

BULLETIN

of the

AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY



Photo by Albert Humble

Blooms from the Editor's Garden transformed into a glorious floral picture. Bi-color single, Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, arranged in Colonial glass container by Mrs. Georgena Humble.

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Issue of May, 1939 . . . Second Quarter

Issued Quarterly: February, May, August and November

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DAHLIADEL WONDER. Bloom $5\frac{1}{2}$, Bush 5 ft. We have few Single Dahlias as pretty as this new flesh pink shaded violet rose with yellow shadings at center. A prize winner in its class with excellent stems and keeping qualities. Showy in the garden, a fine commercial and the best exhibition pink Single we have grown or seen. We are therefore, very proud to introduce it and do recommend it highly. Listed in the House Beautiful Futurity, '39.

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RUSCHMOHR • OUTSTANDING INTRODUCTIONS

GRAIN O' GOLD (Tooker). Pompon. A diminutive pom which comes from the all time prize winning pom, *Little Edith*. Color clear yellow. Winner for the best pompon seedling in the 1938 New York Show.

Plants \$1.50 3 for \$4.00 Roots \$5.00

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Plants \$1.50 3 for \$4.00 Roots \$5.00

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Roots \$15.00 Plants \$5.00 3 for \$12.50

LANGELOTH (Travis). This is a bi-color year! In the medium size flowering type we have a great Dahlia in *Lois Walcher*! In the large exhibition class, *Langeloth*, a very beautiful striking red and white with contrast sharply drawn—long cane like stems—rugged growing bushes. The only time these great Dahlias faced each other in competition, *Langeloth* won the *Derrill W. Hart Memorial Gold Medal* for best undisseeded seedling at the New York Show.

Roots \$10.00 Plants \$3.50 3 for \$10.00

Send for your copy of our catalog listing important 1939 introductions, also leading prizes winners previously introduced including the unbeaten *SUNRAYS* and *STRAIGHT'S WHITE*.

RUSCHMOHR DAHLIA GARDENS

38 VINCENT STREET

ROCKVILLE CENTRE, L. I., N. Y.

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The A. D. S. BULLETIN

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Page	40.00
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SPECIAL DISCOUNTS ON YEARLY CONTRACTS

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A. D. S. 25th Annual Exhibition

Silver Anniversary Show to Be Staged Sept. 26th-27th

The 25th Annual Exhibition of the American Dahlia Society will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, September 26th and 27th in the Florentine Room of the Hotel Park Central, Seventh Avenue and 57th Street, New York City. The new location is accessible from all points. It is just a short distance from two subways and two blocks from Columbus Circle. It is easily reached by car and parking space will be available close at hand at very reasonable rates.

The room and surroundings present an ideal setting for a flower Show, being beautifully decorated, ventilated with the most modern type of air conditioning and is on the ground floor eliminating the nuisance of elevators in bringing the exhibits to the Show room. A large kitchen adjoins, with ample water outlets, which will be used for a makeup room.

A large attendance of our out of town members is anticipated as the World's Fair will then be in progress and this will provide a grand opportunity to visit the fair as well as the Show where a large group of enthusiastic Dahlia "fans" will be found. Hotel accommodations will undoubtedly be at a premium but the Park Central has agreed to take care of all our members who make advance reservations. The complete Show schedule will be mailed with the August BULLETIN. Reserve the dates, September 26th and 27th.

• • •

Garden Club Section

Amateurs Plan for Dahlia Show

More Dahlias are being grown by amateurs who are beginning to realize that however small their garden there are varieties to suit their limited garden space.

Even the juniors, in planning their children's gardens are giving much consideration to growing Dahlias. They too, have discovered that blue ribbons may be won with small varieties, which any one may grow successfully.

With plans for the next Show being held at a most accessible place in New York City, many more and several new exhibitors are expected to display their garden beauties this fall. Because of space limitation, there will necessarily be fewer classes. These classes will be open to all amateurs, including juniors who are members of garden clubs or plant societies. Part of this section will be devoted to arrangements of any garden flowers and plant material.

Much enthusiasm has been expressed through the winter months for a desire to grow Dahlias this year and information is supplied continually to those inquiring, as to the varieties best suited to their needs. Within the past few days one amateur stated a desire to use Dahlias for a low hedge, asking for a selection from which to choose. The following names were suggested for this purpose: *Baby Royal*, *Buckeye Baby*, *Red Head*, *Bishop of Landoff*, *Dubonnet*, *Sanhican's Sweetheart*, *Little Dream*, *Red Cap*. Others prefer pompons, especially the ladies who are seeking a flower to use each morning in the husband's buttonholes. For this purpose and for fine cut flowers, the following are suggested: *Atom*, *Betty Anne*, *Bob White*, *Donnie*, *Gram O'Gold*, *Indian Chief*, *Little Edith*.

More than once the question has been asked, "What is the very newest Dahlia?" Naturally, the only answer to this question is not any one Dahlia, but a list of the various prize-winning introductions of the former season. Our amateurs are eagerly seeking to know what

(Continued on page 13)



Beautiful Florentine Grill
—The Park Central, New
York—Scene of the Sil-
ver Anniversary Show of
the A. D. S.

Dahlia Blooms in Winter

By Mrs. J. W. Lee

Dahlia blooms in the mid-winter season I have found is possible and I am going to give you my experience, so that more of my floral friends may enjoy this thrill also.

Dahlias generally begin blooming here around Puget Sound in July and a few of the early varieties will bloom in June.

Planting time here begins about April 15th and the favorite planting time of most of the Dahlia "fans" is the first week in May.

Dahlias bloom until killed by frost, which is generally between October 15th and November 15th, depending on the season and location, and I have had blooms as late as December 23rd, but in all my more than 30 years experience raising them, I have never seen or heard of Dahlias blooming in January, in this part of the World, until this winter.

I enjoy experimenting with Dahlias and we can never get to know so much about them that we cannot learn something new.

Our Dahlias were frosted about November 12th and when we were getting out our Dahlia boxes from the Dahlia storage room in the basement, I found a few clumps which we had left over from our planting in the spring.

Among these clumps were 3 or 4 which were showing long sprouts with small buds. When I came across these clumps I decided to try and experiment with them. I have had them try to bloom in the boxes in midsummer without soil or water and almost no light, and while these blooms were very imperfect, it gave me the idea of giving them a chance and see what they would do for I had an idea they would more than pay for their care.

So I took a box about 14 x 18 inches and about 7 inches deep and planted the clumps in about a half box of good soil, and then gave them a good sprinkling of luke warm water to help them plump up so they could give the buds more "pep". I then set the box in a basement window so they would get light, and sun; when the sun shines.



Dahlias blooming in cellar window in December and January.

There is no heat in this part of the basement and the temperature averages about 50, sometimes higher, as our winters here are mild. They have made little foliage but they have done well and the first bloom opened early in December, about 3 weeks after planting in the box and I had 3 blooms open by January 15th.

There are several more nice buds, and still more forming, so that I should have blooms for several weeks yet and I believe by experimenting with different plantings and proper care, it will be possible to have blooms to continue the Dahlia blooming season, all thru the dormant season, and thus have Dahlias in bloom the entire year.

As a little surprise, I wore a nice bloom of the Dahlia *Baerne* to our Washington State Dahlia Society meeting on January 19th and I believe I shall be able to have one for the February and March meetings also.

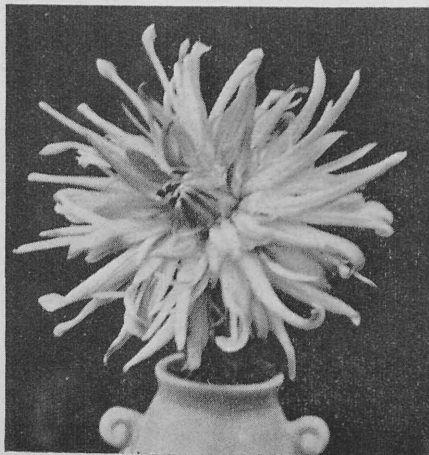
When I walked into the meeting with a Dahlia bloom the members all thought I was trying to fool them with a paper bloom and you should have heard the Ohs! and Ahs! when they found it was a real Dahlia, then every one was curious to know how I could have a Dahlia bloom at that season of the year, and I do not doubt there will be many who will try this experiment next fall and winter, and I trust my experience will give others as much "thrill" and pleasure as it have given me.

Another unusual experiment I tried with a fair degree of success this fall was making a Dahlia bloom in water.

On November 10th I placed a 10 inch cutting from the tip end of a Dahlia limb, in a glass of water and set it on the sill of the kitchen window. It had a very tiny bud so little that it was hard to see that it was a bud. The foliage was a very bright cheerful green.

In a few days I noted that the bud was beginning to grow and also the stem began to grow in length, and by December 10th it had opened into full bloom, just one month from the day I put it in the water.

(Continued on page 16)



D a h l i a
"Baerne" —
Bloom picked
Jan. 19th and
worn by Mrs.
Lee to the
Washington
State Dahlia
Society Meet-
ing.

Growing Dahlias Under Cloth

By Frank M. Berry

Superintendent, Department of Parks, Poughkeepsie, New York

Being a pioneer in growing Dahlias under cloth, I can speak of the advantages and difficulties in doing same. There is no question in my mind that Dahlias do much better under cloth than outside cultivation. You might better in this day and time insure your crop of Dahlias by growing under cloth and produce 100 per cent good flowering plants than take the chance on outside cultivation and produce 25 per cent flowering plants.

Being an enthusiastic Dahlia lover for many years, I bought all of the outstanding new varieties, paying high prices for the same only to be greatly disappointed, when the time came for them to flower, weakened by insect pest which we have so many of in late years. General weather conditions had its effect on the plants. In general like so many other enthusiastic Dahlia lovers I was disgusted and was about to give up.

Then the idea of growing Dahlias under cloth came to my mind; I have been very happy since I conceived that idea. I have had wonderful results, varieties of soft nature and no insect resistance would do nothing in this locality with me year after year. I had this to contend with. Dahlias grown under cloth have produced 100 per cent crop—varieties that would never develop—have wonderful foliage, stems, and colors excellent.

From the standpoint of familiarizing myself with new varieties it has been of great advantage to me, plants flowering much earlier. Called on many times during the year to act as a judge at flower Shows throughout this section, I have gained much knowledge through my experience with cloth grown Dahlias and other summer flowering plants. To judge these plants as I have grown them myself, I know their characteristics, their faults, and their dislikes. This alone has been of great assistance to me.

We have here two houses 33 x 66 feet. The number one house is planted not later than May 15th, generally this house starts to flower about July 15th to 20th, and will continue to flower until killed by the frost, so you see you have a very long flowering period. This is a great advantage allowing plenty of time to study plants well. Number two house is planted June 15th to 18th and will start to flower latter part of August and give fine blooms for the fall flower Shows.

Building of cloth house is very important. Where the house is situated is important factor, if house is exposed and has no protection the construction should be more rigid. Height is a very important factor, and we found out after constructing our first houses they did not meet with our approval so we designed the houses to our own ideas.

In regards to our construction, I will detail it for you so it may be of advantage to some other Dahlia lovers who are anticipating constructing a house or two this spring. We found height to be very important, because Dahlias grown under this method have a tendency to grow much taller than outside cultivation. Our posts are 14 feet long, 4 feet in soil, and 10 feet high above

planting level. The posts are of fir, and they are 4 x 4. We treat these posts with a tar solution, and they are set 16 feet apart. These are braced with dead men. On the outside of house our end post are braced with two dead men. For service, which is very important, I would recommend that you use turn buckles on each of your dead men guides so you may take up the slack when necessary.

In regards to center post, we have only one placed in center of house. We use No. 7 wire. This wire is very much heavier than recommended. This wire should be galvanized and stretched to top of post. When placing cloth on wire, you must use care and leave your cloth as loose as possible. Don't stretch your cloth, if you do, with the first heavy wind, cloth resisting wind will have a tendency to be torn off long before it should be.

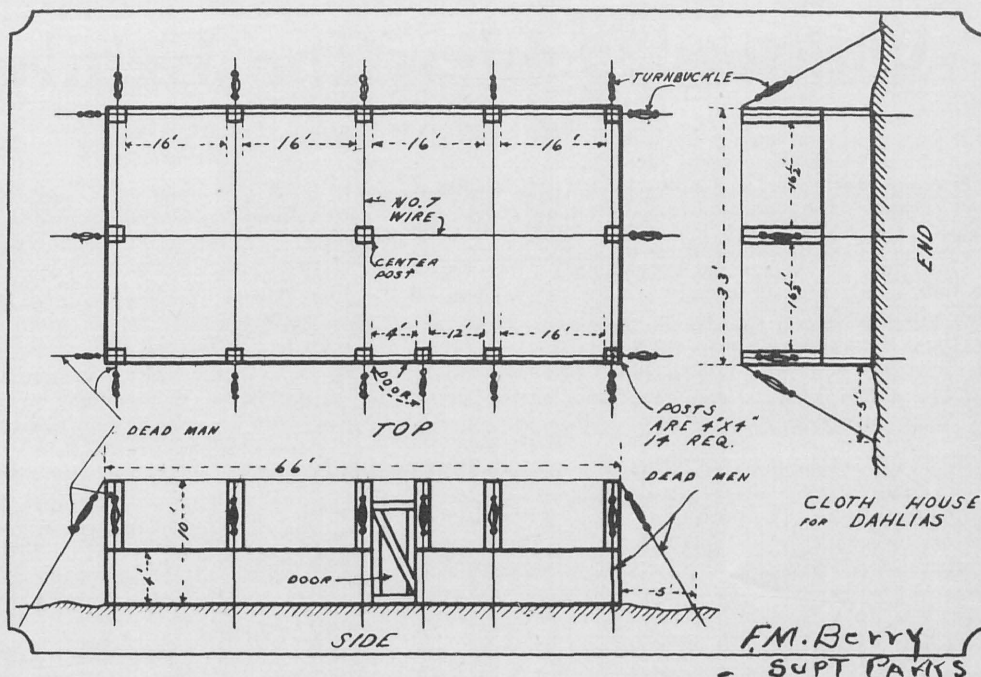
We purchase our cloth from Pureyear Co., Rome, Georgia, which is reinforced and white cloth is preferable. The top of the house 33 x 66 comes all in one piece, sides comes in two pieces, 6 feet wide and 99 feet long. We use No. 12 ply twine. Twine and needles come with cloth. We use over-lapping method, and we also construct permanent entrances with doors. We use boards on the side for 4 feet to get this height as cloth only comes in 6 feet width. If you do not desire this board on sides, you may use cloth, but we found this type of construction protects our plants from winds and makes our house more permanent.

Of course cloth houses have advantages and disadvantages. We do have the insects to control. The red spider is one insect that requires your attention. You must resort to spraying to keep this insect under control. Much damage will be done before you realize it if you are neglectful. You may use good insecticide to control this insect if you want to be economical you will have water line to your houses. You may resort to heavy water spraying. Aphis is easily controlled by spraying occasionally with good contact spray. Cut-worm is a menace especially when houses are first planted. They always seem to destroy your most expensive and rare varieties, but poison bait will control this insect. Don't wait until you have infestation. Immediately after planting broadcast bait freely in house. You will not have to worry about the birds. Being a covered area they have no access to same so you can use plenty of this material. It works very satisfactorily.

You will find that by growing Dahlias under cloth your foliage will be considerably larger and much healthier and plants much stronger. You will be required to remove plenty of this foliage so as to give your plants better aeration for three or four feet above soil level. We plant our plants 30 inches by 28 inches and we get about 300 plants in house 33 x 66 feet—each plant is staked with stakes 8 feet long 2 inches by 2 inches.

Dahlias grown from cuttings produce very good clumps in Fall. By having your water line in your

Plans for construction of Cloth House 33 x 66 prepared by Mr. Frank M. Berry.



houses you have complete control of your watering and spraying.

The Dahlia growers have been criticised for growing Dahlias under cloth by many commercial growers, but I am willing to be criticized when I can go out and buy cloth for two houses 33 x 66 feet for \$36.00 and with a little labor to insure my crop so when the time comes I can depend on a fine display of flowers. From my experience in late years with outside cultivation contending with borers, leaf hopper, Japanese beetle and other insects as they are in this locality to destroy your plants—it certainly is a worthwhile proposition.

Don't think your plants will be protected in fall from killing frost. Plants in cloth house will be wiped out with first frost before your plants outside are killed. I think the reason for this is that your plants are much softer than the ones grown outside.

Also precaution should be taken in regard to fertilizing with high Nitrate content.

My experience has demonstrated that flowers grown under cloth will not stand up as long as flowers grown outside after being removed from the plant and placed on Show bench.

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Old Nick and His Pal

By Harry Payne (The Cockney), Brewster, N. Y.

Every year when I start out about May to plant my Dahlias I make up my mind to keep them together in pairs, Actors in pairs, Statesmen, Historical Men, etc. Well, this year I got along fine, I found a pal for *Jane Cowl*, the same for *D. W. Morrow*, *Bing Crosby*, and *Rudy Vallee*, *Charles Chaplin*, *Lawrence Tibbet*. All seemed easy to handle, and at last I found that I had one left over, only one, yes but what a one, how had I missed it, it was an accident I assure you, you guessed it, it was *The New Deal*. That bird cost me about two berries (they do say that he cost some folks more than that), so I wanted a good spot for him, I also wanted to find him a Pal. I looked in my cellar, no not a thing, went next door, they only had a few Pompons. I wasn't going to pair off the *New Deal* with no blooming Pompon, so at last I called my friend a few miles away, and he said to come over, he was sure he had one or two, of course I drove over and looked around, he had just about a dozen to choose from, and after

a lot of thinking and looking I picked out one that I thought would be a suitable pal, you guessed it, I picked out *Satan*, and planted the two of them side by side in a nice spot, staked them, named them, and then waited and watched. Well after a while first one and then the other began to show above ground, *Satan* seemed the huskier of the two and began to leave the *New Deal* far behind. Well you can't spend good money on a plant and then forget it, so I mixed up some fancy manure water and fed it to the weaker one. Well after a few days I wish you could see how that *New Deal* went ahead, just left poor old *Satan* right behind. One morning I went out to look at them, and that old rascal *Satan*, I think, had stuck one of his horns in the main stem of his neighbor, or something, for there was the *New Deal* with a hole right in the middle and he sure looked sick. Well I cut away the broken part and once more began to prime the poor fellow, and then started a race, first one and then the other seemed to be thriving, but the darn things, neither of them, would bloom. The nights began to get as

(Continued on page 19)

Timing Dahlias for Exhibition

It isn't a winner until it is placed on the Show-table and adorned with the coveted blue ribbon.

Countless Dahlia enthusiasts have viewed a fine blossom in their own gardens but alas in bloom a week too early or several days late.

How then can an amateur grower with a hundred or so hills of Dahlias consistently win in many classes at the large Shows.

Good culture has its part but the rare art of timing is the secret of having blooms just when needed.

Quite a few growers keep records of the important

steps in pruning and disbudding—and the dates of each operation.

It is to the credit of a successful amateur grower that he very generously prepared for your Editor a complete schedule of his Dahlia raising activities for the year 1938.

John Nichols of Freeport, Long Island, hopes that the data presented may be of material help to growers everywhere to the end that more blooms will find their way to the Show tables this fall. This was his method of timing under "full sunshine" conditions.

Plants Only

Variety	Date Set Out	Date Pinched Back	Date First Bud	Date First Flower	First Flower Number of Days from			Notes
					Planting	Pinching Back	Bud	
Amelia Earhart	5/28	6/26	7/16	8/20	84	55	35	
Azura	6/12	7/9	9/11	10/30	130	114	49	
Ballego's Surprise	6/11	7/9	8/11	9/10	91	63	30	
Bernice Geer	6/1	7/9 —8/6	8/21	9/20	112	45	30	C
Bette Davis	5/28	6/20	7/16	8/5	69	46	20	
Blue River	5/28	6/18—7/16	7/28	8/21	85	36	24	B
California Idol	6/1	7/9	8/9	9/8	100	60	30	
Clara Carder	6/1	6/26—7/18	9/5	10/7	129	81	33	B
Darcy Sainsbury	6/1	7/9	8/6	8/30	91	52	24	
Dean Anderson	6/1	7/9	8/12	9/8	100	60	27	
Dulcenia	5/28	6/18	7/9	8/1	65	44	23	
Dahliacraft	5/31	7/9 —8/6	8/21	9/22	115	47	32	B
Frau Ida Mansfield	6/11	7/9 —7/24	8/14	9/6	87	44	23	C
Greater Glory	6/1	7/9	8/12	9/10	102	63	29	
Haslerova	6/1	7/9	8/9	9/5	97	58	27	
Hunt's Velvet Wonder	5/28	6/19—7/14	8/14	9/14	109	62	31	C
Kentucky Sun	5/28	6/26—7/16	8/9	9/8	103	54	30	C
Kilgore's King	6/22	7/13	8/28	9/29	99	77	32	
Lord of Autumn	5/28	6/19	7/22	8/17	81	60	26	
Mad. George Pezant	6/22	7/9	8/12	9/9	79	62	28	
Milton Cross	6/11	7/9	8/9	9/12	104	64	34	
Monarch of the East	6/1	7/9 —7/24	8/10	9/9	101	47	30	C
Mrs. George Le Boutillier	6/1	7/9	8/14	9/13	105	66	30	
Murphy's Masterpiece	5/28	6/19—7/16	8/13	9/20	115	66	38	C
New Glory	6/1	7/9	8/14	9/7	99	60	24	
Opal	6/1	7/9	8/6	9/8	100	61	33	
Prachtkerl	6/1	7/9 —7/16	8/27	9/26	118	72	30	A
Purple Mist	6/1	7/9	7/24	8/25	86	47	32	
Robert Ripley	6/1	7/9	8/12	9/18	110	71	37	
Rudolph's Giant	6/1	6/26	8/6	9/7	99	73	32	
Son of Satan	6/1	7/9 —7/24	9/1	10/1	123	69	30	B
Sultan of Hillcrest	6/1	7/9 —7/16	8/29	9/30	122	76	32	A
Sunrays	6/1	7/9	8/9	9/1	93	54	23	
Volcano	6/1	7/9 —8/6	8/21	9/25	117	50	35	C
Watchung Giant	6/1	7/12	8/9	9/7	99	57	29	
Average for 35 varieties					100	60	30	

See notes on page 9

Growing Outstanding Seedlings

By William H. Nuneviller of Salem Dahlia Gardens

A man may know as many languages as Burritt, may make scientific discoveries greater than those of Herschel or Darwin, may be as rich as a Vanderbilt, as brave as a Sheridan or Jackson, yet if he has not grown or created some outstanding Dahlias, he has missed many of the joys and pleasures of life. This is the concensus of opinion of the many Dahlia growers, and these same Dahlia growers tell me that there is nothing more fascinating than originating new varieties. Every originator is a lover of Dahlias. They tell me if you do not love Dahlias you cannot grow them successfully, nor can you make a success of the Dahlia business should you go into it commercially, and I fully agree with them.

J. A. Kemp, of Little Silver, N. J., (Daddy to all his friends), passed his 77th birthday July 6th last and is one of the pioneers in the Dahlia business. He has introduced over a hundred new Dahlias, and has several more to introduce in due time, yet in all the years he has been growing Dahlias, his love for these beautiful flowers has never waned. All his own originations were grown from his own seeds.

But it is not every one that is able to gather seeds. It is a pretty hard matter to get seeds here in the East as the weather is very seldom suitable to allow the seeds to ripen. So in gathering seeds it is necessary to pull out all the outer petals of the bloom you have selected for seed purposes as soon as these petals become wilted or dead. Several "pullings" may be necessary before the dead petals are all removed and the pod has closed. The pod should be left on the bush until it commences to turn brown, then removed before it becomes too dry and opens or you are very apt to lose your seeds. The pods should then be dried out and the seeds removed and kept in a dry place until ready for planting.

But to get the best seeds the first requisite is to select a good seed parent. There are lots of good seed parents, but to select one that will cross with all other Dahlias so as to produce all types has many seed growers puzzled. I know of one Dahlia that will cross with all varieties, provided the pollen of these varieties be ripe at the same time as that of the parent. By all varieties I mean poms as well as the large flowering Dahlias. I have produced ball Dahlias by crossing a large Dahlia with a pom and I have at the present time a ball seedling, white with a faint tinge of lavender, that I think is very good.

A great many seedlings I introduced in the past were originated from this one parent alone. When I discovered this parent a few years ago I had nearly 500 plants of it, but out of the lot I found only one plant that had set seeds and only one pod on the plant. I marked this plant as a female plant; all the others I called male plants. I propagated this one plant and now I have a good lot of female plants from this seed parent. I sent the roots of these propagated plants to California and Australia and the seeds I received from the plants grown from them have given me some very fine Dahlias. At the present time I have growing in Australia what my Australian friend calls the "Salem Seed Patch." Every other plant in the patch is the parent while the crosses are such Dahlias as *American Purity*, *Mother's Day*, *Robt. L. Ripley*, *America's Sweetheart*, *Royal Purchase*, *Greater Glory*, *Miss Glory*, *Freda George*, *Glamour*, *Everybody's Favorite*, *Brilliant Lady*, *Aurora* and a few of my newer seedlings I hope to introduce in due time. As at least fifty per cent of the crosses were originated from the seeds of my parent Dahlia, it is easily to be seen that I am line breeding to a certain extent.

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NOTES

"A"—Second pinching back severe on account of stem borer infestation. Normal timing should be about the above average.

"B"—Second pinching back very light and was necessary on account of corn borer infestation.

"C"—Second pinching back to delay blooming until mid September.

The above schedule was intended to bring the maximum number of flowers between September 10th and September 15th. Actually the height of bloom was September 20th. Abnormally heavy rainfall throughout the entire summer caused extremely heavy growth and based on former records delayed blooming about a week. Timing has been complicated by corn borer infestation as where formerly disbranching was commenced in mid July none was done the past season until late August at which time laterals not infested were saved and the normal number of blooms per plant were obtained. The laterals saved by this method may or may not have had the most advanced buds thus causing a differential in the timing that is beyond control.

The first corn borer infestation was discovered on July 16th, 1938, which was one week earlier than 1937. Almost complete control was obtained by daily spraying. Spray was applied 24 times between July 16th and August 24th. Most applications were made at dusk in an effort to keep the borer moth away and the results obtained apparently justified the method as there was practically no infestation after August 1st, where in the three preceding years infestation continued until the end of September, with spraying two or three times weekly. The daily spraying was only light application to the new plant growth with one heavy and thorough spraying each week. Many spraying materials were applied and apparently all gave results if applied often enough—watering was only necessary during the last half of August and care was used not to water the foliage and thus remove spray.

Shall We Have Special Classes for "The Bronze Foliage Dahlia?"

By A. B. Bauer

This is a plea for the creation of a new class of Dahlias. It may be said that we have enough classes now, but when a new comer persistently knocks at the door, demanding entrance, and when the new comer comes clad in a dress that is totally unlike any other foliage and has characteristics unlike any other of her species, she should have at least a hearing.

The new comer is the dark foliage Dahlia. Some call it "black foliage Dahlia," but a more exact definition would be bronze. So, as yet we have rather loose classification, and until someone more precisely defines it, we shall have to be content with its present classification, "the bronze foliage Dahlia."

It is of recent origin and for that reason it has not as yet had the following that time will bring. Its parentage, probably a seedling of *Lucifer*, still catalogued, but rare. From this introduction, as time elapsed, we have recorded names of other dark foliage types, *Little Othello*, *Lemur*, *Congo Belge*, *Nigra* and others, until finally that exquisite irresistible bronze foliaged beauty dazzled the grower—*Bishop of Llandaff*, introduced by Treseder, of Cardiff, Wales. It would appear that this variety, more than any of its predecessors, gave impetus to the breeding of all dark foliage kinds. But the amazing thing to my mind is the fact that not only have these introductions brought the dark delicate, lace-like foliage into prominence, but there are other deviations which, if found in other varieties, either miniature or larger types, have so far escaped me.

I have reference to the very lovely centers which hold unlimited possibilities of being introduced to larger varieties. *Mademoiselle Hubert Wauters* has a dark red center. Imagine *Oagleigh Monarch* or *Boutelier* with such a center. *Caldicote Castle* has a remarkable center of green, mixed with bright red, something like the colors in one of the beetles, while another has a center like a shiny black shoe button.

Another marked divergence that I have noticed is the stem of *Lemur*, which is flat with a distinct channel in the center.

And this is just the beginning. I quote from an article by the Secretary of the Belgian Dahlia Society, Major G. George:

"Last summer, when going over Mr. Nagel's experimental fields, I saw series of tiny plants, carrying exquisite flowers of varied hues, and I feel I must name those which are new of their kind; purple, white, canary yellow, the latter creating an exceptionally curious effect against its characteristic black foliage."

Mr. George also speaks of another with bronze leaves and red and white speckled flowers, and another resembling a large *Gaillardia Grandiflora* in a new shape, its copper yellow shade tending towards vivid red with contrasting black center, creating a charming effect.

Now, my plea and point is that we should have a class of this distinct breed, so that it will quickly be disseminated, quickly brought to the Show rooms and as quickly

have the various trends and divergencies transmitted to the larger Dahlia groups, as inevitably will happen.

Below are some that I have grown, and others are being added to the list as soon as found:

FLAMBEAU—Blossoms $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, Spanish red, peony center, bright golden stamens, mixed with moron center, dark stems, medium dark green foliage, height in partial shade $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 feet. Most excellent for arrangements.

MR. JOSEPH GORIS—Blossoms 3 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, shaded orange or light tangerine with streaked red reverse. Decorative, slightly showing center, with sawtooth edge petals, very dark stems, thick heavy dark green foliage, height 4 feet in partial shade. A new attractive color.

TANGLEWOOD—Blossoms $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 inches, shaded burnt orange, stems not very dark, and foliage medium foliage green, open peony center with pleasing large yellow disc. Height 5 feet in partial shade. Strictly speaking, not a bronze foliage Dahlia.

MADAME SIMONE STAPPERS—Bloom 2 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, geranium pink, black center, extremely attractive dark stems with dark and pleasing foliage. Height in partial shade 4 to $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet, center orange bronze.

CONGO BELGE—Blossoms 3 inches, dark cherry red, dark center enlivened by a few straw colored stamens, very dark stems. Flower held erect, pleasing dark green foliage. Height 3 feet in partial shade.

MR. JULES BUISSEUS—Blossoms 3 inches, light orange streaked with wild rose. Decorative with pleasing green center with rows of gleaming straw colored stamens. Dark green foliage, dark stems. Flowers held erect. Height $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in partial shade.

CALDICOTE CASTLE—Spanish red. The largest bloom in this class, clean cut single variety, with stamens of brightest gold, forming a halo around center of green and red. Foliage leathery and dark green on splendid dark stems. One of the best. If disbudded, blooms will reach 5 inches.

DOUBLE CALDICOTE CASTLE—Identical in color as the single, but with three rows of petals. In the opinion of the writer, not attractive as its namesake.

LEMUR—Bright cherry red with dark center, very unique foliage, resembling in daintiness a Chinese bronze gate I once had the pleasure of seeing. It was an indoor gate, and the artisan had worked out a design of peonies and irises that was as delicate as the embroidery on a mandarin's coat. The leaves were marvelously done and the flowers so dexterously executed that a child would easily recognize them.

The stems of this variety unlike most Dahlias are flat with a tiny channel in the dark center, with hair line green color of the leaf. The plant is a poem without the bloom. Four feet high in partial shade.

LEMUR IMPROVED—Cherry red with dark center, with golden edge. An improvement over Lemur in flower formation, but foliage is not of the dainty quality of its relative. Its stems are very dark, darker than Lemur, foliage dark green.

SCARLET CONGO—Barberry red bloom, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches, with small orange centers, dark stems, healthy dark green foliage. Three feet in height in partial shade. Not particularly attractive.

REV PERE DE DEKEN—An important acquisition, showing a departure in color. Blossoms $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in a novel and attractive blending and shading of yellows and oranges, with dark red or brownish center. Dark round stems, abundant bloom, foliage dark green.

LAGOS—Dark port wine red, 2 inch blossoms, held erect and long-branched. Foliage dark bronzy green, darker than Othello, probably the darkest of all Dahlia foliage. Attractive dark round stems, leaves heavily veined. Bush is open and graceful and 4 feet high in partial shade. A splendid addition.

FIREBRAND—Devil red bloom with twisted lacinated or sawtooth edge. Stems are dark garnet, foliage medium foliage green. Five feet in partial shade. Not particularly attractive.

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A. D. S. Official Trial Grounds

A. D. S. Trial Gardens at Storrs Celebrates Its 20th Year

The A. D. S. was instituted in 1915 and four years later in 1919 the first trial garden was established at Storrs, Connecticut. It was under the supervision of our good friend, and friend of the Dahlia, George W. Fraser. Later the work was taken over by Professor Roland H. Patch, who has most capably carried on the work so well started by Mr. Fraser and we hope that he may continue to do so for many years.

It has maintained its very high standard for a full score of years and a certificate at Storrs has been the best recommendation that any Dahlia could receive. Its first and only failure was in 1938 when the planting was wiped out by a hurricane on September 21st. However, storms of this type reach New England only once in a generation and it is not likely that we will suffer another for many years.

This year due to a building program, the gardens are to be moved to a new, but equally favorable location. It is hoped that all those who had entries in 1938 will return them for retrieval and Professor Patch is looking forward to a record breaking number of new entries. The fee is the same as in the past, three dollars for each variety, and three plants, or roots may be sent. Entry forms may be secured from the secretary or by writing to Professor Roland H. Patch at Storrs, Connecticut.

The fertilizer and timing garden will be continued under the direction of Mr. E. E. Tooker and it is expected that we will learn much more about timing and growing exhibition blooms. All of those making entries in the trial gardens are invited to send three extra roots, or plants, to be planted in the test plot. There will be no extra charge but entries will be limited to varieties now or having been previously entered in the trial gardens. For best results entries should be received by June 1st.

East Lansing Is Planning for a Record Number of Entries

Our Mid West trial garden at East Lansing under the supervision of Professor C. E. Wildon is filling a long felt want for our Mid Western members and all others who wish to have their new ones tried out under Mid Western conditions. Many have been received on the splendid job of judging and the fine report rendered last season and we know that Professor Wildon is prepared to duplicate this in 1939.

The entry fee is the same as for the other gardens, three dollars for each entry and three plants or roots may be sent. Entry forms are available from the secretary, or may be secured from Professor C. E. Wildon, Michigan Agricultural College at East Lansing, Michigan.

Ohio Valley Trial Grounds

The Ohio Valley Trial Grounds enter into the second season as an official A. D. S. testing gardens with everything in readiness for another fine season. The various details have been attended to with even better conditions than ever before to care for the entries. Only those who have seen these grounds can appreciate their wonderful natural advantages for growing flowers. The spacious Ault Park under the jurisdiction of the Cincinnati Park Board with Irwin N. Krohn and Harry Gray as the head is one of the finest park developments in the middle west. When in the vicinity of Cincinnati make this stop with Robert Seibel, the Park Superintendent, who will be most cordial in welcome.

All who intend to enter new seedlings and other varieties of Dahlias should get in touch with O. W. Mills, c/o Bell Telephone Co., 225 East Fourth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio. The annual election resulted in the following members being elected as the Trial Grounds Committee: Robert Seibel, Superintendent; O. W. Mills, Secretary; Charles Erhardt, Jr., Treasurer; Henry Smith, E. R. Heitzman, Frank Averbeck, Al. Weller.

Those who have entered Dahlias in these Ohio Valley grounds are among the leading Dahlia growers in the world. A certificate from this Trial Garden will insure a successful introduction of that variety. We wish to thank everyone that have submitted their stock for trial in the past two years and will continue with additional care the best culture possible to bring the best out of your entry, this ensuing season.

G. A. Richardson.

The West Virginia Trial Garden

By C. M. Roberts, Garden Superintendent

I have been asked to write a few lines concerning the history and development of the Dahlia trial garden which has been maintained by the West Virginia Dahlia Society. I am very glad to comply with this request, especially since the announcement has been made that the West Virginia Trial Garden is being made a branch of the American Dahlia Society trial garden scheme.

The West Virginia Trial Garden is located in Fairmont, West Virginia, on the campus of the state college. Fairmont is located on the great north-south Federal Route leading from the Great Lakes to Florida. The college grounds face this route.

The West Virginia Trial Garden is now entering upon its fifth season. It was established and operated by the state society before it was made a national branch. The growth of the garden has been steady rather than phenomenal. Flowers have been introduced through this garden from all sections of the country. Entries have been made in the garden from as far west as California, as far south as Tennessee and from up

(Continued on following page)

A. D. S. Trial Grounds—Cont. from p. 11

in New England. Good growers have consistently recognized the merits of the West Virginia Trial Garden.

The garden has developed with the reputation of being "strictly" graded and we rather glory in this reputation. We have felt that a "C.M." from the West Virginia Trial Garden had been really and truly earned. With such men as Jay Straight, Ralph Wells, Claude Boone, L. S. Connell and the late Dr. A. B. Scott and others, who have looked after the welfare of the garden and its entries, we feel that the garden has been in good hands and that the entries have been properly judged.

In closing this brief article let me state that the facilities of the West Virginia Trial Garden now, more than ever, belong to the good Dahlia breeders of the country. Our thanks are due to those growers who have used our garden in the past: we hope that they will continue to use the West Virginia Trial Garden.

An entry blank will be yours for the asking.

Alabama Trial Grounds

In view of our last year's experience with its many unfavorable conditions prevailing, I am happy to advise that the Dahlia Society of Alabama in coöperation with the Alabama Polytechnic Institute will continue its Bessemer Trial Gardens.

With the assistance of Prof. C. E. Wildon of East Lansing Michigan, Professor Oliver Shurtleff of Fairmont, West Virginia, Mr. David D. Long of the Georgia Experiment Station, Experiment, Georgia, and other noted Dahliasts, we feel that we have corrected the above conditions and we do not have any hesitancy in saying that our Bessemer Trial Ground, this year, will be one which both the contributor and our society will be justly proud of.

This continuation was warranted by the increased and growing interest in Dahlia culture in the state of Alabama, manifested by the large number of visitors from all over the state who viewed the new varieties with keen and critical interest, and by the large number of inquiries received for Dahlia variety information, particularly of those suitable to our climatic conditions.

Our plans are to have three hundred (300) stakes and we are now making reservations for same, for which there will be no charge. We extend to you a most cordial invitation to coöperate with us by sending your outstanding undisseminated and newer varieties for trial. The Dahlia Society of Alabama will grant a suitable award to those varieties which show the qualities of color, formation or growth, or a combination of those qualities, which are not found in varieties now commonly grown.

We are asking contributors to send three (3) roots or plants of each variety not later than May 10th, as this will be our planting date. I will appreciate hearing from you in regard to the above matter at your earliest convenience.

*Norman Lefkovits, President,
2126 Clarendon Avenue, Bessemer, Alabama.*

California Trial Grounds

Extenuating circumstances—two of them, in particular, are giving new emphasis to the importance of the Dahlia Society of California's Trial Grounds at the University of California Botanical Gardens. First of these two extenuating circumstances is the Fair. The Golden Gate-Treasure Island Fair is only twenty minutes distance from the Trial Grounds, and as a result, there will be literally thousands of visitors to the University of California Botanical Gardens in general, and to the Dahlia Trials, in particular.

Early indications are for a record entree list, with trials from two European countries, plus a large number from various sections of the United States already tentatively entered.

The strong demand created on the Pacific Coast for the various high scoring Dahlias at the Trial Grounds the past season practically assures Eastern growers of a chance to introduce their outstanding new creations to the West. It has been a notoriously well known fact that even the best Eastern Dahlias have taken a long time to be grown on the Coast. However, *Premier's Majestic*, *Michigan White*, *Joyce Louise*, three of last season's high ranking varieties will apparently be grown in quantity on the Coast this year—a fact which is a strong indication of the sales results traceable to Trial Gardens entries here. However, it is little wonder that this is so, for the Dahlia Society of California, the Dahlia Society of Alameda, and the Dahlia Society of San Leandro all hold forth within thirty minutes drive from the Botanical Gardens.

Tubers should be sent to arrive about the middle of May, or perhaps a week or so earlier. The entry fee is \$3.00, and entitles the entrant to send three tubers of one variety. Send the tubers and entry fee to Professor T. H. Goodspeed, or Mr. P. H. Brydon, care of Botanical Gardens, University of California. Address any correspondence to the Chairman of the Trial Garden—Edward Salbach, 657 Woodmont Avenue, Berkeley, California.

Edward Salbach.

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CORRECTION

In the report of Ohio Valley Trial Grounds, February issue, Raymond H. Moffat was designated as Superintendent. Mr. Moffat is Secretary of the Trial Grounds Work.

Mr. Robert Seibel is Superintendent and represents the Cincinnati Park Board as Superintendent of Ault Park, where the Trial Grounds is located.

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In mentioning Kanawha Dahlia Society in our last issue we gave its headquarters as Charlestown, West Virginia. This should have been Charleston, the well known capitol of that state. We very much regret this error and hope that our friends there did not mind this sudden move too much.

Dahlia Growing in California

By C. W. Ballay, Palo Alto, California

When our Editor asked me to tell the story of Dahlia Growing in California, I said I did not think in general practice, with a few exceptions, that our method differed greatly from that followed in other parts of the country. Normally most of our planting is done about May 1st and by November all bloom of any consequence has pretty well passed away. Roots may be set out very early in the Spring or very late, and sometimes are, but for best results the above planting date approximately is always recommended. In fact the clumps can be left in the ground all winter and will come up and bloom as early as May, but seldom will any plant continue to give satisfactory flowers over a longer period than 3 or 4 months.

Ordinarily Dahlia clumps here are dug about the first of the year when they are fully matured and completely dormant. They are enjoying a much needed rest common to all plant life which adds to their strength and vigor when the reawakening at the beginning of another season is at hand. This explains why California roots when placed on the propagating bench in early winter are often slower to sprout and require more forcing to start them than those from sections where they are dug when still tender and are never fully dormant or at least have been in storage for a longer time. Cuttings, however, taken from fully matured stock, though later, are very vigorous and there is no inclination to stunt. The way we start them here, and we do it without any difficulty, is just to plant them out of doors temporarily in a trench as we would in the garden. Of course, I know this could not be done in cold climates in winter, but I think if this condition were maintained as nearly as possible in the propagating house there would be no problem.

Here in California when the clumps are dug they are stored away permanently and left undisturbed until planting time when they are divided. There is practically no loss from rotting or other causes and all that is required is a suitable storage place protected from extreme temperatures and moisture. Green plants are used very little in this section, which simplifies Dahlia growing with us considerably. I do not wish to go on record as being opposed to green plants. I think they serve a good purpose especially in the case of new expensive varieties. However, I do think this is one of the reasons why our stock does not deteriorate and why our oldest varieties are just as good now as the first year we had them. Excessive propagation from cuttings I believe to be one of the chief reasons for weak stock, not so much the first year but when the practice is continued from the same stock year after year.

We do not have summer rains in California and all moisture must be given artificially. Because of this some handicaps to Dahlia growing are minimized, but after all there is nothing quite like water from the clouds to promote plant growth. When our roots are set out they are at once well watered to give them a strong quick start, and thereafter they must be watered once every week or ten days and when they are in full bloom

sometimes even as often as twice a week. The use of overhead sprinkling is our nearest approach to rainfall and it has been found very beneficial at least up until the time when the blooms are on the plants.

Aside from aphids and thrips we do not have many pests. Early and frequent spraying, which we consider essential as a safeguard, controls these easily. Even though no injury is apparent, an occasional spraying will keep the foliage green and healthy at all times, and naturally the quality of the flowers depends largely on the health of the plant. Though some varieties may have tougher foliage than others, it is hard to classify any as being insect-resistant if some thought is not given to insect control. If there are ants, they must be exterminated. Once they take possession of a place they are hard to manage.

Our favorite fertilizer is old-fashioned barnyard manure used as a mulch. In addition to supplying some plant food with each watering, it also conserves the moisture and keeps the temperature of the ground uniform. No doubt many of the commercial fertilizers of today are good if directions prescribed for using are followed.

And now I think I have about completed the cycle in a brief way as to just how we do it in California. have said nothing about seed which is a subject by itself and in a commercial way might involve some trade secrets if conscientiously covered. California has often been called the cradle of the Dahlia industry in this country, and I believe the Dahlia world is indebted more than it may think to such pioneers in this field as Bessie Boston, Jessie L. Seal Carl Salbach, F. D. Pelicano, and last but not least, J. J. Broomall, who died last year. As to the future, I think there is more Dahlia enthusiasm in California today than there has ever been, which disproves the statement that the Dahlia hobby is a passing fad. Dahlia-minded Californians because of their long experience are conservative but they are also progressive. They were probably the first to recognize the usefulness of the miniatures, but they are very sure that the future of the Dahlia Societies and Dahlia Shows, and the Dahlia business as well, depends for the most part on just what progress will be made in the improvement of the very large and spectacular types.

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A. D. S. Show—Cont. from p. 4

is considered the choicest among today's Dahlias, especially from the standpoints of form, color, usefulness in the garden, decorative beauty in the home and for exhibition.

At this year's Dahlia Show, we expect to find some splendid exhibits, resulting from information gathered since last fall, by amateurs showing their increased interest in the rich value of the Dahlia to the average home gardener.

By Georgena Humble

Dahlia Personals—and Personalities

By Oliver Shurtleff

Secretary, West Virginia Dahlia Society
Vice-President, American Dahlia Society

1264 Bryant Street, Fairmont, W. Va.

I call him "my friend of the flowers."

I first knew the subject of this brief sketch as an Indiana visitor to West Virginia. He had come as a teacher in the state university. Later, because he liked West Virginia, he made my state his state. For that, I am right smart glad. Not that I wanted to rob another state of a fine character but because I had a better chance to become more thoroughly acquainted with him. Since that time the acquaintanceship has grown and developed. I call him "my friend of the flowers."

Down here, where we know him, we call him "C. E." or "Charlie" or most anything. His real name is C. E. Lauterbach and he lives in Buckhannon, West Virginia. It is quite fitting that he lives in Buckhannon. That town was named after a Delaware Indian chieftan and "C. E." is "chief" among those who know their flowers.

Dr. Lauterbach received his Ph.D. from Harvard just a few years ago but having this advanced degree has not hurt or spoiled him. He has, to be sure, walked with the learned, but he has not lost the "common touch."

"My friend of the flowers" has been president of the West Virginia Dahlia Society and as its president, introduced many new features into the management of the society. He now serves the society in a creditable manner as a vice-president.

Dr. Lauterbach is the originator of the "Lauterbach Dahlia Rating Table" which is the best device that I have ever seen for removing Dahlia rating out of the field of guessing. To those who do not know this rating table of Dr. Lauterbach's let me suggest that they study it. (The writer of this article discussed this table a couple of years ago at a meeting of the A. D. S.)

Dr. Lauterbach is a writer of some distinction. He has written widely in the field of psychology but "I don't pay much mind to those articles." I do read his flower articles, however, and I do listen to his flower lectures. He has lectured quite a bit before flower and garden clubs and his talks are interesting and reliable. He is not a "parlor gardner." In his lectures he talks Dahlias, lilies, roses, glads, shrubs, but why go on? Give him your flower subject and he will talk it for you.

I have just said that "my friend of the flowers" is not a parlor gardner. He has a garden which bears the attractive title Clearbrook Gardens. In this garden grows literally thousands of glads. The Dahlias are there, too. Most of the work in this garden Dr. Lauterbach does himself. He knows and grows good flowers.

Over in the house where he lives, Dr. and Mrs. Lauterbach conduct a "personal flower store." When people come to buy they come as to a "friend of the flowers."

I recommend my friend to you.

A 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.

O. V. D. A. Show Dates

The important red letter days on the Dahlia Show map are September 30th and October 1st. Yes, that is the time when the famous Ohio Valley Show under the auspices of the O. V. D. A. will be open for the public. Additional features will be added this season that should interest every Dahlia grower and fan.

Sections, classes and awards covering every phase of the floral elites will be incorporated in the schedule. These schedules will be available around August 15th. If you are selecting any one Show to exhibit your fine blooms settle on coming to Cincinnati where a winner means money and fame for the exhibitor and originator.

Last season the introduction of the various Garden Club and Estates Sections met with such success that this year added impetus is being made to make this section even more inviting. A cordial invitation is extended all growers to make Cincinnati the metropolis of Dahlia fans September 30th and October 1st.

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"An Original Idea" (Not Copyrighted)

Dr. R. W. Moe presided at his first meeting as President of the Peekskill Dahlia and Gladiolus Society on the evening of April 11th, after returning from an extensive trip during the winter season in tropical climate.

President Moe undoubtedly had planned for some time how he could be of service to both the local society and to that of the mother organization. Knowing that the A. D. S. has spent much effort in the past to help toward the success of the Peekskill Society and that past President, Mr. Ed. J. O'Keeffe is now a Vice-President of the A. D. S., he made an unusually liberal offer as an incentive to boost the Peekskill Show, which will be held at the New York State Armory, Peekskill, N. Y., on September 15th, 1939, and at the same time help increase the membership of the A. D. S. by offering awards of full membership to the A. D. S. to all members of the Peekskill Society not already on the A. D. S. roster who exhibit in at least three (3) classes at the Peekskill Show this fall.

In expressing the gratitude of the society through the medium of this BULLETIN, to its leader of congenial personality and progressive ideas, we have in mind the possibility of helping to cement closer bonds of local societies to the American Dahlia Society.

The Day I Died

In the presence of a few friends and with two bouquets of the Dahlia *Robert L. Ripley* beside me, today, December 17, 1938, I celebrated the third yearly anniversary of my death. This statement may seem a little strange to you, but not to the writer. The Dahlia blooms were cut from two plants that had been planted in tubs and moved into the greenhouse at the beginning of cold weather.

"When the huntsman winds his horn, it is not a thing to laugh to scorn," so when I was invited to join a party in the deer woods on this eventful day just one year ago, I gladly accepted. Outside of growing Dahlias, nothing seems to attract and give more pleasure to the ordinary man than hunting.

It was not until the return trip that afternoon that I felt a slight distress in the region of the heart. The nearer home the more severe the pain became and I soon realized that it was of a serious nature. I felt that if I had to die I would be more satisfied to die in my own home. The family physician administered to me for two hours, but the pain was getting more severe. When I thought I could stand it no longer the arteries collapsed, the heart ceased to beat and I was dead.

The question has often been asked: "Does the brain continue to perform after the heart ceases to function?" Mine did. My whole life passed before me, even so far back to the time when I was a little child. Fleeting memories were made vivid realities and many events that I had long ago forgotten were brought to my memory. And I even realized what people would say when they heard that I was dead. This one would say: "A good man gone," and another: "He was no good on earth. It is a pity he did not die long ago."

Then I started to travel, going over many miles of territory that were familiar to me. The landmarks were easily recognized; in fact, more plainly than ever before. I traveled through great distances that were unfamiliar and I saw many wonderful things. I visited many of the Dahlia gardens in California where the seed growers were still gathering seeds. From there I took a ship, sailing south and into the harbor of Rio de Janeiro. I flew across the snow-capped Andes, visited the historic Inca ruins, stopped at many cities along the east and west coasts and trekked through the jungles to glimpse the Falls of Iguazur.

Again I took a ship and steamed to Australia where there are many Dahlia gardens. I went into the greenhouses and through many gardens, and in the latter I noticed Dahlia plants three and four feet high down to the tender plants just being set out. This was new to me to see some growers setting out a few plants each day over a long planting season. Some of these plants I was able to recognize, but many were foreign to me.

I traveled through Africa, Europe, Asia, and even through the barren lands of ice and snow. To record what I saw, or thought I saw, the many peoples and scenes, would require more than a hundred years.

Then I found myself in my own little greenhouse here in Salem. I saw myself working away year after year and the many mistakes and few successes were pointed out to me. One factor, (a sort of experiment) that had always proved an utter failure, (when tried the past Spring according to the way it was shown me) turned out a complete success.

Seemingly I drifted away from the earth, up, up, and

still up, until the earth appeared to be no more than a small copper ball. I began to recognize many faces, but they were not those of the living. Among them were two of my associates on the Board of Directors of a corporation we founded fourteen years ago. They had recently passed away. There were many of the Dahlia profession and their images were as plain to me as they were on the last day I met them. They were bringing bouquets of Dahlias. The wondrous beauty and refulgent glory of these far exceeded any on earth, and they seemed to have almost sempiternal substance.

I could sense no wrong. I felt that I was with true friends at last. Oh, the comfort, the inexpressible comfort, of feeling safe with true friends. "Such joy not even angels can emulate." I felt as though I could say anything; could pour out the chaff and the grain together, knowing they would take my words and sift them, keep what was worth keeping, and with the breath of kindness blow the rest away.

But I could not keep up with my friends. I felt myself falling back to earth. Perhaps this can better be described by Milton in *Paradise Lost*, "Back to thy punishment, false fugitive, and to thy speed add wings." I gasped for breath; my heart commenced to beat; the excruciating pain returned, but not in all its intensity, and there before me stood the doctor winding up his stethoscope. His face bore an expression of surprise and wonder. He had already pronounced me dead.

If any one of you ever made a trip to the Great Beyond, tell me! yes, tell me! was I dead, and was I on my way to Heaven, or to hell?

William H. Nuneviller.

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A DAHLIA WITH A DIFFERENCE

Pately Bridge Gardener Won't Sell It for £10

Three years ago Mr. Frank Atkinson, a retired rope manufacturer, realized that something was happening to a bed of Dahlias in his garden at Foster Beck, Pateley Bridge. Since then the blooms, which were of the ordinary *Coltness Gem* variety, have added to their makeup the characteristics of the scabious plant, and the result is a flame-colored flower, double the size of the original Dahlia, with a center of hundreds of tiny trumpets of the same shade, tinged with yellow.

Mr. M. Pritchard, head gardener at the Harrogate and District General Hospital and a friend of Mr. Atkinson, said yesterday, "There are no other flowers like it. A well-known firm of professional gardeners have offered Mr. Atkinson £10 for every one he has, but he has refused to part with them."

Mr. Pritchard believes that the pollen of some scabious plant and the Dahlias has been blended by a bee.

We are indebted to Mr. H. Lodge of Rockleigh Dahlia Gardens, La. Mesa, California, for this interesting news item from England, and a similar clipping has also been received from Mr. J. Hetherington of Whitinsville, Massachusetts.—Editor.

Suggestions for the Trial Grounds

By A. H. Emmons

We are about an hour's drive from East Lansing, Michigan, where the Dahlia Trial Gardens are located. Being especially interested in the Dahlia—and a grower—we naturally make many visits each year to these noted gardens.

Professor C. E. Wildon and his co-workers have planned and laid out these gardens in the most artistic and pleasing manner. The green sodded paths between the rows make one feel as though you were walking up the carpeted aisles of a beautiful store; and the painted stake at each seedling carries a very plainly printed label giving the number or name of the Dahlia, also the originator and his address.

From the time the Dahlia commences to send forth its blooms until frost, the thousands of Dahlia "fans" and growers haunt this most interesting spot; many spend hours, and some all day.

Of course everyone knows that you will find here every type, specie and color that is known in the Dahlia kingdom; and too, there is the tall, the dwarf, the slender, the bushy, the weak, the healthy and those that look as if they should be removed to a hospital.

It is this last mentioned condition that prompted me to place this thought before you. We have been growing Dahlias nearly twenty years; which of course is not nearly so long as many who will scan these few lines. It has always been our practice (and always will be) in our entire gardens, to destroy each and every Dahlia plant that shows disease in any form whatsoever. It has become almost a slogan with us in saying "*Not a Sick Dahlia in the Patch.*" We have dug up and burned Dahlias for which we have paid as high as \$15 per root. Every year we are more thoroughly convinced that it is the proper thing to do; and I am wondering if every Dahlia garden was rogued this way if it would not eliminate a lot of grief.

Now going back to the trial grounds: Would it not be a step toward "better Dahlias" to have a sentence inserted in the form that you fill out when you send your seedling to the Trial Grounds, reading like this:

"Should any of the seedlings that we are sending show any disease whatsoever, I instruct you to destroy at once."

Further, would it not be a good idea to have it understood that *all* clumps in the Trial Grounds at digging time be destroyed and *not* returned to the owner?

I do want it understood that conditions at this Trial Grounds are no different than they are at any other Trial Grounds. They all have the same difficulties.

I am for BETTER AND HEALTHIER DAHLIAS.

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NEW VARIETY REGISTRATIONS

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

THUNDERBOLT. By Lew Sarett, 1732 South Green Bay Road, Ravinia, Illinois. Incurved cactus, large red.

MANHATTAN. Informal decorative. Brilliant red and gold. Size 12 x 6. DEBUTANTE. Cactus. Pure waxy white. Bush 6 feet. Size 10 x 6. By S. Yohe Veile, R. D. 2, Easton, Pennsylvania.

Please address all enquiries in reference to registrations to the chairman of our Nomenclature Committee, Dr. Charles H. Connors, New Jersey Agricultural Experimental Station, New Brunswick, N. J. Make checks and money orders payable to the American Dahlia Society.

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American Dahlia Receives High Honors in Europe

The Dahlia *Charles L. Mastick* sent for trial at Wisley has been highly commended jointly by the Royal Horticultural Society (H. C.) and the National Dahlia Society (A. M.) of Great Britain. This is generally considered about the highest honor any Dahlia can receive.

Also it has received highest award in Holland (A. M.) and three "Champion" tickets in Australia as they call them.

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Dahlias in Winter—Cont. from p. 5

The variety was *Harvest Flame* a very large 12 inch informal decorative, very bright flame in color. But the bloom in the water was far from being perfect but was nevertheless the remarkable; it had about 2½ rows of petals and the color was pale orange and about 4 inches across.

After the bloom began to fade the foliage began to die also and soon dried up. I presume the bloom had exhausted its strength.

The cutting showed no signs of making any roots, in fact there was little chance that it could as it was cut mid-way between joints where the stem was very hollow.

As the water evaporated in the glass, I added more to keep it about the same level, but no chemicals or fertilizer of any kind was put in the glass.

This was an interesting experience also and another season I shall try more. A number of my friends and Dahlia fans enjoyed these experiments with me (and can bear witness to the truth of my statements).

I cannot recommend either of these experiments for growing exhibition blooms, but I feel sure you will have some fairly nice blooms and will enjoy the experimenting with them as I have.

There is a new strain of Dahlias now being grown in the green houses, which when planted in pots and started very early will bloom for Easter, and are sometimes called the *Easter Dahlias*, originated in Holland.

These early flowering Dahlias are very dwarf, averaging about 12 to 18 inches tall, and now come in many colors, and it will be interesting to see these varieties in bloom so early in the spring.

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.

26 Main Street,
Whitinsville, Mass.

Mr. Alling, Secretary and Treasurer
American Dahlia Society.

Dear Sir:

In enclosing remittance for renewal of membership in American Dahlia Society, and being one of those fans classified as a small backyard Dahlia grower I thought it might interest you to know what my wife and I found out about Dahlias while on a visit to England and Scotland.

I was under the impression that we were the ones to grow the large flowers. However my impressions were soon knocked asunder, when viewing the gardens in Durham, Northumberland and in the city of my birth, viz., Carlisle, Cumberland.

In my conversations with the many growers, I learned that they are not troubled with the cutworms and borers to any extent there as we are over here. In fact one grower in Northumberland said the only thing that was giving him any trouble was wasps.

Then again all the plants appeared to be quite uniform in height namely about four feet high and covered with blooms which were magnificent in color and texture and none appeared sun scorched or bleached. While being delighted to view the beautiful gardens and flowers in the north of England, the grand climax came when we visited the National Dahlia Show in London. Never have I seen such a display of lovely flowers. Banked around the hall and reaching a height of about ten feet the Dahlias were shown in all their glory and in all the colors of the rainbow, making indeed a beautiful scene long to be remembered and which merits great credit to those who were responsible for the decorative plans.

We received a very cordial reception by the secretary of the Society, also by Mr. G. F. Drayson who took me around and introduced me to so many I felt quite at home and delighted to be in such pleasant company.

A feature which appealed to me was the committee's choice of about twenty varieties which were selected to be submitted for consideration at Wisley Trial Grounds. These were on display on the platform and were in themselves quite an item of interest to the many attending the Show.

Another attraction was the striking exhibit of the Dutch Dahlia Society. In fact it was a question which was the best flower among the varieties of outstanding quality shown.

It may interest you to learn that Mr. Drayson whose articles appear from time to time in the American Dahlia Society BULLETIN won the Windolite cup for nine blooms. He also won first prize for twelve blooms and second prize for Valentine Smith Challenge Cup for six best blooms of cactus variety.

Mr. Drayson grows the large ones and judging from what I saw I don't mean maybe. In fact I was informed if I wanted to find Mr. Drayson just to hang around where the large decoratives were and I'd be sure to find him there.

I should like to extend to the members of the National Dahlia Society of England my sincere thanks for their kind and cordial reception of my wife and I.

I remain,

Yours truly,

Joseph Hetherington.

Co-operate With the Midwest Conference Show

President Joseph Mallin of the O. V. D. A. voices the unanimous support of the O. V. D. A. to the Ohio State Society in helping make the Fifth Annual Midwest Show the finest Show in the country. President Strasen and his able bevy of officers and committee men and women are bending every effort to stage a classic that will meet with the loud congratulations of every Dahlia grower. All roads will lead to Cleveland this fall when the dates of September 23rd and 24th comes round.

At this time the season has been very cool and damp but we must have patience. There will be a fine harvest just as has been each season provided we do our part in taking advantage of the fair days as they come. Here in the Ohio valley much interest has developed in the growing of miniatures and pompons. There is still the predominate interest in the larger flowered varieties but it is noticeable the additional interest in the fine little types for which the Dahlia has provided numerous fine new types. Truly, the Dahlia stands out as the leader of all exhibition flowers and rapidly gaining ground as a good cut flower.

Yes, point your efforts to make that Show of your Society the best ever and then top off your efforts by showing at both the marvelous Midwest and A. D. S. Shows booked for Cleveland and New York, respectively.

G. A. Richardson.

THE BLUE DAHLIA

UNCLE EBEN SAYS:

I sometimes git to figurin
about what some folks lacked
'n then I think that mebbby so,
They're jest a wee bit cracked.

Take these Dahlia men, fer instance,
they'll toil 'n sweat 'n grime
to git a flower to bloomin right
at jest a certain time.

If plants grow too fast in July,
they seem to have a knack
of knowin' what they ought to do
'n how to cut 'em back.

'N then 'Ive seen these fellers, who
are big 'n husky men,
a bendin' down 'n peerin'
at each 'n every stem.

'N when they see a black spot, they
start diggin' like a mole
to see if its a coverin'
a little borer hole.

'N when they see green leaf hoppers
that jump from plant to plant,
they trundle out the ole spray tank
'n pump 'n cuss 'n rant.

'N when the flower starts openin' up,
they'll watch it like a hawk,
'n if a beetle takes a nip,
you ought to hear 'em squauk.

'N while the plants 'n flowers provide
insects with appetizer,
these fellers (optimistic all)
keep feedin fertilizer.

Then if, by chance, the bloom appears
as though it might be good
but the stem's a little crooked,
they'll splice it up with wood.

'N if the color's good 'n bright,
fer fear that it will fade,
they will fix up some contraption
that's usually home made

to keep the sun from burnin' it,
'n keep the rain off too,
'n protect it from the whippin' leaves
'n even from the dew.

What if the bloom survives all this?
You mebbby want to know.
They cut it off most tenderly
'n put it in a Show.

'N if it gits a blue ribbon,
they feel their job's well done;
throw out their chests in mighty pride
'n think its' heaps of fun.

To do all this, they must be smart.
I'm sure they can't be lazy.
They might be doin' somethin' worse.
I guess they ain't so crazy.

L. F. Fox, Bellerose, L. I.

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WHO IS WHO IN THE DAHLIA
WORLD

*Valuable data of Dahlia winnings compiled by Mr. and
Mrs. A. H. Emmons, Emmons Dahlia Gardens,
Battle Creek, Michigan*

This survey is made from all the authentic reports
from the many Dahlia shows throughout the United
States during the Autumn of 1938.

It would be too voluminous to give a detailed report
of every show and the name of each flower that won,
so we will have to be content with just a condensed
resume.

A Dahlia bloom, to win a prize, must be good; and
the same variety, to win many prizes throughout Amer-
ica, is sufficient evidence to prove its value as a good
and worthy Dahlia for any garden.

The Dahlia that stood out far ahead of all others was
the great *Lord of Autumn* with a win of 67 times, and
the most of these were firsts.

The next in line was that noble old *Murphy's Master-
piece* with a tally of 62. Many of its wins were for the
largest in the Show.

We found that old Canadian favorite, *Jean Trimbee*,
came in third with 49 prizes.

Very close to number three was *Golden Standard* with
a count of 44.

It is interesting to see how *Hunt's Velvet Wonder*
came up this year to score 36.

The sixth place was surrendered to *Robert L. Ripley*
with 27 ribbons, and a very large number was for the
largest bloom.

We are sorry to see *California Idol* lose ground and
take only 25 prizes for seventh place.

From henceforth, we will name them as they stood in
their winnings:

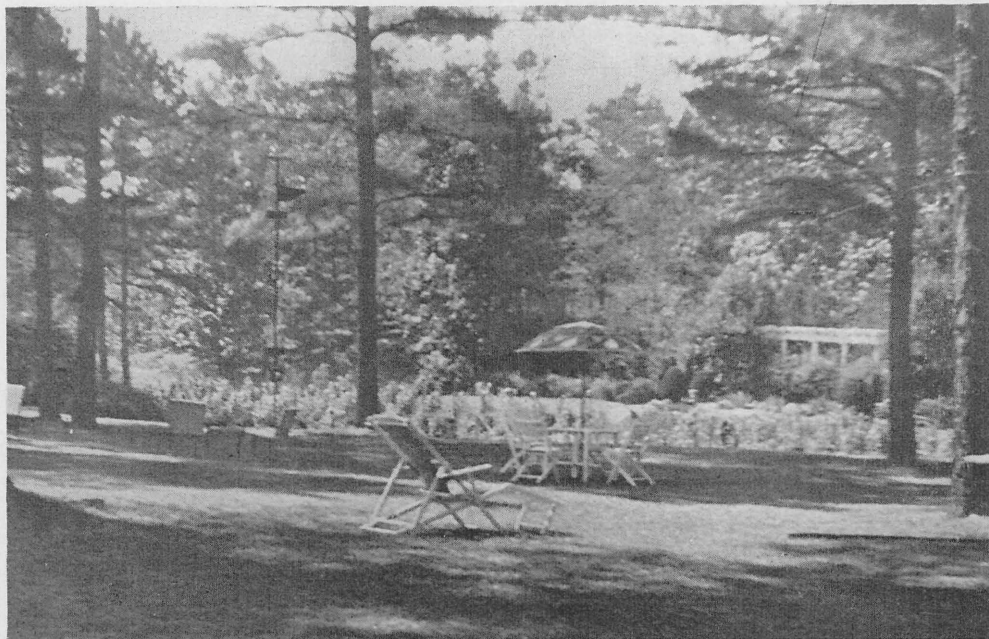
*Ballego's Surprise, Satan, Amelia Earhart, Darcey
Sainsbury, Oakleigh Monarch, Margrace, Miss Belgium,
Ft. Monmouth, Blue River, Milton J. Cross, Kentucky
Sun, Jane Cowl, Miss Ohio, Bette Davis, Cavalcade, Jer-
sey's Dainty, Haslerova.*

We predict a great change in the Dahlia champions
this coming Autumn.

We could fill several pages, but you will have to
wait until next year. One can hardly go wrong in
choosing any of the above, as they certainly have had
a thorough test.

We would appreciate reports from every one of our
friends, from their Dahlia Show this fall. It will help
us all.

A lovely dahlia garden in a magnificent setting. Atlanta, Ga. is the location—the garden that of Mr. C. E. Faust, President of the Dahlia Society of Georgia.



Plans have been formulated for a mammoth Dahlia Show to be held in Atlanta at the Municipal City Auditorium on September 29th. This building is located a few blocks from the center of the City, easily accessible to the general public. There will be plenty of space for artistic display and a very successful show is expected. Wide awake committees have been at work on the plans for this show since January, with the results that schedules are all ready printed and most plans completed to date.

Competition will be keen in this show due to the en-

largement of the schedules and due to the fact that the smaller types of Dahlias will play an important part in the displays. There will be many new varieties of the large show types displayed, and some splendid seedling exhibitions. Growth and exhibition of seedlings is encouraged by the Society. Some very good prospects have been shown by our seedling growers.

All in all, we believe that Georgia has a splendid Dahlia Society, full of enthusiasm that will catch the eyes of other similar organizations over the country.

C. E. Faust, President.

Dahlias Selected for Growing in Missouri

Note: The following is the result of the membership poll of the Missouri Valley Dahlia Association for the best Dahlias in the following types under Missouri Valley climatic condition:

Large Flowering Types

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Lord of Autumn | 10. Jersey Beauty |
| 2. Murphy's Masterpiece | 11. Kemp's White Wonder |
| 3. California Idol | 12. Thomas A. Edison |
| 4. Hunt's Velvet Wonder | 13. Ballego's Surprise |
| 5. Jean Trimbee | 14. Golden Standard |
| 6. Jane Cowl | 15. Kemps Great Eastern |
| 7. Satan | 16. Kemps Violet Wonder |
| 8. Blue River | 17. Mrs. Geo. LeBoutillier |
| 9. Dwight W. Morrow | 18. Ruby Taylor |
| 19. Sultan of Hillcrest | |

Pompons

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. Atom | 3. Mary Munns |
| 2. Joe Fette | 4. Yellow Gem |

Miniatures

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1. Jean | 3. Carla |
| 2. Bishop of Llandoff | 4. Baby Royal |
| 5. Buckeye Baby | |

Ball Type

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Mary Helen | 3. Pink Ball |
| 2. Shirley Temple | 4. A. D. Lavoni |

Also

Princess Victoris, August Mayer, Jersey Beacon Ball

• • •

Old Nick and His Pal—Cont. from p. 7

cold as anything buds formed and again I felt sort of cheerful, October was well on the way, others had frost but so far not me, and so the race ran on. November, there they were, still alive, but a bit poor looking, kind of groggy, and on Wednesday, the ninth of November, there they both lay. They had got it in the neck at last, yes, you're right, the eighth was Election Day. There's only one thing the matter with this little yarn, it's absolutely true.

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."

LYNN B. DUDLEY, *President*
18 Interlaken Drive, Tuckahoe, New York
C. LOUIS ALLING, *Secretary and Treasurer*
251 Court Street, West Haven, Connecticut
GORDON F. WAASER, *Vice-President and Editor*
269 South Grand Avenue, Baldwin, New York

Editorial

It is gratifying to note the varied methods being put forth to stimulate more Dahlia interest, and yet, the surface has hardly been scratched.

It is a sad commentary that as one traverses mile after mile of countryside, Dahlias are found growing but few and far between!

If we believe—as we say we do—that the Dahlia is such a magnificent member of the horticultural group we should have an intense desire to share with others the joy it imparts.

It is the job of the members of the American Dahlia Society and all sectional and local societies to do all in their power to interest others in growing Dahlias.

Much has been accomplished by showing colored motion pictures to garden groups again this winter. It takes skill, patience and money to produce these fine films and we congratulate the enthusiasts who have done so much along these lines. The A. D. S. is planning a sort of film exchange, details of which will be announced later.

The Trial Grounds always attract a great many visitors and we may hardly hazard a guess as to the number of folks there inspired to commence growing Dahlias.

Interest in planting Dahlias in public parks is increasing and bids fair to take a leading part in stimulating Dahlia enthusiasm. If there is a park in your locality or railroad station landscaping, it will afford you a banner opportunity to suggest an appropriate Dahlia planting.

Plan to increase your own Dahlia garden and invite your friends and neighbors to enjoy it with you when the glorious blooms burst forth in the fall.

The greatest need of the Dahlia today is that it be more universally grown. Will you do your full share?

Attention has been directed to the confliction of names of some new varieties with older varieties already in commerce.

The A. D. S. nomenclature committee under the most competent direction of Dr. Charles Connors should have the constant cooperation of every member.

At the time you discover any new variety being termed a name which is already in use won't you kindly communicate with Dr. Connors at once.

• • •

Dahlia Society of Wisconsin Becomes a Participating Society

The latest society to join our participating group is the Dahlia Society of Wisconsin who has sent us the required number of members and is now a full fledged branch, or participating society of the A. D. S. Mr. J. Heineman of Milwaukee is its president and Mrs. W. E. Keman of 627 North 76th Street, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, is the secretary. Welcome Dahlia friends from Wisconsin.

• • •

Why Not Stop Off at Scranton?

Why not arrange to stop over at Scranton on your way to the New York World's Fair? Plan on doing so and better still try to make it on the eighth and ninth of September when we, the Northeastern Dahlia Society are going to stage our first Dahlia Show. The place is the spacious auditorium of the Y. W. C. A. The location is ideal from a number of different angles. It is centrally located within a very few minutes from Scranton's railroad stations and leading hotels and very convenient. Parking facilities are excellent because the auditorium is on the main floor with two entrances, one from Linden Street, the other from Jefferson Avenue. There are no stairs to climb or elevators to bother with.

Our Committees are busy and working overtime to make our Show a big success and to uphold our prediction of the "cleanest Show in the East." We expect this and nothing less.

The Show Gardens at Nay Aug Park will be something for Dahlia fans to visit. The response of various growers to cooperate by sending stock is very encouraging and we predict that the gardens will be viewed by thousands of people. The Society plans to run a popularity contest at the gardens by means of votes. We also expect to have representatives at the gardens on Saturday and Sunday afternoons during the blooming season to act as guides or hosts; to answer questions and explain the growth, habits, varieties, etc., of the Dahlias to spectators who are not familiar with them. Each guide or host may be easily identified by means of a badge which will be worn in plain sight. It is our intention that this Dahlia Show Garden should be a source of Dahlia Education as well as a beauty spot.

Again why not make Scranton a stopping point on your vacation and visit with us? Better still, drop us a line letting us know when to expect you and we will do our best to make your visit a pleasant one. The invitation is yours and your presence certainly will be welcomed.

Again, "Why Not?"

Charles H. Stoeckel, *President.*

L. I. M. D. A. Annual Dinner

By Avery F. Nesbitt

On the evening of March 18th, more than seventy men, members and friends of the Long Island Men's Dahlia Association, gathered for their annual dinner. As in the past few years, this dinner was held in the delightful old Garden City Hotel. The selection of a date for the gathering always seems well planned. Just too early to do much outdoor work but in the middle of the propagating season, it is a pleasure to see the seasoned growers and novices sit around in groups and discuss Cuttings, Rootstock, Potting and the possibilities for the coming year. It is always difficult to tell whether the "old-timers" or the amateurs are the more enthusiastic.

From advance information to the effect that Connie Frey was going to talk on the subject of classifications and Warren Maytrott on color, those of us who have not been growing Dahlias for a great many years were under the impression that we would emerge from the meeting as competent judges. However, after Mr. Frey's splendid talk on groupings and classifications, and Mr. Maytrott's able treatment of the subject of color, both gentlemen using the stereopticon slides to great advantage, we realize the vast possibilities of form variations and shade diversification and went out much wiser as to the difficulties confronting those who judge our flowers.

An additional treat was accorded us in the showing of the colored motion pictures of Mr. E. E. Tooker, covering the Storrs Trial Grounds also Mr. Tooker's garden at Rockville Center.

Dr. Preas then showed us via cartoons on the stereopticon some of the activities of commercial growers aside from their Dahlia ventures. His humorous explanations were riots!

After the talks we enjoyed the entertainment Dr. Preas had prepared for us but above all we were glad for the meeting of old friends and the usual fellowship which always prevails at these dinners.

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Scalding Stems of Cut-Flower Dahlias

By Harley T. Peck

About the year 1923 I made a test of the effect on keeping qualities of scalding the stems of cut-flower Dahlias. Half the flowers were treated and half untreated. The untreated flowers kept considerably longer. We have never treated our cut-flowers in any way.

Since 1923 from time to time I have seen references to this method. Evidently some Dahlia growers believe this method is beneficial to the keeping qualities of Dahlia blooms.

This fall I decided to make another test of the scalding method and did so as follows: Six blooms of *Oakleigh Monarch* and six blooms of *Dr. Verbage* were cut out of the hot sun at noon, and remained only one-half hour in our cool cellar before test was made. These blooms were carefully selected to be as alike as possible in respect to length and texture of stem, size and age of flower.

Three blooms of each variety were labeled and one and one-half inches of the stems was scalded till a slight discoloration was noted. The untreated flowers were held in close proximity to the ones being treated but no steam or radiated heat was allowed to strike the blooms. They were all then placed in the house in a large deep vase with cold water. The following results were noted:

	6 flowers untreated	6 flowers stems scalded
After 2 hours	3 flowers slightly soft in back	All flowers perfect
After 15 hours	All flowers perfect	All flowers perfect
After 24 hours	All flowers perfect	All flowers perfect
After 48 hours	All flowers perfect	All 6 flowers start- ing to get soft in back
After 62 hours	All flowers perfect	4 flowers badly wilted; 2 flowers soft in back
After 72 hours (3 days)	4 flowers perfect 2 flowers soft in back	All 6 flowers badly wilted

The above test was taken during warm weather in early September. Flowers were not removed from vase during test and water was not changed or added.

Conclusion: Scalding the ends of stems of Dahlias may prevent quick wilting of Dahlia blooms when cut in hot weather and immediately placed in water in a warm room.

Scalding the ends of stems of Dahlias shortens the keeping life by approximately 24 hours.

I would appreciate hearing from anyone who may not agree with the above conclusion.

We will continue to condition our Dahlia cut-flowers in our cool cellar before shipping out.

PLANTS OF LEADING VARIETIES

American, Australian and English

Send for List

ETHERINGTON DAHLIA GARDENS

125 Lexington Avenue Westwood, New Jersey

FREE TO DAHLIA LOVERS

If you enjoy growing Dahlias, send us a complete list of the varieties that you now have. In return, you will receive free of charge and postpaid, a fine variety not now included in your planting!

We want you to find out, in your own garden, that Kunzman's Dahlias are the most vigorous and dependable on the market. Won't you let us prove it to you—**absolutely free?**

RUTH KUNZMAN, New Albany, Ind.

Growing Outstanding Seedlings—Cont. from p. 9

I have heard Dahlia growers say that the seeds in the outside rows of the seed pods are the only good ones, but this is not at all in line with my experience, as one of the best of my 1939 introductions was originated from a seed taken from the corolla.

It would not do for everybody to think alike. It would be a great world. Why, there would be only one Dahlia; one of everything. It reminds me of the colored preacher who said: "If every man thought alike every man would want my wife, and that would be a calamity." But an aged male parishioner replied: "Parson, I fully agree with you, but not in the same sense. If every man thought alike no man would want your wife, and that would be a catastrophe."

It is not always the most outstanding Dahlias that produce the new winners. The parent, the one I am using, while a good Dahlia in its day, would not stand much chance in the showroom today, and I am doubtful if it could defeat any of its progeny. The parent I am using is *Sonny Boy*, the first Dahlia I ever originated.

STRASEN INTRODUCTIONS

Pride of Austinburg, Garden Delight,

Red Victor—\$1.25 each

Negus \$3.00 Little Miss Muffet \$1.50 each

One root each of the above \$5.00

STRASEN FLORAL GARDENS, Austinburg, Ohio

We do not as a rule, advertise the host of complimentary letters we receive annually from customers all over North and Central America. However, the following expresses so clearly the Ideal toward which we have been striving the past twenty years, that we feel justified in using it for the information of our readers. We quote:

Harley T. Peck & Sons,
Golden Rule Dahlia Farm,
Lebanon, Ohio.

Dear Sirs:

Here is an unsolicited testimonial. The Dahlia roots I purchased of you last spring were splendid roots, the best I have ever received from anyone; every one grew and blossomed profusely with one exception and that gave me a nice clump of roots. Buckeye Glory is a wonder. I think your farm is rightly named, Golden Rule.

Very truly yours,

Herkimer, New York.

P. S. One other thing I overlooked. I want to know how much I appreciate your rated catalogue. I could not get along without it."

Golden Rule Dahlia Farm

Harley T. Peck & Sons
DEPT. B. LEBANON, OHIO

It contains much of the blood of *Aztec Glory*. This latter named variety gave us *American Legion*, *America's Sweetheart* and a number of other good Dahlias, but the *Aztec Glory* seedlings appear to be more or less temperamental, whereas those from *Sonny Boy* are more hardy, and, when grown properly, are really worthwhile Dahlias. *Sonny Boy* has produced *Royal Purchase*, *Salem Streamline*, *Salem Carnelian*, *Blue River*, *Prosperity*, *Cordelia*, *Greater Glory*, *Robt. L. Ripley*, *David Copperfield*, *War Admiral*, *Heritage*, and this year *Everybody's Favorite*, *Aurora*, *Glamour* and *My Delight*. It has also produced several fine Dahlias of which I have sold the entire stock to other growers who have introduced them as their own originations. While I am growing many seedlings every year, ever striving for another good seed parent, as long as *Sonny Boy* continues to produce I shall stick to it as my favorite seed parent.

The selection of the seedlings in the field is not only the most fascinating feature about growing Dahlias, but it requires considerable knowledge as well. You must know the characteristics of the seed parents and the possible crosses. Otherwise you are selecting them promiscuously. Some parents will give you a good Dahlia the first year, but that is all. Other seed parents will produce seedlings that appear only fair the first year, much better the second you grow them, and really outstanding the third year.

There was a time when a good seedling was worth considerable money to the originator. I know an originator in South Jersey who cleaned up \$10,000 from two seedlings in one season, but that was several years ago. At the present time it would require 100 of the most outstanding seedlings for the originators to clear that sum of money, and I am doubtful if even this could be accomplished at the present time.

If you should be fortunate enough to find a good seedling let it have a clear, bright and attractive color, always remembering that color may carry your Dahlia through even though it may have other defects. Enter it in the leading shows. Have each judge score it individually and according to the American Dahlia Society Score Card, but all such scores as 100, 99 and 97 as were given seven Dahlias in a Western Pennsylvania Show the past season, be thrown out as unworthy of consideration. Tally the scores of those judges who intelligently apply the score card, then if you should win, you may pat yourself on the back, but don't give up your job.

I do not claim what I have said here to be the sum of all wisdom, but if anyone happens to gain any knowledge from my remarks, I shall feel greatly repaid for my efforts.

DAHLIA ROOTS AT INTERESTING PRICES

First Class Stock Only

Plan to visit our gardens when you attend the World's Fair in 1939

QUEENS DAHLIA GARDENS

(William Meshirer, Prop.)

43-55 Robinson St., near 45th Ave., Flushing, N. Y.

I Think . . .

That if Herr Hitler, Il Duce and Stalin cultivated Dahlias instead of their hatred of other peoples, the world would have a much brighter outlook.

That honest, clean-cut and friendly competition are the essential qualities of a successful Show.

That the regional Shows held in Indiana this year did much to arouse the interest of "laymen" and give the state society added strength.

That a friendship formed with someone, through the common love for Dahlias "is a priceless possession."

That the meanest man is the fellow that will come into your garden to insult you or talk about his neighbors.

That we would surely have some "whoppin" big Shows if everyone brought his "I've-got-one-at-home-better-than-that-one."

That I wouldn't take a million dollars for the time I spend in my garden, or the thrill I get when I take some shut-in a bouquet of Dahlias, and see their face light up with a beaming smile.

Pete Moss.

• • •

The Worries of a Dahlia Grower

Along in January you begin to say,
 "For some grower's lists I'll send away."
 Then, while waiting from them to hear
 About what is best to grow this year,
 Off to the Club meeting some night you go
 And hear the members tell of the new ones to grow.
 You take out your pencil and write down the names.
 You soon have a book full
 And no two the same!

By this time the catalogues start to come in.
 And from the worries they cause
 You start to get thin.
 Each of them tell of something new
 That never an off flower threw.
 You look at the pictures, also, the name,
 For the size it will grow
 It's sure to reach fame.
 Of how it does not need the shade
 For in the sun it will not fade,
 And the foliage is so tough and thick
 That one bite would make a grasshopper sick.

Then you contact your friends
 And they, like the rest,
 Will tell you the new one
 They think is the best.
 Then you will say, "Well, how do you know?"
 They then will tell how they saw it grow,
 And, "If you get that one, it'll clean up the show!"

Well, by this time you're wore to a frazzle,
 And you buy the new one they call "Razzle Dazzle."
 But when the show comes
 It's a different story,
 The old standard flowers get most of the glory.

H. P. Patterson.

ALLING'S

BARGAIN COLLECTIONS

Five sturdy plants of the following high class varieties: Lord of Autumn, Jessica Dragonette, Dew's White, Carl G. Dahl, Great Eastern.

\$5 value, sent postpaid for \$3.25

Singles are becoming most popular for cutting and arrangements. Try the following and have a garden full of flowers: Jessie, white; Prince de Bulgaria, variegated; Pequot Yellow, yellow.

3 roots for \$1

Eight Ball Dahlia roots, assorted colors \$2

Six Pompons, exhibition varieties \$1

Send For Our Illustrated Catalogue

C. Louis Alling

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DAHLIAS

Announcing the
SIXTH ANNUAL
MID WEST DAHLIA SHOW

CLEVELAND, OHIO
 SATURDAY and SUNDAY
 SEPTEMBER 23rd-24th

Schedule ready May 1st

Write

MRS. R. H. HOWELLS, Secretary
 3290 Dover Center Road
 DOVER CENTER OHIO

Questions on Growing Dahlias for Seed Production

1. What natural factors are necessary to insure production?—Climate, soil, fertilization, arrangement of planting, etc.

1. Good climate and soil are the natural factors to insure production. Large flowering Dahlias should be planted together and away from the small flowering ones, and vice versa.

2. What methods help natural pollination? Would the proximity of a bee hive increase pollination?

2. The proximity of a bee hive would not increase pollination. Dahlia seeds will pollinize themselves without any outside interference according to a test I made with a single plant in an absolutely tight greenhouse, and give a high germination.

3. Should a seed bearing plant be allowed to produce many or few flowers? Does the size of a particular flower affect the nature of the seedling coming from it or would a seed from any flower on the bush be as desirable?

3. I would prefer a seed bearing plant to produce a good crop of blooms. It is very seldom that the first blooms produce seeds. The size of the blooms does not necessarily affect the size of the seedlings from these seeds.

4. Does the amount of moisture in the soil affect the time that the bush begins to set seeds?

4. Unless the bush has had the proper amount of moisture during the growing season it will be more or less woody at seed setting time and almost worthless as a seed parent.

5. After seeds have set in the pod they sometimes decay from an apparent surplus of moisture? How can this be avoided?

5. Only a Solomon may be able to tell how to get clear of the excess moisture in a seed pod.

6. How does early or late planting affect production?

6. It is necessary to plant early for a good crop of seeds.

7. If stalks are cut from the bush after seeds have set will the seeds mature and ripen properly?

7. If the seeds have matured to a certain point then the stalks can be cut from the bush, kept in a dry place, and the seeds will ripen fairly well, but will not be near as good as the seeds allowed to ripen in the natural way.

8. At what stage can seeds be best harvested?

8. Seeds can best be harvested just as the pod commences to open.

9. Is there any literature or experimental bulletins available on seed production?

9. I do not know of any literature or experimental bulletins on seed production.

• • •

Bronze Foliage Dahlias—Cont. from p. 10

BISHOP OF LLANDAFF—One of the best. Duplex bloom, cardinal, 1½ to 2 inches and held erect on long straight stems. The foliage is extra fine, being lace-like bronze; stems dark maroon. One of the early ones, but still considered unsurpassed in gracefulness. Four and one-half to 5 feet in partial shade.

LITTLE OTHELLO—Probably the gem of this class. Very dark red 2 inch bloom, the darkest of all the bronze foliage class being in the shade almost black. Another novel attribute is the dark bronze green center, a halo of gold. Attractive foliage, thick and leathery, dark stems. Blooms of long stiff stems. Bush 4 feet in partial shade.

MABEL CROSSING—Coral rust, 2 inch blooms, decorative. In the opinion of the writer should not be in this class. Has dark stems but foliage is lighter than all other species in this class. Height 4½ feet in partial shade. May well be discarded.

AMI BARILET—Pleasing shade of red fading quickly in full sun, with center of goldenrod color. Flowers are particularly attractive, about 1½ inches. Held erect on long very dark stems, sometimes bending and twisting, making it good for arrangements. Foliage dark and of good substance. A good root maker.

MADAMOISELLE HUBERT WAUTERS—Medium color cherry red, 2 to 3 inch blooms. Very dark red domed center. Foliage very attractive, dark green wiry stems. Blooms held erect. Bush dwarf in full sun. Bloom changes to burnt orange as it matures.

GELBE LUCIFER—2½ inches dark orange shading to yellow in center, which is a bright golden disc. Dwarf habit, 1½ feet in full sun. Dark bronze foliage of a very pleasing nature with strong dark round stems. A recent addition to our garden from Holland.

SYMPHONIA—Gala red, bloom 2½ to 3 inches on fine long dark stems. Bronze green centers, with edge of intermingled red and gold. A dark green foliage, leathery and graceful. A recent introduction and a fine one, will make a splendid addition to the family, 4½ feet in full sun.

JOPIES IDEAL—2½ inch bloom with quilled petals. Geranium red. Strong thick stems, but so dark as others, dark green foliage. Three and one-half feet in full sun. Not so attractive in comparison with others.

Others I have found attractive and worthwhile are *Bishop Crossley*, *Elizabethville*, *Torquay Gem*, dwarf *Mauve*, *J. Van Den Berg* (low growing) and *Zulu*.

GET "HAPPY" AT ONCE!

It's time to get "Happy" and to grow "Happy" in your garden! Happy \$3.00 per root division. The usual discount to commercial growers.

Distributors: MAD RIVER GARDENS, Urbana, Ohio
and the Originators: SUNRISE DAHLIA GARDEN
R. 4, Connersville, Indiana

A Beautiful Dahlia MARIE C. WORLEY

Pale orange yellow, tinted old rose. Stems 6¾ to 18 inches. Extra heavy. Size of flowers 7 to 9 inches. Scored E 83 at Storrs. No catalogue. **Roots \$2.50**

MRS. WINIFRED KINDLIEN
223 South Water Street Port Chester, New York

PLANTS

FROM FINE STOCK
 That you will appreciate

American Legion, Ballego's Surprise, Cherokee Brave, Darcy Sainsbury, Dean Anderson, Freda George, Julius Bunge, Katie K, Lord of Autumn, Mrs. C. E. Wildon, Mrs. W. S. Knudsen, Robert L. Ripley, Rudolf's Giant, Son of Satan and Watchung Giant.

FIVE FOR \$5.00

THE LOT \$12.00

Substitutions can be made if the lot is ordered

LIST ON REQUEST

D AN D DAHLIAS

Baldwin, Long Island

News and Notes of the Affiliated Societies

The Akron Dahlia Society

The last meeting of the Akron Dahlia Society was held at the spacious home of Mr. Everhardt, first vice-president of the Society.

The Show Schedule and Premium List were discussed. Mr. Warren Shannabrook was appointed Show chairman. Other appointments were made, but we do not have the names of all of them. Since our last Show which was held in conjunction with the Firestone Flower Show was such a success, we wish to show with them again, but cannot give the exact date. We are invited to show with them again this year, but they had not decided on the date. It will in all probability, be Saturday and Sunday, the ninth and tenth of September. We extend a cordial invitation to all societies and fans in this section and will more than welcome visitors from a distance. It will be a specimen bloom Show and the competition will be keen if we can judge this Show by the past.

Last month, our President, Mr. Harold Shannabrook, was invited to East Liverpool to tell them how to grow specimen blooms. I made the trip with him. I enjoyed this visit to East Liverpool Society more than I can tell or, rather, have the space to tell. It was an informal meeting presided over by the Vice-President, Mr. H. G. Gallimore, a most congenial gentleman. He and the whole membership certainly made it pleasant for both of us. More than one hundred and fifty members were present from their Society and the Wellsville Society. Many visitors came from Pittsburgh and other nearby cities and towns. I knew I was in a crowd who could grow Dahlias. Mr. Shannabrook showed Mr. Cowie's Dahlia pictures. Mr. John Coleman sang two songs, one of which was "The night's too long." This song was worth the trip. Returning to our subject, the fogs from the Ohio River occurring in August and September help them to grow fine, large flowers. I wish some of the fans of other localities would visit that section.

F. V. R. Veirs.

The Camden Dahlia & Horticultural Society

The Camden Dahlia & Horticultural Society have set the date for their Eighteenth Annual Exhibition September 29th and 30th. H. O. Alexander will again head the show. The following committee has been appointed to assist Mr. Alexander: Dr. F. F. Moore, Supervision of clerical work; George Glading, Advertising and Supervision of judging; George C. Eldridge, Jr., Design of Show; Lyle A. Hamilton, Staging of Show; Charles Paist, Educational Exhibit of Marigolds; William E. Gibbs, Local Advertising; Mrs. William Apgar, Educational Exhibit on Arrangements; Harold Hays, Supervision of Entries; G. J. Radcliffe, Materials and Staging of Seedling Classes; Mrs. William Apgar and Mrs. F. F. Moore, Solicitation of Prizes; Prof. Harry Yates, Vocational. The Show will be held in the Camden County Vocational School. At our February meeting Warren W.

Maytrott well known Dahlia grower spoke and made several suggestions to improve our Show. He said that in the seedling classes when entries are grown under cloth there should be another exhibit of the same flower grown in the open. Mr. H. R. Cox, Extension Agronomist, New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station gave a very fine talk on the Preparation and care of Lawns. The Society have a new project this year under the direction of Miss Charlotte Paynter, the members will test new annual that are being introduced this year and at the September meeting an exhibit will be held. By this we hope to find those of the newer flowers that will do well in this section. Vice-President George C. Eldridge is heading the membership committee and we hope to change from an affiliated society to an participating society.

Charles H. Allen, Jr., Publicity.

8th Annual Show, Central States Dahlia Society, September 16 and 17, 1939

The Eighth Annual Dahlia Show of the Central States Dahlia Society will be held as heretofore at Garfield Park Conservatory, Chicago, on Saturday, September 16th and Sunday, September 17th. From all indications, this promises to be an even larger show than any previous year. In addition to the many prizes awarded in previous years, several new classes will be added.

The unique part of this Show is a Dahlia Classification, which lists approximately 1,000 varieties, making known to exhibitors what formation and in which color each variety is to be shown. This Classification has received much favorable comment and has been adopted by several other Dahlia Societies. This permits an exhibitor to make out the entry tags in advance of exhibition day and eliminates the usual confusion at the Show. It also assures one exhibitor's particular variety competing with another's same variety.

The Garfield Park Conservatory provides an ideal setting for this Show, as plenty of plant material is available to properly stage. In addition, it provides natural light and humidity, which are so essential.

The undisseminated Dahlia classes will be of particular interest, for this year the competition in new originations in both the 1939 Central States Dahlia Futurity Class and the Three-year Old Undisseminated Class will be most keen. Not only will we have a large number of entries from local growers, but many originators from elsewhere are having their seedlings grown locally for display in these classes. Both classes will afford competition which will be hard to beat, and the grower

(Continued on following page)

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EUROPEAN NOVELTIES
is
H. CARLÉE LTD.
HAARLEM, HOLLAND

News of Affiliated Societies—Cont. from p. 25

desiring to see the best in the 1940 Introductions, will, no doubt, find many of them at Garfield Park Conservatory in September. In the Three-year Old Undisseminated Class, a medal will be awarded to each winner in the Formal, Informal, Semi-Cactus and Cactus Classes, and the American Home Achievement Medal will be available for the best of the group.

The Dahlia Society of Kentucky

Our meetings this year have far surpassed the meetings of the past year and much interest is being shown by the members and also quite a few new members are joining our Society. Our President, Mr. W. H. Swift is wide awake and has a very interesting program outlined for each meeting. January was our debate meeting, the ladies against the men. February, Mr. Paul Powell gave a very interesting talk on Dahlias. March, Mr. J. C. Hayes and Mr. Charles Fieldhouse told of the ways to propagate and some of the secrets the others did not know. Our Program for our fall show is almost complete and the dates are October 7th and 8th at the Kentucky Hotel. Our Society will sponsor the Mid West Show in 1940 and we are all looking forward to it with much enthusiasm and are coöperating in many ways to make it a real pleasure to look forward too.

Mrs. W. F. Kleinjohn, Secretary.

Inglewood Dahlia Floral Society

At the Annual Meeting of the Inglewood Dahlia and Floral Society, the following officers were unanimously elected: Robert J. Lundblad, President; Fred Schmit, Vice-President; Mrs. A. R. Butler, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Sterling S. Tompkins, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. E. L. Neville, Treasurer.

Both Robert Lundblad and Fred Schmit are enthusiastic Dahlia growers of exceptional ability and we predict another very successful year with these two men leading our Society. Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Tompkins, and Mrs. Neville are all veteran Society members and more than able to help the Society function smoothly and efficiently. It is with a great deal of anticipation and enthusiasm that we start the new year with the thought of all the members enjoying meeting and working together, having as an objective our annual Show, to be held this year August 25th-26th.

Stanley Spaulding, our able Show Manager for the last two years, has already called several meetings of the Show Committee to prepare the new Premium List for 1939. The Show Committee has decided that the Society will offer for the first time, a new trophy, for the best undisseminated seedling, members only of the

Society being eligible for competition. The Show Committee thinks the new award will create a lot a friendly competition and add zest and pleasure to this year's growing of seedlings, by the members of the Society.

The Inglewood Dahlia & Floral Society extends a welcome to all members of the American Dahlia Society, who might be visiting in Southern California this coming August, to attend its annual Show. We think a visit to our Show would be one of the bright spots on your trip to Southern California.

*Mrs. Sterling S. Tompkins, Corresponding Sec'y,
413 W. Queen Street, Inglewood, California.*

Dahlia Society of Georgia

The Georgia State Dahlia Society installed the following officers for the coming year at the January meeting: C. E. Faust, President; W. J. Jones, First Vice-President; C. C. Mason, Second Vice-President; B. E. Phillips, Recording Secretary; W. M. Beckett, Treasurer.

The meetings of the Society have been well attended; members taking enthusiastic part in all discussions and plans. At the January meeting, the program chairman, C. R. Perry, presented a "Movie" of the Japanese Beetle, and White-fringed Beetle, showing the various stages of growth and the destructive features of both. Instructions for destroying these pests were also given. This program was of great educational value.

At a special March meeting, of the Dahlia Society and the Men's Garden Club of Atlanta, Mr. Perry, presented a talking "Movie" showing the effects of balanced fertilizers on plant growth. This proved a real treat for the large crowd in attendance. Plants were shown for a period of three weeks' growth, with one day's growth condensed to eighteen seconds. The audience was fascinated by the almost human movements of plant growth, not visible to the human eye, but caught by the fast lens of a camera. Actual root growth under ground and the consumption of the food and its uses to the plants were also a part of the picture.

On March 13th, a delegation of the Georgia State Dahlia Society attended the annual banquet of the Alabama Dahlia Society in Birmingham, Alabama. This was dedicated "Georgia Night" in honor of the Georgians attending. The Alabama Dahlia Society is a large organization, which was organized by the Georgia Dahlia Society a few years ago.

The Georgia State Dahlia Society launched a State-wide membership drive that has met with marked success.

News and Notes From Michigan

Our plans are already well under way for our State Show to be held in General Motors Building Auditorium, September 16th-17th. This will be our third year in this beautiful building, and it is getting better each year, with the general public being educated to this show in this location.

We are planning on extending our amateur section somewhat, to encourage the amateurs, who after all help to make the show interesting, and who represent the back bone of the Dahlia interest. In addition to our already heavy schedule, we are going to extend

The world's finest in the Iris family from the earth's remotest parts; in a fantasy of colors and fragrance beyond human imagination.

Many varieties—Price list on request

GLOVENA GARDENS

780 Targee Street

Concord, S. I., N. Y.

our offerings for artistic displays. Your scribe has already made the necessary arrangements to have one or our very best floral arrangers take charge of this department, and it should prove to be a real innovation to the public, to see what really beautiful things can be done with the small flowering Dahlias, in artistic arrangements.

Our State Society, through the coöperation of Professor Paul Krone of Michigan State College, who did the photography, produced a very fine MOVIE on Dahlia culture, last season. A large portion of this picture is in color, and we are very proud of it. It has been shown all over the country to various Dahlia societies, and garden clubs, and seems to be in constant demand. We believe this to be excellent publicity for the Dahlia, and are getting some splendid response from the showings. We expect to continue the photography this coming season, to make a real full length movie.

Michigan growers are all planning on making two big Shows next September. First, the Mid-West Show to be held in Cleveland, Ohio and second the Michigan State Show to be held in Detroit the preceding weekend. Don't get these dates confused. Michigan State Show, General Motors Building, Detroit, Michigan, September 16th-17th; and Mid-West Show, Cleveland, Ohio, September 23rd-24th.

At the March meeting of the Michigan Society, our members were led in a discussion of "What varieties I expect to plant this season" by Dr. Del Marr, of Ridgeway, Ontario, one of our members. Dr. Del Marr has been making a rather extensive study of plant genetics, particularly as it applies to Dahlias, and with the assistance of Ontario Agriculture College is carrying on some rather interesting and technical experiments. He is working on the possibility of developing a Dahlia with a pleasant fragrance, and really has something to work on, from his reports. He is also experimenting on the problem of doubling the chromosome count in our present Dahlia by various experiments with introducing colchicine into the blood stream of the Dahlia. While most of this work is over the heads of the average layman, it is interesting to know that a medical man who loves Dahlias, is doing such splendid work, and knowing the good Doctor as I do, I am confident that within a very few years he will have something to offer the Dahlia lovers in this country that will be new, different, and perhaps revolutionary.

Bruce Collins.

Kitsap County Dahlia Society Bremerton, Washington

On the evening of March 23rd members of the Kitsap Dahlia Society met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sinclair with a fine attendance of old members and a number of new ones taken in. Mrs. George Hasteings was elected secretary-treasurer of the Society and Mrs. Nevan McKamey corresponding secretary. Plans for the coming season were made and the Show date set for August 24th and 25th. Mrs. Sinclair then served delicious cake and coffee after which the group dispersed, all deciding to raise better Dahlias than ever the coming year.

Mrs. Nevan McKamey, Corresponding Secretary.

The National Capital Dahlia Society

The activities of The National Capital Dahlia Society are all pointing towards our Fourth Regional Dahlia Show to be held September 23rd and 24th. With the Assistant Chief of the Weather Bureau, Dr. C. C. Clark, as our president, we are expecting to avoid any repetition of last year's hurricane, which eliminated many of our most promising growers from competition. We are therefore expecting this year's show to be our biggest and best.

Our First Annual Banquet was held on March 11, 1939, at Henderson Castle with an attendance of 46. A very enjoyable evening included a showing of several films of Dahlias in colors taken by "Nick" Gossman and one from Rocky River Dahlia Gardens. Mr. Gossman supplied the projector and screen. Mr. Stephen James acted as toastmaster and gave an interesting talk on the Dahlias seen during his recent trip to South America.

At our March meeting Mr. Harry J. Quick, of Maryland Dahlia Gardens gave a talk on raising Dahlias and demonstrated how to make base and leaf cuttings as well as how to make grafts in Dahlia culture. At our April meeting we are promised a talk by Mr. Earl P. Loller of Baltimore, Maryland. *Henry C. Parker, Secretary.*

• • •

The Ohio Dahlia Society

At the January meeting, Mr. Cowie showed pictures of his Dahlias and those of many other growers in the vicinity of Cleveland. Some of the pictures were in color. At the February meeting, Mr. Gabriel Samon, Cuyahoga County Extension Agent, gave a good talk. His subject was "Root Growth with Chemicals and Rooting of Cuttings with the Assistance of Chemicals." His lecture was very instructive and very interesting, especially at this time of the year when most Dahlia growers are making Dahlia cuttings.

(Continued on following page)

FREE - BERNICE GEER - FREE

We want every A. D. S. member to grow this champion Dahlia of old rose color. We only ask that you send 50 cents (coin or stamp) to pay packing and mailing. A copy of our catalog will be included with your plant.

GENEVA DAHLIA GARDENS, Geneva, Ohio
The home of a million blooms

RAISE FLOWERS WITHOUT SOIL PLANTET



After years of scientific research this new product, PLANTET, is ready. Put bulbs or seeds in sand, cinders or excelsior. Water with chemical solution. Response is wonderful. The fifteen chemicals in PLANTET provide food needed for brilliant blooms. Use a spoonful in a gallon of water together with sun or artificial light. Wonderful new hobby. Get a bottle at your dealer or send 75 cents for half a pound, enough for 35 gallons of food. Full directions with each bottle. Harmless to animals. Try this new way of raising flowers, show your friends what you can grow in cinders.

ELLIS LABORATORIES, INC.
Dept. Y 95 Greenwood Ave., Montclair, N. J.

News of Affiliated Societies—Cont. from p. 27

The Mid-West Show is coming to Cleveland this year and the Show will be held in the main ball room of the Statler Hotel on Saturday and Sunday, September 23rd and 24th. We want and expect every Society in the Mid-West to help us in promoting and staging this Show. We hope to make this Show the best ever held in the Mid-West and it is our sincere hope that affiliated and unaffiliated societies will give us full support, not for the sake of Cleveland but for the Mid-West. We want our visitors from other districts to see the strides we hope we are making in this great section. All Societies in the Mid-West will or have been communicated with and if any are over-looked, it will be because of an error. Being human, we may make errors. We include our Canadian friends in this invitation. There are many wonderful Dahlia growers in Canada and we want them and their blooms.

We hope our Eastern and Western friends will honor us with their presence. We will do our best to make their visit a pleasant one. This goes for the South also.

All Chairmen will be announced at a later date. The Show schedule and premium list will be out in May. If you are interested and do not get one be sure to notify Mrs. R. H. Howells, Secretary, 3290 Dover Center Road, Dover Center, Ohio; or John Strassen, President, Austinsburg, Ohio. If you have any suggestions as to publicity, communicate with F. V. R. Veirs, 718 Linwood Avenue, S. W., Canton Ohio.

The best European Dahlia Novelties as well as the leading standard varieties are listed in our illustrated catalogue. Write for it now.

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Our equipment and facilities for the production of high grade plants are unsurpassed anywhere in the country. We invite comparison and investigation.

PLANTS FOR 1939

LOIS WALCHER, YOUR LUCKY STAR, EVERYBODY'S FAVORITE, HILLSIDE SUNSET, WINSOME, ALICE MAY, MAYOR FRANK OTIS, RITA WELLS, SANTA MONICA, JEAN JOHNSTON, KIMIKAGE, CLAIRE MORTIMER, HILLSIDE GOLD, VIRGINIA RUTE, PINK LASS and others.

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Roots and plants of highest quality of the leading introductions of other years. Get our free **BLUE BOOK** with full descriptions, illustrations, complete cultural directions and helpful hints.

Wholesale**Retail****E. J. WIND****ROCKY RIVER DAHLIA GARDENS****ROCKY RIVER****OHIO****Missouri Valley Dahlia Association**

Missouri Valley Dahlia Association is the present title of the Kansas City Dahlia Society.

Dues are \$1.00 per family, husband and wife.

Who may belong: any white person in the United States or Canada.

What benefits do members derive:

1. Society of person interested in the same things, Dahlia Culture.
2. On and after March, 1939, the state magazine of Missouri containing much valuable information for gardeners will be sent each member. This magazine is called "The Missourian".
3. Exchange of information of varieties, culture and storage of the Dahlia.
4. Participation in the only Dahlia show west of the Mississippi and east of the Rockies.
5. Aiding through active participation in dissemination of information to amateurs. The increased popularity and growth of Dahlia culture thruout the Missouri Valley.

Report of meeting held Sunday afternoon, February 12, 1939, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lemmer, 5633 Harrison, Kansas City, Mo.

The following motions were made and carried:

Each membership shall be entitled to two votes. Voting may be done by written proxy delegates voting power.

The Missouri Valley Dahlia Association Dahlia Show shall be held in 1939 on or about September 30th in a place to be designated later.

The Missouri Valley Dahlia Association shall affiliate with the American Dahlia Society for 1939.

Fred G. Batcher, Jr., St. Joseph, Missouri.

Peekskill Dahlia and Gladiolus Society

With a valentine motif of silvered twigs of huckleberry and spiraea ornamented with red hearts amidst the colorful lighted large red candles in decorations, the annual mid-winter dinner sponsored by this Society was held in the lecture hall of the Presbyterian Church in Peekskill on February 14th and proved to be a delightful affair.

After the invocation given by the Rev. Blackshear the appetites were satisfied in a manner known by the ladies of the Woman's Auxiliary connected with the church, who spared no efforts to help in the success of this event. Between courses, past president Edward O'Keeffe introduced the speakers and guests. The principal speakers were selected from the Dutchess County Horticultural Society who sent Mr. Frank Berry, superintendent of the Poughkeepsie Parks, to talk on "The Use of Cloth Houses" and the "Control of Insects therein"; Mr. H. E. Hedgecock, president of the Eastern New York State Gladiolus Society, who had as his subject the "Control of Thrips" and also related his experiences in the culture of the gladiolus: Mr. Henry Downer, horticultural instructor and superintendent of grounds at Vassar College, who talked on "Popular Flowers grown in this Section" such as the rose, lily, chrysanthemum, iris,

peony, delphinium and a number of annuals. The innovation apart from the Dahlia and gladiolus presented a rest period for the Dahlia widows present. Of course our events are never complete unless we have these boys representing the A. D. S. Among our guests from the American Dahlia Society was president Lynn Dudley, who took the opportunity to tell the back yard growers the need of shifting their plots to the front yard where the blooms may be seen by the public. He also invited our members to exhibit at the Park Central Hotel, New York City on September 26th and 27th at the New York A. D. S. Show. Mr. Conrad Frey spoke on the standardization of judging and the possibility of establishing a school for future flower judges. "Conny" would make a fine professor of instruction, we all agreed. Gordon Waaser, Dewey Mohr, Joseph Steele and other members of the A. D. S. were with us. It was noticeable that all the speakers were profuse in their praise of the Fall Flower Show sponsored by this Society in Peekskill. Conrad Frey, known as the dean of Dahlia judges, termed our Show as a leading quality show and congratulated the Society on outstanding exhibits.

The 1939 Show will again be held in the New York State Armory at Peekskill, N. Y., on Friday, September 15th. If possible, do not fail to exhibit or even attend this exhibition and convince yourself that the Peekskill Show should be one of your annual visits. We are expecting to complete our schedule some time during July and anyone interested may obtain a copy of this schedule by applying to the Secretary, addressing Locust Avenue, Peekskill, New York.

R. A. Vogel, Secretary-Treasurer.

Virginia Dahlia Society

The annual meeting of the Virginia Dahlia Society was held on the evening of February 14, 1939, at 6:30 p. m., in a private dining room of Ewatts Cafeteria, 112 North 5th Street, in Richmond, Virginia, and was quite a joyful occasion, a banquet was served to 45 members and guests, and the business of the evening followed. This meeting was held primarily to honor the officers and members who founded the society in 1923, and it was quite singular that every officer who has served since the beginning was present except two (one being sick at home and the other vacationing at Nassau). Mr. J. S. Boshier, our first President, and R. J. Redford, first secretary were among those present. Mr. R. P. Liphart was toastmaster, and as usual, did his job one hundred per cent as he presented the officers, they all responded very graciously, and it was interesting to note from their expressions: the many pleasant happenings of bygone days and brought back many fond memories. Among the guests, were our old friend Mr. Lorraine who operated a show garden in 1928, in one of our parks, and Mr. Fred Bates who figured very prominently in our organization. In addition to this feature a lecture on plant foods was given, and 3 reels of motion picture (much of which was in technicolor) was presented, it was the gift of Rocky River Dahlia Gardens, Rocky River, Ohio, and those present were greatly indebted for this loan. The meeting was quite an enthusiastic one, and greatly enjoyed by all. Officers

for 1939 were elected and Mr. R. O. Smith was re-elected President, and E. Guy Williams, Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. J. A. Millard was again elected Editor-in-Chief.

*E. Guy Williams, Secretary and Treasurer,
3238 Woodrow Avenue, Richmond, Virginia.*

Washington Dahlia Society

Tacoma, Washington

The year 1939 opened with several changes in our official family Mrs. Lee our president for many years, asked to be relieved of office, and although we were reluctant to lose her cheerful guidance, her gift of time, and experience, we are glad to know she is contemplating a trip which will include some of the Eastern Dahlia Shows, we wish her every happiness this vacation can bring. Mrs. H. C. Cogswell our secretary for the past ten years, also thought it was time for some one else to share the work, she has so efficiently done, and the time she has so generously given, a record hard for the new secretary to live up to. Our second vice, Mr. F. Robson, was called home in November, his genial presence, and his enthusiasm as an amateur Dahlia grower will long be remembered by our society. Officers for the year are as follows: President, Mr. C. W. Tryon; First Vice-President, Mrs. J. A. Meneghel, Second Vice-President, Mrs. Frank Dick; Secretary, Mrs. Florence L. Robson, 706 South Sheridan Avenue, Tacoma, Washington; Treasurer, Mr. Francis Glandfield; Regional Vice-Presidents, Mr. J. E. Hulin, Seattle, Mr. A. N. Kanouse, Olympia, Mrs. G. A. Westgate, Vancouver, Mrs. L. H. Travis, Chehalis, Mr. A. A. Ames, Yakima. Executive Committee: Mr. H. D. Cogswell, Mrs. Glen Dunlap, Mrs. C. W. Tryon.

(Continued on following page)

THE SUPER GIANTS

Jumbo Satan (largest bloom in 3 California Shows), **Monarch of the East**, **Lord of Autumn**, etc. Also plants of all of the best 1939 introductions.

50% discount on surplus roots for May—Write

ALMY'S SUPREME DAHLIAS

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Tiverton, Rhode Island

CORNELL DAHLIA GARDENS

498 Somerset St., North Plainfield, N. J.

Roots of Cornell Dahlia \$5.00

Due to limited garden space I am offering
a special reduction to the trade

News of Affiliated Societies—Cont. from p. 29

Our Society has enjoyed the picture of gardens, of Canada and the United States, shown by Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lee.

We were sorry to loss by death one of our oldest members, and one long interested in the growing of Dahlia, Mrs. George Litz.

Plans for our Dahlia Show have already been started, and the date September 1st and 2nd chosen. Our Dahlia growers informs us that the roots have wintered well and that Dahlias grown in these parts should make one of the best showing we have ever had, and that our Show should be one of the best exhibits to date.

*Mrs. Florence L. Robson, Secretary,
Tacoma, Washington.*

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Wellsville Dahlia Society

Your editor has just received the splendid sixteen page program of the Sixth Annual Wellsville (Ohio) Dahlia Show to be held at Wellsville, Saturday and Sunday, September 23rd and 24th at the High School.

This Show has the reputation of superior quality. I can't urge you too strongly to arrange to attend the Show if you can possibly do so.

Since the Mid West Dahlia Show will be held on the same dates at Cleveland it is suggested that both Shows may be enjoyed over the week-end.

Exhibitors, large and small will find classes to fit their requirements. Details may be obtained from Miss Maud Crawford, Secretary, 905 Buckeye Avenue.

Win That Prize WITH **ZANT'S**

**BLUE RIBBON
ROOTS and PLANTS**

Michigan's Best

Fully Described In Our 32 Page

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Many Miniatures and Pompons

Money Saving Collections

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MICHIGAN'S MODEL DAHLIA FARM

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Many special awards are provided among which are the A. D. S. Medal, House Beautiful, Futurity Medal, American Home Achievement Medal. President's Challenge Cup, Various Sweepstakes and Wellsville Board of Trade Trophy for Grand Sweepstakes, Professional or Amateur.

The Glad Dahlia Club will hold its Gladiolus Show August 19th and 20th at the same location. For information address: Mr. E. L. Savage, 208 North Street, Wellsville Ohio.

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West Virginia Dahlia Society News

The West Virginia Dahlia Society is now in the process of going "national" and becoming a branch society of the great American Dahlia Society. Our organization feels that this is a forward "Dahlia" step.

Accompanying the process of becoming a branch society is the news that the West Virginia Trial Garden, located on the beautiful state college campus in Fairmont, is to be made a branch garden of the national trial garden. This too, is a forward Dahlia step. (More about this item will be found in Superintendent Roberts' article in this BULLETIN.)

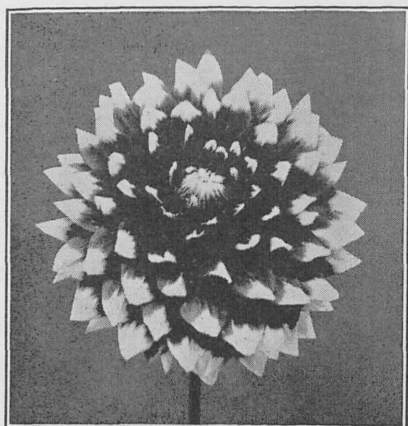
The date for the 1939 West Virginia Dahlia Show has been fixed by the society. The Show will be held in Fairmont on Friday and Saturday, September fifteen and sixteenth. The Show will be staged in two different locations. The Show proper will be held in the ball room and the main dining room of the Fairmont Hotel. The pageant of the Show, as now planned, will be a spectacular affair and will be staged at Rosier Field at the state college. The title for the pageant of 1939 will be the same as used in preceding years. This title is "The Court of Flowers." The 1939 pageant will be much larger than any yet presented. The cover page of the last number of the A. D. S. BULLETIN shows one scene from the 1938 pageant. Already lovers of flowers and of pageantry are placing Fairmont on their "must list" for 1939. The West Virginia Dahlia Society and all civic and social organizations of the City of Fairmont, extend an invitation to come to the 1939 West Virginia Dahlia Show and Flower Pageant. This will be our thirteenth Show.

Mrs. Bess G. Hardesty, president of the West Virginia Dahlia Society, has appointed two large committees which are already working on the 1939 Show. These two committees are called "More Flowers Committee" and "Dahlia Information Committee." The usual standing committees are also being announced by Mrs. Hardesty.

At the spring meeting of the society the publication of the state Bulletin was deferred until Show time this fall. Apologies are hereby extended to our advertising clients. All checks received for space have been returned.

Dahlia growers are invited to make use of the West Virginia Trial Garden. The new varieties coming along should be grown in many gardens in order that they might have a more thorough recommendation. Entry blanks may be had upon request from Superintendent C. M. Roberts, State College, Fairmont, West Virginia.

*Oliver Shurtleff, Secretary,
Fairmont, West Virginia.*



LOIS WALCHER

The only Dahlia that ever won six American Home Achievements in seedling competition. A delight to grow. Early profuse bloomer. A standout for beauty. Pronounced by experts to be the best bi-color to date. True pansy purple, evenly tipped a clear, clean white.

Now offered in PLANTS ONLY. Moderately priced.

Strong, well grown plants \$3.50; 3 for \$10.00.

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And We Have Extra Strong Plants of Them in 3" Pots at Reasonable Prices

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Borch Foraker	Phillis Knight
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Cherokee Brave	Premier's Majestic
Dean Anderson	Premier's Winsome
Everybody's Favorite	Rita Wells
Glamour	Robert L. Ripley
Hillside Gold	Rosemary's Beauty
Radiant Beauty	Shirley Temple
(Kemp)	Sleepy Hollow
Langeloth	Son of Satan
Lois Walcher	Straight's White
Louisiana Rumba	Sunrays
Mad River Chief	Volcano
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THE ROTENONE-PENETROL
SPRAY

Writes one Dahlia grower—but here is his letter—read it yourself:

The Rototox Company
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Dear Sir:

Corn borer was holding an outing in my Dahlia patch until the day I started to use ROTOTOX. I was amazed at the quick results given by spraying with ROTOTOX. It is a very effective spray for this pest and can recommend it most highly for a general all-around spray.

P. S. Please send me some order sheets and a few direction booklets to give to my customers as I have already given ROTOTOX a big hand. It is wonderful also for thrips on Glads. Thanks!

(Grower's name and address will be furnished on request)

NEED WE SAY MORE?

Write for literature describing ROTOTOX and its uses. There is no obligation. Or better still, order direction from this ad and be prepared to protect your plants from red spider, leaf hopper, corn borer, and other Dahlia pests.

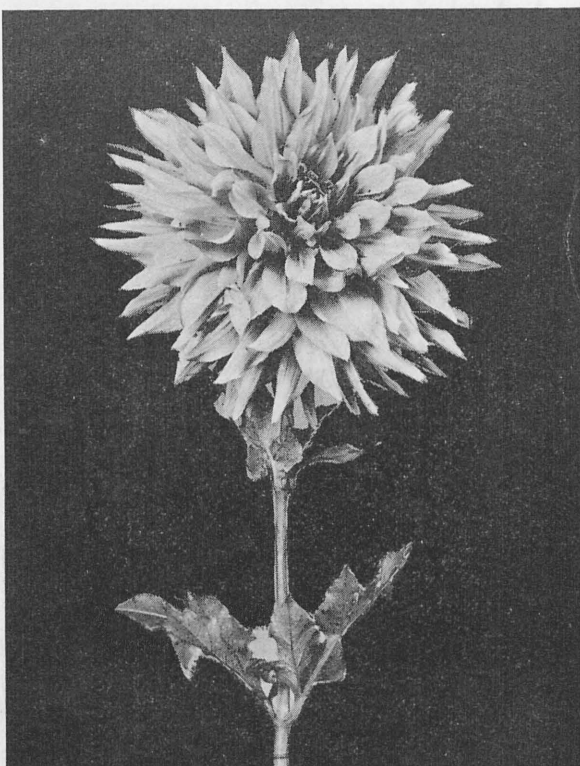
ROTOTOX is not an expensive preparation. Note the number of gallons of complete spray that can be made from the various quantities in which ROTOTOX is obtainable, and judge for yourself. Let it be your guide in ordering just the amount you will require for the entire season. Remember, "An ounce of prevention—" gives you the jump on all insect pests.

8 ounces\$1.00
(makes 12 to 24 gallons of spray)	
1 pint 1.75
(makes 24 to 48 gallons of spray)	
1 quart 3.00
(makes 48 to 96 gallons of spray)	
½ gallon 5.00
(makes 96 to 192 gallons of spray)	
1 gallon10.00
(makes 192 to 384 gallons of spray)	

Shipped POSTPAID, terms cash with order

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Pink Grand

A giant informal pink flower with wonderful keeping qualities, despite its size.

Blooms easily 10 inches in diameter without forcing, held on impeccable stems.

The only Dahlia in cultivation with the same pink color of Kathleen Norris.

Trial Reports

At East Lansing: "Scored 85-E."

At Cincinnati: "Pink Grand stands the heat better than Kathleen Norris."

At eight private gardens it stood out head and shoulders above any other large pink. From George Brayton's garden in Fort Thomas, Kentucky, were cut three blooms from two plants which won the blue ribbon in undisseminated section of O. V. D. A. Show in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Pink Grand regularly produces a big clump of roots in every type of good soil.

Roots \$15.00; Plants \$5.00; Rooted Cuttings \$3.35

Don't miss "BEGONIA ROSE" in 1940. A true "break" in Dahlia varieties. Far ahead of any known variety in production, growing habits, poise of flower and stem. A new color in Dahlias—Begonia Rose. Certificate at East Lansing—1938. Read report.

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