

Spray of Cones and Nuts of 21 Western U. S. Trees Makes Attractive Decoration

Mrs. L. G. Gentner, Medford, who recently designed and made an unusual spray of cones and nuts of trees occurring in the western United States, had planned the project for some years.

She explained that it was not until this year that all of the cones which were wanted were available. It will be noted that the cones and nuts of most of the trees are quite different from each other except those of the Engelmann and Sitka spruce, which are very difficult to tell apart.

Cones of the true fir trees were not included, Mrs. Gentner stated, because they fall apart as soon as they mature. It was not found practical to include either very large or very small cones.

A very large number of trees are native in the western states, and in the Siskiyou area of southwestern Oregon and northwestern California are found the largest number of tree species for any area of North America of comparable size.

Native To Area

This is borne out by the fact that 14 of the 21 kinds of cones and nuts used in this spray are native within a radius of 100 miles from Medford and at least three other species are grown here under cultivation.

In the spray will be found three cones or nuts of each species except for the giant sequoia or bigtree, the pinon or nut pine, the western yellow pine and the weeping spruce, of which there is only one of each.

In identifying the cones begin at the slender tip at bottom, working up toward the ribbon on the right side of the spray, then from the ribbon back to the tip on the left side.

1. The small slender acorns at the very tip are those of one of the species of California live or evergreen oaks (Quercus sp.).

2. Above these are the three-pronged reddish brown cones of the incense cedar (Libocedrus decurrens) which grows extensively in this area. It is the only species of this type occurring in North America.

Redwood Tree

3. The three small oval cones of the redwood tree (Sequoia sempervirens) occurring only in southern Oregon and in California.

4. The somewhat larger three cones with firm scales are those of the western larch (Larix occidentalis) which occurs in northeastern Oregon and farther north.

5. The larger woody egg-shaped cone is that of the giant sequoia or bigtree (Sequoia gigantea) native in the high Sierra mountains.

6. The three cones with the papery scales are from the Engelmann spruce (Picea Engelmannii) which occurs inland at higher elevations. The cones are very similar to those of the Sitka spruce.

7. The cones of the Douglas fir (Pseudotsuga Menziesii) are easily distinguished by the pitchfork-like bracts which extend from between the scales. This is not a true fir, but a false hemlock.

8. The round woody cones with the large divisions come from a variety of Arizona cypresses (Cupressus arizonica) which is native in Arizona and New Mexico.

9. The acorns with the cups are those of the California black oak (Quercus Kelloggii) which occurs in Oregon and California.

10. The large flat light brown scales are those of the sugar pine cone (Pinus Lambertiana). Only the scales were used because the cones are unusually large, occasionally reaching two feet in length.

11. The single light colored cone is that of the pinon or nut pine (Pinus cembroides) variety (monophylla) the seeds of which are sold commercially for eating.

12. Just below the ribbon on the left are three mountain hemlock cones (Tsuga Mertensiana). These trees are abundant in the Crater lake area at higher elevations. The cones have a lovely fragrance which often is retained for years.

Yule Customs Topic for Club In Shady Cove

Shady Cove Christmas customs in foreign lands was the subject of the program which was given at the recent Christmas party held for Shady Cove Garden club members. Mrs. Delbert Spain gave the talk and Mrs. George Fields was hostess in her home for the event. Mrs. Del Logan and Mrs. William Cote were co-hostesses.

Christmas carols were sung accompanied by Mrs. J. A. McCorkle and musical selections were composed and sang by Mrs. Mona Solcany.

The Fields home was decorated in the Yuletide theme by Mesdames Solcany, B. Molnar, Frank E. Russell, T. M. Littlefield, Richard Pfeiffer, Edna Turner, William A. Shepherd, Cote, C. Kelsey, O. L. Williams and Fields.

It was reported that a truck load of greenery for Christmas decoration was taken to the Veterans Domiciliary by Mr. and Mrs. Spain.

Mrs. Littlefield reported on the decorating of the Shady Cove school cafeteria for the term. The Community church was decorated by Mrs. Shepherd, it also was reported.

Guests included Mrs. Gird Levering, Mrs. A. Wilson, Mrs. Edith Towle, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Alberta Alicki and Mrs. Benard Nork Jr.

The next meeting will be February 11 at the home of Mrs. Shepherd, assisted by Mrs. B. Bishop and Mrs. Molnar. No January meeting will be held.

Holiday Breads Are Demonstrated

Yreka — Bev Lyons, Medford, Pacific Power and Light company home economist, conducted a Holiday Bread day baking demonstration in Yreka recently.

Approximately 70 people attended the event sponsored by the Yreka 4-H Home Economic club and held at the Yreka Union High school.

Libby Dudley introduced Miss Lyons who demonstrated the making of sweet dough from which she made kulich, kolacky and kuchen. She also made German stollen and explained how to make many other foreign sweet breads. Miss Lyons stated that hot roll mix instead of the basic sweet dough may be used.

At the close of the demonstration the audience was invited to sample the German stollen, saffron bread and Holland Christmas breads.

Fish Canning Facts Now Being Offered

Fishermen who come home with a big catch of salmon or tuna from Oregon's coast may want to can some to treat visiting Easterners next summer.

Directions for canning albacore tuna and salmon are found in a new Oregon State university fact sheet now available at county extension offices.

Fish can be canned fresh or after smoking but should be handled quickly to prevent spoilage. Dr. E. W. Harvey, head of the OSU Seafoods laboratory at Astoria and Virginia Weiser, extension nutritionist, produced the fact sheet. Its title is, "Canning Tuna and Salmon at Home."

A healthful drink with a real "taste thrill" is butter-milk cocktail. It is made by mixing together equal parts of tomato juice and butter-milk.

13. The single large cone is from the western yellow pine (Pinus ponderosa). The cones may be somewhat smaller or considerably larger.

Western Yellow Pine

14. The three cones of the Sitka spruce (Picea sitchensis) have rather thin scales and greatly resemble those of the Engelmann spruce. This, however, is a coast species often found on the lowlands facing the ocean.

15. The larger more woody cones are those of the Austrian pine (Pinus nigra) the only ones in the spray which are not from a native tree. This is of European origin. The trees are used in landscaping and the cones are valuable in arrangements because of their form, coloring and size.

16. The very large pointed acorns come from the valley oak (Quercus lobata) which is the large spreading oak found in the low valleys of western California.

17. The long slender cone (beneath the valley oak) is that of the rare weeping spruce (Picea Breweriiana) which occurs in high cold hollows or north slopes, usually from 5,000 to 7,000 feet, from the Trinity mountains of California to the Siskiyou mountains of southern Oregon. Other spruces may have some forms that have a weeping habit of growth, as for example some of the Norway spruces in Lithia Park, Ashland, but the Brewer's spruce is the only one that always has the weeping habit.

18. The rather short rounded cones with light tips on the woody scales are those of the lodgepole pine (Pinus contorta) variety (Murrayana) which is abundant along Crater Lake highway above Union Creek, toward Diamond lake and along the Bend highway.

19. The grayish round cones with large divisions are the typical cones of the Arizona cypress (Cupressus arizonica) previously mentioned.

20. The light tan round nuts are those of the famous Oregon myrtle or California laurel (Umbellularia californica).

21. The small broadly oval cones with thin stiff scales are from the western hemlock (Tsuga heterophylla). It is plentiful along the Crater Lake highway from around Prospect and beyond.

22. The dark woody oval cones near the tip are from the Oregon or red alder (Alnus Oregonica) which is abundant along the coast.

Mrs. Gentner and her husband, Dr. Gentner, who retired recently as entomologist of the Southern Oregon Experiment station, are known throughout the area as gardeners and floriculturists, for their prize-winning roses, for their interest in propagation and crossing of various plants, such as chrysanthemums and as flower show judges. Mrs. Gentner studied flower arranging for a number of years, has taught classes and wins many prizes in shows.

CALENDAR..

Today 2 to 5 p.m. — "Bizzare Bazaar," Rogue Art Gallery, 220 West Main st., Medford.

2 to 5 p.m. — Benefit square dance, Country Square hall, Colver rd., Talent.

2 p.m. — Auxiliary to Colonel Sargent camp, USWV, Redman hall.

Monday 12:30 p.m. — Eleanor Roosevelt league, luncheon honoring Robert Duncan, at Colony restaurant.

12:30 p.m. — Rogue chapter, Grandmothers club, Girls Community club.

1 p.m. — Crater chapter, Grandmothers club, Mrs. Charles Jantzer, 1734 Beall lane.

6:30 p.m. — Men of Unity, Unity church of Medford, Holly and Haven sts.

7:15 p.m. — Warren assembly, International Order of Rainbow for Girls, Jacksonville Masonic temple.

7:30 p.m. — Ruth Esther unit, Wesleyan Service guild, home of Mrs. George Roseberry.

7:30 p.m. — Parents Without Partners, 209 South Oakdale ave.

8 p.m. — Olive Rebekah lodge, IOOF hall.

Tuesday 9:30 a.m. — WSCS, First Methodist church at church.

10 a.m. to 12 noon — Medford alumnae, Sigma Kappa sorority, Mrs. Jack D. Pfeiffer, 2806 Larch ave.

10 a.m. — Clark group, First Christian church, Mrs. Frank Chapman, 1041 West Fourteenth st.

10:30 a.m. — Sam's Valley unit, Mrs. Earl Bigham, Webster rd.

12 noon — Jackson county inter-community council, Public library, Medford.

1 p.m. — Ladies of Elks, Elks club downstairs lounge.

1 p.m. — F i r s t Christian church groups, McCracken, Mrs. George Breece, Rogue Valley Manor, Swander, Mrs. Harold Ottosen, 109 Geneva st., Troxell, Mrs. Chester Peterson, 907 Beall lane, Wear, Mrs. Herb Sims, 47 North Peach st.

1 p.m. — Medford Navy Mothers club, Mrs. Henry Doores, 138 Van Ness ave., Ashland.



This spray of cones and nuts is made of materials native to western United States. Made by Mrs. L. G. Gentner, 14 of the 21 kinds of cones and nuts used are native within a radius of 100 miles of Medford and at least three other species are grown here under cultivation. Identification of the materials may be found in the accompanying story.

Steinbeck Book Review Given At Study Club

Ashland — "Travels With Charley" by John Steinbeck furnished an hour of merriment for members of Ashland Study club as they listened to its review by Mrs. Harold Merrill. The regular meeting was held December 10 at the home of Mrs. Grace Engle and Miss Gertrude Engle.

Steinbeck, winner of the 1962 Nobel literature award, displays a new style in this most recent book of philosophy, travel and humor, with Charley, his French poodle, playing the hero as well as the buffoon.

The author and his dog wander across the nation in search of America, learning from small towns and country people and finding a new perspective and a new appreciation of the greatness that is America. Humorous are the accounts of Charley's first sight of a bear in Yellowstone park and Steinbeck's return to the hectic traffic snarl of New York after having safely negotiated thousands of miles in his transcontinental journey.

Following a brief business session conducted by the president, Mrs. R. Drew Lamb, Mrs. N. H. Dillon presented the half-hour selected subject, taking for its basis an article appearing in the November Holiday magazine.

Her timely topic, "The U. S. Post Office," included the new regulations and rates that are to go into effect the first of the year and statistics about the largest mail service in the world. She gave a brief history of the post office which was looked upon "as revolutionary" at the outset; told of the many sidelines which are carried on as a part of the post office, and described the pandemonium when a packaged bee hive broke open in a post office.

The next study club meeting is to be December 31 at the home of Mrs. Marcus Woods.

Pythian Club Elects Officers

Mrs. John Russell was elected president of the Pythian club at their recent Christmas meeting. Mrs. Don Ross was elected vice president, Mrs. Walter Grochocki, secretary, and Mrs. Jack Hall, treasurer.

The members turned in their Christmas socks, a gift exchange was held and Calanthie Sisters were announced.

An auditing committee was appointed consisting of Mrs. Leroy Cline, Mrs. Grochocki and Mrs. Ruth Walden.

The retiring president, Mrs. George Bryant, was presented a gift from the group.

Cards were played with prizes won by Mrs. Grochocki, Mrs. Ida Ireland, Mrs. George Thomas and Mrs. Hall.

Hostesses for the evening were Mrs. Carl Fichtner and Mrs. Thomas.

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