

Along Azalea Row

By RUTH B. SMITH

An accolade of ruffles of the drum, two tigers or three "rahs" — whatever your medium of praise—to B. Miller, who, when asked by this writer how she'd like to gather a few gardeners' resolutions for the New year for this column, went far beyond the call of duty and wrote the whole column for her. That's friendship!

And what staunch resolutions she gathered, certainly a fine goal

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toward which to aim in 1954. However, one of the resolutions may set off a discussion bomb greater than the earwig thought would resound in her own ear, perchance. There are two schools of thought in this area, we find. It must be stated that, to quote the radio, the earwig's comments were "her own and not necessarily an expression of the opinions of this station!" Personally, we are great believers in the Christmas card custom, built up over a long period of neighbors and friends where we have formerly lived; no matter how frequently one hears or sees a particular friend or neighbor over the back fence, it is heart-warming indeed to know they've given you an extra-special thought at Christmas and that you, too, may take time out in a busy whirl to think of them, also. We cherish the messages from near and remote friends as an important part of our holiday season.

Our sympathies are always with the postoffice people but it is probable they would be the last to advocate cutting down the Christmas mailings. 'Tis even rumored about that one employee, hard-working as the rest, gained weight at it. Another ruffle for the patient, long-suffering postal departments before we get back on the garden path or before our editor himself announces that "the opinions herein expressed are not necessarily... 'his'n."

The January meeting of the Garden Club (Jan. 14) will be high-lighted by the celebration of the ninth birthday of the club. Plans are secret but the fact they are in the hands of the past club presidents, with Martha Grayshel as chairman, bodes well for what is in store for us. Answer to roll-call includes a report on our winter flowers at Christmas. To date, at least a hundred different blooms have been reported. Though some of us have few,

Wildlife Stamps Being Distributed

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The 17th annual Wildlife Conservation Stamps published by the National Wildlife Federation are now being distributed from Federation headquarters in Washington.

The 36 stamps in the 1954 edition include full-color illustrations of 14 species of North American birds, five mammals, five fishes, seven wild flowers and two trees, the red admiral butterfly, a timber rattlesnake and the Anderson tree frog.

They were painted by four noted nature artists. Roger Tory Peterson, the Federation's art director and best known for his illustrated "Field Guide to the Birds," contributed nine of the birds, ranging from the lordly Canada goose and the popular bobwhite to the colorful scarlet tanager. He also painted the but-

terfly and some of the wild flowers. The five mammals — black bear, walrus, gray fox, wood rat and coati — were painted by Francis Lee Jaques, for many years staff artist of the American Museum of Natural History. Jaques also contributed the fishes, five of the birds and the trees. Some of the wild flowers were done by Leslie Ragan, one of America's foremost travel-poster artists. Michael Bevans, youthful New Jersey illustrator and a newcomer among the Wildlife Stamp artists, contributed the rattlesnake and tree frog.

Over 600 species of American wildlife have been portrayed in the National Wildlife Federation stamps since the series started in 1938. Reproduced by six-color lithography, the stamps are distributed by mail to individuals throughout the country. They

those few may not be grown by any other resident so bring your list along. Mrs. Lois Peterson has agreed to make a compilation of the lists after all are given her at the meeting. Come one, come all, to learn more of gardening (especially Junior gardening this time), to greet your old and new friends, and to honor our charter members.

(Correction from December: The gold-wrapped Christmas gift, which received one of the honors awarded should have been credited to Marie Guerretaz.)

In a newspaper sent from the entrance to the Great Smoky Mountain National Park in Tennessee, is noted the fact that on January 3 was to occur the nineteenth annual winter bird count there, participated in by the people of that and neighboring counties. It is a day long event, sponsored by the National Audubon Society, but undertaken by the Tennessee Ornithological Society, the University of Tennessee, the Knoxville Bird Club and the Smoky Mountain National Park. Why cannot we, so interested in the birds as part of our program, push some such a count for southwestern Oregon right here?

The participants, some 20 to 30 of them take their posts at day-break and remain until sunset, noting the different species of birds they see and hear. At a dinner that night, the lists were to be compiled. The watchers were to be stationed in designated areas within a 15-mile radius. This winter bird count, held in areas throughout the United States and Canada at the end of the year gives to the Audubon Society, later to be printed in its publication, a complete collation of all the findings and helps to account for the winter migrations of the birds. Can the Brookings-Harbor area secure assistance in being a part of this most interesting investigation?

Soon, says our club president, Mrs. Rapraeger, will come the start of club effort toward the landscaping of our homes and gardens. A book recently added to the floriculture shelves of the Oregon State library is "Small Home Landscaping" by P. J. McKenna and A. B. McKenna Fawcett. It is well worth looking into, in anticipation of the spring program.

In addition to the fine New Year's greeting from the guest columnist of last week, may I add one of my own favorites in similar vein; for all of you:

"God bless thy year—
Thy coming in, thy going out,
Thy rest, thy traveling about;
The rough, the smooth—
The bright, the drear—
God bless thy year!"

Brookings Harbor Pilot 3
THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1954

are the means by which the non-profit Federation finances not only its own activities, but lends assistance for conservation projects sponsored by affiliated state organizations.

During 1953 stamp receipts helped support more than a score of conservation workshops for school teachers and several youth camps, and provided graduate fellowships in six colleges and universities. The Federation also prepares and distributes conservation teaching aids and reference materials without charge to schools throughout the nation.

RETURN TO SCHOOL

Howard Ritchie and Ronald Akers returned to Corvallis Tuesday to resume their studies at Oregon State College.

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