

# BULLETIN

of the

## AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY



MISS MARIAN STORM

who tells in this issue of her two year adventures  
in locating wild Dahlias in Uruapan, State of Micho-  
can, Mexico. They are known to the Indians as  
"Charahuescas."

(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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Issue of May, 1935 . . . . Second Quarter

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Issued Quarterly: February, May, August and November



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	<i>Page</i>
Alling's Dahlias .....	22
Burpee, W. Atlee Co. .... Back Cover	
Bolsa Dahlia Gardens.....	29
Berlet, R. E. ....	28
Chappaqua Dahlia Gardens.....	23
Dahlia Society of Ohio.....	2
Dahliadel Nurseries .....	20
Delight-U Gardens .....	21
Etherington Dahlia Gardens.....	2
Flower Grower, The.....	26
Fisher & Masson.....	23
Fraser, George W. ....	25
Gravely Plow and Cultivator....	17
Greenough, F. A. ....	29
Golden Rule Dahlia Farm.....	31
Hillcrest Rosaries .....	27
Hillside Dahlia Gardens.....	28
Kunzman Dahlias .....	30
Lloyd's Dahlia Gardens.....	30
Manetto Hill Nurseries.....	24
Mid West Dahlia News.....	27
Ohio Valley Dahlia Society....	21
Premier Dahlia Gardens.....	29
Pioneer City Dahlia Gardens....	26
Queens Dahlia Gardens.....	28
Red Arrow, McCormick & Co. ...	19
Ruschmohr Dahlia Gardens.....	31
Somerhousen Dahlia Gardens....	30
Smith, Dr. H. H. ....	29
Success Dahlia Gardens.....	25
Toth, John .....	24
Veirs, F. V. W. ....	30
Veile & Mendham.....	22
Webb, Manley S. Nurseries.....	29
Zazo Nurseries .....	30

## The A. D. S. BULLETIN

### Contents for May, 1935

SERIES XI, No. 72

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### CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
The King of Flowers (Poem).....	4
Variation in the Dahlia.....	5
Hunting Wild Dahlias.....	6-9
The Earliest Known Illustrations of the Dahlia....	8-9-10
An A. D. S. Sponsored Research Fund.....	10
Dahlias for Decoration and Exhibition.....	11-12-13-14
Some Things We Don't Know About Hybridization	14-15
Send Your New Dahlias to the Trial Ground.....	16-17
Editorial .....	18-19
Greetings from New Jersey.....	20-21-22
New Trial Grounds.....	22-23-24-25
Other Societies .....	26-30

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### THE KING OF FLOWERS!

The Dahlia! King of autumn shades,  
Which turns our thoughts from sylvan glades,  
To thy great majesty;  
Flaunting bright colors far and wide,  
O'er garden, farm or countryside,  
King by royal decree!

A King in color, size and worth,  
Proclaiming Royalty, standing forth  
In flashing harmony;  
But yet, the humblest in the land  
May reap his riches, for his hand  
Is stretched forth honestly.

His rugged beauty shows his strength  
In all its joy, until at length  
Charms mere Man by his powers;  
Till loved by rich and poor alike,  
His giant or his smallest spike  
Is crowned by regal flowers.

His sparkling beauty ever bright,  
Endowed with honor and with might,  
Evanescent glints enthrall:  
As buds burst forth a brilliant flame,  
To spread o'er all the earth his Fame,  
Great Dahlia: King of All!

By **WILLIAM SCOTT DOIG**  
Boise, Idaho

This is the second time we have been favored with a Dahlia poem by Mr. Doig. It was written especially for the BULLETIN, and is gratefully acknowledged. We hope to have others from him. If you have a pent up muse, send us your inspiration.



# Variation in the Dahlia

By DR. CHARLES H. CONNORS

A study of Dr. W. J. C. Lawrence's "The Genetics and Cytology of the Dahlia" which proves that *Dahlia variabilis*, the parent of most of our Garden Varieties of Dahlias, known to be Hybrids, is, in itself a Hybrid.

The garden Dahlia exhibits about as wide a range of color as may be found in any garden plant, including some peculiar color distributions. The color range is probably rivalled only by the tulip, and in the tulip are found color combinations that are almost analagous to those found in the Dahlia. For many years members of the staff at the John Innes Horticultural Institution at Nerton, England, have been working upon the genetics of flower colors, including primulas, snapdragons, stocks, roses, and so on, and had discovered that color relationships need to be traced back, if possible, to the primitive species, if these can be found.

The color of Dahlias attracted one of these workers and a preliminary paper, "The Genetics and Cytology of Dahlia Species" by W. J. C. Lawrence appeared in the Journal of Genetics, Volume XXI, No. 2, August, 1929.

Lawrence secured as many wild species as were available and grew these in a garden; and he also studied the color descriptions of a number of others. With one exception, all the species fell into two general color classes.

In the Dahlia are two series of soluble pigments—flavones and anthocyanins. The flavone series consists of an almost continuous gradation from ivory to deep yellow, and these colors respond to chemical action with ammonia. The anthocyanins are classed in three groups, (a) magenta to deep purple, (b) pale orange to deep scarlet, and (c) colors intermediate between (a) and (b). In some cases there is entire absence of pigments, and in such cases the rays will be white. This latter occurs most often when the normal flavone would have been ivory.

Lawrence grew and studied all of the available species of Dahlias and found that, with one exception, all fell into two groups for flower color: Group I (ivory—magenta-purple, where the ivory flavone forms the foundation color upon which is overlaid the anthocyanins) *Dahlia merckii*, *D. maxoni*, *D. imperialis*, and several others, all of which have lilac to mauve rays except *D. imperialis* which is white flushed with lilac-pink. Group II (yellow-orange-scarlet, which would have a yellow flavone for the foundation color, which might be overlaid with orange to scarlet anthocyanins) *Dahlia coccinea*, *D. coronata*, and two others, which have yellow to scarlet rays.

The one exception, the so-called species, *Dahlia variabilis*, is the probable source of most of the garden varieties of the Dahlia, and is unique, in that it unites both the color series within itself. All variations of color are found, due to the presence or absence of the soluble pigments. When the present-day varieties are inspected, it is noted that the magenta-purple group have ivory ground color and that the orange-scarlet group have yellow grounds. This is clearly shown when streaks or flecks occur, permitting the ground color to show. The one chance for confusion is in the case of white, a sport of ivory, which might be confused with ivory as the full color or as the ground color. This

can be distinguished by a chemical test with fuming ammonia, the ivory changing to yellow, while the white remains unchanged.

Lawrence further observed that anthocyanin can develop only when a corresponding flavone is present. There seem to be two anthocyanins: geranium red and purple. So, a scarlet flower will probably be a yellow flavone ground with the geranium red anthocyanin, and variations will occur with various concentrations of the anthocyanin pigment.

In late years, much progress has been made in the study of the inheritance of characters of plants and animals. This study is an entrancing one, finally come from the field of speculation into one of more or less reality. It is very definitely established that inheritance is carried out through the medium of exceedingly small bodies called chromosomes, which are found in the germplasm of all living organisms. Each species has a characteristic number of chromosomes. For example, the common bean and the currant have 16; the calla lily, 32; tobacco, 48; iris, 24 and so on. Man has 48; the monkey, 54; the horse, 38; the dog, 22 and so on. The rose has 14 in some species, while others have 21, 28, 35, all multiples of 7. It has been found that sometimes multiplication of chromosomes to unbalanced numbers resulted in sterility. This was discovered to be the reason that viable seeds were not produced when certain varieties and species of roses were crossed.

Lawrence found that the normal chromosome number in Dahlia species is 32, except that *D. Merckii* has 36. *Dahlia variabilis*, however, has 64, or twice the normal number.

It is evident, therefore, that this relatively sterile form is a hybrid, the result of crossing a species of the ivory-magenta-purple group with a species of the yellow-orange-scarlet group, with a resultant peculiarity of chromosome behavior that resulted in a doubling of the normal number.

What, then, does this mean? We are, of course, awaiting a further report from Dr. Lawrence. In the meantime, what has happened? We have been assuming that *Dahlia variabilis*, the parent of most of our garden varieties of Dahlias, is a valid species, because it appears to be spontaneous in Mexico. But now that we know that it is a hybrid, what species are responsible for it? If we were to find the species, we could only be certain if we found the hybrid growing with it. Such happenings are chance, or as the geneticists call it, fortuitous. If we had the parental species of *Dahlia variabilis*, could we reproduce that sort? Again, it would be fortuitous. But why speculate, for where are the species? It may be that some day, some one who is a botanist and who is interested in Dahlias will make a search in Mexico and adjacent parts of Central America. If he finds the parents, he will satisfy the curiosity of the inquiring mind, and there is always the possibility that new material will result in further improvement of the existing stocks. (Now read how one parent was found.—Editor.)

# Hunting Wild Dahlias in their Ancient Home

By MARION STORM, Hotel Progreso, Uruapan, Mexico

(See picture of Miss Storm on cover)

It is the rule, in beginning a biography, to go back to the great man's birthplace and there find out very little about him. Just so, wild Dahlias baffled me for a year, when I came to their old home—the more southern highlands of Mexico. Dr. Howe, the Dahlia specialist of The New York Botanical Garden, wanted a few seeds and tubers of never-cultivated Dahlias, and I thought I couldn't have a simpler request to fulfill. I would find Dahlias blooming off in the fields, on afternoon strolls. How little I knew!

On a visit to Uruapan, Michoacán, in July, 1933, I asked how to hunt for Dahlias and was promptly referred to the more elegant gardens, where some were responding to devoted care—where tall lavender tree-Dahlias, single and double, shaded the rarer kind. "But wild Dahlias—they must grow in the fields here, just as zinnias and cosmos do?" No one could make out what I meant by wild Dahlias!

That mid-November I came back to Uruapan for a long stay, and at once took up the trail. "There aren't any now." "But when can I find them, then?" "In the rains." "July and August?" "Yes, cómo no?" "But everyone has said, late in October." "Yes, after the rains. In October." I presently understood that the Indians were trying to tell me whatever I would prefer to hear, so that I would feel contented! Memories of the now world-famous Dahlia in its old mountain home were vague. No one, today, "knew it when." I must learn as luck let me. Winter and spring went, with no wild Dahlias reported. But one day Don Silviano, the carpenter, brought me a big, handsome yellow Dahlia. "I don't know what this pretty flower is," he said. "It came up in the patio from a root we had, and we saved it for a present."

In May, Ramiro, an Indian boy, walking thirteen hours over the ranges from his home in Peribán, brought me some roots of Dahlias that his mother had planted. "But she dug them up in the sierra." These should be virtually wild, so I mailed them to Dr. Howe, and when set out in the Dahlia border at the Garden one almost bloomed, the summer of 1934, but gave up at the last minute.

Slowly, by asking over and over, I learned that nobody knew what I was talking about when I asked for *wild* "Dahlias" because that name is given only to the garden flowers, like Don Silviano's, and these are not very common in Michoacán. Even Tarascan Indians from the remote sierra, who speak no Spanish, use it for these tame plants. Uruapan is a small town at the end of the rail line, and both hill and hot country Indians trudge in on Saturday to market what they have raised or made, to bring a turkey under one arm, a flat basket of fruit on the head. I persuaded every one who had contact with country Indians who came to the hotel to ask those who spoke Spanish what they called the Dahlia, and invariably the answer was "dalia-tzitziqui" or more rarely "guarás-tzitziqui." "Tzitziqui" is a Tarascan suffix meaning "flower." It appears in the phrase for Spring. Like other Indian languages, this one is adapted to one-word descriptions, and after floral attributes have

been named the word for flower is added. Thus one does not say "rose," but uses a long compound that means a yellow, single, fragrant flower, if that is the sort of rose the speaker has in mind. "Guarás" is Tarascan for *camote*—edible root or tuber. While this word usually means sweet potato or sweet-potato candy, one may speak of "dalia-camotes," or of the "guarás" of the *chayote* (the "chinchayote").

For wild Dahlia flowers, I discovered, the only names known in Michoacán today are these two: *dalia-tzitziqui* and *guarás-tzitziqui* (Dahlia-flower and edible-root-flower). Even allowing for the astounding rapidity with which Spanish spread over conquered America, it seemed incredible that the aboriginal name of a native plant so familiar could have been utterly forgotten in primitive villages where no Spanish is spoken even now. The word "*dalia*" could not have antedated the latter part of the eighteenth century, since the seeds first reached Europe in 1789, and the name Dahlia was created in 1791, yet it was now the only name applied to the flower, at least in its cultivated form, in this part of Mexico. What word had the people here used before Andreas Dahl received his honor? I became obsessed with a mania for discovering the Tarascan name for Dahlia. Among the water-gardeners of Xochimilco, up at the capitol, no Indian name was any longer used.\* I had found—Azteca and Chichimeca were as forgetful as Tarascos.

I would stand by our charcoal stove in the kitchen and poke a bunch of garden Dahlias at some suspicious and trail-weary Indian. "What do you call these, *por favor*, up in the sierra?"—and always was discouraged to hear "dalias." I felt still more desperate when I learned that one of exquisite airs played by our favorite mountain violinist, on the rare occasions when he descended to Uruapan, was called "La Dalia," beginning:

"Dalia, dalia, dalia-tzitziqui jimbó.  
Ja qué picuni, ja qué picuni,  
Por pi-cugxo, tia."

A lovely old Tarascan sierra song, which is from Ychán, one of The Eleven Villages. Up in the state of Coahuila I noticed a railroad station named La Dalia! How the Spaniards spread!

Suddenly it dawned upon some of my Uruapan friends that—what a joke! I was trying to find *charahuescas* to send to New York. I'd been going around asking for "dalias del monte" and "dalias silvestres" when all I wanted was *charahuescas*! In glee I demanded, "Then *charahuesca* is the name for Dahlia?" "It is the name of the *camote* of the *dalia*—and yes, of the plant, if you like."

\*Hernandez, who in 1570 was sent by King Philip II of Spain to Mexico and spent seven years there studying and describing the natural products of "New Spain," made a drawing of what we now know as a Dahlia and stated that it was called *acocotli* by the "Quauhnhuacenses" (meaning inhabitants of the Cuernavaca region, near the City of Mexico) and *chichipatlí* by the Tepoztlanenses (meaning the inhabitants of Tepoztlan). Miss Storm, whose investigations have centered in the State of Michoacán, has apparently found no trace of the two native names mentioned by Hernandez—M. A. Howe.

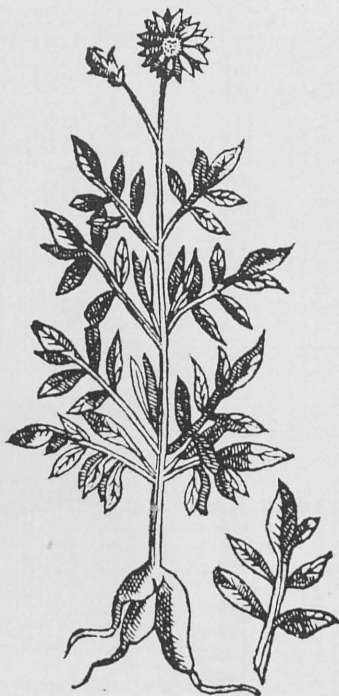


This is the Acocotlis of the Aztecs as represented by Dr. Francisco Hernandez from the drawings made by him in Mexico between 1570 and 1577. Book published in Rome 1651 under the name "Nova Plantarum . . . etc. Mexicaorum Historis."

This is a semi-double flower, doubtless a cultivated Dahlia.

This was the type of Dahlia of which Miss Storm could find no trace in the State of Michoacan.

## ACOCOTLIS

ACOCOTLIS  
alia Icon.

(Figure One)

As described by Dr. Howe on Page 9

Wild Dahlias *per se* are unknown in Michoacán, I now learned, but their tubers, for unrecorded ages, have been so prized as food that the plants are almost used up. So even though at last I knew what to ask for, it was not easy to find them.

The oldest vendor in the market could not remember when they had brought him in any *charahuescas* for sale. Others assured me that even if I found them in the "puestos" they would certainly be cooked. On the other hand, a native girl of twenty said that she and her companions had preferred *charahuescas* to *jicamas* or *chayote*-root when they were but little younger and that they could always buy them "en las lluvias" (the rainy season), and looked forward to them. "We'd peel them like this—*muy sabrosas*! Yes, of course one eats them raw, just like *jicamas*. There used to be plenty in Uruapan, but everybody would go out digging *charahuescas* in big family parties, and camp where they grow, so naturally they're scarce nowadays." Forthwith I set a price on *charahuescas*, but people could not take me seriously. Surely I might buy enough other refreshing roots to eat!

But this was their season—the time of the heaviest rains: August and early September. I must hurry! "Where can I find *charahuescas* myself? I want to ride till I come to them, if nobody will bring them in," "Oh, there are none now." "But when?" "In October," they said. In the market, in the kitchen, on the roads, everyone now assured me that "later" there would be *charahuescas*. Although I had to go to the capitol, I made up my mind that I would not be lulled again. I would be back in Uruapan in October, this year, since

that was the one month! Last year, in November, I apparently had been just too late.

Up in the capitol a thrilling triumph was waiting. As usual, I was chasing old books about Mexico from library to library, always hoping to come upon the Tarascan word for Dahlia. It was not in Maturini's big *Diccionario*, which gives Tarascan names for the Rose of Castile and the Flor de Granada (though there is no knowing what flowers are meant by these phrases). It was not in León's priceless "Silbario." Then, one rainy afternoon, I was leafing over the familiar two volumes of "Michoacán: Leyendas, Paisajes y Tradiciones" by Eduardo Ruiz—a fascinating work, imaginative but full of racy information about Uruapan to be found nowhere else. And there on page 228 stood a footnote relating to the prehistoric gardens of Pátzcuaro: "*Saluen-tzitziqui* is the name of the *dalia*. It is probably the only Tarascan word with the letter l. The name implies 'many bright colors'." I could hardly keep from jumping and shouting. Perhaps I was now the one person among the Tarascans who knew their aboriginal name for Dahlia!

I made a special effort to get back to Uruapan and the hunt for wild Dahlias by mid-October. "I must go for *charahuescas*," I explained, the day after my return. "Where will be a likely place?" "Oh, there are none now. This is not the season." "When is it?" "In the rains." "In August-September?" "Yes." "They were in the market here then?" I rushed to the old vendor. "Did you have *charahuescas* in the rains, and save me none?" "Charahuescas—who knows? They would be bad now. I have nice oranges." (Continued next page)

### Hunting Wild Dahlias—Continued

Just missed again? No one could understand why I felt so bad. I rode up into the mountains, toward a high and legend-haunted pond, along a forbidding trail, hoping against hope for even one left over Dahlia. We did find, and dug up, a rosy flower that resembled equally a Dahlia, a cosmos, and a bidens, and this I proudly showed to my friends in the kitchen. "See. I got a few *charahuescas* after all!" They said yes, but in a day or so I found out that they knew this was no *charahuesca*. "That is the *dalia*," Lupe patiently explained. I thought I should go mad.

On other rides I saw that this same charming flower, growing with cosmos, adorned the sides of our mountain trails, especially on Charanda hill, from October through December, colored rose to maroon, its leaves never seeming twice alike—and different even on the same plant! But everybody called it "aceitilla." "Isn't *aceitilla* always white?" "Yes." We had white *aceitilla* in the *patio*, and it looked very unlike this, and in "Medicinal Plants of Mexico," by Martínez, *aceitilla* was described as white or yellow. Maybe this really was a wild Dahlia! I set some out in an *olla*, to keep it handy.

It was a gay Sunday in early November. I heard excited steps on the stairs. Lupe, the waitress, was running up with a tray on her head, and on that tray, topped by a few vivid flowers, were clusters of Dahlia roots—wild Dahlias from the mountains around San Lorenzo! A week ago she had quietly sent her young man, then out of work, on this mission, and he had hunted *charahuescas* for three days, bringing back, too, the last of their small flowers. "Of course it was very dangerous—the worst scorpions live under rocks that the plants grow out from. But Ernesto is brave." She flipped the *charahuescas* disparagingly. "In my home, Taretan, they get much bigger. Nothing like these."

I stared in joy at the flowers I had been hunting since July, 1933, and was seeing for the first time in my life. They shone like burnished metal in the sunshine—a lucent orange-red with bright gold centers. I pressed them to send to Dr. Howe, along with all the sound tubers, and they reached New York November 14, 1934. I kept out one small *charahuesca* to peel and nibble, but it wasn't sweet, now so late.

Soon after, I rode toward El Chino hill with old Mr. Hurtado, who rents horses, and we met two men eating their *tortillas* at the roadside. "Have you seen any *charahuescas* up this way this year?" "Oh yes. There are still some—and down in the *malpais* of San Pedro. But they are no good for eating now. They lie rotted in the ground. Look—two big withered plants." I thought my heart would stop! Wild Dahlias, still with seed, were leaning against the rock—the first I had ever seen growing!

We jumped down and dug them up. They were six or seven feet tall, and I got the men to carry the great plants back to Uruapan for me, where I have them planted in a box, just on the chance that they will come up. The seeds, now falling, I collected into an old cigarette packet and mailed to Dr. Howe.

On came fate. The very next afternoon I went for a walk in the Quinta Ruiz, where an old lane leads into piny badlands. Beyond the rim of possible cultivation runs a high stone wall, and first on the left, then on the right, I saw a wild Dahlia, growing out from the base and still in flower. I came back with a trowel, climbed over and dug hard, but the roots were so far under the wall that I couldn't even get near them. However, I know where they are, for another year, and I now felt



(Figure 2)

#### DAHLIA PINNATA CAVANILLES

"Icones et Descriptiones Plantarum," Vol. 1, Plate 80, 1791. The first plant described and figured under the name "Dahlia"—a half double flower, evidently cultivated.

fairly safe. Eighteen authentically "wild" tubers and a few seeds had gone to Dr. Howe. Here were two veteran plants *in situ*. A cluster of roots from El Chino were planted. And yet, what about my other puzzle—the plant that looks like a Dahlia and isn't a *charahuesca*, although a mountain woman said that it sometimes did have little tubers? I sent some badly dried specimens to The New York Botanical Garden and others in better condition to the Instituto de Biología in Mexico City. The New York authorities identified my *aceitilla* as *Cosmos diversifolius* Otto, with *Bidens dahliaoides* S. Wats. as a synonym; the Mexican, as *Bidens rosea* Schz. Bip., var. *acquisquamosa* Robinson. Anyway, it is blooming beautifully in an old brown jar on the roof, now in March.

However pampered under cultivation, it is clear that the Dahlia, here in its aboriginal home, prefers lofty badlands—untrodden steeps where it has for companions only ocote pines and mountain mint. It loves the volcanic *malpais*. Uruapan is high—over 5,300 feet—yet you have to go up to find *charahuescas* and rose-colored *Bidens*; they do not grow in our lower fallow fields, as cosmos freely grows. But they meet the trying onslaughts of the two seasons—the dry, from November to June, when their tubers lie under powdery or crumbling brown earth, and the wet, when they are almost incessantly flooded for three months—as well as sharp



changes of temperature the year round. Most of our winter days blaze with sunlight, but our nights, from eight till eight, are shrewdly chill. Wild Dahlias can overcome poor soil, great heights, long drought, hurtling rains and cold that whitens with snow the barrancas of Mr. Tancitaro.

So it is with the tree Dahlias, although I have never seen one that was certainly wild. They are at their finest in high regions of the *tierra templada*, like Uruapan and Oaxaca—not on the coast. Here, at Uruapan, they call them "*inviernos*"—winter plants—and they flourish far above the town, as at the *ranchería* of La Basilia, to which we rode one day in late November. Up at La Basilia the wind blows strong. Water runs into seven troughs that stand one below the other in a little plaza under old ash trees, and the women and children of the ranch were washing there, the clothes fluttering in their hands as they rubbed worn pink, purple, and nasturtium-colored cottons. For background

rose a hedge of tree Dahlias, untended but towering, and weighted with bloom.

On a wandering muleback trip to the Pacific Coast we saw not one tree Dahlia in eighteen lonely days from peaks to shore, and I did not even look for *charahuescas*, as the month was January. But suddenly Luis, our Indian guide, turned in his saddle and smacked his lips. We were inching across the interminable and forbidding range called Los Naranjos, at more than eight thousand feet, and he was looking down an overgrown slope. "Charahuescas! When my brother and I have to make this trip in the rains we dig them up—it gives us something besides *tortillas* to eat. But we don't find many, any more."

Even in that real wilderness, where so few ever pass, the original Dahlia is hard pressed. Every summer it is being hunted deeper into the lonely hills. In its old home it is already rare.

## The Earliest Known Illustrations of the Dahlia

By DR. MARSHALL A. HOWE of the New York Botanical Garden

(To who the A. D. S. is indebted for Asking Miss Storm to make this Research)

In connection with Miss Storm's fascinating account of her search for really wild Dahlias in Mexico and with Dr. Connors' lucid interpretation of Dr. Lawrence's important studies of the genetics of the Dahlia, it may be of interest to the readers of the BULLETIN to see reproductions of the first published drawings of a Dahlia. The very first sketches, so far as is known, of anything that modern botanists are willing to accept as representing a Dahlia, were made in Mexico somewhere between 1570 and 1577—more than two hundred years before the word "Dahlia" was invented. The artist-naturalist was Dr. Francisco Hernandez, a Spanish physician, who was sent by King Philip II, with a credit of 60,000 ducats (about \$138,000) to study and report upon the natural products of this "New Spain." The doctor remained in Mexico for seven years, collecting and studying the plants, animals, minerals, and antiquities of this new, yet old, country. He carried back to Spain sixteen folio volumes of manuscript and drawings and deposited them in a large building known as the Escorial near Madrid, where, nearly a century later, long after Hernandez' death, they were destroyed by a great fire. But, fortunately, a copy of a considerable part of his manuscripts and of some of his drawings reached Rome, where they were published in 1651, in Latin, the language of the learned of that day. (An abridged edition, without illustrations, was published in Mexico, in Spanish, in 1615.) The title of the large quarto of more than a thousand pages of 1651 was "*Nova Plantarum, Animalium et Mineralium Mexicanorum Historia*," which means, in a free translation, that it was a "natural history" of Mexico. In this, on page 31, were printed figures and a brief description of what, doubtless, is now known as a Dahlia, under the native Aztec name of *acocotli*, which is said to mean also a pipe or water-pipe, evidently in allusion to the hollow stems of the plant, which, in the autumn, as all modern Dahlia growers know, often carry notable quantities of free sap.

It is important to notice (Fig. 1) that the flowers of this first-figured *acocotli* or Dahlia were semi-double—a fact that the modern plant-breeder would be very sure to interpret as meaning that Hernandez found it in

(Figure 3)

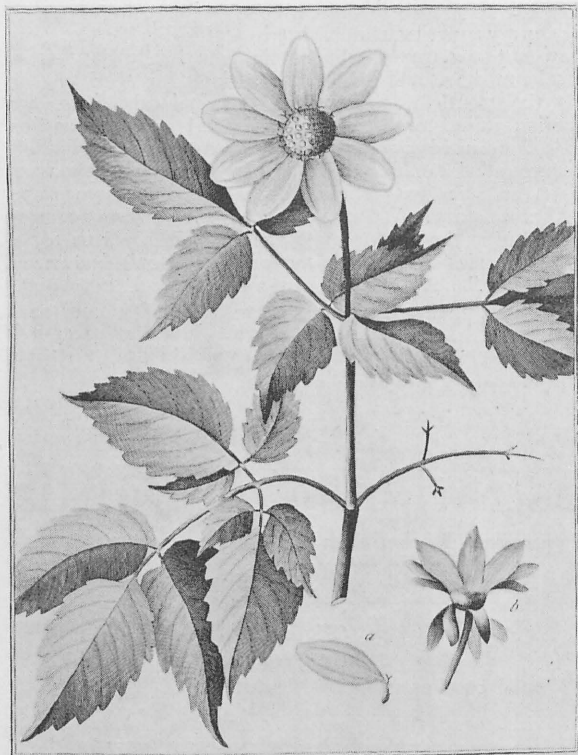
DAHLIA ROSEA CAVANILLES

"*Icones et Descriptiones Plantarum*," Vol. 3, plate 265—1794



(Continued on following page)

## The Earliest Known Dahlia Illustrations—Continued



(Figure 4)

## DAHLIA COCCINEA CAVANILLES

"Icones et Descriptiones Plantarum," Vol. 3, plate 266—1794.

somebody's garden—that it did not represent a "wild" plant—in other words, it was already a "hybrid." It is more than probable that if Dr. W. J. C. Lawrence had been able to subject Hernandez' plant to microscopic examination, he would have found its cells "octoploid," with 64 chromosomes.

There seems to be a wide gap in the recorded history of what is now known as the Dahlia, stretching from 1651 to 1789, when the assistant to the director of the Botanic Garden in the City of Mexico is said to have sent seeds of the *acocotli* to the Abbé Cavanilles, later Director of the Royal Gardens of Madrid. The seeds grew, produced plants that flowered in Madrid the first season and in 1791 the Abbé Cavanilles described it in Latin, the approved botanical fashion, published illustrations of its leaves and flowers, and gave it the name *Dahlia pinnata*—*Dahlia* in honor of Andreas Dahl, a Swedish botanist, who apparently never had anything to do with the plant—and *pinnata* because its leaves were divided in a more or less feathery fashion. It is again of interest to note (Fig. 2) that the flowers of the plant first published under the name of Dahlia were semi-double and that this historic type represented a cultivated or garden form rather than a natural species, all of which was a misfortune from the point of view of the systematic botanist.

Three years later, 1794, Cavanilles described and figured two more species, as he conceived them to be, calling one *Dahlia rosea* (Fig. 3) because its flowers

were rose-colored and the other *Dahlia coccinea* (Fig. 4) because its flowers were scarlet. There were also differences in the cutting of the leaves as a comparison of our figures 3 and 4—photographic copies of the originals—will indicate. Both of these had "single" flowers and the plants that bore them may or may not have represented really "wild" species of the mountains of Mexico.

However, so many sports, hybrids, or variants of the Dahlia soon appeared in European gardens that botanists seemed to tire of giving new Latin names to every noteworthy one, and when Willdenow in 1809 (under the now abandoned genus name *Georgina*) suggested combining several of the forms under the specific name *variabilis*, many botanists and horticulturists were quite ready to fall in line and the name *Dahlia variabilis* is still often seen in print, even though it has no legal standing under the International Rules of Botanical Nomenclature.

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## An A. D. S. Sponsored Discovery Trip

The editor has been for some time trying to interest Dahlia enthusiasts in a trip or junket to the table lands of Mexico to search for the original wild Dahlias. The Dahlias which many have considered the original species and which were found growing in the gardens of the Aztecs by Fernandez in 1570 were not the original wild Dahlias. Miss Marion Storm has found at least one of the original species which were undoubtedly the forefathers of our present *Dahlia variabilis*. Her story in this issue is not only fascinating but it may well be a modern epic of Dahlia research. We owe her a debt of gratitude for her two year search for these fast disappearing wild species.

And, if W. J. C. Lawrence, as reported by Charles H. Conners, has definitely proved that the wild Dahlias as found today were in themselves hybrids of some earlier species, then Miss Storm's discovery may be of great scientific value.

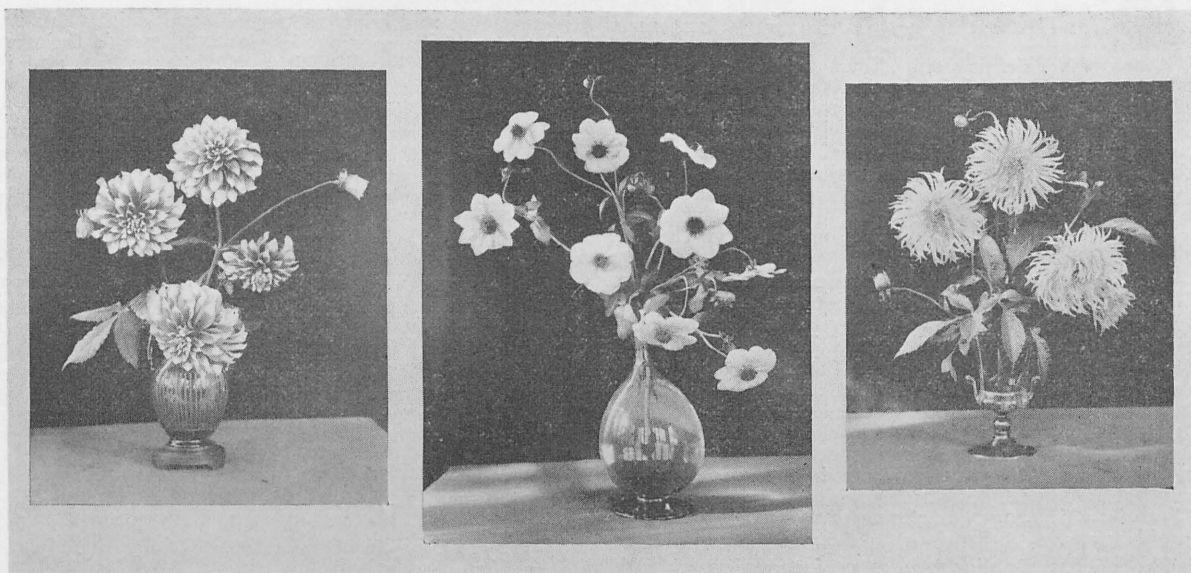
If the other wild species can be located, which, by early crossings, gave us our many classifications of today, then it might be possible to recross them and prove many of the conjectures which now troubles us in regard to Dahlias.

The American Dahlia Society could well afford to start a fund for definite research in Mexico, the original habitat of the Dahlia. A group of botanists and horticulturists could undoubtedly find a great deal of information and test the heredity of *Dahlia variabilis* by going down there and spending some time.

It has been suggested also that the U. S. Department of Agriculture in its new plant research division would be interested in this research, to the extent of sending representatives along with the group. They have sent men in times past, to the far corners of the earth, to secure plants to improve horticultural lines here, so why not Dahlias?

Why not start a "Dahlia Origin Research Fund"—to bring about this great accomplishment? Everyone could contribute a little, and mayhap a few who have been favored with this world's goods, could give a lot. Or some Dahlia philanthropist could will a memorial fund for this purpose. What a monument to the cause of better Dahlias this would be.





**CHAPPAGUA CHIEFTAN**  
Bicolor, Buff, White I. Dec.  
Container Amber Glass-Teak  
Stand

**PURITY**  
White Single  
Tall Glass Bottle. Italian design.

**VICTORIA**  
Primrose Yellow I. Cac.  
Pale Amber, Venetian Glass Urn.

## Dahlias for Decoration and Exhibition

By GEORGENA HUMBLE, Garden Club Executive

(All Arrangements and Photographs by the Author)

What would be your reply, if you were asked the question, "What Dahlia would you recommend for a gift to a friend whose avocation is growing Dahlias?" Most any one familiar with the large number of fine varieties of Dahlias, would have to pause to think before answering this question, and the answers would be as varied as the types of Dahlias. Undoubtedly, however, the newest and most recent introduction would be given greatest consideration in the choice.

With the extremely successful Dahlia season last year, the interest and enthusiasm for growing this flower, has been greatly stimulated. Those who are planning this season's gardens are asking the question, "What new Dahlias to choose?" It is found that many amateurs are giving more space in their limited garden areas for the growth of Dahlias. In fact, in some cases, these enthusiastic Dahlia lovers are encroaching on vegetable garden space, lawn areas, the neighbor's vacant lot, or any available spot where there is room for just another favorite variety to be planted.

It is necessary for one to know the purpose for which Dahlias are being grown, for there should be as definite an objective in growing these, as in the culture of any other garden flowers. Do you wish to grow for the exhibition hall, for the enriching beauty of this flower in your garden over a long period of bloom, for its decorative value in the home, office, church, hotel or other place where it lends enchantment as a cut flower, or do you wish to keep ahead of your neighbor by growing what is con-

sidered the finest and latest varieties? There are many classes from which to choose and among them are varieties adaptable to any and all purposes. It would almost be necessary, in recommending for individuals growing Dahlias, to be somewhat familiar with those he has already grown and enjoyed, and to know whether his fancy runs to the large or small types, and if he has color preference. There is wide choice for selections in all cases. If one prefers the large varieties he will want to grow the newest of these, for the recent introductions include some of the most spectacular blooms for size, distinction and unusual coloring, vigor, and exquisite beauty of form and foliage.

Catalog illustrations are somewhat alluring and too frequently bewildering to any one trying to select what should best suit his needs. Experience in growing and handling the different types is most necessary in giving advice, as to what might best fit another's purpose. With a knowledge of the habits of certain varieties, one can say whether or not a variety is vigorous, resistant to disease and pest, tolerant of hot or dry conditions, of high standard for foliage, stems, good form and color of bloom. Varieties excelling under various conditions, and maintaining the superior standards of quality, are usually a wise selection. It would be satisfactory for one to gain this knowledge for himself by making his own choice from the enchanting lists supplied, and gathering from his own experience what he considers the best Dahlias for his particular situation.

(Continued on following page)

### Dahlias for Decoration and Exhibition—Continued

Among the illustrations shown herewith are some splendid Dahlias, representative of different types. The superior quality of "Rockley Moon" is outstanding, for this photograph shows the last two blooms cut just before the killing frost in October. This Dahlia, at that late date, has maintained size, perfect form of formal decorative, leathery foliage, vigorous stem, marvelous keeping quality, and delightful color, which is in accord with the description of the reflected moon in the lakeside.

There are several recent introductions in the large flowering informal decoratives that should prove winners wherever shown for competition in next Fall's Dahla Shows. "Forest Fire" with a most descriptive name and unusually distinctive color, should be among the leaders, and "Mrs. George LeBoutellier," an excellent new red in this class, "Judge Samuel Seabury," pink blending to white at center, "New Deal," a glowing orange, "Hunt's Velvet Wonder," deep burgundy red, are among those that should add to any exhibitor's blue ribbons. There is wide range for choice of many good Dahlias in this class.

The cactus Dahlias are more interesting, though frequently confusing to amateur exhibitors who do not seem certain about the classifications for straight cactus, semi-cactus, and incurved cactus. Certainly the names of these classes should indicate the nature of the bloom for that specific class. When in doubt, reference may be made to a good Dahlia catalog which correctly classifies each variety. One of the most instructive catalogs, on which the grower of Dahlias may depend for authoritative information, is that of a Vineland, New Jersey grower. Here one may find good illustrations, with correct classifications, rating, origin, size of bloom, height of growing plant, whether suitable as cut flower, for garden culture, or exhibition, with a color description as accurate as possible, and the habits of each one listed. This book also includes cultural instructions, care and treatment of Dahlias throughout the entire year. Lists are given for color, and designation of time required for plants to come into bloom, and whether or not they may be successfully grown in intense sunshine. This is a help to those who like to make their choice by color, and for those living in sections farther north where the growing season is short and only varieties that come into bloom early may be successfully grown, and for those in the south desiring to grow them in heat intensity.

"Ambassador," a straight cactus variety is shown in the illustrations. This Dahlia which is yellow at center blends out to pink, and while not new is a wonder for decoration. It is well formed, has attractive foliage and keeps well when cut.

Some of the finest Dahlias being grown may perhaps be found in the class of semi-cactus. A leader here of the newest may be "Kay Francis," clear lemon yellow. "Bette Davis," large lavender pink, keeps well as a cut flower and is enhanced with beautiful foliage. "Satan," bright scarlet in color, is large and attractive in the garden and on the exhibition table, and maintains lasting quality when cut. "Frau O. Bracht," pale yellow or cream, is by no means new, but a favorite as a cut flower and prize winner in decorations. There is wide range for choice of color in this class for those who have not yet grown this favorite kind of Dahlia.

Many Dahlias are suitable in glass containers. The illustrations show several of these. Some of the

incurved cactus have an airiness and dainty quality that is quite harmonious in glass. "Jersey's Dainty," that is shown is white, lasts well when cut, and is a delight for decorations.

Bi-color Dahlias, or those having two distinct colors are represented by various types. There are to be found the formal and informal decoratives, the former of which is illustrated in an amber glass container, showing blooms with buff orange petals tipped white. "Alice Stellick" is a good example of informal decorative in the bi-color class. "Prince of Bulgaria," a single mignon, with markings similar to an awning with red and white stripes is shown arranged in a ruby glass vase. This is an interesting class of Dahlias and fascinating to grow if one is seeking something out of the ordinary in colors.

The peony Dahlias are somewhat limited and apparently not as appealing as other varieties. The blooms are comparatively different. The whirled and twisted petals are attractive in the flowers. Certainly this type is worthy of a place in the garden, for it has an early and free blooming habit.

The ball Dahlias, so prim, compact, and rounded, are perhaps not grown as much as the newer types, but on the exhibition tables these Dahlias are always desirable.

The varieties of anemone and collarette are also limited. More of these, and the two foregoing types of peony and ball Dahlias, in the classes scheduled for these varieties at exhibits, would be appreciated by show committees and spectators.

Pompon Dahlias have gained rapidly in popularity. They give a wealth of bloom in the garden and are splendid for decorative use. The illustrated arrangement of these, shows how attractively they can be handled without other flowers and foliage. Pompons lend themselves beautifully to a line design which is so much more distinctive than their frequent use with other flowers in a basket.

The ever increasing attraction and interest in the mignons and English bedding Dahlias as garden flowers for borders, bedding, rock gardens and for decorations, is most remarkable. They are readily grown from seed, do not exceed eighteen inches in height, and produce an abundance of colorful blooms. They are speedily competing with the most dependable annuals generally counted upon to supply color in the garden, and abundance of blooms of lasting quality as cut flowers over a long season.

The small Dahlias or miniatures are becoming a joy to the amateur's small garden. They are gay in colors, come into bloom early, stand well as cut flowers, are charming in arrangements for table and other decorations, give a wealth of bloom for a longer period than most garden flowers, and can be used in some cases in rock gardens, or for border and bedding plants. "Pink Pearl," "Bishop of Landoff" bright scarlet, "Paddy," rose pink, "Rapture," pink touched gold at center, and "Red Head" are a few among those that are sure to please wherever grown or used for cutting.

The orchid flowering Dahlia is easily grown, charming in decorations and as proved in the American Dahlia Society's New York Show last fall, may bring honors to an amateur exhibitor. The award of England's Dahlia Society was given to an arrangement of orchid flowering Dahlias exhibited by an amateur.

Single Dahlias may be obtained in large, medium and small varieties. One is shown here of medium

(Continued on page 14)



ALL PHOTOGRAPHS AND ARRANGEMENTS BY MRS. HUMBLE

Top: One of Mrs. Humble's seedlings from Newport Wonder. Biscuit colored pottery vase.

Middle Below: Prince of Bulgaria. Ruby Glass Vase.

Bottom: Ambassador. Pottery Vase, Mauve and Black.

Top: Satan, S. Cac. Tall dark pottery vase.

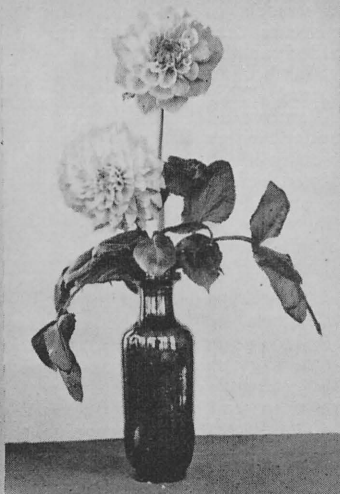
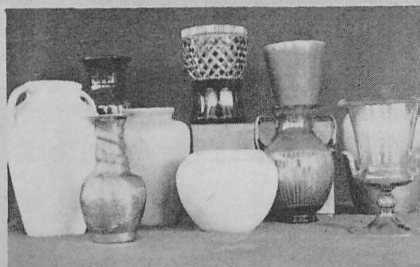
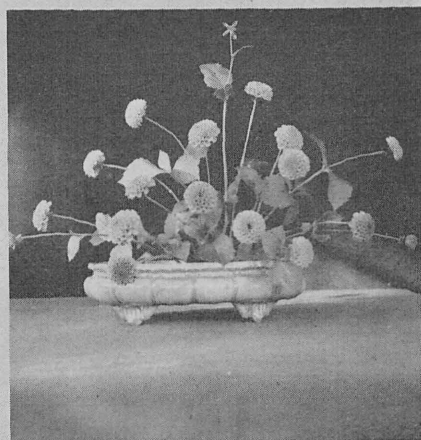
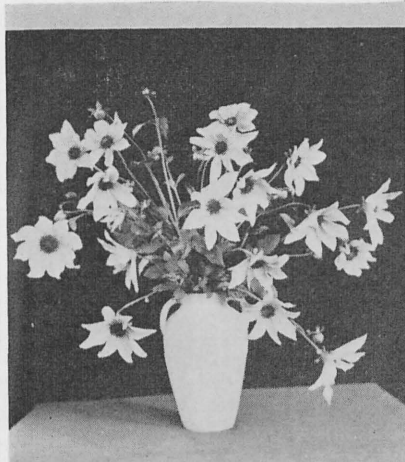
Middle: Group of vases used in these arrangements.

Bottom: Rockley Moon, New Yellow F. Dec. In 14 inch Pottery Vase.

Top: Little Edith, Bronze Pom. Low oblong Pottery Bowl.

Middle: Little Louise, Inc. Cac. Min., Mauve pink. Amethyst glass vase.

Bottom: Jersey's Dainty, White I. Cac. Ruby and Crystal Colonial glass.



### Dahlias for Decoration and Exhibition—Continued

size, "Purity," as its name implies is pure white. The flowers have broad petals, are perfectly formed, and hold up gracefully on wiry stems. "Newport Wonder," rose pink suffused yellow, has long been a favorite.

Growing Dahlias from seed is fascinating, for one never knows until the flower bursts forth, just what he may expect from seed sown early in the spring. The illustration shows seedling Dahlias of which "Newport Wonder" was the parent. These Dahlias varied in color from creamy white and pale yellow to the most delicate pinks. They bloomed in early August from seed sown in a cold frame about the middle of April. The photograph was taken towards evening when the flowers had drawn their petals together for night rest, and again in the morning they fully expanded. It is a great loss of time and garden space to grow Dahlias from seed unless one secures dependable seeds of choice varieties that are especially hybridized for the best results. Even then, there are many disappointments. In exhibiting seedling Dahlias, much discretion should be used in selecting only those worthy of a place in the show. A guide to the high standard to which a seedling Dahlia should attain, is beauty of bloom, substance, vigor of stem and foliage and usefulness in the garden, or as a cut flower.

The Dahlia if cut at the right stage of blooming and properly treated, will last over as long a period as many other garden flowers. At all times an abundance of water must be supplied through the cut stems, for there is much evaporation in the petals and foliage. One of the illustrations shows types of a few simple vases suitable for use in exhibiting and arranging Dahlias. Unless wilted flowers can readily be replaced, it is best to use containers that are deep and permit the stems to reach down for a good depth into the water. Single Dahlias maintain their beauty longer and retain their petals, if they are cut before the pollen appears. The large types should be cut as soon as the outside petals have expanded to full size. Although many exhibitors at flower shows have discovered the methods of handling flowers to keep them in good condition for the longest possible time, a reminder here may be timely in helping new exhibitors, or those unfamiliar with the necessary treatment of Dahlias to preserve the lasting qualities and to prevent wilting. Cutting of all flowers should be done at evening or early morning, and allowed to remain in vessels of deep cold water for several hours. The stems that have been cut on a slant, should be scalded at the bottom by placing for a minute or so, in boiling hot water for a depth of an inch or two. This precaution can not be over emphasized. Remove all foliage from the part of stem to be under water and allow scalded end to remain, then set in deep cold water in a dark place to become hardened before taking to the exhibition hall or before arranging for any purpose. Frequent changes of the water is also helpful in preserving the freshness of the flowers, which should never be subjected to draughts or currents of air.

Gardening with Dahlias, old or new, large or small, whatever the classification and color of your favorites, is assurance of happiness, and satisfaction in having for the longest blooming season, an abundance of rich flowers to share with those who will love and enjoy them with you.

### Some Things We Don't Know

#### About Hybridization

BY A. G. GOODACRE

Recently I was asked at one of the Southern California Dahlia Society meetings to talk on "Hand Pollenization of Dahlias." I told them at the beginning that, of necessity, such a talk by me should rather be captioned, "What I Don't Know About Hand Pollenization."

We all know that many articles are written and spoken of on this subject. Some are evidently produced with the idea of making a good story regardless of the real knowledge of the subject by the writer or speaker. Mostly in these cases there are many overdrawn statements.

One winter day I was in New York City, where I was attending the Poultry Show at the old Madison Square Garden. This was about the year 1905, as I remember. As I walked down Madison Avenue I was attracted to a display in a store on what was called "Protective Coloration." My mind immediately reflected on similar things I had observed in England and Canada when on trips through the countryside. I also remembered that Theodore Roosevelt was a great enthusiast in this line of thought. The Canadian Hare turns white in winter. Then there is the northern Grouse, or Ptarmigan, which changes its colors for the winter season. In our simpler near-at-home life we find moths the color of tree bark, and caterpillars which look like twigs. I mention these things because they are a field of expansive study and appeal to the imagination much in the same manner as nature's ability to provide for extension and improvement of the species—as in Dahlia pollenization and crossings of the varieties.

Nature takes care of her own. Man, in his fancied wisdom, likes to improve on nature—and thinks he is using nature and her laws to make his own improvements. Perhaps he does. But undoubtedly it's nature using man as a vehicle or instrument in her enlarged scheme for the future.

What do I know about hand pollenization? Only what I've learned from experience. And, on occasion I think, and even have been told that on that subject my ignorance is colossal.

We are all good at guessing, and oftentimes we "guess" we have hand-pollenized a new variety into being, when perhaps we had nothing whatever to do with it.

Our stumbling block in this belief is that the Dahlia is a composite flower. It is made up, as you probably are aware, of a whole cluster of small flowers. Each of these, in theory at least, is capable of producing a single seed. Each is capable of being fertilized with pollen carried by any one of hundreds of agents which may spread it from one flower to another.

Here is what I told the California meeting along this subject.

Dahlias may be crossed in the following manner. First, purely by nature's method of using bees, flies, moths, wind, etc. Second, man steps in and throws his influence in the path of fertilization. He may only plant certain varieties adjacent to each other, which he wishes to be crossed. He may just take one flower and place it near another which he hopes may receive pollen in nature's way. Again, he may



haphazardly clamp one flower head, which is in right pollenating condition, on to a growing flower of another variety of bloom with a rubber band. He may take two flowers growing near each other and tie two heads together, and consider that system perfection.

But, if he has a lot of spare time and be quite painstaking, and wishes to work in the best possible way to assist nature, he takes the bloom of the variety whose characteristics he wants to reproduce or improve and, when the pollen on it is ripe, he transfers that pollen to the antlers of the stigma of another variety which has proven to be a good seed maker. This must be done when that stigma is receptive or his work has been in vain. The actual transfer of the pollen may be done with a fine camel's hair brush or soft wood splinter. To be as certain as possible that the proper result is accomplished and a definite cross made, this operation must be repeated many times—on the same blooms. And, of course kept capped right along; the common practice is to use paper sacks but fine cotton sacks, like salt bags gives better air to flower. Early removal of all caps is essential to prevent mildew or damping off.

I might say here that the best article I ever read on hand pollenization was published, probably prior to 1921, in the A. D. S. BULLETIN. I became a life member of the Society that year and E. C. Vick was our Secretary. I believe it was written by an expert from Long Island. I wish that that article could be re-published to refresh our memories. (Editor's Note: Mr. Frank P. Quimby's article to which we believe Mr. Goodacre refers was published in the A. D. S. BULLETIN, January, 1921. This will be reprinted in the August BULLETIN).

In the above described methods one can perceive some definite results in some of them. In others it is really only guess work and those practising them certainly cannot claim to have hand-pollenized the varieties. It is but common sense to observe that the more care we take in preparing the pair of blooms to cross, and the more precautions we observe to prevent various agents from contaminating our particular blooms with accidental pollen, the better are our chances for reasonable success in definite crosses. Certainly the last named method of pollen transfer, with hooding of blooms for several days at least, until after the pollen, or male stigma, has completed its process of fertilization, is the only real way to get intelligent results.

The modern Dahlia is so involved in its ancestry, that some of our present varieties are what Mr. Broomall terms "mules"—or incapable of producing seed (or offspring). It is quite a common thing to take a full Dahlia flower in summer and find that it has no pistil to receive pollen, especially outside rows of florets. Here in California our flowers become receptive in October for the most part, of course dependent on weather conditions. Excessive heat is destructive, also too much moisture. Summer flowers don't set seed. I am now speaking of large, full blooms, not single or partially open flowers. Many seedlings will form seed early. Many of the newer varieties, from which it is impossible to procure seed, are every-day deformities, which we meet with in all kinds of breeding. On the other hand, some varieties are particularly receptive to male pollen. For instance, one grower wrote me recently that the Jersey Beacon seed sent him was not Jersey Beacon seed, but Golden Goblin seed. That made me smile, for it is a fact that characteristics of the blooms of the male, or pollen parent,

are the ones which appear strongest in the offspring. Some say, too, that the female, or stigma parent, furnishes the plant and habit characteristics to a greater degree. Again, my ignorance of this topic makes it necessary that I make no claim that this be always true.

I will mention one instance where I know what nature accomplished in getting a desired cross. Perhaps you can plan a similar result. I had a select garden of decoratives on the west side of my place which was the "prevailing wind" side.

Here I had a row of tall growing Golden Goblins on the outside. Inside, next, came a row of low growing Jersey Beacons. Goblins will run five feet high while Beacons average three and a half feet. The plan was to get a Beacon with all its other fine qualities to grow "up in the world." Goblin works fine as a male or female parent, being a good pollinator and quite receptive to other pollen. It is receptive, in other words, to take improvement or pass on its good points. The result in this instance, as my friend told me about the seed resulting—was that his new variety, while from Beacon seed, had the color and height of Goblin.

Again, from experience, I always view a red Dahlia like Tommy Atkins as a vicious flower to have in one's garden. In October it always produces open center blooms with big quantities of pollen available for every bee and bug. Results, our seedlings next year have a liberal splashing of reds. We can count, in fact, on the seedling field being "painted red" if we let these open blooms come to ripe pollen stage.

Much has been written about the Mendellian theory of heredity. If this applies to Dahlias, then the crossings have been so intermingled and re-crossed again that they are quite amazingly removed from the original show or ball Dahlia which was so popular back a few years. There is such a conglomeration of types and sub-divisions of types that one cannot predict what will be popular a few years hence. We just go on our happy-go-lucky way, reveling in nature's wonders and, while trying to assist her, hope for more and more startling results.

While on this breeding topic, may I say, in concluding, that the craze for size alone is not altogether a sane idea. We have found in breeding live stock that there should be a limit to inbreeding. If we breed for one characteristic, we sacrifice others. For instance, in Dahlias, the larger the flower, the less number of blooms. The larger they are, in most cases, the softer they are.

So, whether it be best for us, as true Dahlia lovers, to go on ad infinitum interfering with natural crosses—to obtain some characteristic we think we need in Dahlias—well, there's a big question mark? And I'll leave it with you to ponder on. I've told you what I don't know, with a dash, perhaps, of knowledge born of experience. I would be glad to learn more.

(Note: In presenting this article to the public, I wish to acknowledge the very valuable assistance I have received from Editor Dudley.—A. G. Goodacre.)

*Editor's Note: What's an editor supposed to be for, anyway, if he can't occasionally interpret what an author intended to say. Mr. Goodacre insisted that we append the above note just because we translated or transposed once or twice. Then he promptly corrected our corrections. Anyway, Mr. Goodacre, we are not even rich, much less a millionaire, except in words, but thanks for the compliment.*

# Send Your New Dahlias to the Trial Grounds

BY CHARLES REED

I have been asked by the BULLETIN editor, Lynn Dudley, for something about the trial gardens as I see them. I have been greatly interested in the trial garden at Storrs, Connecticut, for a great many years and will express my opinion as to their merits.

First of all, I believe that we should have trial gardens in several sections of our country so that it would be possible to have a variety tried out in several gardens so that it would receive a fair trial under all conditions and climates, yes and soils.

Should all varieties be sent to a trial garden before releasing? Personally I would like to see this done but a great many commercial growers do not agree with me. Their reason is that so much depends on, or at least fear that incompetent judges will do the scoring and of course no one desires to see their pet turned down at the trial gardens.

I can say in all sincerity that the judges at Storrs have been men who were quite qualified to pass the merits of any Dahlia in the garden or show room and may I add that it is no easy task to take a score card in ones hands and score a Dahlia. We are all different in our likes and dislikes and if the color of a particular Dahlia suits a person judging he will of course give this Dahlia a high score on color and then along comes another judge that is not so impressed with the color of this Dahlia and therefore scores it lower on color but perhaps he would score it higher on size or stem than the previous judge, so the combined scores divided by the number of judges would give the final score.

Perhaps I have not made myself clear on the scoring at a trial garden. Let us assume that there are four judges that have passed in the scores of 84, 86, 89, 85, respectively, these scores added together makes a total of 344 points, divide this by the number of judges which is four and we have a final score of 86 points for the variety judged. This is the method now used in many trial gardens.

Should all trial gardens be under the jurisdiction of the American Dahlia Society? This is not necessary of course, but to be very frank a score at any other than an A. D. S. certified trial garden would not interest me as a purchaser of a new variety. We all know that there is a possibility of things happening in a small group or a private organization that could never happen in a national organization such as the American Dahlia Society.

I have a letter before me now from a foreign grower who writes about a trial garden in his country where most every variety on trial comes from two growers and one can imagine what could happen in a trial garden like this one, and perhaps that is one reason why other growers will not send their new varieties there for trial.

Please do not think that I am trying to give the impression that a group of independent growers could not conduct a trial garden on just as high plane as the American Dahlia Society. I know very well there are societies that are capable of a most excellent work along this line, but still an award in any other than a nationally sanctioned garden would not carry the weight, or bring financial returns to the originator that would come through a certificate won at an American Dahlia Society trial garden.

I believe that the trial garden is of the greatest help to the amateur grower or perhaps the new comers in the Dahlia industry. Many of these are inexperienced in

knowing just what a real Dahlia should be, as many do not grow the more modern Dahlia therefore have no good Dahlia for comparison in growing seedlings. Here is where the trial gardens are most useful and the larger and better growers are anxious to have a winning variety at an A. D. S. trial garden.

I also think and know that a trial garden is of no use to such originators as Broomall, Ballay, Kemp, Waite, Fisher & Masson, Fraser, Maytrott, and I could keep mentioning names of other famous growers. The above group and more like them know their Dahlias, they don't guess about how good a Dahlia is when they put it on the market, they know. I would be willing to have such people or any one of them pass judgment on any Dahlia that I wanted scored and I would abide with that score.

I do not think Mr. Broomall ever sent a Dahlia to the trial gardens and yet he gave the world many rich contributions and no one ever questioned the merits of any of his introductions and the above statement could be applied to many more reputable growers.

Should a Dahlia be discarded if it failed to receive a certificate at a certified trial garden? Not necessary, if it was only sent to one trial garden but if it failed at three or four I would doubt it would be advisable to market any Dahlia that failed in many trial gardens. May I give you my personal experience along this line, except at that time there was only one trial garden and that was at Storrs, Connecticut. I sent what I thought was a pretty fair Dahlia to the trial garden twice and yet it failed to receive a certificate and yet it was one of the great prize-winning Dahlias when we released it. I think this was Eagle Rock Wonder.

So there are exceptions but one must know his Dahlias and be sure that it is a real Dahlia. This brings us right back to a previous statement in this article, a Dahlia should be sent to several trial gardens if possible, or in other words all Dahlias may not do well at Storrs and perhaps some will do better there than some other trial garden.

One is apt to think that if his or her Dahlia does not receive a certificate at a trial garden they are to condemn the judges or the care of their Dahlia while on trial. I will admit that if you have a Dahlia that is a bit fussy as to habits, care and etc., it would be best to keep such a variety at home as the trial gardens play no favorites. Every Dahlia gets the same care as its neighbor, no more, no less. It must take all conditions as they come and after all, is this not just what the trial gardens are for? Articles have been published commenting on the growth and size of bloom at Storrs, Connecticut. It has been hinted that Prof. Patch must use plenty of dynamite to produce such fine blooms. After reading an article of this sort, I had a chat with Mr. Patch and asked him why he did not resent such a statement but he said it was too absurd for a reply. I have faith in Prof. Patch and know from personal experience that he does not force the Dahlias there on trial. Perhaps a word here will back up Mr. Patch in his fair method of growing. We read and read about the giants exhibited at the Dahlia shows, anything grown or exhibited less than twelve inches receives no comments. Now, the largest Dahlia ever grown on trial at Storrs was twelve inches in diameter; remember this is the record and this same variety has been grown consistently over fifteen inches elsewhere.

Here are just a few of well known varieties that received certificates at Storrs, and I hardly think any



one of them grew there over ten inches and yet everyone has been grown over twelve inches and some up to and over seventeen inches, so if they were forced at Storrs why did they not grow over ten inches there? Here they are: Jane Cowl, Elite Glory, Murphy's Masterpiece, Satan, Rockly Moon, Bubbles of Hillcrest, Full Moon, Charles G. Reed, Orinda, Yellow Princess, Arela Lloyd, and there are at least fifty more that could be added to this list.

I will let the reader judge for himself if Dahlias are forced at Storrs or not. I say they are not. There is one more reason why all trial gardens should be under the wing of the American Dahlia Society, there is bound to be more uniformity in the judging, as the same method of scoring will be used in affiliated gardens and in time there will be a closer working plan or method among those associated with the trial gardens and this alone will make for improvement, more interest, more Dahlias, better Dahlias, and perhaps in time all Dahlias will have to be certified before the buying public will purchase Dahlia stock. I know that a win at the trial gardens have been the means of placing many of the country's best Dahlias near the top and they have brought greater financial returns to the originator and introducer. I also know a few growers depend on Storrs trial garden for their new introductions every year. I mean by this the commercial grower is seeking the world for better Dahlias and they cannot afford to pass up a certified trial garden. By all means send that new wonder to an official trial garden, it pays big dividends.

• • •

## Go to Cleveland Sept. 14-15

Most of our readers are already familiar with the fact that the Mid-West Dahlia Show is to be held in Cleve-

land, Ohio, September 14th and 15th under the auspices of the Dahlia Society of Ohio. Some committees have been at work since before the first of the year, others are being appointed and are starting their work as quickly as the way is open to them. Taken as a whole, the arrangements are in an advanced stage.

Much work and advance planning must be done by the society sponsoring a show of this size. Likewise it is also necessary for prospective exhibitors to start their planning at an early date. It is our hope and desire that all parts of the country be represented at this show by both exhibitors and visitors. We can not help you to attend, other than keep you informed so that you will want to be one of the many visitors, but at a recent meeting of the committee arrangements were made so that anyone might easily be an exhibitor. All that you need do is write our secretary, Albert F. Hauch, 3274 West 130th Street, Cleveland, Ohio, and tell him that you would like to have some of your Dahlias grown here to be exhibited under your name. Mr. Hauch will make the necessary arrangements, or if you prefer to write one of your connections in this section.

It is our hope to have a list of some of the Dahlia enthusiasts who will attend by the time the next BULLETIN goes to press. We would like to publish such a list but since it is not possible to write each one of you to find out if you expect to be here we are going to ask that you drop a line to our President, Mrs. C. L. Seith, 1700 Rushton Road, South Euclid, Ohio, and tell her you will be here. We already have heard from quite a number of growers who will be here personally and from others who are having seedlings or other stock grown here for exhibition. September 14th and 15th will be very much like "Homecoming" in Cleveland to Dahlia fans from a wide area. Better get your plans started.

*E. J. Wind, Publicity Committee.*

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*Works where others can't—  
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**For Once, Read This Advertisement Without the Thought That Someone Is Trying to Sell You Something!**

**Instead, Ask Yourself if This Isn't What You Need.**

For years, you've been told about the GRAVELY Tractor . . . And how there are certain exclusive features that make it ideal for the flower grower's needs. WE WANT TO PROVE THIS.

Your cultivating season is here. We want your permission to tell you about the GRAVELY. A post card will bring the facts.

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**WRITE TODAY FOR FREE CATALOG**

# 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."*

## From the Editor's Viewpoint

Planting time is here again. All winter the true Dahlia fan has been planning his or her garden. There are many new novelties this year in the catalogues from which to select the new varieties with which to delight friends and win at the fall shows.

\* \* \* \*

We have a new membership secretary, Mrs. Georgena Humble, of Douglaston, Long Island. If you think the BULLETIN is worth reading, tell your friends about it and ask them to join—then drop Mrs. Humble a note and give their name and address, so that she may follow up your suggestion.

\* \* \* \*

The February BULLETIN of sixty-four pages, the largest ever issued, was evidently much appreciated for we received hundreds of letters of praise. We thank you friends. There's one way your commendations can take a constructive turn. If you will tell other flower growers about it—you will do them a favor and help the A. D. S.

\* \* \* \*

Why is it the queries about culture are falling off? We don't kid ourselves that we are giving so much information editorially that there's nothing left to ask. Is it because you are afraid Louis Alling can't answer them? He knows most of them and he knows where to get the right answer, so don't be bashful on his account.

\* \* \* \*

The spring flower show at Grand Central Palace, New York, was as usual a most interesting and delightful place. George L. Stillman, was as far as we could check, the only exclusive Dahlia grower who took space. And we found no Dahlias in bloom as we did last year.

\* \* \* \*

The mid-west show at Cleveland, September 14th-15th, should go on your calendar now. Looks now as if the east will be well represented there.

Editor Dudley has moved, as you will observe below Table of Contents, front of this issue. New address: 18 Interlaken Drive, Tuckahoe, New York. If any catalogues or second-class mail was addressed to him at the old location, Mt. Vernon, after April 1st, please notify him. Some mail has been missing since the move.

\* \* \* \*

We extend our deepest sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Parella of the Bronx, N. Y., whose daughter, Mrs. Mary Angella White, died March 21st. She was twenty-six years old and is survived by her husband, Lee White, her parents and one brother, Joe, and two sisters. She was buried at Newland, N. C., the home of her husband's parents. Many will recall having met Mary Angella at the A. D. S. shows helping her father.

\* \* \* \*

This May issue is out early to permit selections of the new novelties from our staunch and true advertisers. There will be considerable late buying this year and the May issue could be used by more advertisers as a "collection clean up" issue. We ask our members to buy from the ads in this issue with complete confidence.

## A. D. S. NEW YORK SHOW

THURSDAY and FRIDAY, SEPT. 26, 27, 1935

Hotel Pennsylvania Ballroom

Reserve these dates

## New Variety Registrations

Application has been made, with the customary fee of \$1.00, to register the names of each variety mentioned below. If no prior rights exist, and there is no valid objection voiced within a reasonable length of time, registration will be considered made.

LAWRENCE G. SWEM. Informal decorative. Bright red, extra early. By Mrs. Bessie M. Freeman, Newton, Illinois.

PACIFIC GOLDEN QUEEN. Semi-cactus. Pure old gold color. By Anderson's Dahlia Farm, Route 3, Watsonville, California.

IMPERIAL WHITE. Formal decorative. Pure white. Five to seven inches in diameter. By O. W. Currey, Bellflower, California.

## Mrs. Minnie Eastman

It is with deep regret that we record the passing of Mrs. Minnie Eastman of Laurel, Maryland, after a very short illness. Mrs. Eastman was the wife of Major James B. Eastman of the Laurel Dahlia Gardens, and was his constant companion at all the leading eastern exhibitions rendering him most efficient service in staging his exhibits and displaying fully as much interest in the Dahlias as the Major himself. We shall miss her at our exhibitions and we extend the sincere sympathy of the officers and A. D. S. members to our good friend Major Eastman.



### It's An Honor to Be a Donor

Our president, George W. Fraser, has appointed me again Chairman of the Prize Committee for our coming National Show, which will be held as you know at the Hotel Pennsylvania, in New York on September 26th and 27th. Plans are now under way for the largest and best show we have ever held. Warren W. Maytrott is heading a committee which is now undertaking to make a number of changes in the show schedule and I understand a number of sweepstake prizes have been added. This means that we shall need more prizes than we have ever had before.

Many of our members were kind enough to donate prizes in the past and we are asking that they again coöperate by their continued support this year. In addition, we would appreciate the support of any one who will make us a contribution of some kind. Donations of cash (no matter how small), cups, medals, trophies, vases or any suitable prize will be acceptable. Just as in the past two years, the committee has been requested not to accept root orders as they have not worked out successfully in the past, as premiums.

In a short time I intend to write a personal letter to everyone interested in the success of our show, amateur as well as professional, for their contributions. Perhaps through an oversight you may be overlooked. If this should happen please do not hesitate to volunteer if you do not hear from me shortly for it certainly will be greatly appreciated and every donation will be personally acknowledged. An alphabetical list of all donors will be published. However, do not feel that you would like to donate but the amount that you can afford is so small, that you would be ashamed to have it appear after your name, for the amounts will not appear after your name. So let me urge again to give us a donation of whatever character no matter how small it may be. Let us have the biggest prize list we have ever had for our coming show in order to compensate those exhibitors, amateurs as well as commercial, who make our show a success. Yours, for the best show we have ever had.

*H. Dewey Mohr,  
Chairman of Prize Committee, A. D. S.,  
Rockville Centre, New York.*

• • •

### Mrs. Humble Made Membership Secretary

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee Mrs. Georgena Humble, 232 Ridge Road, Douglaston, L. I., was elected Membership Secretary.

• • •

### Greeting to Affiliated Societies

Many thanks for your letters expressing the willingness to coöperate in an effort to bring the Affiliated Societies in a closer relationship to the A. D. S. and themselves through this column.

It is my earnest hope that we will be successful in interesting the members in the progress of each other.

Please arrange to send me your news the forepart of the month preceding the date of issue of the BULLETIN, to allow sufficient time for preparation.

For instance, for the next issue, dated August, please have material in my hand July 10th. After that date it is likely that it will be too late for publication.

*C. H. Ruscher,  
134 Shelbank Ave., Rockville Center, L. I., N. Y.*

# KILLS

## BOTH SUCKING AND CHEWING INSECTS

### COSTS LESS PER GALLON IN KILLING SOLUTION



**Controls**  
**LEAF HOPPERS**  
**THRIPS—APHIDS**  
**WHITE FLIES**  
**And Many Other**  
**Dahlia Pests**

**Contains BOTH Pyrethrum and Rotenone**

Why use two sprays—when Red Arrow Garden Spray will kill both sucking and chewing insects? And it's so easy to use. Simply mix with water—as you need it—no soap is necessary. Red Arrow is a concentrated pyrethrum solution. Economical to use, too—as a killing solution of Red Arrow costs only 1¢ to 1½¢ a gallon. Spray dahlias thoroughly with Red Arrow—repeat treatment as often as necessary.

### Will Not Discolor the Flowers

Red Arrow is absolutely non-poisonous to humans, animals and birds. Use it on vegetables—flowers—fruits. Ask for Red Arrow where you usually buy your garden supplies. Or write to, McCORMICK & CO., INC., Baltimore, Md.

Manufacturers of Standardized  
Pyrethrum and Derris Insecticide Products

**NON-POISONOUS**

# RED ARROW GARDEN SPRAY

**HIGHLY CONCENTRATED**

## Greetings from New Jersey Dahlia Society

Warren W. Maytrott, *Pres.*

Mrs. Charles Stout, *Honorary Pres.*

### A Personal Message From Our President

As President of the Dahlia Society of New Jersey, it is a great pleasure to formally introduce the members of the Dahlia Society of New Jersey to the members of the American Dahlia Society. I hope our exchanges of greetings, ideas, news and advancements of the Dahlia will not only strengthen both of our Societies, but further the cause of the Dahlia and increase our friendship.

This progressive step is only the beginning, and I hope it will be a suggestion for other Societies to do likewise, so they may also have something worth while to offer their members, that is the subscription to the American Dahlia Society BULLETIN and gain National and even International publicity for their Society.

This BULLETIN is surging ahead with our very capable editors and the American Dahlia Society likewise is desirous of rendering all service possible to those interested in Dahlias regardless of where they live, and it is toward this end that the Society is co-operating with additional Trial Grounds and favoring closer coöperation with their affiliated Societies.

Our membership can help by sending in questions to the Forum or writing articles, and if a member

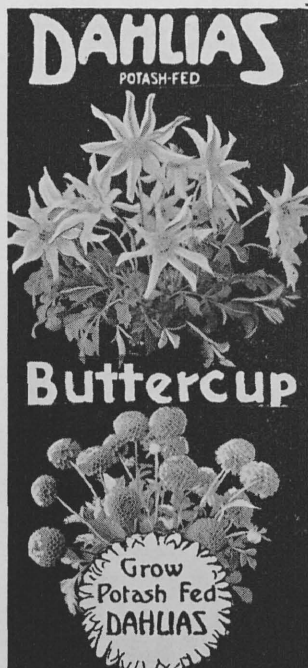
of the Dahlia Society of New Jersey, kindly send your article to J. W. Johnston, Herald Tribune, New York City.

At this writing no definite show date or location has been announced for the 1935 show of the Dahlia Society of New Jersey. Several locations have been mentioned, but none finally as yet. Undoubtedly, before long, something will be forthcoming in this respect, and in the meantime, the general thought, that the society will have either a show of its own or will affiliate with some member society, will of necessity have to take the place of a definite announcement.

Of interest to Dahlia fans in New Jersey is the rumor that the Atlantic City Show will be revived in the Fall of 1936. It is believed that this great exhibit, if staged again, will be put on at a date later than the three previous Flower and Garden Pageants, probably the last week in September.

It has been pointed out that this later date is more desirable from many viewpoints. Flowers would be in better shape at that time and many of the worth while garden devotees, who spend part of their summers away from home, would have returned. The weather, during the last week of September at the shore, is also more desirable to many, coupled with the fact that the tremendous summer crowds will have slackened down somewhat.

Important in Atlantic City's reconsideration of the Flower and Garden Pageant is the reported receipt of hundreds of letters since the last event asking for its repetition. Also, we are informed that Atlantic



### Dahliadel Green Plants

A number of the readers of the A. D. S. BULLETIN have never seen how we deliver plants, and in what wonderful shape they are in upon arrival, although we shipped about 12,000 plants in 1934. We cannot say we meet everyone's price, but we will say we give you your money's worth, Quality, first and last, with the usual Dahliadel Guarantee.

**8 BLUE RIBBON DAHLIAS \$2.50**  
(Value \$4) Plants

In Roots (Value \$6.50) \$4.00

BAGDAD—Deep scarlet. EMANUEL'S BEAUTY—Yellow and flame red. JIM MOORE—Yellow and salmon. JOSEPHINE G—Violet rose. KATHLEEN NORRIS—True rose pink. MONMOUTH CHAMPION—Orange scarlet. OMAR KHAYYAM—Chinese red and buff. W. H. T.—Begonia rose.

**3 ORCHID DAHLIA ROOTS (Value \$2) \$1**

BUTTERCUP (as illustrated)—Clear yellow. MAVIS—Lilac and rosy magenta. POLLY—Yellow and carmine

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W. W. MAYTROT

BOX 14 VINELAND, N. J.



City is definitely trying to attract people who, for several seasons, have shunned the resort for various reasons.

Commercial Dahlia firms in the state report intense interest on the part of prospective buyers and a goodly increase in sales this season. This would indicate plenty of flowers for the Fall shows. Some firms already report "Sold Out," on many desirable kinds. No question about it, the Dahlia is growing in popularity by leaps and bounds and will soon come to its rightful place under the Sun of Garden Popularity.

The Editor of your State News could well use information from all over the state and any bits of inspiration would be more than welcome, though they may need be at times cut to fit the editorial pattern which the A. D. S. has planned for its members during 1935.

## Progress of the Dahlia

By WARREN W. MAYTROT

With a little help and the selection of the right varieties the Dahlia will fit into everyone's garden and furnish blooms for home decoration and for artistic arrangements.

About a year ago, the American Dahlia Society approved a new Trial Ground and Show Table Score Card separating Miniature, Commercial and Exhibition Dahlias to their respective sizes. This in turn made it necessary to change the classification accordingly. In this we have Miniatures up to three and one-half inches, Medium over three and one-half and up to seven inches, and Large or Exhibition Dahlias over seven inches. This, as explained in the last BULLETIN, gives us something rather urgent to work on, and that is our new Show Schedule, which will in turn be made anew.

There are wonderful possibilities with our new Classification which were in mind when it was made. We can now classify Dahlias on the show table by combining type and color classes so that large White Informal Decoratives will be in one place and let the best one win; likewise the Red Large Formal Decorative Dahlias will be together, and they will not be in competition with pink, yellow or any other color. Likewise, a Medium Pink Formal Decorative such as Jersey's Beauty when under seven inches will not compete with Kathleen Norris. In the seedling classes, we will now have Miniature, Commercial (Medium) and Exhibition (Large). This opens this class for much fairer competition and easier judging.

It is high time a great many of our show difficulties were obviated by standardizing our show rules and making definitions for words used in our schedules such as Exhibit, Arrangement, Basket, etc., accompanied with a score card for judging them. What is a basket? Should the handle area be filled, or only eighty-five per cent filled with blooms? How should accessories be scored? How should a one-sided basket be scored against a two-sided one? And many other questions should be answered. Stipulating a definite number of blooms has always been a mistake in the basket classes, as a number of good baskets have been ruined by putting in

(Continued on following page)

## DELIGHT-U GARDEN

### JANE ROSS—Inf. Dec.

Another Dahlia from the great midwest which will take its place in the front rank, where beauty, stem, foliage combined with size are the prime requisites of a great Dahlia. A red but what a red. Roots \$5.00. Plants \$2.50.

### ORIENTAL GLORY—Inf. Dec.

Our introduction of last year and still the greatest deep orange Dahlia to date. From all over the country have come the comments of praise and satisfaction with its performance. Roots \$7.50. Plants \$3.75.

### A \$3.00 SPECIAL

We will ship prepaid one root each of **Satan**, and **White Wonder** and your choice of **The Commodore** or **Shahrazad**, three in all, value \$6.00 for \$3.00.

Our catalogue if ready. If you have not received your copy send for it.

Box 33 Irv. Sta. INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

## WITNESS A DOUBLE ATTRACTION

A most rare opportunity is offered all Exhibitors and Patrons to the Ohio Valley Dahlia Association Show this fall.

Not only be privileged to exhibit in the most beautiful and modern

"Hall of Mirrors"

"Exhibition Halls"

"Foyers"

but to actually see The Ohio Valley

"Trial Grounds" in operation

Only twenty minutes time between

Exhibition Halls and Trial Grounds

Your patronage will both pay and repay

Dates of Regional Show, September 28th,  
29th, 1935

**HOTEL NETHERLAND PLAZA**

in the heart of  
CINCINNATI, OHIO

## VEILE and MENDHAM'S

### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

1

1 plant each of Monmouth Queen, Spotlight, White Wonder, and Myra Howard for \$2.00.

2

1 plant each of Lord of Autumn, Sonny Boy, Spotlight, and Washington Giant for \$7.50.

NOTE: The above collections are exceptional value. You are practically getting three plants free. No substitutions. We also list other great values in collections in our catalog, featuring Cornelia Bryce Pinchot, the Dahlia sensation of all time.

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## ALLING'S

### Spring Bargains

Plants—Value \$5.75, \$3.00

Prince of Persia, White Wonder,  
Elinor M. Radel, Omar Khayyam,  
Satan, Fort Monmouth

**3 Outstanding Varieties \$1.00**  
Our Own Introduction

Mary Helen, Yellow Ball; Yo Yo, Autumn  
Shade Ball; Annabelle, White-orchid F. D.

**3 Miniatures for \$1.00**

Teddy Johnson, Pink White Min. Ball  
Fedora, Salmon-gold Min. Dec.  
Prince of Bulgaria, Red and White

**1935** Jessica Dragonette, Plants \$5.00  
New Deal, Roots \$10.00, Plants \$5.00

251 B. Court St.  
West Haven, Conn.

# DAHLIAS

one or two extra blooms to qualify in number. There is always the right amount of bloom to any arrangement, and definite numbers usually disrupt this balance. Classes for baskets should read eight to twelve blooms, twelve to eighteen blooms, or eighteen to twenty-five blooms and give the exhibitor a chance. It would also save the judges the job of counting accurately every exhibit when their time would be much better spent checking up on quality, arrangement, balance, and so on.

The old custom of judging color classes with color the dominant quality will have to be subdued as the type and color classes will be combined. For example, a Dahlia that is yellow tipped violet rose, with the yellow predominating, and yet the tipping enhances the Dahlia, belong in the yellow class and should score in color equal to a clear yellow bloom.

## West Virginia Trial Grounds

### Under Auspices of State Society

By OLIVER SHURTLEFF

Elsewhere in this issue of the American Dahlia Society BULLETIN reference will be found announcing the establishing of a Dahlia trial garden by the West Virginia Dahlia Society. Our Editor has asked for this more complete write-up and description of the proposed new trial garden.

The West Virginia Trial Garden is the result of several years of planning on the part of the state society. It came into being as the result of a very enthusiastic winter meeting of the society.

The trial garden will be located on the campus of the State College in Fairmont, West Virginia. The college campus offers ample space for such a project and year by year, as the project grows, more ground will be made available. Fairmont is in the heart of a fine Dahlia growing section. Several fine Dahlias have come from this section and the citizens have shown a fine attitude toward Dahlias. Fairmont is also the home of the annual West Virginia State Dahlia Show.

The plan of operation for this new trial garden will follow very closely along the line already established by the American Dahlia Society. The entry blanks and charges will be as those of the A. D. S. Three specimens of each entry will be required. When desired by any owner, the state society will pay for the registration of any Dahlia which has been entered. These entry blanks may be had from the writer in the near future.

The new trial garden will use the same score sheet and judging system as employed by the A. D. S. The committee of judges will be made up of Dahlia growers who do not have Dahlias in the trial garden. These field judges will be selected annually by the trial garden committee. All scoring and judging will be upon the fairest basis possible.

Planting and cultivation will be under the direct supervision of the garden superintendent and his assistants. The best possible means of cultivation will be used which are in keeping with the locality of the garden.

An annual report of the results of the trial garden will be published each fall in various Dahlia bulletins and magazines, including the A. D. S. BULLETIN.

One new feature will be attempted in connection with the new trial garden. Since the trial garden will be located in the same town where the state show is held,

the trial garden committee, through the secretary of the West Virginia Dahlia Society, will be willing to undertake the showing of flowers from the trial garden at the West Virginia State show—at no expense to the grower. This will be done only upon written consent of the owner and only when suitable show flowers are available at the time of the state show. To date three growers, who have already signified their intentions of entering new varieties in the trial garden, have expressed their whole hearted approval of this plan. This is not final, however, until further thought has been given to the idea. If this plan is adopted the flowers will be entered in a special class at the state show, this special class to be designated as the "Trial Garden Class." (The writer would like to hear opinions on this idea.)

The trial garden committee is made up of the following Dahlia growers. Dr. C. E. Lauterbach of Clearbrook Gardens, Buckhannon, West Virginia, and now president of the West Virginia Dahlia Society is chairman of the committee. W. C. Boone of Monongah, West Virginia, and the writer are the other members of the committee.

The superintendent of the new trial garden will be C. M. Roberts of Fairmont, West Virginia. Mr. Roberts is the Head of the Department of Biology at the college where the garden is located. Mr. Roberts has a degree in agriculture from Pennsylvania State College with a major in horticulture. He has spent one year in the commercial flower business and for two years was a garden superintendent in the employ of the state of Pennsylvania. He has been a grower of Dahlias at his home in Fairmont for the last four years. In the person of Mr. Roberts the West Virginia Dahlia Society feels that it has a trial garden superintendent who is capable and efficient.

## Georgia's New Trial Grounds

### Under Auspices of State Society

The Dahlia growers of this section, of whom there are quite a number, and who are very much in earnest and enthusiastic in the effort to raise the standard of Dahlias grown here, have for some time realized the need for such a Trial Ground for testing, under the most approved scientific conditions, not only the standard named varieties, but also new introductions, of which there are some quite promising ones being produced in this section.

Among these growers, many of whom are members of our Society, are people in all walks of life, from one of very modest means with a small back-yard garden, to the capitalist with a large estate who is addicted with the hobby of growing Dahlias, and from all ranks we have the same plaint. A new introduction is catalogued in such glowing terms that it is impossible to resist the purchase; perhaps the purchase of only one root or plant by the one of modest means, but by the one with practically unlimited means, a large order of many varieties. The ground is prepared with the utmost care; the plants or roots are put out, and the most approved methods of culture are employed, only, in many cases to experience absolute failure or very nominal success. These conditions have created an opinion, in which we believe the majority of private Dahlia growers will concur, that before any Dahlia should be listed and advertised as an Honor Roll quality, that it should be sub-

(Continued on following page)

## SANHICAN GARDEN'S GREEN PLANT SPECIAL

1 each, Sanhican's Lavender, Myra Howard, The Fireman, Alice in Wonderland, Washington Giant, Craig Bissell, all exhibition varieties, values \$11.50 for \$5.50.

1 each, Spotlight, Jersey Dainty, Sanhican's Cameo, Kemp's White Wonder, Ruby Taylor and Craig Bissell, value \$10.50 for \$5.00.

MINIATURE SPECIAL—plants, 6 for \$2.00 from the following—Tiny, Camellia, Paddy, Baby Royal, Elizabeth Pape, Onah, Jean, Sanhican's Sweetheart.

### 1935 Introductions

ZONTA      SANHICAN'S MOONGLOW

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### MAY ROBSON

A new bright pink true type semi-cactus on a most robust bush. Roll of Honor 1934.

Plants \$5.00

### CHARLIE CHAPLIN

Large deep gold shading to a bronze center. Will give any of the large ones a run for their money. Exceptionally strong grower with long straight stems.

Certificate of Merit at Storrs 1934. Roll of Honor 1934.

Roots \$10.00      Plants \$5.00

Also many other new introductions too numerous to mention here

Write for our free catalogue describing the largest to the smallest in Dahlias

CHAPPAQUA DAHLIA GARDENS  
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**IROQUOIS SUNRISE and  
IROQUOIS SUNBEAM**

two of the finest Dahlias that are selling fast. Order at once while supply lasts. Orders filled in rotation.

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"THE HOME OF THE DAHLIA FOR OVER 40 YEARS"

**Wm. C. (Bill) Noonan**

Has always given his customers, whether retail or wholesale, a square deal in Dahlias. He will treat you as an honest man should.

**Standard Varieties**

**New Novelties**

Price Reasonable

Write for 1935 List—NOW

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HILL NURSERIES**

HICKSVILLE

LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

jected to tests in all sections of live activity in Dahlia culture. Consequently, when this group of growers were called together by myself and Mr. A. E. Ragsdale of this city, and the formation of a State Dahlia Society was proposed, with the establishment of a Trial Ground to serve the southeastern states as one of the foremost objectives, the proposal was accepted with much enthusiasm. The American Dahlia Society was advised of the formation of our Society, setting forth this chief objective, in a letter dated May 15, 1934.

While immediate steps were taken toward the perfection of arrangements, due to the lateness of the season, May, 1934, and the necessity of devoting practically all efforts to perfecting the organization and working out details for our first show, staged in October, 1934, we were able to make little advancement toward establishing this Trial Ground during the first year. However, the preliminary work in this connection has now been completed and I am happy to state that we are prepared to begin operation with this season.

Our Trial Ground is located within the grounds of the Georgia Experiment Station, directly on the National Highway, Route 41, 39 miles south of Atlanta. The plot selected has been cleared and preparations are under way to fertilize the soil in accordance with the most approved scientific methods, and to run an irrigation line to the location. The original plot is to consist of approximately one-third of an acre, with provisions made for expansion as required. We have tentatively set the date to start planting of roots during the week of May 5th, and green plants during the week of May 20th. Although we plan to eventually cover the entire field of Dahlia test culture, our efforts during the first season will be confined to only standard named varieties, with the possible exception of local seedlings or undissemated varieties of outstanding quality. We plan to use, the first season, as a yard-stick of comparison, the best of the rather old varieties which are well established, spotted throughout the planting, as against the newer varieties.

This Trial Ground will be under the personal supervision and direction of Dr. H. P. Stuckey, Director of the Georgia Experiment Station. Dr. Stuckey has a reputation of integrity and a scientific standing equal to that of any State or United States Institution, in Floriculture, Plant Pathology, and Entomology.

While it has been from the beginning, our ultimate goal to have this Trial Ground eventually accepted as one of a system of National Approved Trial Grounds, or at least a branch or regional Trial Ground, we fully realize that we must first establish our claim to such recognition by irrefragable evidence or supervision and direction under fully accredited scientific authority; strategic location, and through a sectional benefit, a contribution to a national benefit. We believe that we have all of these requisites and need only to prove them by actual practice and operation.

The benefits to be derived from the operation of this Trial Ground would be in the opening up of a Dahlia loving territory where the newer varieties are not yet extensively grown, due to the fact that many private individuals have lost much money in their effort to grow these newer varieties. This loss can be attributed to many causes, and tests at this Trial Ground, which could be operated to serve the southeastern states, should do much to relieve this situation.

The good will and coöperation of the American Dahlia Society is quite valuable; in fact an indispensable asset to us in this effort, and we pray your interest and close contact in connection with the perfection of this project.

## Ohio Valley Trial Grounds

### Under Auspices Ohio Valley Society

Ever since the organization of the Ohio Valley Dahlia Association, it has been their purpose to establish a trial grounds where the ultimate in new Dahlias could be brought out.

Often great claims are made for a Dahlia but these claims are limited as to how that Dahlia will perform elsewhere. All growers are or should be for the best that can be developed in Dahlias. Great strides have been made by the conduction of other trial grounds. The Ohio Valley Dahlia Association launch-out this Spring not unprepared, but with a carefully planned set-up that we hope will eventually develop into one of the most important trial grounds in the States.

The famous Fleischmann Botanical Gardens, comprising about four acres, are located in a beautiful suburb of Cincinnati. It is popular to thousands who visit this beauty spot regularly and its fame year after year loses no lustre. At the corner of Washington and Forest Avenues, Avondale, Cincinnati, here, Dahlias have been grown for years, have won sweepstake prizes, and have always been given great acclaim by flower lovers from far and near.

Tram lines and highways are convenient to the grounds, making it easy to reach. Located in the very heart of Hamilton County, a fifteen or twenty minute drive from the center of Cincinnati makes the site ideal. The Park Board of the City of Cincinnati will co-operate with the Ohio Valley Association in promoting these trial grounds. A. M. Miller, who has propagated Dahlias and directed their culture in these gardens for years, will superintend the grounds.

The Cincinnati Park Board with President Irwin Krohn and Horticulturist Harry Gray, are to be congratulated for their interest in aiding the O. V. D. A. develop this central trial grounds.

The grounds are equipped with all the modern appliances needed in floral culture, properly patrolled, surrounded with artistic shrubbery and iron fencing which excludes all undesirable creatures. After ten o'clock each night the grounds are locked to the public.

The gardens have the proper drainage and ample sunlight throughout the day with protection from excessive winds on the north and west. The soil has been analyzed and determined right for Dahlias, having the proper texture and depth. Subject to expert care, protected well, easy to visit, the O. V. D. A. trial grounds are ready for operation.

A qualified committee will judge the Dahlias and you are asked to submit your originations for testing in these new Trial Grounds of the O. V. D. A. The grounds will be open for inspection every day in the year and the most courteous welcome is assured.

Entry blanks and other information can be procured from the Secretary, 1105 Elm Street, Cincinnati, Ohio. Direct all packages of roots or plants to A. M. Miller, Superintendent Trial Grounds, Forest and Washington Avenues, Cincinnati, Ohio.

### Ohio Valley Regional Show

The Ohio Valley Association Show Committee headed by George A. Dhonau and Roy N. Ward supported by a corp of efficient co-workers are building

(Continued on following page)

## CHAMPIONS YESTERDAY TODAY TOMORROW BALLAY-SUCCESS SURE WINNERS

### CATALOG

**Success Dahlia Gardens**  
**Lawrence** **Massachusetts**

Member National Association Commercial  
Dahlia Growers

## Fraser's Tested Dahlias ARE FULL OF PEP AND VIGOR

**JESSIE CRAWFORD**  
and  
**HELEN S. FRASER**

Are our new ones for this year. Grow them in your garden—keep up with the leaders.

Our list describes them and also all the latest novelties and standard varieties. Your name on a card will bring it to you.



**Fraser's Dahlia Gardens**  
George W. Fraser  
**Willimantic**  
**Connecticut**

## Look at This Offer

With each retail order of \$5 will include one strong plant of White Wonder.

With each retail order of \$10 will include one strong plant of Sonny Boy.

With each retail order of \$15 will include one strong plant of Lord of Autumn.

Catalog for the asking

## PIONEER CITY DAHLIA GARDENS

W. T. BUELL, Prop.

MARIETTA

OHIO

Member American Dahlia Society  
Dahlia Society of Ohio

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The Big Mid-West Show, Cleveland, Ohio,  
September 14th and 15th

### SURPLUS ROOTS

**\$5.00 each net:** Baby Royal, E. R. Superba, Eleanor Radell, Hillcrest Royalist, Hillcrest Sunset, Jean Trimbee, King of the Blacks, Liebreiz, Pot O' Gold, Pramie, Rotary, Rudy Vallee, Sally B, Shahrazad, White Duchess.

**\$2.00 each net:** Chautauqua, Regal, Clara Barton, Dokoupil's Triumph, Murphy's Masterpiece, Palo Alto, Sultan of Hillcrest, William J. Rathgeber.

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Beautiful  
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Have you paid your A. D. S. dues (\$2.00) for 1935?

plans for what is hoped will be one of the finest and most beautiful shows in America.

Hotel Netherland Plaza located in the center of Cincinnati, will be the location and the dates will be September 28th and 29th.

One real feature that is invaluable, is the Air Conditioned system that insures uniform temperature, just right for flowers.

Over 100 classes in five different classifications will be scheduled.

The Ohio Valley Meritorious Medals will be given, also the much sought after Achievement Medal. Ribbons will be given in all classes for first, second and third winners. In the seedling classes the O. V. D. A. special ribbons will be given. Other outstanding awards include the A. D. S. Bronze Medal, the Golden Rule Cup, the Mid-West News medal and many other valuable prizes.

Schedules are completed and ready for distribution. Upon request a copy will be mailed you.

Finally, one of the most unusual features that will be offered is the double attraction of the Trial Grounds and the Show in operation in the same city.

## The Dahlia Society of Kentucky

The members of the Kentucky Dahlia Society have stepped forward and are staging a two day show this fall to be held at the Kentucky Hotel, on Saturday and Sunday, October 5th and 6th, the Society voted to put our show back a week and to trust old man Jack Frost, so as not to interfere with the Cincinnati Show or either to put it forward a week in order not to interfere with the Indiana Show to be held at Columbus. What a show this is going to be. There have already been arranged over 110 classes by the Show Committee headed by R. J. White, of the White Dahlia Gardens.

The Show Committee is busy getting advertisements from local and out-of-town friends and all in all we feel that the show of 1935 will be a real show in every respect. We ask all our friends to put this date aside right now and head towards Louisville, for these two big days, October 5th and 6th.

The Kentucky Dahlia Society is again sponsoring the Dahlia Show at our Kentucky State Fair, to be held the week of September 9th through the fourteenth. Some mighty fine blooms can be looked for this coming fall, at these two great shows to be held in Louisville, the Dahlia hot-bed of the South.

W. H. Swift, Secretary,  
6069 New Cut Road, Louisville, Ky.

## Canadian Dahlia Society, Windsor, Ontario, Canada

The following are the officers of the Canadian Dahlia Society for the year 1935:

President, T. Carter; First Vice-President, F. Hyers; Second Vice-President, S. Penney; Secretary-Treasurer, B. Dickens.

Executive Committee: Mrs. L. Walker, H. Bailey, H. Bernard, H. Smithendorf, H. Miles, A. Clark, A. Mayes, S. Bauer.

The Annual Dahlia Show will be held Labor Day and the day following, September 2nd and 3rd. As we run



our show in conjunction with a field day held annually in Jackson Park, Windsor, we get marvelous attendances, generally between 50,000 and 60,000 people seeing the display of Dahlias.

The past year was most successful and we finished with a favorable financial balance.

There appears to be more enthusiasm among the members here this year than there has ever been before in the history of the Society, and up to the present we have almost doubled our membership over 1934.

At our last meeting it was decided to pay our affiliation fees to the A. D. S. for 1935.

We are all delighted with the BULLETIN. It certainly gets better with each issue.

On behalf of our members, I extend our best wishes to the A. D. S.

*Benjamin Dickens, Secretary.*

#### **Burholme Horticultural Society, Burholme, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.**

The March meeting of the Burholme Horticultural Society was held Tuesday evening, March 26th, in the Parish Hall of the Immanuel Lutheran Church, Palmetto and Cottman Streets, Burholme, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. There were 175 members and friends present.

The By-Law Committee presented a new set of By-Laws and a Constitution which were read by the secretary and accepted on motion by the Society. The By-Law Committee was comprised of George Slade, Chairman, of Wyncote; George Johnson, Cheltenham; and Charles Frankes, Fox Chase. This committee was discharged with thanks.

W. O. Hird, Show Superintendent, made a motion that we hold our Fifteenth Annual Floral Exhibition, September 27th and 28th, 1935, at the Trinity Oxford Community House, Rising Sun Avenue and Disston Street, Burholme. The members of the 1935 Show Committee are: Charles Franke, Fox Chase, Pa.; Charles Bunn, Rockledge, Pa.; Stanley Johnson, Cheltenham, Pa.; Robert Fordyce, Lawndale, Philadelphia; W. H. Petz, Lawndale, Philadelphia; M. T. MacAvoy, Willow Grove, Pa.; Fred Priss, Glenside, Pa.; George Shade, Wyncote, Pa.; Philip Moore, Abington, Pa.; Arthur Seyfert, Edgley, Pa.; Sidney Tuckey, Bustleton, Pa.; William MacMillan, Burholme, Pa.; Walter Kauffman, Burholme, Pa.; John Grimes, Burholme, Pa.; George Johnson, Cheltenham, Pa.; Rodman Kulp, Cheltenham, Pa.

One of the most important events of the meeting were the lectures by Dr. John A. Borneman, "Wild Flowers and their Medicinal Uses," and "A Ramble Through the Gardens of the Rhine Valley in Germany." These lectures were very picturesque and interesting. After Dr. Borneman, Philip Moore, one of our members, gave a detailed account of the Philadelphia Flower Show.

*Lewis G. Dietz, Secretary.*

#### **Peekskill Dahlia and Gladiolus Society**

The annual meeting of the Peekskill Dahlia and Gladiolus Society was held at the Club House of the Valeria Home, Inc., Oscawanna, N. Y., on January 8, 1935.

The following officers were elected to serve the Society for the year: President, William Tandy, Buch-

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**PLUMP ROOTS      STRONG PLANTS**

We carry most of the new Honor Roll and Certified Dahlias, in addition to which forty varieties like Norris, Shahrzad, Satan, Trimbee, etc., are listed at BARGAIN PRICES, on account of heavy supply.

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Specialists in the better kinds of  
**DAHLIAS PEONIES IRIS GLADIOLI**

## QUEENS DAHLIAS

We carry an up-to-date stock of Honor Roll Dahlia Roots and Plants which are sure to grow for you. Why not try some Queens Dahlia Roots and Plants and convince yourself that the stock I carry will give you excellent results with just a little care?

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## Queens Dahlia Gardens

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## Hillside Dahlia Gardens

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We are making Special Low Prices on our surplus stock, while they last. With our usual guarantee of 100% in results and satisfaction before completion of sale.

**Write today for our 1935 list**

**WANTED.** To buy one root each of the latest originations and novelties of English and other foreign and domestic pompons, miniatures, collarettes, and other small type Dahlias, to be exhibited as a special class and international exhibit of pompons and miniatures by the Berlet Dahlia Foundation, in connection with the annual show of the Central States Dahlia Society, in Chicago, Illinois, on September 21st and 22nd. Address, **R. E. BERLET, 3065 Lincoln Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, U. S. A.**

It is expected that we will be able to include in the next BULLETIN Dr. Batchelor's report on Corn Borer Control for Dahlias. The article has been in preparation for over two years and we believe will be most interesting and helpful to those afflicted.

anan, N. Y.; Vice-President, Samuel Travis, Oscawanna, N. Y.; Secretary-Treasurer, Robert A. Vogel, Peekskill, N. Y.; Executive Committee: William J. Owen, Peekskill, N. Y.; A. Cole, Buchanan, N. Y.; George Ainsworth, Peekskill, N. Y.

This Society staged a show last September which was a credit to the community. Mr. William Aurswald of Wappingers Falls, N. Y., and Mrs. M. Adams of Beacon, N. Y., acting as show managers, sure put it over in fine taste. Messrs. William MacDonald of Tarrytown, N. Y., William Berry of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and Thomas Stobo of Garrison, N. Y., were the judges who very satisfactorily made the decisions.

Committees are appointed to launch activities for the 1935 show which will be held in Peekskill, N. Y., the twentieth of September.

We realize that this BULLETIN is a great medium through which the affiliated societies can be better known by Dahlia enthusiasts and we will coöperate with our editor to help make the news of the affiliated societies an outstanding feature of the BULLETIN.

*Robert A. Vogel, Secretary-Treasurer.*

## West Virginia Dahlia Society Correction

Through an oversight, we failed to correct the dates for the West Virginia Dahlia Show, as requested by Mr. Oliver Shurtleff, Secretary. The show will be held on September 20th and 21st instead of on the 13th and 14th as reported in the February issue.

## The Haledon Floral Society, Inc., Haledon, N. J.

On Friday, May 10, 1935, a card party will be held in the hall of Fire Co. No. 2. The proceeds are to finance the Fall Flower Show.

Our Society will hold its Fall Flower Show, Saturday September 21st and Sunday, September 22nd the Parish House of St. Mary's P. E. Church, Haledon, N. J. The judging will begin at 2:00 p. m. Saturday, and immediately after, the show will be open to the public. On Sunday the hours are to be from 12:30 p. m. to 4:30 p. m.

*James A. Malone, Secretary.*

## Washington Dahlia Society (Tacoma)

At the January meeting of the Washington Dahlia Society the following officers were elected: Mr. H. C. Cogswell, President; Mrs. Henry Nicodet, First Vice-President; Mr. J. E. Hulin, Second Vice-President; Mrs. Raymond Turner, Recording Secretary; Mrs. H. C. Cogswell, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. J. W. Lee, Treasurer. Executive Committee: Mrs. Glen Dunlap, Mr. C. H. Gordon, Mr. Francis Glanfield. Regional Vice-Presidents: Mr. A. N. Kanouse of Olympia; Mr. G. A. Westgate of Vancouver; Mr. J. E. Hulin of Seattle; Mrs. L. B. Hope of Centralia.

The last BULLETIN was distributed and there was some discussion about the next one. A show program committee was appointed as the members wish the program printed in the next BULLETIN. September 7th and 8th was set as the dates for the Tacoma Show.

The second reading of an amendement to the by-laws, concerning Regional Societies was read and upon vote was approved. Mr. Kanouse told of plans to organize a Society in Olympia and asked as many members as possible to be present.

A lively discussion on classification of Dahlias, was much enjoyed and the new A. D. S. revision will help a lot.

*Mrs. H. C. Cogswell, Corresponding Secretary.*

### Capitol Dahlia Society of Olympia Organized

On the evening of February 28th, nine officers and members of the Washington Dahlia Society journeyed to Olympia to help organize a Regional Society.

Mr. H. C. Cogswell, President, called the meeting to order and election of officers was the first order of business.

Mr. A. N. Kanouse was elected President, Mr. Glen Bailey, Vice-President; Mrs. H. G. McCool, Secretary-Treasurer.

Executive Committee elected were: Mr. G. F. Young, Mrs. Guy Beckham and Mrs. E. R. Campbell.

Mr. Kanouse then took office and instructed the secretary to read the by-laws of the Washington Dahlia Society.

Monthly meetings will be held on the first Friday at the homes of the members. There were nineteen charter members and with such fine officers and peppy members this new society will be successful.

After the business meeting adjourned Mrs. Glenn Bailey served delicious cherry pie and coffee and the members enjoyed an hour of garden visiting.

*Mrs. H. C. Cogswell, Corresponding Secretary.*

### Dahlia Society of Indiana

Indiana's membership campaign, though only of a month's duration, proved fast and furious, and manifested considerable friendly rivalry for the coveted prize awards at the monthly business meeting on Sunday, January 27th, at the Hotel Lincoln headquarters where the returns were read and tabulated.

In announcing the results, President Sparks complimented the participants for their interest and efforts, but expressed the regrets that all could not share in the tangible reward.

He presented to O. E. Oler, Dublin, a root of "Lord of Autumn" as high prize for accumulating 100 points with seventeen new memberships and five renewals; Mrs. Orl Silverthorn of Shelbyville was credited with 45 points and won the root of "Eugene Ballay" as second prize, while third place was carried off by Harry G. Kennett of Indianapolis with 34 points and took home the "Palo Alto" root. Numerous others reported and the campaign netted a total of fifty-seven new members, who are welcomed into the ranks of the Dahlia Society.

Another campaign, but for a longer period, one to terminate at the next scheduled meeting on April 28th, was simultaneously announced by the President, who appointed the above winners as a committee with Mr. Ober as chairman, to direct efforts towards reaching the goal of five hundred members in Indiana by the time of the 1935 show as set by the president.

The committee will immediately endeavor to procure "every member get a member" voluntary pledge, and

## SPECIAL OFFERING

OF AN UNUSUAL COLLECTION OF  
OUTSTANDING DAHLIAS THAT YOU  
WILL BE PROUD TO GROW AND  
EXHIBIT

Amelia Earhart	Jersey's Majestic
Cameo	Oriental Glory
Chautauqua Sunset	Palo Alto
Dixie Ravenscroft	Pastel Glow
Golden Eclipse	Robert Emmet
Good Will	Ruby Taylor
Elinor M. Radell	Sultan of Hillcrest
Eagle Rock Prince	Satan
H. R. S.	Spotlight
Jersey's Dainty	Washington Giant

Highest Quality Plants of any 10 for \$12.00  
Prepaid—Offer expires May 20th

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Do you want the most complete list of NEW  
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FLUSHING MICHIGAN

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## "THE HAAKES"

of the  
BOLSA DAHLIA GARDEN, Mill Valley, Calif.  
grow the best of the small varieties  
1935 Honor Roll: Elizabeth Ann, peach rose  
pompon; Miss Vivian, rose pink miniature  
Choice seed in packages: Pompons \$1.00; Miniatures 25c  
Baby Royal 50c; Sanhican's Sweetheart 50c; Catalog free

## RUTH M., Formal Decorative

Gold with perfect white tip. Score (83) Storrs, 1933. A root of this beautiful novelty sent for trial with orders as long as supply lasts.

Price list on request

F. A. GREENOUGH  
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### HAVE YOU BEEN HAVING TROUBLE

getting your Dahlias to Exhibition size? If so, let us tell you the probable reason. Most of the Dahlia roots for sale today are grown in rich, sometimes irrigated soil which, while it produces large blooms and LARGE roots for that season it generally produces weak stock for next season's growing, especially if the same conditions are not used. We grow our Dahlias in poor soil, no irrigation, no fertilization except Acid Phosphate in late summer; this produces far smaller, but exceptionally well-ripened and vigorous roots which, the following season, will produce well under ANY conditions, and if fertilized and irrigated, the very largest and finest of bloom in abundance.

### ONE TRIAL OF OUR ROOTS

will convince you. We have the largest selection so far as we know, and an immense acreage to select from. Catalog describing more than 700 varieties, and containing a mine of information, is free.

### KUNZMAN, DAHLIAS

New Albany, Indiana

LOYD'S  
DAHLIA  
GARDENS

### GUARANTEED DAHLIAS

Roots and plants that grow  
Wholesale and Retail

See our Gladiolus collections  
Catalog ready—request yours NOW  
"Where you get what you pay for"

R. D. I, Mays Landing, N. J.

### OUTSTANDING DAHLIAS

Plants from many 1935 introductions

F. V. R. VEIRS & SONS

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### DAHLIAS

Win with the best American and European  
latest and best varieties

We Can Serve You Better

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1873 East Avenue

Akron, Ohio

If you want the finest

### DAHLIAS

Send for our catalogue

SOMERHOUSEN DAHLIA GARDENS

Chestnut Hill

Philadelphia, Penn.

direct their best efforts towards a state-wide canvas. There were spontaneous offers again of plants and roots to add enthusiasm and create emulation. Points again will be the determining factor for the awards and these will be acquired on the basis of five points for new memberships and three points on renewals.

Members attending the monthly meeting were delightfully entertained as well as definitely instructed by three member speakers, one being Dr. W. E. Kennedy who directed his remarks particularly to the uninitiated in his subject "The amateur and his 1935 Dahlia problems." Fred Gresh spoke on the topic of "Certified Dahlias," while O. E. Oler amused the audience with his paper of "Ye chronicle of ye Dahlia grower."

*John C. Rugenstein, Secretary.*

### The Akron (Ohio) Dahlia Society, Inc.

In our January meeting the need for expansion by securing a larger membership was stressed. Only by developing our membership can we achieve some goals that are not possible under our present membership. In order to induce and encourage every member to put forth his or her best efforts in this membership campaign, Dahlia roots of recent introduction are to be awarded in our June meeting to members ranking first, second, and third in this drive.

The question of shows and suitable dates of holding them, was discussed at considerable length. We contemplate holding three shows (Akron, Canton and Goodyear). The Goodyear Show to be held in conjunction with the Goodyear Flower and Garden Club display. At this writing no date for either the Canton or the Goodyear Show has been definitely decided upon. The date of the Akron Show, however, has been set for September 21st-22nd; one week following the Mid-West Show in Cleveland, Ohio.

Incidentally, permit me to state, that our society is behind the Mid-West Show one hundred per cent.

Since a sizeable number of our members are commercial growers, opinions and impressions concerning certain of the 1935 introductions were given. To discuss the host of new introductions intelligently, however, precludes one's having grown or having watched them grow under conditions which have convinced one of their merits. Now few, if any of our members have had this opportunity. We trust, though, that when the yardstick of contemporary merit is applied to these new introductions, it might be truthfully said of them: "They have been weighed in the balance and have not been found wanting." Let's curb the ballyhoo and stick to facts.

The February meeting, at which the topic of discussion was "spraying," brought out a good attendance. The discussion proved very instructive as the experiences of the different growers were brought out. The point was stressed that most insecticides on the market today are effective, provided they are rightly applied and due vigilance on the part of the grower is exercised in checking infestation at the time of its inception.

The question of stem or crown rot was briefly discussed. The question was asked: "Why should two of six Dahlia clumps that had been planted and grown in practically the same soil and had been given the same care, attention and handling, be subject to stem rot while the other four are in no wise affected by it?" No satisfactory answer was given. A remedy against rot was suggested, however, namely: that clumps be cut and quartered before storing.

*Carl C. Bens, Secretary.*

## OUTSTANDING

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For 1935 we introduce the large lavender formal decorative, Buckeye Queen.

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