

Brazier Property Colorful Summer Spot

By MARGARET KENNEDY

A rambling, casual garden running more than 150 feet along Kimberly avenue, is a most colorful spot all summer long, thanks to Allan C. Brazier and his hobby.

Reminiscent of an old country English garden, the large lot is a blaze of color from early May, when the first fruit blossoms appear, until the first killing frost in the fall.

Mr. Brazier has his flowers mixed throughout the garden, so there is a continuous change of color not only from week to week, but practically every day.

At the corner of Brazier st., at 303 Kimberly, the Brazier garden has so many different items in it that Mr. Brazier can't even catalogue them.

When he bought the property in 1934, the only growth it contained was wild onions and dill weed. Plantings of hardy Manitoba trees and shrubs were started immediately and have continued ever since.

Mr. Brazier's grandfather came to Winnipeg in 1872 and it is for his pioneer family that Brazier street in East Kildonan is named. His family had a huge market garden that stretched from Henderson Highway where the Curtis Hotel now stands, east to the railway tracks, and young Allan learned the business from his father, although he didn't follow it as a career.

Allan Brazier was employed at Eaton's Mail Order division for 47 years, retiring in 1960. And all through those years his garden has been his great love. "I get more enjoyment out of my garden, with my hoe and rake and a hook knife, than most men get on a golf course," he says today.

The hook knife he refers to



Allan Brazier at his greenhouse, with his border collie "Penny"

EAST END SENIORS ELECT NEW OFFICERS

The Senior Citizens of East End Park Club held their annual Christmas dinner on Dec. 13th.

Mr. Earley supplied the entertainment. Gifts and certificates were given to the members.

The following officers were elected for 1967:

President, Mrs. W. Carter.

Vice-president, Mr. J. McKimm.

Treasurer, Mrs. E. Don.

Secretary, Mrs. J. McKimm.

Social and Sick convener, Mrs. G. Goodchild.

The Senior Citizens meet every Tuesday at 1.45 in the clubrooms, 575 Larsen avenue, for penny bingo. Anyone over 55 years of age is welcome.

GORDON UNITED UNIT MEETINGS

Following are meetings of Gordon U.C.W. to be held this month:

The U.C.W. will meet Jan. 16th at 8 p.m. in the vestry.

Unit 3 will meet Jan. 24th at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Saunders, 301 Bowman ave.

The Mother's Club will meet Jan. 18th at 1.30 for lunch in the lower auditorium.

The annual congregational meeting of Gordon Church will be held Jan. 23rd at 8 p.m.

KING MEMORIAL U.C.W. TO MEET JAN. 18th

Unit 1 of King Memorial U.C.W. will hold their January meeting in the lower auditorium of the church on Wednesday, Jan. 18th, at 8 p.m.

Mrs. E. G. D. Freeman's "Centennial Year Theme Pictures" on 125 years of missionary work among Lake Winnipeg Indians will be shown. All ladies of the community are cordially invited.

is a museum piece, and he claims this is a most valuable garden tool. He is never without one in his pocket.

When he first acquired the property, during the depression, Allan Brazier needed to supplement his income, and this he did from his new garden. He scattered quick-blooming and colorful flower seeds all over the place to attract attention and customers.

He assembled small packages of perennial plants and wholesaled them to the old Farmer's Market on north Main street. His land has always been worked by hand, and he still uses a weed-hoe bought by his father in 1906.

Mr. Brazier's specialties ran to peonies, gladiolus and tulips. At one time he had 300 peony bushes and cut as many as 3,500 blooms in one season. He started with 250 tulip bulbs and at one time had 5,000 of these. He is still growing tulips from bulbs bought in 1920.

Almost everything grows in the Brazier garden. There are many varieties of lilacs, honeysuckle, virginia creeper, Siberian crabs, plums, apples, crab-apples, mountain ash, elderberry, elm, maple, oak and ash trees.

There are hollyhocks, violas, flowering flax, six kinds of lilies, three kinds of phlox, and a myriad of Icelandic poppies of all colors, everywhere.

Mr. Brazier, who lives with his wife and son, Norman, is always pleased when visitors and passersby call in to see his garden. He is happy to show it off, and his remarkably photographic memory recalls many an interesting tale of early days in East and North Kildonan.