

The

*Len Sarpett p 10
N. Western U.*

DAHLIA

OFFICIAL BULLETIN
Central States Dahlia Society

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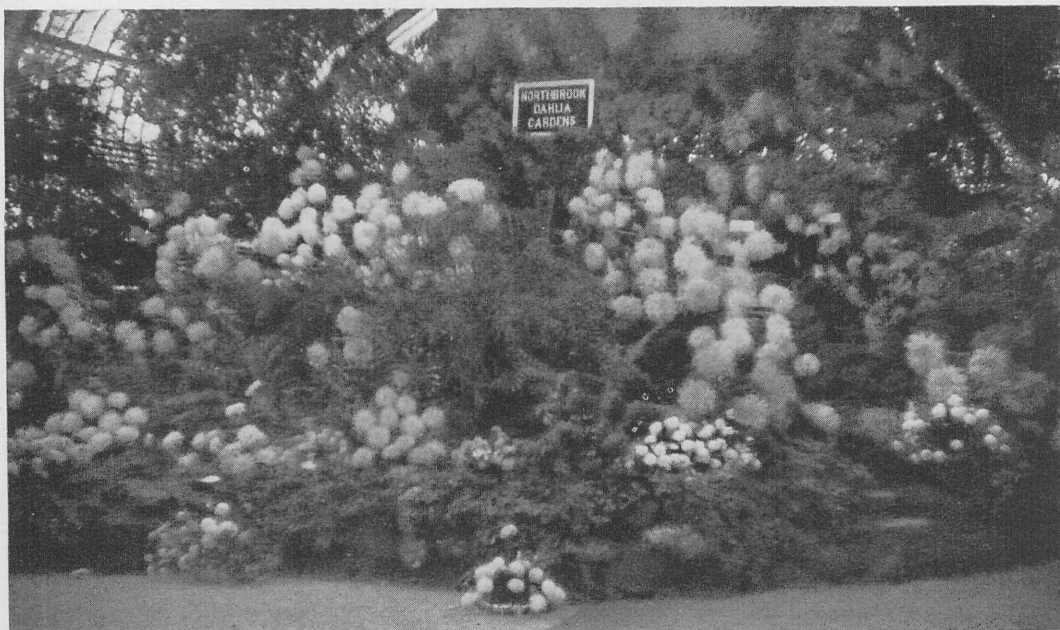
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VOL. 23 No. 2

DECEMBER, 1954





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COVER DESIGN BY E. A. SCHOENLAU



THE CENTRAL STATES DAHLIA SOCIETY, INC.

Organized February 7, 1932

OFFICERS

President James E. Marsh
3904 N. Ottawa Ave., Chicago 34, Ill.
First Vice President.. Frank C. Gossweiler
2222 Lunt Ave., Chicago 45, Ill.
Second Vice President .. W. H. Wickham
221 Indiana Street, Elmhurst, Ill.
Recording Sec'y. ... Mrs. A. C. Klupping
2247 South 10th Ave., Broadview, Ill.
Acting Corresponding
Secretary Mrs. Henry Grotheer
457 Uvedale Road, Riverside, Ill.
Treasurer Bernard Wright
1401 South 7th Ave., Maywood, Ill.

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H. L. Cummings, 105 South La Salle St.,
Chicago 3, Ill.
Harry C. Peterson, 3126 N. Nordica Ave.,
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What do you want in Dahlias? Do you want perfection?

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BUNNY, Most Perfect B size dahlia in the shows of both the Central States Dahlia Society at Chicago and the Dahlia Society of Wisconsin at Milwaukee in 1954, shown here with Elaine Irwin.

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RED CHAMPION, Largest Bloom in the Badger State Dahlia Society show at Madison in 1954, shown here with our son, Bruce.

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SUMMIT GARDENS

(G. L. Pierce)

P. O. Box 567

Glen Ellyn, Ill.

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SHOW OF CENTRAL STATES DAHLIA SOCIETY

By PAUL HALE

After referring to past issues of "The Dahlia" before starting this report, I'm inclined to agree with a previous writer who wrote: -"Almost every show report I've read, starts out with a general statement to the effect that either the show was larger or smaller and then blames the whole thing on the weather."

I was prepared for the worst when I arrived at Garfield Park early in the morning after a 280 mile drive from my home near St. Louis, Missouri. The growers in my area had suffered the worst drought and heat wave in history. My fears were relieved, however, because top quality blooms and spotless foliage greeted my eyes as I entered the set up room. Two brand new growers from the St. Louis area made the trip, also, and they just couldn't believe their eyes!

I must take a moment to compliment the management and staff of Garfield Park Conservatory. It's surely nice to have smiling faces and helping hands extended to busy exhibitors. Little things like the handy milk bottles filled with cold water, the willingness to help wheel out blooms to be placed on the exhibition tables, keeping the set up room clean underfoot and the general feeling of cooperation is obvious.

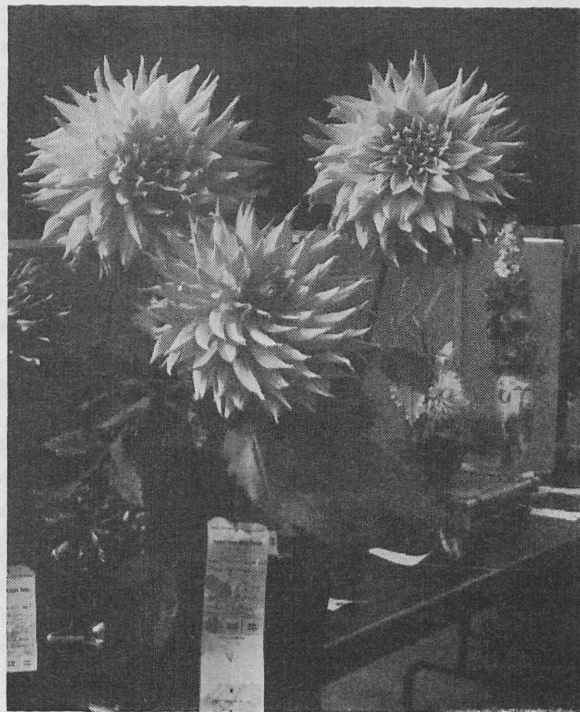
It was apparent that most growers had red spider and all of his "cousins and aunts" well under control, very little insect damage was in evidence.

As in other shows, I noted that many exhibitors had staged their blooms on the night before. I understand that the conservatory co-operates to the extent that some exhibitors remained in the exhibit room 'til 3:30 Saturday morning.

The new, simplified show schedule worked like a charm, very few blooms were misplaced and those were caught before judging started.

The classification committee worked hard and efficiently, they deserve a great deal of credit, much more than they received.

By noon, most blooms were set up and the ladies started to serve lunch, which is another feature of Central State Shows that I like. The lunch was good and the conversation that went along was fine. Many of us out-of-towners only see the Chicago folks once or twice a year and we look forward to these visits.



Surprise, A-SC-Peach, seedling of George Baker, Moline, Illinois. Winner of eight American Home Achievement Medals.

Judging started a bit late with the normal confusion, not too bad however. I particularly like the way Central States' judging chairmen work in a novice as third judge. It's wonderful experience for the novice and he always appreciates it.

Judging progressed very well, it was not rushed, the judges didn't voice opinions for the exhibit or to overhear. Many remarks as to "why this or that" were marked on the exhibitor's tag by the judges. It makes a grower feel much better if he knows his bloom was carefully evaluated.

The show was well balanced throughout, very few gaps or bunched up sections were noted and these were eliminated as blooms were judged. The ladies went all out (as usual) with their arrangements. The back grounds provided for them were particularly effective. It seemed to me that the arrangements were by far the "most photographed."

The commercial displays were well up to their usual par. "Summit Gardens" featured new varieties in exceptionally well executed arrangement. Some new ones noted here were *Premie XXI*, *Torch*, *Bunny*, *Risa Grivell* and *Helen Wilson*. Ellis Asthers, Northbrook Dahlia Gardens had the most spectacular vases of BIG blooms I've seen! — Vases full of 12 inch blooms of *Arab Queen*, *Great Lakes*, *Arthur Godfrey*, *Prairie Fire* and many other varieties were arranged with fern and other greenery. Nick Kindlein had a very attractive display of medium size blooms that attracted the attention of all visitors. Incidentally, the commercial displays were judged in the same order as I mentioned them, Summit Gardens first, Northbrook Dahlia Gardens second and Kindlein Dahlia Gardens third. The show wouldn't have been a show without Mr. Fitchett and his minatures. I'm sure we could all profit by Mr. Fitchett's enthusiasm and willingness to answer questions.

After judging, I made the rounds and listed the principal winners. Names of new exhibitors that had traveled many miles were noted. Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota and other states were well represented. The Central States Show is not a show for Chicago growers anymore and I think it's a healthy condition. New methods of transporting blooms, better cars and highways plus good showmanship all play a part in making Central States Shows the success that they are. It's nice to see those new names and faces and out of state license plates gather in at Garfield Park.

MOST PERFECT "A" BLOOM

Section	Variety	Exhibitor
A	Not Selected	
B	Great Lakes	Don H. Eldredge
C	Pirate Treasure	Stanley Swanson
D	Jane Lausche	Edwin Schampel
E	Prairie Fire	James E. Marsh
F	Searchlight	Summit Gardens

MOST PERFECT "B" BLOOM

Section	Variety	Exhibitor
A	Not Selected	
B	Aumonier Chandelon	Don H. Eldredge
C	Juanita	Stanley Swanson
D	Juanita	Edwin Schampel
E	Hylas	W. C. Davies
F	Juanita	Summit Gardens

LARGEST BLOOM

Section	Variety	Exhibitor
A	Not Selected	
B	Arthur Godfrey	Jos. Sonnefeldt, Jr.
C	So Big	Stanley Swanson
D	Mary Elizabeth	Hugh F. Lewis
E	Prairie Fire	James E. Marsh
F	Arthur Godfrey	Jesse L. Strauss

Most outstanding Miniature—*Ruby Charm*
—Ruth Dickhoff
Most outstanding Pom Pon—*Ila*
—Ruth Dickhoff
Most outstanding other type—*Bonnie Esperance*
—Edwin Schampel

Mary Elizabeth, grown by Mr. Hugh Lewis went ahead to win LARGEST BLOOM IN SHOW honors. *Mary Elizabeth* measured 12½x9½ inches.

Most perfect "A" bloom in show was won with *Searchlight* grown by Glenn Pierce of Summit Gardens.

Most perfect "B" bloom in show was *Bunny*, a new Australian yellow, incurved cactus. I wouldn't be surprised to see *Bunny* re-classified from B to A size. Several blooms of this variety were very close to 8 inches in diameter at shows this year. The winning bloom of *Bunny* was taken from the "Little Ten" display of Summit Gardens.

The American Home Achievement Medal was awarded to a large peach color, semi cactus named *Surprise*. James E. Marsh was the exhibitor, George Baker, Moline, Illinois, was the grower and originator.

Several other seedlings were outstanding—Fred Trauth displayed a 2 year seedling (A-IC-Butterscotch color), Larry Pelc exhibited two seedlings,—one was a sport of *Mrs. Hester Pape* with the same formation but of a nice lavender shade—the other was a 1 year seedling (A-SC-Bi-color dark red with white tips). Several Pape seedlings were displayed—No. 49-84 was a beautiful pink "A" size Semi Cactus that looked real good and set at a perfect angle, another was No. 50-214 (A-IC-Y) with deeply lacinated tips. This was a good full bloom in a shade of yellow just like *Ginger Rogers* with the same sheen.

After listing all the new varieties, I went back over the entire show and searched out the varieties that were particularly impressive to me, whether they were old or new.

Among the very new ones were *Helen Wilson* (B-C-Dk. R), *Tetro* (B-C-Flame), *Risa Grivell* (B-C-Lt. Bl. Y-cerese tips), *Eric Haljord* (B-ID-Bi, blood red, white tips) — then came names most readers will recognize *Almelos Glory*, *Juanita*, *Hollywood Star*, *Kidd's Climax*, *Woy Woy*, *Elaine Butler*, *Croydon Brightness*, *Croydon Nigger*, *Val St. Lambert*, *Grandezza*, *Buccaneer*, *Brown Bomber*, *Judy G.*, *Purplex*, *Silver Tips* and even the "oldie" *Crystal Surprise* was shown many times. Seeing so few of the older varieties brings the question to mind "just what is the life expectancy of so many of the newer introductions?"

SPECIAL AWARDS

SECTION	CLASS AND AWARD	VARIETIES	EXHIBITOR
J	The Big Ten (10 different varieties of "A" dahlias.) Gately Award	<i>Tidal Wave, The Cardinal, Silver Wedding, Jane Lausche, Kidd's Climax, Arthur Godfrey, Prairie Fire, Pirate Treasure, Mary Elizabeth and Hollywood Star.</i>	Larry L. Pelc
K-a	Six Most Perfect "A" Size.	<i>Kidd's Climax, Prairie Fire, Elaine Butler, Kelvin, Croydon Brightness and Woy Woy</i>	Summit Gardens
K-b	Six Most Perfect "B" Size.	<i>Maureen Connolly, Stoplight, Nick's Orchid, Bond's Memory, Val St. Lambert and Eric Halford.</i>	Larry Pelc
L	The Little Ten (10 different varieties of "B" dahlias.)	<i>Bunny, Almelo's Glory, Tetro, Clarose, Margraton, Helen Wilson, Heart of Gold, Daisy Ethel, Carnaval and Juanita.</i>	Summit Gardens
M	Four Formations (1 formal, 1 informal, 1 cactus and one semi- cactus "A" size.)	<i>Prairie Sun, Aristos, Croydon Masterpiece and Prairie Fire</i>	James E. Marsh
	Four Formations ("B" size)	<i>Nick's Orchid, Maureen Connolly, Old Glory and Bunny.</i>	Summit Gardens

SWEEPSTAKES

	SECTION	EXHIBITOR
A	(Novice growing 1 to 49 hills)	G. E. Christoph
B	(Amateurs growing 1 to 49 hills)	Richard F. Borre Joseph Sonnefeldt, Jr. Runner-up
C	(Amateurs growing 50 to 99 hills)	Edward Ladendorf W. H. Wickham, Runner-up
D	(Amateurs growing 100 to 199 hills)	Edwin Schampel Mrs. Henry Grotheer, Runner-up
E	(Amateurs growing 200 and over hills)	J. Clare Moore, Jr. Fred Trauth and W. A. Davies, Runners-up
F	(Open to all)	Jesse L. Strauss George Merkel, Runner-up
G	(Miniature formals, informals, semi-cactus and cactus; ball types, pompons, singles, collarettes, anemones, and orchid flowering)	Ruth E. Dickhoff Edwin Schampel, Runner-up
R	(Arrangements for artistic effect <i>elementary exhibitor</i>) Most Outstanding Arrangement	Searcy Marsh Searcy Marsh
S	(Arrangement for artistic effect <i>advanced exhibitor</i>) Most Outstanding Arrangement	Grace Swanson Grace Swanson
U	(Junior competition) (members and non-members under eighteen)	Rex Pierce
V	(Non-members only)	R. L. Dunwoody

(Continued on page 34)

DAHLIAS IN ENGLAND, 1954

By G. F. DRAYSON

23 Palmerston Rd.

Buckhurst Hill, Essex, England

The English winter of 1953-4 was very mild until the end of January, when it became unusually cold. From then until the end of September, disregarding a few breaks, temperatures continued considerably below normal, and there was a serious deficiency of sunshine during the summer months.

In July, temperatures exceeded 70° on only a few days, and on one day it failed to reach 60°. There were even July frosts which scorched the dahlias in one or two districts. In October, however, temperatures and sunshine were above the normal, and it was not until the 25th of that month that over most of the country the dahlias were frozen.

The exceptionally cool weather was accompanied by excessive rainfall from June onward, and at least one large grower of dahlias had to dig up plants of valuable varieties and remove them to the protection of his greenhouse because his ground had become waterlogged.

This adverse weather made all crops very late and farmers reported the worst harvest conditions within living memory. Dahlias were late in flowering and were very badly represented in the earlier shows where usually there is an abundance of blooms. Owing to circumstances over which we had no control the annual show of our National Dahlia Society was held earlier than usual—on the 3rd of September—and there was a shortage of entries in some classes, particularly those for giant decorative blooms, several growers reporting that they had no blooms ready.

In some quarters there was a feeling that the decrease in the number of exhibits of the giants was due to a lessening of interest in this type. This may be so, but one must wait for a normal season before forming an opinion, for apart from the lateness of the season the unfavorable weather made the timing of the blooms very difficult and also increased the difficulty of exhibiting them in good condition.

The most prominent varieties in our shows were: *Lavender Perfection* (the variety of the year), *Winifred Stredwick* (the best white), *Croy-*



THE PARROT — Exhibited by Mrs. Jean Stoker, Cheam, Surrey, England.

don Masterpiece, *Pop Harris* (the best red, but comparatively small), *Viscount Bledisloe* (the largest red, and very good at times), *Lady Liddell* (as good a yellow as any, but rather soft), *Kidd's Climax*, *Annette*, *Frieda Gaylord* (the largest of all), *Tidal Wave* and *Nobby's Light*. *Arthur Godfrey* was again a wonderful garden variety but rather soft for exhibition.

Of the newer giant decorative varieties *Elvie Ridgewell* was noteworthy; it made strong healthy plants with long stems, and blooms 13" across but somewhat lacking in depth. The color salmon pink with a deeper center, was very attractive. *Croydon Dainty* gave blooms of exceptional size, but growers reported that some of their plants were diseased. *Valerie Watson*, a good sized bloom of apricot and yellow, was

refined in both form and color. *Lena Hall* and *Gerard Anthony* were two other new varieties that were exhibited in fine form. The former is a well-formed deep bloom but somewhat lacking in diameter. The latter is a most promising creamy-yellow of very large size.

Of American varieties *Prairie Fire* gave some beautifully colored blooms 12" across and of good depth, which made it easy to understand its success in America, but it was unreliable, possibly owing to the season. Quite a number of varieties behaved abnormally this year, some commencing with open-eyed blooms although giving fully double blooms later, and others failing to produce their true colors owing to the cool dull weather.

Rees' Lily gave well formed blooms on good stems but rather small for exhibition in England. *Night Editor*, although received late, produced 11" blooms of faultless form and good color on magnificent stems. If it can be grown a little larger it will be a great success. *Mary Elizabeth*, also received late, did not bloom until October but it showed considerable promise.

Andrie's Wonder, the chrysanthemum-flowered variety, was disappointing at first, as the blooms were all open-eyed and badly formed, but later it gave fully double blooms of charming coloring.

Of the large sized cactus and semi-cactus varieties *Big Ben* was again by far the largest of all and was at times exhibited very successfully. When grown round 15" across the top, florets have a tendency to sag somewhat, but not so much as might be expected in view of the fineness of its florets. *Janet Beckett*, the other outstanding 1953 novelty, was not quite so good at the beginning of the season but was excellent later.

Other cactus varieties that behaved very well were *Searchlight*, *Royal Rothesay*, *Victory Day*, *Herbert Apps*, *Pride of Holland*, *Graf Folke Bernadotte*, *Aristos*, *Marjorie Easton*, *President Moes*, *Bunny* and *Mentone*. We also saw some very fine blooms of *Betty Hone*, although this variety usually shows disease.

Of new giant cactus varieties, *Ashburnham* (Stredwick) gave blooms over 12" across with an enormous number of florets. Its color might be described as tan, but may be different in warmer weather. *Heroine* was a very good pink, but has already been seen in America. *Good Catch* gave perfect exhibition blooms over 10"

across and with great depth, but at one time its health appeared to be doubtful; otherwise it deserves to be ranked with the very best. *Lucerna*, from Czechoslovakia, proved to be a very fine deep red variety showing a golden yellow reverse. *Sam Herst* gave some very good yellow blooms 10" across, without being sensational. *Andrea Terriere* raised sometime ago in Belgium, but new to us, produced very charmingly colored pink blooms with yellow centers, but its formation was rather too shallow to make it a good exhibition variety. *Maitre Fargetton*, in its second year in my garden, gave beautiful golden apricot blooms 9" across of very elegant formation on exceptionally good stems.

Medium sized cactus dahlias are now receiving increased attention in England for garden decoration, for cutting and for exhibition. The varieties *Doge*, *Good Earth*, *Pioneer* and *Bacchus* were again unsurpassed in 1954, with *Tornado* and *Wake Up* almost equally good. *Youth*, again the most beautiful pink variety, was not quite so satisfactory in growth, and *Torch* was exhibited very widely.

Of new varieties *Carnaval* was very good in the garden and for cutting, but had hardly sufficient florets for exhibition purposes. *Silverhill* was remarkable for its beautiful pink color and strong stems. *Hermoine* gave a very fine display in the garden but the blooms had insufficient depth to make it a very good exhibition variety. *Lady Ismay* produced blooms of unsurpassed beauty of color and formation, but was less satisfactory in growth.

Reis' Apricot came to me from Australia with no special recommendation, but no variety pleased me more. It is a rich yellow, suffused apricot, of deep incurved cactus formation. It grew about 8" across but could have been grown larger.

Two smaller cactus varieties that are wonderfully free flowering — *Hoek's Yellow* and *Grace* (Maarse)—were outstanding in all respects.

The medium sized decorative varieties *Edith*, *Brandaris*, *Ormerod*, *Coluna*, *House of Orange*, *Arc de Triomphe* and *Terpo* were very good in 1954.

Small flowered dahlias of all types are still growing in popularity owing to their beauty, free flowering qualities, and usefulness for all purposes. Outstanding varieties of the cactus type during the past season were *Deerplay*, *Cheerio*, *Cynthia*, *Purity*, *Doris Day*, *Lilian Barnes*, *Estrolita* and *Rose Fletcher*. The American variety *Snowcup* also proved to be

very free flowering and charming. Outstanding varieties of the decorative type were *Edinburg*, *Brill*, *Mary Richards*, *Gerrie Hoek*, *Bloodstone*, *Glorie van Heenstede*, *Helly Boudewyn*, *Kendal Pride* and *Jescot Jim*. Four new varieties of this type were greatly admired — *Towneley Class*, white with lavender suffusion, *Mother Lister*, of similar coloring but of globular build, *Lilianne Ballego*, with bright orange blooms of faultless formation, and *Newby*, which also has blooms of wonderful formation but almost globular. Its color is a very beautiful shade of pale peach.

Jean Lister, a white variety of pompon formation about 3-1/4" across, continues to be used very largely for cutting and exhibition.

In nearly all our dahlia shows we have classes for the artistic arrangement of blooms. They always attract keen competition and are a source of great interest to lady visitors. They help to popularize the dahlia by demonstrating the usefulness of the flower in the home and how it may be used to the best advantage. In recent shows we have had a very popular class for what is described in the show schedule as a floral design. In 1953 the first prize went to a 15" representation of a butterfly, worked in dahlia petals. It well deserved the prize, but the finest exhibit ever seen in this class was in our 1954 show, when the life like representation of a parrot in very brilliant scarlet and orange dahlia petals caused quite a sensation and to some visitors was a much greater attraction than the magnificent exhibits of specimen blooms. Most of our daily newspapers reproduced photographs of the parrot.

During the past two years two very important papers on various diseases in dahlias have been published in this country—one by our National Dahlia Society and the other by the dahlia traders' association. Both were written by scientists who are engaged in virus research, and served the very useful purpose of educating dahlia growers in the very serious problems with which they are faced.

The papers described the three viruses which affect dahlias, and their vectors, but although they mention that virus-free plants have been obtained by taking tip cuttings from rapidly grown shoots on a dahlia root infected by spotted wilt virus, otherwise they show no means by which virus infected plants can be freed from infection.

The writers are in agreement that great improvements in the health of dahlia stocks can be effected by the examination of all plants throughout the season and the destruction of any showing symptoms of virus, by the regular use of insecticides to control the vectors and by propagating only from plants that have been vigorous and have at no time shown any signs of virus. This excellent advice is by no means new and it is no doubt familiar to growers in America, but it is admitted that owing to the possibility of symptomless carriers of virus it would not altogether eliminate virus from dahlia stocks. One of the writers suggested that this goal could be more nearly attained by raising stocks from plants that had been scientifically tested for freedom from virus. Such stocks would have to be grown and propagated in strict isolation and when distributed would still be liable to become infected if grown in the proximity of ordinary stocks.

At present the propagation and preservation of such tested stocks does not seem to be commercially practicable, except perhaps on a very limited scale, and the other method i.e. the roguing of all plants showing virus symptoms, appear to hold the day, but there is no full agreement as to the extent of its effectiveness. Some experienced growers consider that it merely reduces the amount of visible virus, which is certainly highly desirable, but the scientist retorts that the number of symptomless carriers is now very small.

The whole subject of virus abounds in difficulties and is complicated by the fact that, although most growers destroy any plants showing serious signs of virus, such as stunt, the majority do not destroy plants showing only slight signs of virus, for they know from experience that, with good culture, such plants will probably lose those signs and will give first class blooms. These growers argue that although such plants may be a source of infection to other plants, even if they were removed there would still remain many other sources of infection so that their removal would make but little difference. Apart from possible symptomless carriers, the other sources of infection might include dahlias growing in adjacent gardens where no steps were taken to control virus or its vectors or it might include some of the numerous other garden plants which can be hosts for two of the three viruses which are found in dahlias. It

(Continued on page 33)

ROBERT ROWARTH - WILLIAM McDOUGALL: SON-IN-LAW, FATHER-IN-LAW TEAM

By R. G. HUEY

In Victoria, Australia, is found a rare team of dahlia enthusiasts, Bob Rowarth and his father-in-law, Bill McDougall. Bob, a dahlia grower of twenty-one years standing, operates a 3¼ acre nursery at Boronia, where he annually grows some three thousand dahlia plants and carries on a commercial enterprise, sending stock to all parts of the world, including the United States. Bill, the father-in-law, is one of that great number of ardent lovers of this flower, who grows them solely as a hobby. When he is identified as the originator of the "Kelvin" dahlias, it will readily be recognized that he enjoyed phenomenal success in his hobby. Bill produces the varieties: Bob grows them, shows them, and sells them. Together their efforts make a particularly happy combination that has added additional lustre to the fame of Australian dahlias.

Robert Leslie Rowarth is a native Victorian, born at Clarinda, August 27, 1911. During ten of his earlier years he engaged in market gardening. Later, he was trained as a steam engineer and is now attached to the Patent Inspection Branch of the Department of Agriculture. As a young man, he engaged for sixteen years in his favorite sport, football. Horticulture and Freemasonry are his chief interests now.

His home lies in the lovely blue Dandenong Ranges where the climate is mild, the nights cool, and the soil the heavy virgin, mountain type, an ideal location for his dahlia nursery. With his charming wife, three girls and one son, also, all individually interested in growing and showing dahlias, his time for his avocation is happily filled. As one would expect from such a family, the gardens and grounds surrounding his home are a beauty spot of flowers and shrubs.

While all types of dahlias are grown, Mr. Rowarth's personal preference and chief interest has always been in the giant decoratives. A staunch supporter of Victorian standards which do not favor irregularly formed flowers or twisted and curling petals, he looks for a compact, high centered, regularly formed style as found in *Nobby's Light*, *Burnbrae Memories* or *Pop Harris*. The distribution of points used in scoring at Victorian shows indicates the relative importance placed upon form: Form 7, Stem 5,

Size 5, Condition 5, Color 3, in a total of 25 points. His success and skill as a grower and exhibitor of fine dahlias is seen in the winning of Victorian Championship three times in the past five years, as well as the taking of numerous prizes for the best blooms in the shows, and in the fact that he is in constant demand as a judge and lecturer. Melbourne, the capitol of Victoria, only nineteen miles from Boronia, is one of the leading dahlia growing districts in the world and the competition at the shows there is exceedingly keen.



Robert L. Rowarth and Wm. D. McDougal
Australian Dahlia Growers and Originators

Tubers are preferred to plants for planting purposes. Rigid discarding of weak varieties and stock, an abundant supply of humus in the soil, deep preparation and cultivation, and plenty of deep watering are "musts" in the Rowarth schedule. He believes in keeping the soil on the acid side for dahlias and avoids using green cover crops to turn under on light soils, as it takes too much moisture from the soil during dry seasons. The growing season extends from December to mid-April.

While primarily a grower and exhibitor, and the sole introducer of the varieties from the Kelvin, Vermont, Burnbrae, Spalding and Rosefield raisers, Bob also raises quite a few from his own seed. His best production, to date, is an exquisite flame miniature cactus, slightly tipped with gold, *Mrs. E. H. Rowarth*, which Australian judges have called one of the all time good ones in the dahlia family.

Mr. William McDougall, the father of Mrs. Rowarth, is a boot maker and like so many indoor workers finds his recreation in his garden. This long time hobby and the careful selection of his own seed have rewarded him with some extraordinarily fine dahlias, mostly giant decoratives, which have won world renown. The famous "*Kelvin*," a seedling of *Clara Carder*, was his first production. This has since been followed by *Kelvin Snow*, a great white semi-cactus, the two cactus varieties, *Kelvin Pink* and *Kelvin Sunrise*, the two giant yellow decoratives, *Mrs. R. L. Rowarth* and *Mrs. R. L. Furber*, *Kelvin Orchid*, a grand orchid formal, and *Kelvin Brown*, a superlatively rich toned reddish cinnamon decorative, 12" x 6", which he regards as superior to any of his former originations. Mr. McDougall's latest is an exact replica in size and formation of *Kelvin*, in a deep yellow.

In view of the involved breeding lines that have brought the dahlia up to its present high standards, both Mr. McDougall and Mr. Rowarth feel that no practical purpose is served by hand pollinating, as all sorts of breaks may come from a single pod of seed. Accordingly, both of them depend for the large part upon natural pollination. Both are careful, however, to see that the seed plot contains only carefully selected, outstanding, healthy varieties that have not been weakened by over propagation.

LEW SARETT

The dahlia world learned with sincere regret of the passing of Lew Sarett last August 17th. A summary of his wide interests, his works and his honors appeared in the last issue of *The Dahlia*. Those of us who knew him as a friend and neighbor best recognize our loss.

Lew Sarett was above all a man of intensity and his interests were as wide as the out of doors and all living things. A specialist in the growing of seedling and exhibition dahlias was but one of his many accomplishments. The growing of plants and particularly his favorite, the dahlia, was to him a way of life, as he so clearly explained in an article which appeared in these columns some years ago. The dahlia community has sustained a very real loss which we are sure is shared by those who were associated with Lew Sarett in his academic life at Northwestern University and in his literary work.

1954 DAHLIA SHOW IN HOLLAND

By D. EVELEENS MEARSE

Weather conditions were very unfavorable on Thursday, September 9th when we were cutting our flowers for the annual show of the Dutch Dahlia Society. During the previous weeks we had experienced a record rainfall and through all summer the Meteorological Bureau had been registering unusual low temperatures. It may be easily understood that under these climatic conditions we had the worst dahlia-season we ever had. In a lot of gardens our beloved dahlias nearly drowned and the cold too prevented normal growth. Later on in September and during October the weather changed and though this could not alter the show results, the plants started to grow and these changed conditions made it possible to dig a very satisfactory root-crop at the end of October.

At seven in the morning we started cutting the flowers. They were immediately put in large tin cans and then stored in a large truck. The tin cans containing the flowers are placed as close together as possible so that the flowers cannot move, this to prevent bruising during the drive. Open spaces between the tin cans are stuffed with decoration-materials, vases, baskets and so on.

As usual it was a very busy morning to get all flowers cut in due time which allowed us to make our start according to our schedule at two o'clock. Five minutes later we started with two trucks, the large one loaded with the majority of the flowers and a smaller one containing the "specials"; carefully packed flowers for the "challenge-cup" entries, easily bruising varieties and as most valuable part of the load our "boss" Mr. Bruidegom himself. A third truck to be loaded with the rest of the flowers and the greater part of the decorating materials was scheduled to leave Baarn at five o'clock, this truck being not earlier available.

After a 50-miles drive we reached Hillegom, situated in the centre of the Dutch bulb district. The show was held in the large hall of the Flowerbulb Exchange, the most ideal accommodation to stage a dahlia exhibition in Holland. On our arrival the enormous hall was already decorated with large *Kentia*-palms along the

(Continued on page 36)

EASTERN DAHLIA REVIEW

By ROY W. WEBB

Another season has come and gone. 1954 was one of the best growing years we at 1322 Schlager St., Scranton, Pa., have enjoyed since starting to grow dahlias on test for The Eastern Dahlia Review. For the most part we enjoyed enough rain which was spaced so as to do a maximum of good. I know that many parts of the country suffered for rain most severely, but we were blessed with about the right amount at the right times. This year we are listing more dahlias than usual, for two good reasons, more were tested and we had more rain than other years. Perhaps the originators and introducers sent out more varieties, at any rate the ones grown here were better than usual.

Mrs. Webb and I attended as many of the larger dahlia shows as dates would permit, including Franklin Square, Long Island. New York, Washington, Richmond and Williamsburg. The only scheduled one that we had to miss being North Jersey Dahlia Society and we missed that one only because Hurricane EDNA stepped, or blew in, and wrecked our car enroute. Most of the shows had many quality blooms, but with the exception of Washington lacked quantity. At the various shows I saw many splendid undisseeded dahlias that I would like to list in this article, but because of a long standing rule, I cannot as I did not personally grow them so as to know the conditions, fertilizer and other things used to produce the quality exhibited. Many of these splendid varieties I was privileged to judge for American Home Achievement and score for ADS Seedling Sweepstakes. I am sorry for the owners and introducers, but in fairness to all I just cannot list any thing not grown in my personal garden.

The order in which I list the different varieties has nothing to do with which is best, as I try to list each size group in alphabetical order.

"A" DAHLIAS

Ceramic Beauty (Eccleston-Rocky River) FD Dk Red. This dahlia won several American Home Achievement Medals in 1953, so was not eligible to compete this year. However, it was certified at Atlanta and Farmingdale this year. Splendid growth and profuse bloomer.

Cherokee Beauty (Ricks-Dahliadel) ID Pink. This dahlia was certified at East Lansing and Cincinnati. I know nothing of its winnings on



Ned Seymour, A-ID-Orange, seedling of Stanley Johnson, Cheltenham, Pennsylvania Won ten American Home Achievement Medals

the show table, but do know that it is an Honor Roll dahlia. Splendid growth and profuse bloomer.

Clariam Tide (Walbert-Rocky River) SC Orange. At times I understand this one comes Str. Cac. and the color varies some according to growing conditions. I have grown Clariam Tide for two years and it is one of the very best growing dahlias with plenty of stem which is both straight and strong. I know nothing of its winnings, other than for me and it has won blues every time I have shown it during the two years, with one tri-color for best Semi-Cactus in section.

Ned Seymour (Pennypack Gardens) ID Orange. This was the largest dahlia in my garden this year. Believe it was awarded more American Home Achievement Medals than any other dahlia this year . . . Ten that I know about and nine ADS Seedling Sweepstakes awards . . . One of the shows did not have the ADS Seedling Sweepstakes Class.

New Wrinkle (Rocky-River) FD Pink. Color and formation is a bit different than any other dahlia that I know, perhaps the name indicates something of the formation. The color is pink with lighter streaks.

Orange Majesty (Hadow-Rocky River) ID Autumn. Very early bloomer for me and the size is held good all season.

Our Friend (Pape-Robens) ID Purple. One of the good dahlias that Mr. Pape did not get out on the market before his death. I have grown it for two years and it has always been good for me.

Rees' Velvet (Rees) SC Dk Red. I have grown this one for Mr. Rees for several years and it has been good all the way. One of the very strongest plants that I have ever grown. Has won for me each time I have exhibited it.

Surprise (Baker-Rocky River) SC Peach. A splendid grower, very strong plants. Winner of several American Home Achievements and ADS Seedling Sweepstakes. I have no other record of winnings.

The Whirl (Pape-Robens) Cactus Autumn. Very large for a cactus. Another of Mr. Pape's good ones which had to be held back because of time running out for Mr. Pape.

"B" DAHLIAS

Abundance (Robens) FD Lavender. The one time I exhibited this dahlia, I overheard one of the County Agents remark that he considered it the best dahlia in the show.

Carol Hawley (Dove-Rocky River) SC Dk Red. This dahlia should fit the so called "BB" class very nicely as it runs over miniature size with good culture.

Crestmont Beauty (Lloyd-Ruschmohr) Cactus Salmon Pink. A very clean healthy grower, a dahlia that it is a real pleasure to grow.

Deep Orange (Haugh-Rocky River) Cactus Orange. A beautiful little orange which may be either "BB" or "Min" in size, depending on the culture received.

Flora Gifford (Dempsey-Hulin) FD Bi-color of deep red tipped white. Of "BB" size, that is four to six inches.

Glorious (Hymer-Dahliadel) SC Yellow. This is perhaps the best performing dahlia in the whole garden. I also saw blooms at the Long

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NED SEYMOUR

NED SEYMOUR I.D.—A—Size 14" x 9". Color—red orange. Named for the Horticultural Editor of the American Home magazine. A dahlia that will be a sensation in your garden and on the show table. Sturdy plant will produce 4 giant flowers at one time. Show record—entered in competition at 10 shows and winner of 10 American Home achievement medals and 9 American Dahlia Society Seedling Sweepstakes with an average score of 87.8 points. Won in open competition as "Best of Show." A new dahlia destined to become very popular and set a standard for the next 10 years. According to present pricing of a new introduction its quality should put it in the \$100.00 class. Am only giving you the basic facts as after growing this undefeated champ'on you will praise it as the greatest exhibition dahlia in commerce today.

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AMBERLITE, Str. C.—B—Size 7" x 4". Color—autumn with tints of orange. A good grower producing almost perfect blooms. Won the Flower Grower trophy at A.D.S. show New York City and 3 A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes Awards with an average score of 86.5 points. A medium size dahlia of the highest quality.

Root \$15.00 net

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MISS. PRR

MISS PRR, I.D.—'A'—Size 10" x 5" Color—orange. Selected for this name by winning the beautiful seedling trophy at the big Pennsylvania Railroad Show in Philadelphia. A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstake Award at Burholme and certificate of Merit at the Germantown Show. Possesses high quality and this is what counts.

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FIRELIGHT

FIRELIGHT, F.D.—'B'—Size 5½" x 4". Bi-color. red tipped white. A D.S. Seedling Sweepstake Award winner. A new introduction priced to be within the reach of all. Briefly, good quality at a low price.

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Pennypack Gardens

Cheltenham, Pa.

Island Show and in one of the Long Island gardens where it was just as good as for me. Near cactus and may be classified as cactus.

Golden Halo (Wolfe-Rocky River) SC Autumn. A very good grower which should win its share of ribbons, however, I have no record of any winnings.

Marvelous (Rosemary) Cactus Rose-Pink. A very nice clean cut dahlia which will win its share. Winner of American Home Achievement Medal at Richmond.

Paisley Gem (Hulin) FD Variegated with purple on white. Have no record of winnings, except that it was certified at Cincinnati this year.

Patricia Ann (Dahliadel) Cactus Pink. A nice bright pink which shows well both in the garden and on the show table. Won a special for me at the Lehman show.

Prince Noire (Bowling) SC Dk Red. I have grown this dahlia for two years and this year it was especially good in my garden. Stems are rather long but the blooms are held in good shape. Certified at Rutgers and East Lansing this year.

Red Gleam (Roloff-Hulin) ID Red. A nice grower and good bloomer. I have no record of winnings.

Snow Girl (Dahliadel) Cactus White. Certified at Rutgers this year. I have no other record of winnings.

Southern Beauty (LaMotte-Rocky River) FD Dark blend of purple and white. One of the really bright spots in the garden. Certified at Atlanta this year.

Tid (Parker-Robens) Cactus Pink. Producer of many splendid blooms for me and winner wherever shown. Attracted my attention at Washington in 1953 when Dr. Parker exhibited a large basket of this dahlia.

"Min" DAHLIAS

Dove (Dahliadel) M-ID Purple. Should win in its class, as I don't think of another purple min. Informal.

Gypsy's Kiss (Brown-Rocky River) M-FD Variegated with purple on light lavender.

Joy (Robens) M-FD Rose-red. A good grower

with all blooms under the four inch limit for miniatures.

Little Bill (Hunt-Rocky River) M-C Yellow. The nicest little yellow cactus that I know. Certified at Rutgers.

Meta (Motzinik-Rocky Rover) M-FD Light Lavender. Petalage is rather coarse, but definitely formal decorative.

(Continued on page 33)

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THE TWENTY-FIRST MID-WEST CONFERENCE DAHLIA SHOW

CINCINNATI, OHIO

By R. G. HUEY, Associate Editor

The Twenty-first Annual Mid-West Conference Dahlia Show, held in Cincinnati with the Ohio Valley Dahlia Association as host, drew large numbers of spectators and visiting growers from Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, West Virginia, Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky and Canada.

Classes were well filled with fine blooms and the competition was keen, even though the season had been adverse and the local growers had suffered a severe storm and high wind just prior to the show. Larry Pelc and Glenn Pierce, with their fine cloth house specimens, added greatly to the show, while Paul and Vicky Hale brought a station wagon of superb blooms a distance of 385 miles. B. E. Wright's fine blooms from Maywood, Illinois, those of Jerry Schutte from Springfield, Ohio, those of the Indianapolis Dahlia Society growers, Artie Boram's from Beaver, Ohio, and those of the other Scioto Valley growers contributed greatly to the success of the show. The special displays of the Cincinnati Park Board, Peck's Golden Rule Dahlia Farm and Glenn Pierce were outstanding.

Sweepstakes in the Small Amateur Section, "A" and "B", was won by B. E. Wright, with Howard Ray taking second place. Sweepstakes in the Poms and Miniatures in this section was won by Harry Story. In the Open to All Section, "A" and "B" blooms, Sweepstakes went to Glenn Pierce, with Larry Pelc second. W. C. Anderson won Sweepstakes in the Miniatures and Poms, with Alice Mattick, second. Mrs. Rose Ray received the Sweepstakes Award in Artistic Arrangements.

The American Home Achievement Medal was awarded to Jim Marsh's entry, "*Surprise*," a beautiful seedling of George Baker's.

In the Three Years or Older Class the following scores were made: Under Group "A"—Baker's "*Surprise*" 85.5, Boram's "*Boram's Pride*" 85.5, Schutte's "*Jerry's Pride*" 85.3. In Group "B"—Rosemary Garden's "*Marvelous*" 85.3, in Group "BB"—Boram's "*Carmine Red*"

85.5, and in Group "M"—Mrs. Thomas Morgan's four entries of Miniature Poms.

In the 1 Year Seedling Class, the following from the large number of entries were considered meritorious by the judges: 2 of J. R. Carlisle's entries, 3 of William Wolbert's, 1 of Mrs. Perry Brown's and 1 of Artie Boram's. In the Two Years Seedling Class, an entry of William Wolbert's and one of Mrs. Perry Brown were given blue ribbons.

W. C. Anderson's entry won the coveted "Charles F. Pape Trophy" for twelve over eight inches dahlias, established three years ago in honor of Mr. Pape's eightieth birthday.

The "R. G. Huey Trophy" for the most outstanding foreign introduction specimen went to Paul Hale for his entry, "*Leander*." The "J. G. Ballago and Sons Award" was won by Larry Pelc. The "Mid-West Trophy" was won by William Wolbert with a fine "*Windlassie*," the "Col. Thomas Trophy" by John Dickman with three blooms of "*Grandezza*," and the "Bro. Albert Harris Trophy," established by Mrs. C. W. Doiseau, by Walter Saffell's entry in "Arrangements".

The largest bloom in the show was a 12-1/8" x 8-3/4" "*Arthur Godfrey*" grown by Howard Ray. The most perfect "A" bloom was Larry Pelc's "*Prairie Sun*" and the most perfect "B" bloom was Glenn Pierce's "*Clarose*." "*Amelo's Glory*," grown by Glenn Pierce, was selected as the most outstanding entry in the show.

176 attended the Annual Banquet, held in the Alms Hotel, with Dr. C. E. Wildon, guest speaker, giving a most timely and helpful address for both amateur and commercial growers.

To our judges who so graciously and efficiently did their work, to the officers of the American Dahlia Society and of the Mid-West Dahlia Conference, to the visiting growers and friends from the other societies, the Ohio Valley Dahlia Association expresses its sincere thanks and appreciation for their attendance and contribution to the success of the Mid-West Show. We hope to have you back with us again in the same capacity.

THANKSGIVING

By C. MERRILL BROWN

With Thanksgiving just around the corner well might we count our dahlia blessings of the past year and give thanks. This might seem like an impossible task for many growers after experiencing a third disastrous growing season, when they have been pestered with drought, excessively high temperatures, hurricanes, floods, no flowers and finally a poor root return for all their efforts. We happen to be one of the more fortunately situated enthusiasts and little that was a trial for others has bothered us. Outside of a season which was not as floriferous as some previous ones, we had no complaint to make. Not more than a dozen plants out of some 400 hills failed to bloom. There were disappointments, naturally, but when we consider what the other fellow was up against, we will not utter a single word of complaint.

We are thankful that we are still here and can consent to the request of the Editor for another "Review" story. We are thankful that we have been able to carry on with the dahlia patch. We are thankful that we have been able to find someone to do the work for us that we can no longer do ourselves. We are thankful that we have a well from which we can supply the garden with unlimited water when needed.

We are thankful we are close to Lake Erie which moderates the hot blasts as they come from the Chicago area. We are thankful we have good drainage and do not suffer from having water stand on the garden for any length of time. We are thankful for the privilege of trying so many seedlings from our friends. We are thankful for the promising looking seedlings from the last lot of seed we received from the late Charlie Pape. We are thankful for the many new varieties it was our good fortune to grow this past season. We are thankful for the insecticides in dust form so we did not have to spray. We are thankful for the normal root crop we dug even if it was the dirtiest and wettest we ever lifted. We are thankful for the beautiful pictures we were able to take of the garden. We are thankful for the good shows we were able to attend. We are thankful for all the old friendships renewed and for the many new ones made. And, we are thankful for THE DAHLIA which has given us so much of pleasure and joy over the many years.



Mrs. Paul Comstock with blooms of *First Lady*, B-FD-Yellow, winning seedling being introduced by Comstock Dahlia Gardens, San Deigo, California.

And now, that we may share with you, we will pass along our comments on our observations made at home and abroad of what we saw that was new to us in 1954, with the hope that we may be able to bring an added joy to your garden in the years to come.

The first and most difficult decision of the year was to decide which of the older varieties were to be discarded to make room for the new ones. Never have we had as many varieties that were new to us as we had this year. Over 150 "new" ones of which better than half were of Australian origin. Needless to say in a garden limited to about 400 hills it was not possible to plant more than one of many of these and a variety had to be especially choice to be favored with a double hill. (Our overflow garden where we normally grew 1000 hills had to be abandoned this year). Comments on the performance of the 1954 American introductions of which we had 14, will be waived, other than to say that too many of them failed to measure up.

Our Holland assortment consisted of 15 varieties, most of them new novelties but some of older vintage. Results on the whole were most satisfactory. *Good Catch*, A-SC, bright lemon yellow would top the list as being the nearest to what we like in a dahlia: good bloomer, good sized flowers, nice stems, open grower and good root maker. For brilliancy, *Rex* would rate high. A B-SC crinkly mauve purple with silver reverse on a stem a bit longer than we like to see but well worth growing just the same. *Heroine* is another beautiful dahlia, A-SC, salmon pink overlaid mauve with a gold center which also had a long stem. It might be that these stems were extra long because of the location of these plants in the garden. They were in shade for about 40% of the day. *Tres Jolie*, A-StrC, pink with pure white centers, reminded somewhat of *Crowning Glory*. Bush was low and sprawling but flowers were of good size and substance. *Andries Wonder*, A-ID, was so entirely different that it is hard to describe. Salmon with golden shades with each petal curving suddenly upward at the tip gave a type of bloom not seen before in dahlias. *Cirrus* and *Henk Carlee*, primrose yellow and white respectively, were two medium sized cactus that pleased very much as did *Decoy*, the brightest spot in the miniature bed. *Pooka*, red, and *Gay Look*, golden bronze with a reddish center, as well as *Reflex*, purple, all proved to be satisfactory poms. From Garnett Huey in Ludlow, Ky., we received among others *Souvenir De M. Joosens*, A-ID, a very dark red of excellent size and formation, here again on a long stem, but well worth growing if you like a very dark dahlia.

Other European varieties which did well were *Alger La Blanche*, A-C, pure white on long stems and excellent formation. A tremendous bloomer. *Distinction*, A-C, lemon yellow, some blooms of which had a tendency to sit on top which did not detract from their beauty in the least. This was especially nice. Both of these were from France. From Germany we can list *Patzel's Triumph*, A-ID, a giant golden yellow right on top; *Planet*, A-ID, another giant lavender, also on top; *Violetta*, A-C, light purple and *Nemesis*, A-C, a good shade of red.

By far the best performance was from the new Australian varieties. We can't mention them all. Out of better than 80 from "down under" the following stood out as being especially worth

while. Some of these are still in the experimental stage and may be released this fall. The ones which follow would add charm and distinction, to say nothing of pleasure, to any one's garden. *Anna May*, A-SC, golden yellow deepening to rich orange; tall, open grower; *Apricot Glow*, B-IC, light blend of old gold and pink, low grower but prolific; *Bob Russell*, B-SC, red with a cream center on long stems; *Boet. Brother Erasmus*, A-C, orange red and yellow, one of the finest cactus varieties in years and an easy winner at each of the shows where it was exhibited; *Brighton Gem*, B-IC, deep rose with a lighter center; *Burnbank*, B-FD, gold (this looks better than *Golden Treasure* to us); *Christine*, A-FD, a beautiful canary yellow; *Croydon Dainty*, A-FD, champagne overlain rose pink, color very much out of the ordinary but a short stem; *Del Rosa*, A-ID, deep rose; *Dr. Green*, B-SC, dusty pink variegated red, something very different; *Eggleson*, A-FD, pink and mauve, low grower; *Enfield Glory*, A-FD, a brilliant red; *F. M. Barnwell*, A-ID, salmon rose on long stems; *Freda Channing*, A-ID, a tremendous bright red; *Full Moon*, A-C, lemon yellow, long stems; *George Wilson*, A-FD, rose pink or lavender with a lighter center; *Helen Wilson*,

NEW FOR 1955

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A-C, plum purple; *Jean Cameron*, *B-SC*, old rose, prolific bloomer; *Kelvin Brown*, *A-FD*, henna orange brown, something different again in color; *Marie Ayling*, *A-ID*, light shell pink; *Mayfair*, *A-FD* or *A-ID*, old rose and out of this world for color; *McDonald Quill*, *A-FD*, dark red tipped white, fairly uniform bi-color; *Myra Whittington*, *B-IC*, salmon pink and cream, a beautiful pastel on long stems and lots of flowers; *Orange Sovereign*, *A-SC*, bright orange; *Premier*, *A-ID*, nice shade of red; *Race's Red*, *A-ID* medium red; *Red Rover*, *A-C*, extra large red with spiky petals; *Rio Mystery*, *B-SC*, yellow and tan; *Ronlea Martin*, *A-ID* or *A-FD*, lavender; *Sir Nigel*, *A-FD*, cyclamen purple with white tips (sometimes); *Undaunted*, *A-FD*, blood red; *Vermont Belle*, *A-SC*, bright orange and *Vivien Leigh*, *A-ID*, a bright coppery henna on long stems.

Of the seedlings in on trial this year we think several of them measure up. From our experience with some of the new introductions of this year and of previous years, we have come to the conclusion that we will recommend NOTHING which we have not seen growing.

Blooms on the show table are no criteria of what the same varieties will do for one in the garden. If you care for ball dahlias Haugh's *Butterball* should please. It has size and color, stem may be a bit long and not able to take the weather in some parts of the country. Wolbert's *Clariam Tide*, *A-SC*, will produce some extra large blooms on excellent stems. We called it an orange red. Eccleston's *Ceramic Beauty* *A-FD*, comes as close to being the perfect formal as one can wish, color on the purplish red shade. Excellent bloomer on good stems, good root maker. This has been very satisfactory for us for two years. Premier's *Pink Spangle*, a lovely pink collarette to be introduced by Dahliadel, will delight those who like collarettes. And so will *Evelyn Scola*, a flame collarette with a bright yellow center. *Johnson's No. 164*, a bright orange *B-C*, as well as *Phillip's 49-2*, an autumn *B-IC*, made bright spots in the seedling patch. *Red Gleam* from Hulin, *B-ID*, ox blood red, grew well and bloomed profusely. Several others not yet at the introduction stage did very well. We'll have to save them until another year.

Away from home we saw very nice shows at Forty Fort, Pa., Rochester, Elmira and Washington. The latter was one of the finest shows we

(Continued on page 35)

KITSAP COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY SHOW

By J. E. HULIN

BREMERTON, WASHINGTON

The 29th annual show of the Society was held Aug. 26th and 27th in the Floral Hall of the Fair Association. This show was not up to the high standards of this Society due to one of the poorest growing seasons in years with a heavy wind and rain storm a few days before show time. New arrivals in the Novice Class presented fine specimens of *Smoky*, *Butterfly*, *Yellow Giant* and *Clara Carder*.

The Amateur sections were well filled with a wide variety of Holland numbers with a small scattering of good Americans such as *Miss San Diego*, *Hart's Whirlaway*, *Silver Wedding*, *Grand Slam*, *Julia McKamey*, *Night Editor* and *Vanity*. In the red section *Jos. B. Lanktree* won all three ribbons.

The advance amateur section was not too well filled but fine blooms were shown of *Searchlight*, *Prairie Sun*, *Julia McKamey*, *Night Editor*, *Silver Wedding*, *Arthur Godfrey*, *Color Sketch*, *Cease Fire*, *Sellwood Glory*, and *Dolly Sawyer*. The best large Dahlia in the show was a fine specimen of *Nobby's Light* with *Autumn Brocade* the best cactus in the show. Plans are in the making for a better show in 1955.

— SPECIAL OFFERS —

Autumn Blaze. Ambassadeur van Kleffens,
Canary, Ike, Old Gold, (list, \$6.00) ..\$5.00
Twelve Pompons, all different, named,
(list, \$6.25)\$5.00

Cash with order. Postpaid. Catalog.



FITCHETT DAHLIA GARDENS

735-737 Milton Ave.

Janesville, Wis.



CHEROKEE BEAUTY

CHEROKEE BEAUTY (Ricks-Dahl 86A), FD, M, Bloom 10 x 6, Bush 3½ ft. An outstanding Formal Decorative of a pleasing begonia pink. Clearer and more intense pink than Kelvin. Has distinctive foliage and is a wonderful propagator of green plants. Naturally a vigorous grower and does best in regular garden culture. Extra feeding tends to make the stems shorter. Side pruning gives good stems on first flowers and lateral blooms will take care of themselves. So unusual in color and size you won't want to miss it. Certified at East Lansing and Cincinnati Trial Grounds and on all 4 Honor Rolls, and Webb's Eastern Review.

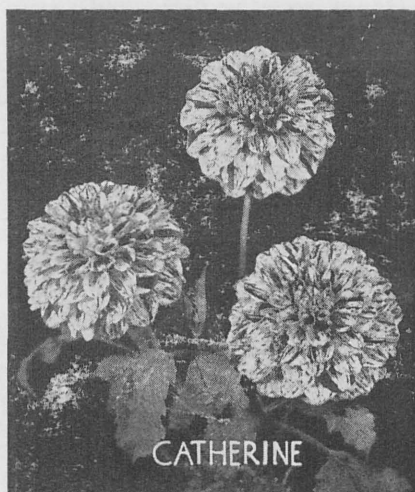
Root, \$15.00; Pot Root, \$10.00; Plant, \$5.00



CHEROKEE MAIDEN

CHEROKEE MAIDEN (Ricks-Dahl 85B), ID, EM, Bloom 8 x 6, Bush 4 ft. Wonderful light mimosa yellow Informal Decorative almost Semi-Cactus at times. Picture shows the high full centers and lovely type. A good up-right grower with strong, erect stems and a consistent bloomer. On Lynn Dudley's Honor Roll.

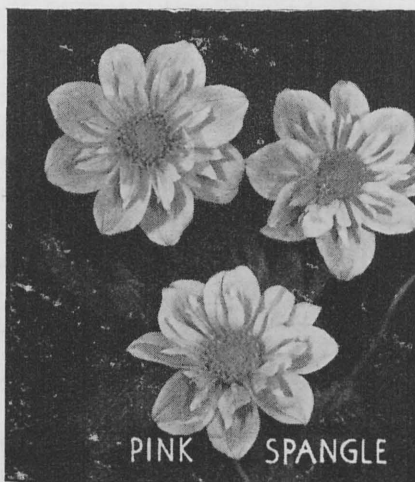
Root, \$10.00; Plant, \$3.50



CATHERINE

CATHERINE (Schimpt-Dahl 86M), M FD, E, Bloom 2½ x 1½, Bush 4 ft. A stunning variegated almost without competition on the exhibition table, scoring the highest of any seedling in many shows this season. Won the A.D.S. Trophy in New York as Best Undisseminated Miniature and has a good chance of winning the A.E.S. Miniature Seedling Sweepstakes. White heavily suffused mauve, striped and speckled Dianthus purple. Healthy bush and wonderful bloomer, picturesque in your garden. On Dudley's Honor Roll.

Root, \$5.00; Plant, \$2.00



PINK SPANGLE

PINK SPANGLE (Premier-Dahl 86), Coll, E, Bloom 4", Bush 2½ ft. This lovely Collarette is in a class by itself, the only pink Collarette we have ever seen. Soft rhodamine pink with collar the same. Nice low growing bush producing quantities of well formed blooms on good strong stems. Really it was a dream all season. On Dudley's Honor Roll and Webb's Eastern Review.

Root, \$5.00; Plant, \$2.00

DAHLIA

By L

Here is the Finest ever offered. We varieties with the exception of giving first hand information tions on these varieties. All pic and some are not even disbudded

NED SEYMOUR (Johnson) 5 ft. This wonderful dahlia to a red orange as the season ing in size. Named for the American Home. Was entered American Home Achievement Dahlia Society Seedling Sw average score of 87.8 points exhibition dahlia.

Additional copies of this Ad 48 page catalogue, including cul in February.

1955 INTRODU
On Roots, Pot R

DAHLIA

Warren W

Box 14



DOVE

DOVE (Dove-Dahl 85M) Bush 3½ ft. The on purple miniature we kr purple. Picture show artistic shape with son partially upward, just season. Strong, wiry weather. On Mr. Webb

Root

AS

For 1955

DAHLIADEL

array of DahliaDel Introductions have grown and tested all the best Seymour and are therefore shortcomings and recommendations are of field grow blooms

A ID, Bloom 13 x 8, Bush will vary from orange red to advances. Surely outstanding Horticultural Editor of in 10 Shows and won 10 Medals, and 9 American Deepstakes Awards with an. What a record for a real

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on request. Our 1955 complete cultural instructions FREE. Ready

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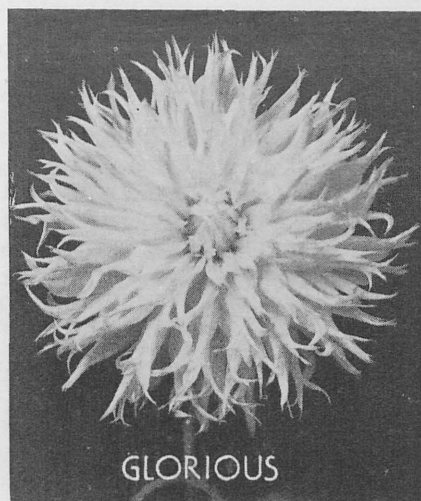
IADEL

. Maytrott
Vineland, N. J.



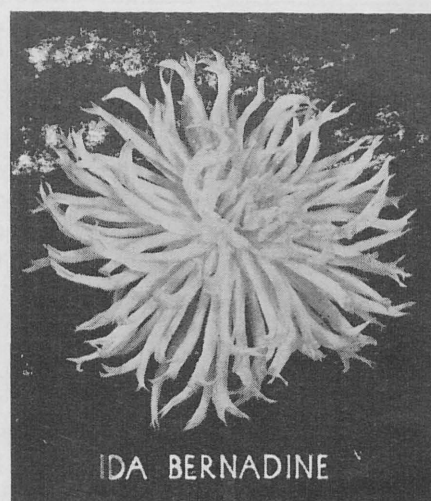
, M ID E, Bloom 4 x 2 ly Informal Decorative now of. A lively Tyrian s the different and e of the blooms facing a mass of blooms all stems and stands dry's Eastern Review.

\$5.00; Pot Root, \$3.50;
Plant \$2.00



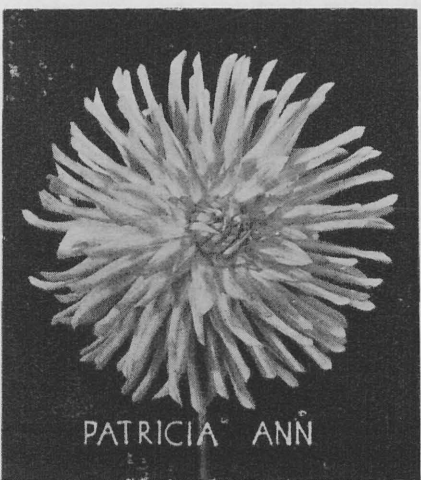
GLORIOUS (Hymer-Dahl 86B), SC, E, Bloom 8 x 4, Bush 4 ft. The highest scoring dahlia in Long Island Show. Lovely, clear light primrose yellow with deeply serrated petals. Wonderful form, early full centered and deep. Truly glorious all season which prompted its name. Exhibited by Henry Olsen of Elmont, N. Y., and originated by Chester Hymer of Salem, N. J. On Dudley's and Faust's Honor Rolls and Webb's Eastern Review.

Root, \$15.00; Pot Root, \$10.00; Plant, \$5.00



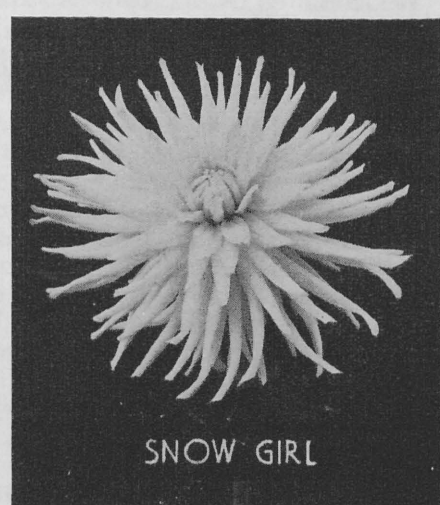
IDA BERNADINE (Frank-Dahl 86B), IC, E, Bloom 8 x 5, Bush 4 ft. Unique yellow In-curved Cactus which will have very little competition on the show table. Scored 85.5 at Long Island Trial Grounds in 1954. Good growing bush producing well formed, full centered flowers throughout the season. Fine stems. A really different addition to our dahlia family. On Lynn Dudley's Honor Roll.

Root, \$10.00; Pot Root, \$7.50; Plant, \$3.50



PATRICIA ANN (Brusca-Dahl 85B), StC, EM, Bloom 8 x 4½, Bust 3½ ft. Lovely fuchsia pink that has done considerable winning, especially in New York this season where Dr. Fred Knoec exhibited it. There are very few Straight Cactus in the B size of a true even pink throughout. This dahlia should become very popular on the show table and most pleasing in the garden. Certified at New Brunswick in 1953. On Dudley's Honor Roll and Webb's Eastern Review in 1954

Root, \$10.00; Pot Root, \$7.50;
Plant, \$3.50



SNOW GIRL (DahliaDel 85B), StC, E, Bloom 7 x 4½, Bush 4 ft. Lovely pure white almost like Dandy Snow, only a smaller size, with Jersey Dainty its only real competitor. Profuse, full centers and a good keeper for cutting. After first blooms laterals produce long wiry stems. Certified at New Brunswick Trial Grounds, on Lynn Dudley's Honor Roll and Webb's Eastern Review.

Root, \$10.00; Pot Root, \$7.50;
Plant, \$3.50

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON D. C.

By Dr. HENRY C. PARKER

Dahlia news from this section is all favorable. Our National Capital Dahlia Society has just finished staging its largest and best show to date. With 2533 exhibits (not blooms) entered by 140 exhibitors and with from 18,000 to 20,000 visitors, this show was probably the largest in the country. This in spite of bad drought which severely limited entries by those who could not water their gardens. Membership has almost doubled the past year and enthusiasm has kept pace. This seems to be due to the combination of having a "go-getter" President, Geo. E. Dodrill, and the advent of the DAHLIAGRAM, Thomas Yano, Editor - one year old in February - converted from a monthly meeting notice into a valuable monthly publication containing up-to-the-minute dahlia news and information. Our membership now extends from coast to coast and even into Australia - two members.

Our members had so many blooms, to say nothing of energy and enthusiasm, that they exhibited at shows all the way from New York to Williamsburg, Va. Members made clean sweeps of all the awards at the Fairfax and Falls Church Va., shows. At the Burholme, Pennsylvania, show, Mr. Yano's entry of *Tid* (incurved) pink cactus, B-size, H. C. Parker (originator) won a score of 87.5 in the A. D. S. Seedling Sweepstakes. At New York an entry of *Lulu*, a light red ball, H. C. Parker originator, was flown by Mr. Yano to the show and was runner-up for Leonard Barron Award and scored 86.1 in the Seedling Sweepstakes. At the Baltimore Show, sweepstakes were won by A. S. Mason and F. T. Minor. N. C. D. S. growers also won the Grand Champion (*Windlassie*), Best A-size bloom (*Croydon Masterpiece*) and 5 tricolors with *King David*, *Hollywood Star*, *Ronnie Lee*, *Maryland Beauty* and *Croydon Dainty*. *Tid* scored 85 in the A. D. S. Seedling Sweepstakes. At the Richmond show Forest T. Minor's entry of *Marvelous*, a pink B-size straight cactus, won the American Home Achievement Medal for Rosemary Dahlia Gardens. *Lulu* scored 85.8 in the Seedling Sweepstakes, Geo. Dodrill's miniature dark blend seedling won the V. D. S. 1st Year Seedling Sweepstakes Certificate and a similar certificate was won by H. C. Parker with an orange cactus B-size

dahlia No. 733. At the Williamsburg show N. C. D. S. growers won 4 sweepstakes, Grand Champion (*Daisy Ethel*) entered by Geo. Dodrill, Best A-size bloom (*Pride of Parkersburg*) entered by C. G. Phillip, Best European cactus (*Chamoisette*) entered by C. G. Phillip, Best European Red (*Goudbrocaat*) entered by Geo. Dodrill, Best Amateur bloom (*Autumn Blaze*) entered by V. L. Ailstock and Best Children's entry (*Burnbrae's Memory*) entered by David Dodrill. Both Baltimore and Williamsburg were harder hit by the drought than Washington so the contributions of blooms by N. C. D. S. members were very welcome.

An outstanding feature of the National Capital Dahlia Show was an exhibit of about 160 dahlias by J. G. Ballego & Sons flown from Holland all packed tightly in a medium-size florist's box weighing 40 pounds. These were picked on Wednesday night and were still in fine condition at the end of the show Sunday night. U. S. growers should learn how this is done. This shipment was received Friday night at the Botanic Garden. The stems were cut under water as directed and by morning all blooms were in good condition. Another feature was the Children's Section with 72 entries one of which (*Autumn Blaze*) entered by Forest Minor Jr. went on to win as the largest blue ribbon A-size bloom in the show. David Yano won sweepstakes, in this section.

Jaune La Belle won as the best A-size bloom, *Judy G.* as the best B-size dahlia and a fine yellow formal miniature (*M-53-1*) seedling of Harry Frank won as the best miniature. In the following table the winning varieties which won the most points in the show are tabulated in accordance with their ratings:

RANK	A-VARIETIES	PTS.
1	Arthur Godfrey	26
2	Kelvin	23
3	Autumn Blaze	18
4	Marilyn Dale	18
5	Mrs. Hester Pape	18
6	Five Star General	17
7	Pink Superior	17
8	Patricia Spollen	16
9	Powder Puff	15
10	Pride of Parkersburg	15

RANK	MINIATURES	PTS.
1	Ruby Charm	21
2	Hazel Harper	17
3	Andrie's Orange	13

RANK	B-VARIETIES	PTS.
1	Victory Maid	21
2	Windlassie	20
3	Florence Chadwick	17
4	Golden Treasure	16
5	Barbarosa	15
6	Bond's Memory	15
7	Stoplight	15
8	Little Eddie	13
9	Marion Glenn	13
10	Jack of Hearts	12

RANK	POMPONS	PTS.
1	Betty Malone	14
2	Miss Marjorie	12
3	Little Edith	12
4	Betty Anne	10

Stanley Johnson won the American Home Achievement Medal with his *Ned Seymour* a 12 inch informal scarlet or orange having slightly waved petals, a dahlia which is prettier than most dahlias of its size. A. D. S. Seedling Sweepstakes Certificates were won by Stanley Johnson's *Ned Seymour* with a score of 85.3; by H. C. Parker's *Lulu*, light red ball, with a score of 85; and by a formal decorative variegated miniature entered by Luther Schimpf with a score of 88. The Seedling Section had 111 entries. Mrs. F. Miller won the A. D. S. Bronze Medal with a 12 inch light blend informal seedling. Among the blue ribbon winners were Harry Franks *M-53-1* yellow formal miniature and Geo. Dodrill's dark blend formal miniature.

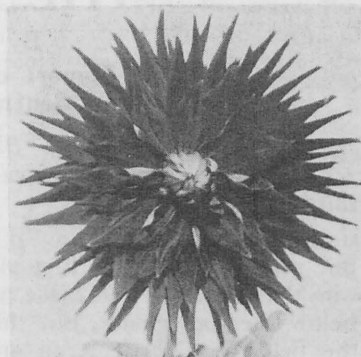
Introducing for 1955 REES' VELVET

A Size — I. D. to S. C. Darkest of all Maroon
*This will be one of your
strongest plants*

ROOTS \$10.00 PLANTS \$3.50

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REES' DAHLIA GARDENS
Tilden, Illinois



"PRINCE NOIRE" (Black Prince)

B-SC-DK. Red - 7" x 4"

Velvety dark red. Listed on Dudley's and Robert's Honor Rolls. On Webb's Eastern Dahlia review, certified at East Lansing and Rutgers Trial grounds. Produces many blooms without popped centers. Sure winner in its class. Attracts much attention

Roots \$10.00 net
No Plants

3 for \$25.00 net
List on Request



BOWLING DAHLIA GARDENS

815 Philadelphia Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland

Greater St. Louis Show

While the "fair weather" growers were complaining about the terrible heat and drouth in the St. Louis area, other growers were working double time on their patches because top-notch blooms came rolling in to our 16th annual show. The water situation was so critical in some areas that a person was liable for a heavy fine if caught using water on flowers, consequently many growers were wiped out during one June heat wave when the thermometer hit an all-time high of 116.

Outstanding varieties exhibited included;

Smoky, Arthur Godfrey, Prairie Sun, Ogden Reid, Aristocrat, Nicky K, White Superior, Sister Stella, Rees Lily, Juanita, Empire State, Heavenly White, and Silver Wedding.

George Baker's seedling *Surprise* won the American Home Achievement Medal, Bill Knetzer piled up enough points to capture the Grand Sweepstakes, Rich Jamison won most perfect B in show with *Juanita* and Paul Hale won most perfect A in show with *Rees Lily*. George Chandler had the best vase of ten in the show, Joe Goss had the best vase of 5 and George Reh had the best vase of 3. Other section winners were Russ Tilly, L. D. Mauthe and E. Hockens.

THE TALLEY SHEET

By LUCILLE E. BLUHM

Report of Winning Varieties in the 1954 Central States Dahlia Society Show

Windlassie, the Winner. *Autumn Blaze* and *Jane Lausche* tied for second place. *Nick's Orchid* in third place.

Windlassie not only won first in "B" dahlias this year, but proceeded to take first place over all dahlias in the show. In 1952 she was only one point below the top winner, but this year - she leads the field. *Windlassie* is an origination of E. J. Wind, Rocky River Dahlia Gardens, and was brought out in 1947, was the recipient of two certificates of merit and was on all Honor Rolls. Her record in Central States Shows is given below.

	1sts	2nds	3rds	Total pts.	Place	Blooms in show
1954	6	4	2	28	1st	14
1953	2	1	2	10	13th	8
1952	6	5	3	31	1st (in B)	16
1951	3	2	--	13	7th	5
1950	3	3	--	15	6th	7
1949	--	2	2	6	17th	6
1948	2	--	1	7	17th	5

Two "A" dahlias—*Autumn Blaze* and *Jane Lausche*—are tied for second place point winners.

Autumn Blaze was a Stanley Johnson introduction of 1946, and appeared on the show table of the East Liverpool Midwest Show in 1947. Its C. S. D. S. record is: 1954, first place in A dahlias with 27 points, 2nd place for all dahlias tied; 1953 fifth place with 20 points; 1952, 16 points - 11th place; 1951, 4th place with 23 points; and in 1950, 10th place with 13 points.

Jane Lausche was the runner-up last year in the "A" group. She was introduced by E. J. Wind, Rocky River Dahlia Garden in 1944. Was winner of achievement medals at Cleveland, Milwaukee and Louisville; won certificate of merit at East Lansing in 1943. She has been a consistent winner; 1954 tied for 1st place in "A" dahlias and was 2nd place winner tied for points for entire show; 1953, 2nd with 29 points; 1952, 4th with 26 points; 1951, 8th with 18 points; 1950, 3rd with 20 points; 1949, 3rd with 25 points; 1948, 2nd with 31 points; 1947, 2nd with 30 points; 1946, 2nd with 27 points and 1945, 15th with 11 points.

Nick's Orchid is listed for the first time in the 1954 classification, and was runner up in "B" dahlias as well as third place winner in points

in the show. It is a 1953 introduction. Won the most perfect in the 1953 show for Glenn Pierce. It is an origination of Lakeside Gardens. It isn't old enough to have accumulated very much in the way of history, but it is doing very well, I think you'll all agree. 22 blooms of it appeared in the 1954 show, where it won 5 firsts, 4 seconds, 3 thirds - total 26 points, second in "B" dahlias, 3rd in total points. Nice going for one so young.

Those varieties having the greatest number of blooms in the show were:

A SIZE

	Place	Variety	Blooms
† *	1st	Mrs. Hester A. Pape	26
† *	2nd	Arthur Godfrey	25
†	2nd	Great Lakes	25
† *	3rd	Prairie Fire	24
	4th	Pirate Treasure	20
	5th	Kidd's Climax	19
† *	6th	Pop Harris	18
	6th	Pride of Holland	18
† *	7th	Jane Lausche	16
	7th	Patricia Spollen	16
†	8th	Bertha Shone	15
† *	9th	Autumn Blaze	14
† *	10th	Five Star General	13
	10th	Graf Folke Bernadotte	13
† *	10th	Kelvin	13
	10th	Nellie Retzer	13
	11th	Quinn's Tidal Wave	12
† *	12th	Tiara	11
*	12th	Prairie Sun	11
	12th	Smokey	11
	12th	Casper Ludwig's Memory	11
	13th	Kirsten Flagstad	10
† *	13th	Ami Louis Blin	10
	13th	Arab Queen	10
	13th	Ballego's Surprise	10
	13th	Pyrophora	10
	13th	William Evans	10

B SIZE

†	1st	Broeder Justinus	36
† *	2nd	Juanita	35
† *	3rd	Stoplight	25
	4th	Nick's Orchid	22
†	4th	Marika Rokk	22
†	4th	Mme. Elizabeth Sawyer	22
†	5th	Michigan White	21
† *	6th	Orfeo	18
†	7th	Grace	16
	8th	Crystal Surprise	15
†	9th	Windlassie	14
	10th	Abe Lincoln	13
	10th	Goudbrocaat	13
† *	10th	Heart of Gold	13
	11th	Betty Blossom	12

* 11th	Judy G	12
12th	Amb. Van Kleffens	11
† * 12th	Hylas	11
12th	Terpo	11
12th	Victory Maid	11
13th	Southtown 54	10
† * 13th	Flamingo	10

Varieties marked (†) were in the largest number of blooms in the 1953 show, and those marked (*) were in the first ten point winners in 1953.

If a variety was exhibited in every competitive class and won 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each, its maximum score would be thirty-six—on a basis of awarding three points for each 1st, two for each 2nd and one for each 3rd. Below are listed the varieties winning ten points or better in "A" and "B" size dahlias in the 1954 show, and their comparative winnings in 1953 and 1952.

A SIZE	1954		1953		1952	
	Variety	Place	Pts.	Place	Pts.	Place
	Autumn Blaze	1st	27	5th	20	11th
	Jane Lausche	1st	27	2nd	29	4th
	Arthur Godfrey	2nd	26	4th	21	7th
	Pop Harris	2nd	26	6th	19	6th
	Mrs. Hester Pape	3rd	24	1st	37	5th
	Prairie Fire	3rd	24	9th	16	....
	Pirate Treasure	4th	22	13th	12	9th
	Great Lakes	5th	20	18th	7	1st
	Kirsten Flagstad	5th	20	14th	11	21st
	Kidd's Climax	6th	17	23rd	2	25th
	Nearest Blue	6th	17	5th	20	....
	Tiara	6th	17	5th	20	15th
	Hollywood Star	7th	16	16th	9	....
	Hypnose	7th	16	13th	12	....
	Prairie Sun	7th	16	7th	18	10th
	Quinn's Tidal Wave	7th	16	14th	11	23rd
	Patricia Spollen	8th	15	22nd	3	23rd
	William Evans	8th	15	16th	9	21st
	Lavender Perfection	9th	14	22nd	3	20th
	Clariam Kelton	10th	13	....	..	17th
	Collector's Item	10th	13	....	..	....
	Five Star General	10th	13	3rd	28	2nd
	Pride of Holland	10th	13	12th	13	10th
	Casper Ludwig's					
	Memory	11th	12	20th	5	16th
	Bertha Shone	11th	12	15th	10	....
	Kelvin	11th	12	6th	19	9th
	Nellie Retzer	11th	12	12th	13	3rd
	The Cardinal	11th	12	13th	12	16th
	Aristos	12th	11	22nd	3	18th
	Commando (Aust.)	12th	11	9th	16	21st
	Giant of Baarn	12th	11	11th	14	....
	Nobby's Light	12th	11	18th	7	11th
	Sarett's Pink					
	Flamingo	12th	11	16th	9	23rd
	Arab Queen	13th	10	23rd	2	....
	Ballego's Surprise	13th	10	22nd	3	20th
	Brown Bomber	13th	10	....	..	....
	Cymbie	13th	10	22nd	3	....
	Kemp's Purple					
	Triumph	13th	10	21st	4	20th
	Marv Elizabeth	13th	10	....	..	....
	Samba	13th	10	....	..	14th
	The Real Glory	13th	10	....	..	24th

B SIZE	Variety	1954		1953		1952	
		Place	Pts.	Place	Pts.	Place	Pts.
	Windlassie	1st	28	13th	10	1st	31
	Nick's Orchid	2nd	26	13th	10	....	..
	Juanita	3rd	21	5th	21	5th	15
	Crystal Surprise	4th	20	20th	3	14th	6
	Heart of Gold	4th	20	9th	14	16th	4
	Judy G.	4th	20	10th	13	15th	5
	Smokey	4th	20	14th	7	15th	5
	Stoplight	4th	20	6th	19	16th	4
	Michigan White	5th	19	12th	11	12th	8
	Betty Blossom	6th	18	18th	5	....	..
	Maroon Girl	7th	17	....	..	....	..
	Victory Maid	7th	17	17th	6	10th	10
	Abe Lincoln	8th	15	12th	11	....	..
	Orfeo	8th	15	3rd	27	3rd	22
	Amb. Van Kleffens	9th	14	....	..	14th	6
	Broeder Justinus	10th	13	11th	12	8th	12
	Flamingo	10th	13	1st	31	11th	9
	Florence Chadwick	10th	13	15th	8	....	..
	Hylas	10th	13	8th	15	13th	7
	Aumonier Chandelon	11th	12	4th	24	7th	13
	Lois Walcher	11th	12	20th	3	....	..
	Mme Elizabeth						
	Sawyer	11th	12	15th	8	4th	17
	Barbarossa	12th	11	7th	18	8th	12
	Copperhead	12th	11	14th	9	....	..
	Grace	12th	11	11th	12	....	..
	Maureen Connolly	12th	11	....	..	....	..
	Ballego's Glory	13th	10	15th	8	14th	6
	Marie	13th	10	16th	7	12th	8

The following tables list the more important winners in the large exhibition specimen classes in each type and color:

A SIZE	Blooms		Points		
	Entered	1st	2nd	3rd	Total
AUTUMN FORMALS					
Kirsten Flagstad	10	5	2	1	20
BICOLOR FORMALS					
Tiara	11	3	3	2	17
DARK BLEND FORMALS					
Budovaki	5	2	1	..	8
Julia Keech	3	1	..	1	4
DARK RED FORMALS					
Commando (Aust.)	5	2	2	2	11
Stellaette	1	1	..	..	3
FLAME FORMALS					
Arthur Godfrey	25	5	4	3	26
LAVENDER FORMALS					
Lavender Perfection	9	3	1	3	14
MICHIGAN ORCHID					
(Keiser)	2	1	1	..	5
LIGHT BLEND FORMALS					
Kidd's Climax	19	3	2	4	17
Five Star General	13	3	2	..	13
ORANGE FORMALS					
Don Jose	3	2	1	..	8
PINK FORMALS					
Stardust	5	2	..	2	8
Virginia B. Taggart	2	1	1	..	5
PURPLE FORMALS					
King David	4	1	3	..	9
Croydon Nigger	2	2	..	..	6
RED FORMALS					
Pop Harris	18	5	4	3	26

A SIZE	Blooms Entered	1st	2nd	3rd	Points Total
FORMALS VARIEGATED					
Fancy Free	2	1	1	--	5
WHITE FORMALS					
The Real Glory	5	1	3	1	10
Croydon Snotop	7	--	1	2	4
YELLOW FORMALS					
Prairie Sun	11	3	2	3	16
AUTUMN INFORMALS					
Pirate Treasure	20	4	3	4	22
BICOLOR INFORMALS					
Cornell	2	--	1	1	3
Kentucky Sportsman ..	1	--	--	--	3
Mark Twain	2	1	--	--	3
DARK BLEND INFORMALS					
Autumn Blaze	14	5	4	4	27
DARK RED INFORMALS					
Mrs. Hester A. Pape ..	26	4	4	4	24
FLAME INFORMALS					
Clariam Kelton	6	2	3	1	13
Sir Galahad	1	1	--	--	3
LAVENDER INFORMALS					
Nearest Blue	14	3	3	2	17
LIGHT BLEND INFORMALS					
Southtown 1953	9	1	1	1	6
Helen Stafford	3	2	1	--	5
Eva Stamford	2	--	2	--	4
ORANGE INFORMALS					
Betty Broster	3	2	1	--	8
PINK INFORMALS					
Kelvin	13	2	1	4	12
Ogden Reid	3	1	1	--	5
Patricia	3	1	1	2	5
PURPLE INFORMALS					
Kemp's Purple Triumph	5	2	2	--	10
The Volunteer	4	2	1	1	9
Night Editor	3	1	2	--	7
RED INFORMALS					
Mary Elizabeth	9	2	1	2	10
Red Champion	2	--	2	--	4
VARIEGATED INFORMALS					
Aladdin	3	2	1	--	8
Pfarrer Rojek	5	1	3	--	9
WHITE INFORMALS					
Great Lakes	25	2	5	4	20
White Nobby's Light	6	2	--	--	6
YELLOW INFORMALS					
Quinn's Tidal Wave ..	12	3	2	3	16
Nobby's Light	9	2	2	1	11
AUTUMN SEMICACTUS					
Magnificent	3	1	1	1	6
BICOLOR SEMICACTUS					
Jane Lausche	16	5	5	2	27
DARK RED SEMICACTUS					
Ami Louis Blin	10	1	2	1	8
Black Monarch	4	1	1	--	5
FLAME SEMICACTUS					
Collector's Item	7	3	2	--	13
Buccaneer	3	1	--	1	4
LAVENDER SEMICACTUS					
Milgrove	3	2	--	1	7
Marilyn Dale	5	--	3	--	6
LIGHT BLEND SEMICACTUS					
Arab Queen	10	2	2	--	10
Empire State	2	2	--	--	6

	Blooms Entered	1st	2nd	3rd	Points Total
ORANGE SEMICACTUS					
Prairie Fire	24	5	3	3	24
PINK SEMICACTUS					
Cymbie	8	2	1	2	10
PURPLE SEMICACTUS					
Hollywood Star	9	3	3	1	16
Ada N	4	1	1	1	6
RED SEMICACTUS					
The Cardinal	8	2	2	2	12
Maffie	4	2	--	1	7
Forest Ranger	5	1	1	1	6
VARIEGATED SEMICACTUS					
Troubadour	2	2	--	--	6
WHITE SEMICACTUS					
Ballego's Surprise ..	10	1	2	3	10
Graf Folke Bernadotte	13	1	2	2	9
YELLOW SEMICACTUS					
Pride of Parkersburg	6	2	1	1	9
Sam Hurst	2	1	1	--	5
AUTUMN CACTUS					
Brown Bomber	6	2	2	--	10
Win Dee	5	1	2	1	8
BICOLOR CACTUS					
Aristos	5	3	1	--	11
DARK BLEND CACTUS					
Smokey	11	4	3	2	20
William Evans	10	2	3	3	15
DARK RED CACTUS					
Detroit 250	6	2	1	1	9
Yowa Matsuoka	3	1	1	1	6
FLAME CACTUS					
Giant of Baarn	8	2	2	1	11
Pyrophora	10	1	2	2	9
LAVENDER CACTUS					
Nellie Retzer	13	2	2	2	12
Frank Curto	4	2	1	1	9
LIGHT BLEND CACTUS					
Bertha Shone	15	1	3	3	12
ORANGE CACTUS					
Patricia Spollen	16	2	3	3	15
Mulwarre (Aust.)	3	2	--	--	6
PINK CACTUS					
Pride of Holland	18	2	2	3	13
Sarett's Pink Flamingo	9	2	2	1	11
PURPLE CACTUS					
Fashion Hour	6	1	2	1	7
Clariam Royalty	2	2	--	--	6
RED CACTUS					
Casper Ludwig's					
Memory	11	3	1	1	12
King Size	8	2	1	--	8
VARIEGATED CACTUS					
Hypnose	7	3	3	1	16
Samba	8	2	1	2	10
WHITE CACTUS					
Bey City White	4	3	--	--	9
YELLOW CACTUS					
Allegresse	3	2	1	--	8
Searchlight	2	2	--	--	6
B SIZE					
AUTUMN FORMAL					
Arc de Triomf	9	1	2	2	9
Orange Special	2	1	1	--	5

	Blooms Entered	1st	2nd	3rd	Points Total
BICOLOR FORMAL					
Lois Walcher	9	3	1	1	12
Pius XI	9	1	--	3	7
DARK BLEND FORMAL					
Ballego's Glory	4	3	--	1	9
DARK RED FORMAL					
Abe Lincoln	13	3	2	2	15
Deep Velvet	6	1	1	--	5
Maharajah	2	1	1	--	5
FLAME FORMALS					
Flamingo	10	2	3	1	13
LAVENDER FORMAL					
Arnash Dadak	2	2	--	--	6
LIGHT BLEND FORMAL					
Betty Blossom	12	4	2	2	18
ORANGE FORMAL					
Amb. Van Kleffens ..	11	2	3	2	14
PINK FORMAL					
Marie	6	2	1	2	10
Lena	2	1	1	--	5
PURPLE FORMAL					
Braith Davis	3	1	1	--	5
RED FORMAL					
Barbarossa	5	3	1	--	11
WHITE FORMAL					
Catherine	2	1	1	--	5
YELLOW FORMAL					
Maureen Connolly	5	2	2	1	11
Glorie Von Heemstede	3	1	1	1	6
BICOLOR INFORMAL					
Ins. Van der Plaasche	6	1	1	2	7
Campus Queen	3	1	1	--	5
LIGHT BLEND INFORMAL					
Little Eddie	5	1	2	2	9
Southtown 54	10	1	1	2	7
ORANGE INFORMAL					
Vanata	5	1	1	1	6
Orange Flame	4	1	1	1	6
VARIEGATED INFORMAL					
Crystal Surprise	15	4	3	2	20
Goudbrocaat	13	1	1	2	7
WHITE INFORMAL					
Windlassie	14	6	4	2	28
BICOLOR SEMICACTUS					
Burnet	5	2	1	--	8
DARK RED SEMICACTUS					
Maroon Girl	8	3	3	2	17
FLAME SEMICACTUS					
Mme. de Bruxelles	5	2	1	1	9
LAVENDER SEMICACTUS					
Nick's Orchid	22	5	4	3	26
LIGHT BLEND SEMICACTUS					
Broeder Justinus	36	2	2	3	13
Theresa Louise	4	2	1	--	8
ORANGE SEMICACTUS					
Duindigt	7	1	2	1	8
Dusseldorf	2	2	--	--	6
PINK SEMICACTUS					
Almelo's Glory	2	2	--	--	6
Nay Aug	5	1	--	3	6
Miss Rose Fletcher ..	6	--	2	1	5
PURPLE SEMICACTUS					
Colbert	6	2	1	1	9
RED SEMICACTUS					
Hylas	11	2	3	1	13
Terpo	11	2	1	1	9

	Blooms Entered	1st	2nd	3rd	Points Total
WHITE SEMICACTUS					
Michigan White	21	4	2	3	19
Margraten	6	1	1	1	6
YELLOW SEMICACTUS					
Gruss an Harzburg ..	3	1	1	--	5
Yellow Elegance	2	1	1	--	5
AUTUMN CACTUS					
Copperhead	6	2	2	1	11
Amber Star	5	1	--	2	6
BICOLOR CACTUS					
Victory Maid	11	4	1	3	17
Brioso	7	--	2	2	6
DARK BLEND CACTUS					
Judy G	12	4	3	2	20
DARK RED CACTUS					
Juanita	35	4	4	1	21
Marika Rokk	22	1	1	3	8
FLAME CACTUS					
Heart of Gold	13	3	4	3	20
LAVENDER CACTUS					
Danseuse	2	1	1	--	5
LIGHT BLEND CACTUS					
Aumonier Chandelon	6	2	2	2	12
Val St. Lambert	8	1	1	1	6
ORANGE CACTUS					
Konigen Juliana	2	1	1	--	5
Marionette	3	1	1	--	5
Souv. de Louis Omnes	2	1	1	--	5
PINK CACTUS					
Mme. Elizabeth Sawyer	22	2	2	2	12
Grace	16	3	--	2	11
PURPLE CACTUS					
Orfeo	18	2	3	3	15
Marion Glenn	4	2	--	1	7
Zenith	7	1	1	1	6
RED CACTUS					
Stoplight	25	4	3	2	20
VARIEGATED CACTUS					
Salamander	3	3	--	--	9
WHITE CACTUS					
Florence Chadwick ..	9	3	1	2	13
YELLOW CACTUS					
Bunny	6	2	1	--	8
Yellow Special	5	1	1	2	7

WINNERS IN SMALL VARIETIES

Miniatures: *Andries Orange, Bobo, Buddy, Fuchsia Gem, Geneva Crystal White, Hazel Harper, Ida S, Little Diamond, Little Lemon Drop, Little Rachel, Marjolyn, Maroon Gem, Ming, Miss Innocence, Mme. G. Boudewijn, Nar, Petite Sonne, Prairie Thistle, Princess Royal, Rickey, Ruby Charm, Silver Springs, Zest.*

Pompons: *Albino, Betty Anne, Clover, Doria, Ebony, Fanny, Gold Dust, Ila, Little Edith, Little Jackie, Little Jim, Margaret Williams, Mimosa, Miss Marjorie, Tom Laing, Wukopje.*

Balls: *Bonnie Bleu.*

Any other Type: *Bonne Esperance, Comet, Dahliadel Twinkle, Dawn Imp, Kentucky Snowball, LaGiaconda, Libretto, LaCierva, Mrs. H. Brown, Top Mix.*

1954 NEW SOUTH WALES DAHLIA REVIEW

By S. G. HOOPER, Rydalmere, N. S. W.

(By Permission of "The Australian Garden Lover")

The Royal Visit undoubtedly had its effect on the N. S. W. Dahlia World, the past season being one of the best ever. From a show bench angle quite a few excellent blooms came to light. Show Secretaries and Clubs report an increase in the number of exhibitors and attendance to most local shows. In New South Wales ten new horticultural societies were formed making additional shows for the year.

Quite a few new blooms are to carry Royal names with perhaps pride of place going to a golden Hybrid Cactus that was aptly named *Elizabeth*. A most exquisite Exhibition Cactus will proudly carry the name of *Anne*, and a Cream Pom will appear on the show bench called *Prince Charming*.

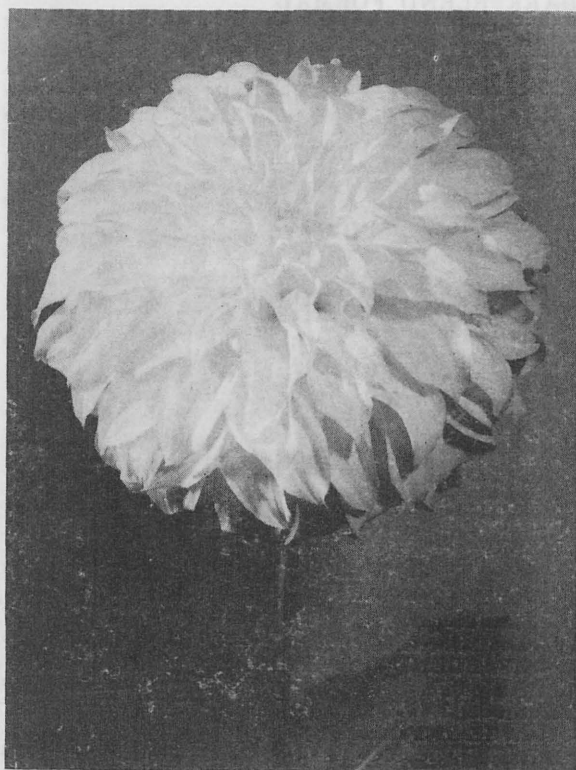
Our 1954 Dahlia Review extended over 52 New South Wales Shows the first show in early January the last early in May. Before proceeding I would like to thank all assisting reporting officers, without whose help we could not have extended our Reviews to cover shows from Albury to Narrabri.

LARGE DECORATIVE: Top honours in this section were all with that grand Pale Yellow *Christine*, in number two position was a new pink *Rosemary Oliver*, then *Melrose*. Not a good year for this bloom, however. Next in order were *Miss Toroonga*, *Marcel*, *Elaine Butler*, *Lucknow*, *White Nobby* and *Joan Carrol*. A white seedling of Mr. Stows and another new one, *Narrabri*, a pale yellow.

MEDIUM DECORATIVE: Honours were again with *Christine*, next best, *Rosemary Oliver* and then came *Melrose*, and in the following order: *Lucknow*, a white seedling of Mr. Kains, a strawberry seedling of Mr. Stows, *Miss Toroonga*, *Tom Rawlings* and *Burbank* making quite a strong section.

MINIATURE DECORATIVE: *Burbank* was best, then *Joan Spurway* and a bronze seedling of Mr. Rankins and Tom Rawlings. This section was not good and perhaps needs a few more exhibitors.

HYBRID CACTUS LARGE: Easily best was old *Frau O'Bracht* and in line next came *Apricot Glow*, *Ballego's Surprise*, *Elizabeth* and a pink seedling of Mr. Meehan's then in order, *Jubilee*, *Woy Woy*, *Melba Hankin* and *Southern Price*. However, *Frau O'Bracht* was outstanding,



Christine, top honor winner in New South Wales for 1954.

having its best season for some time.

MEDIUM CACTUS: The mediums were very closely grouped. *Ballego's Surprise* and a new one called *Highlight* was a consistent winner on the South Coast. Next followed *Melba Hankin*, *Apricot Glow* and *Dulce May*. This one looks well when grown up to this class. Next came a white seedling of Mr. Stevens and a fine quilled yellow seedling (Mr. Nowlands) then, in order, *Brooklyn*, *Coralie Fay Patricia*, and *Zoe Thomas*. This was a very strong class.

MINIATURE CACTUS: *Diana* was best, *Fay March* and *Jillian* next, then *Dulce May*. *Mrs. J. Robertson* grown up to this class by South Coast exhibitors. Then we had a new seedling of Mr. Longstaff, since named *Linda Restell* and a white seedling of Mr. Ramsey's.

CHARMS: The ever popular show bench bloom *Mrs. J. Robertson* was again best in this class. *Chasamy* was next with the more recent

addition, *Isa* third. Then in line came *Jillian*, *Kosciusko*, *Diana*, a mauve seedling of Mr. Lewis and *Radiant*. But the first two blooms dominated this class, *Chasamy* at the early shows and Mr. *J. Robertson*, late shows; this is a strong section in N. S. W.

SHOW DAHLIAS: They were a poor lot outside *Bennetts Red*, *Bloodhound* and *Constance* in that order. Would like to see more growers.

NYMPHEA: *Waterlily* was best in this division, *Elizabeth Chiefly* came next and if more stock is available next season it could do a lot better. *Kathie* not as good this year. *Salmon Queen*, a new one, and a cream seedling of Mr. Boles. However again outside the first two this section was not very strong.

POMPON: *Diana Gregory* was best Pom, *Rhonda* next, then in line came *Lynda Harris* and a wine seedling of Mr. Bagnells since named *Alderman Purdue* after the Lord Mayor of Newcastle, the latter bloom was a heavy winner on the North Coast of New South Wales.

Then followed *Hallmark*, *Ted Thomas*, and a cream seedling (Hooper) *Willo*, *Violet*, and a seedling (Harris) since named *Janis Gough*. Next in order, *Little Willo*, a pink seedling (Harris) and a cream and red flushed seedling (Hooper) in fact this class was full of new seedlings but only one *Alderman Purdue* is for sale this year. The Pom Sections were stronger this season.

COLLARETTES: *Summit* again outstanding in this class from *Nelle Tunks* and *Peggy Weiss* and *Sunset* in that order. This class could be perhaps improved with more exhibitors.

EXHIBITION CACTUS: *Winsome* was top bloom and will be on sale this year — next best was a red seedling (Meehans) since named *Anne*. This Whiddon Trophy winner is going to be a grand bloom, perhaps the best to date. Then in next place we had *Marjorie Whiddon* and *Daisy Ethel*. This class is getting better each year and you can expect to see a new yellow perhaps next year.

BEST BLOOM OF THE YEAR: This honour goes to the popular Large Decorative *Christine*, and in No. 2 position Large Cactus *Frau O' Bracht*. This bloom had a grand season. In No. 3 position, a Charm, Mrs. *J. Robertson*, and in 4th place to *Nymphea Waterlily*.

NOW FOR A FEW PERSONAL VIEWS

BEST SHOW OF THE YEAR: The Sydney Town Hall N.S.W.R.H.S. show, a top class display indeed.

(Continued on page 33)

PRIZE WINNING DAHLIAS

We will release for 1955 five Honor Roll Dahlias that are also on Roy Webb's Eastern Review.

OUR FRIEND: ID. Purple. A nice tall grower about 5 foot. Good stems and foliage. Nearly all blooms facing. Grows very large. At one show this year was largest bloom in show 14 x 9

NO PLANTS ROOTS \$15.00 NET

THE WHIRL: IC. Autumn. Nice bush and vigorous grower. Long stems with flowers facing slightly up. Very artistic 9 to 10 inch blooms.

NO PLANTS ROOTS \$15.00 NET

ABUNDANCE: ID. Lavender. "B" dahlia. An abundance of blooms for the show table in a class where we believe it is needed.

NO PLANTS ROOTS \$10.00 NET

TID: Parker-Robens. IC. PINK. A free bloomer with nice long stems. Has scored very high in Seedling classes.

NO PLANTS ROOTS \$7.50 NET

LULU: Parker-Robens. Ball. Cherry red. "B" dahlia. Has won many awards including the A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes Gold Medal Award.

NO PLANTS ROOTS \$7.50 NET

JOY: FD. Minature, Rose red. We believe all blooms will stay in the minature class. Has good stems and foliage.

NO PLANTS ROOTS \$5.00 NET

Descriptive price list of these and recent introductions and standard varieties ready on or before January 1, 1955.

Visitors always welcome H. H. Robens, Route 1, on U. S. Route 422 East of Chagrin Falls, Ohio.



H. H. ROBENS

Route 1
On U.S. Route 422

Chagrin Falls
Ohio

PARRELLA'S

New Honor Roll Introductions For 1955

MARGARET DUROSS — Fucha — Parrella — I. D.

A large, auroelian yellow, flushed scarlet, almost orange. Size 11" x 5" or larger. Cane stems 12" — 15" hold blooms facing. Bushes are vigorous with healthy foliage and grows about 6 feet. Good bloomer early and late. Root \$15.00 net, plant \$5.00 net.

YELLOW MASTERPIECE — Murphy — Parrella — F. D.

Rich, soft, clear, empire yellow. Petals roll back to stems forming a large flower 11" x 7" or larger, with excellent keeping qualities. The 8" — 10" stems hold flowers facing. Unusual strong, thick foliage for a yellow. A splendid free blooming garden plant that seemed to intrigue our many visitors with its size and beauty and many put it down as a "must". Root \$15.00 net, plant \$5.00 net.

DONALD VAN DEMARK — Parrella — F. D.

A very large, deep formal bloom about 11" x 6", some blooms larger. Color purplish red or wine red, with darker shadings. Good bloomer early and late with excellent stems. Won gold premium in seedling class a Long Island Show in 1954. Root \$15.00 net, plant \$5.00 net.

MRS. ALTON B. PARKER — Tomozak — Parrella — I. D.

Golden yellow flushed Dutch vermillion. Size 10½" x 5". The 9 — 12" cane like stems hold flowers facing. Foliage is dark green and vigorous, making a strong plant that grows about 4½ feet. Root \$15.00 net, plant \$5.00 net.

FUJIYAMA — Endow — Parrella — I. D., Variegated

Base color Indian yellow. Lined, dotted and speckled with cardinal red. Some petals are half red lengthwise. Attractively colored blooms are held facing on good cane like stems. Good grower and good bloomer. Size 7½" x 4". Root \$10.00 net, plant \$3.00 net.

THE ORANGE — Campbell — Parrella — S. C.

Size 7½" x 3" in flame color. Stems hold blooms slightly up. Bush about 5 feet. This "B" size flower will score high. Root \$10.00 net, plant \$3.35 net.

COVER GIRL — Hulin — Parrella — F. D.

Mauve violet with generous white tips. Size of blooms 10" x 4½". cane stems hold flowers on side. Bush grows about 4½ feet. Different and attractive. Root \$5.00 net, plant \$2.50 net.

PAISLEY GEM — Hulin — Parrella — F. D., Variegated

Base color white, lightly flushed lavender, flecked and lined lilac purple. A very pleasing color effect. The 7½" x 4" blooms are held on side on 8" — 10" stems. Root \$5.00 net, plant \$2.50 net.

LITTLE PANDA — Slocum — Parrella — Min., F. D.

Rosaline purple. Size 2¼" x 1¾" almost round. Stems 5" — 7" hold blooms at 45 degree angle and up. The 4 foot bush is covered with a mass of blooms. A wonderful garden little flower. Root \$3.50 net, plant \$1.50 net.

BLACKIE — Campbell — Parrella — Min., F. D.

Oxblood red. Profuse bloomer. Size 3¼" x 2¼". The 8" — 10" stems hold blooms up in good position. This little gem had many admirers in our gardens. Root \$3.50, plant \$1.50.

GOOD SEEDS

We have seeds of the best varieties. Try them and be convinced. 50 seeds \$3.00 net, 100 seeds \$5.00 net, trial packet \$1.00 net. Catalogue on request. Ready in February.

Parrella Dahlia Gardens

3380 Ely Avenue

New York 69, New York

DAHLIAS IN THE SOUTH

By Dr. H. C. RIKE, Birmingham, Alabama

The 1954 dahlia season was a repetition of the past three seasons, except hotter and less rain. However, even tho the quantity was less, quality was improved.

After having experienced four such seasons, several facts have become apparent:

First, the planting date should be earlier than previously practiced. All dahlias, plants or roots, should be in the ground not later than June 1st. In the past most exhibition dahlias have been planted June 1st to July 4th and have produced well both in blooms and roots. One reason for this late planting was that all southern shows are held the last two weeks in September and the first week in October. As a rule, these dates have been satisfactory. This year, most dahlias planted in June, especially after the 10th, failed to grow as expected. (We had no rain from June 1st until the last week in August, one then and another on September 20th). The plants just stood still but did not stunt and later produced some excellent blooms on small bushes. As our average killing frost date is after November 1st, we are expecting good roots. This year, dahlias planted before June 1st, withstood the drouth well and produced excellent bush and bloom growth. It is to be understood these plants received sufficient irrigation but the same is true of those planted after June 1st.

Second, plants do much better than roots. Gardens planted with roots experienced better than fifty per cent loss, regardless of planting date. This has only been true in the past few years with our long, hot, dry summers. Gardens planting mostly plants had a fairly normal growing season. This difference was more apparent if little or no irrigation was used.

The third fact to become so very apparent is that the red spider is still our worst enemy. We have seen some gardens in which malathon was used regularly at weekly intervals show marked damage on the fifth day following the last application. The dust appears to give better results than the spray. If either one is used twice a week, the spider can be kept under control. Also some varieties are more susceptible to red spider than others but none is completely resistant.

This is strictly a Southern report and we are listing only the dahlias that performed well during the past season. In fact the report is based on gardens in Alabama as unavoidable

circumstances prevented us from visiting many gardens in the other Southern states.

The 1955 varieties will not be listed because only a few of the ones grown on trial did well. However, we have seen some of the others producing well in other parts of the country. It might be well to note that at the Southern States Show, 1955 varieties won the best three "A" and the best three "B" blooms in the show. Both varieties were grown by the originator and shipped to Birmingham. *Surprise*, originated by George Baker, was the best "A". It is a semi-cactus, light blend, cream and orange or yellow. *Southern Girl*, originated by Norman LaMotte, was the best "B". It is a formal, dark blend, purple and white.

Of the 1954 varieties, several did well in the South. *Maureen Connolly* was consistently good. *Mary Elizabeth* won a number of ribbons and trophies but the stems on a good percentage of blooms were weak. We have a feeling that it had its best year in 1954. *Storm Cloud* did well in the garden but only a few blooms reached the show table. It will probably be better another year. *Harmony* did well on the show table but was tempermental in the garden.

Of the 1953 introductions only two were generally outstanding, *Theresa Louise* and *Clariam Luray* and this one had a tendency to fade easily. There were occasional good blooms of other varieties but results in the gardens were not consistent.

One of the surprising facts of the 1954 season was the number of blooms to reach the show table of varieties introduced many years ago which had not been heard of in a number of years. These blooms were good and won over some of the more recent varieties. These varieties included *Kentucky Sportsman*, *Freda George*, *Maffie*, *Deep Velvet*, *Golden Goblin*, *Jersey's Dainty*, *Hunt's Velvet Wonder*, *Thomas Edison*, *Dixie's Winedot* and *Jane Cowel*.

For the past four years, the most outstanding "A" dahlia has been *Mrs. Hester A. Pape* and the most outstanding "B" dahlia has been *Golden Treasure*. In the South these two appear far superior to any of the others. They are consistent and able to adapt to any weather condition. Other good "A" dahlias for the South are *Arthur Godfrey*, *Five Star General*, *Jane Lausche*, *The Real Glory*, *Croydon's Masterpiece*, *Pride of Parkersburg*, *Edna D.* and *Pirate*

(Continued on page 34)

THE DAHLIA

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EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor

Lewis J. West.....1019 Illinois Road, Wilmette, Ill.

Assistant Editor and Business Manager

Paul HaleBox 206, Brighton, Ill.

Associate Editors

Mrs. Lucille Bluhm 400 Blackstone Ave., LaGrange, Ill.

R. G. Huey Ludlow, Kentucky

Art Editor

E. A. Schoenlau 841 Bradley Place, Chicago 13, Ill.

Staff Photographers

Richard J. Martin 4856 N. Magnolia Ave., Chicago 40, Ill.

DAHLIA NEWS AND PERSONALS

WANTED - An American Dahlia Geneticist

This is the season of the year when the dahlia growers in the northern hemisphere have time to consider some of the problems connected with the growing of dahlias. One of the questions which deserves careful consideration could be summarized: What phase of dahlia culture most needs consideration? In reviewing the many articles which have appeared in various dahlia publications during the past twenty years it seems that the emphasis has been placed on the choice of varieties, preparation of soil, cultural methods, and problems related to insect damage, plant disease and roots storage. These subjects together with show reports substantially summarize the writings on the subject of dahlia culture.

While there have been improvements in certain of the enumerated subjects, it is felt by some that is the main we have been repeating old procedures. It would seem that there are definite limitations to be expected from our present methods and that the time has come to emphasize another approach to the problem. The essential principles of dahlia growing are not many nor are they difficult to comprehend. Our experience has taught us that it is easy to grow a really good variety. Cultural problems arise when one has

one or more inherent weaknesses. Too frequently a variety which was fine or excellent when introduced, with no apparent faults, is found to have a short life expectancy, some little beyond the period of introduction.

For some time we have been trying to learn of any studies which have been made in this country to determine the nature of the elements which control the production of new dahlia varieties. We have learned of none. We have attempted to interest the botany departments of several of our Universities in making studies of the composition of cells, chromosomes and genes which are present in various types of dahlias now under cultivation. As yet we have found no agreement on the number of chromosomes which are generally found in our miniatures, medium size or large dahlias. It would seem that we should know more of the nature of our flower before we can expect improved methods of hybridization. Also, a study should include experiments to determine the characteristics which are dominant and those which are recessive in a number of our better varieties so that some more or less scientific basis can be used in the selection of pollen seed and pollen parents. We must recog-

nize that there is a difference between scientific hybridization and mere seed collection. A scientific approach would yield a higher percentage of successful crosses and should there be an excellent result the same cross could be repeated. If the problem of producing better dahlia varieties was presented to a university or business organization we feel the problem would be approached from the points of view above indicated.

Several generations ago Luther Burbank became celebrated for his work in producing new and improved varieties in many forms of plant life. His method was essentially one of making selections from great numbers of hybrid seedlings. He was not a geneticist in the modern sense and his methods are not in general use. In discussing these questions with other hybridists it is apparent that more careful studies have been made in rose and iris hybridization than in that of dahlias. It is obvious that the initial problem is two-fold: one of finance and the other, enlisting the interest of competent geneticists in dahlia hybridizing. If the number of chromosomes in the cells of our large dahlias is as high as some believe the problem of hybridization will be more complex than the hybridization of iris and certain other flower varieties. This would involve a larger period of research and a corresponding increase in cost.

Once this program has been initiated the problems next presented are which of the qualities of our dahlia most require improvement. From our experience and from discussions with other growers the first aim should be to increase substantially the life expectancy of a new variety. A review of the varieties which have won American Home Achievement medals or been recommended on the various honor rolls during the past fifteen years and their present showings in open to all competition will show the short life expectancy of new varieties. True a few of them have been superseded by better introductions but the truth is most of them have slowly but surely deteriorated and have disappeared from our better plantings. We all know of old varieties we should like to grow if stock could be obtained of the same quality as when they were introduced. This is not mere nostalgia but is based on fact.

While plant vigor and plant life expectancy are not necessarily the same, it would appear that they are related. Doubtless there are no accurate records from which life expectancy of dahlia varieties can be determined. The hybridist in trying

to increase life expectancy would probably begin his experiments with varieties having unusual vigor. The late Charles F. Pape was giving consideration to this matter and included in his crosses undisseminated varieties. In fact, he crossed seedlings on seedlings for the purpose of developing vigor and longevity. At the time of his death he had not completed his experiments in that direction. Very likely the first study should be directed to development of a seedling which can transmit, as a dominant quality, the elements of longevity and vigor.

Dahlia growers would likely not agree in the order of importance of other qualities in the dahlia which should be improved but doubtless they would include improvement of petal substance, improvement of color in certain color ranges and in form of bloom. The suggestion has been made that the greatest improvement in our flower would be that of giving fragrance, in addition to pollen fragrance which a few of our varieties already have. Even though the hybridist might surmount that problem, growers might not be in agreement as to what type of fragrance should be sought. We all have noted the obvious disappointment of garden visitors when they discover that such a lovely flower has no fragrance.

We would suggest in summary that those interested in the future of the dahlia should re-examine their points of view and consider whether a new approach should be adopted to the problem of developing better and possibly new types of dahlias. It would seem that the present methods are wasteful and too much a matter of mere chance; that the time has arrived for us to consider those scientific methods which have been applied in the production of improved varieties of plant and animal life.

—LJW

GREENFIELD GARDENS

*We have many prize winning
varieties of dahlias*

1955 PRICE LIST READY FEB. 15th



T. E. POPP

2756 South 76th Street
West Allis 14 Wisconsin

NED SEYMOUR AND SURPRISE

Outstanding 1954 American Home Achievement Medal winners

Some years ago American Home Magazine established annual awards at leading shows throughout the United States for a seedling at least three years old "of adequate merit, distinction, and novelty, having distinctiveness as compared with existing varieties." Awards have been withheld when, in the opinion of the judges, no seedling has met the standards of the award.

We can recall no year since the American Home Achievement Medals were first awarded when two seedlings dominated the competition as did *Ned Seymour* and *Surprise* in 1954. The number of Achievement Medals awarded to a seedling does not necessarily determine its merit, since it still must pass the final test—its performance in the gardens of capable growers. However it must be recognized that the winning of an unusual number of such medals by a seedling grown in widely separated and different growing conditions, is indication that the variety has distinct promise. Whether it will later take a high place among our competitive standbys is to be determined.

During the 1954 exhibition season *Ned Seymour* was awarded ten American Home Achievement Medals and *Surprise* won eight similar awards. *Ned Seymour* was exhibited along the Atlantic seaboard, the more important showings being in New York City, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington. *Surprise* was exhibited in the central and southern states, its outstanding winnings being made in Chicago (Central States Dahlia Society Show), Milwaukee, and at the Midwest Dahlia Conference held in Cincinnati, Ohio. Unfortunately neither variety competed against each other at any of the 1954 shows, nor will they in class competition since they are of different color and formation.

The originator of *Ned Seymour* is Stanley Johnson, of Cheltenham, Pennsylvania. Named after the editor of the American Home, this seedling came of distinguished ancestry. The seed parent was *Maffie*, raised by Josef Exnar of Czechoslovakia and introduced into this country in 1938. From more distant lands came the pollen parent, Mr. H. Brand's famous *Croydon*

Masterpiece. The result of this cross was an informal decorative variety, red-orange in color. It has inherited the unusual size of both parents, having been exhibited 14x9 and with good stems.

Surprise, the winner of eight Achievement Medals, is a seedling of George Baker, of Moline, Illinois. We regret that we cannot report its parentage. Such matters, if known, are always of keen interest and add to the knowledge and lore of the dahlia. Nonetheless this dahlia is distinctive. It has size, having been grown 11x7 in open planting. The plant growth is vigorous, the general color effect is a soft, pleasing peach, somewhat resembling Emil Doukopil. The formation of the bloom is semi-cactus, a class in which its strongest competitor will be Mr. Brown's *Cymbie*. *Surprise* will be offered by Rocky River Dahlia Gardens.

Of the 1955 American introductions only *Ned Seymour* and *Surprise* have won more Achievement Medals than *Ceramic Beauty*. The last named, however, won its five medals in 1953, the introduction having been deferred to develop sufficient stock. *Ceramic Beauty* was reproduced in the December, 1953 issue of The Dahlia. Its performance in the editor's garden in 1954 was even finer than in 1953. John Eccleston of East Liverpool, Ohio, is the originator of *Ceramic Beauty*.

From the language above quoted, the purpose of the establishment of the American Home Achievement award is reasonably clear. Although each winner is determined by bench, and not field and bench judging, it is evident the donor had in mind "varieties", and not mere blooms on exhibition. "Varieties of merit" imply those having a reasonable life expectancy. How that quality can be determined by bench judging is not entirely clear. Dahlia growers throughout this country will watch with interest the performance of these and other medal winners in the next few years.

—LJW

(Continued from page 13)

Pink Spangles (Premier-Dahliadel) Collarette with both petals and collar a pure pink. I have grown this dahlia for three years and it is always good.

Butterball (Haugh-Rocky River) Ball Light Yellow. A lighter yellow than the old dependable Mary Helen, but retains the petals better. Good grower and profuse bloomer. Certified at Atlanta.

Ed's Delight (Chandler-Rocky River) Min-Ball Light Blend. About the same color as Rosy Dawn, but smaller in my garden.

Lulu (Parker-Robens) Ball Red. A wonderful addition to the red ball class. Wins every place shown. Won the tricolor for me at West Side Show as best ball dahlia in the show. Will be a splendid companion flower to Pat and Dee.

Molly Lou (Schroeder-Rocky River) Ball Lavender. Better for me in its class than Supt. Amhryn. A splendid addition to the ball dahlias.

(Continued from page 8)

may also be remarked that the control of the insect vectors is sometimes by no means inexpensive or easy for the small grower of dahlias.

In the circumstances it may possibly be considered that the above attitude with regard to virus is excusable in a small amateur grower, although growers of plants or roots for sale should always take all practicable precautions to ensure that their wares are free from virus.

Just one more thought regarding virus. All growers will have noticed that even in stocks that show a serious amount of virus there are always some varieties of plants that remain quite healthy. It seems to me that an examination of the causes of this tolerance or resistance to viruses might be a very fruitful field for scientific investigation. It might be possible to induce similar qualities in other dahlia plants or to raise new varieties that inherit them.

Down The Dahlia Path, our friends picked these new ones as their favorites for 1954. "Andries Wonder"; "Frills"; "Utopia"; "Madame Clementine Payen"; "Gunyah Glory"; "Pin-up"; "Brandar's"; "Comet"; "Decoy" and "Gay Salute".

We are proud of our collection of over 300 varieties of the finest and newest world-wide Dahlias. A request will bring our catalogue to you and your friends.

MRS. EMELENE M. COLE

194 North 9th, COOS BAY, OREGON

NEW INTRODUCTIONS OF BALLAY GIANT DAHLIAS

for 1955

SEQUOIA — Informal Decorative - Primrose Yellow. 15-inch blooms. Bears considerable resemblance to Croyden Masterpiece in everything but color.

YOSEMITE — Informal Decorative - Shades of apricot. Very large. Sturdy grower and spectacular in the garden.

Price: Strong Divisions \$15.00 net each

Both of these varieties are outstanding and in keeping with the quality of our introductions through the years. Fully described and illustrated in our 34th Annual Catalogue which is free on request.



BALLAY DAHLIA GARDENS

4309 El Camino Real
Palo Alto, California

(Continued from page 26)

BEST TROPHIES ORGANIZATION: Best trophies and organization goes to the Country Show at Narrabri. Even aircraft transport was arranged for exhibitors and trophies worth hundreds of pounds were awarded by this young club. NEXT BEST effort to the N.S.W. Banks Show for outstanding Award Cards and championship Ribbons displaying a lovely photo of our Queen, and was most appropriate in this year of the Royal Visit.

LASTLY A HAND for the Show Judges at the Royal Easter R.A.S. Show. Their effort was generally considered to be of a very high standard — it's a big job to keep all happy for 10 consecutive days of exhibiting.

SEEDLINGS: What can we expect of the new ones. We fully expect the Large Decorative *Rosemary Oliver* and Red Exhibition *Anne* to be outstanding next season. Many seedling Poms were displayed, in fact, too many to make a forecast, but you can be sure you will see more of these next year. One or two good Cactus seedlings were displayed — in fact, the new seedlings generally were good and most of them should go on to better things via the Show Bench.

(Continued from page 5)



Mrs. H. L. Franzen presents the Harry Franzen Memorial Award to Glenn Pierce, proprietor of Summit Gardens whose bloom of *Searchlight* was judged most perfect Dahlia in the 1954 C.S.D.S. Show.

In closing this report I must repeat that the fine fellowship, cooperation and enthusiasm displayed at this 23rd annual show was wonderful indeed. With a continuance of these three qualities alone, the Central States Dahlia Society can do nothing but advance and grow into a greater source of information and pleasure to dahlia growers.

(Continued from page 29)

Treasure. Other good "B" dahlias are *Gerrie Hoek*, *Koningen Juliana*, *Marion Glenn*, *Nicky K.*, *Windlassie* and *Fire Gleam*.

This report is conspicuous by the lack of too many names of recent varieties. I do not feel that this is a reflection on Southern growers or the weather but rather a reflection on introducers. We in the South take our dahlias seriously as a hobby and each year almost every current variety is tried. There are many dissappointments and we have lost \$15. on each variety. I doubt if we will continue to fall for all these descriptions in the advertisements and continue to buy as many new varieties. What I am trying to say is that it is my opinion that there are too many inferior, untried varieties placed on the market each year and never heard of again. It might be a good idea if the trial grounds, the honor roll writers and the seedling judges would be much more strict and always remember the existing varieties already on the market. If some plan could be worked out where only a few real good varieties were released each year, the dahlia as a flower would achieve greater importance.

DAHLIAS OF SPECIAL MERIT

Pot root and Tuber list ready in January
Cutting and Plant list in February

Many of the Australians listed were Blue Ribbon Winners at all Shows this year. Also some new varieties.



HANNA DAHLIA GARDENS

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812 S. Delsea Drive Clayton, N. J.

WORTHWHILE DAHLIAS

WE HAVE THE BEST OF THE OLD,
MOST OF THE NEWEST, WITH
SEVERAL OF TOP FOREIGN
VARIETIES TOO, ALL SIZES
FROM MINIATURES UP
TO THE GIANTS

**Roots and Plants!
Reasonably Priced**

Many Special Offers Too

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Wyoming, Illinois

OUR DAHLIAS WIN AGAIN —

Glowing reports have come in about our "NIGHT EDITOR" "SILVER WEDDING" "HULIN'S CARNIVAL" and others.

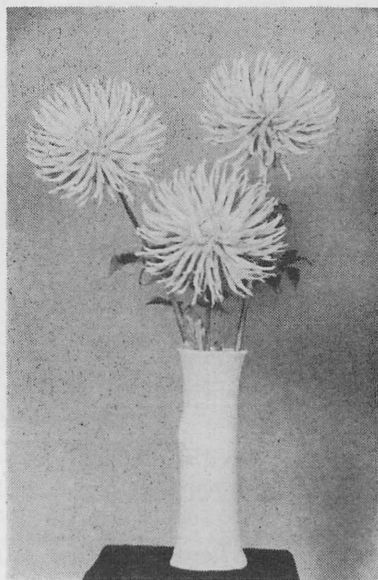
"PAISLEY GEM" New for 1955; won a certificate at Ohio Trial Gardens; also on the honor roll\$5.00
"NIGHT EDITOR" can be yours for \$3.50
Catalogue in January—Free for a post card



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COTTAGE GROVE DAHLIA GARDENS
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Introducing For 1955



MARVELOUS

A very beautiful ROSE PINK cactus, (B) flower, with the best of stems, foliage excellent and very strong grower. Stems can be cut at any desired length. Winner of the A. H. A. award at Richmond, Va.

It also won A. D. S. seedling awards at New York, Baltimore, Cincinnati and Richmond shows, a winner at Everett, Wash. in the single bloom and selected as Section champion in triple entry for (B) size bloom. On all (4) HONOR ROLLS, also on Mr. Webb's Eastern Dahlia Review.

ROOTS \$10.00 NET
FREE LIST IN JANUARY



Rosemary Dahlia Gardens

BOX 429C
MARTINS FERRY, OHIO
Dahlias Since 1920

(Continued from page 17)

have ever seen with thousands of blooms and a very full American Home Achievement Class as well as a table full of promising seedlings. While in Washington we visited gardens in Silver Spring, Md., Arlington, Va., and Falls Church, Va. All showed the effect of the dry weather. Dodrill at the latter place had a screen house that had some extra nice blooms in it. Two trips to Chautauqua were fully rewarded with a fine exhibition of field grown plants, flowering abundantly. We peeked in back yards in Scranton, Syracuse, Elmira, and Rochester. A trip to Lovegrove's Dahlia Gardens in Galt, Ont., was most worth while as we saw the best garden there we have yet seen. Plant growth was medium but flowers in abundance, as well as a number of varieties we had never seen before. Then on to Cooksville, Ont., and the Hetheringtons, where we saw another very excellent planting of both exhibition and cut flower varieties. Some of the names written down to see if we can get them for another season, included: *Morocco*, *Popolius*, *Kootney Sunrise*, *Ricorda Alfreda*, *La Vomme*, *Lyriek*, *Penn Star*, *Fashion Hour*, *Ruth Alampi*, *St. Lambert*, *Scarlet Blaze*, and *Carnaval* (we had this one on our Holland order of last spring but lost it), as well as several seedlings which we are trying to line up for trial when they are ready to be disseminated.

So, all in all, it was NOT a poor season for us. In fact, we think it as enjoyable a one as we have had in some time. The extensive new additions did much to sustain interest and we are already looking forward to 1955 to try out some of the new ones already at hand. A shipment from Australia with 9 new ones has arrived in perfect condition; a second shipment with 39 varieties is on its way; some of the new introductions have been ordered and some of the seedlings we saw and liked have been promised us. What more could anyone want? So, again, let us say that we have much to be THANKFUL for at this season of the year. And may you be able to find something to be thankful for in our story!

(Continued from page 10)

walls and long ivy-creepers were suspended from the ceiling overhead.

The trucks being unloaded we could begin to stage our 800 square feet exhibit according to the directions of our "boss". Well, you may imagine, that it gives a lot of work to make such a large exhibit, consisting of several thousands of flowers to be arranged in baskets and containers of all sizes! Our staff, two ladies and seven men did a good job and working the entire night we had finished at six in the morning. And now some impressions of the show:

Unlike Dahliashows in other countries our Dutch shows mainly consist of exhibits of commercial growers and only a small number of entries by amateur dahlia-growers. The important commercial growers, who are the most important raisers and introducers of novelties too, all stage an exhibit of several hundred square feet, presenting their best novelties and the most meritorious commercial varieties.

The culminating point of our show always is the combat for the challenge-cup for the best Dutch novelty of the year. This is a very heavy competition as varieties eligible for this cup must have been awarded at least five certificates during previous sessions of the judging committee. Two certificates of merit are required for which not over six specimen blooms must be shown. Then the variety should pass the examination at one of the trial-gardens and should score a minimum of 20 points out of 25. If awarded a trial-garden certificate the novelty still has to receive two first class certificates for which 12 blooms must be exhibited at one of the weekly sessions.

This year eleven varieties gained all these certificates and from them the cup-winner was chosen, shown in perfect quality. In contradiction to other years it was not difficult for the judges to pick the very best of the eleven entries for the cup. *Juliana Regina*, a large semi-cactus, salmon-orange with yellow centre, shown in perfect quality, was by far the best and was unanimously indicated as the cup-winner. Indeed a first class dahlia, fully worth its high honour and its royal name!

Other excellent entries in this class were; *Golden Autumn*, B-SC-Golden Apricot, *Fortune*, B-SC-Pink, *Lady Ismay*, A-SC-Pink, *Good Earth* A-SC-Pink, *Ballade*, B-FD-Y, *Rose Tendre*, A-SC, *Marconi* - B-SC-Pink and *Danseuse*.

Princess Royal is a perfect keeper as a cut-flower and was awarded the challenge-cup for the longest lasting cutflower for the second consecutive year. A large straight cactus, salmon pink with lighter centre.

For the challenge-cup for the best small-flowering decoratives or semi-cactus dahlia, there was only one entry. *Sylvia* gained this cup very easily but indeed deserved it! A very good small to medium semi-cactus in deepest pink. A very useful cutflower.

Again one entry was exhibited for the Challenge Trophy for the best small flowering dahlia, except decoratives, semi-cactus dahlias and pompons. Collarette *Kaiserwalzer* was awarded this trophy. A flaming scarlet collarette with yellow collar. Very striking!

The cup for the best pompon of 1954 was awarded to our novelty *Little Willem*, named after Mr. Bruidegom's youngest grandson.

A perfect bi-colored pompon, not easy to beat. Purplish red, tipped white. A bright and gay dahlia!

Competitors were *Pooka*, another Bruidegom novelty, which is considered to be the best blood-red pom we have up to now. Third was *Imperial* a slightly larger and more lavender toned issue of *Lipoma*.

The last Challenge Cup to be awarded, the one for the best foreign introduction of 1954 was gained by the New Zealander *Lavender Perfection*. This novelty is a splendid giant formal decorative of beautiful lavender color on excellent stems. A real winner and a perfect bloom!

Among the entries in the amateur-section there was a splendid exhibit of 12 huge faultless blooms of *Conqueror*, an old and still very dependable giant yellow semi-cactus.

The Challenge Cup for the largest bloom in the show in the amateur-section was won by a perfect bloom of *Edith Morrell*.

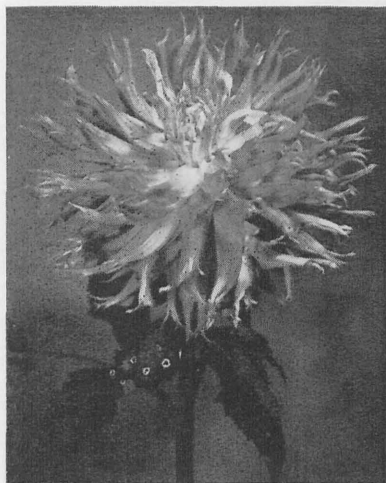
A most interesting section from the visitors' view is the seedling class. For this class every member of our society (Commercial growers excluded) receives on his request a packet containing 25 selected dahlia seeds. The seeds are placed at the members' disposal through our society on the understanding that the best blooms produced by these seedlings must be exhibited at the annual show. This year over 200 seedling blooms were staged, among which very promising novelties could be admired.

WE ARE INTRODUCING FOR 1955

Mr. President

- First Lady -

Desiree



'MR. PRESIDENT' Inc. C

Light blend of salmon rose to empire yellow at center, blending into a most beautiful combination. Blooms 10 x 5 inches field grown. Petals broad at base but roll to a nicely formed lacinated incurved cactus. Plants four feet tall with strong stems and beautiful foliage. Open growing plant.

"Mr. President" has taken 2nd place only to "First Lady" wherever shown. Major awards of "Mr. President" are: Best bloom in show at San Diego in 1946-1948 and 1952. A.D.S. seedling sweepstakes awards at San Diego, Orange County and New York A.D.S. shows on the Flower Grower Honor Rolls of R. T. Eddy and Lynn B. Dudley. Certificate of Merit at Cincinnati, Ohio Trial Grounds.

Clumps \$40.00 each net
Roots \$15.00 each net



"FIRST LADY" F. D.

Presden yellow. The most perfectly formed F.D. we've seen. Every flower fit for exhibition. Early and prolific. Blooms 7½ x 5 inches. Excellent stems and foliage. Four foot plants. Best in its class by show record.

LOOK AT THIS 1954
SHOW RECORD

Won every class entered in San Diego

Six firsts in specimen and container classes. On the court of Honor, best bloom in show. American Home Achievement Medal and A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes.

Orange County Show

Five first awards including American Home Achievement Medal and A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes.

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Four first awards including American Home Achievement Medal.

San Francisco Show 500 Miles Away

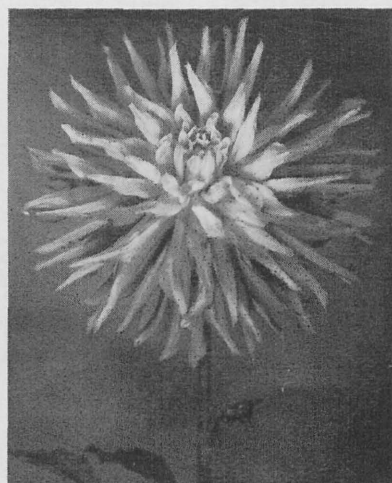
Three firsts, American Home Achievement Medal San Francisco Medals and best bloom in show.

New York A.D.S. Show

Blooms shipped from San Diego, Calif. A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes.

First Lady is on all four Flower Grower Honor Rolls and has been awarded three Certificates of Merit at A.D.S. Trial Grounds.

Strong Div. \$15.00 ea. net



DESIREE' STR. C.

Phlox Purple lighter at center, blooms 10 x 5. Long stems—straight cactus formation. Plants 5 feet tall, open growing and thrifty. Excellent foliage. Won best bloom in show at San Diego in 1951. Scored 83.8 at Farmingdale, N. Y., 80.4 at East Lansing, Mich.

Clumps \$25.00 each net

Roots \$10.00 each net

✱ ✱ ✱

"LITTLE MO." F. D. Min.

Orchid purple, very thrifty grower producing fine long stemmed blooms in abundance throughout the entire season. Little Mo was not sent to any of the trial grounds for trial but is listed on Mr. C. E. Faust's Flower Grower Honor Roll. Due to a large supply of root stock we are offering this fine miniature at . . .

\$3.00 per Root each net

A collection of one root each of all four of the above dahlias on the same order.
\$35.00 Net.

Send for Quality Dahlia Seed List 20 Seed \$1.00, 100 Seed \$5.00, 1000 Seed \$40.00

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SAN DIEGO, 16

CALIFORNIA

Rocky River Introductions

FOR 1955

We are again offering a varied list of distinct novelties for the 1955 season. Again, the varieties we offer have been selected by the experts, represented by AMERICAN HOME Achievement Medal judges, FLOWER GROWER Honor Roll writers, A.D.S. Trial Ground judges. With the exception of "Miss Wisconsin" all have Honor Roll listing, Certificate of Merits, or Achievement Medals; some have all.

For complete descriptions see our catalog the DAHLIA BLUE BOOK which will be ready in February.

All prices net		Root Plant	
BUTTERBALL (Haugh-Rocky River). Light yellow ball. 4½ x 3.		\$ 5.00	\$2.00
CAROL HAWLEY (Dove-Rocky River). Velvety dark red miniature semi cactus 4 x ½2.		5.00	2.00
CERAMIC BEAUTY (Eccleston-Rocky River). Dark red formal. Five Achievement Medals in 1953. 10 x 5.		15.00	5.00
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GYPSY'S KISS (Brown-Rocky River). Varigated lavender formal. Very prim flower. 3 x 1½.		5.00	2.00
LITTLE BILL (Hunt-Rocky River). Deep yellow minia- ture straight cactus. 4 x 1½.		5.00	2.00
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MISS WISCONSIN (Dahlia Society of Wisconsin). Yellow semi cactus to cactus. Lacinated petals. 7 x 3½.		10.00	3.50
MOLLY LOU (Schroeder-Rocky River). Lavender ball. 4 x 2.		5.00	2.00
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PEPPERMINT (Beals-Boyle-Rocky River). Striking blend, white lined and flushed brilliant rose red. Formal. 10 x 5.		15.00	5.00
SOUTHERN BEAUTY (LaMotte-Rocky River). Formal. Blend of white to deep rose purple. Fine cut flower. 5 x 2½.		5.00	2.00
SURPRISE (Baker-Rocky River). The undefeated seedling champion of 1954. Eight Achievement Medals. Peach semi cactus. 11 x 5½.		15.00	5.00

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Our 1955 DAHLIA BLUE BOOK will also list the best from other growers as well as a highly selective list of standard varieties. It is profusely illustrated and contains up-to-date cultural directions and other valuable information. This seventy-two page booklet is free. Write for it now if you are not on our mailing list.

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