



**AN ARRANGEMENT** of chrysanthemums, presented by Flowers, by Bill and Rita, centered the attractive tea table for open house of the Northside Garden Club on September 26. Other flowers about the rooms were arranged by club members. Guests were taken on a tour of the rooms. Mrs. George Tockey opened her house for the afternoon also. Pouring is Mrs. Lester Urbach center, Mrs. Charles Ohles and right, Mrs. Walter Sohrakoff, co-chairmen for the event. Others pouring during the afternoon were Mrs. J. Pitts Elmore, Mrs. Will Blackman, Mrs. W. P. Hooper, Mrs. Orville Ferrell, Mrs. Earl Redman, Mrs. C. C. Wiard, Mrs. Will Wood, Mrs. A. G. Krause, Mrs. Arch Proctor, Mrs. Scott McKendree and Mrs. Phil Schroeder.

## Fall Bulb Planting Brings Spring Beauty

BY HENRY PREE

Written for NEA Service

If you want masses of exciting color in your garden next spring without any further effort on your part during that busy season, plant imported Dutch bulbs this fall. Next year, by the time the first migrating birds arrive, you'll have such a floral display they won't know the old place!

When you plan your garden, be sure to get a full money's worth. Plan carefully so that your bulb-flowering time stretches over at least two months. You'll want tulips, hyacinths and daffodils, of course, but be sure to include early and late-flowering kinds so your garden is never without spring color—from the first early bulbs until the last tulip gives way to summer flowers.

Don't overlook the so-called "little" bulbs—little in size but not in performance. First lady of spring, the snowdrop (*Galanthus*), blooms even in the coldest sections in February, flaunting fragile white bells in the wintry sun. Following closely on its heels is the glory-of-the-snow (*Chionodoxa*).

Early arrivals also include the spring snowflake (*Leucojum*) with its large white bells; each petal bears a dainty green dot.

The snowflakes, along with the Siberian squill (*Scilla*) and its breath-taking blue, are at home among perennials, under shrubs or in the rock garden. Being small, they are best planted toward the front of the border.

Crocuses grow well in lawns or under trees and shrubs. Their clear golden yellow, white, purple or striped white flowers are thrilling to behold in early spring. Grape hyacinths (*Muscari*) are good companions for many bulbs, with their little, deep blue flowers clustered like bunches of tiny grapes. They bloom early and stay late, as if reluctant to leave the garden scene.

There are only a few simple rules to follow when planting bulbs. They like a mellow, rich soil with good drainage so they are not resting in wet soil all winter. But at the same time, bulbs require a fair amount of

spring moisture. Sunlight is good for all of them, although early bulbs may be planted among deciduous trees and shrubs—receiving enough light while the branches are still bare.

In moderate and cool climates, plant your bulbs as soon as you get them, for they are less open to injury or drying in the garden bed than in makeshift storage in cellars and garages.

Procedures for planting most bulbs are as follows: Plant daffodils in sun or light shade, six inches deep, and six to 10 inches apart. Plant tulips six inches



**HYACINTHS, tulips and daffodils** will put vivid color in your spring garden.

apart, and at least six inches deep. The same goes for hyacinths, with full sun preferred. Plant crocuses three inches deep, three inches apart. Little bulbs can be planted in light shade or sun. Grape hyacinths should be planted two inches deep, two inches apart, while Siberian squill and glory-of-the-snow need three inches space between bulbs. Plant snowflakes three inches deep and four inches apart, and snowdrops three inches deep and three inches apart.



By RUTH KING

Shut yo' eyes honeys, harden yo' hearts and be ruthless about yanking out all those summer blooming bedding plants even if they do have a few straggler blooms still turning toward a cooling sun.

Getting these out of the way and the border where they bloomed licked clean before snow fall will save you many a headache and frozen fingers in the spring.

This is a good time to spread poison for earwigs and chlorodane ant hills and put out bait for slugs and snails. You'll find their breeding and hiding places under layers of leaves, under loose boards and any other debris.

It's also a good time to gather together your earthen flower pots which may be lying about, scrub sun and get ready for using to pot up your bulbs for forcing.

Try using a strong water spray from the hose nozzle on your evergreens to flush out stray straws left by nesting birds, spiderwebs and just plain dust. Gives them a fresher treatment.

This is the time of year too, to root out shrubs that have outlived their beauty and usefulness or have become overgrown. Substitute something new and interesting.

Fall spraying for pests will give you a head start next spring. Noted clusters of brown aphids this week on our last rose buds and got busy with treatment that made them bite the dust. Trimmings of the water sprouts from the Hawthorne tree and harvested the Italian prune crop . . . brought in a parsley plant to pot for the kitchen window sill . . . dunked it in dirt right up to the crown and watered well. Removing coarse outside leaves helps hasten those little greens shoots in the center that will go into soups, gravies and salads when the snow flies.

Dug the last of the onions and a hill or two of red "taters" we had overlooked.

Don't forget the Potato Festival at Merrill, come October 19, 20, 21. Tuck a pet cabbage, half a dozen fine onions, a few smooth potatoes under your arm and take them down Merrill way to exhibit. Cash prizes being offered and for five dollars you can buy a lot of seed for next spring's plantings. See you at Merrill.

— To prolong bloom, pot up some of the annuals — zinnias.

### A Smart Outlook



**A COMMON PROBLEM** in every home is how to screen from view those necessary items of equipment which are not attractive. Simply shield them from sight with a fencing of rugged, attractive, economical corrugated asbestos-cement sheets. The corrugated sheets provide a beautiful surface to paint, but they require no painting for preservation.

## Much Garden Work Remains

The period for evergreen planting is drawing to a close, although deciduous trees may be set in until the ground freezes. But make certain that all new material receives plenty of water and that trees and shrubs likely to be wind whipped or laden with snow are adequately staked and supported.

Tulips can be planted as long as the ground can be worked — or if the job must be postponed beyond that time, mulch the prospective tulip bed with leaves so that the ground will not freeze and planting can be accomplished easily.

A good fall fertilizer — good because it is slow acting — is bone meal which can be scattered with benefit over the permanent tulip plantings and dug in lightly among the perennials.

Gladiolus bulbs and dahlia tubers may be dug and stored for the winter after a killing frost has killed their tops. If the tubers are to be kept in a dry spot, they will winter better if packed in peat moss which is kept slightly moist. Expanded mica is also a good medium in which to store bulbs, although more expensive to acquire than peat.



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