. These lads have little idea concerning work, often no inclination for it and also need the disciplined routine which the garden provides. Theoretically the instruction was based upon the Junior R.H.S. standard, for which purpose the boys were divided into upper and lower groups according to intelligence and the brighter ones coached to sit for the Junior R.H.S. examination each March. A lecture syllabus was drawn up for the winter evenings and each group had 2 periods in the lecture room every week, with the very dull and inclement weather months of November, Decembr and January giving additional afternoon periods for theory work.

Difficulties are many and disappointments unlimited. One appreciates more than ever the old "Mutual Improvement Society" saying that Gardeners are born not made. What can be more aggravating than a boy determined to go the wrong way round, adept

at treading on particularly good plants, sullenly ignorant of what a spade is for, or cheerily careless of your prize chrysanthemum buds? Virtues are said to be gained by determined effort in the face of opposition and I am sure patience is the one not gained with any ease. Gardeners are a patient section of the populace and never more so than when on the staff of a Home Office school.

Still we did find compensations and great satisfaction. A bad lad makes good somewhere, effort is repaid by an unexpected result, good advice to a wayward young rascal shows a return one day when he returns to the school, a respectable law abiding and able citizen. Of course only a few, very few in fact, turn to horticulture as a career. Most of the lads come from industrial areas, slums, and such like conditions, far removed from the atmosphere of the garden. We are all aware however of the value of a hobby as an outlet and interest for leisure hours and where better than in the cottage garden or allotment can such energy be expended?

Perhaps some may think that the standard of horticulture is low and the instructors soon lost in the rut of routine and elementary doings. Not so however. Ample scope for the keen man can be found. I think of my experience and the carefully planned jobs which produced excellent results. In Leeds a strong Gardener's Society exists and in the numerous shows organised by that body our school competed with success. Show crops of vegetables, fruits, tomatoes, chrysanthemums and sweet peas were specialities with us and no one in the district had better results. The older lads were keen assistants and woe betide any careless or destructive workmate when show stuff was being prepared.

Then again, think of the satisfaction a man gets as he sees slowly but surely a natural rockery of Yorkshire moorland stone being uncovered. The peaty soil and bracken removed and the grey stone beneath in all its natural beauty, marked and ribbed by the movement of glacier of an age long past, and eventually some of your favourite rock plants, conifers, ericas, bulbs, according to your own particular choice growing in the place long occupied by bramble berries and thorns.

A sense of humour, a good temper, attributes developed by most Kewites, prove of great value when in contact with such lads as are found in these schools. A desire to "rattle" you is always on evidence and when it succeeds the day can indeed be difficult. The lads do know when a man knows his job however, and will follow a lead, even though an attempt to drive will meet with poor response, in their good times, and they do have them, they play the game with the proverbial straight bat.

If you like variations in life here is an opportunity, duties may call you to supervise an early morning wash of 140 boys, washing and boys are rarely in agreement, referee a football match, coach at cricket, advise some boy about keeping Dutch rabbits, conduct a group to the local cinema, keep order in the clubroom, or switch out dormitory lights at 10 p.m. Strange jobs for a horticulturist. Yes, perhaps so,

but one realises that great as our craft or art is there is always another side to life. If juvenile delinquents can be given a new start in life, a new thought, a fresh outlet for hitherto impetuous energies in the oldest of all and most natural walk of life, the garden, then trained horticulturists have an opening full of possibilities in the Horticulture of the Approved Schools.

J. Heppel, R.B.G.K.

1934-37.

Constables and others serving with H.M. Forces.

G. E. Dixon	Royal Artillery.
T. Elvin	Royal Navy.
A. C. Johnson	Royal Engineers.
W. F. Leaver	Royal Fusiliers.
I. Sinclair	Royal Navy.
C. A. Sullivan	Royal Navy.
A. J. Topping	Royal Artillery.
C. G. Topping	Royal Fusiliers.
A. F. Waters	Royal Navy.

Old Kewites serving with H.M. Forces.*

R. Balch	Royal Artillery.
G. E. Carr	Canadian Expeditionary Force.
H. R. Cocker	Royal Air Force.
J. E. Farmer	Royal Artillery.
A. Findlay Gunn	South African Air Force.
N. Lothian	Australian Forces.
B. P. Mansfield	New Zealand Expeditionary Force.
A. B. Melles	Royal Artillery.
W. G. Sheat	New Zealand Anti-Tank Unit.
J. Sparrow	Royal Air Force.
G. Urton	South African Forces.
G. Wolstenholme	Royal Artillery.
G. T. F. Wyndham	Royal Air Force.

* This list is by no means complete. It would be appreciated if details of all serving members could be sent in to the Hon. Secretary for purposes of record.

THE BOTANIC GARDEN AT PIETERMARITZBURG, NATAL.

This Botanic Garden, often referred to locally as "the Botanical Gardens," is of interest on account of its fine natural setting and the fact that such a wide range of plants, both temperate and sub-tropical, grow luxuriantly in it—thanks to a well watered, sheltered situation and deep alluvial soil.

A point of special interest to Kewites is that the post of Curator of this Botanic Garden has been held by Kew men for thirty years (1905-1935). These were, in order of succession—A. Hislop, W. E. Marriott, W. J. Newberry and H. H. Kidd. V. L. Bishenden, who left Kew as recently as 1938, was also associated with this Garden for some time.

Before attempting to describe the general lay-out of the Garden and the plants it contains, a few remarks on its early history may not be out of place, especially as little has been written about it and the records that do exist (in the Pietermaritzburg Archives) are not available to many.

Pietermaritzburg or Maritzburg as it is more usually called, is situated in the midlands of Natal on the border of the 'high' and 'low' veld. The idea of establishing a botanic garden there appears to have originated in about 1868, for in that year Mr. J. McKen, Curator of the Durban Botanic Garden, recommended in a report that a botanic garden be established in Maritzburg for the cultivation of trees and other plants suitable for the higher altitudes in Natal, such plants being in many instances unsuited for the more tropical coastal conditions of Durban. McKen died soon afterwards, but probably as a result of the favourable reports he made from time to time a meeting was called in Maritzburg (1872) with the object of forming a botanic society and obtaining land for a botanic garden. The Hon. T. Shepstone, C.M.G., was elected President and the first Committee consisted of the Mayors of Maritzburg and Durban (ex officio), Dr. Sutherland, Messrs. C. Barter, M.L.C., P. Davis, G. O. Matterson, J. N. Wheeler, W. Jefferies, J. Henderson and J. Russom (Hon. Sec. and Treas.). These were for the most part well known men in Natal at this time.

In the following year (1873) a special meeting was called to consider the Committee's report on the selection of a site for a botanic garden. There was, as so often happens at a meeting of this kind, a marked divergence of opinion as to the most suitable site. Some favoured a site in what is now Alexandra Park, a large municipal park, but other members contended that what should be a "national institution" should be "on its own land." Eventually an old disused brick fields estate, 101½ acres in extent, at the base of the Zwartkop valley, and about two miles from the centre of the town, was decided upon. At the time the area consisted only of bare veld and 'bush.' However the choice was undoubtedly a happy

one and the site far superior to any that the municipal park would have had to offer. The great depth of alluvial soil, the shelter of surrounding hills, a satisfactory rainfall and the fact that a stream (the Dorp Spruit) passes through the property, combine to make the site an ideal one for the growth of plants, especially woody species, from many parts of the world.

In May 1874 the site was taken over by Government deed of transfer. The first Curator or Gardener as he was then called was Mr. E. Willis, an ex-soldier, who resigned after ten years satisfactory service, according to records.

The Natal Government made its first grant of £350 to the newly formed Botanic Society in 1873. This was continued as an annual grant for sixty years, being continued by the Natal Provincial Council after the Act of Union in 1910. In 1933 the grant was unfortunately reduced. However, the Maritzburg Corporation has made an annual grant, varying in amount, for many years. Membership subscriptions (£1 1s. 0d. per annum) to the Society and revenue from the sale of plants has provided the balance of funds necessary for maintenance. Members are entitled to receive plants from the Garden nursery up to the full value of their subscription.

The necessity of having to raise plants for sale in order to "make ends meet" is an unfortunate state of affairs for any botanic garden, for all the time and energy of the Curator and his staff should obviously be directed towards developing and improving the botanic garden as such. The Society has met with many vicissitudes and is said to be now continually in need of funds for the upkeep and development of its Botanic Garden. It is a sad reflection when one considers that sixty or seventy years ago, in spite of a small white population and little wealth in the Colony, public enthusiasm and love of plants were such that the founding of a botanic garden of this sort should be possible, whereas at the present time with a much larger population, considerably more wealth, and better facilities for education and culture, it is a matter of great difficulty for those concerned to even carry on and maintain the Garden.

At the time of its inception the Botanic Garden was connected with the town by a footpath which terminated at a point near Government House. This was constructed at the joint expense of the Botanic Society and the Maritzburg Corporation and was called "Mayor's Walk." In the Society's report for 1876, two years after the Garden was started, it is stated "the public appreciation of this footpath, together with the growing attractions of these Gardens, have been apparent, as some 400 of the burgesses and others have visited the Gardens during the year." It must be remembered of course that the European population of the township in these early days was small. At the present time "Mayor's Walk" is no longer a footpath but an important suburban thoroughfare and connects the suburb of Prestbury with the town.

The Durban Botanic Society, whose Botanic Garden on the Berea was taken over by the Durban Corporation some years ago, acted

as sponsor to its younger sister in Maritzburg in its early years and generously donated a large number of exotic trees and shrubs, many of which are the fine specimens that are so much admired to-day. The Durban Botanic Society obtained plants and seeds from botanic gardens and institutions in various parts of the world and for many years made a practice of sharing them with Maritzburg. Its officers were always ready to help in any way possible. Notable among these was Mr. James Wylie, now the oldest Kewite in South Africa, who left Kew in 1882. Mr. Wylie was Curator of the Durban Botanic Garden for many years and afforded much valuable assistance to Maritzburg during his long tour of office there.

The main part of the Maritzburg Botanic Garden is roughly rectangular in shape and is intersected by a number of paths and small streams. Most of the walks are in the form of shaded avenues, an important consideration in a climate where the sun's rays are fierce for many months of the year. Two sides of the Garden are surrounded by special picnic grounds which are well wooded and more or less in a wild state. The small river already referred to runs through them. These grounds are easily reached by a motor road which enters at one end of the Garden and there is ample parking space. They also have easy access to a rustic refreshment room. A natural picnic ground of this sort is of course preferred by picnickers and serves a useful purpose in keeping them away from the main part of the Garden, for picnickers, especially when young and in holiday mood, are not always desirable within the precincts of a well kept garden!

An avenue of Oriental Plane (*Platanus orientalis*) near the main entrance to the Garden is an outstanding attraction for the trees have developed into magnificent specimens with branches meeting overhead. In autumn when the leaves have commenced to turn it is very conspicuous, even from the hill-tops miles away.

Azaleas are quite one of the big attractions and from the ease with which they are grown and the profusion of flowering it is apparent they are perfectly at home in these surroundings. In the early Spring (September—October) when they are in bloom the grounds are perhaps at their best. Other Spring flowering subjects among the woody plants include the red flowered "kaffir boom" (*Erythrina* spp.), *Hibiscus*, *Bougainvillaea*, *Magnolia*, Tulip Tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), Champac (*Michelia Champaca*) and certain species of *Protea*.

The visitor from a temperate climate is immediately struck with the variety of palms that are to be seen. They have been used with good effect in the general layout and some of the scenes strike a distinctly tropical note. In this unusual Garden therefore one has, on the one hand, the suggestion of the tropics from the palms, and on the other the temperate zone from the wealth of Azaleas. *Seaforthia elegans* and *Washingtonia filifera*, the "weeping palm" of California, are two of the most handsome of the palms present. Several species of *Cocos* (*C. australis*, *C. Bonneti*, *C. campestris*,

C. flexuosa and *C. plumosa*) are also grown and make fine specimens. Other palms are *Corypha Gebang* and *Chamaerops humilis*, the fan palm of southern Europe, the fibre of which (crin végétal) is used in upholstery as a substitute for horse hair.

In the rock garden succulents are the main feature, being well suited for withstanding the dry winter months (June—August) when little or no rain falls. Furthermore, as they require a minimum of attention once they are established they are favoured where expenditure on labour has to be carefully watched. American *Cactaceae* are well represented so also are the genera *Mesembryanthemum* and *Aloe*. The many species of *Aloe*, all native plants, make a fine display in the winter months when they are in full flower. Other plants which bloom during this period are *Poinsettia*, *Strelitzia*, *Camellia*, *Aralia* and *Kniphofia*.

What probably appeals most to visiting horticulturalists and botanists from other lands is the collection of exotic trees and shrubs and the fine state of development and vigour which most of them display. In a report on a visit to South Africa in 1931 the Director of Kew (Sir Arthur Hill) stated "Reference must be made to the fine Botanic Garden at Pietermaritzburg with its remarkable collection of exotic trees and shrubs. This is worthy of being maintained at its present high level and I hope every effort will be made to increase its usefulness and to provide the necessary funds for its proper upkeep." The late Dr. Wilson of the Arnold Arboretum was loud in his praises of the "magnificent fully developed trees and shrubs" and remained for some days taking photographs of the finest examples.

Among the oldest and largest trees, probably planted during the first ten years of the Garden's existence, are excellent specimens of the camphor tree (*Cinnamomum Camphora*), Indian mahogany or red cedar (*Cedrela Toona*), Australian turpentine tree (*Syncarpia laurifolia*), Pecan nut (*Carya Pecan*) and cork oak (*Quercus Suber*). The cork oaks are believed to have been established from young trees sent from Portugal by the Viscomte de Villar. Other large trees are the Indiarubber fig (*Ficus elastica*), Australian flame tree (*Sterculia acerifolia*) with large flowers of a rich red, species of *Eucalyptus* and *Pterosperrum*, and numerous Conifers.

Conifers grow exceptionally well and several of the largest specimens are also among the oldest trees present. Good specimens are to be seen of the American swamp cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), Japanese cedar (*Cryptomeria japonica*), Deodar (*Cedrus Deodara*), several species of *Pinus*, *Cupressus* and South African yellow woods (*Podocarpus* spp.). A number of *Araucarias* are cultivated, such as *Araucaria Bidwillii*, *A. brasiliensis*, *A. Cookii* and *A. excelsa*. Special interest is attached to a *Cryptomeria* in that it was planted by Paul Kruger. Other well known species which are perfectly at home are the Kauri pine of New Zealand (*Agathis australis*), West Indian juniper (*Juniperus bermudiana*), Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) and American Arbor-vitae (*Thuja occidentalis*). The

American pencil cedar *Juniperus virginiana*) is effective as a close clipped hedge, and an avenue of pyramidal *Cupressus* (*C. pyramidalis*?) in which the trees have grown very tall and straight is much admired.

Several exotics that yield important economic products occur scattered throughout the grounds. Some of these have already been referred to, such as the cork oak, camphor tree, pecan nut and various timber trees. Others are the "dragon tree" of the Canaries (*Dracaena Draco*) which yields the red resin known as "dragon's blood," Australian "grass gum trees" (*Xanthorrhoea* spp.) which also yield a resin—used in making spirit varnishes and for staining wood. The Chinese tallow tree (*Sapium sebiferum*) grows freely. It has its seeds embedded in a fatty wax which is used in China for candles. Another Chinese species which thrives and which has been a good deal to the fore in recent years is the tung oil tree (*Aleurites Fordii*). Among trees of medicinal value are Cascara (*Rhamnus Purshiana*), a native of the western U.S.A. and "Cassia lignea" (*Cinnamomum Cassia*). The "Bushman's arrow poison" (*Acokanthera venenata*) with its masses of white flowers is one of the interesting native economic plants.

A pleasing feature of the Garden is the wealth of bird life it contains. The trees, shrubberies and natural thickets afford an ideal sanctuary for them. No doubt the streams and ponds are an additional inducement to some kinds. Fifty-seven breeding species have been recorded in the grounds, including some that are rare. Many of the birds are very tame and may be seen at close quarters in the shrubs along the various walks.

Thanks are due to Mr. W. J. Newberry, Superintendent of the Parks Department, Pietermaritzburg, who left Kew in 1903, for kindly supplying much of the information that has here been given. Mr. Newberry was himself Curator of this interesting, if little known, botanic garden at one time and did much towards its progress and general improvement.

F. N. HOWES.

TOPICS OF THE TROPICS.

By H. BRUINSLICH,

Parks Superintendent, City Council of Pretoria.

I have had the good fortune of gaining a few years' experience in a tropical country in the West Indies which comprises a number of islands in the western part of the tropical world. The Islands are widely distributed in the Caribbean Sea and Atlantic Ocean. The largest island is Jamaica, of which, unfortunately, I have no knowledge. The second largest island is that of Trinidad, the land of the Humming Bird, a small bird which we in South Africa would call a Sugar Bird, but which differs from ours in that it is much smaller and more colourful.

I was appointed Curator of the Royal Botanic Gardens of Port of Spain, the capital city of the Colony Trinidad and Tobago. The small island of Tobago is a dependency of Trinidad. It is famous for its name of "Robinson Crusoe Island."

Trinidad and Tobago were discovered by Christopher Columbus in the year 1498 and were claimed islands for Spain. In 1802 Trinidad became a British Crown Colony.

Trinidad is the most southerly of the West Indian Islands. The flora and fauna and geological structure of the Colony show that it was at one time a part of the South American Continent from which it is separated by the Gulf of Paria. It is situated 10 degrees north latitude and 60 degrees west longitude. Its length from north to south is 69 miles and its breadth 54 miles, giving a total area of 1,864 square miles.

The island is traversed by three parallel ranges of mountains running approximately east and west. The first, the northern range, rising to over 3,000 feet, borders the northern coast, the second, a central range rising at one point to 1,000 feet, runs diagonally across the centre of the island; and the third, the southern range, rising above a few hundred feet, occupies a broad belt near the southern coast.

On arrival at the island of Trinidad one experiences a sight one never forgets. Through the Dragon's Mouth and Gulf of Paria, small mushroom islands are dotted about the sea and are one mass of green foliage—deep green and pale foliage stand up against the bright blue tropical sky. The sea shores of the mainland are covered with the common and well-known tropical coconut palms by the thousands, actually with the roots in sea water!

Trinidad has a tropical climate and may be divided into two distinct seasons, a dry season from January to May with an average rainfall of about 3in. per month, and a wet season from June to December with an average of 8in. per month, the mean annual rainfall being 64 inches.

The coolest period is from December to March. The temperature during the day is 84 degrees and 74 degrees at night. The climate is healthy provided the reasonable precautions are taken—a drink at the proper time (strong), good food, and sleep under a mosquito net. Trinidad is freely open to the sea breezes and thus, though the climate is tropical, the same prostrating heat is not experienced as in other tropical countries. Shade temperature rarely exceeds 90 degrees F., and at night the temperature falls to 69 degrees at times.

Trinidad plays an important part at the present day in the advancement of Tropical and Sub-Tropical agriculture, not forgetting horticulture on a very wide basis.

The Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad was established in 1919, and is maintained by annual grants from many colonies, South Africa also contributing a fair sum for its well being. The College is situated in most beautiful surroundings with sweeping lawns dotted here and there with enormous grand “Saman Trees” (*Pithecolobium Saman*)—a sight to which a newcomer often refers as like a European landscape; except for the well-known *Bougainvillea Mrs. R. V. Butt*, large clumps of *Croton* hybrids and a number of fine cabbage palms (*Oreodoxa oleracea*).

Trinidad's asphalt is used all over the world, and the interesting “Pitch Lake” has played an important role in the history of Trinidad ever since the discovery of the Island. In the early days sailing vessels used to call and obtain asphalt to caulk the seams of their ships. It is here that Sir Walter Raleigh made use of the asphalt for this purpose on his visit to the Pitch Lake in 1595.

The Pitch Lake is a deposit of asphalt covering some 127 acres, roughly circular in shape surrounded by low ridges from which the ground slopes gently to the sea. The lake lies about half a mile inland from the Gulf of Paria. The lake presents a dark expanse surrounded by stunted vegetation and intersected by large numbers of shallow channels in which rain-water collects. The deposit is of great geophysical interest owing to its size and uniformity of composition and it is now generally accepted that it originated in aggregate seepages of heavy asphaltic oil from sands of tertiary age lying at some depth below the lake, the lighter constituents of the oil having been lost by exposure to the elements. Its composition is bitumen 40 per cent., water 29 per cent., clay 31 per cent. refined. The stability and wearing properties renders Trinidad Lake asphalt, when refined or dried,—bitumen 56.5 per cent., clay 43.5 per cent. It is estimated that 5,000,000 tons of asphalt have been extracted and in consequence the level of the lake has been lowered 12 feet. The depth of the lake at one point is 100 feet. Much of its exports have diminished owing to the keen competition of other cheaper road-making materials. The oil industry plays an important part and produces the present bulk of revenue.

EARLY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

Through the Colonial Office Administration, the Government established a fine botanic garden, the first in the West Indies, in the year 1818, where much attention was given to the introduction and distribution of economic plants. Cocoa, coffee, sugar, nutmeg, Tonca beans, rubber, citrus and many other tropically grown economic plants are very cheaply supplied to agriculturists.

The Royal Botanic Gardens situated around Government House are now devoted entirely to ornamental work. Many beautiful trees and shrubs planted nearly 100 years ago are still the mainstay of the Botanic Gardens. These and others introduced from other tropical parts can be studied with the object of utilising them to beautify roadsides.

Many private gardens in the Colony are well laid out with many beautiful tropical shrubs and tree species which are obtained from the Botanic Gardens at a very nominal charge.

All young plants are grown in bamboo pots (*Bambusa vulgaris*). The stems, 15 to 20 feet long, are cut into short lengths of a single joint or node some eight inches long and are used most exclusively instead of pottery ware, as convenient receptacles.

Trinidad has supplied the world with many tropical and sub-tropical plants too numerous to mention. I have selected the most ornamental and certain species which we could try out in South Africa.

SHADE TREES AND FLOWERING TREES.

Amherstia nobilis was discovered in the teak forests of Burma by Dr. Wallich. It produces pendulous sprays about 6 feet long of large vermilion-coloured flowers, and flowers from January to June. It is one of the most beautiful flowering trees I know. It is certainly a most difficult tree to propagate. I think Durban should be an ideal place for its trial.

Brownea or Mountain Rose (*B. grandiceps* and *B. capitella*) are South American trees. They bear in their trunks and older branches, large densely packed globose heads of orange and scarlet flowers. The young leaves are produced in limp pendant trusses and are prettily mottled. Unfortunately these beautiful trees are exceedingly slow in growth.

Erythrinas.—Well known leguminous trees with salmon-coloured flowers, used in tropical countries as permanent shade for cocoa trees in the lower regions and sometimes known as "Water Immortel."

Erythrina micropteryx.—A tall, somewhat spreading tree with scarlet flowers. Produces abundantly early in the year when it is said to be one of the most handsome trees in the Colony. The hillsides are one brilliant mass of scarlet bloom which can be seen many miles away. This species is also used as permanent shade for cocoa trees, especially in the higher regions where it thrives best.

Lagerstroemia Flos-reginae, "Queen of flowers" or "Pride of India," sometimes called "Crepe Flower." A large tree about 60ft. high; is a native of tropical Asia. It is most beautiful when in flower, but bare of leaves in the dry season. When in flower one gets the sight of a huge mauve powder puff. There is also a pink hybrid found recently in Trinidad which must have become hybridised with the ordinary *Lagerstroemia*—one of the best flowering trees, which is propagated by means of seeds. These seeds do not travel well. I believe that Durban has one specimen tree growing in one of its gardens.

Peltophorum ferrugineum, also a leguminous tree, native of Ceylon and Southern India, is a medium-sized handsome and quick-growing spreading tree. The leaves are compound and the flowers, borne in large erect panicles, are rusty brown in the bud and yellow on opening with brown markings on the back of the petals. Anthers prominent and orange-coloured. Seed pods are very attractive—a few inches in length containing one or two seeds, reddish-brown in colour when young, changing to darker brown as they ripen; irregular in shape. This is one of the best trees for shade and ornamental purposes as it flowers twice during the year and is easily propagated by seed.

Saraca indica, also a legume, is a small evergreen tree, native of Southern India and Ceylon. It flowers chiefly in the dry season producing showy masses of yellow-red *Ixora*-like flowers—well worthy of its cultivation in this country.

Mesua ferrea, a *Guttiferaceous* tree, one of the most beautiful trees of the tropics: leaves lanceolate, about 5 inches long. The mature foliage is dark green, but the young leaves are blood red, more brilliant even than young mango foliage. The flowers appear with the flush of young leaves and resemble large single roses, pure white with a yellow centre and about 3 inches in diameter. The tree is a native of India, Ceylon, Burma and the Andaman Islands.

These are the most important trees I consider well worth trying in the Union's sub-tropical areas. Several others of great merit and which may be tried are as follows:—

Spathelia simplex—the Jamaica Mountain Pride.

Sterculia caribaea—a native of Trinidad.

Tabebuia pentaphylla—a South American tree closely related to *Tecoma* whose flowers are of a pale rose colour.

Tecoma serratifolia—also a native of the West Indies, with masses of golden, trumpet-shaped flowers with brown honey guides.

SHRUBS AND CLIMBERS.

Bougainvillea.—Trinidad has produced its well-known *B. spectabilis* variety Mrs. Helen Maclean, from a sport of the well-known *B. Mrs. R. V. Butt* (not Clara Butt!). The Mrs. R. V. Butt *Bougainvillea* was introduced from Carthagena (Venezuela), South America, by Mrs. R. V. Butt. From Trinidad it has been distributed to other West Indian Colonies and to Kew Gardens. There is another variety introduced from Ecuador, with delicate pink bracts. Several successful artificial crosses have been made and are of great beauty. In India, I believe, several hybrids have been raised during the last few years.

Hibiscus rosa-sinensis varieties.

Many varieties are found in South Africa and could be far more used for beautifying roadside and wayside planting, not as bush but grown as standards in sheltered positions. In Trinidad many beautiful varieties are grown as standards. The double-flowered hybrids are most attractive grown as standards, although slower in growth than the single-flowered varieties. A very large number of hybrid varieties have been raised in the Colony, they number well over 100 of many shades of colour. The double red and pink varieties are the most effective ones. They are mostly propagated by cuttings or layers as all varieties do not seed. The Hawaiian Islands are really the place where most gorgeous varieties are raised. The native habitat of the *Hibiscus* is not definitely known, but thought to be China or Japan. The only *Hibiscus* with fragrant flowers is *H. Waimaea*. The flower single, petals are pure white, lightly suffused with pink outside; column pale cream shading upwards to a reddish colour.

Ixora coccinea, native of tropical Asia.—The plant is valued for its trusses of deep coral-red flowers borne abundantly throughout the year. It makes a fine hedge and can stand much pruning. The seeds of *Ixora* mentioned, produce some beautiful hybrids. There are several species well worth trying in our parks, although exceedingly slow in growth and needing sheltered positions. The following are the most handsome :—

Ixora laxiflora, flowers pale pink, a native of tropical Africa.

Ixora lutea, yellow *Ixora* : it is rather a difficult plant to propagate. The plant first came to notice in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Ceylon, and is considered to have risen as a sport from *I. coccinea*.

Ixora macrothyrsa.—A shrub native of Malaya. A fine plant with dark green glossy leaves and large deep flower trusses.

I. parviflora erythrophylla is a native of Tropical Africa and introduced to Trinidad where it has proved one of the most effective shrubs. Bracts are large and showy, bright scarlet.

Mussaenda erythrophylla is a native of Tropical Africa and introduced to Trinidad, where it has proved one of the most effective shrubs. Bracts are large and showy, bright scarlet.

M. lutea—a shrub 6 feet producing small yellow flowers conspicuous for its pure white bracts which are much larger than the flowers.

Petrea arborea—the blue tree *Petrea*—is a plant that should be grown in this country and has a very different habit from our *P. volubilis*, for it is non-climbing. It is a native of the West Indies and ranges from Mexico to Peru. Propagation is done by seeds or layering.

P. volubilis, var. *alba*, a beautiful, rather straggling shrub, with drooping sprays of white racemes about 1 foot in length. I have not seen this plant anywhere since I left Trinidad, and it is well worth introducing to this country. Propagated by seeds, layering or cuttings.

Portlandia grandiflora—native shrub of the West Indies: leaves opposite, thick, dark shiny and green. Flowers in pairs, trumpet-shaped, white, fragrant. In bloom it is a most showy plant, somewhat difficult to grow, thriving best under semi-shady conditions. This should also be a most welcome addition to our parks.

These few notes can be extended a great deal more, but space and time do not permit.

LAWNS.

For areas for lawn work and savannahs there are few grasses in the Colony really suitable. The one commonly used in moist situations is the Savannah or Carpet grass *Axonopus compressus*. It has a creeping habit: growth is somewhat coarse (similar to our Kikuyu grass) especially during the flowering season, for it to make a really good turf, but it is improved by close clipping.

Mole crickets cause considerable damage periodically to lawns, especially during the dry season. A recent introduction in 1924 of a lawn grass is Java Grass, *Polytrias praemorsa*. This grass promises to be of considerable value for lawns; it mats into a thick spongy turf and will stand close clipping.

BEDDING PLANTS.

The two seasons, viz., the wet and dry, have a distinct bearing on the choice of subjects suitable for the flower garden. As a general

rule, during the wet season, small shrubs such as *Plumbago*, *Galpinia*, *Clerodendron*, *Ixora*, *Rondeletia*, *Russelia* and many others must form the mainstay of the garden, whilst in the dry season the common bedding plants used are Asters, *Dianthus*, Marigolds, Nasturiums, Petunias, Phlox Drummondi, Verbenas, Alyssum ageratum, Salvias and Cannas. During the wet season there are really few exotic annuals that will thrive. Zinnias, Balsams, *Gomphrena globosa*, Coleus, Begonia, *Torenia* being notable exceptions. A useful plant for tropical bedding, sometimes adopted where an inexpensive method of filling the flower garden is required, is to make a basis of small shrubs, filling in with annuals.

Trinidad has its speciality in the wonderful *Anthurium Andraeanum*, which can be seen in nearly every private garden, sometimes 5 feet high, growing under mango trees, with stems 3 to 4 feet long. They have wonderful lasting qualities and are in great demand. I had the pleasure of sending 350 blooms to England for the wedding of His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent. They travelled exceedingly well and many inquiries were received from commercial houses in London as to the possibilities of establishing a trade in these brightly coloured spathes (London prices range from 2s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. per inflorescence).

Another plant worthy of mention is *Spathiphyllum cannaefolium* (*Araceae*), often called Arum Lily, grows similar to our *Richardias* near moist banks of streams. The spathe is pure white and is well worth introduction, although I doubt whether it will grow in the open.

ORCHIDS.

When one speaks of tropical vegetation one immediately thinks of *Orchids*, the "King of Flowers." The large number of genera and species of plants included under this term make it impossible to enumerate all those which grow and flower well in Trinidad. I can only refer in a general way to the more beautiful species. N.P. Orchids are usually grown in pots, as is the practice in hothouses in colder countries, but are commonly fastened to blocks of wood and kept in a partially shaded place. The wood of the Calabash tree (*Crescentia Cujete*) is preferred for blocks owing to its durable qualities; the plants thrive well upon it.

Orchids in Trinidad are grown to a more limited extent in wire baskets, in which case palm fibre, crocks, charcoal and even a few bones make good filling material, good drainage being a necessity. A disadvantage of the use of receptacles is that they harbour cockroaches and many other insects, which damage and eat the young shoots and flower spikes. Many beautiful orchids are to be found amongst those native to Trinidad and Tobago. The "Virgin" *Diacrium bicornutum* and *D. indivisum* grow in great profusion on rocks and trees in various parts. They are especially plentiful on the Island in the Gulf of Paria and in some of the exposed rocky coasts

of Northern parts of the Colony. The white waxy flowers are borne on long erect stalks and are called " Virgin " because of the striking resemblance to be seen in the centre of the flower. The native species of *Oncidium* are widely known and in much demand for cultural purposes. The purple or Cedros Bee (*O. lanceanum*), with its usually few-flowered sprays, is usually considered the best, although the yellow Bee (*O. ampliatum*) closely vies with it for popularity. The commonest of the *Oncidiums* is *O. luridum*, the Brown Bee. This is found growing in quantity on trees in the vicinity of Port of Spain, producing large spreading flower spikes and smallish crinkled flowers usually blotched with brown, yellow and white—much variation of colour has been noticed in different plants.

Oncidium papilis, the so called Butterfly orchid, owing to the striking resemblance of the flower to an orange marked butterfly, is also highly prized. In this species, the flowers are produced much more sparsely, and owing to their habit of producing a succession of flowers on the older spikes these should not be cut off when no blooms are open.

Epidendrum is a genus well represented in Trinidad flora; one of the best known in cultivation is *E. fragrans*, a small short plant growing in rocks and trees, bearing greenish white and lilac fragrant flowers.

Amongst the native terrestrial orchids, two of interest are *Cyrtopodium Broadwayi* and *Otostylis brachystalix*; these are not easy plants to establish under cultivation.

Cattleya Skinneri, a native, is, I believe, one of the types used in Europe as a parent plant for hybridisation of *Cattleyas*; seeds are produced very freely on this species.

INTRODUCED ORCHIDS.

Cattleya is the most popular genus and there are fine varieties of this orchid; flowers exceedingly well. Large quantities of *Cattleyas* are brought over from the neighbouring Venezuelan mainland, South America. *Phalaenopsis* thrive remarkably well in Trinidad and specimens are grown on wood blocks or in baskets and even in limestone rocks. They are frequently seen bearing hundreds of flowers. Others grown are *P. amabilis*, *P. Schilleriana* and *P. Stuartiana*. The only *Coelogyne* grown in Trinidad is *C. pandurata*, native of Borneo, which does remarkably well, producing its arching spikes of large green and black; it flowers frequently throughout the year. *Vanda teres*, with its abundance of long straggling almost Cactus-like growths, thrives well on trees or in pots with sticks as supports. It can stand a considerable amount of exposure to sun. The flowers are large, rosy mauve coloured, on erect stalks and must useful for cut flowers. They are grown sometimes as hedges, a wonderful sight to have seen. Quite a number of *Dendrobiums* grow under local conditions, amongst

them *D. Pierardi*, *D. moschatum*, *D. superbum*, *D. Phalaenopsis*. The list of orchids might be continued almost indefinitely and the above is only given as a rough guide to the best selection of species suitable for growing in the tropics.

The following trees and shrubs are recommended for trial in some areas of the Union of South Africa. I am not aware if any are already in cultivation or obtainable from any nurseryman in the Union.

Andira inermis. *Leguminosae*, native of the West Indies, rapid-growing, medium-sized tree, useful for roadside planting.

Barringtonia speciosa. *Lecythidaceae*. A spreading tree with large leathery leaves, a beautiful shade tree, native of Eastern Tropics.

Cassia fistula, Indian laburnum. A handsome tree of medium size with glossy, dark-green leaves. The flowers, in hanging sprays one foot or more long, are bright yellow in colour. A native of India.

Cassia grandis. Horse Cassia. A tree 50 feet high and spreading. Native of West Indies and South Africa. Flowers produced in great abundance during March and April in racemes about 9 inches long, rose pink with yellow throat on first opening, changing to salmon with age.

Cassia javanica. Apple blossom Cassia. A small tree, bare in the dry season, but in May and June puts out fresh foliage accompanied by masses of beautiful rosy-pink flowers closely resembling large apple blossoms. The tree grows very rapidly. It is a native of the Malayan region and well worthy of cultivation.

Cassia moschata. A tall tree of South America. Flowers in pendulous racemes, 6 to 8 inches, very effective, deep reddish brown with yellow and orange red colouring.

Cassia multijuga. A small tree, in September and October it bears pendulous masses of yellow flowers, succeeded later by flat thin seed pods. Can be cut hard back after flowering. It is a native of the West Indies.

Cassia nodosa. A medium-sized tree of tropical Asia. Flowers $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter, borne in dense heads, deep rose pink, fading with age, yellow stamens and a brownish stigma. The flowers are not unlike those of *Cassia javanica*, but smaller and deeper in colour and sweetly scented.

Cassia spectabilis. *Calceolaria* Cassia. This tree is one of the most striking with its candelabra-like spikes of golden yellow flowers, resembling the flowers of *Calceolaria*. It is a native of Tobago.

Cynometra trinitensis—*Leguminosae*—a large evergreen native tree. The young pendant growths are pure white making the tree a conspicuous object—a fine tree for shade.

Eperua falcata—*Leguminosae*. Bootlace tree. A large forest tree, native of British Guiana. An ornamental and shade tree and is conspicuous for the pendant, thin flower stalks often several feet long, at the end of which are borne clusters of dull red or pinkish flowers, followed later by usually single, large flat, reddish scimitar-shaped pods.

Melicocca bijuga—*Sapindaceae*, Genip. A tall tree affording a good shade and very fragrant and attractive with its greenish-white flowers. Native of South America.

SHRUBS AND CLIMBERS.

Calichlamys riparia. *Bignoniaceae*. An ornamental native climber, flowers resembling those of *Allamanda*, but are of a very slightly different colour and have brown lines in the throat; propagated by layers.

Camoensia maxima. *Leguminosae*. A beautiful climber. Three to four times during the year it produces trusses of very large flowers, about 9 inches, pure white, with a narrow golden edge on opening, very sweetly scented—native of Angola.

Odontadenia speciosa. *Apocynaceae*.—A strong-growing native climber, will cover the tallest tree. It is one of the most beautiful flowered climbing plants grown in Trinidad. Flowers trumpet-shaped, 2 inches long by 3 inches diameter, apricot, lined with scarlet tube.

Kopsia fruticosa. *Apocynaceae*. An ornamental shrub, native of Tropical Asia, most attractive pink terminal heads very much like enlarged periwinkle.

Randia longiflora. *Rubiaceae*. A shrub 8 to 10 feet, native of Malaya. Flowers pale yellow, trumpet-shaped, about 6 inches long. Most effective when in bloom. It is not an easy plant to cultivate.

I have not mentioned any palms, but many tropical countries have a wide range of different species and Trinidad and Tobago are rich in some of the most beautiful I have seen, growing in thick and dense vegetation. The "Royal Botanic" has one of the finest collections in the western part of the world.

Reprinted from the Report of the Fifth Conference of the Association of Superintendents of Public Parks and Gardens (South Africa) held at Durban, August, 1939.

In Memoriam.

JOHN AIKMAN.

The death on 22nd December, 1938, in his 72nd year, at his home, 40, Mortlake Road, Kew, of Mr. John Aikman, M.B.E., after a painful illness borne with great fortitude, is deeply regretted by his many friends. Born on 10th October, 1867, the eldest son of Robert and Margaret Aikman, at Johnsfield, Duns, in Berwickshire, Aikman was educated locally and he must have been an unusually apt pupil of a very competent instructor if one may judge from the accuracy and conciseness with which, later in life, he drafted reports and recorded the minutes of meetings in a script as legible as printed matter and more pleasant to read than anything typewritten.

Aikman's early training, which lasted 7 years, was gained at Duns Castle, where his father was Head Gardener. On coming of age he applied for appointment to Kew and on 10th December, 1888, he began work as a student gardener. Two years later, as from 1st January, 1891, he became a Temporary Technical Assistant in the Herbarium. In his case the term "temporary" proved literally accurate; his tenure of the post endured only long enough to enable the Keeper of the Herbarium and the Director himself to appreciate the quality of Aikman's early education, for, on 7th July, 1891, he was appointed Assistant in the Director's Office, a post he was destined to fill from that date until his retirement from Government Service, on reaching the age limit on 8th October, 1932. The official recognition of his work by the conferment of the M.B.E., announced in the *Gazette* of 1st January, 1930, was amply merited.

Aikman's work during the forty-one years of his tenure of this post under three Directors was marked by a very high sense of public duty and a constant regard for the reputation and welfare of Kew as an Imperial as well as a National Institution. To a complete mastery of business methods and a very retentive memory were added in his case maturity and sobriety of judgment which earned the confidence of those he served; his unflinching courtesy and tact gained for him the respect of all who had occasion to visit the Director's Office; while all who consult the Kew Bulletin are indebted to him for having compiled the General Index to the volumes of that periodical for the years 1887-1918, which was published in 1920.

In addition to his purely official duties, Aikman performed also those of Clerk to the Trustees of the Bentham Fund (later the Bentham-Moxon Fund) and in that capacity showed that his ability as an accounting officer equalled his ability as a clerical and an executive officer. These duties he continued to carry out after his retirement from Government Service until the progress of the malady which was to prove fatal had so impaired his vigour as to render attention to business no longer possible.

D. PRAIN.

JACOB BAUM.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Jacob Baum who died on February 23rd, 1939. Mr. Baum was at Kew from July 17th, 1899 to July 21st, 1900. He was a successful and well-known nursery man at Vevey, Switzerland.

DANIEL BLISS, V.M.H.

Deep and widespread will be the regret created by the death, on Tuesday, August 15, 1939 of Mr. Daniel Bliss, V.M.H. who had recently retired from the post of Superintendent of the Swansea Public Parks, a position he held for thirty-five years. For some time past he had not enjoyed good health and he experienced a breakdown soon after his retirement; indeed, he was so unwell that he could not fulfil his engagement to judge at the Chelsea Show in May. He attended Gorseinon hospital on several occasions, for observation, and quite recently became an in-patient. After several periods of unconsciousness he passed away, at the age of sixty-eight. Mr. Bliss did splendid work at Swansea, where the condition of the parks, the educational garden and other fine features are a memorial to his ability, enthusiasm and enterprise. A native of Forres, he entered service at Dalkeith Palace gardens on leaving school, and after other experiences went to Kew in 1892. Here he gained distinction, took prizes for British botany, and became a sub-foreman. Then followed a short period in Cornwall before he entered the London County Council's Parks Department, where he reached the rank of foreman. Later, he received the appointment of Superintendent of Roundhay Park, Leeds, and two years afterwards became Superintendent at Swansea, where at that time there was no proper parks department and somewhat less than a hundred acres of open spaces. Fifteen years later, Mr. Bliss had five hundred acres under his control and an extensive, well-established department. Subsequently, the cemeteries came under his care in addition to about eight miles of foreshore, with a total of over two thousand acres. He established an educational garden and cultivated economic plants as well as hardy and tropical plants; indeed, he formed a very fine collection, educational and interesting, in addition to the subjects needed for spring and summer displays, and such flowering trees and shrubs as were suitable to the district. Mr. Bliss had plenty of initiative and the Swansea Corporation invariably encouraged and supported his efforts to improve the horticultural and recreational features of the Borough. His excellent work was recognized by the Royal Horticultural Society in 1930 when he was made an Associate of Honour, but the crowning honour came two years later when the Council conferred upon him the Victoria Medal of Honour. Mr. Bliss took his full share of the work of the Institute of Parks Administration and, several years ago, was elected President. A kindly, rather shy, and soft-speaking man, it was difficult to realize his tremendous energy when visiting the scene of his life's labours. He made many friends, all of whom will, with us, extend their deepest sympathy to the widow and daughters. The funeral took place on Saturday, August 19, at

Oystermouth Cemetery, where a large number of mourners, including the Mayor of Swansea, Councillor D. Richards J.P., and many employees of the Parks Department, attended to pay their last respects to a beloved and loyal friend.

Many old Kewites holding responsible positions throughout the country owe a great deal to experience gained with Mr. Bliss, and to the help and guidance which he so freely gave at all times. His connection with Kew was a long one, and to the end he maintained his interest in the Gardens and in the Students.

GEORGE HARRIS.

This week I learned with a deep sense of personal loss of the death of my old friend Mr. George Harris, at Westerhope, Newcastle on Tyne. He passed peacefully away after a very short illness on April 29th, 1940. The body was cremated and the ashes interred alongside his wife at Alnwick who predeceased him in 1894.

He sent me the following notes some little time ago.

Brief Note on my Gardening Career.

"Went to Moreton Gardens, Bideford, Devon, March 1870, remained 2 years, then to Veitch's Nurseries.

To Kew May 1872. The 2nd year had charge of the Great Palm House which was opened the year I was born, 1848.

Left Kew May 1874 for Crowe Hall Bath, remaining 18 months.

Then over three years as Foreman at Sion House, Brentford. Back to Crowe Hall as Gardener. I discovered Phylloxera in the Vines, cleared everything out and exposed to the frost for a winter. The new Vines planted won first prize at Bath and Bristol.

I was over three years at Bath this time.

Then to Alnwick Castle 17 years as Head Gardener. The Death Duties caused great reductions I had to leave and decided to grow for the markets, a very stiff job to commence but for some years we have produced over five tons of Tomatoes in the best week of the season.

We are growing perhaps 100,000 Chrysanthemums a year planted out, growing the same crop on the land many years in succession does not prove successful.

We also grow some thousands of pot Chrysanthemums.

Newcastle is a splendid market, especially if one can sell from the base as we do".

Apart from his great gardening interest his leisure time was spent in reading on such subjects as politics, religion, education and philosophy. Mr. Harris was an ardent Congregationalist and the

oldest member of St. James' Congregational Church, Newcastle on Tyne.

I would like to pay a personal tribute to the memory of this wonderful old man, it was my privilege to pay him many visits both alone and with any Kewites who happened to visit me when I lived in Westerhope.

He used to say very frequently "My boy, I reverence Kew." I was always struck by his keen interest in everything, he really lived his life, and made full use of his mental and physical powers.

Mr. Harris founded a wonderful business by hard work and concentration. "I, and my children did this" or as he often said "I came here with a spoonful of nothing and now look at this great business".

It was a never to be forgotten experience to hear him speak of the Horticultural giants of the past, Sir H. Veitch, J. Smith and George Nicholson.

FLOREAT KEW.

ALBERT HOSKING, A.H.R.H.S.

Mr. Albert Hosking died at his home in Guildford on April 17th 1938. He had been in failing health for some months following a severe operation, but nevertheless it came as a shock to the many with whom he had been associated to learn of his death. He was a Cornishman and entered Kew at the age of 20 on April 10th, 1893 and left on June 16th in the following year to proceed to the Cambridge Botanic Garden as foreman. Later his capabilities as a lecturer secured him an appointment under the Lancashire County Council and subsequently at the West of Scotland Agricultural College. He then went to the John Innes Horticultural Institution at Merton, succeeding the late Mr. Allard as Curator. His work and interests there are familiar to many students of John Innes and Kew. He retired in 1931 and went to live at Guildford where he quickly made many friends. He was a member of the Guildford Horticultural Society. During his career he was the author of several books and pamphlets and during the years of the Great War published numerous leaflets on the cultivation of vegetables. In 1931 the Royal Horticultural Society recognised his work by making him an Associate of Honour. He was a quiet, likeable man and there will be many who will regret his passing and would wish to extend their sympathy to his widow.

SIDNEY ALFRED SKAN.

We record with deep regret the death on December 19th, 1939, at the age of 69, of Mr. S. A. Skan, who retired from the post of Botanist at the Herbarium in 1933.

Skan was born on August 30th, 1870, and received his early horticultural training at the Edgbaston Botanic Garden, under Mr. W. B. Latham. Mr. Latham, who had been trained at Kew, was an extremely successful horticultural instructor, and Skan was one of five young gardeners who came to Kew from Edgbaston during the nineties of last century.

Skan entered Kew as a Student Gardener on September 19th, 1892, and after working in the Arboretum and Temperate House pits, he sat for a competitive examination in 1894 for a post as Assistant in the Herbarium. He had always shown an interest in the botanical side of his work and he was very anxious to seize this chance of a botanical career. He worked every spare minute for six weeks before the examination and came out head of the list. He was appointed Assistant on July 16th, 1894, and relieved Hemsley (then Principal Assistant) of the routine work of the Library; this absorbed the major part of his time and energies to the end of his career. After 1899 he was, in fact, Librarian, though he was not actually given this title. He was responsible for the annual lists of additions to the Library from 1899 to 1916, and for the Supplement to the Library Catalogue published in 1919.

Among the reforms effected by Skan was the rearrangement of the main body of the tracts in a single alphabetical series, thus greatly facilitating consultation. The maintenance of the Library in a satisfactory condition and its judicious expansion were due largely to his unceasing care and skill. His devotion to the interests of the Library naturally left him but little time for scientific work. Nevertheless, he elaborated, the *Juglandaceae*, *Cupuliferae-Quercineae*, *Ceratophyllaceae* and *Gnetaceae* for the "Index Florae Sinensis" (1899), and (with Hemsley) prepared the account of the *Scrophulariaceae* for the "Flora of Tropical Africa" (1906), describing 54 of the 59 new species. He retained his interest in horticulture, and contributed to a series of annual lists of plants introduced into cultivation during the period 1897-1915. Their discontinuance removed a valuable source of information on the history of garden plants. A list of his publications up to the year 1906 is given in Kew Bull. 1907, App. 5, p. 136.

Skan's exceptionally good memory and very wide knowledge of botanical literature were always placed freely at the disposal of his colleagues and of visitors to Kew, and he often went to great trouble to help junior members of the staff in their difficulties, whether these were concerned with identifying some garden plant or in tracing an obscure reference. He will be remembered as an example of devotion to duty, and for consistently placing the interests of Kew before his own.

THOMAS R. SIM, D.Sc., F.L.S.

At the age of 82 years, Dr. T. R. Sim, passed away in Durban on July 23rd, 1938. The interment took place in Pietermaritzburg, Natal, and was attended by his fellow Kewites, Messrs. Wylie, Marriott and Newberry. Dr. Sim entered Kew on February 25th 1878 and left on January 29th in the following year to proceed to King Williamstown, South Africa.

For many years (to quote from the "Natal Witness" of Maritzburg), the late Dr. Sim had been an invalid, but his end was unexpected and peaceful. In the morning of July 23rd he had been wheeled as was customary into the park nearby, the end came later in the evening.

Dr. Sim was a well-known botanist in the Union of South Africa. He was born in 1856 near Aberdeen, Scotland and went to the University there. He eventually settled in South Africa after some time spent in America and he entered the forestry service of Cape Colony and in 1902 was transferred to Natal as Conservator of Forests. During his service in Natal he wrote and published "Forests and Forest Flora of the Cape". In 1907 he represented Natal at the South African Exhibition in London, where he did excellent service for South Africa. In 1908 he carried out an extensive exploration of forests and forest resources of Portuguese East Africa and published a volume on the results of his work.

Dr. Sim did much to encourage the growing of South African native flowering trees and shrubs, while his "Native Timbers of South Africa" dealt with the economic possibilities of every known native tree and shrub. He was, as would naturally follow, a keen collector and became a leading authority on South African ferns. Later he turned his attention to mosses and liver-worts, and his extensive monograph on this group was published by the Royal Society of South Africa in 1925.

Among the principal honours by which Dr. Sim's services to South African science have been recognised, have been the award of the South African medal by the South African Association for the Advancement of Science, and the degree of D.Sc., by the University of South Africa.

Professor Bews writes of him: "His wonderful memory for plants, his keen flair for systematic values and relationships, his untiring ardour in the pursuit of new botanical discoveries—all that, and much more, was an inspiration that could hardly fail to appeal to any young botanist . . . Professional botanists from all over South Africa and most countries in the world corresponded with him, and sought his advice and obtained material from him. The farmers in Natal who have planted trees on their farms, and have, over great areas, completely changed the landscape, owe much to Dr. Sim's advice and have benefited in a very material way. Few indeed in South Africa, have succeeded to the same extent in real constructive effort and the whole country is his debtor in a very real sense". Dr. Sim

was a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London and a Fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa.

His writings include many papers on botanical, forestry and kindred subjects, the more important being "Handbook of the Ferns of South Africa"; "Sketch and check list of the Flora of Kaffraria"; "Treeplanting in Natal"; "Forest flora and forest resources of Portuguese East Africa"; "The Bryophyta of South Africa"; "The Native Timbers of South Africa"; "Treeplanting in South Africa"; "The Flora of South Africa", etc.

Dr. Sim was married in 1882 to Miss Margaret Ross Wilson of Rockcliffe, Banchrory, Scotland. She predeceased him some two years ago. He leaves two sons and one daughter to whom we extend our sympathy in their loss of a distinguished father whom we are proud to recall was also a notable Kewite.

(I am indebted to Mr. W. J. Newberry of Alexandra Park, Pietermaritzburg for the foregoing details—E.G.D.).

WILLIAM HENRY YOUNG.

It is with very sincere regret that we record the passing of Mr. W. H. ("Bill") Young, on May 29th 1938, following a severe internal operation. The funeral took place at East Sheen Cemetery on June 2nd and the Guild was represented by several Kewites, including Messrs. Cooper, Osborn and Raffill.

"Bill" Young came to Kew on June 14th 1886 and was appointed sub-foreman on January 2nd 1888, finally leaving on February 22nd 1890, when he went to Clare Lawn, East Sheen, as orchid grower to Sir Frederick Wigan. He took charge there under adverse conditions, his employer having had many set backs, and this was to be the last attempt to create a worth while collection. Mr. Young was given a perfectly free hand to keep or discard plants as he desired. He often recalled how he disposed of barrow loads of worthless specimens, while those he retained responded to good cultivation and the nucleus of a first rate collection was formed. In those early days hybrids were few and species and varieties naturally predominated. Some twenty years later, on the death of Sir Frederick Wigan, the collection was disposed of at a public auction. *Miltonia-Vexillaria Memoria* (G. D. Owen) developed into three plants by Young, realised over one thousand guineas. It was during his charge of this collection that Mr. Young somewhat startled the orthodox exhibitors by breaking right away from the usual method of staging at the Temple Show (the forerunner of Chelsea); he set up a very fine collection in pyramidal form, designed to show the beauty of the plants with far more effect than the ordinary methods. There was considerable speculation at that time as to what view the "powers that be" would take of this new departure. Due appreciation was, however, forthcoming from the Floral Committee, and Mr. Young was awarded a special prize in the shape of a pair of silver candlesticks, thus also creating a precedent.

After leaving Clare Lawn, Mr. Young commenced in a general nursery business at Romford, but the Great War and the subsequent depression retarded progress. His love of orchids persuaded him to take charge of the collection of Madame Bischoffheim at Stanmore for some time. Eventually, during the war years, he returned to Kew, and to his great satisfaction was sub-foreman of the orchid collections. When normal conditions again prevailed he opened a general shop at East Sheen, aided by his wife, and in later years by his daughter. He combined his interest in the shop with local travelling on behalf of Messrs. G. H. Richards Ltd., the well-known horticultural sundriesmen. It was in the latter capacity that he often visited Kew. He was very regular in attending the Kew Guild Dinners and only a few days before his death wrote regretting his inability to attend the 1938 function.

All who were privileged to know "Bill" Young respected him for his sterling qualities; he was always ready to assist the younger generation with advice, while those in need were always sure of sympathetic assistance.

E.G.D.

KEW STAFF (JUNE 1st, 1940).

*(The Names of Life Members are preceded by an Asterisk).*Entered
Kew.

Director	*Sir Arthur W. Hill, K.C.M.G., M.A., Sc.D., D.Sc. (Adelaide), F.R.S., V.M.H., F.L.S., F.R.S. (N.Z.) ...	1907
Assistant Director	J. S. L. Gilmour, M.A., F.L.S.	1931
Economic Botanist	Sir Geoffrey Evans, C.I.E., M.A., Dip. Agric.	1938
Assistant Botanist	B. L. Burtt, B.Sc.	1931
Clerk (Higher Grade)	S. F. Ormsby	1923
Clerical Officer	W. Walker	1929
Shorthand Typist	Miss P. M. K. Milburn	1939
Clerical Assistant	Miss J. H. M. Stevens	1938
Keeper of Herbarium and Library	*A. D. Cotton, O.B.E., F.L.S.	1904
Deputy Keeper of Herbarium	Thomas A. Sprague, D.Sc., F.L.S.	1900
Botanist	*Miss Elsie M. Wakefield, M.A., F.L.S. William B. Turrill, D.Sc., F.L.S.	1910 1909
"	§A. A. Bullock, B.Sc., M.A., F.L.S.	1929
"	V. S. Summerhayes, B.Sc.	1924
"	Miss M. L. Green, B.A., F.L.S.	1912
"	F. Ballard, B.Sc.	1929
"	N. Y. Sandwith, M.A., F.L.S.	1924
"	C. E. Hubbard, F.L.S.	1920†
"	§E. W. B. H. Milne-Redhead, M.A. ...	1929
"	H. K. A. Shaw, B.A., F.L.S.	1925
Assistant Botanist	J. R. Sealy, B.Sc.	
"	Miss E. A. Bruce, B.Sc.	
Botanist for India	K. N. Kaul, M.Sc.	1939
" " South Africa		
" " Western Australia		
Botanical Artist	Gerald Atkinson	1922
Clerical Officer	Miss H. B. Judge	1930
Assistant Botanist (Library)	Ernest Nelves	1920†
"	Miss C. I. Dickinson, B.A.	1929
Sub Assistant	Miss Mabel I. Skan	1919
" "	Miss S. K. White	1929
" "	Frederick C. Woodgate	1922
" "	H. S. Marshall	1932
" "	Miss J. M. Davidson	1936
" "	R. A. Blakelock	1937
Assistant (Temporary Technical)	§A. K. Jackson	1930
"	Miss D. A. Hills	1936
Preparer (Herbarium)	E. E. Knowles	1924
" "	A. W. Olding	1925
" "	D. Saville	1920†
" "	G. Tidy	1927
" "	C. F. Norman	1927
" "	T. P. Flynn	1928
" "	Miss M. W. Tanner	1936
Shorthand Typist	Miss J. R. Shepherd	1939
Typist	Miss M. J. Kierans	1934
Keeper of Museums	John Hutchinson, LL.D., F.L.S.	1904†
Botanist	F. N. Howes, D.Sc.	1926
"	R. Melville, B.Sc., Ph.D.	1934
Preparer	Laurence J. Harding	1913
Typist	Miss E. K. C. Thompson	1936
Jodrell Laboratory, Assistant Keeper	C. R. Metcalfe, M.A., Ph.D.	1930
Curator of the Gardens	W. M. Campbell, N.D.H.	1922†
Assistant Curators:—		
Herbaceous Department	G. H. Preston	1934†
Arboretum	*Arthur Osborn	1899†
Decorative Department	S. A. Pearce	1937†

† Formerly a Student Gardener at Kew.

§ Serving with H.M. Forces.

Entered Kew

Tropical Department.....	Lewis Stenning.....	1925†
Temperate Department.....	*Charles P. Raffill, A.H.R.H.S., V.M.H.	1898†
Clerk (Higher Grade)	Arthur Hearn.....	1932
Clerical Officer	Ernest G. Dunk.....	1914†
" "	W. D. H. Prior.....	1933
Clerk	Miss D. P. F. King.....	1935
"	Miss M. G. Flew.....	1939
Shorthand Typist	Miss G. D. Rockell.....	1928
Sergeant-Constable	Joseph Sealy.....	1903
Packer and Storekeeper.....	Harry W. Ruck.....	1907†
Assistant Superintendent of Works.....	T. W. Yates.....	1933

† Formerly a Student Gardener at Kew

FOREMEN.

<i>Department.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Entered Kew.</i>	<i>Previous Situation.</i>
Rock Garden	L. R. Brown	20 Sept., 1937	Hyde Park, London.
Ferneries.....	§B. L. Perkins	4 May, 1936	Manchester Parks Dept.
Palm House	§R. A. Hudson	16 Nov. 1936	Parks Dept., Leeds.
Temperate House	J. Lewis	23 July, 1934	The Gardens, Sherborne Park, Gloucester.
Herbaceous Dept.	§P. L. Benton	27 Sept., 1937	Hillside, Llandaff, Cardiff.
Flower Garden ...	§S. Rawlings	20 July, 1936	Parks Dept., Salford.
Decorative Dept.	§A. H. Pettigrew ...	18 Mar., 1935	Parks Dept., Swansea.
	F. G. Selby	29 Nov. 1937	Antony Estate Gardens, Torpoint, Cornwall.
Propagating Pits	§D. W. Sayers	18 May, 1937	Abbotsford Gardens, Burgess Hill, Sussex.
Temperate House	§E. Bird	22 Aug., 1938	Westmore Gardens, Leighton Buzzard.
Pits			
Aboretum	Charles F. Coates ..	25 Sept., 1915	Manor Park, Pottton, Beds.
Orchids	*Walter E. Everett	12 Sept., 1938	Messrs. Sanders, St. Albans

STUDENT GARDENERS.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Entered Kew.</i>	<i>Previous Situation.</i>
§Arthur H. Blowfield.....	28 Dec., 1938	Devonshire House, Roehampton.
§Eric H. Bournier	24 April, 1939	The Dell, Wheathampstead, Herts.
Edgar F. Bundy	18 Mar., 1940	Barrow Court Gardens, Bristol.
§James Clark	28 Dec., 1938	Cambridge Botanic Garden.
§Gilbert G. Cook	5 Sept., 1938	Parks Dept., Southampton.
§Philip W. C. Davies ...	24 April, 1939	Parks Dept., Fleetwood.
§Denis A. Downs	27 Mar., 1939	Luton Hoo Gardens, Luton.
§Horace J. Eaton	4 April, 1938	The Nurseries, Borrowash, Derby.
§Frank J. Ford	25 Oct., 1937	Parks Dept., Margate.
§Francis J. Hebden	15 Nov. 1937	Cambridge Botanic Garden.
§David C. Hollis	9 May, 1938	Llandaff, Cardiff.
§Kenneth H. James	15 Mar., 1939	Messrs. Aish & Son, Dunstable, Beds.
§George S. Joy	27 June 1938	Hillside, Llandaff, Cardiff.
Leslie Laking	31 July, 1939	Dept., of Hort., Ontario Agric. College, Ontario, Canada.
Wilfred N. Lawfield.....	27 Sept., 1937	Messrs. Ridgeon, Cambridge.
§Dugald Carr Mackenzie.	27 Feb., 1939	Wellington Botanic Gardens, New Zealand.
Frank H. Mackinnon ...	15 May, 1939	Lord Wandsworth Agri. College, Basingstoke
§Maurice Mason	16 May, 1938	Rotherfield, Chesham Bois, Bucks.
§Leonard F. McElroy ...	30 May, 1939	Knap Hill Nursery, Woking.

§ Serving with H.M. Forces.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Entered Kew</i>	<i>Previous Situation</i>
§ James Middleton	20 Mar., 1939	Parks Dept., Dudley.
§ Reginald F. Miles	30 May, 1938	Hall Gardens, Winscombe, Somerset.
§ John L. Norris	23 Aug., 1937	Royal Hospital Gardens, Chelsea.
§ Charles E. Puddle	24 July, 1939	Parks Dept., Manchester.
§ Thomas W. Rayment ...	7 Nov. 1938	Backhouses Nursery, Beecroft, N.S.W. Australia.
§ James Redman	13 Mar., 1939	John Innes Hort. Institute, Merton.
§ Walter J. Slade	26 June 1939	The Gardens, Trent Park, Herts.
§ Eric E. Smith	20 Feb., 1939	Parks Dept., Hounslow, Middlesex.
§ Frederick B. Stevens ...	21 Nov. 1938	Parks Dept., Manchester.
§ John W. E. Stott	30 May, 1938	Tresco Abbey, Scilly Isles.
James E. Waters.....	1 Aug., 1939	Niagara Parks Commission, Niagara Falls. Canada.
§ Alistair G. K. Will	4 Sept., 1939	Parks Dept., Blackpool.
§ Edward J. S. Willett ...	6 Feb., 1939	Messrs. Secrett, Walton-on-Thames.
§ Cyril J. Wilmot	15 Mar., 1939	Parks Dept., Folkestone.
	§	Serving with H.M. Forces.

OLD KEWITES.

(The Names of Life Members are preceded by an asterisk).

Abbreviations :—H.G., Head Gardener ; F., Foreman ; N., Nurseryman ; M.G. Market Gardener ; C., Curator ; D., Director ; M., Manager ; B.G., Botanic Garden ; S., Superintendent, etc.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Left Kew.</i>	<i>Present Position and Address.</i>
Abbing, J.....	Nov. 1936 ...	Beauweu Park, P.B. Grahamstown, S. Africa.
*Abbot, James M.....	Sept. 1898 ...	F., Park Farm, Woking Village, Surrey.
Adams, R.....	Apr. 1903 ...	St. Joseph's Hospital, Burlington Lane, Chiswick.
Addison, G. H.....	May 1938 ...	Botanic Gardens, Singapore, S.S.
Adamson, John.....	July 1909 ...	N., Moniaive, Dumfriesshire.
Agate, C. J.	Apr. 1926 ...	21, Hayden Avenue, Great Neck, Long Is., N.Y., U.S.A.
*Aikman, Miss M. G.....	Nov. 1924 ...	40, Mortlake Road, Kew, Surrey.
Airey, J. E.	May 1939 ...	Land Settlement, Ass. Home Farm, Potton, Beds.
*Alcock, Mrs. N. L., M.B.E., F.L.S.	Nov. 1918 ...	Dept. of Botany, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh.
Alcock, R. M.....	Mar. 1930 ...	H. G., Hailey, Ipsden, Oxon.
*Allen, C. E. F.	Feb. 1904 ...	G12, Du Cane Court, London, S.W.17.
Allison, B. W.....	Jan. 1930 ...	Asst. Supt., Parks Dept., Salford, Lancs.
*Allt, W. S.....	Jan. 1911 ...	Cold Spring, New York, U.S.A.
Ashton, A. H. G., M.A.....	June 1925 ...	British Museum (Nat. Hist.), S.W.7.
*Anderson, A. W. C., N.D.H. (N.Z.)	Feb. 1926 ...	S., Parks and Reserves, Timaru, N.Z.
Andrews, C.....	Oct. 1922 ...	F., Tresco Abbey, Scilly Islands.
*Arden, Stanley.....	June 1900 ...	"Bintang", Gerald Road, West Worth- ing.
*Arnold, T. A.	Jan. 1931 ...	Supt. of Parks, Boksburg, Transvaal, South Africa.
Ashlee, T. R., B.S.(Ed.)	April 1910 ...	Univ. of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, U.S.A.
Atkins, L. G., N.D.H.....	Oct. 31 ...	The Lodge, Kings Court, Forty Lane, Wembley Park.