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Town Toppers

LOR THE FIRST TIME in its history the Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden in Theodore Wirth park has a man in charge.

Kenneth E. Avery



Its new curator is Kenneth E. Avery, a young man of 33, with dark brown hair and hazel eyes.

The first curator was the late Eloise Butler, who founded the garden. served from 1911 to the time of her death in April 1933. Succeeding her was Mrs. Martha Crone. Mrs. Crone recently retired.

Avery is a native of Brainerd, Minn. He spent the first 17 years of his life in Brainerd and then went into the navy for service from 1943 to 1946 with the Third and Fifth fleets in the Pacific area.

On discharge from the navy he finished his high school requirements through the education development program of the armed services, spent a year at St. Cloud Teachers college and then dropped out of school to work on a California dude ranch.

In the fall of 1949 he entered the academic college at the University of Minnesota with ideas of becoming a criminologist. After a year, however, he shifted into the College of Agriculture and graduated with a major in horticulture and a minor in art.

His first post-college employment was with a landscape nursery in Toledo, Ohio. In the spring of 1954 he joined the Minneapolis park board staff as assistant to Mrs. Crone in the Wild Flower Garden.

Avery is married. His wife is the former Muriel Logan of Hayfield, Minn., near Rochester. They have a daughter, Geraldine, now seven.

The family home is at 3912 S. Washburn Av.