# The BULLETIN of the AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

Dahlia Shows All Over the Country This Fall Will See Displays Similar to Above, Which Was Arranged by an Amateur, Mrs. L. H. McKinney, Raleigh, N. C.

## hese Dahlia Articles Will Interest You

Tw ecades of Dahlia Shows - - - 6 First Annual Midwest Show -Danias for Arrangements - 9-10-11-28 Dahlia Forum and Exchange - - 17-27 D-! Stood for Dahlias Until- 12-13-14 N. Harold Cottam-George Farnum 19-20 Air Express Rates Reduced - - - 14 News of Affiliated Societies

- 15 22-30

(Entered as Second Class Matter, January 13, 1922, at the Post Office in New Haven under the act of March 8, 1879)

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# Don't fail to attend the FIRST ANNUAL Mid West Dahlia Show and Fall Flower Festival

2

at

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN September 14th and 15th New Civic Auditorium

The Outstanding Dahlia Event of 1934 \$5,000.00 Premium Schedule

Sponsored by the Dahlia Society of Michigan and affiliated Dahlia Societies of the Mid West

## DAHLIA SEED

From the home of Amelia Earhart, La Fiesta, Elissa Landi, Louise Bates and other fine Dahlias. Hand pollenized to your individual order, grown in Southern California and thoroughly ripened on the plant. The same seed we plant.

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Please specify your choice of parent variety. In order to insure delivery it will be necessary to send cash with order and place your order before October 15th. Orders will be filed in rotation as received and seed will be shipped in January 1935, unless otherwise specified.

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During the past six years this seed has given an average of 80% double flowers and while it is impossible to guarantee definite results, a uniformly high germination and percentage of doubles can be expected.

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1,000 seed \$40.00 Net

Cash with order please, and all orders for hand crossed seed must be received not later than October 15th to insure making the cross and ripening the seed.

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Please indicate a second choice as seed of some varieties may be limited. Plan your seedling garden for next year now and send your seed order to

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Red Arrow is a tested product, used by successful Dahlia growers. Very easy to use—simply mix with water. No soap need be added.

MCCORMICK & CO. INC. BALTIMORE, MD. Standardized Liquid and Dust Pyrethrum Insecticides Ask for Red Arrow at the nearest store handling horticultural supplies—or clip coupon and enclose 10 cents for introductory sample (sufficient for one gallon of finished spray).



McCormick & Co. Inc., Dept. H 3, Baltimore, Md.

I enclose 10 cents for which please send introductory sample of Red Arrow Insect Spray sufficient for one gallon of finished spray.

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Subscription Rates \$2.00 per year in advance. Please send all subscriptions and dues to the treasurer, Mrs. Mabel Rathgeber, 196 Norton Street, New Haven, Conn. Receipts will be promptly sent.

### ADVERTISING RATES

Minimum space accepted, one inch

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### DISCOUNTS FOR YEARLY CONTRACTS

On all contracts for four or more consecutive inser-tions, a discount of 10% may be deducted. This does not apply to preferred positions, nor to less than one-eighth pages.

Editor LYNN B. DUDLEY 580 North Columbus Avenue, Mt. Vernon, N. Y. Associate Editor - -Editor - - - C. Louis Alling 251 Court Street, West Haven, Conn.

## Two Decades of Dahlia Shows 20th A. D. S. Exhibition Occurs September 20-21 At Hotel Pennsylvania—On the Ball Room Floor

The American Dahlia Society will stage its twentieth Dahlia Show and Garden Club Exhibition on September 20th and 21st on the Ball Room floor of the Hotel Pennsylvania. As formerly, it is expected that this will be one of the largest and most interesting Dahlia shows held in the United States this year.

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It is safe to say that today there are more shows for the Dahlia than for any one individual flower. It is also true that the entire world looks to the New York show for Dahlia successes in the winners there. Probably ninety per cent of all of the great new Dahlias originated in the east, if not in the country get their introduction to competition here.

True, there are other great exhibitions and the show spirit among Dahlia enthusiasts is increasing. The affiliated societies of the A. D. S. will hold nearly fifty exhibitions alone. Notices of some of these shows appears elsewhere in this issue. But it should be that the show sponsored by the A. D. S. sets the pace for new novelties and for outstanding displays of the older varieties.

Every classification if adopted by the society will be represented. Awards will be in the form of ribbons, medals, cups, vases, silver services and cash. There will be two sections for amateurs. Section A for those Ribbons and sweepstake prize are awarded in classes A and B.

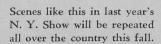
Section C, for private estates with gardener will again be one of the bright spots. This display at New York is invariably filled with splendid Dahlias, well set up—and the classes are always filled. The baskets in this section, particularly, attract the attention of every visitor. Cash prizes with valuable sweepstake prize will be awarded.

Section D, for commercial exhibitors, includes the various commercial displays and these are judged on points. In addition there is table competition with baskets and arrangements to make it interesting. Cash prizes, medals, vases and cups will be awarded.

Section E, open to all class, bids fair to be the most spectacular competition ever staged in New York. A number of growers on Long Island, in Jersey and Westchester County, who formerly exhibited in the amateur sections are prepared to go into "E" this year and the varieties to be shown are great in number and include the best winners among the late novelties. Watch section E, and if your blooms are good, enter some here and know what real competition is. Prizes will be in cash with a valuable sweepstake prize.

Section F will show garden flowers and be open to anyone who is an A. D. S. member. Prizes are in cash, with an interesting sweepstake award.

> Count the Men Dahlia Fans



growing fewer than 100 hills other than the small varieties and Section B, for who grow between 100 and 200 hills other than the small varieties. It is expected that more than ever interest and competition will center here because several growers who have partially dominated these classes heretofore are growing more hills than 200 and will enter their blooms in other sections, particularly the "open to all" classification. This will afford a greater opportunity for the small grower to enter and win. Keen competition among growers of like numbers of hills and blooms always makes a good show.



### BULLETIN for August, 1934

Section G will display gladiolus and is also open to all members. Prizes in cash.

Section H is for undisseminated Dahlias. This is the place where new novelties get their start. Last year the judges felt that, despite considerable competition, there was no entry worthy of the American Home Medal in this section so no award was made in 1933. But this very fact, coupled with bad storms of last year which prevented the showing of some which were being groomed for the show, should bring out a splendid showing in 1934's display. Watch this class this year.

Section I. Specials. This class is always interesting and brings out new ideas or novelties among exhibitors. The judges have the prvilege of adding to this class unusual exhibits which do not come under other classifications and making suitable awards.

Again, as last year, complete schedules are mailed by Secretary Alling to all members within showing distance and to any other members who request them. Tickets and entry blanks to the show are mailed with schedules.

The elimination of root awards is again practiced. This was tried for the first time in 1933 and met with general approval of both winners and the commercial donors.

## Garden Club Section

The Garden Club section will be under the direction of Mrs. Georgena Humble, who has had an active part in this section for the past three years. Her work for the garden club sections of the Spring Flower Show for several years has also been outstanding. The late George L. Farnum (notice of whose death appears in an another column) has been chairman of this section for the past three years. Mrs. Humble has been one of his most energetic and dependable workers.

There will be nearly fifty classifications in this section, the specimen flowers of which must all be grown by their exhibitors. Prizes will be in the form of merchandise from nurserymen and seedsmen and are thankfully acknowledged to their donors.

The location for the show is quite convenient, at Seventh Avenue and 33rd Street, with ball room elevators on the 33rd Street side. It is directly connected with the I. R. T. and B. M. T. lines through basement. New Jersey connections with the Hudson Tubes is less than a block away. Parking is convenient for short periods and garages are located nearby. The hotel is directly across the street from the Pennsylvania Station.

We urge all members who live within showing distance of New York to come to the Pennsylvania these two days, September 20th and 21st. Bring your friends and

### SHOW SCHEDULES MAILED

Show Schedules will be mailed to all members within showing distance with their Show Admission Cards. If you do not receive yours by the first week in September drop a card to Secretary C. Louis Alling.

### N. Y. Show Trade Space Charges Low

Space rate, 50 cents per square foot. Minimum space sold, 50 square feet.

No space definitely assigned unless accompanied by 25% deposit.

Cash discounts—given only if total space is paid for before September 15th—as follows:

> 200 square feet or more—15% 100 to 200 square feet—10% 50 to 100 square feet—5%

your flowers. We promise an exhibition which will be worthy of your finest effort and your best blooms.

The rules of the show are given below. Please read them carefully and you will save delay and disappointment—when you are staging exhibits.

One rule we wish emphasized. Containers are furnished only to competitive exhibitors—and for the actual exhibits for which you hold entry cards. Take your cards to container department where you will be furnished vases and initial your card. Exchange—if sizes are unsuitable, will be made also by means of your entry card and first allotment must be returned in case of re-issue. Trade space exhibitors must supply their own containers.

Entry blanks will be mailed with tickets and schedules. If you do not receive them by September 5th, write Secretary Alling.

Entries will be accepted up to and including September 17th. If you get blanks back to the Secretary before September 12th cards will be ready for you when show opens. If you delay till show opens you will add to confusion, and perhaps have entry ruled out as being unready when judging starts at noon.

Ask for schedules if you did not receive them. Mail entries early—know the rules and come out to win.

## Read These Rules-Please

And Save Delays and Bother When You Enter Your Blooms

### General Rules

1. The 1934 Show of the American Dahlia Society will be opened to the public on Thursday, September 20th, at 2:00 p. M., and will close Friday, September 21st, at 10:30 p. M., Daylight Saving Time. All exhibits must be in place at 12 noon, Thursday, September 20th, except as noted. Judging will start at 12:30 September 20th.

2. Exhibits sent from a distance should be addressed to the American Dahlia Society, Hotel Pennsylvania

(Continued to following page)

### Two Decades of Shows-Continued

Ball Room, New York City. All freight, postage or express charges must be prepaid by the sender.

3. An entry fee of \$2.00 must be paid by all exhibitors (excepting Garden Club Section) who are not members of the American Dahlia Society. This fee must be remitted with list of entries or membership subscription paid.

4. All exhibits must be entered in writing on entry forms furnished for that purpose by Wednesday, September 19th. The society reserves the right to reject or accept entries after that time.

5. The use of artificial material to support Dahlia stems, such as wire or cord, will disqualify an exhibit. 6. Exhibitors will not be allowed to make more than one entry in a class except in seedling classes.

7. Each variety exhibited must be marked with its correct variety. This rule does not apply to classes calling for artistic arrangements or undisseminated classes.

8. Only standard named varieties true to form may be exhibited in competition, except in classes for undisseminated Dahlias.

Any article unfit for exhibition will be excluded by the management and the judges shall withhold prizes when they consider entries are unworthy of awards. No second or third awards will be made when an exhibit is unworthy of the first award.

10. Blooms shown in competition must be grown by the exhibitor entering them, except where noted.

11. No cash award will be given unless two or more entries are made in a class.

12. Trade exhibitors are to furnish all special forms of staging for their own exhibits.

13. Containers will be supplied for competitive classes except in classes calling for arrangement. No containers will be supplied for trade displays.

14. The decision of the judges shall be final unless the management of its own accord requests a rejudging. Any protest made by an exhibitor must be made within two hours after judging, and a deposit of \$5.00 in cash shall be made with such protest. This deposit will be forfeited to the society if the decision of the judges is sustained, but it will be returned to the exhibitor making the protest if the management shall find that there has been an error in judging.

Exhibitors other than those engaging trade space 15. for this show will not be permitted to give away circulars, cards, catalogues or any advertising matter or to solicit business on the floor of the show. Exhibitors paying for trade space may have circulars, cards and catalogues for distribution in a dignified manner.

16. No exhibition or part of an exhibit may be removed from the hall at any time during the show, except by special permission of the management.

17. The management may make such further rules as it may deem necessary for the proper conduct of the 1934 show of the American Dahlia Society.

18. The society will not be responsible for loss or damage to exhibits or personal properly of exhibitors, but will exercise its utmost care for the protection of all exhibits.

The committee suggests that those exhibitors supply-

ing their own containers attach their name and address in an inconspicuous place as many such articles are found in cleaning up the show each year with no means of identification.

## Show Room Suggestions

a. Know the Dahlia Classifications.

Read the A. D. S. classifications in the schedule. This will help to prevent disqualifications. There are some border line varieties which seem to fall into two different classifications. Dr. Marshall A. Howe is working on a checked list of these to aid exhibitors. If you are not sure about a particular bloom, ask expert advice from one of show managers.

b. Packing Flowers to Transport.

Use containers of proper size so flowers will not be crushed. Fasten them in or pack thin tissue around them so they will not jar around. Put those with longest stems in bottom of box. Cross brace stems where possible. It is always worth while to use care in packing. If convenient put each lot of flowers for each class in separate container.

Be Sure of Colors in Color Classes.

Check the colors of a variety so that it will not be misentried.

d. Things to know about showing:

1. Be familiar with the schedule.

2. Be sure each entry is registered.

3. Secure proper containers for the size of the blooms and their stems.

4. Pack twigs in bottom of container, if necessary, to make arrangement stand up properly.

5. Locate section and class. Be sure it is correctly placed.

6. Get your blooms out of the boxes as soon as possible and into water.

7. Check up each entry with schedule to see it is properly arranged as to types, color, number of blooms, and finally each variety with its name on slip attached to stem, except in arrangements or undisseminated classes.

## Camden, N. J. Dahlia Society

The annual exhibition of the Camden Dahlia Society will be held October 5th and 6th in coöperation with the Dahlia Society of New Jersey. The dates had been previously set for September 20th and 21st but have been recently changed so as to avoid conflict with the A. D. S. Show in New York on these days.

Camden has gained the reputation of holding one of the finest shows in the East and many of our best new varieties have made their first appearance there. Southern New Jersey and Pennsylvania have to date had a very favorable growing season and we feel sure Dahlia "fans" will find this show well worth attending.

# Dahlias

for

## Arrangements

by

## Mrs. Georgena Humble

With Photographs by Miss Mary Christine Bell and Arrangements by Mrs. Georgena Humble

The Dahlia is one of the most favorable garden flowers for arrangements, because of the range of color, the varied forms, size and long season of bloom. The fanciful taste of the most fastidious and that of the extremely modest may well be satisfied with this flower. From the enormous giant blooms to the dainty and delicate miniatures, or the prim little pompons, there is wide choice for selection.

The importance of properly cutting and treating blooms before arranging, should be firmly stressed, in order to avoid the disappointment of flowers wilting and perishing too soon. Blooms should be cut in the evening or early morning, and immediately put into very hot water about two inches in depth, for at least two minutes. This removes the air from the hollow stems, causes the tissues to swell, and the water is then taken up more readily from the bottom of the stems to the tips of the petals. They may be taken from the hot water, the scalded ends allowed to remain, but all the leaves and foliage that would cling to the stems beneath the water, should be removed, as this material softens and soon fouls the water. The blooms should then be placed in deep vessels of cold water, in a dark cool place free from draughts. for several hours. The stems should be kept erect and the flowers not touching, as this would cause marring and bruising of the petals. A large sheet of wax paper carefully placed around each flower and made secure just below the bloom would prevent injury and help to keep the blooms in condition until they are hardened and placed finally in the proper receptacles. Dahlias should never be exposed to currents of air as they wilt quickly. It is possible to revive wilted flowers by cutting the ends of the stems afresh and placing them into hot water of



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Arrangement One

A well balanced arrangement of Newport Wonder dahlias in a tall slender china vase, of coloring similar to the deepest pink tone in the flowers. Note the interesting position of each flower so naturally placed, also the stem with a bud and attractive foliage, that gives character and dignity to the arrangement.

shallow depth, until revived, then again in deep cold water. Dahlias that have received this treatment from the moment they have been cut from the growing plant, should last for a much longer period of time than if this care were omitted.

The choice of the most appropriate container for the blooms at hand is of vital importance. Generally Dahlias prefer the type of container that will abundantly supply water to keep them in condition for the longest period possible. For the large and heavy exhibition blooms, choose large deep containers of pottery, bronze, etc., or if glass containers should be chosen, be certain these are sufficiently weighty and heavy in character to properly balance and give the appearance of stability for large blooms. A wise choice in all cases is the container with little or no design or pattern on it, and of suitably harmonious color to the selection of flowers which are to be placed therein. Ornamental vases, shiny or other-

(Continued on following page)

## Dahlias for Arrangements-Continued



## Arrangement Two

Two arrangements suitable for living room. The dahlias have been allowed to grow naturally without disbudding.

Arrangement Two shows Jane Cowl in a glowing sand colored pottery vase.

Arrangement Three shows Mrs. E. F. T. Smith in a pottery vase of pale green with light cream color at top.

Note the use of buds and foliage to give balance, also that a pleasing composition may be made by using an even number.

All Arrangements by Mrs. Georgena Humble All Photographs by Mary Christine Bell

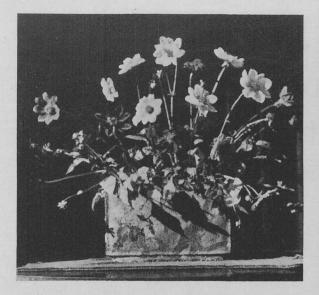
## Right, Arrangement Four

Alice Whittier, primrose yellow dahlias, in a dark green glass container.



Above, Arrangement Three





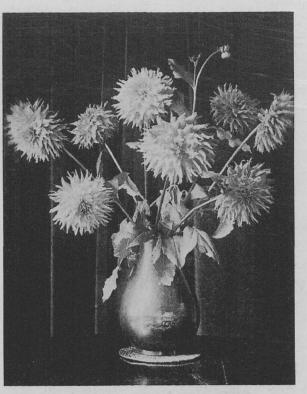
## Arrangement Five

Dwarf dahlias arranged in a French tile, ingeniously hand colored and glazed. Note the use of light flowers above and dark below. Photographed to get the effect of lights and shadows.

## Below, Arrangement Seven

Autumn colored pompon dahlias in a copper pitcher. Color harmony and container are an appropriate choice. Photograph shows the error of using too many flowers. The composition appears overcrowded.





## Arrangement Six

Craig Bissell, a new autumn colored dahlia, in a heavy bronze container. Photographed especially to show enduring quality of these blooms, which were exhibited at 1933 New York Dahlia Show, after which they were subjected to much exposure in transportation. They were given the treatment described in this article for preserving dahlias. Five days later this photograph was made.

wise conspicuous containers detract from the flowers. Vases give a greater distinction to Dahlia arrangements than do baskets. However, when the latter are required on schedules for exhibitions, these should be properly selected as to the appropriateness of size and color. Ribbons or other embellishments should be omitted, as these do not enhance, and they frequently detract from the good appearance of the composition.

There should be little difficulty in choosing the correct container for the smaller types of Dahlias, as these are adaptable to many small, simple vases of harmonious color to suit the flowers selected.

Autumn foliage and berries give a pleasing effect with Dahlias and seem more appropriate than the fine flowers such as gypsophila and perennial asters that are frequently used, yet both of which are much too delicate in character to be a harmonious combination with heavy

(Continued on page 28)

# "D

Stood for Dahlia Until — — —



"It was an ideal place for my frazzled nerves"

DON'T mistake me. I have nothing against Dahlias, as such. I can scan whole acres of "Jane Cowls" or "Bashful Giants" or "Cock-eyed Lizzies" with pleasure, if not with an actual rise in blood pressure. There is no intrinsic harm in Dahlias themselves. There never was until some public enemy with diabolical cunning set out to give them a college education.

The result has put Frankenstein to shame! Today every community is overrun by at least one Dahlia fanatic who, not content with owning his Dahlias, has gradually permitted the darned things to own him—body and soul.

My town has one.

He and I were friends once. It isn't my fault that we aren't today. Indeed, I still make periodic attempts to revive our friendship. But, after each experience, I find myself asking, "What's the use?"

Take one evening last fall, when Fannie and I dropped in on him and his wife in hopes of an old-fashioned, informal visit. Did we have it? Listen!

"Just in time!" he greeted us with misleading enthusiasm." We're starting for a little spin in the country."

"Fine," we exclaimed, because after all, there's nothing

## By Lyman Anson

Drawings by Stuart Hay

—From April, 1934 Issue Better Homes and Gardens

Reprinted by permission of our good friends, E. T. Peterson, Editor and Fred Bohen, President and General Manager of Meredith Publishing Company, Des Moines, Ia.

Editor's Note: This is the first fiction published in The Bulletin under our editorship but this is a case where truth and fiction just meet over the back fence, as it were.

more conducive to a friendly chat than jogging about the country on a glorious fall evening.

Then he spilled the bulbs—er, the beans, that is—by his casual, "I want to show you some Dahlias that a farmer named Schultz is experimenting with north of here."

We stopped six times enroute to inspect Dahlias spotted by his eagle eye in the gathering dusk. Once we backed up a quarter of a mile on a false clew. Then, when we finally reached the Schultz menage, Mr. Schultz wasn't home. Neither was my neighbor's wife, nor his ox, nor his ass. Only the Schultz dog was on hand to welcome us. And, scanning the savage animal, my spirits rose.

"He lets us off because he doesn't let us out," I reflected whimsically and shrank back in my seat with vast relief.

My friend paused, too, but only till he caught sight of what must have been a Dahlia back of the farmhouse. For, suddenly, his eye took on that maniacal glint common to hunters in sight of their kill.

"To heck with the pup!" he cried hoarsely, and started for the Dahlias.

We followed timidly, with the bristling brute drooling and snapping at our heels.

There remains but a hazy recollection of Mr. Schultz's Dahlias. I must have seen them, or at least a few of them—as many as was possible with one eye cocked for



"I forgot to give Fanny one of my "Cock Eyed Lizzies"-he explained.

a flank attack. But normalcy returned only when some miracle brought the women and myself back safely to the car, shaken mentally, but physically intact.

I muttered, "That's over," but was promptly shushed by Fannie, whose sense of politeness is more highly developed than my own.

"Knew you'd like 'em," beamed my friend as we headed back to civilization, "but wait till you see mine."

"Perhaps they'd rather play Contract," his wife ventured mildly after a strained silence.

"I love Contract," I announced at last so feelingly that Fannie stared at me as if I were a liar, which indeed was the case. But, unfortunately, only the word "Contract" appeared to have reached my friend's ear.

"Speaking of contracts," he began, and settled down comfortably behind the wheel, "I just signed a peach with a California nurseryman for some new bulbs .... one of the most interesting .... cross between ....

He swung into his own driveway at last with a final, "Then you pinch the stems, chuck 'em in hot water, and there you are."

Really there was nothing more to be said about Dahlia

culture. He'd covered the subject completely-from seedling to ashcan.

"Now for some Contract," I said, leaping lightly to the ground.

Then it was that he waved me aside and spoke in a tone of long-suppressed excitement: "Now I'll show you some Dahlias that are Dahlias. Follow me, good people."

Despite his wife's worried protests, he led us around back of his house to where an acre or two or the things glared savagely at us in the moonlight.

"Thirty-seven different varieties, not counting my seedlings!" he boomed. "Suppose we start in this corner."

I tottered a step or so after them then, with what I can only term divine inspiration, sank quietly to the ground at the edge of his small but peaceful fish-pond. The whole world was still know except for the distant drone of technical details mingled with Fannie's faint exclamations of delight—all of which fell soothingly on my ear. It was an ideal place for my frazzled nerves ....

Hours later, it seemed, the drone grew louder and a sickening feeling surged through me at the realization

(Continued on following page)

## "D" Stood for Dahlias-Until-Continued

that my parole was at an end. Suddenly I scrambled to my feet and began, desperately, to examine the nearest Dahlia. Just in time:

"O-ho, there you are, you rascal!" exclaimed my friend, emerging from the rows a bit winded but still going strong. "Thought you were back of us all the time."

"I-I couldn't seem to tear myself away from this beauty," I muttered guiltily.

He nodded in an understanding way. "I know how it is, Old Man. A Jane Cowl kind of gets me, too. You understand it's very similar to those Cock-eyed Lizzies back there."

"We gotta go home," I blurted.

"Home!" He turned in anazement. "Why, it's early yet. But maybe you're getting chilly. We'll go back to the house then. Anyhow, I want to tell you folks what I'm planning to do with my bulbs this winter. You see, soon as frost comes—"

"No. We gotta go!"

In the moonlight Fannie gave me a dirty look.

"Well, if you must be going—" My friend stopped as if grasping at a straw. "Tell you what, I'll drive you home and we can swing around past the Jordan's yard. I wouldn't have you miss Jordan's Man-Eaters for the world."

"It's such a lovely night I think we'd rather walk," Fannie put in sweetly. But I knew it wasn't to save me from the Man-Eaters. I could tell what was coming.

It came in the second block.

"What a perfect bore you've been all evening," she announced icily.

"Anyhow," I snapped, "I ain't a hypocrite."

"You were a guest!"

That was all.

On reaching home we lighted separate reading lamps, opened our books, and read on and on in strictest silence.

"If I were a hypocrite," I observed at ten-thirty, "we'd be looking at 'em yet."

Her retort was cut short by four rings at the front door. There stood my friend holding out a Dahlia the size of a footstool.

"I forgot to give Fannie one of my Cock-eyed Lizzies," he explained, with a silly grimace.

For a full minute after he had left I stood, frozenfaced, holding the thing stiffly in a clenched fist.

Then something happened which was so amazing that it really should be recorded in every work on the psychology of the human mind. For, as I stared into the depths of that shaggy sphere, by degrees my rage yielded to curiosity which, in turn, gave way to a feeling of dazed but undeniable admiration.

Full, perfect—its rich, reddish tones merging into a center of burnished gold—this Cock-eyed Lizzie seemed to wink at me slyly as if to say, "Oh, let's be friends."

I realized then that I'd never really examined an educated Dahlia before. Somehow it made me feel more kindly towards all helpless things—even towards my friend to gain; in fact, I began to understand in a dim way how he felt.

Not that I'd ever let Dahlias get me like they have him. I'm too hard-headed. And, just to prove it, I've about decided to set out a few bulbs myself.

For, of course, as I said before, I never had anything against Dahlias—as such.

## Air Rates Reduced

## Flowers may be shipped at low cost

Sweeping reductions in air express rates make it possible for our members at distant points to realize long cherished dreams in being able to exhibit their blooms at a big National exhibition. Air delivery may now be made over-night from most all points within a thousand miles at very reasonable rates. The American Express is handling shipments via the United Air Lines while the Postal Telegraph acting as agent for the American Air Lines. As these lines serve different territories it will be well to consult both agencies for full information in advance of shipment for best routes and schedule of time.

Air mail classes will be a feature of the big Mid-West show at Grand Rapids, Mich., as well as the A. D. S. National Exhibition in New York. You are most cordially invited to take part in both these exhibitions. Send along your choice blooms and a capable committee will be on hand to receive and stage them for you. Air shipments will be an innovation this year and will attract much attention and will undoubtedly receive special publicity in the newspapers. Shipments to the New York Show should be addressed to The American Dahlia Society, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City. Those for the Grand Rapids Show to: Mid West Dahlia Show, Civic Auditorium, Grand Rapids, Mich.

We give below a few rate examples for shipment from various points to New York.

	3 1bs.	5 lbs.	10 lbs.	25 lbs.
Baltimore	\$1.04	\$1.12	\$1.32	\$2.00
Cleveland	1.20	1.44	2.04	4.00
Detroit	Detroit 1.28		2.40	5.00
Charleston, W. Va.	1.28	1.60	2.40	5.00
Cincinnati	1.36	1.76	2.76	6.00
Los Angeles	2.88	4.80	9.60	
Kansas City	1.76	2.56	4.56	6.00
A few examples follows:	of rates	to Grand	Rapids	are as
	3 lbs.	5 lbs.	10 lbs.	25 lbs.
Boston	1.52	2.08	3.48	8.00
Baltimore	1.92	2.88	5.28	13.00
New York	1.36	1.76	2.76	6.00
Los Angeles	2.56	4.20	8.40	21.00

Consult your local agent for further rates and details.

## The First Annual Midwest Dahlia Show

Will Be Held September 14 and 15 in the New Civic Auditorium at Grand Rapids, Mich.

You are Cordially Invited to Attend.

At right—The Grand Rapids New Civic Auditorium

The First Annual Mid-West Dahlia Show will be staged at Grand Rapids, Michigan, on September 14th-15th. The excellent facilities of the new \$1,500,000.00 Civic Auditorium with its special cooling system, 40,000 square feet of display space, ramp entrances and other attractive features has been leased for the occasion.

Although the Mid-West Show is being primarily sponsored by the Dahlia Society of Michigan, affiliated Dahlia societies of Wisconsin, Kansas, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio and Canada are coöperating and lending their hearty support toward making this exhibition one of the largest ever attempted by any society or group of societies. An attendance of between 10,000 and 12,000 is confidently expected by the Show Committee, for the two days.

An unusually attractive program has been arranged which includes approximately 300 classes. There are nearly 200 special classes for commercial or professional growers and the balance of the program provides a diversified schedule for semi-professionals, amateurs, novices, florists, private gardeners and garden clubs.

The premium list for the Mid-West Show is particularly interesting and of unusual high value. Cash, cups, medals, merchandise of all descriptions and roots and plants of recent introductions will be awarded the winners of the various classes. The total value of the premiums to be given away will be in the neighborhood of from \$3,500 to \$5,000, according to the chairman of the Premium Committee. This gives assurance of keen competition and rivalry in all classes.

Judges for the show include such nationally recognized authorities on Dahlia culture as Dr. A. B. Scott, Fairmont, West Virginia; Harley Peck, Lebanon, Ohio; F. T. McCurdy, Kokomo, Indiana; D. O. Eldredge, Madison, Wisconsin; F. V. R. Veirs, Canton, Ohio; George Fraser, Willimantic, Connecticut; Charles Reed, Lawrence, Mass.; Derrill Hart, Lynn B. Dudley, of New York; and C. Louis Alling, West Haven, Connecticut. Invitations have been extended to others prominent in the Dahlia world, so that a competent set of judges is assured. Due to the magnitude of this show, at least twelve judges will be required. Interest in the Mid-West Show is heightened by the close proximity of the new East Lansing Trial Grounds of the American Dahlia Society. The Trial Grounds is only sixty miles from Grand Rapids and many visitors are planning on visiting both the Mid-West Show and the Trial Grounds at Michigan State College. There are seventy-two new varieties on trial from all sections of the country and a genuine treat is in store for all visitors, according to Prof. C. E. Wildon in charge.

Several invitations have already been received for the 1935 Show, the location of which will be determined by a special committee on the evening of September 14th. The selection of the 1935 site will be greatly influenced by the number of exhibits and representatives from each participating society. With this in mind, may I suggest that each society have its full quota of exhibits and a large attendance of members. Barton Elliott of Grand Haven, Michigan, is chairman of Out-of-State Exhibits Committee and is ready and eager to coöperate with all exhibitors.

Any additional information relative to the Mid-West Show may be obtained by addressing the undersigned or C. E. Wildon, East Lansing, Michigan, who is show manager. The official show program and premium list will be ready for distribution in a few days and a copy will be sent to all interested persons on request.

I wish to take advantage of this timely opportunity of very cordially inviting the officers and members of the American Dahlia Society and their friends to not only attend the First Annual Mid-West Dahlia Show but also to exhibit, if at all possible. Proper arrangements have been made for your comfort and convenience and I am confident that it would be an enjoyable, worthwhile trip.

Lloyd L. Hook, President, Dahlia Society of Michigan, 961 Oakleigh Road, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

## Registration

Rex. Informal decorative, lemon yellow with golden sheen. By Tony Greci, Pershing Street, Hartford, Connecticut.



The American Dahlia Society

## A Method for Rapid Propagation of the Dahlia

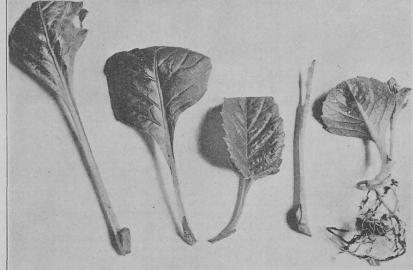
## By C. E. Wildon-Reprinted from Bulletin of Michigan State College Agriculture Department

Commercial propagation of Dahlias is accomplished well by the conventional methods, division and the use of stem cuttings, and occasionally, by grafting with varieties which do not root easily from stem cuttings.

A more rapid increase of plants, however, may be secured by true leaf cuttings<sup>1</sup> or by a method which, though long known in its basic principle<sup>2</sup> <sup>3</sup>, has been but recently applied4, with some modification, to the propagation of geraniums and other greenhouse plants. This

in sand in an open propagating bench with a gentle bottom heat. The method of making the cutting is identical with that employed in making a shield bud for summer budding, except that the cut is made deeper into the stem and the leaf blade retained. Each node, therefore, will furnish two cuttings.

This method obviously makes it possible to propagate Dahlias in larger quantity from the same number of roots and the method is easier and more successful than



is the leaf-bud cutting. Tests in the greenhouses at Michigan State College have shown 90 per cent successful rooting of Dahlias by this method, and more ready rooting than with stem cuttings. From a given lot of material, this method produces at least five times as many plants as can be secured from stem cuttings.

Dahlia roots were placed in a mixture of equal parts of sand and granulated peat, in flats, in early February, and held at 60° F. When the shoots had reached eight or ten inches in height, they were used for making cuttings.

The cuttings were made by cutting each leaf with a piece of the stem attached. If the leaf blade is large, a portion may be cut off. The cuttings were then inserted

### Hagerstown Dahlia Society

The Hagerstown Dahlia Society will hold its annual Dahlia show September 28th and 29th. Judging from the amount of Dahlias planted in the vicinity of Hagerstown this year, the show should eclipse anything ever held. The goal has been set at ten thousand blooms with a good season. Thirty new members have been added since the first of the year. Enthusiasm is running high and we expect competition to be keen. The season for planting and starting of Dahlias has been very encouraging.

H. K. Ramsburg, Secretary.

the Dahlia. Extreme right shows the cutting rooted and the plant growing.

Leaf Bud Cuttings of

by stem cuttings. Roots may be started as late as mid-April and propagation safely continued until late May with reasonable expectation of flower production and the formation of storage roots.

<sup>1</sup>Roberts, E. A. and Lawrence, J. R.,—Root Formation from Leaf Cuttings.—Bot. Gaz. 94(2):421. 1932.

<sup>2</sup>Carriere: Guide pratique du jardinier multiplicateur, from abstract in Jour. d'hort. prat. de la Belgique n. s. I:160-161 (1857), p. 166. <sup>8</sup>Anonymous. Hollyhock Propagation.

Gardner's

Monthly V: 119 (1863). <sup>4</sup>Stoutmeyer, V. T., "Propagator needs only few stock plants using Leaf Bud Cuttings," Florists Review, August 17, 1933.

### Akron Dahlia Society

The Akron Dahlia Society, Inc., is sponsoring two shows this year to be held in Canton and Akron, Ohio. The Canton Show will be held September 15th and 16th at the Dumont's Seed Store. The Akron Show will be held September 29th and 30th at the Times-Press Building. The Akron Show has an added feature this year, which is a school division. It will be known as the Akron Home and School League, Junior Garden Clubs Division. This we believe will create some interest to the school children as well as the parents.

Lester H. Miller, Secretary, Barberton, Ohio.

## Dahlia Forum and Exchange ADepartment for Every Member of the Society Conducted, mayhap, By C. Louis Alling

## A Query from Australia

Question by Leo Fitzgerald, 35 Barrow Street, Brunswick N. 10, Melbourne, Australia. In regard to awards for the best bloom in a show. Four Dahlias are in the running, a Jane Cowl, a Kathleen Norris, a Frau O'Bracht, and a charm or miniature decorative, inches smaller than any of the first three. Should the decoratives or cactus get the prize over the little one? Could it be possible that a charm would be in the running over the bigger varieties?

Answer. It could be possible, but it is not probable. The spectacular qualities of the big Dahlias just don't seem to most judges to be less important than perhaps the coloring or form of the little fellow. Size impresses and if there's interest and beautiful color along with size, that's what makes an impression on most people. Are there others who differ with this answer, and why, please?

I have a very choice Dahlia plant in my garden which for no apparent reason started to wilt, and while it revived at night the trouble gradually became worse until the plant finally died. It was to all appearances in perfect health and there were no signs of borers or other insects. Can you give me any reason for this trouble?

C. W. Y., New York.

We would first investigate the possibilities of moles working under the plants disturbing the roots as we have had that experience this season. Also look carefully for borers or other insects, ants for some unknown reason having taken a liking to our plants this year. If there is no indication of insects the trouble is undoubtedly what our pathologist friends have termed bacterial wilt. We presume the reason for this being that in the last stages the plants will ferment and the juices boil, indicating the presence of bacteria.

It is popularly supposed that it is a disease transmitted by a bacterial germ and that it is very contagious. Our observations do not bear out this theory as we have noted this trouble for more than twenty-five years and it has never spread to any extent showing that it cannot be particularly contagious.

Our own private conclusions on the matter, which may not be borne out by scientific facts, are that the trouble is nothing more or less than acute indigestion. The trouble usually appears on a hot day following a heavy rain or watering, and usually on land well fertilized. We believe that the plants absorb too much plant food at such times, either overbalancing their capacity, or causing a stoppage in the circulatory system. At times the plant may be saved by cutting back the wilting parts indicating that the amputation was made below the seat of the trouble.

The only safe procedure, of course, is to remove the plants, roots and all, from the garden. Can any of our readers give any further light on the matter?

Are Dahlias grown from plants more inclined to stunt, or mosaic, than when roots are used? The portion of my garden growing from root stock is making splendid headway but the plants show considerable signs of leaf curling and other indications of stunt.

## R. J. Smith, Pittsburg, Pa.

The problem of stunt, or mosaic, is one of which we all have much to learn. However, it is quite certain that all leaf curling or foliage discoloration is not mosaic. Insects play a big part in this trouble and the thrip and leaf hoppers are particularly active in late June and early July. Plants being above the ground much sooner that roots naturally suffer a greater exposure to these insects as well as the unfavorable spring weather. Spraying with a good insecticide will usually greatly aid in cleaning up these insects and a short time it will be difficult to distinguish the plants from the root grown stock.

It has been demonstrated that when cuttings are made from a mosaic infected clump that the plants will invaribly be worthless, even though the stock the previous season, as frequently happens, showed no indications of it. The same is true of root divisions but as it is not possible to make as many root divisions as plants it is not so noticeable.

Much has been written of late on this subject, but we refuse to become unduly alarmed about it. Stunt is nothing new. We can look back over a long period of Dahlia growing and it has always been with us. The most remarkable part is that when one considers how the Dahlia has been forced and abused in breeding for size that it has not cracked to a much greater extent under the strain.

## Some Observations of an Amateur

By Dr. F. J. PECK, ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT

Being an amateur in growing Dahlias I am not growing for profit.

No man that is interested in the growing of Dahlias cannot help seeing some of the tendencies of the times.

One of the most serious condition is cutting of prices. One of the worst practices is the selling of clumps in the fall. That is defended by the growers saying it helps them through the winter. That is probably true but I think they lose in the end.

A grower buys one or more clumps and puts them in

(Continued on page 28)

### The American Dahlia Society

In this issue is the first Dahlia fiction we have used in the improved BULLETIN. It is reprinted, by permission of our good friend Fred Bohen, president of Meredith Publishing Company, from Better Homes and Gardens. It is so true to life and records so typically the reactions of a man to a big, glorious, colorful Dahlia, that we believe it worth reading.

It is rumored that a control has been found for corn borers. If this be true, then it will be great news to Dahlia growers. Experiments are being made with it this season and we are promised an article explaining their results. Also we may have a talk by Dr. Batchelder of New Haven at the Storrs Field Day on this subject.

Why not a celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the A. D. S.? R. E. Berlet in another article this issue makes some suggestions for the observance of this event. Perhaps other members can suggest ways to commemorate it.

### 1934 Show Dates

A. D. S., New York. September 20th and 21st.

Akron, Ohio. September 29th and 30th.

Baltimore, Md. September 16th and 17th.

Burholme, Pa. September 28th and 29th. Brooklyn, N. Y. September 25th to 29th. Camden, N. J. October 5th and 6th.

Canton, Ohio. September 15th and 16th.

Chicago, Ill. September 15th to 21st.

Clemington, N. J. September 15th.

Dahlia Society of Ohio, Cleveland. September 21st, 22nd and 23rd.

Dahlia Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis. September 8th and 9th.

Dahlia Society of New England, Boston, Mass. September 15th and 16th.

Dahlia Society of San Leandro, Calif. September 28th and 29th.

Englewood, N. J. September 15th and 16th. Hagerstown, Md. September 28th and 29th.

Ho-Ho-Kus, N. J. September 15th and 16th.

Kansas City, September 29th and 30th.

New Haven, Conn. September 29th and 30th.

Ohio Valley Dahlia Assn., Cleveland. September 29th and 30th.

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, Philadelphia. September 28th and 29th.

Peekskill, N. Y. September 14th.

Rockville Centre, N. Y. September 15th.

Rumson, N. J. September 26th and 27th.

San Francisco, Calif. August 30th and 31st. Valley Stream, N. Y. September 22nd.

West Virginia Dahlia Society. September 28th and 29th.

The dates for the annual show of the Baltimore Dahlia Society originally set for September 15th and 16th have been changed to the 16th and 17th. The show will again be held at the Alcazar and the society wishes to extend an invitation to growers to exhibit with us and our friends to attend. We can assure you of one of the finest shows ever held in this city.

- H. O. Aburn, Secretary,

The American DAHLIA SOCIETY, Inc.

ORGANIZED MAY 10, 1915



"The Society is formed for the purpose of stimulating interest in and promoting the culture and development of the Dahlia; to establish a standard nomenclature; to test out new varieties and to give them such recognition as they deserve; to study the diseases of the Dahlia and find remedies for same, and to disseminate information relating to this flower; to secure uniformity in awarding prizes at flower shows, and to give exhibitions when deemed advisable."

## Officers

President: Derrill W. Hart, 700 West End Avenue, New York City.

Secretary: C. Louis Alling, 251 Court Street, West Haven, Connecticut.

Treasurer: Mrs. Mabel C. Rathgeber, 196 Norton Street, New Haven, Connecticut.

Vice-Presidents: George W. Fraser of Connecticut; W. Atlee Burpee of Pennsylvania; J. A. Kemp of New Jersey; F. Paul Anderson of Kentucky; Mrs. F. S. Fisher of New Jersey; Mrs. W. A. Delaporte of Wis-consin; John S. Vincent of Maryland; Earle P. Lollar of Maryland; George L. Farnum of Pennsylvania; Mrs. Charles H. Stout of New Jersey; Curtis Redfern of California; Lynn B. Dudley of New York; William B. Sweeney of Connecticut; Harley T. Peck of Ohio; Mrs. George L. Holland of Pennsylvania; R. E. Berlet of Illinois.

### Editorial

Field Day at Storrs Trial Grounds Saturday, September 8th. Please plan to attend. Prof. Patch is planning a program of interesting speakers.

Show time again. Drought has hurt Dahlias in some sections. Borers and other pests reported very voracious in some sections. Last year in the east it was a hurricane or two which dampened the ardor of some exhibitors-but the shows go on.

\*

This issue records the passing of two of the stalwarts in Dahliadom, George Farnum and N. Harold Cottam. Both have taken an active and unselfish part in the affairs of the A. D. S. for many years. It will be difficult to replace them. We admit that time heals sorrows and new friends come to fill the niches of those gone before-but we will miss these two lovers of Dahlias in our councils.

## Storrs' Field Day

The annual Field Day of the Storrs, Connecticut, Trial Gardens will be held on Saturday, September 8th. As heretofore there will be sort of an old home gathering in the gardens during the forenoon. A cafeteria lunch will be served in the dining hall at 1:15, after which the speaking program will take place in Gulley Hall, Room I.

President Hart of the A. D. S. is to speak on the topic: "Some Phases of the Society's Work." This will be followed by an illustrated talk by Dr. C. H. Batchelder, associate entomologist of the Department of Agriculture, on the "Status of the European Corn Borer as a Pest of Dahlias." Dr. Batchelder has done some interesting work in connection with the control of the corn borer in Dahlias and his talk is sure to be very much worth while. There will also be other speakers whom we are unable to announce at this early date.

These Field Days have become an established institution with our members throughout the east and those who have attended in the past need no second invitation. However, we would like to see many more of our members with us. The college grounds are most interesting and Prof. Patch has a total of 166 new varieties on trial which should be sufficient to attract the attention of any Dahlia "fan." Plan to come to Storrs on September 8th and bring your friends. Get acquainted with some of your officials and meet many of your fellow members. Don't forget the date. Let's go.

. . .

## Field Day at East Lansing

The first Field Day at the new Michigan Trial Gardens will be held on Thursday, September 6th. An interesting program is being planned by Professor Wildon and we know that any of our members in that section who attend will have a most enjoyable and instructive day.

### . . .

## Dahlia Society of New England

The annual exhibition of the Dahlia Society of New England will be held in Horticultural Hall, Boston, September 15th and 16th. This is always a fine exhibition and Horticultural Hall in itself is well worth a visit. We can recommend this show to anyone within visiting distance.

## Annual Meeting Notice

The annual meeting and election of officers will be held on Friday, September 21st, in one of the adjoining rooms to the exhibition. Please keep this in mind as this is the official notice and the only one you will receive. Your officers hope you will endeavor to be present and express your opinion of their work for the year and make suggestions for the future welfare of the society.

C. Louis Alling, Secretary.

## The A. D. S. Loses Three Old Friends

### Wm. J. France

Another splendid Dahlia enthusiast has been lost to the world in the passing of William J. France of heart trouble, on June 21. Mr. France was president and manager of the Scarboro Gardens, of Scarboro, Ont., Canada, and grew many other flowers and nursery stock. However, the Dahlia was his particular interest. He was always a booster for the A. D. S. and made regular trips to New York to be with us at our annual exhibition.

Mr. France is survived by his widow, two sons and a daughter, to whom we extend our sympathy.

## N. Harold Cottam



The A. D. S. has suffered the loss of a faithful worker and ardent supporter in the passing of former president, N. Harold Cottam, of Wappingers Falls, New York. Mr. Cottam received severe injuries in an automobile accident last October but to all appearances had regained his health when taken by a stroke on July 16th.

He was 72 years old and a native of Cottingham, England, having come to this country at an early age. He was a charter member of the A. D. S. and served in many official capacities and in 1928 filled the office of president most admirably. His friendly good humor and

(Continued on following page)

## GOLDEN RULE DAHLIA FARM LEBANON, OHIO

PIONEER IN THE PROMOTION OF VIGOROUS DAHLIAS

Write for our free catalogue containing Table of Ratings

Our extensive plantings of new and honor roll, as well as older varieties, will be ready for the great fall showing of bloom

Visitors welcome at all times. See what Ohio Valley Dahlias will do on open, exposed farm land

## GOLDEN RULE DAHLIA FARM

(HARLEY T. PECK) LEBANON, OHIO

The Home of Buckeye Bride

## N. Harold Cottam-Continued

ready wit making him an exceptional presiding officer and endearing him to all who knew him.

Mr. Cottam was a pioneer Dahlia grower, the start of his hobby dating back for more than thirty years. His plantings on his large farm overlooking the Hudson River were very extensive and attracted many visitors during the flowering season. He also originated many well known varieties.

Mr. Cottam was a prominent Christian Scientist having been first reader and president of the board of trustees of his own church in Poughkeepsie, and at the time of his death was superintendent of the Sunday School. He was also very active in Masonic and Eastern Star circles, being a past master of his lodge and a past assistant grand lecturer for the Eastern Star. He was also a past master of his local Grange.

He is survived by one son, Herbert G. Cottam, and a daughter, Mrs. Emily Dessoir, his wife having passed away about two years ago. The following is an excerpt from the editorial page of the *Poughkeepsie Eagle News*, his home town newspaper:

A man whose daily work was doing good, whose whole life was attuned to an utterly selfless service to others such was N. Harold Cottam, whose passing occurred yesterday at his home on the South road.

Scores of friends who have reason to know intimately Mr. Cottam's greatness of heart and hundreds of acquaintances who were cheered by radiance of his unchanging good will and impressed by his friendliness and his helpfulness will have reason to be glad that he lived his useful and almost incredibly active life among them. He was not only constant in good works but prodigious in his capacity for the doing of them. Inconvenience, self-denial, discomfort, positive hardship—nothing could deter him from acts of service to others.

The world outside of Dutchess county will remember Mr. Cottam chiefly as a horticulturist of exceptional taste and ability, one of the nation's foremost authority on Dahlias. Many in Dutchess will think of him as a man extremely active in such undertakings as the county fair, on which he lavished his effort, or as one highly honored by organizations to which he belonged. But his intimates will recall him as one of great heart and great spirit, who lived nobly and unselfishly and made his daily life an inspiration to others.

## George L. Farnum

It is indeed with sincere grief that we record the death of George Leiper Farnum, in Baltimore, on July 14th, following an illness of nearly six months. It is a sad fact to record the death of any member of the society, but it is doubly difficult to place a word value on the work that Mr. Farnum did for the Dahlia and The American Dahlia Society. Long before Mr. Farnum became identified with the active work of the society he had rendered long and valuable service to the cause of the Dahlia. If we recall correctly, it was through the influence of Mr. George Kerr that Mr. Farnum joined the official A. D. S. family in 1926. Even before that he had been instrumental in doing a lot of valuable things for the Dahlia, in rendering the kind of service that the true amateur does for his hobby.

Only those working closely with the society appreciate the valuable nature of his work in the past few years. He did more, perhaps, to bring a new interest in the Dahlia in recent years, in his enthusiasm for the minia-



George L. Farnum

ture and small flowered types, than any individual in the society. He was not against the big monster flowers as those who have competed against him in the show room will testify, but in his travels to Continental Europe he saw what the little fellows would do for the Dahlia in answering those who labeled the Dahlia only fit for the garden or the exhibition table.

The society will miss his valuable services in many ways. He was on the committee that wrote the new classification as well as the committee that re-wrote the by-laws in 1932. He was an active vice-president of the society and chairman of the Garden Club Committee at the time of his death.

Mr. Farnum got his Dahlia knowledge from his own garden at his home at Media, Pennsylvania. His collection was as extensive and as interesting as that of many of the commercial growers and his exhibits at the New York, Camden, Baltimore, Trenton, Bryn Mawr and

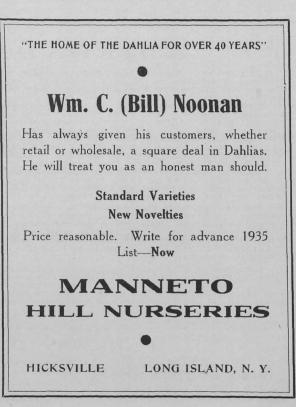


other shows were comprehensive and instructive. He was a true sportsman in his competitive efforts and probably had to his credit more prizes than any other amateur member of the society. He enjoyed winning and he could see the loser's side better than most exhibitors. When by his own mistakes he lost prizes he was the first to enjoy the joke on himself. To those who knew him well, he was a delightful companion. He was generous in his efforts and his support of all society matters.

Nor were all Mr. Farnum's efforts in horticulture given to the Dahlia. He won numerous prizes with his Chrysanthemums and other flowers. He was a member of the Executive Council of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and at the time of his death was chairman of the Exhibition Committee of that society. He was a member-at-large of the Garden Club of America and a Fellow of The Royal Horticultural Society.

Mr. Farnum was a graduate of Princeton and a member of several clubs and societies other than those devoted to horticultural interests. He had traveled extensively all of his life but it was only in the last fifteen years that most of his travels were devoted to the search of novelty Dahlias and other floral novelties. It is not the privilege of many societies to have many members in the rank of officials as broadly educated as was Mr. Farnum and The American Dahlia Society can in paying tribute to the rich memory of this man be thankful that he was a true Dahlia fan and that he was willing to express some of his enthusiasm through the society and its efforts.

D. W. H.



## Late News of Our Affiliated Societies

### Dahlia Society of Ohio

Planting season in nearly all sections of Ohio was one of the most unfavorable of the past few years due to the extended drouth and hot weather of May and June. Except for widely scattered sections there was no rainfall from early May until the last week in June. Under conditions existing at the time planting and getting the Dahlias started was somewhat of a task and as a result Dahlias are slightly below normal in their development at this time. However, the rains of late June and early July have done wonders and in a short time we will have forgotten the trials of early spring.

With the more favorable aspects of growth in our gardens we are again able to concentrate on our efforts to make the fall show one of the finest in the country. Our show this year is to be a three day affair starting on Friday, September 21st, and extending through Sunday, September 23rd. A new and more favorable site has been secured for this show. It will be in the Terminal Building, Cleveland, Ohio, right in the heart of the down town shopping district. The hall offers fine conditions for the keeping of the blooms and there are no steps or elevators required to get to it. The site also offers far greater possibilities for publicity than our old stands at hotel ball rooms. Members of the show committee headed by Mrs. C. L. Seith, who is also president of the Dablia Society of Ohio, feel that the attendance will be far greater at this show than any of those preceding.

The show itself is also on a greater scale. There will be about twice as many classes for Dahlias (127 to be exact) as we have had before. In addition the section for other garden flowers has been somewhat enlarged and greatly improved. The garden section will have thirty classes. The schedule of classes for both sections may be had by writing the secretary at North Olmsted, Ohio.

Other activities of the Dahlia Society of Ohio are: occasional tours of Dahlia gardens of northern Ohio, annual picnic of the society in late August, revision of our constitution to make a more formidable State organization, meeting in Columbus, Ohio, late in the fall of all societies of Ohio interested in Dahlias, banquet at Hotel Cleveland September 22nd in connection with the show, and participation in other shows of the mid-west.

E. J. Wind, Secretary.

## Washington Dahlia Society

The Washington Dahlia Society held the June meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Sertz, Glendale Dahlia Gardens, in Seattle. Mr. H. C. Cogswell, President, called the meeting to order and roll call found all officers present with a good attendance of members.

The committee on the Bulletin reported having the show program well lined up with several trophies collected and would have the Bulletin out the first of August.

The annual picnic plans were completed. The picnic

## "ADIRONDACK SUNSET"

You and your friends are cordially invited to visit our gardens, and see "ADIRONDACK SUNSET", our new and outstanding introduction for 1935 that created quite a sensation, not only in our garden but also at the gardens of the New York Botanical Society, in Bronx Park, New York City, where it was grown. A Dahlia that immediately attracts and keeps your attention by its marvelous beauty. An informal decorative of large size and good depth. Color a deep scarlet, shading to a deep orange yellow at the base of each petal, with a high rose-like center, made up of long, broad, thick petals, with a slight twist at the tips to further enhance its beauty. As these petals unfold, they reveal its distinct and gorgeous sunset colors. The flowers are held facing sideways, on strong, cane-like stems, that can be cut to lengths of four feet and over. They are held erect well above the heavy dark green insect resistant foliage that no insects will bother. The plant is a strong vigorous grower that attains a height of five to six feet, and readily sends out many strong laterals from the base of the plant. The blooms will keep a long time when cut, and will not hesitate in predicting that it will win the lion's share of prizes at the shows the coming season. If you cannot visit our gardens then don't fail to see it in bloom at the Dahlia Gardens in Bronx Park or at our display at the novelties such as ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN, BETTY BRONCK, PURPLE BEACON, AIMIRA and over 250 other varieties, including most of this year's Honor Roll Dahlias.

For your approval we have selected over fifty of the leading prize winning Dahlias from England, France, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Holland, Germany and Canada, many of which have never been either grown or shown here before. Here are a few of them: ABGOTT, CORALLINA, CROYDEN BEAUTY, DAKOUPILS (HANT, DAKOUPILS TRIUMPH, DR. SCHEINER, DR. SCHULTZ, EXCELSIOR, HANS KUNTERBUNT, LUCI-FER, LUGDUM BATAVORUM, MARATHON, PAUL PFITZER, SCHILLER, SUNFLOWER, VIOLA FERNCHIO, WALLENSTEIN and last but not least YOUTHFUL PRIDE, said by many to be the most beautiful cactus Dahlia in existence.

Our gardens are located on the Albany Post Road, at the northern end of Ossining, N. Y., and can very easily be reached by auto or train as they are centrally located and only one mile from the Harmon station of the N. Y. Central R. R. All N. Y. Central trains stop at this station. Busses leave at frequent intervals and pass directly in front of our gardens. The gardens are 600 feet south of the exit of the Bronx River Parkway, Route 404. Dahlia blooms will be sold at the gardens.

Send us your name and address so that we can mail you our illustrated catalogue with many of the new varieties in color as soon as same are printed. Member National Association Commercial Dahlia Growers.

## PARKWAY DAHLIA GARDENS OFFICE ADDRESS

1012 EAST 178TH STREET

NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.

22

### BULLETIN for August, 1934

will be held July 15th at the ranch home of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Turner, on the Mountain Highway.

We have been honored by having the entry for the American Home Achievement Medal at our show this year and expect keen competition in this class.

After the business had been concluded Mr. Charles C. Whitman gave a very fine talk on the relation of the professional grower and amateur grower at the flower show. Then we had the pleasure of watching Mr. Fred Gust arrange baskets and corsage bouquets. Whenever we watch this artist at work we cannot help but learn something.

Refreshments were served and an hour of visiting was most enjoyed by all members and friends present.

Mrs. H. C. Cogswell, Corresponding Secretary.

## West Virginia Dahlia News

The West Virginia Dahlia Society reports progress. We have had a series of very attractive and helpful regional meetings. A fine spirit was shown at all of these meetings and interest in Dahlias and other flowers as well was stimulated and heightened.

The Executive Committee of the West Virginia Dahlia Society met recently in Fairmont for the purpose of discussing dates and plans for the 1934 West Virginia Dahlia show. The meeting was a good one and well attended. Several matters of business were disposed of.

Our show will take place Friday and Saturday, September 28th-29th.

Dr. A. B. Scott, with M. L. Brown, Secretary Fairmont Board of Commerce, were appointed as a committee to secure show rooms. C. M. Roberts was made show secretary while Jeannette Leeper and Anna Murphy were appointed as secretaries to the judges. The wives of the officers and vice-president, Mrs. Ben M. Wilson, were appointed as hostesses. The membership committee was appointed with Mrs. Guido Camisa, Clauda Boone and Oliver Shurtleff as members.

C. J. Straight was made chairman of the Classification Committee with Claude Boone and S. E. Taylor as the other members. The Committee on Appeals is made up of Dr. C. E. Lautenback, C. M. Roberts and J. A. Keller. Mrs. A. B. Scott was appointed chairman of the Committee on Arrangement with power to select her own committee members.

The publicity for the 1934 show will be handled by Anna Murphy, Jeanette Leeper, Medora Mason and the secretary.

The secretary was instructed to issue the call for the annual meeting of the West Virginia Dahlia Society. This meeting will be held at 7:30, Friday evening, September 28th. This constitutes the official notice of the annual meeting of the society.

Several new classes were ordered to be added to the premium list. This premium list will be available soon.

Another West Virginia Dahlia garden has blossomed forth with a name. Vice-President Lautenback has named his garden Clearbrook Gardens. A pretty name and a good garden.

In our next letter we hope to be able to announce the personnel of the staff of judges; have the premium list available and be all set and looking forward to September 28th-29th, the 1934 show date.

Oliver Shurtleff, Secretary, Fairmont, W. Va.

## DAHLIA ENTHUSIASM IS BETTER DAHLIA BUSINESS IS BETTER GROWING CONDITIONS ARE BETTER DAHLIA SHOWS SHOULD BE BETTER

We appreciate the heavy sales and all the business we could handle this season, and hope now your fun will come exhibiting the blooms.

By growing more plants than we have ever grown we again have forty acres of potash fed Dahlias. Don't miss them this year. We will be glad to meet you at the shows, or visitors are always welcome at the Nurseries.

Watch for Dahliadel introductions at Storrs, Connecticut, and East Lansing, Michigan, Trial Grounds where we have a number of the large exhibition varieties as well as the popular miniatures.

EXHIBIT BOOST

T ATTEND

All Shows in your locality and help make the Show a greater success

## DAHLIADEL NURSERIES

Warren W. Maytrott

Box 14, Vineland, New Jersey

## News of Our Affiliated Societies-Continued

### Burholme Horticultural Society

The Burholme Horticultural Society will hold its fourteenth annual floral exhibition September 28th and 29th, 1934, at the Trinity Oxford Community House, Rising Sun Avenue and Disston Street, Burholme, Philadelphia.

We sincerely invite the nearby Dahlia growers and hybridizers to attend our show this year and arrange to compete in the "Open to All" classes. In selecting dates for our show, Mr. W. O. Hird, show superintendent and his committee have been very careful not to conflict with those set for other large exhibitions.

The show catalogue will consist of 103 different classes, 50 of which will be devoted to the classification of the "Dahlia." There is a seedling class in the "Open to All" section which calls for a vase of three Dahlia blooms, one variety of an undisseminated seedling, any type. The winner of this class will be awarded a "Certificate of Merit" by the society. We hope that the commercial growers will coöperate with us and compete in this class.

In addition to the above, we expect to have on exhibition Dahlias imported from England, Germany, France, Holland, Czecho Slovakia and Australia and other European countries which have not yet been released through commercial growers. These will be grown by Mr. Stanley Johnson of Cheltenham, Pa. Mr. Johnson, we are proud to say, is one of our members and is on the Show Committee.

The show catalogue will be ready for distribution about August 25th and those desiring a copy please apply to Lewis G. Dietz, Secretary, 7512 Tabor Road, Burholme, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Remember the dates—September 28th and 29th, 1934, and come to Burholme if you want to see a fine exhibition.

Lewis G. Dietz, Secretary.

## Ohio Valley Dahlia Association

The first annual Dahlia show of this recently organized association will be held at the Hotel Alms, Victory Parkway, Cleveland, on Saturday and Sunday, September 29th and 30th. A splendid schedule is provided and the thoroughly competent manner in which the work is being handled is evidence that the maiden efforts of this group are sure to be crowned with success. Their slogan is "Succeed Here, Survive Anywhere."

Their slogan is "Succeed Here, Survive Anywhere." A portion of their purposes read as follows:

"Our aim is to coöperate with all those truly devoted in growing Dahlias. We purpose to aid our parent organization, the American Dahlia Society, in bringing out the ultimate in quality and beauty."

A sentiment which might be well adopted by all similar organizations.

## San Leandro, California

The Dahlia Society of San Leandro are holding their Dahlia show on September 1st and 2nd.

This show is for amateur and novice growers only and confined to Alameda County. There are well over sixty members in the society. The only commercial grower is the secretary. The funds for financing the show have

## THE OHIO VALLEY DAHLIA ASSOCIATION

	ANNOUNCING	
	Its Annual Dahlia Show on	
	SEPTEMBER 29th and 30th	
Nature's	at the Hotel Alms, Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio	Succeed
Best	Dahlia blooms from five or more States in the great Central Valley Region will be on exhibition	Here—
Trial	Show schedules mailed on request	Survive
Grounds	Purposes of this organization are to promote the quality of the <b>DAHLIA</b> , with special attention to vigorous growing varieties, and to co-operate with all other groups of Dahlia growers.	Anywher
	The Ohio Valley Dahlia Association 1105 ELM STREET CINCINNATI, OHIO	

### BULLETIN for August, 1934

been raised by a series of Whist parties during the past few months.

The president is Mr. C. LeInessurier. The secretary is Charles Garrity. The secretary was responsible for the society becoming affiliated to the A. D. S. and the competition for the A. D. S. medal promises to be a hundinger, as the medal is considered the tidbit of the exhibition and nearly every member has announced his or her intention of winning it. The show will not be held in connection with the show of the California flower festival, which is to be held three weeks later.

Charles Garrity, Secretary.

## Dahlia Doings in Chicago

## By Pres. Louis S. Roberts Central States Society

## The Show

The Central States Dahlia Society will hold its show at the World's Fair, Chicago, in the Horticultural Building, from September 15th to September 21, 1934, inclusive. It is hoped that the attendance at the 1934 Dahlia show will not only equal, but surpass, that of last year, which totaled approximately 70,000 people. On Saturday and Sunday, amateurs, semi-professional, commercial, and private estates will compete. There is a special section for Dahlias grown in cloth houses. This section was suggested by Mr. Maytrott on his visit last year. Monday, September 17th, will be for "florists" Dahlias. Tuesday is set aside for the showing of blooms grown by novices and children of members. Wednesday is for members who have never won in competition. Thursday, September 20th, is "Wisconsin Day" and will be under the direction of the Wisconsin Dahlia Society. Friday is set aside for non-members of the society. Membership of Central States Dahlia Society now numbers approximately six hundred. Mr. B. B. Melgaard, 2138 North Nordica Avenue, Chicago, is chairman of the show committee.

## General Conditions

During the latter part of July, some of the Dahlia plants were burned by the sun. Temperature was over 100 degrees. Murphy's Masterpiece burned at the top of the plant, while Satan burned at the bottom. There are only a few growing Dahlias in the field in this district, and therefore Dahlias are not affected by the drought as in other districts. Water is available for sprinkling. In some few cases where Dahlias were field grown, we noticed that the plants were small, and where cultivated, the soil was moist about an inch down. The hot dry weather has brought the Dahlias into bloom much earlier, but the blooms are poor. Hardening of the plants, or "getting woody" has been experienced. The biggest trouble, however, due to the hot dry weather is red spider. These mites can only be seen with a magnifying glass, and some people, therefore, do not recognize the trouble. The remedy for this is to dust with sulphur dust, spray with Selocide, or wash the plants with a shower bath nozzle on a hose. One must be sure to get at the under side of the leaf as that is where the red spider is to be found. Probably washing is the best, but

(Continued to following page)

## The Dahlia Sensation of the Year

## "Cornelia Bryce Pinchot"

Watch for it at all the leading shows

Named by special permission of the wife of the Governor of Pennsylvania

## Veile and Mendham

Box 185

Easton, Pa

## DERRING-DO DAHLIAS

### Introduce

## "CLASSIC"

A flesh colored Dahlia that will remain a classic among all fall flowers. My best thus far, don't miss it at the New York Show.

> Frederick E. Dixon "Derring-do" Scotch Plains, N. J.

## "SPECIAL NOTICE"

## AUSTRALIAN DAHLIAS

To the best of my knowledge, for the first time in American Dahlia history, I have the pleasure of exhibiting these outstanding AUSTRALIAN varieties: Bertie Gilding, Dainty Rose, Mrs. C. Channin, Mrs. Fan Fitz and Patty Waugh.

For the special benefit of those visiting my Gardens, I have also imported some of the latest European and Canadian novelties, such as: Daisy Turnquist, Fay Beaton, Jugendpracht. Lady Moyra Ponsby, Miss Belgium and Paul Pfitzer.

My aim is to please you, so come and view these entirely new and different varieties from abroad, as well as the newest and best American originations, among which the most outstanding are as follows: Alyce Marie Galvin, Amelia Earhart, Chauttaqua Regal, Chief Justice, Courtney Guild, Hillerest Fluffy Ruffles, Iroquois Sunbeam, Jersey Dainty, Oriental Splendor, R. A. Broomfield, Spotlight, Vim Well Fairy, William J. Rathgeber, and hundreds of other outstanding varieties.

Last, but not least, our own Seedlings, as well as Seedlings sent to us from different parts of the country for trial purposes, awaiting your inspection. Everyone is welcome and no one is under any obligation to buy.

ALBERT PARRELLA DAHLIA GARDENS

3380 ELY AVENUE

BRONX

NEW YORK

## Your Opportunity

Owing to shortage of storage room, must sell a large number of **clumps** for **Fall delivery**.

Such varieties as:

King of the Blacks Immaculate

Rose Glorious

Color Marvel

### Marmora

Paramount, etc.

Send for list of these and hundreds of other standard old and new varieties of Dahlias.

We grow 800 varieties of Dahlias on three entire farms.

Kunzman : Nem Albany, Ind.

## News of Our Affiliated Societies-Continued

this must be done for three or four days in succession. Some of the new Dahlias that look good here are: Grandee, Louise Bates, Hillcrest Swiss Rose, and Hillcrest Fluffy Ruffles. Lord of Autumn is injured by "hopper burn," but grows good under cloth.

For years, different writers have been telling the Dahlia grower to give the plants a good soaking not oftener than once a week. I believe this was because most of the writers in their articles followed the first ones and were afraid to tell a different story. In the Chicago newspapers recently there appeared a photograph of some flowers which were planted in sawdust with the roots being in water rather than in soil of any kind. Examination of this photo (taken in California) shows that the plants were pompon and miniature Dahlias. It is my opinion that providing there is good drainage, Dahlias can be sprinkled every day. They should not be watered, however, in the evening in cool weather because they will become mildewed. About the twentieth of September in this region watering of the plants should be discontinued, except to give them enough to prevent wilting. This is done in order to provide good tubers for planting next year. In the above mentioned case of growing in sawdust, we have no information as to how it was done, but believe that a screen was placed over some sort of a tank which was filled with water. This screen was then covered with sawdust in which the tuber was planted. I do not believe the tuber can stand in water, because I know of a case of poor drainage in clay soil where forty-eight hours of continuous rain ruined the plants that, when dug up, showed that the tubers were rotted.

## Your Society has more to gain than lose in A. D. S. Affiliation.

## At Michigan Trial Grounds

The new official A. D. S. Trial Grounds at the Michigan State College in its first season has seventy-two entries. Mr. C. E. Wildon, Secretary of the Michigan Society, in charge of the Trial Grounds, reports that interest in the mid-west in the new project is most gratifying.

Most of the entries are from Michigan, but New Jersey and Ohio are close second and third, there being a difference of only six between third and first states in entries. Then follow in order: Indiana, California, Washington, West Virginia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, Georgia and Wisconsin.

Mr. Wildon says he expected that Michigan originations would head the list and that he considers the showing very good indeed for the first year and promises well for the future success of this Trial Grounds. He reports that the Dahlias are growing well, the irrigation is working satisfactorily, and that as far as can be ascertained at this writing, the garden will be in bloom in August, but will probably be at its best the middle of September. Visitors to the mid-west are cordially invited to see the varieties on test.

(More Affiliated Societies News on page 30)

## BULLETIN for August, 1934

## Dahlia Forum-Continued

a hot house and begins to propagate. In the spring he has a large number of plants, some good, some fair and the late ones. Other growers have done the same thing and as a result there is a surplus and prices begin to fall. Look at White Wonder. Last year \$15 and this year it could be bought for \$2.

Are such practices fair to the originators? What inducement for a man to spend his time and money to produce Dahlias?

It is rather laughable to see some of the price cutters advertising some of their creations at a high price. What will their fate be next year?

No business has ever thrived that is based on price cutting and if continued there can only be one end and that is there will soon be fewer growers.

Everything else is under a code. Why not the Dahlia? Let everybody have a fair show.

In answer—The editor of the BULLETIN is gratified to know that this price cutting by pennywise growers has at last earned the condemnation of an earnest and far seeing amateur. We hope others will speak freely on this topic.

## Dahlia Growing From Seed

### BY DR. F. J. PECK, ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT

I would like to ask a few questions about growing Dahlias from seed. At the start I will say that I have planted about fifty thousand seeds but I have never been able to get the results and I am wondering why.

In catalogues growers state they will guarantee sixty per cent double flowers. Gosh! Some going.

Some of the seed I have bought at a high price, some are my own. They are under the best of conditions, soil is fertilized and grown in a hot house.

This year I was short of seed and only planted thirtythree hundred. Twelve hundred germinated, a little over thirty per cent. Sixty per cent of twelve hundred would give me seven hundred and twenty double flowers. Heaven forbid. At that rate soon we would only have room to plant our own seedlings.

I have tried every means that I know of to find out if my seed are fertile, even transilluminating them but have yet to find any way to accomplish it. Is there some method for telling whether they are fertile and they will produce double flowers?

How many of the sixty per cent will be exhibition flowers? Merely being double does not mean anything. Show me.

Answer. Growing from seed is a gamble. The Dahlia cannot overcome laws of genetics—nor can anyone honestly claim any definite percentage of double flowers from any given seed, in our opinion. Also no one can be absolutely sure of fertility. Some years we have good luck and we get a fine stand of double. Next year with same care to produce seed from but blooms—and we get nothing worth while.

### .

## Australian Growers Think Some of Our Winners Coarse

Albert Parrella, Bronx, New York, in correspondence with an Australian Dahlia grower at Summer Hill, whose name he prefers to withhold, reports: "There are

# FROM DOUBT

Each year we eliminate the doubtful that our stock may include only the dependable.

HEALTHY VIGOROUS STOCK OUR SPECIALTY

## Premier Dahlia Gardens 31 Mertz Avenue

Hillside

New Jersey

Send in your name now for our 1935 catalogue.

## Watch These

ROCKLY MOON—Formal Decorative Soft Yellow

> ROSIE—Formal Decorative Amranth Pink

OLA VIRGINIA—Informal Decorative Eugenia Red

> **BIG MYSTERY WHITE** (To be named later)

BONNIE BELMONT—Informal Decorative Sulphur Yellow

Also many other Certificate Dahlias not yet named

FALL LIST ON REQUEST

## Ruschmohr Dahlia Gardens

52 S. Kensington Ave., Rockville Centre, N.Y.

# "LORD of AUTUMN" The Super Dahlia

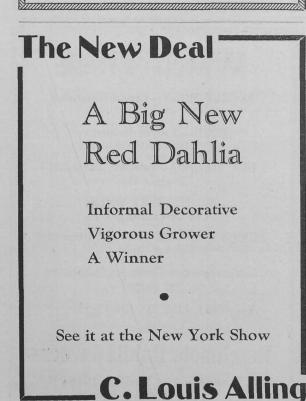
Will offer a limited number of clumps of this wonderful Dahlia; also our other originations and the outstanding Honor Roll Dahlias of 1933, at particularly attractive prices, for fall delivery. Send for free clump list.

## **ALMY'S SUPREME DAHLIAS**

Box D

TIVERTON

**RHODE ISLAND** 



### Dahlia Forum-Continued

many American Dahlias which are highly prized in the Continent here. But there are four varieties ..., which we have heard are consistent winners in America, which our judges will not even look at, much less judge, because they consider them too coarse."

It may be that they are more advanced than we are here in the U. S. If such be the case, we have something to do perhaps to bring our standards up. Maybe we could judge the matter better, if we in America grew more of the Australian varieties. At any rate, I am giving this plan a trial. I would like to know what kind of Dahlias they prize down there, just as the growers there have tried ours out and like most of them. If I am successful in growing them this year I will exhibit some at New York and elsewhere.

This may be a problem in taste or in advanced ideas or something I cannot figure out. But I'm going to try to solve it. If others are interested I will be glad to show the original letter from my friend to any A. D. S. member.

Albert Parrella.

## Dahlias for Arrangements

### (Continued from page II)

flowers. Dahlia blooms should be disbudded when growing, but occasionally in arranging Dahlias, if additional stems just bearing buds and especially attractive foliage are used to add to the line and balance of the composition, the completed arrangement is more distinctive than it would be when otherwise combined with another type of flower.

Avoid over-crowding by using just enough material to give a good balance. If necessary eliminate flowers and foliage or intersecting leaves that may appear weak or unnecessary for the good appearance of the arrangement. Each flower should have its place in the composition, and one bloom should not overlap, interfere with, or conceal another. Show the individual beauty of each flower. Adjust each so that the position of the blossom is of greatest interest, but not presenting its back nor showing its full disc to view. Arrange in as natural a manner as possible, and have flowers at different heights, as even heights and regular spacing of blooms in arrangements make poor compositions. Stems or leaves should not cross. When a combination of colors is used, be certain that one is used in greater quantity than another. Group the colors in an interesting way, but do not spot them about in the arrangement. Place flowers firmly in containers, so that they will not appear loose and toppling. Avoid a symetrical composition. Balance may be ac-quired in such a way that a pleasing design may be followed in making the composition, by placing buds above, large blooms, heavy leaves or dark colors below, for the effect of stability. A good height for an arrangement is approximately one and one-half times the height of the container, including stand, should this be used under the vase, and for low containers, the greatest height of the flowers may be about one and one-half times the width of the container.

Interesting curves of stems, leaves or blossoms over the edge and side of the container, concealing part of the rim, always add to the interest of composition.

Simplicity with distinction is the commanding attraction in Dahlia arrangements as well as in all other flower compositions.

### BULLETIN for August, 1934

of plants in the Spring and with the proceeds send its delegate forth to the national meet.

Would be glad to know what other members think of these ideas.

R. E. Berlet, Chicago, Illinois.

## A Six Month's Blooming Season

-

### By L. P. FITZGERALD, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

The season has just ended, and it has been a wonderfully successful one, too. The bushes are still quite green, although it is now the very middle of winter. But our frosts are mild, and the ground never freezes.

New varieties are springing up out here, and they compare favorably on the benches with Lady Moyra Ponsonby, Satan, Eagle Rock Fantasy, and your other leaders. These newcomers have the size, the color, the form, and the stem.

Of the overseas varieties, newly introduced to Australia, Lady Moyra Ponsonby, Mary Ellen, Rudy Vallee, Betty Colter, and Satan have all done remarkably well. In northern Australia where the heat is great, these varieties showed enormous size. But their season is short. Conversely, we in the south have a very long season, but the blooms seldom pass the twelve inch mark.

Talking of our long season—in Melbourne we can plant in October, have Dahlias by Xmas, and then enjoy endless crops of blooms till June. We have a solid six months of flowers. What a harvest your hybridist would repeat out here, with such a long season as we have!

Mrs. M. Canny, a seedling of mine, did wonderfully well in Queensland and New Zealand this season. I scooped the championship for a seedling at the 1932 Worthcote Show with this variety. Frances Ryan is another of mine that has shown winning form all over this continent. It was one of the outstanding blooms at the Sydney Royal Horticultural Show in 1934. These are only a couple selected at random. I have really thirty-forty quite as good.

I import a fair amount of stuff from various countries. America has always supplied me with my strongest stock, which proves that you "grow them right" over there.

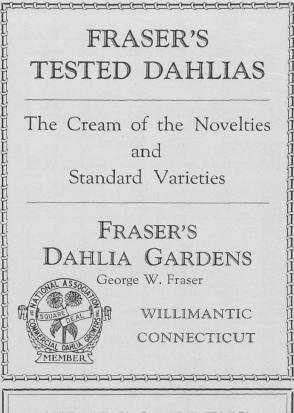
We are somewhat behind you as regards exhibiting Dahlias. Wiring is still allowed and the obsolete fine cactus (with awful stem) is still being shown. But peonies are now a thing of the past here.

Regarding diseases, we are particularly free. But I burn *all* my foliage each year, thus eliminating any possibility of a disease breaking out suddenly amongst my stock. The slug and the snail are really our greatest pests, but a dressing of lime soon gets rid of them—for a while, anyway. The cut worm lives up to his name, by chopping off the green plants at ground level. They work in the night and stay quiet in the loose soil during the day. They are about an inch long and of an earthy color.

The red spider also causes worry. He is a real spider but very tiny. So far, no real remedy has been found to eradicate this pest.

The harlequin bug is another harmful insect, but we manage to keep it under control.

The widespread distribution of the Dahlia in Australia is clearly shown by the fact that every big town runs a successful show each year.



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n s i d er VER the nagazine. al. Covers gardening ies. Sammonthly SS GROWER News of Our Affiliated Societies-Continued

## Dahlia Society of Indiana

At the last meeting of the Indiana society the membership was privileged to hear a confirmed amateur, in the person of George Richardson of Cincinnati, discourse on the subject of "Planning and Planting the Dahlia Section of the Private Garden." Mr. Richardson spoke interestingly of his experiences, told of casual disappointments which however were greatly offset by the many pleasures derived; gave particular advice to his fellow amateurs and his general suggestions were gratefully appreciated.

The following assignments are announced by President Fred McCurdy, Kokomo, in connection with the Indiana Dahlia show; Dr. W. E. Kennedy, Indianapolis, as assistant to Charles F. Meier, Greenwood, show manager. On the show schedules or program committee are Dr. A. E. White, chairman, and Miss Jennie Tudor, Zionsville, and Mrs. R. H. Sparks, Columbus.

Considerable interest is manifest in this year's Indiana show, scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, September 22nd and 23rd. Show manager Charles Meier announces with great satisfaction and pleasure that the generous proffer of the Hotel Lincoln has been accepted and the show will be staged on the entire Travertine floor of that hotel.

The show schedules committee has submitted a preliminary draft of the list of classes for the show, and presenting three general sections, providing eleven classes for amateurs growing less than 100 plants; nineteen classes for amateurs growing less than 250 plants, and 63 classes in the "Open to All" section. There will be four special awards in the "Open to All" and three different classes for the commercial growers are also contemplated. It is the aim of the committee to provide diversified classifications to permit the entry of all types.

The Executive Board unanimously elected Roscoe O. Smith as secretary to fill the unexpired term of Ralph C. Swartz, resigned. The mailing address of our new secretary is R. R. 15, Box 551, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Our society joins other neighboring societies in indorsing the efforts of the Ohio valley district and will give its moral support and active aid in staging its annual regional show in Cincinnati, September 29th and 30th.

Former Secretary Swartz and Assistant Show Manager Doc. Kennedy have been added by appointment to the executive committee.

The show and prize schedule, upon completion by the committee, will be mailed the members by the secretary.

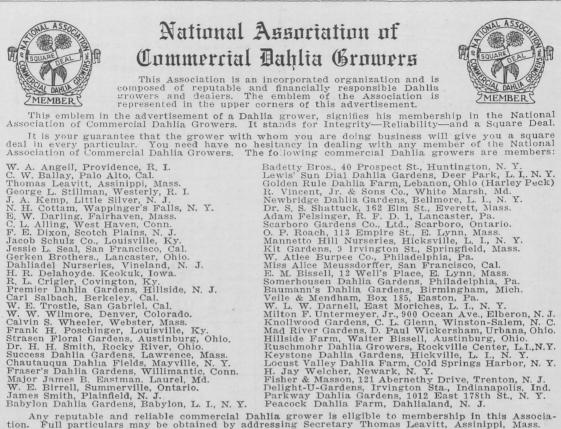
## DAHLIAS

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## **Pioneer City Dahlia Gardens**

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## Peekskill, N.Y.

The Peekskill Flower Show will be held at the Masonic Temple, Peekskill, New York, on Friday, September 14, under the auspices of the Peekskill Dahlia and Gladiolus Society and Garden Club. If interested, schedule and entry blanks will be forwarded from the Secretary, Robert A. Vogel, R. D. Route 3, Locust Avenue, Peekskill. New York.

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