

BULLETIN

of the

AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY



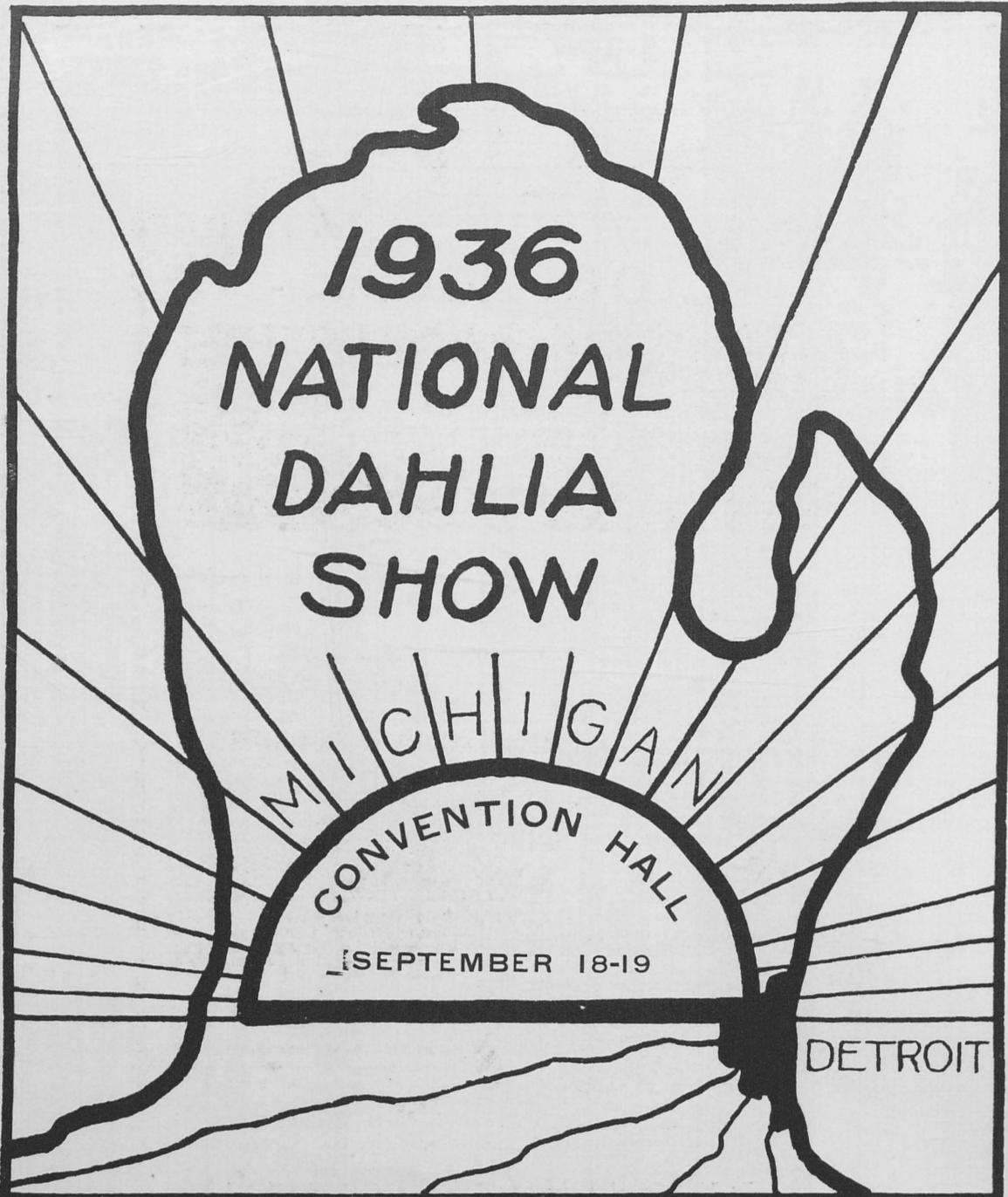
DAHLIA ARRANGEMENT *in BRONZE and SILVER VASE*
By Mrs. Georgina Humble, Douglaston, L. I., N. Y.

See "A Plan to Broaden the Service of the A. D. S."

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

Issue of May, 1936 . . . Second Quarter

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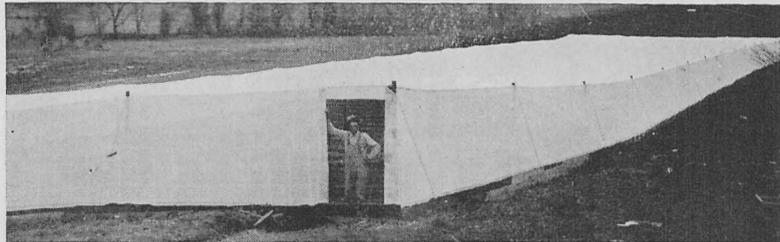


For
Information

{ Regarding the 1936 National Dahlia Show at Detroit, Michigan
Cultural Booklet on Dahlias for Amateurs
The Mid West Dahlia Trial Grounds of the A. D. S.

Address: C. E. Wildon, Secretary Dahlia Society of Michigan, East Lansing, Michigan.

SUNRAYTEX CLOTH HOUSES



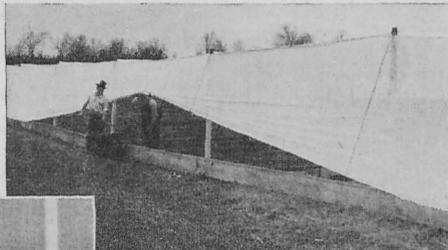
THE LAST WORD IN PLANT BED COVERING

If you are planning to build a Cloth House, or if you need cloth for recovering your old house, you will surely want to investigate **SUNRAYTEX**.

This new Cloth, developed under actual growing conditions and in collaboration with growers, offers improvements not found in any other cloth used for this purpose.

LOOK AT THESE TWO SUPERIOR FEATURES:

Notice the side wall raised to facilitate the handling of materials. This is made possible by the Grommets and Cord placed along the lower edge of the Cloth. (This is a special patented feature of **SUNRAYTEX** Cloth).



Note how side wall Cloth is attached to baseboard. It is not necessary to use the usual wood strip, thus eliminating dampness and rot.

[[Complete instructions, samples and plans for Sunraytex Cloth Houses sent free on request.]]

Distributed
by

**PURYEAR & CO., Florists
ROME, GEORGIA**

At Last! an A-1 Commercial White WHITE BEAUTY



(Buzby) A seedling of Jersey's Beauty and Graf Zeppelin, with all of its two parents' good points, and none of their faults.

Mr. L. K. Peacock of the Peacock Dahlia Farms, one of the world's best known Dahlia growers, says:

"WHITE BEAUTY is essentially a commercial Dahlia. It shows marked similarity in characteristics to its parent, Jersey's Beauty. It is not quite so rampant a grower, not quite so tall, but sturdier, more rugged, with heavy, glossy, insect and disease-resistant foliage. Larger than Jersey's Beauty and of the general form, with full, high rosebud center. The petals are more beautifully formed and arranged. It is a splendid branching variety, producing the flowers on long, straight, rigidly stiff stems. It is about ten days later in blooming than Jersey's Beauty, but earlier than Jane Cowl.

"Of course, WHITE BEAUTY can be grown to exhibition size and makes a fine exhibition flower, but it is as a commercial cut flower that it stands out so conspicuously.

"At the end of the third year, WHITE BEAUTY has shown no sign of fault or weakness. It is a better root-maker, and roots keep better than those of Jersey's Beauty.

"If I could have but one commercial white Dahlia, it would be WHITE BEAUTY."

The following letter from M. GOLDFARB (MY Florist), Inc., leading wholesale and retail florists of New York, speaks for itself.

"Dear Mr. Darnell:

"With eager anticipation and a great deal of pleasure I look forward to the exclusive selling of your WHITE BEAUTY.

"Truly, here is a Dahlia in a class by itself for commercial use. In my opinion it should bring you more money per plant than any Dahlia I know of.

"Morton Goldfarb, President."

The Niessen Co., Wholesale florists, of 1201-5 Race St., Phila., Pa., to whom the blooms of WHITE BEAUTY were shipped, wrote as follows:

"During the past season you shipped a new white Dahlia to us, which you named WHITE BEAUTY.

This new white Dahlia seems to be one of the best varieties that we had, and we hope that you will have a larger supply of it for next season. Has exceptionally good keeping qualities and it is just the size for commercial use.

"The Niessen Co., by H. Niessen."

I seldom rave or strew superlatives about any Dahlia. Every Dahlia I ever rated or judged at the shows had flaws. Though I grow thousands of seedlings from my own as well as Californian seed at \$50 per 1,000, I have not found one I considered worth naming in three years. But I am willing to

stake my reputation on WHITE BEAUTY, and give the following guarantee.

Guarantee

"If any buyer of a clump or division of WHITE BEAUTY, at the end of the growing season, is not convinced that WHITE BEAUTY is superior to any European or American white, in fact, to any white in the world as a commercial variety, I will refund the amount paid for WHITE BEAUTY without question or quibble."

Prices

Instead of the usual \$10, \$15 or \$25 asked for new introductions, we offer this at a price to suit the times, and a price every Dahlia lover can afford to pay.

Tubers \$5 each, Green Plants \$2.50 each

WE GROW THE LARGEST COLLECTION OF POMS IN THE WORLD

Try our GET ACQUAINTED COLLECTION—7 beautiful pompons, P.P. \$1.50. CORA MAY, salmon pink, rose eye. DONALD GORDON, burnt orange. EDGAR, cream. JONKHEER VAN CITTERS, yellow, flushed orange. LOLITA, gold with red eye. LITTLE IKE, burgundy red. MARY MUNNS, fuchsia. Our GARDEN COLLECTION—An assembly of Decorative Dahlias that is the greatest value ever offered for \$2. ALTA NEVADA, rose and tangerine. JERSEY'S TRIUMPH, salmon and bronze. KING TUT, crimson burgundy. ROTARY, Chinese red tipped white. SCARLET DAWN, brilliant scarlet. YANKEE QUEEN, a lovely true pink. P. P. \$2.

THE DAHLIA FARM (W. L. W. Darnell) East Moriches, Long Island, N. Y.

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The A. D. S. BULLETIN Contents for May, 1936

SERIES XII, No. 76

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Subscription Rates \$2.00 per year in advance. Please send all subscriptions and dues to the secretary, C. Louis Alling, 251 Court Street, West Haven, Conn. Receipts will be promptly sent.

ADVERTISING RATES

Minimum space accepted, one inch
30 cents per agate line—Fourteen agate lines to the inch

One Inch.....	\$ 4.00	Half Page.....	\$21.50
Two Inch.....	7.50	Page.....	40.00
Quarter Page...	12.00	Double Page...	75.00

All advertising for the American Dahlia Society Bulletin is taken subject to editing. The Society reserves the right to strike out of any advertising copy such parts as it deems objectionable, from any cause whatever, and it also reserves the right to cancel any advertisement for the same reason.

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS ON YEARLY CONTRACTS

If four consecutive advertisements are contracted for **in advance**, a discount of 10% is allowed, providing bills for space are honored when due.

Editor - - - - - LYNN B. DUDLEY
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1264 Bryant Street, Fairmont, West Virginia

PLANTS - DAHLIAS - PLANTS

Catalogue Sent on Request

With root stock so scarce we have more than doubled our capacity for growing green plants.

“Renew the Vigor of your Dahlias with PLANTS”

GOLDEN RULE DAHLIA FARM

Harley T. Peck

Dept. B.

Lebanon, Ohio

WE DONT INTRODUCE MISTAKES

Our introductions are given a thorough trying out in our Lawrence and Palo Alto Gardens before going on the market. The final test is at our Lawrence Gardens, and no introduction has been placed on the market until they have made good growing natural with no pruning and no forcing. We know what our Dahlias will do in the gardens of our customers when forced for exhibition and is it not true that many of our introductions grow to enormous size without forcing? How about Murphy's Masterpiece, Satan, Margaret E. Broomall, Palo Alto, Eagle Rock Fantasy, and a host of others? These were not mistakes, were they? But, how many mistakes have you bought the past few years? Nobody contradicts our claim of introducing the WORLD'S LARGEST DAHLIAS, but that is past history; how about the future? Well, let me make a prediction, if all is well, you will see the largest and most striking Dahlias ever grown in this country in 1936. Don't forget that statement. Please don't think we are the only growers that will have large Dahlias, but to date nobody has equaled our introductions in size, that's our claim. If you are interested in growing the largest Dahlias, why not send for our catalogue, it's free, take it with you to the show room, check up on the winners in the largest bloom classes, you will then be convinced that our Dahlias are the largest. Send for a catalogue anyway. If you have bought all your Dahlias for 1936 consider our GIANTS OF THE SHOW ROOM in 1937, which will be larger and better than ever before, and remember, money back guarantee is behind every sale if you are not satisfied.

SUCCESS DAHLIA GARDENS

(CHARLES G. REED, Prop.)

LAWRENCE

MASSACHUSETTS

Special attention: On June 1st we will conduct a closing out sale of several hundred of our prize-winning Dahlias at give-away prices. Remember, June is the ideal planting month. Send for special list.

BALLAY-SUCCESS DAHLIAS LEAD THE WORLD

Organizer and Past President National Association of Commercial Dahlia Growers, Inc.

A Plan to Increase the Service of the American Dahlia Society as A National Organization

Which of Us Shall Do Less?

Lord Bacon said: "I hold every man a debtor to his profession, from the which, as men, of course, do seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves to be a help and an ornament thereunto."

FOREWORD

If Bacon had said "hobby" rather than "profession," his admonition "to be a help and an ornament thereunto" would have been more apt for our theme.

But people like to gather to discuss their hobbies and their business almost equally well. If any emphasis there be, it rests perhaps on "hobbies" as an incentive to foregather and organize.

Two questions occur to us in spite of "our being a debtor to our profession." 1. Do we (meaning all Dahlia enthusiasts) want a truly Nationwide organization?

To find the right answer to this question we have written many letters to Dahlia friends. We have presented the outline of the plan which follows at several meetings, including that of executive committee. We have discussed it with many people from many states. We have gone over it night after night and held committee meetings for revision after revision.

And in spite of all the negative points which we could muster for tests of its worthiness, we have to report that the majority seem to think it is a feasible plan. We want the candid opinion of all of our members and all others who are interested. We will ask for this again at the end of the plan.

Question number 2 is this: Can this proposed National Dahlia Society be successful with the majority of its projectors being unable to secure monetary reward from the growing of Dahlias?

Seeking the proper answer to this we studied quite carefully, those organizations which are functioning in a National way today—and the plans of others which are proposing a greater National program.

Among these were the plans of the American Bar Association. This is a group of professional men, which is planning to combine its various State Associations into a Nationally functioning body. We have used some of their proposals in our own plan.

Further, we have examined the program of the American Association of Nurserymen which has a tentative reorganization plan. They have divided the country into seven regional areas to give the national organization

closer insight into the problems of each area. A regional group will have contact through the A. A. N. with all other groups. Regional, State and Local associations will operate under a charter from the A. A. N. They will hold an annual convention. Regional and State associations will meet annually, prior to the national convention.

The general plan which follows for the American Dahlia Society is analagous to this one produced for the Nurserymen, with the common exception that the Nurserymen have only business and eventual profit reasons from such an association.

We are frank to state that the organizations are very few indeed which in the main depend upon a small membership fee to pay the expenses of a nationwide body and whose officers for the most part serve without pay. In other words, we have found that there seems to be a limit to the amount of private funds which can be found to operate an organization nationally through the voluntary service of its officers and members. In spite of this situation, the officers of the American Dahlia Society, after numerous meetings, have decided that it is best to put this problem up to its entire membership and a tentative plan to increase the service of the A. D. S. as a national organization has been adopted and is presented below. Before proceeding with the presentation of this plan, it is pertinent perhaps to explain to all those who can and should vote upon this problem, just how the American Dahlia Society operates today.

Under its constitution and by-laws, which are quoted at intervals throughout the proposal there are three classes of membership—active, honorary and life. Active members pay \$2.00 a year. Honorary members are elected generally after they have served the Society as active members for a period of years. Life members are entitled to all of the rights and privileges of active members upon the payment of \$25 which covers their dues in the Society as long as they live.

There are today about two thousand active members of the American Dahlia Society and under the present

(Please turn to next page)

A Plan to Broaden Service of A. D. S.—Cont.

operation these members were entitled to vote for the officers at the annual meeting and are entitled to tickets to the Annual show, and receive the BULLETIN for one year.

To vote under the present wording of constitution and by-laws they must be present at the annual meeting. We believe that in enlarging the service of the American Dahlia Society, this should be changed and voting be done on a proxy plan so that every member will have a chance to vote at the annual elections. All active members also are entitled to a vote on matters submitted to them for membership action to confirm the action of the executive committee.

The Executive Committee meets at frequent intervals and takes up the general business plans and generally operates the work of the Society. This executive committee is composed of all of the officers of the Society, including past presidents and five appointive members at large. The plan which follows includes a set-up for vice-presidents from each State society having a membership of 100 or more. It is suggested in this connection that any society with 100 members or more can nominate one vice-president for each 50 members.

Under the constitution and by-laws, societies with 100 members or more may become eligible as State or Branch societies. Smaller societies or groups may combine for the purpose of becoming a State or Branch society. Upon the payment of \$1.00 per person, such payment to be made by a duly authorized official of a state or branch society, every member in good standing of that state or branch society may also become a member of the American Dahlia Society. This \$1.00 fee entitles the 100 or more members of the Branch society to voting membership in the American Dahlia Society and an annual subscription to the BULLETIN of the Society.

The following plan contemplates a constitutional change to permit State societies of 100 members and Local societies of 50 members to join the National Society.

We believe that many have confused the Branch society of the A. D. S. with the Affiliated society. An Affiliated society, and there are about fifty of these at the present time, pays \$10 per year for this privilege which entitles them to the A. D. S. Bronze medal for their show and five copies per issue of the BULLETIN which are sent to the Secretary of the Affiliated society. This nominal fee just about covers the cost to the A. D. S. It is not, and never was, a means of profit to the National society—but rather a means of contact and fellowship. This affiliation does not, as we think some erroneously believe, entitle the members of the Affiliate to membership in the A. D. S. They can individually join as active A. D. S. members at \$2.00 and we are glad to say that many of them do so. Further, the Affiliate society can become a Branch society if they so elect.

We believe that all will agree that any National program to be worth while will take a lot of hard work by many and cost some money. How much work and how many dollars, no one can guess.

But it is reasonable to assume that it will be most successful if the majority of the Local and State societies join in the program. It is hoped that this can be accomplished through the immediate application for membership of all organized Dahlia societies.

With several different Regions already asking for future A. D. S. National Shows; with at least three societies asking for official A. D. S. Trial Grounds; with officers of the A. D. S. being asked to go considerable

distances to encourage and assist in shows and the formation of new societies; with only a part of the actual expense of the A. D. S. BULLETIN being borne by the advertising in that publication; it should be quite obvious that before proceeding very far with this greater service program, the A. D. S. income must be increased. The only practicable way to provide more income is to enlarge its membership. And if State societies and Local societies wish to take part in the National program then their membership should become A. D. S. membership. One seems to need the other. All need to combine. Without the combination the plans and program outlined here, if not entirely nullified, at least will be a long, slow process.

And that brings us to a third query. Do the State and Local Dahlia societies want a National Dahlia society with a program keyed to present Dahlia enthusiasm? Do these societies see the advantages in the project, properly carried out, to the point where they will vote to have their membership also become active members of the American Dahlia Society?

It should be borne in mind in this connection, that the majority of members in the American Dahlia Society and the State and Local societies, as well, are merely enthusiastic amateur Dahlia growers, and we believe also that most of them have moderate incomes. We know that members who go to meetings and attend the shows pay their own expense of travel to and from these meetings and shows out of their own pockets without possibility of monetary gain from it.

This situation is quite remarkable, almost unique. The extent to which Dahlia enthusiasts desire to meet and actually attend meetings and discuss their hobby is the fundamental spark which leads us to believe that a more truly National Society, properly directed and organized among Dahlia people, can be successful. Acting on this premise, the Executive Committee of the American Dahlia Society has approved of the presentation to its membership and all others interested in the following plan.

*Signed, The A. D. S. Nationalization Committee,
By J. W. Johnston, Derrill Hart, Conrad Frey,
Warren Maytrott, Dewey Mohr, Lynn B. Dudley.*

THE PROPOSED PLAN

The reason for the forming and the basis of twenty years of subsequent progress in this Society is set forth in its Constitution and Bylaws as follows:

"Article I, Section II—This 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 the same; to disseminate information relating to the Dahlia; to secure uniformity in awarding prizes at the flower shows, and to give exhibitions when deemed desirable."

With this as a foundation, then, a group of people back two decades ago, who loved the Dahlia more than they loved other flowers or their spare hours, banded themselves together to make it possible for the spread of Dahlia information and improvement of Dahlia standards. Thus it was that they gave birth to, and nurtured in its youth, the Dahlia enthusiasm which has placed the Dahlia in its present position in horticulture. By their thoughtful devotion and faithful labor to a cause, they became, in a measure at least, responsible for the interest in this grand flower today.

Making Dahlia Culture of Interest to More People

is the Fundamental Basis of this Plan

It should be stated at the very beginning that this is not a plan, per se, to absorb any existing Dahlia societies. It is a proposal to enlist the interest and efforts of all societies towards a greater progress and to encourage all Dahlia societies to take an active part in the affairs of the American Dahlia Society. It is the inauguration of a plan, sponsored by this Society, by which all groups interested in the Dahlia can *join together* with a common purpose.

All Groups to Participate Equally

Quite naturally, it will devolve on the National Society to utilize in its expansion all that has been accomplished by its own organization and the others by separate groups for the future good of all. But all groups who join in this program will share its benefits and until a better platform can be evolved than that which has guided the American Dahlia Society for more than twenty years, we respectfully suggest that this broader organization be builded on the objectives and program of the A. D. S. as set forth in its Constitution.

The Constitution and Bylaws, we feel confident, provide a practicable structure on which a broader nationalization program can be undertaken. Terms, phrases and changes may need to be made and certain of these are recommended hereafter to carry out this program.

The Basis of Success

The success of any National Society depends in the main on the following:

1. A definite project—a specific plan.
2. A desire by the majority of large separate groups to coördinate into one national group.
3. Unselfish and untiring work by many individuals within those groups for the upbuilding of national group.
4. A financially sound structure which will permit proper functioning of national group.
5. Broad vision and coöperation by all interested individuals, groups and sections.

*In fine, therefore, the practical problem relies for its solution on the hope that all Dahlia enthusiasts, by individual and group, realize that there are powerful reasons why they should organize nationally; that the problem of creating a national organization involves the growth and development of a definite project and a specific plan; that no plan will operate itself nor remain feasible for execution indefinitely—and that it is in the interest of each and every Dahlia lover to study this plan and to decide whether he or she is for or against it; whether there will be advantages to be gained by it, sufficient to make its promotion worth while to all who make Dahlia culture their vocation or avocation.

*(Note, the starred paragraph, with slight changes, is borrowed, with thanks, from the secretary of the committee on National Coördination of the Bar, American Bar Association.)

Organization

Any organization, local or national, is only as strong as its membership. In the past, the A. D. S. has depended on its members to pass along the word about its operations, its shows and its BULLETIN. No special drive for

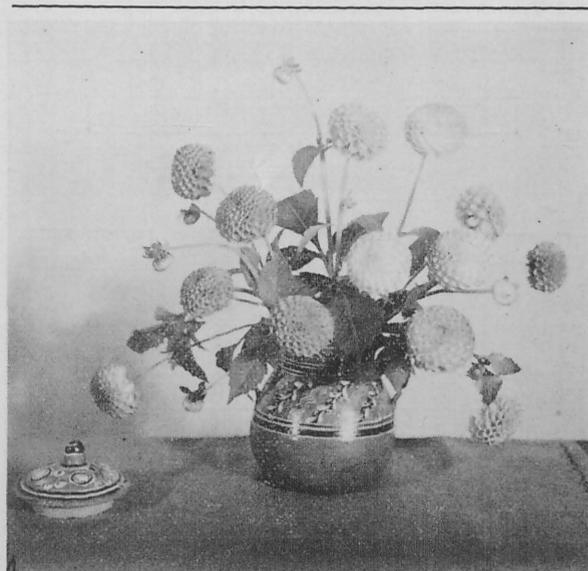
membership has been undertaken. It has been fortunate, truly, that its members have been not only loyal, but interested in getting others to take up Dahlia culture and join the Society. It is remarkable, too, that during the recent economic upheaval, the membership has actually increased. This has been due to the editorial features in the BULLETIN in part, and also to the definite back-to-the-garden movement.

But, in spite of this improvement, there are at present but four states—New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio—which have more than 100 active \$2.00 members of the A. D. S. It is provided in the Constitution and ByLaws, that "any Society with one hundred members or more may become eligible as State or Branch societies, smaller societies may combine for this purpose. Upon payment of \$1.00 per person, such payment to be made by a duly authorized official of a State or Branch Society, every member in good standing may also become a member of the American Dahlia Society. This \$1.00 fee entitles such a person to full membership in the A. D. S. and also an annual subscription of the BULLETIN of the Society."

"The purpose of this article is to promote coöperation between the National society and all Branch societies, and further, to encourage all Branch shows insofar as possible to operate under a uniform set of standards compiled by the National society."

Thus it is written in the Constitution. And it goes further and says that any State or Branch society having thus made its membership a part of the A. D. S. membership, can elect a representative to participate in the activities of the National society, and further, this representative to have voting power, when present at the National Society Executive Committee. Procedure

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A TABLE DECORATION IN POMSPONS

Would you give this arrangement by Mrs. Georgena Humble an "A" Rating? Why?

A Plan to Broaden Service of A. D. S.—Cont.

for electing State and Branch vice-presidents: These are to be nominated by their Branch society and their election confirmed by the A. D. S. Executive Committee.

There is the structure, already set up, for the broadening of the service of the A. D. S. nationally. And the A. D. S. is eager to welcome every State society or Local grouping of societies with 100 members into this National society.

If this greater scope of activity program is to be successful, then it is only reasonable to expect, we believe, the fullest coöperation and backing for the program, by all of its affiliates and by all State and Local societies. Without such coöperation, including active A. D. S. membership promotion, it is obvious that any national plan will be ineffective.

State and Local Branch Vice-Presidents

As stated above, it is provided that each State Branch society shall have the power to elect "a representative" to participate in the activities of the Society Executive Committee meetings." We suggest changing the wording in the Constitution and By-Laws in this connection to read "one or more representatives." This is to make it more certain that different sections of a State can be represented on the executive committee and that at least one representative from the State or Local Branch society be present at Executive Committee meetings. We propose, therefore, that one or more Vice-Presidents be elected from each State Branch society of 100 members or more on the basis of one Vice-President for each 50 of these paid-in members. We further propose that one Vice-President be elected from each Local society of 50 members or more, on basis of one Vice-President

for each 50 of the paid-in members. We believe that it would aid State Dahlia organization programs, if it was provided that no Local society could qualify for a Branch membership from a State where the State society already held State membership. In other words, let Local societies qualify nationally through State societies. This would have numerous advantages to both State and National organizations.

On this basis, a Branch society of one hundred members will have two Vice-Presidents; a society of 150 members three Vice-Presidents, and so on. We would eliminate the present provision regarding the combining of several Local societies into a 100 membership qualifying Branch society. Unless it be that two large societies desire to combine to form a State society to make a 100 membership, Member society. This should be provided for.

Naturally, the object of such a representation on the A. D. S. Executive Committee is to increase both National and Local society membership, but, at the same time it provides a plan for all societies to have a real part in the affairs of the National society. By having several vice-presidents from Branch societies it would make better and more interesting sessions. By this method, too, management of Society affairs is vested in all sections of the country.

All Branch societies, when qualifying their membership in the A. D. S. would receive a charter from A. D. S. with provision made therein for the number of A. D. S. Vice-Presidents to which that society is entitled.

Officers

The Constitution and By-Laws provide for officers as follows:

Article IV, Section I. The officers shall consist of a president, seven or more vice-presidents, preferably representatives of different sections of the country; a treasurer, a secretary, an executive committee of five in addition to all other officers of the Society and all ex-presidents; a Nomenclature Committee of five, an Entomologist, a Pathologist, and three Trustees.

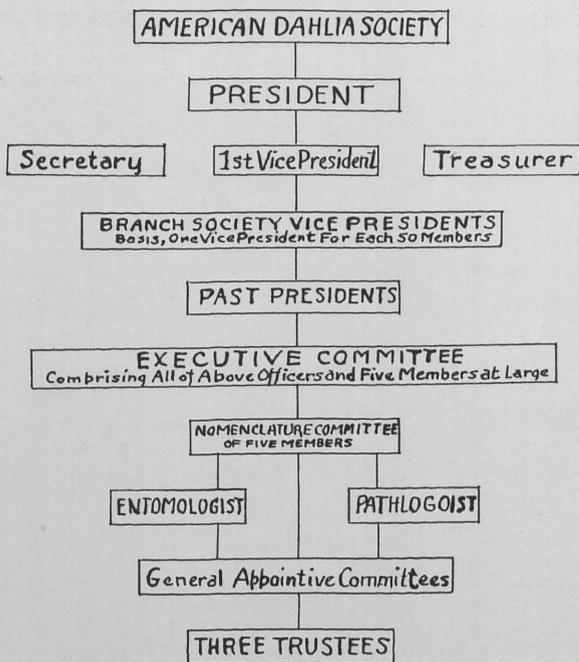
Section II. The officers shall be nominated and elected at the annual meeting, to be held during the annual exhibition, a majority of all votes cast to elect.

We are sure that this set-up of officers will be sufficient to serve the broader national program with the addition of the vice-presidents from State or Branch societies, as before outlined. If it develops that this revised plan has provided an executive committee too large to promote harmonious and smooth operative machinery, then, as is done in the American Rock Garden Society and other organizations. The Larger Board can select a smaller committee to act under direction of the President.

Until this plan is adopted, it will be necessary, according to provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws, to conduct the voting for officers on the present basis of one vote for each active (or \$2.00 paid-in-advance) membership.

After this plan is adopted, it will be advisable to change the voting plan to a proxy plan and this will necessitate a change in the Constitution and By-Laws. The reason for the proxy voting idea will be apparent. The distance involved and inability of certain members at certain times to attend an election or meeting should not void a member's participation in the affairs of the Society.

Proxy voting coupons can be attached to every membership receipt both active and Branch membership



THIS ORGANIZATION CHART

Gives set-up of Officers and Committees which would serve the A. D. S. under the New Broadened Service of the A. D. S.

when mailed. Nominations can be published in the BULLETIN and other publications prior to annual meetings.

This method will offset the disadvantage of distances—and make it possible for all Branch Societies to take part in plans and decisions of the American Dahlia Society.

National Exhibitions

For the purpose of National Shows we propose at the beginning to divide the country into eight regions: North Atlantic, South Atlantic, North Midwestern, South Midwestern, North Central, South Central, North Pacific, South Pacific. (See map.)

Local shows will continue to be held of course. State and sectional shows can continue to cooperate with national shows as to dates and participation, and regional shows should these be deemed practicable can be the result of cooperation between State and Local societies. The National Exhibition can alternate between Regions, not to be held in any one Region oftener than every fourth year. In case of a situation where a Region cannot hold a show in its regular rotation, then provision can be made by the Executive Committee for an exchange of rotations between two regions.

The National Exhibition should not be authorized unless it is thoroughly organized and financed. Further, certain officials of the National Society should attend with expenses paid. Judges' expenses should be paid in whole or in part. Results of the show, as well as promotional notices should be carried in the BULLETIN. This makes it necessary, we believe, that the underwriting of the national show include a stated amount for national body expense. Further, a contract insuring the provisions of this plan should be entered into between the State society sponsoring the show and the A. D. S. This is customary in other organizations.

Finances

The cost of operation of any national society must be definitely provided for. The general expenses caused by supervision of trial grounds—traveling of officers and necessity of reporting all meetings, trial grounds, show reports, etc., in BULLETINS must be covered.

Therefore, it becomes necessary to provide, as far as possible, necessary operating expense funds which shall be paid into the National Treasury.

To accomplish this, we suggest this procedure which we believe is fair and equitable.

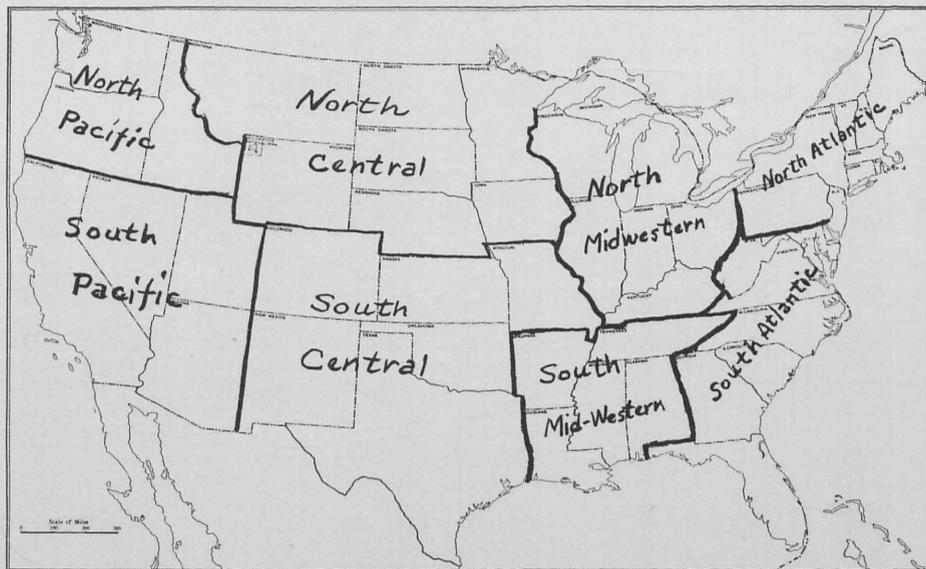
Dues

As the Constitution and By-Laws provide, "Annual dues for active members \$2.00, payable in advance, for all except life members (Life Membership is \$25)—one dollar per year being for a year's subscription to the BULLETIN."

These provisions, we believe, should remain in force.

It is now provided, as before stated, that State societies with 100 members or more may, upon the payment of \$1.00 per member for the 100 or more members by a duly authorized officer of the State or Branch society, enter members for which such fee is paid, as members in the A. D. S. We would, as before stated, add Local societies to A. D. S. membership on basis of 50 members or more. We believe that if this arrangement is definitely woven into the fabric of this National Program, it is the one basis by which a membership large enough to support the National Society can be maintained. This increased revenue is absolutely essential to pay the actual costs of National operation.

(Please turn to next page)



PROPOSED REGIONS FOR NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS

This is not suggested as an arbitrary division. Changes in Regional Lines can be made either before or after plan is adopted. Only time and test will demonstrate where most logical and practical show divisions should be,

A Plan to Broaden Service of A. D. S.—Cont.

Trial Grounds

It is essential that judging at the Trial Grounds be uniform. It is also essential that there be an interchange of judges between different regions.

We deem it necessary that expenses of these judges be paid in part or in whole. Not all judges need come from a distance but this can be carefully controlled. Interchange of sectional experience by judges is most essential.

We, therefore, recommend that a fee of 50 cents per variety from all official trial grounds go to the National society. Whether the present cost be increased by this amount or whether we should deduct it from the present low fee of \$3.00 can be decided later.

Any new trial ground to be made official should be prepared to meet these financial obligations inasmuch as the National society shares the responsibility for actions and awards of its trial grounds, and should have a financial guarantee of sufficient funds to operate the trial grounds according to A. D. S. requirements. A contract insuring these provisions should be made with any Branch society group undertaking the operation of an authorized trial ground.

Other Financial Problems

There will be many of these and they can be left to a special committee. Expenses are specifically mentioned in the Constitution and By-Laws but we believe this By-Law should be studied in view of foregoing recommendations. It is necessary to raise more money, for there will be increased demands on the National treasury to put this program into execution and to administer the affairs of the society in its enlarged sphere. Therefore, the Finance Committee should study this particular section of the Constitution and make recommendations for all contingencies.

We believe also, that other matters, such as duties of the officers, vacancies, rules of order, quorums, nomenclature, BULLETINS, etc., can be generally left as in the present Constitution and By-Laws.

In Conclusion

Inasmuch as the whole purpose of this plan is to make the efforts of the American Dahlia Society more effective and to increase its service as a national body, the officers of this Society ask for a free expression of suggestions and criticisms of this Plan.

We would sincerely appreciate any and all comments from individuals and from other societies.

The American Dahlia Society.

Notes on National Planning

State units have proven, in most national organizations, to be the most logical for the election of representatives on the National Executive Committee, or whatever the Governing Board is called.

Where no State body exists, however, it is the belief of A. D. S. officials, we should provide that the largest local society be invited to participate in the national

program, until such time as the State organization is perfected.

For showing purposes—National Shows—forty-eight units would be rather unweildy as candidates. There will be plenty of difficulty in determining where the National Show is to be next held. But if country is divided into show regions, and show rotated between regions, and held in different cities in regions when rotation order brings it every four to eight years—then it would be possible to use show enthusiasm to bolster up Dahlia interest in many new sections of the country.

We will have to learn how to be "National" in vision as well as operation. Setting up the machinery for an organization has its difficulties but if we can't think ahead and see the ideal objectives—all the planning in the world won't avail.

None of us is wise enough to set up a formula which will knit all Dahlia interests together, without revision. There never was a constitution which successfully covered all future contingencies. If we get started, however, problems can be handled as they appear. If we can't solve them amicably, then we shouldn't have a national program.

"It is my belief that from a National point of view, it will be necessary to hold meetings in various sections of the country, with recognition of these sections in the election of officers, and with equal voting powers of all members. The moving of the meetings and the A. D. S. Show occasionally into different sections of the United States should be made. If these, and other changes require revision in the A. D. S. Constitution and By-Laws, or other past customs, we earnestly urge you to do so, if you wish complete success. The National Society must be broader in purpose and national in fact. In its BULLETIN it has of late been carrying out the most important purpose of a National Society. This is, of course, the dissemination of knowledge of the Dahlia, such as improvement, cultivation, propagation, exhibition, classification, registration, trial grounds, advertisement, sales, discoveries, etc. The BULLETIN is now doing a very good job in these. There is a real need for a National Society, and as we definitely stated at Cleveland last September, we believe the natural and proper society to promote this is the American Dahlia Society. But, if the A. D. S. wishes to nationalize, it will be compelled to forego some of its privileges and cherished customs. Also it must have definite objectives, definitely and openly stated. I am strongly in favor of nationalizing the A. D. S. and gladly offer what assistance I am able to give."—George A. Brayton, President Ohio Valley Dahlia Association, and President Midwest Dahlia Conference.

"I believe that member societies should be admitted to the national society with a minimum of fifty instead of one hundred. It would be better to have many smaller societies join under the plan than to have only a few larger ones. Provision can be made to allow one vice president for each fifty members of any member society."—J. A. (Daddy) Kemp, Little Silver, New Jersey.

(Please turn to page 29)

Dahlias Attain Greater Size in "Cages"

By Elinor J. Mathews

112 W. Johnson St., Madison, N. J.

Dahlia plants over nine feet high and blossoms seventeen inches across are two reasons why Mrs. Adolph Junginger, of Madison, Wisconsin, feels that her Dahlia "cage," or cloth house, in which she raised them, is a success.

"You can fairly see the plants grow in it," she said. Take for instance in comparison, that row in the back of the garden, it was planted at the same time as those in the cage and the plants are only about as third as tall as the ones inside.

"Six years ago when I raised my first Dahlias they were not very good," Mrs. Junginger continued. "Of course they gradually continued to improve, and then I heard of the development of the Dahlia cloth protectorate, cage, as it is called, and decided to try one.

The cage is simply a large outdoor room, made of cheese or aster cloth (there are several trade names for it), in which plants are raised. This is comparatively a new idea in Dahlia raising although it has been used in growing tobacco, asters and other plants for many years.

Building one is quite simple and not so very expensive. If one plans starting Dahlias this spring it might be well to add the expense of the cage to the garden budget now.

Upon comparison it has been found that while the temperature is in the neighborhood of twenty degrees higher in the "cage," it is an extremely moist heat. The humidity inside is so much greater that no watering of the plants need be done, except in the driest season and then only perhaps once or twice a season.

Erecting the "cage" is a one-man job that can be completed in a day.

Many Interested In Cloth Houses

In response to many requests like the one below, we are glad and fortunate to be able to give to our readers more information on this subject in this timely article.

"I am a grower of Dahlias and also a reader of your American Dahlia Society BULLETIN. I would be pleased to have an article in your next issue, if possible, on the cloth house for Dahlias. Our season was cut very short this year by early frosts and I am determined to build a cloth house in order to avoid this again next year. I am cut out of about six weeks of these gorgeous flowers, this year a great many of my plants not even having one bloom. I would appreciate an article with real information about building one.

Yours very truly,

W. H. Craft, Watseka, Illinois.

There are many reasons why a cage is helpful in raising the prize winning type of blossoms.

It protects the plants from most insects.

It defuses the hot sun rays.

It keeps the plants moist.

It improves color and prevents sun fading.

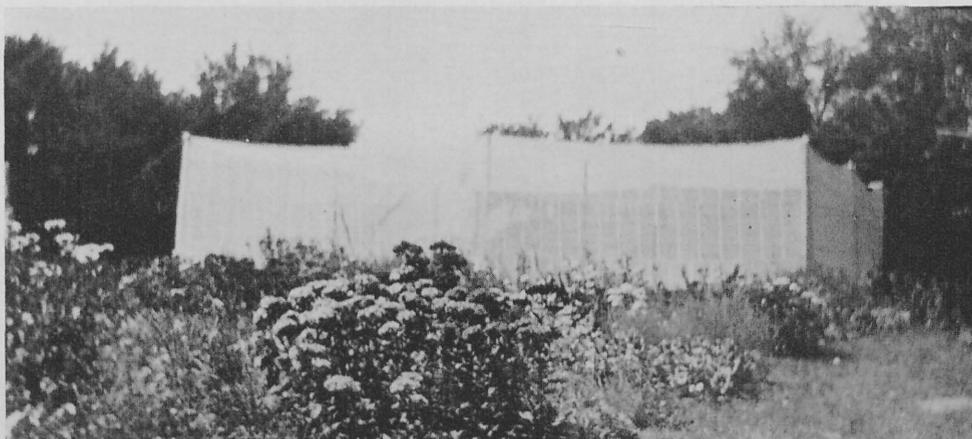
It permits of less cultivation.

It increases bloom sizes.

It gives early frost protection.

It produces longer stems and larger normal blooms.

(Please turn to next page)



THE DAHLIA "CAGE"

Set in a sunny spot, has much the appearance of a house made of ice, but one step inside on a warm day would convince one that it was not.

Dahlias Attain Greater Size in "Cages"—Cont.

When the proposed size of the "cage" has been decided upon, the cloth covering can be purchased, all ready to put up, from a firm which makes various types of cloth protectorates for plants.

While the cloth for the sides is a yard wide, it usually comes three strips sewed together, so that you receive it nine feet wide, or whatever multiple of three you care to use. The cloth is necessarily thin and that of some manufacturers is reinforced by a heavier weave in half inch bars one foot apart.

"The 'cage' can be made any multiple of three feet in height and nine feet is none too high," said Mrs. Junginger. "Last year some of the plants grew so tall that they pushed even through the top of my cage at this height."

Perhaps it would be best to give here the description and dimensions of this "cage." The frame work is set up first, in a sunny field, selecting a spot with good rich soil. The uprights are nine "tobacco" poles two and one-half inches in diameter. These are eleven feet long and are set sixteen and one-half feet apart each way, making it thirty-three feet square. This is a dimension adopted by several manufacturers. The cloth is sized thirty-three feet or multiples of that dimension. As there is considerable weight to the cloth covering the poles are sunk two feet into the ground to strengthen them.

A wire is then stretched completely around the frame work, putting the wires three inches down from the top of the poles. Wires are also stretched across the top diagonally as a support to the cloth roof. (See sketch.)

From each top corner a guy wire is stretched and fastened out into the ground to a "dead man," which is nothing more than a long board laid horizontally under the ground.

When the frame work is completed, the top material is stretched across and caught temporarily around the wire with clothes pins.

After the top is in place the sides are put on in the same manner. It is wise to put the covering on as tight as possible so that it will not sway with the wind. This will keep it from tearing and from wearing at corners where it might rub on posts.

The cloth which has been temporarily pinned on is now tucked in or rolled around the wire, after which it is sewed on with carpet warp, using a three inch "button hole" stitch.

All of the side poles should be wrapped with cloth so that they will not wear the sides of the cloth in rubbing against them. A large soft pad is also put on top of the center pole to protect the roof which rests upon it.

When the sewing is completed, a six inch base board is nailed around the outside of the frame, after which the ends of the cloth are rolled on a lath and nailed outside to the base board.

At one end, preferably toward the house, an old screen door frame, which has been covered with the same cloth, is put into place.

It is wise to put a good padlock on this door to keep out the curious who do not realize the damage they might do in walking up and down the aisles of flowers.

If one is starting the Dahlia garden in the spring, it is well to do some preparing of the ground before the plants are put in, as Dahlias take very rich soil and are known to take the natural phosphoric acid, potash, and life out of the soil. These must be replenished by the grower as well as nitrogen added which is not naturally in the soil. There are various formulas prepared by chemists that are obtainable for this purpose.

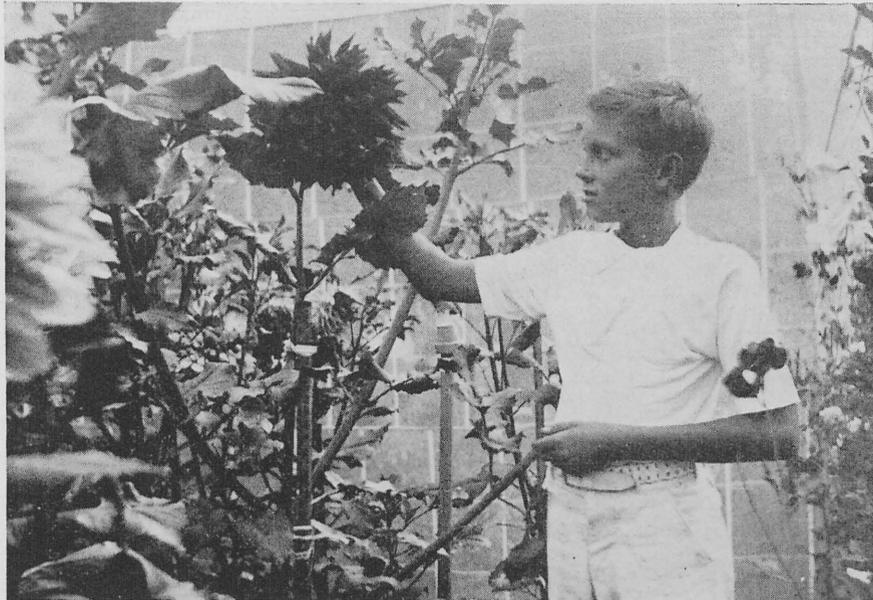
"In the spring I have found it very effective to cover the entire bed with one inch thickness of tobacco clippings. This should be spaded into the ground, leaving the soil as loose as possible," said Mrs. Junginger. "Then by Decoration Day or the first of June, I am

(Continued on page 16)



AFTER 5 WEEKS GROWTH IN THE "CAGE"

Showing size of the plants five weeks after "setting-out".



AFTER 10 WEEKS, WE HAVE BLOOMS

You can notice how the Second 5 Weeks works considerable change in the size of the plants.

The expense of this particular "cage," thirty-three feet square, can be estimated as follows (prices will vary on certain items in different localities):

9 tobacco poles, 11 feet long, @ 20 cents each.....	\$ 1.80
10 pounds of No. 9 wire.....	1.00
13 yards of cheese cloth 400 inches wide and	
47 yards of cheese cloth 9 feet wide for the sides	
Cloth total	16.23
Lumber for base board	
8 6 inch by 1 inch by 16 feet @ 52 cents.....	4.08
1 bundle of laths.....	.55
Total	\$23.66

The labor item would vary in each instance, and probably would be less the second time it was put, as the person erecting it would be more experienced. Then, too, a smaller "cage" would be less expensive in proportion.

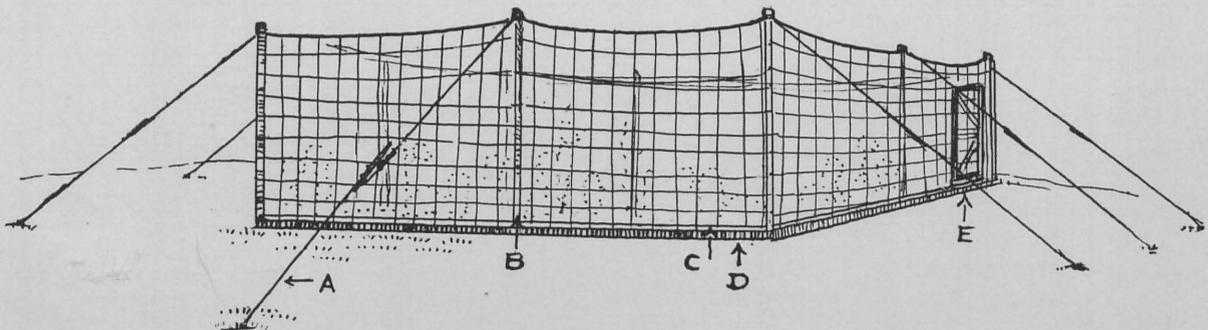
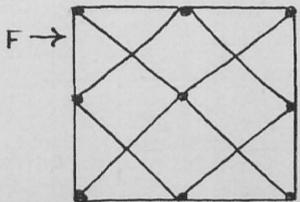
In the fall the complete cage should be taken down and stored in a dry place. Usually the cloth is good for one year's use only but the poles and wire can be used again, perhaps several year.

See Sketch of "Cage" Below with Various Points of Construction

- A. Guy wires stretching out to "dead man" in ground.
- B. Posts Holding up "Cage".
- C. Lath around which cloth is wound.
- D. Base Board.
- E. Door, set above base board.
- F. Birdseye view of top of cage showing one method of intercrossing wires to support roof.

Overhead wires can be stretched in this manner. But some recommend that they be put up on center posts paralleling the side wires.

(Turn to next page.)





Another view taken at 10 weeks shows the plants on their way to the roof and most cloth-house enthusiasts say that 9 feet is none too high.

Dahlias Attain Greater Size in "Cages"—Cont.

ready to set out my plants which at that time usually are four or five inches tall," she explained further.

This date of planting would vary in different parts of the country depending upon the climate.

As each plant is set out, its supporting stake, at least five feet long, is put in the ground. If these stakes are not put in until after the roots are started there is great danger of injuring the plants.

These stakes serve a double purpose as the number of each plant is put on its accompanying stake. These numbers are kept on a chart or road map, as Mrs. Junginger calls hers, so that one can tell at once which plant is living up to its reputation.

Watch the new plants very carefully when first put in, and as soon as they take root and three leaves appear, pinch the center or heart out of the plant. This is called pinching back.

Then at each branch a new leaf, called a lateral, will appear. When these have three leaves the center of most varieties should be pinched out again. This will assure the plant a good sturdy shape.

Later when the buds appear, as they do, in groups of threes, pick out the poorest and leave one good one, which is usually the center bud.

After the buds start the plants should not be cultivated, but before that they should be cultivated regularly once a week.

About the fifteenth of August the plants should receive a treatment of fertilizer; any good potato fertilizer will do.

The plants of some early varieties begin blooming after the third week in July or the first week in August, then the later varieties come along late in August or first of September and bloom continuously until late fall and the first killing frost.

Not only do many plants of the exhibition types grow to over nine feet in height in the "cage" but the blossoms

have been especially large and lovely. Some come in a clear bright yellow, others a shell pink tinged with yellow toward the center, like a tea rose, again there are the exquisite pinks and golds, purples, and lavenders. Especially velvety are the dark reds shading into deep purple or almost black where the petals curl back. One of this variety was the seventeen inch Murphy's Masterpiece that has won much acclaim the last three years. (See illustration.)

A few days after the first killing frost and you will find that the "cage" will actually delay the first frost, cut the tops off of the plants and leave the tubers in the ground for a few days.

These are then dug up and stored for the winter in peat moss or sand, in a room whose temperature ranges from forty to fifty degrees. The tubers are of course marked very carefully as they are put away.

"After the ground is cleared," said Mrs. Junginger, "we spread five bushels of alfalfa meal over the whole area and spade it in deeply."

About February 15th, take the roots out of storage and lay them in "flats," partially covered with sand or loose soil. Put these in an east window and sprinkle slightly.

Gradually sprinkle more freely and in two or three weeks the eyes begin to sprout. When there are three sets of leaves two inches long cut these off for planting.

These cuttings are then placed in a box of what is called sharp sand, which is prepared as follows:

Pound the sand into a box with a brick and keep pounding it until it is so hard that it is difficult to dent it. In this make a deep hole with a pencil and into these holes the little cuttings are put. These are kept in a temperature of between fifty and sixty degrees.

After two or three weeks these little plants are lifted out and put into individual pots of loose soil where they are left until they are four or five inches tall. They are then ready to be planted in the big "cage."

Dahlias come in great varieties which are developed, named and registered by people all over the land. Dahlia enthusiasts are all familiar with these names and take great pride in their collection of famous types, which are usually named after noted people.

"I have quite a few celebrities in my flower family," said Mrs. Junginger. "There is Amelia Earhart, Kay Francis, Clara Barton, Thomas Edison, Mrs. George Le Boutillier, Elissa Landi, Dwight Morrow, Dorothy Stone, Rudy Vallee, Jane Cowl, Frederic March, Robert A. Broomfield, and even Ruby Taylor, as well as such names as Murphy's Masterpiece and Hunt's Velvet Wonder."

This is the complete year round program of Dahlia culture as carried out by Mrs. Junginger and her Dahlia cage, with considerable success, if one can judge by the box of blue ribbons that her flower entries have won at various shows.

"I have had a lot of fun raising my Dahlias," said Mrs. Junginger in conclusion, "and I suppose it is only natural as all of my family before me were very fond of flowers."

However, most of her luck is due to her vision and foresight; to her intelligent planning, the attention given to the plants, and carrying out of a complete program. Unlike Topsy her Dahlias did not "Just Growned."



AND AS FOR DAHLIA SIZE IN CAGES

A little neighbor boy showing you a 17 inch bloom of Murphy's Masterpiece which was raised by Mrs. Junginger in the cage in 1935. It was deep in color, a deep rich maroon and was almost black in center, too.

The National A. D. S. Show at Detroit September 18 and 19, 1936

It is a well known fact that the Michigan Dahlia Society under the leadership of President Bruce Collins and of Secretary C. E. Wildon is under full steam in planning the big exhibition to take place in Convention Hall at Woodward and Warren Streets, Detroit.

Assurance of a large attendance has been taken care of by an able committee in arranging advance sales. Trade space sales is progressing nicely with assurances of sufficient space already to make the show a success. Due to the almost unlimited space available, all commercial exhibitors are assured of ample footage.

As to the general character of the show to make it most attractive, the committee have about decided on a Mexican setting. This treatment from a decorative standpoint will be most colorful and its atmosphere will lend a touch of the original habitat of the Dahlia. Exhibitors could cooperate and this theme going through the whole show would make it a most unusual one. Mexican, Aztec and Maya decorative motifs are as truly New World American as the Dahlia is truly an American Continent product.

Headquarters for Dahlia folks has been announced as the Hotel Statler and many meetings will be held there during the two-day show. It is tentatively planned to hold an evening meeting with a program. If this is done it will be at the Statler on the last evening of the show.

Exhibitors from every section of the country where blooms can be transported are urged to send for tentative schedule which will be ready soon. Plantings can be made for exact classifications where it is desirable to exhibit.

It is being planned that several growers in the east are combining to fill a drawing room on a Pullman with blooms and come prepared to capture a number of desirable awards.

In fact, with Dahlia folks to the west and south already planning some special exhibits, this show begins to take on the aspects of a competition which will be worth while to those who take a lot of pride in winning.

For schedule and entry blanks write to C. E. Wildon, State College, East Lansing, Michigan.



Alabama Dahlia Society

The Alabama Society has been in formation since last February. At that time about twenty-five Dahlia lovers got together and made plan for a society. There was no Dahlia show in Birmingham in 1935 and no plans were made for one this year. Formerly the Federation of Gardens Clubs had been holding a Fall Flower Show composed of Roses and Dahlias. Later the Federation held a Chrysanthemum Show.

Our society has had three meetings, gaining membership each time. Mr. Thomas M. Floyd is President, Dr. H. C. Rike, First Vice-President, J. V. Thomason, Second Vice-President, W. C. Darby, Treasurer and Edward Bialis, Secretary.

At our last meeting we voted to become a member of the American Society. We have a group of enthusiastic members and plans are all ready under way for a show the first or second week in October.

Edward Bialis, Secretary.

Cornell University Studies Keeping Quality of Dahlias and Other Problems

Editor's Note: We hope that the day soon arrives that every Experiment Station and Agricultural College in the country are conducting active experiments and tests for better Dahlia culture. Many of them are doing so now; others are planning Dahlia research; many have issued Dahlia Bulletins which have contributed much knowledge to Dahlia progress. Prof. Allen, of Cornell, in this article tells of Dahlia plans at Cornell. A. D. S. members are invited to contribute Dahlia roots for further experiments.

The problem which we have been working on this winter has to do with the effect of temperature and humidity on the keeping qualities of Dahlias. Our method has been to store Dahlia roots under controlled conditions, in which the temperature was varied in one test, the relative humidity in another, and a third test was devoted to different commercial methods of storage. We have obtained some very interesting data. Of course the work will have to be continued on into the summer to determine the effect of these various storage conditions upon the subsequent growth of the roots.

We exhibited some of our results at the National Flower Show at Baltimore and I have been interested to learn that it apparently created considerable interest. I received quite a number of inquiries about the work and the man in charge of the exhibit said it proved to be of more interest to the average layman than any of the other experiments shown.

There are several problems which we would like to try out or work on this summer.

1. *Tarnished Plant Bug Control.* I have been conferring with some of the members of the Entomology Department to see if it would not be possible for us to have a cooperative experiment with them on the control of tarnished plant bug. To my mind the tarnished plant bug is a limiting factor in Dahlia culture in this region. There are almost no Dahlias grown throughout Central New York simply due to the prevalence of this pest. If we could work out or discover some satisfactory control for this insect, I feel we would be doing a great service to the Dahlia growers as well as the ordinary home owners. It happens that the entomology department here has been experimenting somewhat on the control of tarnished plant bug with other plants but they have not included Dahlias in their experiments. I have finally got them to agree to carry on some tests on Dahlias provided we furnish the plant material upon which to work.

2. *Hastening the Maturity of Dahlias.* Getting certain varieties to mature good goods apparently is quite

By Professor Raymond C. Allen

a problem since I have had a number of inquiries on this subject. I have also observed in many commercial Dahlia fields that some difficulty was experienced from this source. We would like if possible to work on this problem to see if we can not by some means or other hasten the maturity of the roots so that good hard, well formed roots are developed which have good keeping qualities for winter storage.

3. *The Production of Good Quality Roots Under Shade Cloth Houses.* Since we have been advocating the use of shade cloth houses in the production of high class Dahlia blooms, we have found that with certain varieties we do not get high quality roots. I feel that we should investigate this problem so that we can find means of producing roots under shade cloth of comparable quality to those produced outside.

4. *Fertilizer Requirements of Dahlias.* I do not believe that as yet we know the whole story about the fertilizer requirements of Dahlias. I think we should study further the effect of phosphorous, potash and nitrogen upon their growth and make observation not only on the top growth but also on the roots and their keeping qualities.

There are many other problems which I might suggest but I feel this is all we will be able to work on and perhaps we will not be able to investigate all of these. I would like suggestions and criticisms from your members on these problems, particularly some notes as to their worthwhileness in relation to the American Dahlia Society.

Secretary Alling suggested last fall that the American Dahlia Society would be willing to cooperate with us to the extent of Dahlia root and plant material. Since our department finances are getting rather low, it will probably be necessary for us to call on you for that support. I will work out the details of these tests and let you know how much material will be required, after you have heard from your members concerning the importance of our suggested experiments.

Preliminary Schedules Ready

Preliminary schedules for the New York A. D. S. exhibition have been mailed to all members within a radius of five hundred miles of New York. The secretary will be pleased to mail a copy to anyone interested on request. The preliminary schedule for the A. D. S. National Exhibition in Detroit will soon be ready and will be mailed to all members within showing distance and any others who desire it. Mr. C. E. Wildon, of East Lansing, Michigan, will be pleased to receive applications for same.

Send Your New Varieties to the Trial Grounds

Dahlia Personals—and Personalities

By Oliver Shurtleff

Secretary, West Virginia Dahlia Society
Vice-President, American Dahlia Society
1264 Bryant Street, Fairmont, W. Va.

My First Dahlia Expert

*"O, how I faint when I of you do write,
Knowing a better spirit doth use your name,
And in the praise thereof spends all his might,
To make me tongue-tied, speaking of your fame."
Shakespeare.*

It was twelve years ago. I was growing my first patch of Dahlias. There were nine plants in that little corner of my garden. To me they were significant and to my neighbors they were a source of joy and delight. They weren't great Dahlias. Even now, as I recall them, I smile at them. But they were "the yeast that leavened my Dahlia lump."

The next year I wondered if some of the well known growers would ever be willing to send me one of their prized catalogues. I was assured that I would get all the catalogues I asked for. They were sent for and in due time they came. One in particular interested me. It still does.

The third year of my Dahlia experiences I again began to wonder. This time I wondered if I should ever have the privilege and honor of meeting any of the more important growers of our country. Since that time I have had that honor and that privilege many times over.

But right now I am thinking especially of that first important Dahlia man that I met. He was coming to Fairmont as a judge of our West Virginia Dahlia show. How I anticipated his coming—this Nestor of the Dahlia kingdom! How I wanted to know him—this wise student of botanical lore! How I longed to sit at the feet of this Gamaliel and learn from him as his disciple!

He came and I was not disappointed in his coming. Here was a man who knew Dahlias while I had been content to know but a few facts about Dahlias. Here was a man who could talk with authority and not as one of the scribes. Here was a man who knew the language of his flowers, and they in turn, requiting his love, made answer back to him. And the words of each were understood by the other. Then I called him Mr. Kemp. Now, as I know him better, I call him, with deep seated affection "Daddy" Kemp.

Mr. Kemp does know flowers and he knows them significantly. For a good many years he was a student of Dr. Van Fleet and he who has been with Van Fleet learns. In his talks, in his writing and in his growing, Mr. Kemp has proved to the most skeptical that he does know.

No finer memorial to a man can be written than that memorial written in beauty. Daddy Kemp has written that finer memorial. Kemp's Violet Wonder, Fort Monmouth, Monmouth Champion, will make true my philosophy: "He who produces a flower makes his name immortal." Were I the originator of any one of these flowers, and the time had come for me to go, I would stop as I went, at the favorite corner of my garden, and pluck a flower to bear with me to the throne of the

A New Department Devoted to the Idea that Worth While Achievement in the Dahlia World Should Be Recognized, Even Tho' The Achiever is Not Often in the Headlines in the Dahlia Magazines.



Speaking of Personalities

Meet the Editor of the Department of the Bulletin, Oliver Shurtleff, who is undertaking to introduce to you those who have done more than most for dahlias.

Master as a worth while harvest of a full life. I am sure that the offering would be accepted: I am sure that I should hear the blessed "well done." With Wordsworth I write, "Knowing that Nature never did betray the heart that loved her."

Mr. Kemp has lived a life of long and useful years, but "To me, fair friend, you never can be old." The time that I have known him are cherished years and that which came to me, out of those years, I hold as fine and good and noble.

To Daddy Kemp I fondly dedicate my column.

Why Not A. D. S. Certified Judges?

By Lynn B. Dudley

The A. D. S. has accomplished two great steps to improve standards for the Dahlia in developing our present classifications and a score card with which to judge them.

Perhaps the next forward step for us to undertake is a standardized judging.

Judging anything is dependent on comparisons. And one who truly knows the best can properly arrive at a comparative point of less than perfection.

Dahlia judges—or judges of any flowers, often have their preference for a certain form or color. Likewise, they are less than human if they do not have some prejudices also.

In order to submerge these likings or dislikes, any one who attempts to judge must have a fixed standard of excellence in his or her mind. Very important, also, is a memory. Of great assistance, too, is what is called a photographic mind. In other words, a mind which by nature or training or both, can retain an impression. One of the hardest things for the mind to retain is color.

It is also a fact that one person out of about twenty is either color blind or has a tendency to misread certain colors. If one is partially color blind and also has color prejudice then it is practically impossible for that person to judge fairly.

But, if one does not have any trace of either color blindness and has no decided color prejudice—then he or she can become an ideal judge.

Yet, even then, if there be either a lack of memory of other Dahlias—or a lack of a fixed yard stick in mind, then judging is quite apt to be more guessing than judging.

Experience and knowledge are very important. When starting out as a judge, an embryo judge, speaking liberally, does not have the confidence which can come only with experience. But even with experience, if knowledge of varieties is absent, then experience won't save one's face.

The ideal judge is one who has confidence born of experience, knowledge gained by careful study of varieties, a good sense of color values, coupled with a carefully memorized set of plus and minus points of standardized excellence.

Subtract any one of these and judging is erratic. And these qualifications, practically balanced in a judge, will make him or her much sought after. Such a judge at work on a Dahlia show floor or in a trial ground will create confidence in exhibitors and obviate rejudging.

There is no question but that it is more difficult to judge Dahlias than it is poultry, dogs, or horses. Specialists in the different breeds in these shows become so expert that their findings are rarely, if ever, questioned. The very fact that the judges at these shows confine their knowledge to one or more breeds, soon makes them experts in their lines. And unlike judging flowers, these judges do not have to worry much about color values.

Undoubtedly, all other things being equal, the one thing which causes more indifferent judging of Dahlias than any other one thing is the lack of knowledge of the score card. The A. D. S. makes no claim for absolute

perfection in the present score card—but it has undergone repeated refinements by men and women who have for nearly two decades devoted all or most of their time to Dahlias. Let us say at least that there is no known yardstick which is better.

Until a better one is devised, why not use the A. D. S. score card and memorize its point scale, if one is to sit in judgment on the blooms on which so much care and work have been expended by the exhibitor.

How many judges who function at our shows today realize the responsibility vested in them? How many of them know the A. D. S. score card points by heart? Your guess is as good as ours.

It is true that a Dahlia judge is not under the same responsibility as is a witness at a trial. He or she does not have to take an oath that they are qualified or even that they will be absolutely fair.

Yet there is a great responsibility resting on each of us if we undertake to pass on the results of the efforts of one who may be a better culturist than are we. Do we think of this when we declare this or that bloom inferior to another?

William Nuneviller in touching on this subject says: "Most of the 400 or more new Dahlias for 1936 have either won or lost prizes at the shows, got on honor rolls or received a certificate of merit. Most of them have been selected by personal choice, in spite of the fact that we have a very good score card which should have been used in every selection.

"Personally, I believe we are kidding ourselves. If we had the entire lot of new Dahlias before us, it would be very difficult to select a fair percentage that would prove satisfactory to the average Dahlia fan.

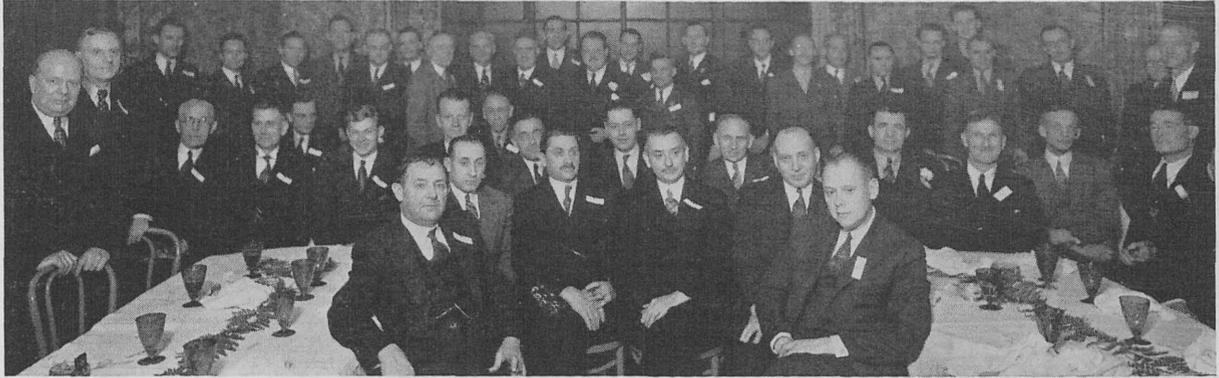
"Probably the trouble is that we are not taking time to think when judging. Every one of us should take the score card and study it from beginning to end until we know it thoroughly. We should practice it until we can apply it intelligently. Then if we feel that the passing point of 85 is too low and lets too many inferior ones past the portal, we should get together and either revise the score card or make it a higher passing score or both."

The editor of the BULLETIN is frequently requested to print something which will raise the standard of judging of Dahlias in America.

Just last fall came a request from a well known grower in the East to please use all influence to get a certain selection of judges for the New York show. We could not print this list of judges, nor the request. Modesty was one reason, along with others. But we do sum up the total of this and other queries about judges and judging with the suggestion which follows. If adopted generally, it certainly will not do any harm, and could very well help to bring up the standard of Dahlia judging and eliminate even the small percentage of dissatisfaction now prevailing.

Here is the suggestion. Let the A. D. S. conduct a qualifying test for judges. This could take any one of several forms. A set of questions and examples can easily be evolved. Before each show, or at any specified

(Continued bottom opposite page)



Third Annual Dinner of Rockville Center Dahlia Men

This photograph was taken in 1935, but was never published. This year no photograph was taken, so we offer it as being typical of the Third Annual Meeting. Chairman Preas is shown center of back row, just left of center, with white carnation and mustache. Next at right is Vice-Chairman Dewey Mohr, next right is President George Fraser. Ninth from right, back row, is shown the late Charlie Ruscher.

The hot-spot of eastern Dahlia enthusiasm and friendly competition, Rockville Center, New York, celebrated on March 21st, with a dinner at Lido Club, Long Island.

Dr. Bruce Preas, the dean of Dahlia amateurs, and dynamic sweepstake winner, was the toastmaster, as well as organizer, and he did a masterful job of both. Dewey Mohr was the Doctor's able lieutenant or perhaps we should say "interne." Gordon Wasser kept the "patients" in the ante room from making too merry during the toastmasters masterful address, in which he took credit for introducing enough new Dahlias as winning varieties to make two new Dahlia millionaires a year. He said he did this as a gesture to Dahlia progress without a cent of profit. "Horse Show Rosettes" said Dr. Preas "were rewards enough for any true amateurs."

After that, speakers were so numerous that our fountain pen ran dry trying to keep up with the notes.

Professor C. E. Wildon of Michigan State College, East Lansing, in charge of A. D. S. Trial Grounds gave a most interesting talk about the varieties at the trial grounds and illustrated same with colored slides. After this he gave a demonstration and explanation of soil testing. Both of these discourses were received with great interest.

Many officials of the A. D. S. attended, including

President George Fraser, Secretary C. Louis Alling, Past President Derrill Hart, Vice Presidents Conrad Frey, Oliver Shurtleff of West Virginia, Dr. H. H. Smith of Cleveland, all of whom made short talks.

This dinner was an event in its third edition, as it always has been, and every one present voted it a great occasion in eastern Dahlia history. It followed the regular March meeting of the Society.

One of the faces which was absent for the first time was that of Charlie Ruscher. We missed him. A message from Mrs. Ruscher was read at the meeting by Lynn Dudley at the request of Dr. Preas.

The picture shown here was the gathering of 1935, the cut of which was made last year but never published. Charlie Ruscher is the ninth from the right in the rear row.

• • •

"I missed my lunch the day before Christmas! The reason! I got interested in the A. D. S. BULLETIN and forgot it was eating time."—Oliver Shurtleff, Fairmont, West, Virginia. (Our reply to this very fine compliment was, we would rather have you miss it, than lose it over the BULLETIN.)

time and place hold a judges' meeting. Conduct a written test. Then call for certain of those present to conduct a test judging. Have everyone follow it. The test could be rehearsed ahead of time for the first example. Then have others from the floor conduct another and so on until all had qualified. These could be borderline flowers and various tests devised.

After this test the judges participating could submit to questions based on the score card, color, names and values, variety descriptions etc. A certain passing mark could be set and all who qualify on queries over that mark will be certified by the A. D. S. We can think of at least a dozen men who would, in our opinion, be

qualified to conduct the first tests. After passing the test, others would be qualified to judge at any show or trial garden—also to conduct other A. D. S. judge tests and issue certificates to those passing.

This all may sound odd. There may be much opposition to it in our Society. But if it works it would certainly advance the standards of Dahlia judging. It would make all judges keener to their responsibility and less fallible.

The A. D. S. is, and should be, looked upon as a leader in Dahlia thought and practice. If we can improve judging then that will improve exhibitions and make greater Dahlia satisfaction.

What Is to Become of the Dahlia Grower?

BY H. S. PARKER, *Muskegon, Mich.*

Editor's Note: This article has been published in *Michigan Dahlia Bulletin* and in the *Midwest Dahlia Bulletin*. We received from C. E. Wildon, with permission to use before he published it, in January. It was in type and ready to run in our last issue, but had to be left out due to lack of space. It raises some most pertinent problems—of such portent that we believe we should use same even though it has already appeared. We thank Professor Wildon and Author Parker.

WHY—seventy-five to one hundred new Dahlias this year?

WHY—not select so-called Honor Roll Dahlias from the Trial Gardens?

Questions like the above, and many others, are being asked every day by the Dahlia grower and Dahlia fan. I will not attempt to answer these questions myself, but, instead will add a few more and a possible solution for some of them.

According to reports from the Trial Gardens at East Lansing and Storrs, there were forty new Dahlias that won certificates last year, these scored between eighty-five and eighty-seven points out of a possible one hundred. Aside from this, there are over forty other varieties mentioned in so-called honor rolls by different magazines besides the foreign introductions.

What chance has the average grower to keep up to date when a hundred or more new varieties are thrust upon the market each year? Not only that, the average Dahlia fan that must purchase these varieties from the grower, cannot grow over a hundred varieties. What is the Dahlia fan to do? Is he going to dispose of the older varieties that we know to be good and take a chance on the newer ones? Personally I do not think so for two reasons. First, only two or three new Dahlias each year are really outstanding; Secondly, some of the older varieties such as Jane Cowl, Kathleen Norris, Edward Reindfleisch, Man of War and many others are much too beautiful to discard. How then can you expect the grower to succeed after he has invested in the newer varieties and finds out that the Fan is much too satisfied with the ones he now has.

One other point I would like to bring out at this time, is the fact that whenever an outstanding Dahlia is introduced, every grower in the country is crazy to market this introduction and to participate in its returns, that he starts pounding the price down to a point where no one can hope to realize any great return upon his investment. Why not reduce the price of inferior varieties and hold the price up on the outstanding Dahlia until the originator and growers have had a chance to make up some of his losses.

I am convinced that one of the first steps for the benefit of the grower and originator is to either increase the number of points required before a certificate can be awarded. Otherwise, insist that trial garden judges become hard boiled in their decisions. By this I mean, that to date each new Dahlia is judged according to points without taking into consideration varieties now on the market that are almost a duplicate in color

and growth. Why should a certificate be awarded to a variety that no one except the originator knows anything about, unless it is far superior to any variety now existing. I have seen so many seedlings that would score eighty-five points and yet are inferior to many of the older varieties that have fallen by the wayside.

Each year by the efforts of hand pollination and other means the Dahlia world as a whole are producing more and more beautiful Dahlias from seed. A few years ago it was a difficult job to produce a seedling that would score eighty-five points, but now we find that last year forty were produced on two trial gardens alone, from this angle it would seem that we must increase the number of points necessary for a certificate to at least eighty-seven points, because the Dahlia today from seed is becoming nearer perfection.

Had the number of points been raised last year to eighty-seven points, only two Dahlias would have received a certificate, one at Storrs and one at East Lansing. What a nice set up this would have been for the originators, his sales would have paid for all his failures and at the same time, guided the Dahlia fan in his purchases.

Trial Gardens are being operated throughout the country for the very purpose I speak of, and yet, we find in the magazines a long list of so-called Honor Roll Dahlias that have not been submitted to the judgment of several judges, but nevertheless are being held up as some of the outstanding Dahlias of today.

I do not wish to question the so-called honor roll in this article, but I do believe that all such Dahlias should be selected from the Trial Gardens, or at least from the same varieties that are entered on the trial gardens. Often a new seedling does not do well the first year in the trial garden, but, may make a wonderful showing in several other localities. However, I am still of the opinion that if a new seedling will not show at its best in the trial garden where it has the best of care, what can be expected of this same seedling sold elsewhere.

What a wonderful guide it would be to the grower and fan if articles could be written about the merits of Dahlias exhibited at the trial gardens. These articles giving the judgment of several judges would help to hold down the vast number of new introductions each year and would help to improve conditions in the Dahlia business.

The desire of most growers is to originate at least one outstanding seedling, not only for the financial benefit which he hopes to receive, but as a matter of satisfaction to himself. Have you ever stopped to think of what would happen if such originations were harder to achieve? I have, and I would be willing to work harder and longer, if I could feel that in the end a seedling that could and did win a certificate really meant something.

Now for my pet subject, which many growers are familiar with. This subject will probably never become popular with the majority of growers, but in my opinion, it will be one of the means of saving the Dahlia industry. As is the customary, the Dahlia grower purchases new varieties from the originator for propagation and inserts in his yearly catalogue a copy of the originator's description. This description may fit the new variety perfectly as grown by the originator under the

best of conditions, but, will this description fit the new variety as grown by the Dahlia grower or those sold to the customer fan. My thought in this matter is that the originator should be allowed to sell to the commercial grower only, for the first year, and not to the Dahlia fan. If at the end of the first season the commercial grower is satisfied with the new variety he should write his own description and consult the originator for retail price. Many well advertised and highly recommended new varieties would never reach the Dahlia fan from whom the commercial grower has to depend for his sales.

Today a grower sends out plants to his customers believing them to be all that was recommended to him, only to find that his customers are dissatisfied as well as himself. Naturally a customer loses faith and in time looks upon the Dahlia commercial growers as a bunch of swindlers, and feels safer and more content to grow what he has or those given him by his neighbor.

You will say, if we were to foster such a movement, every grower would be listing the same varieties at the same price and that the originator would lose out. On the contrary, if all growers listed certain varieties well recommended, the originator would not only benefit by his sales to the grower the first year, but, would come in for his share the second year at a price far above those existing now, because of the fight to sell at reduced prices. On the other hand, the new varieties that did not come up to the originator's standard, could be discarded and kept from the Dahlia fan. Even the originator's name would be protected from the ever criticising public.

Have you ever stopped to think of the money spent by the Automobile Industry to do away with second-hand cars so that new ones may be sold to fill their place? Then let up all take it on the chin and get rid of the seedlings that will not stand up so that the Dahlia of real merit may be sold in their place.

It is my opinion that under some such program as I have outlined, the Dahlia industry of today could become one of the best, and we would not have thousands of financially embarrassed growers striving to make a few sales, but a well organized group, submitting to the public only the best of Dahlias at prices on a par with the true value of the Dahlia and not the number of years it has been on the market. The commercial grower could make his customers and hold them under such an arrangement and the Dahlia fan would have room in his garden each year for the two or three new varieties winning trial garden certificates the year before.



Plant Importations By Mail

Experience has shown that many packages containing plant material restricted as to entry by foreign plant quarantines are daily being received in the mails without permit authorization for such entry, or in violation of a prohibition against the importation. Obviously, a large proportion of these packages are sent without any knowledge of the quarantine restrictions. At the same time an increasing tendency is noted toward the use of the mails for authorized importations.

A convenient means was established several years ago for the orderly entry under permit of restricted plant material by mail when provision exists for entry by this means. Special mailing tags are provided for the material under permit, and these tags are to be transmitted



KENTUCKY SUN

Winner of American Achievement Medal, also Courier-Journal Silver Trophy for best undisseeded seedling at Louisville in 1935. Large informal, pure yellow color.

to the sender. Instructions in four languages for sending the packages accompany the tags. Packages addressed by these tags are routed direct to the inspection station indicated on them and, after the material has passed inspection, are released to go forward to destination without the payment of additional postage.

Packages containing restricted plant material not sent forward in this manner are liable to be returned to the country of origin. However, to accord a more sympathetic treatment toward the addressee who has a package containing material of this character addressed to him but who has no permit for the entry or whose sender did not follow the instructions and use a special mailing tag, an opportunity will be given the addressee to apply for a permit to import such of the material as may be enterable by mail. Should the addresses fail to take advantage of this opportunity, disposition will be made of the package in accordance with existing postal, customs, and plant quarantine regulations covering the procedure.

Flower seeds, when free from soil, unless prohibited or restricted entry by special quarantines, do not require a permit for importation. Flower seeds are defined as seeds of annual, biennial, or even perennial flowering plants, which are essentially herbaceous, namely, plants which perish annually down to, and sometimes including, the roots.

*Lee A. Strong, Chief, Bureau of Entology and
Plant Quarantine, U. S. D. A.*

Dahlia Forum and Exchange

If there's something you would like to know—or some cultural or historic lore you would like to pass along—or if you have the itch to write about Dahlias—then this is your department. Address Sec'y Alling.

Conducted by

Secretary C. Louis Alling

251 Court Street, West Haven, Conn.

Nunneville Takes Exception to Our Remarks Re Rooted Cuttings

We received the February issue of the BULLETIN today and in looking through the Dahlia Forum and Exchange conducted by you, we noticed an article, unsigned, but supposedly to have been written by you, on "Rooted Cuttings."

If this is your answer to the several communications received of late asking what is meant by a rooted Dahlia cutting, it plainly shows that you have had little or no experience with them. We have been selling rooted cuttings for the past eight years and have shipped them as far as the Pacific Coast and up into Canada and the purchasers have had wonderful success with them. Last year we sold over 30,000 cuttings. We were compelled to enlarge our greenhouse this winter to give us greater capacity and facilities in filling orders for cuttings. If you are right in your contentions, then the people who send us orders for cuttings year after year and even the amateurs who send us repeat orders nearly every season, are wrong, and did not know they were wrong until after they read your article.

A great many of the first prize blooms, even in the A. D. S. Show at New York, are grown from rooted cuttings. Most all the winning blooms of America's Sweetheart, the Dahlia that won more of the important prizes in the leading shows last year than any other Dahlia released during 1935, were grown from cuttings supplied by us.

It may require a full page to list the winnings made with blooms grown from Dahlia cuttings and another page to tell what little we know about Dahlia cuttings in their various stages of growth. This would be a great advertisement for us and may send many to us who had never before tried rooted cuttings, to the detriment of those who sell roots and plants only. Perhaps some of the fellows with the one-track mind would not like it at all.

William H. Nunneville.

Comment by the Forum Editor

The Forum is a place where anyone is welcome to express an opinion on Dahlia matters. We are glad to publish Mr. Nunneville's letter on the subject of rooted cuttings despite the fact that he does not agree with us. However, we are not alone in this opinion as the National Association of Commercial Dahlia Growers have gone on record as being opposed to the sale of rooted cuttings.

What have some of our readers to say on the subject? We should be glad to hear the experiences of some of those who have tried rooted cuttings.

How Long Leave Roots Undug?

Question by Ray W. Barber, Peace Dale, R. I.

There is, and has been for some time in this locality, a moot question as regards the advisability of when to dig our Dahlias. We are subjected, in this latitude, to a killing frost in the latter part of October, or early November, which entirely destroys all growth above the ground. The weather for the next three or four weeks thereafter is mild and suitable to the growth of this flower. One faction of growers contend that the clumps should be dug within a week from this frost. Personally, I claim that the roots should remain in the ground during the following mild period, which would lengthen the "ripening" period by nearly a month, at the same time shortening the storage period a month.

Opponents to this plant claim that this period in the ground, following frost, would start the eyes out anew, thus being detrimental to the tubers.

Would like to hear from some of the larger growers, or readers, regarding this question, and its solution, through the columns of your BULLETIN.

Honor Rolls will not be published in the BULLETIN next year. There are too many of them. The A. D. S. Honor Roll is represented by the Certificates awarded at our trial grounds. Reports from both Storrs and East Lansing will be made in the February issue.

Rhodoaenus tredecimpunctatus III

We received a short time ago a enquiry from Mr. Howard B. Blair of Earlington, Kentucky, regarding a borer which was doing much damage in Dahlias in his section of the country. We immediately had visions of European Corn Borer and took the matter up with the Bureau of Entomology of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Mr. Blair very kindly supplied specimens of the insect which were identified as billbug or snout-bettle. We were later informed that this insect had made it appearance in Illinois where it was thought that it had blown in with the dust storms in the Spring.

We are now in receipt of a communication from Mr. C. A. Weigel, Senior Entomologist, in charge of inves-

tigations of insects affecting greenhouse and ornamental plants of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. We are very grateful to Mr. Weigel for the information supplied and are happy to publish his letter with the hope that the information given may prove a value to our members who are troubled with this pest.

"Specialists of the Taxonomic Unit of this Bureau have identified the specimen as the cocklebur billbug (*Rhodobaenus tredecimpunctatus* Ill.), which has, during the last year or two, caused some concern to Dahlia growers, even though in the past its occurrence on Dahlia has been rather rare. It is also a common pest of ironweed, and breeds in stalks of sunflowers, Joe Pye weed (*Eupatorium*), leaf cup (*Polymnia*), cocklebur (*Xanthium*), thistle, ragweed, evening primrose, and seed stalks of sugar beet. It occurs in the warmer parts of eastern North America, in Central America, and South America.

"It has been reported as long ago as 1905 as being an occasional pest of Dahlias in Tennessee, and in certain years becomes quite serious. The adults of this insect live over winter in trash, then appear in May and early June, and lay eggs in the tender stalks. They construct a shallow, elongate cavity in the upper part of tender stems by means of their mouthparts and place this elongate white egg in the center of the cavity, covering it with bits of shredded tissue attached at either end of the cavity. The eggs are abundant during the first two weeks in June in the more northern range, and are probably present sometime earlier in the South. The larva hatches, bores into the pith of the stalk, and hollows out the pith for a foot or more near the base of the plant. In early August it completes feeding, forms a cell in the stem, and after a short pupation period the adults emerge from the stems in late August or September. This adult is a red and black beetle about $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long with 13 spots on the back and a long curved snout on its head.

"With regard to control, the following suggestions may be of value:

"The beetles are rather conspicuously colored and collection of them on the plants in the early Spring before egg-laying takes place might be of help. The beetles feed rather sparingly and probably poison sprays would be of little help. The beetles are rather strong fliers, so they may come in from some distance, although local destruction of nearby weed hosts which are harboring larvae would be advisable *at once* to kill insects before they emerge as adults and hibernate to infest next year's crop.

"Since adults apparently deposit their eggs in May and early June, and since Dahlias may be planted rather late in the season for production of good plants, delaying the planting of tubers so that young shoots would not be present until after the beetles disappeared might be the simplest means of avoiding trouble. Also, since the egg cavities become blackened and are rather conspicuous on the green stems, they may be located and the egg within destroyed before the larvae hatches.

"If an infestation is not discovered until late in the season there is little that can be done, except to stake the plants well and prevent the breaking over of the stems, so that the plants may not be entirely lost.

"The stalks might be slit up one side and the larva or pupae removed. The injection of small amounts of carbon disulphide might be used to kill the larva and prevent emergence of adults, but no information is available regarding the effects on the plant of this chemical, which we therefore hesitate to recommend.

"There is another possibility that one of the so-called sap-feeding beetles, which at times enter the burrows of other insects, may be mistaken for these pests. Usu-

ally these will be found in the immature state, and not fully colored until after emergence from the stem.

"We regret that no more definite advice regard the control of this pest is available. We hope, however, that the information furnished will aid you in advising your correspondent.

"C. A. Weigel, Senior Entomologist, In Charge
*Investigations of Insects Affecting Greenhouse
and Ornamental Plants.*"

How R. W. Webb Gets New A. D. S. Members

I want you to know that I for one sincerely appreciate the BULLETIN in its present form. However, if as you say, it can be still further improved, I am for the improvement. Personally I use the BULLETIN to secure new members to the American Dahlia Society, giving sample copies to those who I meet that are interested in Dahlias and inviting them to join. During 1935 I sent in ten new members paid in advance and I don't know how many others sent their memberships direct to Mr. Alling as a direct result of sample copies of the BULLETIN and my invitation to join us. Yes, I appreciate the BULLETIN as is. But, will appreciate any possible improvement still more. While I don't like to hand out too much praise, I do appreciate your effort in making it what it is today and if you were to quit the job I don't know where the Society would get anyone to carry on. If all members would secure even one new member each year it would not be long until the Society should be in a position to pay you something for your time and efforts.

R. W. Webb.

Veteran Dahlia Grower Celebrates Fifteenth Year—Offers \$500 for Half-inch Dahlia

W. W. Wilmore, of Denver, Colorado, founded the Wilmore Dahlia Farm fifty years ago, and has just issued its Golden Jubilee Catalogue celebrating this long and rarely equalled Dahlia experience.

As a fitting memorial to this half a century of Dahlia culture, Mr. Wilmore has made an offer of a prize of \$500 to anyone who will originate a Dahlia of one-half inch diameter.

Mr. Wilmore states: "In my experience the smallest Dahlia I have grown is the red pompon, Bell of Springfield, measuring just about one inch. But I do not consider it beyond the realm of possibility for someone to soon produce one half that size. And to encourage them I am most pleased to make a prize for them of \$500 if they succeed."

"The offer of \$500 stipulates," says Mr. Wilmore, "that the half inch bloom have the shape and style of a Dahlia and have real, commercial value in floral work." He states further, "It is also a condition of the award, that I receive complete control of the stock of the variety."

The firm of the Wilmore Dahlia Farm and Nursery is now under the management of Scott Wilmore, son of the founder, but the Golden Jubilee Plan is the idea of Wilmore senior. The A. D. S. congratulates Mr. Wilmore as one of the veteran growers of the country. He has been a frequent contributor to the BULLETIN and most of us feel that we know him personally.

How May We Improve the Trial Grounds?

By Charles Reed

Chairman A. D. S. Trial Grounds Committee

At this time of year the growers who have a few good seedlings are no doubt considering sending them to one of the A. D. S. Official Trial Gardens. May I urge all these growers to do so, and send for their entry forms at once. You know you can't plant five hundred varieties in a space that has been prepared for two hundred varieties, so that is just what the directors of the Trial Gardens are up against. They do not want to prepare too much space and yet they must have enough for all the varieties sent on trial. Therefore, if you will make your entry now it will help them greatly at this busy time with them. Send your roots to arrive the latter part of May, but make your entry now.

At the annual meeting of the A. D. S. I suggested that the judges at the Trial Garden be given more power by not awarding a Dahlia a certificate if it was almost exactly the same in color and formation as some Dahlia now on the market. I am asking the reader if this should be done or shall we adhere to the score-card and give no consideration by comparison with other Dahlias now in commerce? This is a question that deserves much thought but the Trial Garden Committee are ever ready to consider suggestions from the members of the A. D. S. If the reader thinks that the Dahlias should be scored by the present system now in use at the official gardens and not by comparison, would the reader be willing to pay from \$10 up for a new Dahlia that is no better than some Dahlia that could be bought for a dollar or less?

This question seems absurd. However, it is possible to happen. We all know that there are now several new Dahlias coming on the market every year that are almost exact duplicates of Dahlias that we have known for years. Is it the purpose of the Trial Gardens judges to simply score the Dahlias as they see them, or are they for the purpose of only allowing improved Dahlias receiving certificates? This is another important question and one that the Trial Garden Committee would like discussed by the members. Should we in the future raise the certificate winning score from 85 to 87 points? This was suggested by Mr. Harry S. Parker of Muskegon, Michigan, in the March issue of the Dahlia Society of Michigan Bulletin (see Mr. Parker's article on another page this BULLETIN) along with other interesting suggestions. He mentions if this was done only two Dahlias would have received certificates last season instead of about forty. What is your opinion on this vital matter?

With our great advancement in the Dahlia industry we must admit it is very much easier to develop a Dahlia that will score 85 points now than it was five or ten years ago, so perhaps we should raise the certificate winning score to 86 or 87. It is worth considering for 1937 trials. I have given the reader a few thoughts on subjects that confront the officials of the A. D. S. and especially the Trial Garden Committee whose duties are to conduct the Trial Gardens on a high level and from time to time through the suggestions and cooperation of our members adopt new rules and regulations for the improvement of the Trial Gardens.

We sincerely ask the members to send in their suggestion and especially their opinion or answers to my ques-

tions herein. It is possible soon there will be more official Trial Gardens so it is imperative that we be prepared to the best of our ability to adopt new rules if necessary for scoring the Dahlias and general improvement of the Trial Gardens of the future.

I have received several interesting suggestions the past few weeks and we want more suggestions from our interested members. You may send suggestions direct to me at Lawrence, Massachusetts, and I assure you whatever your suggestion may be it will receive due consideration by our committee. Please remember that we are planning not so much for this season as it is now too late, but for the future Trial Garden operation. I might add that the directors will instruct the judges that no weak stem Dahlia can receive a certificate this year no matter how beautiful it may be in color. The directors have the veto power of withholding awarding certificates this power was conferred upon them by the founders of the American Dahlia Society. We shall also try to eliminate awarding a Dahlia a certificate and then describe its faults in the report.

You may secure entry forms from Roland H. Patch, Storrs, Connecticut, or C. E. Wildon, East Lansing, Michigan. It now looks as if the Trial Gardens were to be the measuring stick for the Dahlias of the future. Be prepared by sending that seedling to the trials this season. It only costs \$3.00 to send three roots or plants of one variety. You get them back at digging time by paying express charges. Kindly remember that the official Trial Gardens are your gardens, therefore you should interest yourself in giving them your support by offering suggestions for their improvement and sending your new Dahlias for trial.

Charles G. Reed, Chairman Trial Garden Committee.



CORRECTION

In the last issue of the BULLETIN, on page 16, under the heading, "Some Winners and Others at the A. D. S. Show," you have reported J. A. Kemp as the originator of America's Sweetheart. This is a mistake as we are the originators and introducers of this variety.

As far as we are concerned this little mistake did not interest us until we commenced to receive letters from foreign countries to verify this, they feeling that the BULLETIN went in for 100% accuracy, and that we were claiming something that we were not entitled to. Even the leading paper in Sydney, Australia, featured America's Sweetheart as Kemp's origination. You know it takes time to answer such letters.

If you care to take the trouble and time to investigate you will find that America's Sweetheart won more of the important prizes in the leading shows than any other variety released the same year, 1935, and that it is not even an Honor Roll Dahlia.

If it is not too much trouble will you kindly correct this little mistake in the next issue. It will take a lot of work off our shoulders.

William H. Nunneville, Salem, New Jersey.

We are most glad to correct our error and to apologize at the same time. Still, Mr. Nunneville, you must admit that this error has demonstrated that the BULLETIN is read by many people all over the world who are enthusiasts about new varieties.—*The Editor.*

Semi-Annual Meeting March 21st

The semi-annual get-to-gether meeting of the society was held on Saturday, March 21st, in the Tea Room of the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City. In spite of severe flood conditions, which no doubt prevented many members from attending, there were nearly a hundred members present who enjoyed a somewhat informal meeting.

President Fraser opened the meeting with a few well chosen remarks of welcome. He then called on the secretary-treasurer, C. Louis Alling for a short report. The secretary spoke of the changes being made in handling the membership details, which have for many years been handled through the office of our former treasurer, Mrs. Rathgeber. Dues collections have been most encouraging and a large number of new members have been welcomed since the first of the year.

Vice-president, Lynn Dudley, outlined the plans of the committee to make the A. D. S. more National. He illustrated his talk by the use of two large charts explaining the proposed geographical separations. The plan will be found in detail elsewhere in this BULLETIN.

Professor C. E. Wildon, who is in charge of our Mid-West Gardens at East Lansing, Mich., gave a very interesting talk on conditions in this garden and spoke of the behavior of various varieties. The plants were scored nearly every other day by competent judges and 20 varieties out of 111 entries were certified. Professor Wildon, who is also secretary of the Michigan Dahlia Society gave an outline of the plans for the coming National Show in Detroit. He stated that the Convention Hall had been secured insuring ample space as this has several rooms of more than a acre in extent. The Federated Garden Clubs are cooperating and a very extensive advertising program is being planned in both the newspapers and by radio. Plans are also being made for placing a large decorated float on the streets of Detroit prior to the show.

The cooperation of a large automobile manufacturer is expected, which will insure the attendance of at least 30,000 people. A large showing of new varieties is anticipated as there will be at least 25,000 seedlings grown in Michigan alone this year.

Mr. Oliver Shurtleff of Fairmont, West Virginia, was the next speaker. He said he had come through by the first means of transportation out of his section of the state in several days. This was by bus and he was 18 hours on the road—Friend Shurtleff is surely a real Dahlia "Fan." He urged the members to attend the shows and meetings and become closer to the society. The West Virginia Show will be held in Fairmont on September 11th and 12th and an invitation to all A. D. S. members to attend is extended. Mr. Shurtleff read a very interesting report prepared by Professor Lautenbach showing the mean average of all Dahlias entered in two or more Trial Gardens during 1935.

Mrs. Georgena Humble, chairman of our Garden Club Section was called upon by President Fraser and responded with a few brief remarks. Dr. H. H. Smith of Rocky River, Ohio, was present as was Mr. R. W. Webb, of Scranton, Pennsylvania, and were introduced by President Fraser.

The meeting adjourned at about six p. m. after which many of the members attended the annual dinner at Long Beach, Long Island, which is given by a group of Long Island Dahlia enthusiasts.

C. Louis Alling, Secretary.

Publications Received

West Virginia Dahlia Society Bulletin. March, 1936. Volume 6, No. 1. Edited by Oliver Shurtleff. Feature, a one Dahlia honor roll by the editor. Address, 1264 Bryant Street, Fairmont, West Virginia.

* * * *

Bulletin of the Dahlia Society of Michigan. Number 20. January, 1936. C. E. Wildon, Editor. Feature, report of the A. D. S. midwest trial ground. Committees for 1935, with list of certificate winners. Address, East Lansing, Michigan.

* * * *

Official Bulletin, Central States Dahlia Society, volume 6, No. 1. Issue of March, 1936. Edited by J. Louis Roberts. Feature article, its a tough decision but we hand it to the editor's son, Evan, who wrote an article on the ravages of the Bill Bug or Rhodobaenus tredecimpunctatus, for which his dad assumed the authorship. Address, 12147 Harvard Avenue, Chicago.

* * * *

Midwest Dahlia News, Spring Edition, volume 14, No. 3. Published and edited by D. O. Eldredge. Full of interesting Dahlia information and personalities. Feature article, "Arrangements of Dahlias," by C. E. Wildon, and "W. W. Wilmore's Fiftieth Anniversary." Editorial by Mr. Eldredge says in regard to the nationalization program of the A. D. S. that "everyone is anxious for a strong national organization, but it must be an organization devoted to the thought of equal consideration for all sections of the country and composed of representation from each section. In the last issue of this publication, this writer promised to express his views on a nationalization program. Believing that the A. D. S. committee is entitled to a fair opportunity for suggesting a program, and since this has not yet been released for scrutinizing, this writer is rather hesitant about carrying out his promise, as it might appear untimely." Then he goes on to express some thoughts about building a National Society with a firm foundation and advises it "should be nothing more than an executive committee made up of representatives of sectional societies, and sectional societies should be in a similar form with representatives from the State societies. State and local societies must be founded on active memberships. Financing of the national and sectional groups could be handled by a per capita assessment on membership in affiliated State societies." . . . "Since a national show is truthfully an impossibility there would be no need for one. At present four sections or districts would amply take care of the entire country. An eastern, southern, midwestern and Pacific coast division as to sections would be sufficient, with the opportunity of further division as the need might be in the future." Address, 170 Talmadge Street, Madison, Wis.

* * * *

"Soil Testing," a practical system of soil diagnosis, by C. H. Spurway, Section of Soils, Michigan State College, East Lansing Agricultural Experiment Station. Bulletin No. 132 revised. Color illustrations and charts, 46 pages. A most complete and valuable treatise. Copies available, one to a person, on request.

• • •

Please let me know if my advertisement is missing I never want to see an A. D. S. BULLETIN printed without my ad. —Harley T. Peck, Lebanon, Ohio.

THREE SUPER DAHLIA SHOWS

Plan Now To Attend Them All

The A. D. S. NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Conventional Hall, Detroit

September 18th and 19th

A Schedule of 22 Sections, arranged on A. D. S. plan of color display of every type of Dahlia.

Ribbons, and many valuable prizes, including generous cash awards are offered to winners.

Classes for children, novice, amateurs and commercials.

For Show Schedules write

PROFESSOR C. E. WILDON
East Lansing, Michigan

The MID-WEST SHOW

at Cincinnati Ohio

Hotel Netherland Plaza

September 26th and 27th

A Schedule teeming with opportunity for winning by every type of grower on every type of Dahlia in 14 classifications.

Generous cash prizes and special sweep-stake awards as well as ribbons are offered.

Come and Exhibit.

For Show Schedule write

G. A. RICHARDSON
Mt. Washington, Box 403, Cincinnati, O.

The A. D. S. Annual New York Show

Hotel Pennsylvania, September 23rd and 24th

Preliminary Schedules have been mailed to all members within convenient showing distance, and will be sent to all others on request. A Final Schedule will be sent, together with entry forms and admission tickets to all Society members in good standing August 1.

You Can Attend All Three Shows and Find the Trip Worth While

For additional information, write C. LOUIS ALLING, 251 Court St., West Haven, Conn.

The AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

Notes on National Planning

Continued from Page 12

As a member of the American Dahlia Society you might list the following as benefits of membership.

1. The A. D. S. BULLETIN.
2. Personal satisfaction in helping to shape National Plans for Dahlia Progress such as:
 - a. Classifications of types.
 - b. Nomenclature.
 - c. Scoring rules for bench and field.
 - d. Judging.
 - e. Quarantines for spreading pests.
 - f. Study of diseases.
 - g. Culture and propagation.
 - h. Standards of exhibition.
3. Personal satisfaction in election to office of National Body. (Every member is eligible to officership.)
4. Desire to stimulate interest of more people in Dahlias, and to provide national interchange of Dahlia information and standards.

"You will need more than four exhibition zones. From my experience with the American Rock Garden Society I feel that you will need to divide the four original zones into North and South divisions. For instance, Seattle and Los Angeles are over a thousand miles apart. We also found that an executive board formed from officers of State Member Societies was too unwieldy. So we formed a smaller executive committee, appointed from the board by the President, with a quorum of five."—Mrs. Henrietta M. Stout, Short Hills, New Jersey.

All national societies, to be successful must have finances. Most national organizations depend for finances principally on a fee, or assessment, on members of their component or divisional bodies. This fee is usually made a part of the dues of the local member units and collected when the local membership is collected. Another frequent source of revenue for national bodies is the registration fee collected at all conventions. Dahlia societies seldom have collected such a fee at shows (which are our conventions). We doubt that such a source of revenue would be advisable or collectable at a Dahlia show. So it almost becomes a "must" that necessary support for a National Dahlia Society must be an equal "fee" paid by all who participate in its benefits.

What the amount of that fee should be, has occasioned a lot of discussion. Perhaps none of us know how much the operation will cost, nor how much benefit there will be to the individual. But, if the National Society, gives its BULLETIN, four issues or more per year, to all its members, and charges the present \$1.00 subscription price for that magazine, and throws in full participation in the National Society Program with that subscription, surely no one will claim that they don't receive full value. If the BULLETIN is worth anything, its worth \$1.00 per year.

"In the main, this plan is very good, and should bring out a great deal of interest and comment. I have been trying to get the members of the Michigan society to subscribe an extra dollar, for some time, and pay same

for A. D. S. membership right when they pay Michigan dues. I believe that all State Society members should be members of the A. D. S. I believe the State Unit is the right plan for Vice President membership on National Officer List."—C. E. Wildon, Secretary Michigan Dahlia Society, East Lansing, Michigan.

"Don't look at nationalization alone from an income point of view. You will have to sell your prospects, first that membership in a National Society is desirable. I know the A. D. S. BULLETIN is worth the \$1.00 charge for National Membership and more, but you will have to persuade the membership of all Dahlia Societies that this is true. Don't try to force a society to affiliate at \$10.00 per year and then ask their membership to join at \$1.00 each as well."—J. Louis Roberts, Past President Central States Society.

"I believe the plan as far as I can judge it is good. I do believe that keeping it within our present constitution and by-laws as far as is practicable is the right idea. Making it operative for membership and officership along State lines as far as possible should result in the greatest measure of coöperation from joining societies, is my sincere belief."—George Fraser, President A. D. S.

"I do not think we should hold Branch Society Membership to a minimum of one hundred. Fifty would be ample and they could grow—that's what all of us want—stronger and bigger local societies, isn't it?"—Mrs. Frieda Fisher, Vice President, Trenton, New Jersey.

New Dahlia Book by Wildon

Professor C. E. Wildon is author of "Dahlia Culture, History and Classification"

This new book on Dahlias, called "Special Bulletin No. 266" written by Professor C. E. Wildon of Michigan State College at East Lansing is without question one of the best and most complete books on Dahlias ever compiled.

The author, who is also in charge of the A. D. S. Trial Grounds, is the head of the Agricultural Experiment Station at East Lansing, and Secretary of the Michigan Dahlia Society. He is one of the most dynamic, hard working Dahlia men in the whole United States. And how he found time in the midst of his many duties, to write and compile this splendid work is beyond the knowledge of anyone but himself. He acknowledges thanks to F. C. Bradford and C. E. Hoxie for their assistance in the preparation of the booklet. Also the section on insects was written by E. I. McDaniel, and on Dahlia diseases is by Ray Nelson.

These men have combined to produce a work which should be in every Dahlia enthusiast's library.

We asked Professor Wildon, just how strongly we could recommend the book to our members, and how much it would cost them to secure a copy. He replied they would be sent to individuals gratis, but not more than one copy could be sent to one address. But he also stated that if anyone desired to make recompense for the booklet, any remittance of 25c would not be refused. And we can state positively that they are worth several times that amount to anyone who loves Dahlias.

News About Dahlias and Dahlia Societies

The Midwest Show Develops

Enthusiasm seems to be waxing strong for a marvelous Midwest Dahlia Show at Cincinnati, September 26th and 27th.

Meetings are being held at frequent intervals and speakers who have real Dahlia experience are addressing the gatherings. It would be apparent to almost anyone, not a Dahlia grower, that things "are doing" in this section.

A sixty-four page booklet with schedule has been issued and distribution of it has been planned to a wide area. Everyone who grows Dahlias with anything like convenient showing distances and many beyond are being solicited to grow exhibition blooms and bring them to Cincinnati.

The schedule is most complete in all classes, giving every amateur, semi-commercial and commercial every opportunity to win.

G. A. Richardson reports that inquiries about the show are beyond fondest expectations.

The Ohio Valley Dahlia Association have engaged along with the beautiful "Hall of Mirrors" two exhibition halls, two foyers and the famous "Pavilion Caprice" totalling 30,000 square feet of as appropriate and beautiful a setting as can be imagined or desired. To be privileged to see or exhibit in this third Midwest Dahlia exhibition is really the thrill that comes once in a lifetime.

Keep pace with the development of this huge show by obtaining the sixty-four page schedule booklet, also the prospectus folder which explains every detail of the exhibition. To show your blooms at this truly national as well as Midwest classic will be like a champion stepping into the limelight with glitter and applause ringing and being demonstrated on all sides.

Commercial trade space will be at a premium before long, therefore the wisest thing to do is engage your space now thus insuring a place with the elites of the Dahlia kingdom. An advertisement in the show schedule booklet is still to be obtained but not for long as forms close June 15th. Better be all set for this master of all shows.

This will be a gathering place for practically all the notables throughout the country that are engaged in Dahlia culture. The list of Judges alone comprise a marvelous roster. With all due respect to other shows that have been staged and still others that are to be put on, this exhibition from all earmarks should be the feature display of the season.

Echoes of entry that can be expected cover a multitude of the best seedlings, Honor Roll and Certificate of Merit varieties, best of the foreign sorts and a color scene that lacks only the true blue to be complete.

The O. V. D. A. humbly bows to this magnificent flower which has now developed such magnetism that only the keenest sort of application by not only the Ohio Valley and its affiliated societies but all societies throughout the States and Canada will do it justice.

Members of the A. D. S. everywhere are cordially invited to come to this great Dahlia exhibition. Bring your friends.

G. A. Richardson.

Dahlia Society of Ohio

Reported by F. V. R. Veirs

The society held meetings in November, December, January, February and March. Seventy-five were present at Hotel Cleveland November 8th. Vice-President E. J. Wind, presided. Among the most welcome reports by officers was that of Treasurer E. V. Newton that the society ends the year with a plus balance. After all that was undertaken, and obligations assumed in connection with the show, this was indeed welcome news.

The December meeting was held on the thirteenth and the election of officers took place. The following officers were unanimously elected: President, E. J. Wind, North Olmsted, Ohio; First Vice-President, James T. Watson, Cleveland Heights; Second Vice-President, H. H. Robens, Chagrin Falls; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Chris. Wind, Rocky River; Fourth Vice-President, Joseph Maresch, Bedford; Recording Secretary, C. C. Rankin, Cleveland; Corresponding Secretary, A. F. Hauch, 3274 West 130th Street, Cleveland, Ohio; Treasurer, E. V. Newton, Cleveland.

Messrs. Wind, Deland and Watson who represented the society at the formation of the Midwest Dahlia Conference at Fort Wayne, Indiana, gave a detailed report.

It was decided to hold the annual banquet at the Hotel Cleveland, January 10th, preceding the regular monthly meeting.

The first meeting of the new year was held January 10th and was preceded by a banquet in the Bronze Room, with about fifty members present. Speeches were taboo, and after all the plates were cleaned up, the members adjourned to the Rose Room where the business meeting was opened by Mrs. C. L. Seith. After a few appropriate remarks, in which she thanked all the members for their help and work during the last year, she turned the chair over to our new President, E. J. Wind. Mr. Wind, after a few remarks, presented Mrs. Seith with a traveling bag, given by the members of the society as a slight token of appreciation.

Dr. Smith gave a short talk and explained more fully the method of judging used for the first time at the recent A. D. S. Show at New York.

The question of a date for the 1936 exhibition was discussed and it was voted to hold the show September 12th-13th, probably at the Lake Erie exhibition in a new Floricultural Hall to be erected.

February Meeting

The meeting of February 14th was held in the usual quarters at the Hotel Cleveland, President E. J. Wind presiding. It was one of those very cold nights and only twenty-five members were present. Our hard working John Strassen was absent and I am told this is the first regular meeting he has been absent for more than two years and he lives sixty miles from Cleveland. We need a lot of members like that to keep things moving.

Mr. Wind introduced the speaker of the evening, Mrs. J. P. Erwin, who gave a very interesting talk on International relations. Following Mrs. Erwin, Messrs. Wind, Deland and Joseph Maresch discussed stem rot. This is certainly a great subject and was intelligently discussed. Stem rot destroys more Dahlias than anything

else in the late fall and early winter and should be watched closely. This year I understand most all of the roots of one great new Dahlia was destroyed by stem rot.

Prior to the regular meeting the executive committee had dinner at Harveys. Mr. Maresch, chairman of the committee, appointed Messrs. Robins, Hawkins and Veirs on his committee for the next two meetings.

March Meeting

Notwithstanding the fact it was Friday, the 13th, it was well attended, there being forty-four members present. Before the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, a drawing was held to ascertain the winners of the door prizes. Mrs. Gertrude Strassen was the happy winner of Spinning Wheel donated by the originator, Mr. Robins, and J. W. Speed was the winner of a root of Judge Samuel Seabury, donated by Joseph Maresch.

Mr. Hawkins gave a detailed report of the feasibility of planting a border of Dahlias at the Harvey Rice Memorial School garden and also at the Benjamin Franklin School, the work to be done by the students of East Tech Horticultural classes and to be supervised by the professor of horticulture. We think this is one of the greatest steps forward we have ever taken for eventually we expect to have a trial grounds or an exhibition plot patterned after the Dahlia gardens in the botanical gardens in New York.

There was quite a discussion as to where the next show will be held in Cleveland. It has been generally understood the show would be held in the Horticultural Hall on the grounds of the Great Lakes Exhibition but there were some objections raised but no decision was made on account of the absence of Mr. E. V. Newton who is an officer in the exhibition organization and has all the data pertaining to that location.

There was no official action taken in regards to the National Show in Detroit and the Midwest Show in Cincinnati, but every grower that I have talked to in this section with the exception of one or two is planning to go to both shows and wants to take all the blooms possible and to help in any other way.

The speaker of the evening, Mr. Van Kleek, of the Templin Bradley Co., was introduced by Mr. Wind and what a speaker he was. His subject was insects. He illustrated his lecture by the use of colored slides which was educational as well as interesting to Dahlia growers and growers of any other flowers and plants. According to the speaker we have some four hundred insects to fight. In my ignorance I had been alarmed at some dozen or more that I am familiar with but he showed slides of a hundred or more that we should know about.

Mrs. MacDowell followed Mr. Van Kleek with a very fine talk on propagation.

After the regular meeting adjourned we had a few discussions in the cloak room and elsewhere and it might be interesting for the judges at the last midwest show to know that the Cleveland group were well satisfied with the judging and wish to thank them all for an honest effort and what we thought was a job well done. We hope to have all of you with us again.

We also want the folks to know that the discussion that took place at the midwest banquet and meeting in Cleveland was not put on as a special show for the visitors although it was regrettable, it was honest opinions given by both sides. Everybody is happy now and everyone in the middle west is pulling hard for the National Show in Detroit and the midwest in Cincinnati. I have never seen a more united front to make

both shows great successes. We want to see the elite east, the aristocratic south, the native sons of the west, our neighbors from Canada and all "youse guys" from in between and the middle west there with your flowers and your smiles.

Oliver Shurtleff Visits the Ohio Valley Dahlia Association

Exercising his usual sense of humor Oliver Shurtleff began by saying that Cincinnati was the first large city he ever had the privilege to visit, also that it was the first city in which he really became lost. Well this time he seemed to have his itinerary well worked out and being among friends he certainly blended into a wholesome evening of lecture, conversation and general confab. Greetings from both the West Virginia Society and the A. D. S. were extended for which the Ohio Valley Dahlia Association are gracious. A few echoes from the A. D. S. Show at New York was interestingly given. Mr. Shurtleff stated that over 1,000 Dahlia shows were staged last season. That surely bespeaks the magnetic power this "King of the Autumn" flowers really has on the public at large.

Mr. Shurtleff further stated that twenty-one varieties appeared in two or more of the Trial Grounds last season. He cited instances of certain varieties and their performances in these Trial Grounds. Performance in Trial Grounds, garden and show, usually determines the value of that variety.

Continuing on the subject of judging or selecting a so-called Honor Roll he urged that a Dahlia table be submitted to the public to aid in their selection when buying the new varieties. This table to be compiled from the actual performances of the new seedlings in three or more Trial Grounds. He stated that this would in a great degree eliminate the possibility of any personal likes or dislikes entering into an Honor Roll selection.

Nothing was truer in his statements than when he quoted what the Dean of his Teachers College said: "There is always some hopes for a man who loves flowers," that indeed is sound logic. He urged that every person should engage in the culture of flowers and especially to affiliate with a flower club or society.

Soil testing entered into Mr. Shurtleff's conversation. Definite stress was made that you engage your County agricultural agents for soil testing and gathering other valuable information.

Questions and answers engaged a greater part of Mr. Shurtleff's address, also his after time of conversation. Having to be at the depot at 12 o'clock midnight for his return home his delightful sojourn was filled nearly up to this late hour by numerous persons in conversation. Always showing a most cheerful attitude he seemed to derive much satisfaction in answering questions. Program Chairman M. Y. Thomas is to be complimented in having Mr. Shurtleff address the O. V. D. A. This being the fourth 1936 open meeting for the membership of the

(Continued on page 31)

MIDWEST DAHLIA SHOW

September 26 and 27
Hotel Netherland Plaza
Cincinnati - Ohio

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 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."

GEORGE FRASER, *President*
Willimantic, Connecticut

C. LOUIS ALLING, *Secretary and Treasurer*
251 Court Street, West Haven, Connecticut

LYNN B. DUDLEY, *Vice-President and Editor*
18 Interlaken Drive, Tuckahoe, New York.

Editorial

Planting time is here again.

* * * *

We hope you have some of the glorious new Dahlia novelties. If you haven't ordered them yet it's not too late.

* * * *

See the list of catalogues offered in this issue. Most of these firms are personally known to us. From this list and BULLETIN advertisers you are sure to find something you will be proud to grow.

* * * *

Thank you, friends for the fine response to the editor's offer of miniature seed to the photo fund of the BULLETIN. The results were more than we expected. We hope everyone got their money's worth. If you ordered and did not be sure to tell the editor.

* * * *

The plan to increase the service of the American Dahlia Society as a national organization is offered to our members in this issue with the hope that each one will consider the project carefully. The Dahlia is worthy of whatever time we can give to it. A truly National Dahlia Society can take Dahlia enthusiasm at its flood and make it a perpetual source of enjoyment, not only for our own, but for future generations. If you, with Lord Bacon, "do seek to receive countenance and profit" from your profession, we invite you to be a "help and an ornament" to the Dahlia nationally.

The Leisure League of America has just counted up and estimated that America spends four billions a year for its leisure time pursuits. Photography takes \$250,000,000, musical instruments \$23,000,000, books about \$146,000,000, and seeds, flowers and flowering plants \$107,000,000. We don't presume that they have figured out how much of that is for Dahlias. But it can't be more than the last \$7,000,000.

* * * *

Our President, George Fraser, is the author of a splendid Dahlia article entitled: "Now the Dahlia Has Its Day" in the May issue of *Better Homes and Gardens*. In it he notes the general trend toward greater Dahlia interest everywhere. He includes cultural directions and comes very close to offering another Honor Roll. But certainly no one can charge him with using his list of personal favorites as publicity for his own introductions. There are twelve Dahlias in his preference list.

Registration

WHITE BEAUTY, formal decorative. By The Dahlia Farm, W. L. W. Darnell, East Moriches, L. I., N. Y. White. Similar in form and habit to Jersey's Beauty.

• • •

Warren Maytrott Recovering

A. D. S. Past President Warren Maytrott, of Vine-land, has been ill for several months. He has had several operations, the last one being tonsilectomy. His oldest daughter also had the latter operation at the same time as her father.

We hear that he is definitely on the road to recovery. We are glad that he is better and hope to have him back at our next meeting.

When he attended the January A. D. S. meeting he lost his brief case on his way home—with some valuable papers of more interest to him than anyone else. If anyone hears of its being found please communicate with Mr. Maytrott.

• • •

Additions to the Editorial Staff of this BULLETIN will be announced in the next issue. We will not run an amateur contest, but we are searching for share-the-honor-and-work folks who have ability.

Clarence R. Sherman

Clarence R. Sherman, of Bridgeport, Connecticut, passed away on April 14th after a long illness. Mr. Sherman was an early and staunch supporter of the A. D. S. He was associated with the late George C. Meachem under the firm name of Meachem and Sherman until Mr. Meachem's death several years ago, since which time, due to poor health, Mr. Sherman has not been active in the Dahlia business. Their exhibits at our earlier exhibitions will be well remembered by our older members. They also introduced some well known varieties, Elsie Daniels and Uncle Sam being among them. Mr. Sherman leaves a widow and several children to whom we extend our sympathies.

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CINCINNATI, OHIO

Committees for 1936

Executive Committee—W. L. W. Darnell, Miss Virginia Stout, Gordon Wasser, Roland H. Patch, E. J. O'Keefe, R. W. Webb, and all ex-presidents.

Nomenclature Committee—Dr. Marshall A. Howe, Chairman; Warren W. Maytrott, Prof. Charles Connors, Prof. Roland H. Patch, Derrill W. Hart.

Show Committee—Derrill W. Hart, Chairman; John Vincent, Ernest Gould, Livingston McDowell, James Kennedy, Anthony Pietruszkiewicz, Mrs. Sarah W. Wood, Samuel Travis, R. E. Vogel, E. J. Etherington, R. W. Webb, Michael Batto, Edward Badetty, Mrs. George Green, Henry Mehlig, George F. Evans, Edward M. Keck, Oliver Shurtleff, James Brocklehurst, John Feisler, Albert Parrella, Fred J. Knocke.

Show Manager—Edward B. Lloyd; Assistant Manager, John Vincent.

Show Garden Club Committee—Mrs. Georgena Humble, Chairman.

Show Schedule Committee—Warren W. Maytrott, Chairman; Leonard Barron, Conrad Fry, Derrill W. Hart, J. W. Johnston.

Prize Committee—Dewey Mohr, Chairman.

Show Judges Committee—J. W. Johnston, Chairman.

Bulletin Committee—Lynn B. Dudley, Chairman; C. Louis Alling, Oliver Shurtleff.

Trial Gardens Committee—Charles G. Reed, Chairman; Prof. Roland H. Patch, Prof. C. E. Wildon.

Finance Committee—Derrill W. Hart, Chairman; Dewey Mohr, Conrad Fry.

Publicity Committee—Gordon Wasser, Chairman; Edward B. Lloyd, Lynn B. Dudley, Charles G. Reed.

To Select Guest of Honor for 1936—C. Louis Alling, Chairman; Edward Badetty, Derrill W. Hart.

Nationalization Committee—J. W. Johnston, W. W. Maytrott, D. W. Hart, Conrad Fry, Dewey Mohr, L. B. Dudley.

• • •

If you would like to join the National Dahlia Society of England and receive their year book, send application for membership and five shillings to the Secretary, H. S. Gibbard, 65 Woodstock Road, Wembly, Middlesex, England.

• • •

Ridgeway's color standards and nomenclature, commonly known as Ridgeway's Color Charts, are used by more Dahlia growers than any other guide. We are informed by the publishers of this book that former editions are out of print. They add that they have another edition in progress, but at this date it is not possible to advise when the new book will be ready.

• • •

A. D. S. Vice-President Edward Lloyd, who was too busy as show manager to exhibit at the New York show, did take an opportunity to exhibit. We are reliably informed by Grace V. Reilley, Secretary of the Verona Garden Club, Verona, New Jersey, that he won the A. D. S. medal for the greatest number of points in the Dahlia section, but he capped that with a win of the New Jersey Society medal for best bloom of New Jersey origin. Ed. is a showman with monopolistic tendencies.

News About Dahlias and Dahlia Societies—Cont.

O. V. D. A. the score now stands that Mr. Thomas has a thousand per cent batting average. On the other hand, what could be asked for greater than such personages as Derrill Hart, Dr. A. E. White and Mr. Shurtleff to address the membership. That is not all; other notable Dahlia men are now being contacted for future appearances here at Cincinnati.

Visits of various officials from other societies is to be accelerated because of the intense value and interest it develops among the membership of the O. V. D. A. To be a member of the O. V. D. A. it means that you will have the privilege of entering and seeing an outstanding Dahlia show each year, read the Midwest Dahlia News publication, receive monthly educational programs featuring outstanding speakers and demonstrations, and real fellowship that goes a long ways in establishing definite joy in flower culture.

Our sincere appreciation is extended to Mr. Shurtleff for his interest and willingness to sacrifice time and effort to address the O. V. D. A.

The Peekskill Dahlia and Gladiolus Society

We announce that the Peekskill Flower Show will be held at the New York State Armory, Peekskill, New York, on Friday, September 18, 1936.

With gratification and pride we refer you to an article in the March issue of the *Flower Grower* entitled "The Dahlia Marches On," by Dr. Marshall A. Howe, Director of the New York Botanical Garden, in which this distinguished gentleman refers to *Peekskill* as one of the more famous local Dahlia societies. The point which

we wish to stress by referring to this article is that you will make no mistake in coming to the Peekskill Show, if it does not interfere with your plans to visit the National Show at Detroit, Michigan.

We regret very much that our date is set for one of the days of the National Show, as we would like to be represented at Detroit. With at least a thousand Dahlia shows scattered throughout the country during the Dahlia season it is little wonder that some of the shows conflict with each other.

A delegation from this society was represented at the annual Long Island banquet, held at the Lido Club Hotel, Long Beach, L. I., New York, on March 21st. Interesting speakers divulged useful information regarding the culture of Dahlias. Prof. Wildon's demonstration on soil testing and the showing of lantern slides depicting Dahlias grown in the midwest were features dear to every Dahlia enthusiast.

Coming back to our show date, we ask that memoranda be made by all interested to visit Peekskill (The Friendly Town) on September 18, 1936, and get an unexpected thrill that will have lasting memories.

Robert A. Vogel, Secretary-Treasurer.

Echoes from Dahlia Sunday Meeting in Boston

We were favored with the presence of President George W. Fraser of the A. D. S. who gave a brief talk on the association and the rapid growth of Dahlia interest. Mr. Fraser is also President National Growers Association.

Past President Thomas Leavitt, founder of the Dahlia Society of New England, was on hand to give the Dahlia

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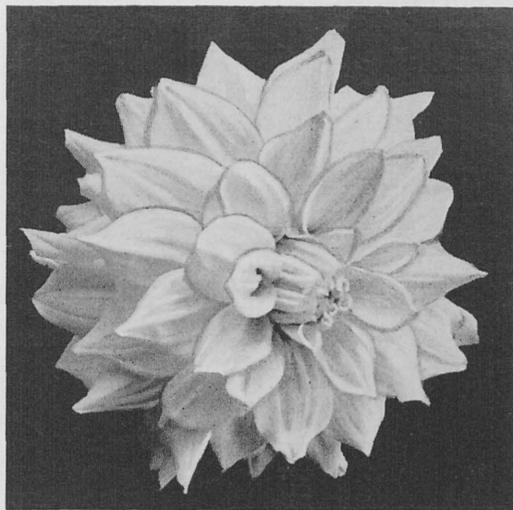
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Strong plants ready now, \$5.00 each

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a boost. Mr. Leavitt is also Secretary of The National Association of Commercial Dahlia Growers, Inc.

This meeting was made possible through the coöperation of Mr. Edward I. Farrington, Secretary Massachusetts Horticultural Society, who was on hand to offer a word of welcome to the visitors. Mr. Arno Nehrling, exhibition manager of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society was on the publicity committee and did a bit more than his share to get out the large attendance.

It seems that the one day to get out the Dahlia fan is on a Sunday and the large attendance on Dahlia Sunday proved this to those who thought that it was doubtful if much could be accomplished. However, it will no doubt be an annual event in the future.

President M. F. Heaphy of the Dahlia Society of New England extended a word of greeting and invited those present to visit our show in September.

Secretary A. Cavannah of the Dahlia Society of New England was a busy man and reports many growers joined our society. The A. D. S. BULLETIN was given to those who joined on that day.

It is not necessary for me to tell the readers that Mr. Derrill W. Hart and Prof. Roland H. Patch were at their best. Prof. Patch had colored slides showing the garden patch with the cover crop growing, the plowing, the setting of the stakes, the planting of the roots, the growing plants coming into bloom, the scoring, the harvesting, removing the stakes, so all in all to those present it was most interesting.

In closing may I mention the show dates which are Saturday, September 12th, and Sunday, September 13th. These dates conflict with the Field Day at Storrs. However, it is impossible to do otherwise, but those visiting

Storrs for the Field Day on Saturday can make it a real Dahlia week-end by visiting our show Saturday evening or Sunday.

Charles G. Reed.

New England Dahlia Society Meeting

Two lectures featured the meeting of the New England Dahlia Society held at Horticultural Hall in Boston on Sunday afternoon, March 1st. The meeting was an innovation in two respects. It was the first time the society has held a Sunday meeting and the first time it has ever opened its meetings to the public. Both experiments proved worth while, for almost three hundred people turned out, including commercial growers, as well as enthusiasts who are merely interested in growing the Dahlia for their own enjoyment. The audience was notable in another respect, for it was ninety per cent men.

Charles G. Reed, of Lawrence, Massachusetts, was the chairman of the committee arranging the program and presided at the meeting. In his opening remarks Mr. Reed pointed out that until recently the Dahlia has been neglected by many garden makers as being too stiff and formal and not appropriate for home decoration. In the past few years, however, types of Dahlias have been developed that are not so rank in their growth and are, therefore, quite appropriate for the home garden.

Derrill W. Hart, of New York City, a prominent Dahlia expert and the originator of the Dahlia Roll of Honor, was the first speaker on the program, his topic

(Please turn to next page)

News About Dahlias and Dahlia Societies—Cont.

being "New Dahlias." Before reviewing his selections of notable Dahlias of 1935, Mr. Hart said:

"Most people pretend that they do not like big flower varieties and so many of them think for that reason that they do not like Dahlias. The recently developed miniature Dahlias, however, have overcome this objection, for they are low growing and medium height and they give more bloom in the late summer than anything else. They also may be had in the same variations in form and color as the larger Dahlias.

"In making my selections for 1935 I made notes on over one hundred and ten new varieties, a number of which were new foreign products, mostly in the cactus class. And for the first time I have included a Japanese Dahlia in the list."

Among the informal decoratives Mr. Hart named Milton J. Cross, Rudolf's Giant, Margrace, Oakleigh Monarch, Dean Anderson, Elizabeth Rethberg, Eva Hunt and Adorable as being particularly deserving of consideration. The best of last year's formal decoratives are Mrs. W. F. Lord, Queen City and Kentucky Sun. Fine semi-cactus varieties are Pride of America, Treasure Chest, California Peach, Reichard's Masterpiece, Red Jug, Brachtkerl and Shekinah. Notable introductions in the cactus group were Mrs. Herbert O'Connor, Pink Spiral, Gretel and Shentenchi. The best of the miniatures, in his opinion, were Dorothy Brant Miller, Rose Beauty, Buckeye Baby, Little Dream, Raleigh, Pink Daisy, Cerise Gem, Baby Sagamore, Union Beauty and Chard Vanity. There was one fine new introduction of the ball type, Kentucky Snowball. And three new pompons, Betty Anne, Valerie and Rosalie, concluded the list.

Professor Roland H. Patch of the Connecticut Agricultural College at Storrs, Connecticut, who has supervised the Dahlia Trial Grounds for many years, was the second speaker. His lecture was illustrated with some fifty slides in natural colors of varieties which have scored 85 or better and been awarded a Certificate of Merit at the Trial Grounds since 1930.

Professor Patch described briefly the preparation of the soil for planting at the Trial Grounds and explained that the scoring is done on a basis of 100 points, taking into consideration such things as color, stems, foliage and the like. Three plants of each variety are grown and each is treated in a different manner.

It is interesting to note the number of entries made at the Storrs Trial Grounds each year since established. Professor Patch gave these as the figures:

1919	45	1928	221
1920	160	1929	181
1921	124	1930	309
1922	136	1931	178
1923	178	1932	149
1924	143	1933	122
1925	127	1934	166
1926	220	1935	182
1927	228		

He urged that breeders make careful selections and send only their best varieties to the Trial Grounds.

At the conclusion of the lectures both Professor Patch and Mr. Hart answered questions of persons in the audience and gave much helpful and valuable information.

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DEPT. P.

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Long Beach (Cal.) Dahlia and Floral Society

Mrs. Charles G. Paterson, 3020 East Third Street, has again been chosen show manager for the Long Beach Dahlia and Floral Society's Seventh Annual Flower and Style Show, which will be held September 11th and 12th, 1936, in the Municipal Auditorium. Mrs. Paterson, who has been the secretary and treasurer for this society for the past four years, states that they expect this to be the largest and finest flower show to be given in southern California in 1936. The city administration and Chamber of Commerce beautification committee are whole-hearted in their cooperation to make this a real civic affair. On account of the tremendous influx of visitors there is no doubt but what many eastern flower lovers will visit this show. The Long Beach Dahlia and Floral Society extend a cordial invitation to all.

The following new officers and directors of the society were elected at their annual meeting: Col. Jesse A. Jackson, President; L. R. Adamson, Vice-President; Mrs. Charles G. Paterson, Secretary and Treasurer. Directors: Mrs. B. B. Stakemiller, Mrs. M. G. McDonald, Mrs. K. E. Waters, Mrs. C. E. Petersen, Mr. Hans von Hofgaard, Mr. R. R. Woodcock, Mr. Charles C. Shaw, Mr. F. D. Kinnear, Dr. C. C. Campbell.

Mrs. Charles G. Paterson, Secretary.

Washington Dahlia Society, Tacoma, Wash.

A jolly get-together and gift exchange party was enjoyed by our members at the December meeting, held at the home of Mrs. L. C. Potter. The Central States Dahlia Society had sent us several copies of their fine bulletin and the Midwest Dahlia News was also on hand, so we had some good readings and discussions.

It was voted to discontinue our bulletins for the time being.

One of our veteran members, Mrs. George Litz, had been ill a long time and not able to be with us, so a shower of Christmas cards was planned, also a small gift was sent which she enjoyed very much.

Mrs. Potter served mince pie and coffee that was made to disappear in short order and we were homeward bound after a most pleasant evening.

The January meeting was the annual election of officers and a good attendance was recorded. Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lee entertained. The election was as follows: President, Mrs. J. W. Lee; First Vice-President, Mrs. Henry Nicodet; Second Vice-President, Mr. J. E. Hulin; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. H. C. Cogswell, 3001 South 14th Street, Tacoma, Washington; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Raymond Turner; Treasurer, Mr. Francis Glanfield. Executive Committee, Mr. H. C. Cogswell, Mrs. Glen Dunlap and Mrs. L. C. Potter. Regional Vice-Presidents, Mr. J. E. Hulin, Seattle; Mr. A. N. Kanouse, Olympia; Mr. G. Westgate, Vancouver; Mrs. L. B. Hope, Chehalis, and Mr. John L. Matthiesen, Spokane.

The American Dahlia Society BULLETIN had come and the members were united in their praise of the fine issue. Show reports from the east and middle west were read and discussed. It seems that we are not so far apart in our love for the same varieties of Dahlias as we are in miles. A great number of the prize winners in the eastern shows gained the same honors in the west.

(Please turn to next page)

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We have good stock of the standard varieties. Write us your requirements.

Special Collections of Exhibition Dahlias

We will send prepaid, any of the following:

Collection No. 1—Six named high class Dahlia roots for \$3.00.

Collection No. 2—Three roots, named, of new honor roll or certificate of merit Dahlias, not over four years old, for \$5.00.

Collection No. 3—Five named honor roll or certificate of merit Dahlias, not over three years old for \$10.00.

If you are not satisfied with our selection of varieties, we shall be pleased to refund your money

OUR 1936 INTRODUCTIONS

RUDOLF'S GIANT

Originator, Rudolf. Informal decorative. Color, bright buff apricot. One of biggest and best autumn Dahlias to date. Certificate Storrs 1934.

Plants only \$7.50, 3 for \$20

RED JUG

Originator, Dr. Preas. Semi-Cactus. Cardinal red. Petals curled tight at ends and tipped yellow. Won American Home Medal, West Virginia. Fairmont. Best seedling, Rockville Centre, Valley Stream. Certificate of Merit Storrs 1935.

Roots \$10 net

Plants \$5

ORCHID MOONLIGHT

Originator, Greenough. Formal decorative. Mauve pink. Won at New York and Rockville Centre 1935. Certificate of Merit Storrs 1934.

Roots \$10

Plants \$5

BONNIE BELMONT

Originator, Cochran. Semi-Cactus. Bright yellow, beautiful shade. Long stiff stem. Won best undisseeded Rockville Centre 1934.

Roots \$10

Plants \$5

DOROTHY BRANT MILLER

Originator, Stephenson. Miniature decorative. Shell pink like Little Jewel only much earlier. Fine as cut flower.

Roots \$2

Plants \$1

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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 for circular containing spray chart.

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News About Dahlias and Dahlia Societies—Cont.

There was some discussion about time and place for our 1936 show and a committee appointed to see about location. The members would like a more centrally located show room than in the last few years.

A pleasant hour of refreshments and visiting and the evening was "in the minutes."

On February 13th about twelve hardy members braved the ice and snow, meeting with Mrs. Glen Dunlap. Winter has no bars for garden lovers when there is a meeting on hand.

The show date was set for September 11th and 12th. Mrs. Lee, our president, appointed Mr. F. Glanfield show manager as he is hard to beat at that job. A committee was appointed to prepare and present at the next meeting, the show programme.

As it was the 13th a contest was held to find the thirteen favorite Dahlias of our society. The Dahlias chosen were: Jane Cowl, Eagle Rock Fantasy, Spotlight, Sanchian's Cameo, Satan, Kathleen Norris, Amelia Farhart, Lord of Autumn, Frau O. Bracht, Lady Moyra Ponsonby, Oriental Beauty, Jersey's Beauty, with Prince of Persia and Paul Pfitzer tying for thirteenth place. These are Dahlias the members have grown in their own gardens at least one year and found good. Mr. H. C. Cogswell had twelve of the favorites on his list and won the prize of a Valentine box of candy.

Some of the members have hot beds going and green plants started to be all ready when King Winter retires. And it will soon be time to get seed beds ready. Mr. Cogswell told of his success in cutting Dahlia roots with a band saw.

Mrs. H. C. Cogswell, Corresponding Secretary.

West Virginia Dahlia Society

Come to Fairmont, West Virginia, September 11th and 12th. Those are the dates of the State Dahlia Show. Visitors at the show will receive a most royal welcome—and they will see a good show besides.

Supt. C. M. Roberts of the West Virginia trial garden reports one entry already applied for for the 1936 season. The West Virginia trial garden enjoyed a most successful season during 1935. We expect a better season for 1936. For information write Supt. Roberts, care State College, Fairmont, West Virginia. Information will be given gladly.

The secretary of our organization was a speaker recently at the Green Hills Garden Club of Fairmont and at the Harrison County Dahlia Society. The writer can't say much about his ability as a speaker (sic).

Write the secretary (address below) for a copy of our 1936 show list. They will be sent out soon.

C. E. Lauterbach of Buckhannon, West Virginia, was in Fairmont recently looking after some phases of the West Virginia Dahlia Show. Incidentally he was looking after quotations on a new flower container which he has perfected.

Our society has just issued a twenty-eight page bulletin which was designated as the Grower's and Buyer's number. It must have been a pretty good number as one society ordered fifty copies. A symposium on buying Dahlias was the lead article.

The West Virginia Dahlia Society wants to commend and congratulate the A. D. S. on the two big shows under

its 1936 sponsorship. We mean the show at Detroit and the one at New York City. Both of these shows will be worthy of attendance; both will be meritorious.

The American Dahlia Society BULLETIN continues to improve. We urge that all Dahlia growers join the American Dahlia Society and get this fine publication free. The membership fee is quite nominal. Your affiliation will be welcome. Send membership to Secretary C. Louis Alling, 251 Court Street, West Haven, Connecticut. Tell him I said so!

Come to Fairmont.

*Oliver Shurtleff, Secretary W. V. D. S.,
1264 Bryant Street, Fairmont, W. Va.*

Dahlia Society of Indiana

So as not to conflict with the National Dahlia Show at Detroit the previously announced dates for Indiana's Annual Dahlia Show have of necessity been set a week earlier, namely September 12th and 13th, on Saturday and Sunday, to be staged in Howard Hall at Frankfort, Indiana.

It is naturally presumed, indeed our members are encouraged to whole heartily cooperate by exhibiting and attending the A. D. S.'s initial effort of holding their show in the middle-west and certainly Indiana also hopes and indeed looks forward to a goodly number of the eastern growers and surely many of the Michiganites to attend and view the annual Hoosier Show. A cordial Hoosier welcome is extended and Hoosier hospitality awaits all in Frankfort this year on September 12th and 13th.

General plans and arrangements for the show are progressing with precision and all of Frankfort's citizens and her civic organizations are making elaborate plans to adequately support and entertain for the show beautifully. President Guntle has announced the appointment of Kenneth S. Harker, Frankfort, as Show Manager with John E. Dean, Indianapolis, the assistant show chairman. The show schedule committee composed of Raymond H. Sparks, Columbus, Miss Jennie Tudor, Zionsville, and Don R. Curtis, Indianapolis, have completed the revision of last year's classes and presented an extremely interesting and enlarged classification.

The periodic membership campaign is again in full swing under the able leadership of O. A. Oler, Dublin, assisted by the energetic Mrs. R. H. Sparks, Columbus, as vice-chairman, and the following divisional co-chairmen John E. Dean, Indianapolis; Harry G. Kennett, Indianapolis; Henry C. Gaeth, Noblesville; Mrs. Nell Silverthorn, Shelbyville; V. F. Trembly, Columbus; Miss Eleanor Warren, Fort Wayne; Mrs. George Washburn, Kokomo, and Emmett S. Wood, Madison. This active and interesting drive for members will terminate on April 25th, when returns are tabulated and results will be announced with prizes offered by generous growers and individuals are awarded to the successful members scoring high in the various periods and divisions of the campaign contest.

Note to Secretaries of Affiliated Societies. Please send your reports of meetings and all show plans, with dates, not later than July 1st for August issue.

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Plants only \$2.50

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Chatauqua Regal, Golden Light,
Rockley Moon, Oriental Glory, White Wonder

3 Outstanding Ball Varieties \$1.00

Mary Helen, Yellow Ball; Yo Yo, Autumn
Shade Ball; Yuban, Red-yellow variegated

3 Miniatures for \$1.00

Teddy Johnson, Pink White Min. Ball.
The Sentinel, Red
Pink Pearl, Small pink

6 Assorted Pompons \$1.00

Nancy Dunne, our 1936 Honor Roll introduc-
tion. Don't miss it. Plants \$5.00

251 B. Court St.
West Haven, Conn.

DAHLIAS

Portland Dahlia Society

The Portland, Oregon, Dahlia Society held a very enthusiastic meeting and elected the following officers: President, Mrs. Charles L. Mastick, 7830 N. Denver Avenue, Portland; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Julia Compton, Boring, Oregon, and W. C. Scrutton, Estacada; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Lena Little, 1623 West 13th Avenue, Portland. Board of Directors, Robert Sanders, Harold H. Miller and Mrs. M. Brouwer, all of Portland.

• • •

Two sets of plants of the same miniature Dahlia were sent to Storrs for trial last year. One came from the originator and the other from the introducer. In judging them, we noticed the similarity and at first actually thought that nature had made an exact duplicate at last. They were under separate numbers and it really looked to us as if both were worthy of a score. Caused some head shaking, we don't mind admitting.

• • •

Dahlias Selected for Trial at Wisley, England for the Season of 1936

Sue, golden form of Baby Royal.

Hilda, bedder, warm crimson, dark centre. Shown by W. Tresseder Ltd., The Nurseries, Cardiff.

Christine, salmon orange, medium Decorative, shown by Dobbie and Co. Ltd., Edinburgh.

Mrs. Robbins, pink on gold, medium Decorative, shown by J. Stredwick and Sons, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

Sandhurst Pride, Decorative, salmon rose on gold ground; shown by G. P. Roddam, Tunbridge Wells.

Odin, miniature Pæony-flowered warm rose-pink.

Mina, small Decorative, pink. Foregoing shown by J. Cheal and Sons Ltd., Crawley.

Little King, small Decorative, purple.

Dearie, small Decorative, salmon rose and gold.

Royalty, Pompon, wine-red.

Little Spitfire, Pompon, scarlet. Foregoing shown by J. T. West, Brentwood.

Dulcinia, Semi-Cactus, red.

Flaming Torch, Semi-Cactus, scarlet. Foregoing shown by G. Bruidegom, Baarn, Holland.

Chancellor, large single, red, maroon zone.

Anneke, large Decorative, bright red. Foregoing shown by H. Carlee Ltd., Haarlem, Holland.

Mrs. S. Morgan, Pompon, yellow tipped red.

Verschaeve, large, Decorative, light crimson. Foregoing shown by J. B. Riding, Chingford.

Brilliance, Semi-Cactus, crimson-scarlet.

Robert Davidson, Semi-Cactus, soft yellow. Foregoing shown by Torrance and Hopkins, Busby, Glasgow.

Yellow Ball, medium Decorative, almost of the form of a Show Dahlia, color bright yellow. Shown by Mrs. C. J. Marshall, Hythe.

Salmon Glorious (to be re-named), Charm or miniature Pæony-flowered, orange-scarlet, shown by H. Rutter and Son, Heswall.—From *Horticultural Trade Journal*, England.

Catalogues and Folders Received for 1936

There may be some good Dahlias you have overlooked for your collection. The following firms have issued catalogues or lists and will be pleased to mail you one.

Note to commercial growers. Mail your list to the editor, Lynn B. Dudley, 18 Interlaken Drive, Tuckahoe, New York.

Ballay Dahlia Gardens, Palo Alto, Calif.
The Seven Acres, 203 Main St., Stoneham, Mass.
J. G. Ballego & Sons, Leiden, Holland.
Lee's Dahlia Gardens, Route 5, Box 600, Tacoma, Wash.
Gebr. De Ruijter, Oegstgeest, Dorpstraat 58, Holland.
Dahlidel Nurseries, Vineland, N. J.
Success Dahlia Gardens, 171 Ferry St., Lawrence, Mass.
Rose Mary Dahlia Gardens, P. O. Box 429, Martins Ferry, Ohio.
Jessie L. Seal, 607 Third Ave., San Francisco, Calif.
H. Carlee, Ltd., Haarlem, Holland.
Premier Dahlia Gardens, 31 Mertz Ave., Hillside, N. J.
Pioneer City Dahlia Gardens, Marietta, Ohio.
Golden Rule Dahlia Farm, Lebanon, Ohio.
Kemp's Gardens, Box 181, Little Silver, N. J.
Parkway Dahlia Gardens, 1012 E. 178th St., N. Y., N. Y.
Fisher & Masson, Sanhican Gardens, Trenton, N. J.
Ruschmohr Dahlia Gardens, 52 S. Kensington Ave., Rockville Centre, L. I., N. Y.
Curtis Redfern, Lincoln Manor, San Francisco, Calif.
Strasen Floral Gardens, Austinburg, Ohio.
Kokomo Dahlia Gardens, Kokomo, Ind.
Alice Meussdorffer, 487 Hanover St., San Francisco, Cal.
George L. Stillman, Westerly, R. I.
Etherington Dahlia Gardens, Westwood, N. J.
Salem Dahlia Gardens, Salem, N. J.
Albert Parrella, 3330 Ely Ave., Bronx, N. Y.
Lasch Floral G'dns, 1435 Dill Ave., South Euclid, Ohio.
Badetty Bros., 40 Prospect St., Huntington, N. Y.
C. Louis Alling, 251 Court St., West Haven, Conn.
F. W. C. Almy, Box D, Tiverton, R. I.
J. E. Hulin, 5964 24th Ave., S. W., Seattle, Wash.
Fraser's Dahlia Gardens, Willimantic, Conn.
Mannetto Hill Nurseries, Hicksville, L. I.
M. G. Tyler, 7830 N. Denver Ave., Portland, Ore.
Dixie Dahlia Gardens, Clio Michigan.
W. W. Bissell, Austingburg, Ohio.
Burnett Bros., 92 Chambers St., New York, N. Y.
W. Atlee Burpee, 804 Burpee Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.
Bolsa Dahlia Gardens, Mill Valley, Calif.
Creekside Dahlia Gardens, Richmond Dale, Ohio.
A. T. Edison, R. F. D. 2, Grand Rapids, Mich.
Terrace Gardens, Ionia, Mich.
Chappaqua Dahlia Gardens, Chappaqua, N. Y.
Dr. H. H. Smith, 19603 Beach Cliff Blvd., Rocky River, Ohio.
Frank's Dahlia Garden, Bedford, Ohio.
Rocky River Dahlia Gardens, North Olmstead, Ohio.
Kunzman Gardens, New Albany, Ind.
Rainbow Dahlia Gardens, 1137 Linden Ave., Inglewood, Calif.
F. V. R. Veirs & Sons, 718 Linwood Ave., S. W. Canton, Ohio.
Somerhousen Dahlia Gardens, Chestnut Hill, Phil., Pa.
Queen's Dahlia G'dns, 43 Robinson St., Flushing, N. Y.
W. W. Wilmore Dahlia Farm, Box 382, Denver, Colo.
H. H. Robens, 41 Hall Ave., Chagrin Falls, Ohio.
Stanley Johnson, 406 Franklin Ave., Cheltenham, Pa.
Stephenson, Dahlia G'dns, 2318 Hill St., Santa Monica, Calif.
James W. McCartney, 1908 Browning Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.
John Toth, P. O. Box 12, Fairfield, Conn.
A. G. Goodacre, Box 86, Gardena, Calif.
Major James B. Eastman, Laurel, Md.
J. F. Cordes, 2343 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, Calif.
Mad River Gardens, Urbana, Ohio.
Oakleigh Gardens, Grand Rapids, Mich.
Dr. C. E. Bancherel, 7740 Indiana Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Calumet Dahlia Gardens, Calumet City, Illinois.
Comstock Dahlia Gardens, 3660 37th St., San Deigo, Cal.
Harmel Peony Farm, Berlin, Maryland.
William F. Merkle, 7934 Saginaw Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Hosack's Floral Gardens, 1342 Belrose Road, South Euclid, Ohio.
Limestone Dahlia Gardens, Maysville, Kentucky.
Rustie Gardens, Belding, Michigan.

(Please turn to next page)

LAST MINUTE SUGGESTIONS

PLANT COMBINATIONS

A—Normandie, Belladonna, Cornelia Bryce Pinchot, Dr. Joseph Scheiner, Sultan of Hillcrest

Value \$12.25 for \$7.00

B—Olympic Sunset, Forest Fire, Lord of Autumn, Cornelia Bryce Pinchot, Wenoka, Eva Hunt, Democracy, Palo Alto

Value \$20.00 for \$12.00

C—Golden Standard, Hunt's Velvet Wonder, Watchung Sunset, American Legion, Washington Giant

Value \$9.75 for \$5.00

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SENSATIONAL NEW DAHLIAS

INTRODUCING

MILTON J. CROSS, I. D. An undefeated Dahlia winning five medals at our leading Eastern Shows as the best new Dahlia. Blooms will easily average 12" diameter with a depth of 8". Pleasing color of clear gold in the center while outer petals are shaded with rose and coral. Vigorous grower with heavy green foliage. All blooms are held well above the foliage by strong stems. An unexcelled exhibition variety. The new champion.

PLANT \$7.50

BETTY ANNE, Pompon. Color, soft clear pink. At last we have a pink color pompon. Small exhibition type. Good growing habits. Winner as the best new pompon at three leading Shows. A really extra fine pompon for the garden and exhibition table.

PLANT \$1.00

The three really outstanding exhibition miniatures: **Chard Vanity, Little Dream and Glorious.**

ONE PLANT OF EACH FOR \$3.00

The best new Foreign Dahlias: Golden Prince, Bauer's Ideal, Berger's Jewel, Reichardt's Masterpiece, Koongarra Prince, White Abundance, Pink Spiral, and many others.

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Send 3 roots or plants of each variety

Remit \$3.00 per variety before May 15th to:

Roland Patch, State College
Storrs, Connecticut

C. E. Wildon, State College
East Lansing, Michigan

Send Now for Entry Blanks

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Honor Roll Miniature—wins Certificate of Merit at Storrs—also First Prize at 1935 Show in San Francisco. Striking color—Jasper or Mikado Red. **\$5.00 Net**

Write for free illustrated Catalogue showing pictures of 1935 prize-winning Pompons and Miniatures in artistic arrangements.

Pompon seed 100 \$1.00 ½ pkg. 50 cents

Miniature seed 25 cents pkg.

Baby Royal or other named varieties 50 cents

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Growers of choice small varieties only

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"SELECT" DAHLIA PLANTS

At prices representing a fair profit to us and
A NEAT SAVING to you!

LIMESTONE DAHLIA GARDENS

F. W. Galloway Maysville, Kentucky

1936 A. D. S. NATIONAL SHOW

Convention Hall, Detroit

Friday and Saturday, September 18th and 19th

Catalogues Received—Cont.

Rockleigh Dahlia Gardens, 7541 Seneca Place, Las Mesa, Calif.
Stanley S. Webb, Route 2, Flushing, Michigan.
The Dahlia Farm, East Moriches, L. I., N. Y.
S. S. Skidelsky & Co., 37 West 28th St., New York City.
Yohe S. Veile, R. D. No. 2, Easton, Pa.
Rialside Gardens, 9 Adams Ave., Beverly, Mass.
Price Hill, 3452 Warsaw Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.
Milbee's Superior Dahlias, Box 4, Sullivan, Wisconsin.
Richwood Gardens, Mt. Washington, R. No. 8, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Gladamum Gardens, Nyack, N. Y.
Marlew Dahlia Gardens, 118 Conklin Ave., Brooklyn.
Lloyd's Dahlia Gardens, R. D. No. 1, May's Landing, N. J.
Estacada Dahlia Gardens, Estacada, Oregon.
John W. Hanna, 34 Edsall Ave., Palisades Park, N. J.
Greubel's Gardens, Derry, Pa.
Fenwick Gardens, Box 212, Salem, N. J.
Eastvale Dahlia Farms, Middleboro, Mass.
Dixie Dahlia Gardens, 1101 Lawrence Ave., Nashville, Tennessee.
Louis E. Bedard, Box 723, St. H, Toronto, Canada.
Bushkill Gardens, (Mrs. Mendham), Box 185, Easton, Pa.
Modern Dahlia Gardens, Box 1659, Milwaukee, Wis.
Deland's, Belrose Road, Mayfield Heights, Ohio.
Adirondack Gardens, Hudson Falls, N. Y.
Mrs. J. A. Meneghel, 1239 South Verde St., Tacoma, Wash.
Alvin R. Bork, Gladiolus, Ramsey, N. J.

• • •

Dahlia Society of Georgia Presented with Unique Gavel

The annual meeting of the Dahlia Society of Georgia, held in the Assembly Hall of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce Building on the evening of January 15th, featured many points of interest. The retiring President, Mr. B. E. Phillips, briefly reviewed the achievements of the Society to date and visualized the aspirations of the future. Of marked interest was a most comprehensive detailed report of the retiring Committee on Dahlia Culture, headed by Mr. Norman LaMotte, of Clarkston, Georgia. This report thoroughly covers the culture or growing of Dahlias, and will be published in full at an early date. Immediately after the new President, Mr. E. R. Ayo, was installed, the first gavel to be used by the Society was formally presented. The presentation was made by Miss Dorothy Virginia Phillips, twelve year old daughter of the retiring president. Miss Phillips was accompanied by Miss Margaret Kennedy as gavel bearer. Miss Kennedy is the ten year old daughter of the retiring treasurer, Mr. B. L. Kennedy. The gavel was brought into the Assembly Hall reposing upon a silken pillow made in the form of two huge Dahlia blooms, designed in detail with stems and leaves of green crepe paper. The gavel is fashioned in one piece, the head being from the main stem of the Dahlia plant, and the handle from the lateral or bloom stem. On one side of the head of the gavel is a polished copper plate engraved to read: "Made by B. E. Phillips from stem of Dahlia President Franklin D. Roosevelt." On the opposite side is a similar polished copper plate engraved to read: "Presented to the Dahlia Society of Georgia January, 1936." The end of the handle is capped with a polished copper thimble. The material from which the gavel was fashioned was taken from the stem of the Dahlia when green and subjected to a curing and shaping process, with the result that the finished product proved to be very attractive in appearance and well suited to the purpose. This gavel is believed to be the first and only one of its kind and being fashioned from the stem of

the Dahlia, for the use of a Dahlia Society, lends quite an added feature to the presentation. Of particular pleasure and added interest to the originator and donor is the securing the material from which the gavel was fashioned, from the Dahlia plant named for the President of the United States, Franklin D. Roosevelt—a man representing all that is fine and noble in strength of character; in the conduct of his office as Chief Executive of our Nation; as a friend of the people; and as part-time resident and citizen of the home state of the Dahlia Society of Georgia. President E. R. Ayo outlined a very interesting and ambitious program for the ensuing year. The coming show was discussed and tentative classification submitted. Mr. David D. Long, chairman of Committee on Affiliations, gave some very interesting facts regarding the year program for conduct of the trial ground at the Georgia Experiment Station, advising that many contributions of new and expensive varieties for test had been arranged for. Mr. Norman LaMotte, chairman of Technical Advisory Committee, outlined a series of projects, as follows, to be worked out this year:

Objective No. 1. Retrial of promising varieties in 1935 which did not perform to expectations.

Objective No. 3. Comparison of the newer and better yellow varieties.

Objective No. 4. Comparison of the newer and better rose colored varieties.

Objective No. 5. Comparison of the newer and better purple varieties.

Objective No. 6. Comparison of the newer and better white varieties.

Objective No. 7. Trial of 1935 Honor Roll varieties, high scoring varieties at Storrs and East Lansing, and other new introductions.

Objective No. 11. Trial of undisseeded varieties.

Objectives Nos. 2, 8, 9 and 10. Cultural and propagational.

All-in-all the Dahlia Society of Georgia is looking forward to another full and successful year for 1936.

Georgia's Test Garden

It is true that at present the Georgia Variety Test is not an official trial. One of the objectives of the Affiliations Committee, however, is to swing the test in that direction as soon as possible.

Since the Georgia Dahlia growers want to see the newer varieties, they do not expect a contributor to limit his contributions only to his own originations. In 1935 several contributors sent in the same disseminated varieties.

Each year at the close of the Dahlia season, the stock contributed by amateurs, or by commercial concerns, will receive one of the following disposals: (a) destroyed, if diseased or injured by insects; (b) returned to the contributor; (c) retained for retrial; or (d) will be used for Dahlia extension work in accordance with instructions issued to the Director of the Experiment Station.

Plants or roots are equally acceptable, for ample space and expert attention to plants is provided by the greenhouses. There is, also, an expert staff of floriculturists at the Experiment Station.

The officers of the Dahlia Society of Georgia are business men and women. They are in no way associated in the commercial Dahlia business. They grow

(Please turn to next page)

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Get our special April and May list of recent introductions and the better of the standard varieties.

We sell roots, plants and cuttings and grow 500 varieties.

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R. F. D. 2

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PLANTS THAT WILL GROW FOR YOU
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LATEST INTRODUCTIONS—BOTH
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Plants of new introductions grown from
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DAHLIA
GARDENS

WOULD YOU give a dollar for one root each of the following large Dahlias: Jersey's Beacon, Girl of Hillcrest and Omar Khayyam, correctly labeled, postpaid? Our catalogue lists this and other dollar specials in Dahlias and Gladiolus.

R. D. 1 Mays Landing, N. J.

PREMIER'S DEPENDABLE DAHLIAS

1936 Introductions

SARA KAY (Hunt-Premier). A massive long petaled semi-cactus; rich golden yellow; good habits; 13 x 6 inches. An outstanding Dahlia at the New York Show and runner up to Milton J. Cross in the Achievement Medal Class. **Roots \$10 Plants \$5**

MRS. STEPHEN VAN HOESEN (Hunt-Premier). F. D. Color, a beautiful blending and shading of salmon, pink and peach; blooms grow to 11 x 5 inches naturally; stems perfect and foliage insect resistant; fine for exhibition. Winner at Camden, N. J. **Roots \$10 Plants \$5**

JOYCE LAWRENCE. An Australian decorative that has size, long stiff stems, good form and healthy vigorous growth; color is a rich deep rose suffused lake. Winner of the Baptist Prize and other classic honors. 8-10 x 5 inches, 5½ feet high. **Roots \$7.50 Plants \$3.75**

DARCY SAINSBURY. The most outstanding white decorative in Australia, and a winner of many champion ribbons; blooms 10 x 6 inches are purest white throughout. Awarded a Certificate of Merit at New South Wales. **Plants only \$5.00**

Catalogue ready in January will include the best of the 1935 and 1936 introductions.

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MILBEE'S SUPERIOR DAHLIA GARDENS

Can supply you plants in any of the new or old American or Foreign varieties at the proper price. Write your wants now.

Dr. R. S. Milbee, Prop.

Box 4 Sullivan, Wisconsin

Georgia's Test Garden—Continued

Dahlias absolutely because of their admiration for them.

Approximately 450 stakes are planned for the Dahlia Variety Test plot for the year 1936. Over half of these stakes have already been reserved by contributors. Address David D. Long, 85 East Park Lane, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia, for stake reservation. The cooperative test, sponsored by the Dahlia Society of Georgia is in charge of the following:

Director H. P. Stuckey; W. D. Armstrong; H. L. Cochran, for the Georgia Experiment Station; David D. Long, chairman of Affiliations Committee; Norman La-Motte, in charge, Technical Advisory Committee; F. W. Ivey, in charge, Stock Reserves; Mrs. R. L. Clett, in charge, Dahlia Extension Work; George A. Campbell, Special Solicitor of Contributions; Miss May Hudson, Publicity for the Affiliations Committee.

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A. D. S. ANNUAL SHOW

Hotel Pennsylvania, New York City

SEPTEMBER 23rd and 24th

• • •

Not In Accord with New Miniature Size

In response to the invitation of the A. D. S. for criticism regarding the proposed revision of the classification of the Dahlia the Haakes of Bolsa Dahlia Garden, Mill Valley, California, wish to register their difference of opinion in the reduction of the size of the miniature from four to three and one-half inches in diameter.

From our experience in growing only the small varieties we feel a little more competent to judge what is good in the small types than many who only make a side issue of these varieties.

In the first place we cannot see what is to be gained by this revision. The size has been established and acknowledged as four inches which gives an opportunity for an infinite variety in this class—four inches makes a good flower useful for both garden, decorative and commercial purposes and allows enough difference in size between the pompon of two inches to make the miniature quite distinct. There is no question about this class being one of the most beautiful of the Dahlia family—one reason for this is its varied forms—the decorative, informal decorative, cactus, semi-cactus and peony—in miniature.

It is a known fact that to keep the flowers small many grow them in very poor soil, this in a commercial way is very bad for often buyers suffer a keen disappointment when their blooms do not conform to the catalog descriptions, already the public has suffered enough from misrepresentation given in the glowing descriptions found in catalogs.

This proposed change allows the creating of a medium class of large Dahlias—quote—"Flowers three and one-half to seven inches in diameter." We can still have this medium class—but have it from four inches to seven. We quite agree with the nomenclature committee in establishing in the principle classes two sections based on the size of the flowers, medium and large, but it does not necessarily have to interfere with the miniature class.

We appreciate the injustice and futility of comparing a five-inch flower with a twelve-inch flower—but we will be up against the same injustice and futility when comparing a “flower from three and one-half inches to seven.” Four inches is not a large flower and the seven-inch flower will have the same advantage over the smaller as the twelve-inch as Mr. Maytrott says in his discussion of the change—“The large flower always attracts first.”

We appreciate how difficult it is sometimes for the judges to make decisions that are just and free from likes and dislikes and welcome any revision of the classification of the Dahlia that will help both grower and judge.

“The Haakes,” Mill Valley, Calif.



Are Back Yard Commercial Growers Willing to Take the Blame for This?

There is a dark cloud no less real than the dust storms of the southwest hanging over the future of the Dahlia business.

The menace is the fast growing number of back yard gardeners—who are attempting to make some extra “pin money” out of their gardens. They have seen the fancy prices asked for and the fantastic descriptions of new novelties in the many catalogues. They buy a few of the newer kinds and with only one or two clumps of each and with no investment in equipment, no three or four years of nursing the new one through all the difficulties, no investment in advertising and catalogues—they cut the originator’s price to below the actual cost to him and undersell him on his own product.

It is regrettable that every originator cannot hold each introduction until he or she has a large stock and then “break” it on the market and sell it completely out the first year. But rarely is an originator this fortunate. When the second year of an introduction comes around very frequently many others than the originator have large stocks through excessive propagation. With no investment of money or time, except for plant producing, the price cutter comes in, steals the market and leaves the originator holding the bag. This is happening every day—hundreds of times per year.

No codes and no restrictions of any sort seem to be operative. Commercial Dahlia organizations, formed to conduct the Dahlia business on a square deal basis—do not seem to keep their members in line. Each of the growers seems to be out to cut the throat of the others. Wholesale lists are sent out to all and sundry.

If the amateurs, by and large, think they have been smart in securing wholesale prices, let us say this, that soon no reliable, honest, fair dealing originator can afford to stay in the Dahlia business to give you roots and plants that are worth anything if this continues. Any man or firm, to remain in business must make a profit. With the business all split up in small back yard growers who observe no rule of fair play except to get your money—how can anyone get good reliable stock? How can anybody afford to spend money to popularize and advertise a Dahlia, so that you come to desire it? You won’t know what to buy—you won’t be sure you are getting what you thing you’re buying.

So, we say this situation is just as serious, as relates to the future of the Dahlia, for amateurs as it is for truly commercial people.

(Please turn to next page)

MRS. ALFRED T. BUNYARD, Formal Dec.

An outstanding 1936 introduction which is listed on three Honor Rolls and winner at New York in the undisseeded class. This deep, rich, one-tone yellow is a much needed variety in the list of reliable and useful Dahlias.

Roots \$5.00, Plants \$2.50 each

ECLIPSE JR., Miniature Formal Decorative

This most perfect deep orange miniature carried off highest honors in New York and was a prominent Honor Roll member. It is recommended as one of the best new introductions in this class.

Plants only, \$1.50 each

MORNING MIST, Pompon

A most valuable new pompon which was awarded a Certificate of Merit at Storrs. Color, white shaded lavender with extra long stems and an unusually free bloomer. Very fine for cutting.

Roots \$1.50 each

BETTY STONE, Pompon

This new Autumn red is a most satisfactory addition to the pompon class. A fine sturdy grower and excellent for cutting. The rich green foliage makes a pleasing contrast with the red blooms.

Roots \$1.00 each

Send for our 1936 Dahlia Folder which fully describes the above varieties and also offers a selected list of the better Dahlias.

BADETTY BROTHERS

40 PROSPECT STREET, HUNTINGTON, N. Y.

EASTVALE'S FAVORITE DAHLIAS

are going fast

Send for a free catalogue now while their stock is complete

EASTVALE FARMS

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DAHLIA PLANTS

MOST OF THE OUTSTANDING AMERICAN AND FOREIGN VARIETIES

THE LASCH FLORAL GARDENS

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OUTSTANDING AMERICAN AND FOREIGN VARIETIES IN DIVISIONS AND PLANTS

Strong and plump divisions, each with a live eye and plants that will bloom and produce clumps

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Tiny Miniature

200 VARIETIES

FOREIGN DAHLIAS

Plants and Roots

Largest collection foreign miniatures ever listed
Also domestic varieties Catalogue free

ESTACADA DAHLIA GARDENS

Estacada

Oregon

Are you including our 1936 introductions

PRIDE OF AUSTINBURG
GARDEN DELIGHT
RED VICTOR

in your Dahlia planting plans? If not, you are the loser. May we send you illustrations and full descriptions of the above varieties together with our list of standard varieties?

STRASEN FLORAL GARDENS
Austinburg Ohio

RIALSIDE DAHLIA GARDENS

Rialside Grenadine and Rialside Ruby
are now available in plants only
\$3.75 \$2.50

IF IT'S TAGGED RIALSIDE IT'S A
WINNER

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May we send you a catalogue NOW
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Shekinah, Rudolph's Giant, Margrace, Queen City, Royal Purchase, Pride of America, Salem Streamline, California Peach, Jersey's White Beauty and others

New and Standard Pompoms and Miniatures
FREE CATALOGUE

Also lists Gladiolus and Hardy Chrysanthemums
GLADAMUM GARDENS, Nyack, New York

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Plants from new and recent varieties

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Are Back Yard Growers Willing to Take the Blame—Continued

What's the remedy? More patented Dahlias, perhaps, which prohibit propagating and sale of roots of that variety except on license.

Another suggestion is to limit any introduction to a select list of growers who agree to sell no roots the first two years—but plants only. With a larger discount, and equally dividing advertising and promotion for two years between the selected list handling that variety.

Another idea which might work would be to sell but to growers who would sign an agreement to neither sell nor give away roots or plants of that variety for one year after purchase.

The American Dahlia Society cannot settle this matter. It can only point out the many dangers to future Dahlia success by the present chaotic conditions, where few if any are making a profit from Dahlias, where both full time and most side line growers are driving the good business men and women out of the Dahlia business.

Let each person who loves Dahlias, for their beauty and satisfying attraction consider this problem in the light of what is best for the Dahlia.

We need good, reliable, true blue commercial men and women. We want good, true-to-name stock which will grow, bloom, and make roots. Those people who treat us fairly are entitled to and should make a profit. If they don't, they won't be there next year to treat us right when we want new ones.

If you have constructive suggestions which will perpetuate the best and truly worthy ideals of Dahlia growing send them to the writer. He is one who has tried back yard commercial Dahlia dabbling and realized that he had no business to be in it until he had invested properly in equipment and time. So he got out. So we speak, to some degree, from actual experience in this matter.

Lynn B. Dudley.

R. S. Milbee writes: I donated a cup to the A. D. S. show and did not see mention of who won it. Sorry, this fine loving cup was won by R. W. Webb, of Pennsylvania, in Class 130. Arrangement of orchid flowering types. Mention of Mr. Milbee as donor of prize was made on page 27 of August BULLETIN.

Not over fifty per cent of the blooms of Satan are good with George E. Gill, Louisville, member Kentucky Dahlia Society, and show chairman there for two years. He also reports that several plants of Wenoka were of poor color and centers none too good. Hillcrest Nugget, prolific bloomer and good grower, but color wouldn't startle anyone, so says Mr. Gill. Proving, evidently Kentucky soil has chemical constituents which affect color in Dahlias.

One of the most prized letters received by the editor in 1936 said: "This is just a note to thank you for the wonderful Dahlias you brought to the church on Sunday. We had enough for four bouquets; two for people who had lost dear ones and two for the mothers of two new babies."



National Association of Commercial Dahlia Growers Inc.



This Association is an incorporated organization and is composed of reputable and financially responsible Dahlia growers and dealers. Their prices are fair, but they are not cut raters. Consequently the stock you receive from any of them is guaranteed as to quality, trueness, and replacement. Every root is guaranteed to sprout and grow. Every root is guaranteed true to name. Any failure will be replaced without cost.

This emblem in the catalog, stationery, or advertisement of a Dahlia grower signifies his membership in the NACDG. It stands for Integrity, Reliability, and a Square Deal. It is your guarantee that the growers with whom you are doing business will give you a square deal in every particular. You need have no hesitancy in dealing with any member of the NACDG. The following commercial Dahlia growers are members:

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Thomas Leavitt

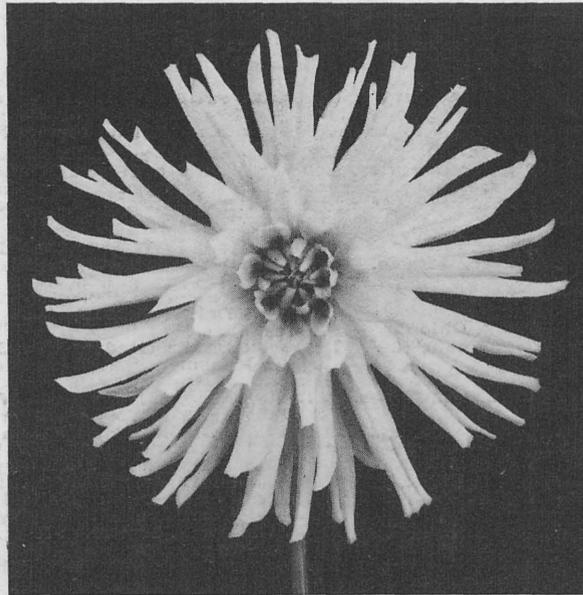
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Any reputable and reliable commercial Dahlia grower is eligible to membership in this Association. Full particulars may be obtained by addressing Secretary Thomas Leavitt, Assinippi, Mass.

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