

BULLETIN

of the

AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

FEBRUARY — 1956

SPRING PLANTING ISSUE

Published Quarterly — First Quarter



A bloom of "Ned Seymour" exhibited by John Plewinski, at Burholme, Pa. Show, with Miss Janice Sepich, aged two.

THREE BEAUTIES

for 1956

Our first introductions. *Flying Saucer*, *Lloyd George* and *Francis Digi* were well received last year. We thank all our customers for their patronage.

This season we have three, all of which won A.D.S. Seedling Certificate Awards, and one was winner also of the American Home Achievement Medal.

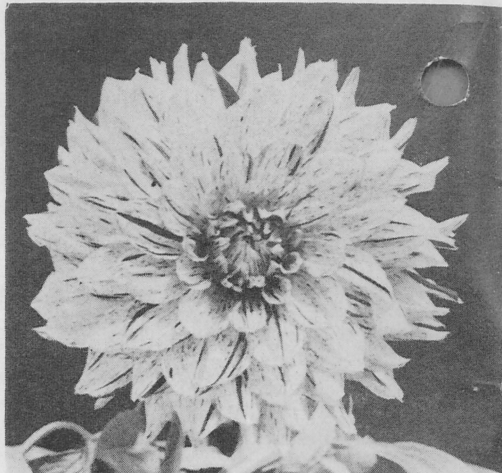
We believe you can win with them. Please place your order early. Stocks of roots are limited.

PERRY COMO

A-F.D.

Originated by Ben Lizza. Won both American Home Achievement and A.D.S. Sweepstakes at L. I. Show. An "A" size I.D., 10½ by 5 inches. Color, Light Blend of Lavender and White. Good stems hold flowers at 45 degrees. Good substance. Good all round performer.

Roots, Net, \$10; Plants, Net, 3 for \$10.



LARRY HESLIN

A-I.D., Variegated

LARRY HESLIN

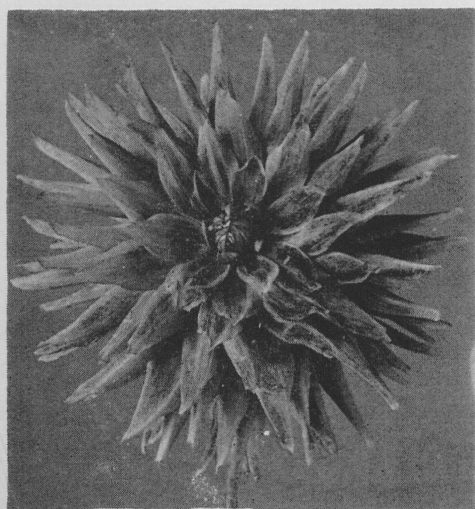
Named after one of our good, departed friends, and worthy of him, too. It is an "A" size I.D., 9 in. by 5 in. Mimosa Yellow petals, flecked Paeony Purple. Got an A.D.S. Sweepstake Award, L. I. Show, 1955. Good Substance. Stems 10-12 inches; bush 4½ ft.

Roots, \$10.00 Net

3 Plants, \$10.00 Net

FOREST DAHLIA GARDENS

42 Forest Avenue, Glen Cove, L. I., N. Y.—Wm. L. Tilton



PRIVATE SECRETARY

PRIVATE SECRETARY

B.-St. C, Purple

This one is a honey and has few Show competitors in Purples. Spikey Straight Cactus of Tyrian Purple. Size 7 by 3½ inches; stems 8 to 10 inches, hold blooms on side; bush 4½ ft. It will be a big winner.

Plants, Only Net \$3.00

FRANCES DIGI

This little Empire Rose straight cactus miniature, which won A.D.S. Seedling Award in 1953 at Long Island, is much sought after. You will want it too.

Plant, \$1.00 Net;

Roots, \$2.00 Net;

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CLOSING DATES for ADVERTISING

February — JAN. 15; May — APR. 15;
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Entered as second class matter
at the Post Office at New York,
N. Y., under Act of March 3, 1879.

BULLETIN

of the
American Dahlia Society
Contents for February, 1956

SERIES XXIX, No. 1

Published by

THE AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY, INC.
12 Warren Street, New York 7, N. Y.

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Membership dues in the American Dahlia Society, \$4.00 per year, of which \$3.00 is for the annual subscription to the Bulletin of the American Dahlia Society, published quarterly.

Send subscriptions to the American Dahlia Society, 12 Warren Street, New York, N. Y., or to the Treasurer of the Society, Henry A. Olsen, 45 Clement Avenue, Elmont, New York.

Editor - - - - - LYNN B. DUDLEY
25 Irving Place, New Rochelle, N. Y.
(See list of Associate Editors on another page)

Greetings from President Preas

It is with due humility that I take over, following so many good presidents. I appreciate the honor. I have been a member of the Society since 1929, and have attended most of our meetings since then, as well as actually showing dahlias. I had the sweepstakes fever for several years but it has waned in the past 10. I have liked and admired the past officers for their unending devotion to our Society, and watched it grow stronger with each year as a flower organization with friendly members. The past three presidents served two or more years, and have knitted the structure solidly. The strength of our National Society is due, first to our Bulletin, which under the guidance of Gordon Waaser, and now our successful and able editor, Lynn B. Dudley. He has changed the format and structure of this publication so that it is second to none. It deserves wider circulation. Secondly, the A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes, brain child of Lynn B. Dudley, began in 1949 with eight societies, both branch and participating, entering it. Practically all of these societies applied for it in 1954.

Drew Mulcahy will be its chairman in 1956, and with his committee, you may be sure that it will be properly handled. It unifies our entire System. Thirdly, the Joint Classification of Dahlias, sponsored jointly by the A.D.S. and Central States Dahlia Society, has made easy the staging and judging at all Dahlia Shows. It is essentially the Dahlia dictionary or Encyclopedia. A.D.S. Chairman Dr. Edw. F. McDade, has untiringly and ably represented us in collaboration with James E. Marsh, chairman of the C.D.S. It also conforms with our official trial grounds throughout the country. Mr. Bert Pitt has consented to act as chairman of the Trial Ground Committee at the request of Ed Lloyd, who because of business commitments cannot continue to serve as well as he would like to. Bert, I am sure, will stimulate more entries and keep up the A.D.S. Standards. There are many dahlias appearing in the show schedule which do not conform to the regular classification list of the joint committee. In fact they have been placed in show schedules. The classification of this should be referred to the above committee in order for them to be added if it is the wish of the Society. In 1944 Edw. Lloyd as A.D.S. President, stated that the Annual Show, stumped the experts and defied elements. Drew Mulcahy as president, at show time in 1955 was discouraged. He certainly had no cinch because of disastrous weather elements, and the gradual withdrawal of large sweepstakes exhibitors. Despite every discouragement, it was one of our most successful shows, and it proved that lack of good growing conditions and quantity exhibitors, does not necessarily prevent a successful show.

The annual A.D.S. show, essentially a local show, because of exhibiting distance, will always be held in New York Area. The regional shows in other parts of the country will always be held, and the A.D.S. can participate and aid. The Executive or governing committee has members all over the U.S., and they can attend, phone or write and discuss their views and ideas. The A.D.S. is not a loosely constructed organization. It is held together by the personal contact of each member with the other, each with the interchange of ideas, to better the dahlia in its top sphere of flowerdom. The various officers and committees during the past have brought our society to its present peak. I will stand by my committees, and, together I trust you will not be sorry that I am to serve you as president during 1956.

BRUCE B. PREAS

Dr. Bruce Preas

Elected President of A.D.S. January 21, 1956

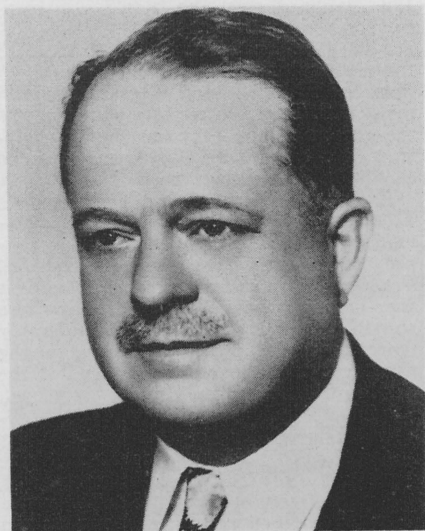
Dr. Bruce Preas, of 387 Merrick Road, Rockville Center, L.I., N. Y. has practiced medicine and general surgery for 33 years. He graduated from the Bellevue Medical College at the age of 22, the youngest graduate to matriculate from that institution up to that time, and possibly since. This college was associated with the New York University at that time and later was combined with it. After his internship he practiced in Bay Shore, Long Island for 3 years and in 1927 he, with Mrs. Preas, moved to Rockville Centre and has since been in general practice there.

When he grew his first dahlia, we have not been informed, but it must have been soon after he began practicing medicine, but he did exhibit them in the Bay Shore Show in 1929. The following year, 1930 his garden had grown in size and he won a Sweepstakes and Gold Medal at the World's Fair in the Flushing Meadows. In that same year and the following one, he exhibited a truck load at J. W. Johnson's Atlantic City Garden and Floral Pageant. There Dr. Preas won the Sweepstakes in the dahlia competition twice in succession.

His first judging assignment was with the late Derrill Hart and the late Leonard Barron, who succeeded Hart after his death, as writer of the Honor Roll in the Flower Grower. This first judging of dahlias by Dr. Preas was at the Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Washington, D. C. This was in 1931 and was the first dahlia show in Washington.

At the A.D.S. Show in New York and at other nearby shows in the thirties, he was a keen rival and competitor of the late E. E. Tooker, also a resident of Rockville Centre. Each took a particular satisfaction in gaining the most "firsts" in a show, especially in the big "A" sizes. Winning over the other gave each of them a gloating conversation piece, which continued until the next show. Success in these friendly rivalries came quite alternately to these ambitious amateur competitors. It was not Preas or Tooker against the "field." It was Preas vs. Tooker and no "Dahlia holds barred."

In 1933 Dr. Preas was the spark-plug in organizing the Long Island Men's Dahlia Association. He was its first Chairman, with Dewey Mohr as Vice-Chairman. The



association met yearly, usually in February or March for dinner. The first several of these gatherings were celebrated in one or another of the Rockville Center restaurants. The first one was held in the middle of a blizzard. Your editor was a speaker at this one and had to walk through knee deep snow to reach the Rockville Center R. R. station and reached home about 2:30 a.m. "It wasn't a fit night for man nor beast" to quote W. C. Fields.

Two annual dinners of this L. I. Men's Dahlia Ass'n were held at the Lido Club. Every guest, or most of them, took a room and got home Sunday. The last of these Lido gatherings was the highlight of the series, held in 1937. There were some 100 men in attendance. It was on this occasion that some rude and unprincipled guest (better not name him) stole the speech and program of Chairman Preas. For a while there was much confusion and disorganization, but the papers turned up finally and the meeting proceeded. Incidentally, this was the last dahlia meeting attended by the late Charles Reed of Lawrence, Mass. He was for many years chairman of the A.D.S. Trial Grounds. He

(Continued on next page)

Dr. Bruce Preas, President

(Continued)

was also the introducer of "*Margaret Broomall*," "*Satan*," "*Murphy's Masterpiece*" and many other giant dahlias. He died March 20, 1937, a few days after the Lido dahlia dinner. We should also mention in passing that at the first Lido dinner in 1936, Professor C. E. Wilden, of the Horticultural Dept. of the then Michigan State College and superintendent of the A.D.S. Trial Garden located there, was the guest speaker. This was the first dahlia talk in the east by this long time friend of the dahlia and dahlia people.

Evidently it was the following year's L. I. Men's Ass'n dahlia dinner, chair-maned as usual by Dr. Preas, which capped the climax because it was the last one. We have always suspected, although it was never confirmed by him, that these soirees cost the good doctor considerably more than the pro-rata charge to the guests. This last party was staged at the Garden City Hotel and drew a big crowd. Everybody had a marvelous time, probably too good. Anyway, it wound up a series of great dahlia get-togethers, to the regret of all the dahlia men in this section. It was not until about 1945, after world War II, that the present Long Island Dahlia Society was formed by some of the same men who had attended Dr. Preas' dinners. Dr. Preas adds one sad note to this chapter.

Of the some twenty-five men who attended that first dinner in 1933, only 8 are left alive. Dr. Preas, Dewey Mohr and your editor, are three of them. Who are the other five?

The feature entertainment of each of the Preas dahlia dinners was the showing of a series of cartoon color slides. It is probable, over the many years of patient service and contacts, the good doctor (and he is that to the writer's certain knowledge) developed an attitude of life and an understanding of people. At any rate, he was able to penetrate the shams and expose the foibles of people. And he dearly loved to poke fun at dahlia fans. Coupled with some rare art forms and his own pixie-like humor, Dr. Preas attempted to expose the thoughts and underlying motives of contemporary dahlia enthusiasts. No one escaped his barbs. His closest friends received some of his sharpest arrows of wit. And they made good viewing and elicited uproars of laughter. And, as long as Dr. Preas was the principal host, and probably paid part of the dinner checks, the guests had to take it, even when the humor was aimed at them.

Dr. Preas admits that he was the one who broke down the classes in poms to individual colors in the A.D.S. Shows. He had, with other exhibitors been combining colors in each pom exhibit. But he had noted that at a Baltimore Show, the classes called for 3, 5 or more of one color or variety. So, he suggested that be done in the N. Y. Show and it was so successful in making a better exhibition that this plan has been followed ever since.

But, in spite of his showing small varieties, mainly to obtain sweepstakes awards, his first preference was for the giants. He had the honor of showing (and this may start arguments) the largest dahlia ever exhibited at a new York show. This was a *Carl Dahl*, size 15 by 10 inches, official measurement by the judges, (Dr. Preas measurement was 15½ by 11 inches). This was in 1937 at the then Park Central Hotel, now the Park Sheraton. (C. Louis Roberts claims that he measured a bloom of *Maffie*, grown by Edward O'Keefe in 1938 that was 16 inches in diameter. This was measured in a church, not a show!).

Many have wondered why Dr. Preas stopped exhibiting dahlias. Many perhaps assumed that it was because of a growing medical practice. He had accumulated probably more ribbons, medals and special awards in the 10 years span of his exhibiting orbit than any other eastern exhibitor. (Ed. O'Keefe may dispute this). But at long last we can answer this question. In 1939 Dr. Preas had a wonderful garden which included a cloth house, (rare then in the east). He was growing every size and type of dahlias in order to enter, as was his sweepstake custom, every darned class in as many shows as he could cover with as many blooms as possible. He had won several sweepstakes that year. Then came the Peekskill, N. Y. show. He loaded up a two ton truck with some 40 boxes of dahlias. He entered every class in the "open to all." But Ed O'Keefe had marshalled the opposition well. Every estate and garden along the Hudson had doubled its order for fertilizer and had piled on the manure to an amazing depth. Result, for Dr. Preas, just one lousy blue ribbon and 14 seconds. That was the end. He was crushed, not to say bamboozled. And he has never exhibited more than two or three dahlias since, and those were the result of wagers.

In 1920, just after graduation, Dr. Preas was married to Gladys Lyons of New York City, the daughter of a successful physician in Manhattan. Their 35 years of married life has been a most

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DAHLIAS

Steps In Propagation

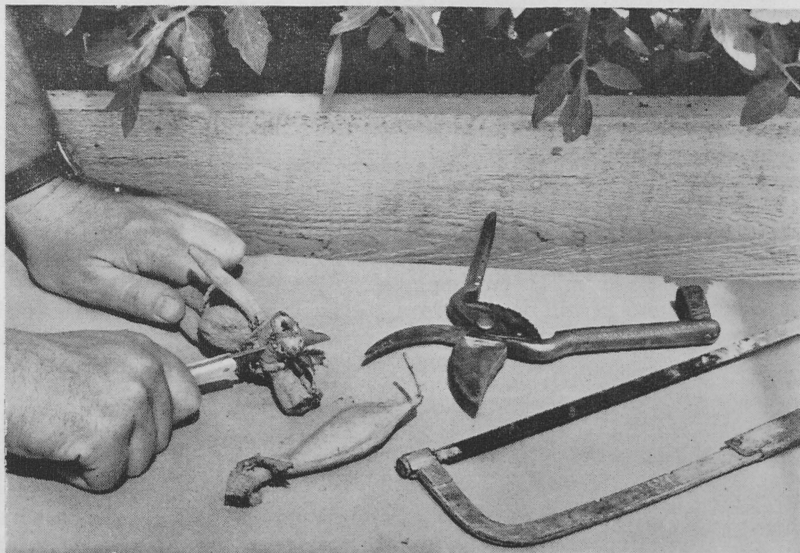
By EDWARD J. O'KEEFE, Jr.

(Reprinted from March 1954 Popular Gardening with permission from that publication, also from the author)

Late February or early March is the time to begin preparations if you intend to propagate dahlias this year. Even if you don't want to propagate the plants but want to grow them, now—before the better varieties are sold out—is the time to select the sorts you want to place orders for tubers with reliable growers.

The three principal ways to propagate dahlias are to divide clumps and to make cuttings, if you grew dahlias last year or are fortunate enough to be able to obtain some clumps, and to sow seeds.

The common method, that most often used by amateurs, is division. During the previous growing season, clumps of tubers or roots were formed.



Dr. Bruce Preas, President

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happy one. This, then, is a sketchy word picture of the man who is our new President. He is wise in the way of people and he is experienced in dahlia growing. We know he will serve this society to the best of his ability. We can look forward to new progress and worthy goals under his leadership.

—Illu. courtesy Popular Gardening

Divide clumps with sharp knife, shears or hacksaw. A good division consists of root, part of old stem and sprouting eye.

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Dahlias — Steps in Propagation

(Continued)

Division is nothing more than separation of tubers from the main stem to which they are attached.

Unlike potatoes, dahlias send out an eye or shoot from the small neck of a root at the point where it joins the stalk of last season's growth. In order to make sure of a sprouting tuberous root, it is advisable to hold off dividing clumps until eyes can be seen.

To encourage clumps to sprout, you must set them in an upright position and increase the humidity around them during late February or early March and, if they are very dry, sprinkle them with water.

In dividing use a very sharp knife (a hacksaw blade is also good) and make sure that each root to be planted has at least one eye. It is often impossible to divide clumps and get a new plant from each tuberous root. If you get an average of three to five roots with eyes from each old clump, you've done the job well.

The second method, that most often used by commercial growers, especially in increasing new and expensive varieties, is to make cuttings. This is because more plants can be made from cuttings than from divisions.

Before cuttings can be taken, clumps are set in flats containing equal parts garden soil and leafmold or peatmoss. They are not covered with the mixture. The upper half of the stem and roots is left uncovered or exposed so that the point at which the shoot originates on the neck of each root can be seen and cuttings can be taken more easily. Next, flats are watered and placed where they'll get plenty of light, on a greenhouse bench or windowsill of house or garage, in a temperature maintained at 60 to 70 degrees F.

The first cutting is taken when a shoot has developed three sets of leaves. Use a sharp knife so that you won't squeeze or otherwise injure the stem and remove the cutting just above the lowest set of leaves. Such a cutting is called a terminal cutting.

Two new shoots will develop from the axils of the two leaves remaining on the root. When the new shoots have developed two sets of leaves, cut

(Continued on opposite page)



Remove lower leaves of cuttings. Dip ends in a rooting hormone (in jar, at left); insert in sand or other rooting medium.

—*Illus. courtesy Popular Gardening.*



—Illustration courtesy Popular Gardening

Cuttings rooted in 3-inch pots (left) and plant bands (right) are set out in the garden as soon as weather is warm enough.

off all growth together with about a half inch of the older stem or root. Now split the old stem down the center between the two original leaves. You'll have two more cuttings, called heel cuttings, each consisting of a new shoot and a portion of the old stem or root at the end.

Many growers prefer vermiculite as a rooting medium for cuttings but I like plain builders sand. For, unless bottom heat is available, and it usually isn't, sand gives better results.

Before inserting cuttings in sand, immerse them in a solution of water and a soluble fertilizer such as Miracle Gro. When I've done this, I have noted less wilting and faster rooting. After the cuttings have soaked in the solution for about an hour, dip them in a rooting hormone such as Rootone, insert them in sand to a depth of at least half an inch; pack the sand firmly around them and keep them watered and shaded from bright sun for three to four days.

In four to five weeks, or longer with some varieties, cuttings form healthy root systems and are ready for pots or plant bands. The latter are becoming very popular because they take less room. Many more square, 2-inch bands can be placed on a bench or windowsill than round, 3-inch clay pots.

I use, as a potting mixture, one part each of sand, garden soil and leafmold and also place a small amount of manure in the bottom of each pot or, since bands have no bottoms, spread an inch or two of manure on the bench and place bands on top of it. Soon roots reach the manure and cuttings develop into strong, stocky plants. Before setting plants out in May I harden them off by lowering the temperature and gradually exposing them to more sun and air.

The third method is sowing seeds in late February and early March. Dahlias do not come true from seeds. In other words, a plant from seed may be a dud, an average or a beautiful new variety. Most Unwin and Coltness varieties, however, are grown from seed. These kinds are dwarf bedding dahlias, seed of which is inexpensive.

Seeds are sown in pots or flats containing half sand and half garden soil and kept moist in a temperature of 70 degrees F until germination takes place in about two weeks. When seedlings have developed two sets of leaves, they're transferred to pots or bands and left in them until time for planting outdoors.

(Continued on following page)

Annual Meeting--American Dahlia Society, Inc.

January 21, 1956

Park-Sheraton Hotel - New York City

The annual meeting of the American Dahlia Society, Inc., was held in New York City, in accordance with the corporation laws of the State of New York, on January 21st, 1956, at the Park-Sheraton Hotel. Eighty-one members being present and declared a quorum, President Mulcahy called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M. The reading of the minutes of the last (1955) annual meeting was called for, but inasmuch as those minutes had been published in full detail in the February 1955 issue of the BULLETIN of the Society, no errors or corrections being noted, it was voted to dispense with the reading and to approve the minutes of the 1955 annual meeting as published. Mr. Olsen as Treasurer and Mr. Mohr as Chairman of the Finance Committee submitted the financial report for the year ending December 31st, 1955. Mr. Mohr reported that the books of the Treasurer had been audited and found correct by our auditor and Vice-President Charles Schneider. It was therefor voted that the report of the Treasurer be approved and made a part of these minutes.

The President called for the report of the Tellers on the election of the officers for 1956 from Mr. Pollak, Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Mr. Pollak reported the election of Bruce B. Preas, M.D., as President together with the entire slate as presented on the official ballot, with the addition of Mr. Gambi of Riverdale, New Jersey and of Mr. Conrad Brieger of Baltimore, Maryland, as Vice-Presidents. Before leaving the Chair, Mr. Mulcahy expressed his appreciation for the cooperation of all members during his term of office, and in return was given a sincere vote of appreciation for his services by the members. President Preas was then escorted to the Chair by Past-Presidents Fraser and Maytrott, and after a few remarks expressing his appreciation of the confidence of the Society in placing

him in office, the reports of Standing Committees were called for, and presented as follows.

BULLETIN: Mr. Dudley reported in detail the work involved in publishing, and on his editorial and advertising policies, both of which have a standard to which they must conform. He will welcome more of the actual, personal equation, actual experience or human element stories for publication, to be submitted to him for approval. Mr. Dudley further reported that preliminary plans were in progress leading to an International Dahlia Classification Registry with the proposed headquarters centered with the American Dahlia Society.

CLASSIFICATION: In the absence of Chairman McDade, Mr. Diffenderfer reported for the committee that the classification lists were in the hands of the printer.

DERRIL HART MEMORIAL AWARD: Mr. Webb reported no awards were made in 1955.

TRIAL GROUNDS COMMITTEE: Mr. Lloyd reported that 21 varieties received certificates which were awarded in the five gardens operating in 1955. Two varieties being entered under code number only, and the Nomenclature and Trial Ground Committees being unable to secure a name from the introducer or originator, have not been given the certificate in accord-

Dahlias—Steps In Propagation

(Continued)

An application of liquid manure or water soluble fertilizer every ten days helps keep both plants, from cuttings and from seeds, in good condition.

Three insects, aphids, white fly and red spider, may cause trouble. To keep them in check, spray plants every ten days. White fly and aphids are easily controlled with nicotine or rotenone products. Aramite, a new material, gives excellent control as a spray against red spider.

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ance with our regulations covering the awarding of Trial Grounds certificates.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE: In the absence of Chairman Connors, Mr. Mulcahy reported on the meeting held in the rooms of the New York Horticultural Society, where Mr. Frey gave a detailed and instructive session on judging and scoring. Further such meetings will be held, to which all members are invited and urged to be present.

MEMBERSHIP: Mr. Metzger reported progress, and that the membership as of this date comprised a total of 1800—including all types and classification of membership.

SHOW COMMITTEE: Mr. Berzau reported that the dates of September 18th and 19th 1956 had been selected for the 1956 Annual Exhibition, to be held in co-operation with the New York Horticultural Society at the Hotel Essex House, New York City. Miss Grumbine, Chairman of the Garden Club Section, had no report at this time.

SEEDLING SWEEPSTAKES COMMITTEE: Dr. Cook reported that 29 ribbons were awarded to 19 dahlias at the various exhibitions in 1955, scoring 85 or better—dahlia *Otto's Thrill* (Ruschmohr) scored an average of 85.7 at 5 shows; dahlia *Groucho Marx* (Comstock) scored an average of 85.5 at 4 shows; and dahlia *Highbrow* (Johnson) scored an average of 85.4 at 3 shows.

JUDGES COMMITTEE: Mr. Frey expressed his appreciation to all who served so efficiently at the 1955 exhibition.

SHOW SCHEDULE COMMITTEE and the **PUBLICITY COMMITTEE:** No reports were submitted to the meeting.

Mr. Pollak, representing the American Dahlia Society on the Board of Directors of the American Horticultural Council, reported on the annual meeting of the Council in Washington, D.C. in October 1955. Mr. Pollak was pleased to report that in educational, classification, nomenclature, and trial garden operations, the American Dahlia Society more than held its place in the programs of the Council and had been complimented by the Council for its leadership in not only the lines mentioned above, but in many others. Mr. Pollak further reported on the activities of the National Capital Dahlia Society, and in particular its monthly DAHLIAGRAM by Dr. Parker. Dr. Parker was called upon, and expressed his appreciation, and that of the Washington Society, for Mr. Pollak's praise.

John Sherwood, President of the Baltimore Dahlia Society, announced plans for

the 2nd Mid-Atlantic Dahlia Conference Exhibition, to be held in Baltimore on September 15th and 16th, 1956 in conjunction with the 31st annual exhibition of the Baltimore Dahlia Society. Mr. Sherwood extended a cordial and enthusiastic invitation to all to attend and exhibit at this exhibition.

There being no further business to be presented at the Annual Meeting, it was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.—Edw. B. Lloyd, Secretary.

Dahlia History of a Western Grower

In Sept. 1926, J. E. Hulin, of Seattle, Wash., attended his first Dahlia Show. This show was held in a small building on the Campus Grounds of the University of Washington and blooms were shown with short stems and seldom any foliage. Some on boards like the early English exhibits. He was so impressed with the possibility of the Dahlia that he determined then to get a start with this most exciting flower. Among the early varieties were *Deiner's 36*, a white formal, and Mrs. Seal's *Amun Ra* which was the first Gold Medal dahlia in the U. S.

After growing a few hills of various kinds he started looking for a larger place to grow newer and better varieties. A nice location in Seattle was found and in 1931 his first catalogue was issued with the catch phrase of "DESIRABLE DAHLIAS" on all his literature. His first crop of seed produced two good varieties—*Spotlight* which was introduced in 1934 and *Wenoka* the following season. From his seeds have come a nice lot of good new varieties such as *Town Topic*, *Grand Slam*, *Magic Prince*, *Hulin's Melody*, *Blackball*, *Storm Cloud*, and several good miniatures. More recently a nice purple *Night Editor*, has won a number of prizes both at home and overseas.

In 1946 Mr. Hulin moved to Port Orchard, 45 miles from Seattle, where he has a lovely setting of five acres with nice picnic grounds and parking space for about 100 cars. He has exhibited at Dahlia Show and the Western Wash. Fair so many times that he now has six shoe boxes of ribbons. He is now Associate Editor of the Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference, an organization recently formed in the Pacific Northwest, comprising the Dahlia Societies of Portland, Ore., Tacoma, Everett and Bremerton, Wash. A twice a year Bulletin is issued called "The Pacific Dahlia."

Dahlia Assurance Regardless of Weather

By C. MERRILL BROWN, *Associate Editor*

The summer of 1955 will go into the dahlia records as one of extreme heat and, in some places, also extreme drought. As a result, really good dahlia gardens were few and far between until after the shows were over. Then, more favorable weather and a very late frost in most areas, made it possible for the plants to recover and do what was expected of them earlier. As a result, numerous gardens which had been so backward early in the season ended up in a blaze of glory. Some report the dahlias were the best they had had in several years. But too late for show purposes. (This was reflected in the fewness of the new seedlings to be seen at the shows this fall).

However, "the show must go on" and blooms must be available at the scheduled date if the show is to be a success. The slow growth of the dahlias earlier in the season failed to produce the usual number of blooms at show time for most shows. Yet we saw three plantings in particular that were producing in a normal manner with numerous blooms which could be used at show time. It is these three plantings that we want to tell you about in hopes that you will find something in what we say that will make it possible for you to have a more nearly normal planting this year in spite of possible abnormal weather conditions, such as excessive heat and/or a prolonged drought.

The first planting we want to comment on was that of a friend across the street who planted about 140 hills—all roots—consisting of my seedlings, former originations and the propagating stock from the greenhouse. (This we always have planted in order to assure ourselves a few roots of the new ones for the coming year). Ground was rototilled in mid-May after a general application of fertilizer—5-10-5; stakes driven approximately 36" x 36" apart in all cases, but where the propagating stock was set out, two of the same variety were planted to each stake. Holes were dug with a post-hole digger and roots planted 6-7" deep, covering with earth to the surface of the ground. Planting finished just before Decoration Day. All roots showed an active eye so all we had to do was wait for them to come up. Ground had plenty of moisture in it at planting time to get the roots off to a good start. As the plants grew the ground was kept well moistened and the plants thoroughly hosed off several times a week with water pumped from a creek nearby. The location had morning and late afternoon shade. Plants were not pinched out, but were cut back to three feet after the terminal bloom had flowered. Many plants reached a height of 6-8 feet before flower-

ing. No other fertilization was given and no spraying or dusting during the entire season. No signs of red spider at any time during the growing season. Plants were in bloom by mid-July and continued until late October when they were dug "green," i.e., not blackened by frost. Root crop good and to this date (December 30th) appears to be in excellent condition.

The second planting we wish to comment on was that of G. A. Hetherington in Cooksville, Ontario. Mr. Hetherington and his son are commercial cut flower growers, specializing in gladiolus and dahlias. We, of course, were interested in the dahlia end. We visited there the week of September 4th and found everything in full bloom. There are three patches of dahlias here; the one nearest the house getting the most attention as this is grown for his personal enjoyment and not for cut flowers. Possibly 150-200 plants in this plot which is completely surrounded by a tall arbor vitae hedge. A very attractive setting, open completely at the top yet some shade provided by the trees during the day.

The main planting for cut flowers is in a large apple orchard, fringed on two sides

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by arbor vitae. The rows were 5 feet apart and extended for possibly 300 feet or more. Plants were 30" apart in the rows and tied once to a stake prior to pinching out. When asked for particulars, Mr. Hetherington gave us the following information: 90% of the orchard planting was roots, but the garden where rooted plants were set out bloomed first. Manure was applied in the spring (fall would have been preferred but could not be done this time), and plowed under the same day. When the plants were 12-14" tall, they were hilled up 3" high and 12" away from the plants. No fertilizer, other than the manure, was applied before planting. July 15th a side dressing of 4-24-12 was applied approximately 14" away from each side of the row, possibly a handful to every 3-4 plants on each side (application made mechanically). The plants were topped along with the first pair of leaves when the crown buds appeared. During the hot, dry summer no water was applied (quicksand underlies the planting) but spraying was resorted to as needed. Normally, once a week with DDT and the next week with parathion. Later in the season lindane was used with very good results. Some weeks the plants were sprayed twice to keep down red spider. May we quote: "Red spider is the greatest pest the dahlia has and one of the most difficult to control. Spider gets in a lot of damage before the grower detects it. *Spraying is our most important job.*" No mulch was applied. The shade from the trees was a great help during July and early August but not so desirable later in the season. When the rains finally came the plants responded quickly to produce the beautiful results we saw when we were there for our annual visit.

The third planting we saw that produced flowers in abundance at show time belonged to George Brunjes in Elmira, N. Y. A special trip was made to Elmira in October to find out how it was done. Our host pulled out all the stops and told us all we wanted to know. Again, thinking it will be of interest to you we pass it along.

Fall preparation of the soil was carried out here. The land was plowed and left in the rough over the winter. In the spring a general application of superphosphate was applied and the plot plowed again. The field planting was approximately 700 plants set singly to stakes four feet apart and the rows the same distance apart. Root planting started the second week in May. No green plants were set out until Decoration Day—after which

the planting of these continued until some 250 or so had been planted. (He made a special trip to Long Island and picked up a truck load of green plants, hence the large number). By this time the roots had sprouted thru so watering was in order, using ordinary garden sprinkling equipment. At our suggestion a year ago a well had been driven and water was now available as needed. It was stated that the entire planting had been watered completely at least four times during the summer, but it took so long to go over the entire garden the pump on the well was working almost continuously. The soil is of a stony nature and drainage is good.

Plants were pinched back early in July at which time they were fertilized and mulched with wheat straw. The fertilizer had as a base 80 pounds of 10-10-10 to which was added all that was left over in the shed—bonemeal, potash and Vigoro. After a thorough mixing, approximately two handfuls was applied to each plant and cultivated in. Then the entire planting was mulched with 50 bales of straw and well watered. The mulch was from 4-6" deep. The plants were dusted just before dark every 4-5 days with Niatox-3—Phoskil 1.5 (3% DDT and 1.5% parathion put out by Niagara Sprayer of Middleport, N.Y.). No dusting was done after September 1st. The plants started to bloom by the 1st of July and continued into late October. From this planting Brunjes was able to cut enough quality bloom to win the major part of the awards at both the Elmira and Rochester shows, including the American Home Achievement awards. The raw wheat straw had taken hold of the soil by the time we were there and the green "manure" was 18-24" high. This was to be plowed under this fall, after the roots had been removed, to get off to a good start for 1956. All in all, a very outstanding planting for such a season as that just passed.

Now the question is: What conclusions can we draw from these planting reports which might be beneficial to us to combat heat and drought? To me, two and possibly three, conclusions are obvious. (1) *Keep the root system cool.* This was accomplished in garden one by deep planting (6-8") and by frequent watering. The husky plants furnished adequate shade for one another from late July on. In garden two, by hilling the plants and by water from the underlying strata (quicksand) as well as partial shade from the trees.

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A. D. S. Annual Dinner

January 21, 1956 — Hotel Park Sheraton, N. Y.

One hundred plus, dahlia enthusiasts and all of them members of the American Dahlia Society gathered Saturday evening, January 21, 1956 at Hotel Park Sheraton, New York, for the 41st annual dinner.

Guests from seven states and the District of Columbia enjoyed a good dinner and a fine talk by J. W. Johnston, Horticultural Editor of the N. Y. Herald-Tribune. Following his address, kodachrome slides of dahlia gardens from coast to coast and Europe and new and old dahlia varieties were shown by Henry Olsen and Lynn Dudley.

After the dinner, Leo Pollak gave the Invocation and acted as Master of Ceremonies. He introduced the guests at the speakers table and then lauded the incoming President Dr. Bruce Preas of Rockville Centre, N. Y. Then Dr. Preas in his inimitable style, told some quite amusing stories and assured the members that he would do his best, as president to help the A.D.S. be of greater service to dahlia people everywhere.

One sad note was voiced by Mr. Pollak. He said that the Society had planned to award its gold medal to Joseph J. Lane, its first secretary. But owing to the death, the day before, of Mr. Lane's son, he was unable to be present and receive the medal. As a charter member, its first secretary and editor of its first Bulletin, Joe Lane has served the A.D.S. and horticulture in general all his life. He is now an advertising representative of House and Garden. He was also awarded the Gold Medal of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in 1954. Along with the A.D.S. gold medal, it was awarded to Mr. Lane for his outstanding work done in the field of horticultural publications.

Leo Pollak then announced that Bulletin Editor Lynn B. Dudley would introduce the speaker of the evening. Dudley said in part: J. W. Johnston, for 25 years Horticultural Editor of the Herald-Tribune, was

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Dahlia Assurance

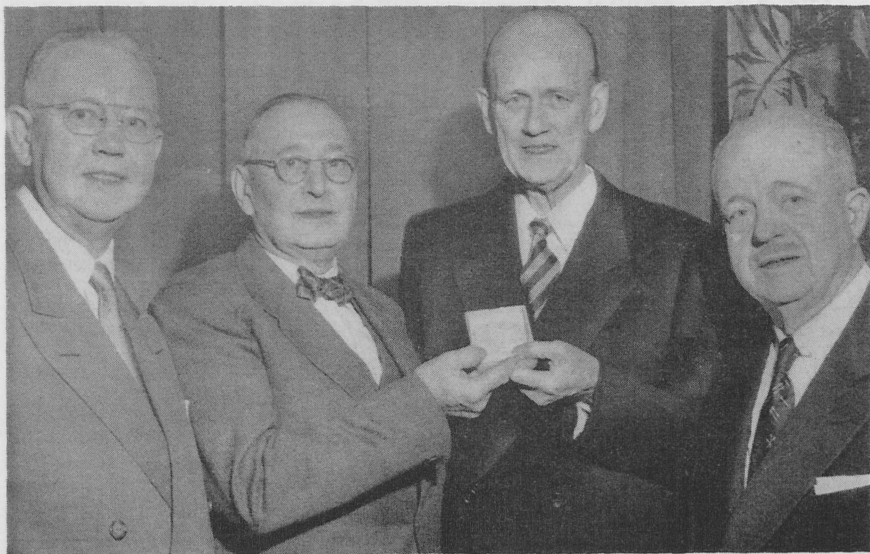
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in the orchard. In garden three, the heavy mulch of straw, with subsequent watering, served the purpose. (2) *Keeping the plants free from red spider.* In garden one, the daily syringe in the evening served to accomplish this. In the other two gardens, modern insecticides took over the task. You will note that in garden two it was *spraying* that was depended upon—with success—and in garden three it was *dusting*—also with full success. And may we call attention to the *frequency* of spraying and dusting. Not the usually recommended 10 day to two week intervals *but at 4-5 day periods.* Apparently the hotter and drier the closer the applications should be made. Again, *prevention* being better than *cure.* (3) Early root planting (garden 3) to get the plant off to a good start before the adverse

conditions set in might be another possible answer for combatting dry weather. This would call for fall preparation of the soil in many places to have it in proper shape for planting in early May. Good drainage is essential in all cases.

If we have mentioned something pertaining to dahlia growing practice that produces flowers by show time under abnormal conditions which you have not been in the habit of doing, try it "our way" for a change and see what the results are. We are confident that you will be well repaid for the extra care and time given the plants. Dahlias are not like Topsy—they don't "just grow." They need all the care and attention you can give them. And the more one gives, the more one receives. *Time* is a very important element in dahlia culture which too many overlook.

Now, go to it for the best results in a number of years.



(Photo courtesy N. Y. Herald Tribune)

A.D.S. PRESENTS GOLD MEDAL TO J. W. JOHNSTON

At the 41st Annual Dinner, Past President Lynn B. Dudley presents Society's Gold Medal to J. W. Johnston. From left to right, Andrew Mulcahy, retiring president, L. B. Dudley, J. W. Johnston, and Dr. Bruce Preas, newly elected president:

well and favorably known to all present. He is a Vice-President of the A.D.S.; had been a grower, exhibitor, judge and writer about dahlias for 30 years; he also wrote the *Dahlia Futurity*, a selection of new and worthy varieties in the *House Beautiful* magazine for seven years; had a dahlia test garden in Delaware on his farm for 6 years.

Also in the years 1929-30-31 he managed the Spring Flower Pageant and Show at the municipal auditorium in Atlantic City. He was for 3 years Assistant Publicity Director for the Old Madison Square Garden; also for 10 years he managed the "Yard and Garden Competition" first for the *N. Y. World* as its Horticultural Editor for 3 years and later for 7 years for the *N. Y. Herald-Tribune*.

Years ago, Dudley continued, the A.D.S. saw fit to honor J. W. Johnston for his many years of helping to advance the Dahlia as one of America's greatest garden and show flowers by awarding him its medal. But somewhere, somehow, that medal was lost. So the Society wished to again express its appreciation to Mr. Johnston for his many contributions to dahlia culture by awarding its gold medal. The medal was then presented by Mr. Johnston in the presence of Past President Andrew Mulcahy and newly elected President Dr. Bruce Preas.

J W. Johnston's Address

We (editorially speaking), started writing back in 1923 as *Poultry, Farm and Garden Editor* of the *Camden (N. J.) Courier*. Shortly after that we began to grow dahlias, and like many of you here tonight, we began to exhibit almost as soon as our first dahlia bloomed. It was in our second year, however, before we won our first blue ribbon. The winning variety was *Mrs. I. de Ver Warner*. And in the next 5 years, by some effort and

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The A.D.S. Annual Dinner

(Continued)

lots of luck, we annexed over 1,600 trophies and blue ribbons. Some of the varieties which helped us to win in those early days of exhibiting might be interesting, and probably familiar to some of you. Remember such old timers as *Tom Lundy*, *Geisha Girl*, and *Bashful Giant*? Some of them did not have good stems to hold the blooms facing you, as we require in shows now. The first one with a good stem, that we recall, was *Edna Spencer*. The first closed center miniature which we grew was *Little Jewell*. Most of the small varieties then were duplex type with open centers, which we do not consider have a real place on the show tables today, always excepting the old garden border favorite, *Bishop of Landaff*. My world, in those early showing days, was a parade of wonderful people, all of them good dahlia growers and showmen. This dahlia world was full of smart show competitors such as Ed O'Keefe, Dr. Preas, Geo. L. Stillman, Mrs. Frieda Fisher, Mrs. Mendham, Bill Waite, Owen Downs and many others.

In 1929, when our showing fervor was rampant, we sent a mail shipment of dahlias and other flowers to the California Show at Oakland, run by the San Leandor Society. Air Mail was in its infancy and Warren Maytrott helped us design a package where in dry ice was enclosed to keep blooms cool. The mailing cost was \$38.60. But we won the Senator Capper Trophy, which we still have, and 3 other "first" awards, with only 4 entries.

We started out in life as a machinist and was an iron worker in World War I, so to come this far along the garden path has been not only interesting but most rewarding. The dahlia undoubtedly influenced our life greatly, and also our son's. We started J. W. Johnston, Jr. with a dahlia garden early. Right in the beginning he grew exhibition varieties and showed them, too. There is no question in our mind but that this fact influenced his decision, when he started in college, to major in agricultural and horticultural subjects. He graduated in these courses at the University of Delaware. Since then he has done very well, and is now Acting Director of Point Four Operation for the United States and Cuba, with headquarters in Cuba. He has 27 American, and 76 Cuban technicians on his staff. He is rated as one of the top men in agricultural research today. He has served in Brazil, Porto Rico, Guatemala and now Cuba. And he

started it all with a small dahlia garden, as a boy.

From our experience, others can, we hope, be encouraged to show young people how even careers can be born in a dahlia patch.

We are glad that ours has been a world view of dahlias. Not only have we seen the best of them in shows in America but we have seen them growing in their natural habitat in Guatemala. This was in 1949. And we had the unique experience of seeing them there growing wild by the side of the road and then, upon entering the town of Quetzaltinango (pronounced, Kate-sal-pen-ango, and meaning "The Place of the Birds"). We saw them blooming in profusion in many gardens, as cultivated flowers.

On visits to Europe, we visited dahlia gardens, both amateur and commercial, in France, Belgium, Holland and England. In this country we have visited many dahlia gardens in many states from coast to coast. In Cuba we have noted dahlias being grown in large quantities for the roadside and city flower markets. This is during our U. S. Winter. They grow all types and colors, mostly small and medium size. Whites predominate there.

The Atlantic City Flower and Garden Pageant, which Lynn Dudley mentioned, was a great experience. For three years, 1929-30-31 we did our best to make this show a credit to gardening both on the estate level and for the back yard gardeners. Some of the lessons learned there were sad, from a financial angle, but on the whole, we are glad that we were fortunate enough to have planned and executed these Floral Pageants.

And the Yard and Garden Competition, run for 10 years, beginning when we were with the old N. Y. World and for the last seven years with the Herald-Tribune, was also a most interesting task. We had an annual budget of \$15,000 all spent for the advancement of gardening for every type of home and for every kind of plant material. The competition here, was classified between similar plantings and our judges were among the most prominent garden experts in the east.

Speaking of judges, we wonder if you dahlia folks know how much you are indebted to your show and garden judges. No one could market a new dahlia without the help of and the wise decisions of the judges. They are, most of them, competent to put blooms in the shows to compete with yours. Perhaps some of

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them do so, on a limited scale, stepping out of the judging team, when they come to their entries. But generally speaking, the judges are altruistic and generous people who know their dahlias through long experience, and elect to help the dahlia world and you exhibitors to realize your ambitions to grow better dahlias and win more awards. Give your judges more consideration, please.

We acknowledge a debt of gratitude to many old friends we have met along the Dahlia Garden Patch. To mention a few. Derrill Hart for his long unselfish service to dahlia people and for originating the Dahlia Honor Roll; Herman Rindfleisch for originating and naming his wonderful dahlia *Betty Blossom* after my loving wife Betty, sitting here at this table with me; Charles Diffenderfer of Baltimore who sells real estate but talks dahlias; George (Doc) Fraser of Willimantic for helping to start and to manage the first successful A.D.S. Trial Garden at Storrs, Conn.; Ed. Lloyd, the silent but wise Secretary of the A.D.S.; Dewey Mohr, who first showed his dahlias at Madison Square Garden; Dr. Preas, who showed the largest *Carl Dahl* ever at this very hotel, where we helped to judge the entries at that A.D.S. show; Conrad Frey, the perpetual judge and show judge chairman; Mrs. Charles H. Stout, who, until her death was author about and showman and grower of dahlias; Stanley Johnson, an outstanding breeder of dahlias; Lynn Dudley, who so ably edits your Bulletin; and many, many others.

In spite of all the time and effort which these enthusiastic dahlia people, and all you other dahlia fans, put into dahlias, what does the future hold? Let's face it, just where is the dahlia business headed? It is mainly a hobby flower, and not too strong as a commercial asset. It is competitive with many other "favorite flowers." Roses, Delphiniums, Tulips, African Violets and Rock Garden Plants all have their own groups, many of which are larger and more commercially aggressive than the dahlia societies and dahlia business firms.

But dahlia societies and the A.D.S. in particular have done many worthwhile things to make the dahlia more important to more people—such things as 40 years of dahlia trials—judging manuals—Classification and nomenclature standards and many others. And we can tell you that the dahlia will go just as far as you will let it go. Won't each of you, in the coming year, try to give more of your time and effort to get more young people inter-

ested in growing and showing dahlias? If you do, you will realize a greater satisfaction than you have ever known before. And from our experience, you will be happier and make many more worth while friends.

Those are some of the extra awards which dahlias can bring you.

Colored Slides of Dahlias

In the November Bulletin, it was suggested that guests at this annual A.D.S. dinner bring or send their 10 best dahlia color transparencies for showing. An award of a division of a new dahlia was offered for the most artistic Kodachrome picture, among those shown. Neither Henry Olsen nor Lynn Dudley, who showed the pictures, were eligible for the award.

Many excellent series of pictures were brought or sent to be exhibited. An excellent and interesting group taken on their recent visit to Germany by Mr. and Mrs. Martin Guttler of Long Island were shown. Other sets of slides came from Jerry Schulte, Springfield, Ohio.; Roy Webb, Scranton, Pa.; John Sherwood, Baltimore, Md.; George Scheffler, Hemstead, L. I.; Charles Liskovic, Elmira, N. Y., and Paul Hale, Brighton, Ill.

Another group, including floats in the 1955 Tournament of Roses in Pasadena, Calif. were sent by Noel Scott of Glendale. Many old timers as well as the new A.D.S. Trial Ground Certificate Winners and Honor Roll dahlias were shown. We sincerely thank all those who sent or brought their Kodachromes for this competition.

But the winner of the award for most artistic picture was Edward Keck, of Ferndale, Pa. The subject was his little red haired granddaughter, Susan Beth Stephens, two years old, holding a large bloom of *Collectors Item*, which, being a Flame Blend, also could be called "a red head." So the title could have been "Two Red Heads from Pa."

This concluded a memorable 41st A.D.S. Dahlia Dinner and as it wound up about 10:30 p.m., quite the earliest in our memory, time was afforded the guests to "chew over the shows" and happenings of 1955. Everyone voted it the best, if not one of the best meetings ever. Comments overheard at one table were: Johnston was best Dahlia Dinner speaker heard in a long time. "Most informative talk I've ever heard." "We should have more dinner speakers of his type." We wish "J. W." could have heard all of the favorable comments which his talk generated. Thanks, again, Jack.

The Flower Grower Dahlia Honor Roll

The Four Testers List 46 Varieties as Selections for 1955



Johnnie Casey, a four-star Honor Roll winner, is a miniature dahlia with red and white flowers measuring $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches across. Introducer — Lakeside Dahlia Gardens.



Needles is a purple and white collarette. A four-star Honor Roll dahlia, it is the first variegated of this type in these colors. Introducer—Dahliadel Nurseries.

Above illustrations and permission to reprint list courtesy Flower Grower

Some fourteen years back, Gordon Waaser, then editor of the Bulletin, obtained permission to re-print the Honor Roll and borrow the cuts which illustrated it from the editors of the Flower Grower. This practice was applauded by members of the A.D.S. and has been continued.

But, due to the increase of editorial material received and conceived by Bulletin editors and contributors, space in this issue does not permit the complete reprint of the 1955 Honor Roll. We are glad to refer our members to the January issue of the Flower Grower for the full description of the 46 varieties listed by the 4 Honor Roll writers.

These writers were pictured at the start of each of the reports and each of them described the conditions under which the tests were made. Weather con-

ditions varied but all except the Pacific Coast report said that the season was the most unusual and backward encountered for many years.

We list the 46 varieties which were selected as being worthy of introduction to the public, and indicate the 4 writers who listed them. In this connection the Flower Grower observed "the fact that one dahlia may only have one or two stars is no indication that it is inferior to a four star winner. In some instances dahlias are not sent to all four testers for trial. Also growing conditions in some areas may have been so bad as to prevent even the best from growing well."

The four testers are: J. Louis Roberts, Chicago; Conrad E. Foust, Atlanta; Richard T. Eddy, Encinitis, Calif., and Lynn B. Dudley, New Rochelle, N. Y.

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This Is The 1956 Honor Roll Selection

	S	MW	W	E
ARUBANITA	★	★		★
AUTUMN QUEEN	★			★
BANDANA		★		
BIG TOP			★	
BINGO			★	
BORAM SUNRISE			★	
BORAM'S PRIDE				★
BUTTERSCOTCH				★
CARLETTA ROSA			★	★
DAILY'S FAVORITE				★
DAILY'S GOLD			★	★
DUET	★			
ELLA BOLSTER			★	★
FAIRY QUEEN	★			
GEELONG				★
GOLDEN HEART			★	
GOLDEN SHEEN				★
GROUCHO MARX	★	★	★	★
HENRY O.				★
HIGHBROW			★	★
HONEY BEAR				★
IVA REE	★			
IVORY LASS				★
JOHNNIE CASEY	★	★	★	★
JOHNNIE K.		★	★	★
LARRY HESLIN				★
LAS LAURELES				★
LAVENDER LADY			★	★
LINDA MARSCHNER			★	★
LITTLE PATTY	★		★	★
MAMIE				★
MISS JANICE V.			★	
MOM'S PRIDE				★
NASHUA				★
NEEDLES	★	★	★	★
OHIO MAID			★	★
OLD LACE				★
OTTO'S THRILL			★	★
PEACH BLEND	★			
PEM	★			
PRIVATE SECRETARY				★
ROYAL JESTER			★	
SPECTACULAR			★	
STARFIRE			★	
VAGABOND	★		★	
WINSOM				★

The January 22, Sunday issue of the N. Y. Herald Tribune carried a three column picture and story about the presentation, at the Annual A.D.S. dinner, of the A.D.S. Gold Medal to J. W. Johnston, Horticultural Editor of the Herald-Tribune. The editor was privileged to present the medal to Mr. Johnston, with Andrew Mulcahy, past president and Dr. Bruce Preas, incoming president standing by.

A.D.S. Executive Meetings

President Preas announces that all members of the A.D.S. are invited to attend the executive meetings in 1956. The meetings are scheduled to be held at the Park Sheraton Hotel, 56th St. at 7th Ave., on the following dates: Mar. 23, Apr. 27, June 8, July 20, Aug. 24, Oct. 19, Nov. 16 and Dec. 14. Any change in these dates will be noted in these columns.

Trial Grounds -- 1956

By Edward B. Lloyd

January and February weather remind one very distinctly of planting dahlias — the climate is so different! However, it is not too early to commence planning on which varieties you consider worth sending to the Trial Grounds of your Society. When making the decision this year we again ask your cooperation in particular on the two following items. First, we urge that early and carefully packed shipments be made to arrive as near May 15th as possible, and in no case later than June 1st. Second, please be sure to have a name ready to give your certificate winner, or, better yet, supply the name of the variety when making the entry. It is our rule not to give out a certificate to a variety unless it is named, as few of us and the dahlia fans in general are interested in learning that dahlia XYZ-23 scored at the Trial Garden. We wish to know and to recognize it by name, when following its development on the exhibition tables etc. Your Trial Ground Committee and the Editor of your BULLETIN considers it most important that the names be supplied before the Trial Ground Reports are published in the November BULLETIN, and the February Flower Grower. There follows the address list of the Trial Gardens in operation in 1956.

EASTERN TRIAL GARDEN

Prof. C. Rissmeyer, Long Island Agricultural & Technical Institute, Farmingdale, L. I., New York.

MID-WEST TRIAL GARDEN

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. Dr. C. E. Wildon, 823 Huntington Drive, East Lansing, Michigan.

SOUTHERN TRIAL GARDEN

Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. E. E. Montgomery, 1017 South McDonough Street, Decatur, Georgia.

PACIFIC COAST TRIAL GARDEN

Lakeside Park, Oakland, California. Mr. R. E. Harter, 2769 Danville Highway, Walnut Creek, California.

OHIO VALLEY TRIAL GARDEN

Ault Park, Cincinnati, Ohio. Miss Alice Mattick, Secretary, 4223 Dane Avenue, Cincinnati 23, Ohio.

Entry fee for 1956, \$3.00 per variety at each garden entered. Payable at time of entry. — Edward B. Lloyd, Chairman, Trial Garden Committee.

Your Seedling Dahlia For Trial?

Have you ever entered a seedling in a test or trial garden? If you have, I know of your excitement if it scored among the top in the garden.

Since, in the past few years, we on the East coast experienced hot weather during the months of June and July, our late plantings failed to make maximum growth in the early part of the summer and for this reason, we like to plant out test dahlias, May 15th to June 1st.

Every entry of three plants or roots should be accompanied by an official entry blank provided by the American Dahlia Society and shipped direct to the Long Island Agricultural and Technical Institute, Farmingdale, L. I., N. Y., attention C. Rissmeyer.

Wishing you every success this coming season. Sincerely yours, C. Rissmeyer, Supt. A.D.S. Trial Grounds, Farmingdale, L. I., N. Y.

Correction

The name of the variety entered for trial at the A.D.S. Pacific Coast Trial Garden by Fa. D. Bruidegom, Baarn, Holland, and which won an A.D.S. Certificate in 1955, was incorrectly named in the report of this garden in the November BULLETIN.

The name was incorrectly given as *Cocktail*, but the correct name of this dahlia is *Moonliner*. Description is B, 8 x 4 inches. Dresden Yellow, Score 85.

(Editor's Note: This brings home once more the necessity where practical, of sending the name of the variety as well as its code number, when entering the dahlia for trial. The name will not be given to the public in trial ground reports, if it does not score the required 85 points or more to win a certificate. But if it does win, the public should know its name. At present, it often takes several letters by Superintendents, Trial Ground Committee, and even, sometimes by the BULLETIN editor to obtain this essential information.

Treasurer Henry Olsen, who issues the A.D.S. Certificates to winners, also tells us that some certificates are not issued due to no address, or faulty addresses, of those who enter the varieties. A lot of time and effort is wasted when this occurs. And, more important, the originator receives no award.)

A.D.S. Trial Garden Fees Reduced for 1956

For One Year Only, Fee is Reduced from \$5.00 to \$3.00

Flower Grower Honor Roll Entry Fee also \$3.00 in 1956

The Executive Committee of the A.D.S. in agreement with Trial Garden Superintendents and the Supervisory Local Societies have agreed to reduce the fee for testing each seedling variety at the 5 A.D.S. Trial Grounds from \$5.00 to \$3.00 for the year 1956 only.

This is done also with the understanding with the publishers of the Flower Grower and its four Dahlia Honor Roll writers that a fee of \$3.00 will be charged for testing of each seedling in each Honor Roll Garden.

As a further advantage to originators, in this arrangement the Honor Roll will be published as is customary in the January issue of the Flower Grower, and the list and description of the varieties which have scored 85 points, or over, and won

A.D.S. Certificates in the A.D.S. Official Trial Gardens will be published in the February issue of that publication.

This will make cultural fees for both types of testing of new seedlings equal, and it will also give the winning dahlias in both categories equal publicity. The large readership of the Flower Grower, (over half a million) should be of great value to both originators and introducers in marketing the new dahlias which have been judged worthy of being introduced to the public.

The reasons for this new arrangement for 1956 should be apparent to all. For about 40 years the American Dahlia Society has sponsored from one to six Official Trial Grounds located in different sections of the U. S. For a long time these

(Continued on following page)

NEW DAHLIAS

CREAM OF THE NEW CROP

	Root	Plant		Root	Plant
HIGHBROW (Pennypack) F.D.—Pink, 10". Good.	\$15.00	\$5.00	JUANITA (South Africa) St.C.—Dark red. One of the best mediums, 8".	\$ 4.00	\$2.00
NED SEYMOUR (Pennypack) I.D.—Red orange, 14". Sensa- tional.	15.00	5.00	MAD. E. NAGELS (Belgium) S.C.—Pink, lacinated petals, 7". Beautiful	2.50	1.00
CHRISTINE (Australia) F.D.—Light yellow, 7". Blue ribbon variety.	3.00	1.50	MARY CASE (England) S.C.—Dark red. Gold Medal winner, 8".		2.00
CROYDON ECLIPSE (Australia) I.D.—Yellow, 12". A winner. .	5.00	2.50	PIRATE GOLD (Australia) I.C.—Deep gold. Exhibition type, 12".		3.50
CROYDON SUPREME (Australia) F.D.—Dark red, 10". Extra good.		5.00	ROSE BARNWELL (Australia) I.D.—Yellow with bronze, 12". Good.	3.00	1.50
GERARD ANTHONY (England) I.D.—Cream yellow, 12". Their best.		3.50	SHIRLEY WRIGHT (Australia) I.D.—Red, 11" size. Meritorious.	4.00	2.00

DAHLIA SEED—Large Exhibition type, Decorative or Cactus type

50 seeds \$2.25 100 seeds \$4.00

All Prices Above — Net

Stanely Johnson-PENNYPACK GARDENS
CHELTENHAM, PENNSYLVANIA

Trial Garden Fees Reduced

(Continued)

were the only means of evaluating new seedling dahlias. The cultural fees at the beginning were \$3.00 per variety. The fee was increased about fifteen years ago. Neither the \$3.00 fee nor the \$5.00 fee ever paid all of the cost of planting, cultivating, fertilizing, spraying, staking, watering and other cultural operations. No portion of the fee was ever allotted for judging.

In this 40 years of A.D.S. Trials, thousands of dahlias have received the A.D.S. Certificate of Merit, when those varieties received an average score, over the entire growing season, of 85 points or over on the A.D.S. Official Score Card. At each garden a local society, usually a Branch Society of the A.D.S., has supervised the gardens and arranged for judging teams. These teams have often traveled hundreds of miles in their own cars, and paid for their hotel rooms and meals when the judging made it necessary.

The number of varieties sent to the A.D.S. Trial Gardens have been growing less each year for a number of years. Some of the Superintendents at the Trial Gardens have noted with much concern the reduction of varieties being sent for

testing. They also regretted that, with fewer dahlias on test, the number and apparent interest of visitors was also lessening.

Professor Chris Rissmeyer, in charge of the Trial Gardens at the Agricultural and Technical Institute at Farmingdale, L. I., had given this situation much thought. He discussed it with the group of the Long Island Dahlia Society supervising the operations.

The result was a meeting last August with then President Mulcahy of the A.D.S., the Trial Garden Committee, Edward B. Lloyd, chairman, your editor and other A.D.S. members. Prof. Rissmeyer frankly stated that at Farmingdale, at least, they were much more concerned with having a large representative planting of dahlia seedlings from all parts of the United States than they were about the income from the fees. This garden, he stated, was used as a training place for future gardeners and that students learned from practical operation of the garden.

The entire matter was discussed at length. Professor Rissmeyer said that he believed there were several reasons for the falling off of entries, but perhaps the greatest, in his opinion, was the fact that

TWO WINNERS for 1956

OTTO'S THRILL

(Photograph Below)

(Aumuller)

F.D. Camelia Rose Pink, with delicate tips and edges of Canary Yellow, size 12 by 5½ inches; stems 8-10 inches, hold blooms on side; bush 5½ ft. Good substance. Won American Home Achievement

Medals in Irvington, Elmira and Rochester. Also on Eastern and Southern Honor Rolls and won A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes Gold Medal as highest scoring 1955 variety in four shows.

Roots \$15.00 Net, Plants \$5.00 Net

GOLDEN SHEEN

(Lasch)

S.C. Autumn, a combination of Indian Yellow and Scarlet. Reverse lined red. Broad petals revolute to points and with bronze sheen. Very large, 13 by 7 inches.

Plants \$5.00 Net

Rooted Cuttings \$3.50 Net

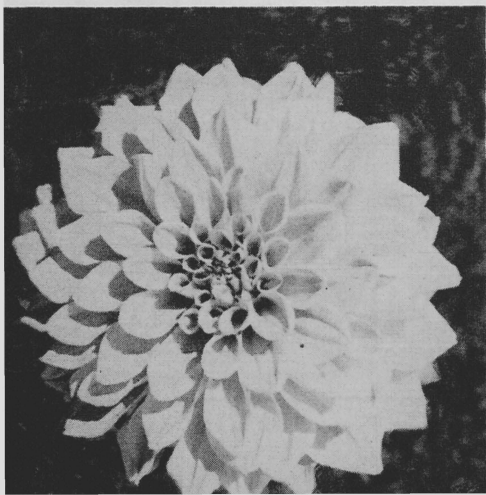
CALIFORNIA'S FINEST DAHLIA SEED

20 for \$ 1.00	125 for \$ 5.00
60 for \$ 2.50	1000 for \$35.00

Write for Catalogue

Ruschmohr Dahlia Gardens

38 Vincent Street
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N. Y.



the Trial Gardens asked for \$5.00 as entry fee, whereas the Honor Roll Writers tested them without cost to the originators and their selections were publicized to a greater audience in the Flower Grower. He said if this could be equalized somehow, a great part of the problem of reduced entries at the Trial Gardens might be solved.

Following this meeting, the Executive Committee and the Trial Garden Committee considered the matter and several plans were suggested. It was decided to place the matter before John R. Whiting, editor and publisher of the Flower Grower.

At a meeting later Andrew Mulcahy and Lynn Dudley discussed the problem with Mr. Whiting and several proposals were considered. The latter said the Flower Grower believed the best plan would be to equalize the entry fee for both Trial Gardens and Honor Rolls. This was suggested to be \$3.00 for both, for 1956.

The A.D.S. Trial Ground Committee took the matter up with the Superintendents of all five Trial Gardens. They agreed to try the plan. Therefore, for one year, 1956, as stated at the beginning of this article, originators will be asked to pay a fee of \$3.00 for each variety to be tested at each of the A.D.S. Trial Gardens. Originators will also be asked to pay a fee of \$3.00 to each Honor Roll Tester for each variety sent them. Fees in both instances are payable at time of entry.

And, as stated before, the varieties selected by the Honor Roll writers will be listed and described in the January, 1957 issue of the Flower Grower. And the varieties receiving a score of 85 points or over will be listed and described by the Superintendents or the designated person of the local dahlia society in the February issue. Each will be given necessary editorial space by the Flower Grower.

The American Dahlia Society believes that such an arrangement will be beneficial to all originators and introducers. As the then A.D.S. President Mulcahy said after this plan was agreed upon, "We are grateful to John R. Whiting, publisher of the Flower Grower for his help in this matter. We thank all of the Trial Garden Superintendents for their approval of this year's program for the Trial Grounds operation. We also appreciate the cooperation of the Branch Societies on which the success of this plan will also depend."

"We do not want to put any undue burden on anyone in this matter," said Edward B. Lloyd, A.D.S. Chairman of Trial Grounds, "but we should give this plan a trial and see if the added number

of varieties sent to the Trial Gardens as a result of this plan will justify its continuance after 1956. Our Trial Gardens can handle 100 or more varieties per year, and have proven it over many years. And certainly 100 seedling dahlias will make a much better showing and benefit more people than 25, which is the number sent to some of the gardens in 1955."

It is hoped that originators will send only their best and "most likely to succeed" varieties to the Trial Gardens and the Honor Roll Testers. Everyone should remember that both programs are operated at a loss and that many people give a lot of time and effort to see that the best dahlias receive their just acclaim. The originators, introducers and the public are the principal gainers from both methods of evaluation of dahlias.

Write to Gordon Waaser, at Marlow New Hampshire. Gordon has been ill and is now residing in this small northern New England town. Guess the snow doesn't melt there till April. And television reception may not be so good. As editor of this Bulletin for 17 years, and President for two terms, Gordon did many things for the A.D.S., unselfishly. So why not write and cheer him up, during his convalescence? Do it today.

INTRODUCING CARLETTA ROSA

A very beautiful Str. Cactus (B) flower running about 7 to 8 inches, color lavender shading to a light center, stems strong and wiry holding the bloom at 45% angle. Winner of the A.D.S. seedling award at Cleveland and Washington, D. C. shows, also won American Home award at Washington. **Roots only \$10.00 Net.** An Honor Roll dahlia. We are the originators of Marvelous, Blendette, Purplex, Rosa-Bi and other (B) dahlias. Try some of our own seed.

List Ready—Write Today

ROSEMARY

DAHLIA GARDENS

Box 429

Martins Ferry, Ohio

Results of Seedling Sweepstakes Competition of the American Dahlia Society — 1955

Extreme drouth and heat above normal and floods in some sections undoubtedly kept the number of entries in this competition in the 1955 Shows to a minimum. Reports were received from about one-half of the Societies which elected originally to participate in these awards.

Only one gold medal was awarded, and that one went to *Otto's Thrill*, an origination of the late Otto Aumuller of Valley Stream, L. I. It was entered in five shows by Ruschmohr Dahlia Gardens of Rockville Centre, L. I., who will introduce it. Its average score was 85.5 in five shows and its average for the 3 best scores was 85.7. It is an A size F.D. pink. The A.D.S. Gold Medal will be presented to Mrs. Otto Aumuller.

The second highest score in the A size competition went to *Groucho Marx*, originated and entered by Comstock Dahlia Gardens, San Diego, Calif. Average score, 5 shows, 85.2. Average of 3 best scores, 85.5. Description: A-SC White.

Third high scorer in A's was *Highbrow*, originated and entered by Stanley Johnson, Cheltenham, Pa. It scored an average of 85.4 in three shows. Description A-FD

Light Blend. In the B and M Classifications, no variety scored an average of 85 points or over in at least three shows, which is the requirement for the award of the A.D.S. Gold Medal. The highest average scoring in each class size category wins an A.D.S. Gold Medal, if entered in three or more shows.

All the other varieties, as well as those listed above, received an A.D.S. Rosette Ribbon at the show and an A.D.S. Medal Certificate. That is, they are entitled to these awards. But in some cases, the judges and show management do not fill in names and addresses on the score sheets. Where this occurs, Henry Olsen, A.D.S. Treasurer is unable to send the certificate. If this happened to any of our readers in 1955, please notify Henry Olsen, 45 Clement St., Elmont, N. Y., and give details, certified to, please, by show management. You will then receive your certificate.

Total number of varieties, eligible for A.D.S. Certificates in 1955—19. Number of shows reporting awards made in 1955—16. Twenty-nine awards in all were made to 19 varieties.

—Dr. Ward Cook, Chairman.

Otto's Thrill Wins A.D.S. Gold Medal

This A-F.D. Pink won the A.D.S. Gold Medal, 1955, for the highest score, 85.5 average, in 5 shows. No other awards were made, as no variety in other size classes, qualified.

A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes in 1956

This year the Chairman of this Committee will be Andrew J. Mulcahy and before May 1st each Branch and Affiliated Society will receive from "Drew" an invitation to participate in these important awards and later on copies of agreement, rules and suggestions for staging the competition will be forwarded to the participating societies.

When planning your Show Schedule be sure to include a class for the A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes. A standard wording of this entry is required. Ask for it. One of your members may be the winner of an A.D.S. Gold Medal.

If you desire any particulars write to the Chairman at 20 Marshall Ave., Floral Park, L. I., N. Y. and you can be certain of receiving a prompt reply and his cooperation.

Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Frey celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 10, last. Sorry to be late with this news. No one told us in time for Nov. issue. They are now in Florida getting some warm breezes and sunshine.



The Scores of the Winners

VARIETY	ORIGINATOR-INTRODUCER	SHOW	SCORE
Otto's Thrill A-F.D.—Pink	Aumuller-Ruschmohr	Rochester	86.0
	Dahlia Gardens	Long Island	85.3
	38 Vincent St.,	Elmira	85.5
	Rockville Centre,	New York	85.0
	New York	Irvington, N. J.	85.5
		Average Score	85.5
Graucho Marx A-S.C.—White	Comstock Dahlia	Milwaukee	85.5
	Gardens	San Diego	85.6
	5140—35th St.,	Santa Ana	86.0
	San Diego, Calif.	New York	85.0
		Washington	84.4
		Average Score	85.3
Highbrow A-F.D.—Lt. Bl.	Stanley Johnson	Montclair, N. J.	85.0
	Pennypack Gardens	Philadelphia	85.5
	Cheltenham, Pa.	Burholme	85.6
		Average Score	85.3
Ruth H. Quick A-S.C.—Lav.	Harry J. Quick 56 Windsor Mill Rd., Baltimore, Md.	Williamsburg	85.5
Harvey B. Atherton A-F.D.—Lav.	Comstock	San Diego	85.0
Pat A-I.D.—Pu.	Wilbur C. Anderson 6849 Home City Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio	Cincinnati	86.7
Mr. H. T. A-I.D.—Dk. R.	H. W. Anderson Reistertown, Md.	Reistertown	85.1
Larry Heslin A-I.D.—Var.	W. L. Tilton Forest D. Gardens 42 Forest Ave., Glen Cove, N. Y.	Long Island	85.0
Perry Como A-F.D.—Lt. Bl.	Ben Lizza Forest D. Gardens	Long Island	86.5
Carlotta Rosa B-St.C.—Lav.	E. M. Delbrugge Rosemary Dahlia Gardens Martins Ferry, O.	Cleveland Washington	86.4 85.0
Susan Beth B-I.C.—Lt. Bl.	Keck-Stephens Gardens Ferndale, Pa.	Burholme	86.4
Iva Ree B-F.D.—White	J. O. Nicholson 404 N. 8th St., Coshocton, Ohio	Montclair	85.7
Private Secretary B-S.C.—Pur.	W. L. Tilton	Long Island	87.0
Orange Baby M-F.D.—Or.	H. H. Robens Rt. 1, Chagrin Falls, O.	Cleveland	86.2

In addition to the above, five others scored 85 points or over and would be listed here except that no names were furnished by the originators. Two of these were exhibited at Irvington by Stanley Johnson, one at Rochester by Philip M. Kimmel, one by Douglas Slocum at New York and one by Daniel W. Kavanagh at Long Island.

One of the rules of this A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes is that a winning variety

must be named so that the public, if interested, can look for this variety in advertisements and in catalogues.

Another rule is that a variety, to win an award, must be introduced to the public within two years of it winning. It is possible, then, for the originators of these five varieties to enter them in other shows next year, which make these awards, name them and be listed in the 1956 A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes report.

A. D. S. Committees for 1956

Subject to revision and correction.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Edw. B. Lloyd
Lynn Dudley
Drew Mulcahy
Leo Pollak
Dewey Mohr
George Fraser
Henry Olsen
Chas. Diffenderffer
Warren Maytrott
Gordon Waaser

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Emil Berzau, Chairman
Neal Monteleone
George Brundges

SHOW REPORT AND SCHEDULE:

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Henry Olsen
Court Duerk
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CLASSIFICATION:

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Dr. Edw. McDade
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Yaeger, Frey, Brundges, and
Monteleone.

JUDGES:

Conrad Frey

JUDGE'S CLERKS:

Charles Stoeckel

FLOWER ARRANGEMENT:

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 Lynn B. Dudley

—BRUCE B. PREAS, President.

Classification Reports on The Winners in the 1955 Shows

This phase of classification is adapted to the general trends toward deletion and becomes paramount in the preparation of the current list of the year. Reports from Branch and affiliated societies of winning varieties and lists of Blue and Red ribbon winners are sent to the National Chairman of Classification. Blues receive 3 points, Reds-2, and Honorable Mention, one point. This year, reports were received from over thirty shows. An experience rating on each variety is thus obtained over a period of years. The age of a variety matters not at all, if it is still winning. It is only after a variety reaches a zero level that it may be considered for deletion. You may note in this report below that many oldtimers like *Jersey Beauty*, *Michigan White*, *Victory* and *D'Arcy Sainsbury* are at the top in their respective size and color groups. In other spots newcomers have zoomed to the top. There are ties and close seconds. There has been heavy scoring in blends, pinks, and autumns, so that we offer the winners with some degree of temerity.

Only official standards, such as official sizes and color groups, have been followed in the preparation of this list. This is in conformity to the collaboration which exists between The American Dahlia Society and Central States Dahlia Society. All other unofficial size groups, such as, AA, BB, MM, have been disregarded. It is significant to state that The Joint Committee met during the recent Midwest Conference at Milwaukee and discussed botanical formations, size and color groups. In brief, we may report that no botanical specimens were offered for study, nor, were there any references to size or color group sub-divisions.

We are most grateful to personnel on classification throughout the nation. It is not too much to hope for a Classification Committee in each society with its chairman registered with the National Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD F. McDADE
 Chairman, Classification Committee,
 Secretary, Joint Committee

(Continued on following page)

Classification Reports on the Winners in 1955 Shows

(Continued)

While a composite score of each variety at this year's show, classified or unclassified, is on file, we offer the following report on top winners.

A SIZE, OVER 8 INCHES

Color	Formal FD	Informal ID	Semi-Cactus SC	Cactus C
W	D'Arcy Sainsbury	Great Lakes	Graf Folk Bernadotte	Silver Wedding
Y	Prairie Sun	Quinn's Tidal Wave	Pride of Parkersburg	Searchlight
Or	Charlotte Collins	Orange Majesty	Prairie Fire	Patricia Spollen
Au	Kirsten Flagsted	Croydon Masterpiece	Gen. John J. Pershing	Brown Bomber
Pk	Victory	Kelvin	Surprise	Pride of Holland
L	Lavender Perfection	Nearest Blue	Marilyn Dale	Nellie Retzer
Fl	Arthur Godfrey	Col. Little	Collectors Item	Leander
R	Pop Harris	Ned Seymour	The Cardinal *Mary Elizabeth	Edna D
Dk R	Ceramic Beauty	Mrs. Hester Pape	Storm Cloud	Detroit 250
Pr	King David	The Volunteer	Hollywood Star	Clariam Royalty
Lt Bl	Five Star General	Eva Stamford	Empire State	Bertha Shone
Dk Bl	Budovatel	Autumn Blaze	*Delicatessen	William Evans *Smoky
Bi	Tiara	Kentucky Sportsman	Jane Lausche	Aristos
Var	Bruce Frost	Dixie Winedot	Figaro	Hypnose

*Mary Elizabeth, changed to A Sc. R.

*Smoky, changed to B size—B IC Dk. Bl.

*Delicatessen, not officially classified.

B SIZE, 4 to 8 INCHES

Color	Formal	Informal	Semi-Cactus	Cactus
W	Alabaster	Windlassie	Mich. White	Flo. Chadwick
Y	Maureen Connolly	Yell. Elegance	Punctuel	Bunny
Or	Amb. Van Kleffins	Orange Special	Rockley Orange	Konigen Juliana
Au	Golden Treasure	Gold Digger	After Glow	Copperhead
Pk	Flamingo	Caroline Kernochan	Laetare	Carnival
Pk	Jersey Beauty	Victory Eclipse	Miss Rose Fletcher	Grace
Lav	Spaulding's Lav. Beauty	Cherie	Nick's Orchid	Friendship
R	Barbarossa	Vic *Trinket	Stoplight	Nancy Ann Mitchell
Dk R	Abe Lincoln	Maharajah	Prince Noire	Juanita
Pr	Purplex	Eventite	Colbert	Orfeo
Lt Bl	Betty Blossom	Little Eddie	Broeder Justinus	Ammonier Chandelon

(Continued on opposite page)

Dk Bl	Ballego's Glory	Frivocol		Judy G Smokey
Bi	Rosa Bi	Inspector Van Der Plaasache	Starbright	Victory Maid
Var	Gypsy Girl	Goudbrocaat	*Moya Marce	Captivator

*Not in official list.

MINIATURES

Color	Formal M-FD	Informal Mid	Semi-Cactus M SC	Cactus M C
W	White Fawn	White Gardenia	Geneva Crystal White	Millie
Y	Little Lemon Drop		Sunrise	Arabesque
Or	Peggy Lindley	Cinnamon Gem	Andries' Orange	
Au	Bo Bo	Bronze Elsie	Sabine	Dianne
Pk	Baby Fonteneau	Raleigh	Little Diamond	Chasamay
L	Nellie Shee	Ming	Estelle	Destin
Fl	Decoy	Jubilant	Nar	Gay Lover
R	Mickey	Passepartout	Double Victory	Red Charm
Dk R	Ike	Dove	Dubonnet	
Pr	Little Jerry		Lombaert's Violet	Arrangement
Lt Bl	Fairy	Rapture	Chips	Hazel Harper
Dk Bl				
Bi	Funny Face	Dickey	Little Sheik	
Var	Catherine			

SMALL TYPES

Color	Ball Ba	Poms	Coll	Single S
W	Pat an Dee	Mrs. J. Telfer	Cherabino	Little America
Y	Butterball	Little Jackie	Claire de Lune	Candle Light
Or	Orange Glow	Clarissa	Orangeade	Bachelor Girl
Au	Charlotte Caldwell	Honey		Tango
Pk	Alice J	Betty Anne	Pink Spangle	Bonnie Esperance
L	Supt. Amrhyn	Margaret Williams	Mariposa Music	Lavender Gem
Fl	Red Gold Medal Rondkop	Little Edith	Mitzi	Kokette
R	Lu Lu Elizabeth H	Effect	Tribune	Scarlet Century Temptation
Dk R	Storm Cloud	Ebony	Erica	Garnett Poinsettia *Atlanta
Pr	Mrs. C. D. Anderson	Miss Marjorie	La Cierva	
Lt Bl	Rosy Dawn	Morning Mist	Dad's Favorite	Mia Karsten
Dk Bl	Yo Yo	*Ginette		
Bi	Clara Clemens	Betty Malone Eileen	Coincident	Marshall's Gloria
Var	Wolverine Gem	*Ann Van Scheawn *Nelly	*Needles	

*Not in official list.

Philip Alampi Becomes N. J. Secy. of Agriculture

The State Board of Agriculture, New Jersey, has appointed Philip Alampi, of West Englewood, N. J. as New Jersey Secretary of Agriculture to take effect July 1, 1956. He will be a member of the Governor's Cabinet. He will take office July.

"Phil is now farm and garden director of WRCA and WRCA-TV. He has an early morning Farm and Garden program from 6 to 9 on WRCA radio, with farm produce prices and crop information, news etc., on Saturday from 1:00 to 1:30 p.m. He and Mrs. Alampi, (Ruth) are on WRCA-TV with home and garden -how-to-do-it information. After July 1, Ruth will continue on with this TV program, but the early morning radio show will have a new broadcaster. Phil won't have to arise at 4:00 a.m. any more. He has been doing an early radio spot for about 15 years, and was formerly on ABC with these broadcasts.

Phil has a host of friends on farms and in horticulture who wish him well on this new work. He is a member of the Board

of Directors of the Horticultural Society of N. Y., a Past President of the N. Y. Men's Garden Club, President of the American Horticulture Council and N. Y. Farm Club, and has held many other offices in similar organizations.

Alampi is a graduate of Rutgers University (Class of 1934) where he was an honor student and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He received the degree of master of education at Rutgers.

As a farm youth Alampi was active in 4-H and vocational agriculture projects. While in high school he received the New Jersey State Farmer and the American Farmer degrees. After graduating from Rutgers he taught vocational agriculture and coached athletics at Woodstown (N. J.) High School for 10 years.

Your editor has had the pleasure of appearing several times on Phil's radio and T.V. shows to talk about dahlias. As an example of his appreciation of the endeavors of his horticultural friends we quote an excerpt from his letter of Dec. 6 last to us. "Just a brief note to tell you that I think the November issue of the American Dahlia Society's Bulletin is the best ever. The copy I received is the one with the 4-color cover and it is terrific." Thanks, Mr. Secretary.

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PLANTS - ROOTS ROOTED CUTTINGS

Write for Catalogue

ROBLYNN DAHLIA GARDENS

Walter R. Bardell

Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey

Propagation the Parrella Way

Many years back, and long before I had any idea of going into the dahlia business commercially, I used to grow about 300 dahlias. Each year I bought about 10 or 12 of the newer and better varieties introduced at that time. Even back in those days new varieties were expensive. In case you may not know, the old veteran grower of California, Mr. Broomall, introduced the variety, *Am-bassador*, at \$50.00 a root.

Since I bought the best I could find, I decided I must find some way to increase stock. Not equipped with a greenhouse, I hooked up a two sash cold frame with standard size sash of 3' x 6' and separated inside as each one was to serve a somewhat different purpose. The inside of the frames was dug out to a depth of 15" or 18".

About the second week in March fresh horse manure to a depth of 6" or 8" was placed in the bottom of the frame. After this was tamped and pressed down it was covered with about 4" or 5" of screened top soil. In this top soil was placed roots for propagation. Generally, by the end of

April cuttings were ready to be taken. By this time, the second compartment of the cold frame was prepared in the same way as the first. The cuttings were potted, labeled and pushed down into the sifted soil and watered thoroughly. The sash was then placed in position and covered with a rug, mat, canvas, or anything of that nature which might be available. This covering provided protection from the sun as well as from nighttime cold. If the thermometer dropped low, covering was increased.

Sash and covering were not removed until the cuttings showed signs of taking root, generally two to three weeks, when sash was raised slightly for ventilation. As cuttings developed, more air was allowed and as they progressed, the sash and covering were removed at favorable periods to permit air and sunshine. This process was followed until the weather was favorable enough to permit the removal of everything. Plants made this way were vigorous and strong and rooted almost 100 per cent.

In later years, when I might say I was forced into the dahlia business because of the failure in the early years of the depression of a furniture concern for which I had worked over twenty years, I had a greenhouse built. This I thought was the answer to all my propagating problems. But no, not quite. I found that many early cuttings failed to root in the sand bench, and some would never root early or late, although the sand was washed and sterilized and electric heating cables on thermostat control placed at the bottom of the sand. I noted, too, that early cuttings which did root looked anemic and seemed to lack vigor. So after some years of experimentation, I decided to go back to my primitive system and the original cold frames, that is, potting cuttings as soon as taken and placing them outside in a cold frame as outlined above.

I have found from experience that plants made in this way are greener in color, healthier, and more vigorous in growth than any made by rooting cuttings in a sand bench. This system also entirely eliminates the time consuming operation of putting cuttings in sand since they had to be potted, labeled and placed in the cold frame eventually.

Potting soil is composed of good garden soil, compost, peat moss, and a few handfuls of lime, all well mixed, screened and sterilized. Horse manure should be fresh.

Albert Parrella

THE BIG FREEZE

By J. E. HULIN

The Pacific Northwest, especially Western Washington and Northern Oregon, experienced a very disastrous cold spell from Nov. 11th till the 18th. A few days previous it was nice with a very copious rain falling which soaked the soil several inches. Then, with no warning, on the morning of the 11th a few flakes of snow started falling and the temperature as well. By the following morning it had gone far below freezing and the next day it officially reached 8 above, with a zero mark recorded in two places. This was the first time in the history of Western Washington a freeze came in November and the damage ran to millions of dollars. Had there been cold weather previous to the freeze it would have been less damaging, but as it was, the sap was still running and plants and shrubs green and full of foliage.

Hundreds of acres of strawberries destroyed, same with raspberries and other cane fruit. A large acreage of Holly was denuded of berries and miles of hedges are all killed. Rhododendrons, Camelias,

(Continued on following page)

- ★ Dahlias in England 1955
- ★ Japanese Dahlia Hybridizers
- ★ More About Breeding Dahlias
- ★ Eastern Dahlia Review
- ★ Dahlias In The South
- ★ News From South Africa
- ★ Weather or Not, It Can Be Done
- ★ 1955 Dahlia Travels and Notes

These are only a few of the articles featured in the last issue of

"THE DAHLIA"

A bi-annual publication by the Central States Dahlia Society

You can receive this valuable Dec. 1955 Issue of "The Dahlia" FREE if you'll send in your 1956 dues (\$3.00)

—(Send them this very minute!—)

ROBERT L. RICE
3102 Chicago Place
CHICAGO HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS

Azaleas, Roses and flowering shrubs are dead by the thousands.

In this part of the state Dahlias are seldom dug till after Thanksgiving consequently there was a very heavy loss extending to the Canadian border and well into British Columbia. Some plantings were a complete loss while some others salvaged a few. In some localities the soil froze to a depth of 8 inches and these folks are just going to plow them under in March.

The Writer has one plot that will not be dug before time to plow as there seems to be nothing there to salvage. Other spots have produced about 25 roots to 60 hills. One sad feature is the loss of seven good seedlings marked for '57 and '58 introduction as well as several being grown on trial for others around the country.

We have often sympathized with the Eastern and Mid-West Growers, who have so much more to contend with than we do, and marvel at their perseverance in the face of such odds as winds, floods, insects and extreme heat. These are factors we do not have to face and if we did I am sure some of us would call it quits. Any way we hope every one will have a good year in 1956.

Our Introductions for 1956

Name and Description	Size	Root	Plant
BORAMS' SUNRISE F.D. Primrose Yellow	10x6½	\$15.00	\$5.00
LINDA MARSCHNER I.D. White	9x5	\$15.00	\$5.00
MOMS PRIDE St. Cactus, Shrimp Pink	7x4½	\$ 7.50	\$2.50
BORAMS' PRIDE Semi-Cactus, Crimson	7x4	\$ 7.50	\$2.50
BUTTERSCOTCH Min. F.D. Yellow Tipped White	3x1½	\$ 5.00	\$1.75
WINSOME Min. F.D. Salmon Orange	3½x2¼	\$ 5.00	\$1.75
LITTLE SUNSET Pom. Yellow Tipped Scarlet	1½x1	\$ 3.00	\$1.50

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Word Picture of a New V.P.

Dear Lynn Dudley:

You'll never know how surprised and pleased I was to hear that you fellows out East thought enough of this little 'ole Mid-West dahlia lover to vote me a V.P. of the A.D.S.

It is an honor to my way of thinking and I assure you that I'll be most happy to cooperate in any way, just holler.

I will let you in on a secret, Lynn, I planted my first dahlia May 30th, 1950, in fact I worked 'till 10 o'clock that night because everything had to be so perfect (right depth, stake already in, handful of bonemeal in bottom of hole, etc., etc.). Well anyhow, I didn't feel so good by the time I hit the hay that night and rightfully so because I was on the operating table at nine the next morning having a ruptured appendix removed. That's why I will never forget the date I started growing dahlias. What I'm trying to point out to you is the fact that I'm definitely a rank amateur compared to most of you folks. I make it up with enthusiasm, however.

I'm sorry that I was so late with the copy on the Central States Ad for this Issue of the Bulletin, just forget it and I'll get copy in for an Ad in the Spring Issue. The way I cuss late copy boys for "The Dahlia" I can well imagine what you said when our little Ad came rolling in two days before press time.

Wish Vicki (my wife) and I could attend an A.D.S. meeting, but you know we have a family of four: Joanna (10), Jan Mary (8), Julie (2), and finally the stork made up his mind to leave us a boy this last January and we had to carry out the letter "J" idea and named him Joe. And by the time I feed this gang it is just about all the budget can stand. Maybe we can make a show soon, Vicki has relatives in Philadelphia and I was stationed at Aberdeen Proving Ground for four years so I have many friends out East. We hope to get out in a year or so.

Thanks again Lynn, I'm tickled to death about the whole thing.—Sincerely Paul Hale.

Editor's Note: Paul is the new Ass't Editor and Business Manager of "The Dahlia."

Bulletin Advertisers are Reliable Merchants. They guarantee stock as represented, or replacements are made.

Dahlia Catalogues Received

H. H. Robens, Route 1, Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

Summit Gardens, P. O. Box 567, Glen Ellyn, Ill.

H. H. Johnson, Rt. 2, Dilworth Rd. Kelowna, B. C., Canada.

Dahliadel, Vineland, New Jersey.

Ruschmohr Dahlia Gdns, 38 Vincent St., Rockville Centre, L. I., N. Y.

P. de Jager & Sons Inc., So. Hamilton, Mass., and Heiloo, Holland.

Barwall Dahlia Farm, R.F.D. 1, Box 165, Danbury, Conn.

Rocky River Dahlia Gardens, 1911 Story Rd., Rocky River 16, Ohio.

Wm. de Ruyter, Oegstgeest, Holland.

J. G. Ballego & Sons, Leiden, Holland.

Fa D. Bruidegom, Baarn, Holland.

Albert Parrella, 3380 Ely Ave., Bronx 69, New York.

It seems catalogues are late this year or the Editor's name has been scratched. Those received between now and May will be listed in that, our next issue.

A super salesman: The guy who can make you feel you've longed all your life for some dahlia you've never heard of.

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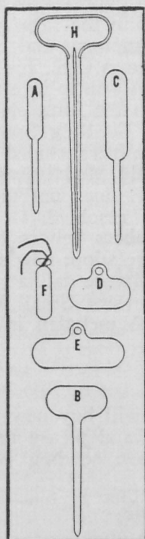
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The AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY, Inc.

ORGANIZED MAY 10, 1915



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

DR. BRUCE PREAS, *President*
387 Merrick Rd., Rockville Centre, N. Y.

EDWARD B. LLOYD, *Secretary*
10 Crestmont Road, Montclair, N. J.

HENRY A. OLSEN, *Treasurer*
45 Clement Ave., Elmont, N. Y.

LYNN B. DUDLEY, *Editor, Bulletin*
25 Irving Pl., New Rochelle, N. Y.

Editorial

This issue is about fifteen days late, and will be mailed about March 15. This is due to a varied set of circumstances and happenings. But the editor assures every reader that it won't happen often. Fortunately, the delay will not injure our advertisers. March 15 is in the middle of decision on what new dahlias to buy.

What Price, Progress?

It would be a prosaic world if everyone had the same opinion. Difference in ideals and performance are what makes life interesting. Many members of the A.D.S. believe that the "B" medium class, now designated as from 4 to 8 inches in size, should be broken up into two size classes (4 to 6 and 6 to 8 inches). On a vote in the last A.D.S. Executive Committee it stood 10 to 7 against having a 4 to 6 inch class for 1955 in the A.D.S. Show schedule. (This class has been in the N. Y. Show since 1952.) There is no doubt in the mind of many but that a cut flower or Florist size is the most useful size, commercially speaking, in dahlias. It falls naturally into a 4 to 6 inch size which can be used in small arrangements, baskets, bladders, etc. And there are probably more than 100 good varieties today which are in this size category. Some of these are "Ambassador Von Kleffens," "Gypsy Girl," "Kathie M," "King Peter," "Little Eddie," "Shirley Westwell," "Gay," "Donnie" and many others. Not only is this a useful, cut flower size, but it is a size which is more often combined with small types, up to 4 inches, in home arrangements than with the larger "B"s, 6 to 8 inches. And also at the shows, based on size mostly, an 8 inch B can always beat out a 5 inch "B" dahlia, in the same size class, if equally perfect in form and condition. For 1955 then, the A.D.S., for the sake of harmony, will conform in its show to the three size types in the joint classification list. Also in the Seedling Sweepstakes Competition which has included the small Medium in the Gold Medal awards for three years. But this does not mean that the issue is finally resolved. If the majority of A.D.S. members believe that progress demands that we adopt new specifications, which will enhance dahlia usefulness, then the Cut Flowers, Small Medium size, will again be included in its program.

We hope our readers will buy new varieties from advertisers, and please mention this publication when sending your orders.

Read the story on pot roots in Nov. issue. It is a subject I have been interested in for a long time. Will try that deep planting of the pots this summer, I hope. — Prof. C. Merrill Brown.

Earle P. Loller Dies At His Home

Earle P. Loller, dahlia enthusiast and past president of the Baltimore Dahlia Society, died early Dec. 4, 1955 at his home, 3111 West Strathmore Avenue, after an extended illness.

Mr. Loller, who has been ill for several years, would have been 69 on December 13. Aside from being president of the local dahlia group, Mr. Loller served several terms on the board of directors and held other offices in the local group.

A grower of dahlias for many years, Mr. Loller won many prizes for his flowers, including the Governors Cup.

Born in Centreville in 1886, he was a graduate of Charlotte Hall Academy, and came to Baltimore in 1908. For over twenty years he was superintendent of the Franklin Printing Company, and served in a similar capacity with H. G. Roebuck Company after the former ceased operations.

Mr. Loller is survived by his wife, Mrs. Catherine Whittie Loller, and a sister, Mrs. Joseph Quinn, of Chestertown, and a number of nieces and nephews.

—From the Dec. 5, 1955 issue of the *Baltimore Sun*, courtesy of Charles Diffeffer, long time friend and associate of Earle.

Theodore Entrup, Catholic priest and originator and introducer of many fine dahlias in Germany, died at his home in Ludinghausen, October 30, 1955, aged 77. He was the originator, among others of "Leander," "Diva," "Majastat," "Hybnose" and "Telemach."

DECEASED

Jesse J. Lynch of Fairmont, West Virginia died April 9th, 1955. For the past several years he was president of the West Virginia Dahlia Society with headquarters in his home town.

Mr. Lynch was an interested, non-commercial dahlia grower. He liked to keep up with the newer varieties though he never forgot the older favorites. He placed exhibits in dahlia shows but never on a competitive basis.

Just recently he prepared and published a mimeographed bulletin entitled, "Grow a Dahlia." This bulletin listed and described a number of dahlias, explained and described growing habits of several varieties and gave general advice to dahlia

growers. A copy of this bulletin was given to all dahlia growers who received dahlia roots from Mr. Lynch.

He left several hundreds of clumps of dahlia roots which Mrs. Lynch has given to dahlia growing friends and neighbors. These dahlias, all named, will grow a beautiful memorial for Jess Lynch, lover of beauty in the garden, a trusted and valued employee of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, an upright and conscientious citizen and a faithful, honorable and loving husband and father.

—Olliver Shurtloff

The Editor's whole countenance radiated pleasure and satisfaction upon receipt of a small card which read; "Mr. Dudley—The Rochester Dahlia Society deeply appreciates your aid in making its recent show a great success. Signed H. Paul Herring, Show Chairman". We have judged shows for many years, but this is the firsts formal word of appreciation we ever received. Why can't all shows be as thoughtful? Why didn't our Society think of doing it, long ago? I'm going to treasure this one. Might even frame it. Now I do not regret getting up at 4:00 a. m., driving through a soupy fog for hours, and carrying some 200 vases of blooms to the Show tables for the hard working, up-all-night exhibitors. Maybe a dozen show trips per season are worth while after all.

Harley Peck, Lebanon, Ohio, notifies us that he will retire from the dahlia business at the end of 1955. His Golden Rule Garden has been a fixture in the commercial dahlia business for over 30 years except when he took a war plant job during the Second World War. We will miss Harley's smiling good nature at the shows, (and his advertisements from the Bulletin), but good luck Harley in your retirement.

Ask a friend to join the A.D.S.
Use Membership Blank in this Issue.

Send Show Dates to Editor

A list of shows in the U. S. will be published in the May and August issues, with city, location, date and Society sponsoring same. Please forward this information before April 10 to Editor Lynn B. Dudley, 25 Irving Place, New Rochelle, N. Y. We would like the list to be complete.

New Dahlias Registered

The dahlia *Perry Como*, has been duly registered as of October 10, 1955, as follows:

Perry Como, originated by Ben Lizza, Glen Cove, Long Island, to be introduced by Forest Dahlia Garden, Glen Cove, Long Island. Requested by Albert Tedasco, 28 Locust St., Greenvale, L. I., N. Y. A, Informal Decorative, light blend, lavender on cream base.

This will acknowledge the receipt of the registration fee of \$1.00 for your dahlia, together with a photograph showing the color. Picture is a little out of focus and appears to have been made late in the day. In reproducing by the Kodacolor process, some color value is lost. I believe I should classify it as orange, judging from the picture.

We are accordingly registering it as follows:

Bobby, originated by John Schroeder, 4150 Douglas Road, Toledo 13, Ohio. Ball, orange. (Won American Home Achievement Medal, Toledo 1954).

The following dahlia, originated by William Tilton, Forest Ave., Glen Cove, N. Y., has been duly registered, fee received:

Carol Ann, BB., St. C, pink white center.

Agnes Hudson, A, S.C., light blend, lavender with white, 12 x 7—4 ft. Same parentage as *Flying Saucer*. Originated by Mrs. Florence Clapp, Martinsville, Va.

The common stalk borer may be a terrible pest especially in a new location. I know of one case, a newly established garden, where the borers came from a meadow along a stream, largely bluegrass, crossed a paved road and up a slight rise into the dahlia garden. So far, the best control seems to be the mower.

Down The Dahlia Path

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MRS. EMELENE M. COLE

194 No. 9th

COOS BAY, OREGON

Keep weeds and grasses in neighborhood of the garden clipped as close as possible with a lawn mower, starting in the Spring. This destroys the food for the early stages. Of course, if it is the European Corn Borer, spraying with DDT will keep it down. — Charles H. Connors, Chairman, Committee on Nomenclature, A.D.S.

Associate Editors of the A.D.S. Bulletin

The following editors are doing a fine job of writing the kind of articles we believe our readers appreciate. If you have any suggestions as to future articles, write the editor and, or any of his associates listed below:

- J. Louis Roberts,
12147 Harvard Ave.,
Chicago 28, Illinois
- Dr. Ward Cook,
c/o Little Falls Hospital,
Little Falls, New York
- Col. Richard T. Eddy,
Box 638, Encinitas, California
- Dr. Frederick J. Knocke,
P. O. Box 13,
Readington, New Jersey
- Henry C. Parker,
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- John Metzger,
126 Allen St.,
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- Leo L. Pollak,
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Park Ave. and 58th St.,
New York, New York
- Mrs. Loise Kleinjohn,
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1146—41st St., Balview Heights,
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- Professor C. Merrill Brown,
102 Oakgrove Dr.,
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- Noel O. Scott,
1436 Stanley,
Glendale 6, California
- Ralph and Ruth Berry (Mr. & Mrs.),
2835 Wagar Rd.,
Cleveland 16, Ohio
- C. R. Kallquist,
3607 Monte Vista Dr.,
Chattanooga, Tenn.

Nationwide Dahlia Society News

See Below for Society News Closing Dates

Secretaries of Branch and Affiliate Societies are requested to mail their reports for publication in the Bulletin on the 10th of the month preceding publication. These closing dates are:

January 10 for February issue

April 10 for May issue

July 10 for August issue

October 10 for November issue

If copy does not reach the editor by these dates it is quite likely to be left until the following issue, and when that happens its news value is greatly lessened, if not entirely lost. And please keep it brief.

Alabama Dahlia News

(The Editor Goofed. This report got lost in the big pile of material received for Nov. Bulletin. We are very sorry, Maude Goodwin and all our other friends in Birmingham, please forgive L. B. D.)

The Dahlia Society of Alabama has completed page twenty in their history book of shows. It is a page they will like to turn to again and again when in need of encouragement for it proves once more that old Mother Nature does not always frown upon our beloved dahlia. For us in Alabama, this has been the best dahlia year in a long, long time.

Dahlias old, dahlias new, were to be found in the 1955 Show, one hundred thirty-three varieties competing for honors. Highest honors were won by G. H. Christopian for his *Arthur Godfrey*, the largest bloom; for *First Lady*, most perfect "B" size bloom, and also the best 1955 introduction, for twelve blooms of *Bride's Bouquet*, the best twelve and for *Alabaster*, best 1953-1954 introduction. *Surprise*, grown by E. E. Montgomery was the most perfect "A" bloom and *Jane Lausche* was the best of the ten years or older varieties. The great favorite, *Mrs. Hester Pape*, grown by A. H. West were the three best "A" blooms and his entry of *Lavender Girl* the best of the Foreign introductions. *Golden Treasure* brought to "The Rikes" awards for the best five

blooms and the best of Southern introductions as did *Ballego's Surprise*, best in the Day-Late Class. The best three "B" blooms, *Golden Treasure* were grown by W. L. Fleck. In the small flowering section, *Alice Oneal*, grown by B. L. Kennedy was judged the best miniature and *Mary Williams*, grown by R. O. Glauzier, the best pompon.

Other varieties winning gold and purple ribbons were: *Mary Elizabeth*, *Five Star General*, *Rose Ann S*, *Maffie*, *Juanita*, *Croydon Masterpiece*, *The Real Glory*, *Pride of Parkersburg*, *Gref Folke Bernadotte*, *Helen Stafford*, *Stoplight*, *Marion Glenn*, *Ammonier Chandelon*, *Windlassie*, *Prince Noire*, *Butterball*, *Blackie*, *Jersey Maid*, *Ike*, *Candlelight* and *Vera Higgins*.

The oh's and ah's of all visiting the arrangement section expressed their delight in the way the Garden Clubs developed their theme of "The Magic Touch of Fall" and other themes used by individual arrangers, such as "Blend Tradition with Today"; "The Line is Restful"; "A Class of Moods"; a quickie, "All in a Split Second"; mirrors made "Reflected Beauty" a joy to behold; "It was Worth Noticing" was and "Dahlias Give Him a Lift" did.

Page twenty is finished, the ink is dry and now filed in the history book. Before us is page twenty-one, unwritten as yet. Some of the things we hope to write there are—more and better dahlias grown by more and better informed members, a better society though the continued cheerful cooperation of each member and a deeper appreciation of the fellowship and friendship dahlias bring.—Maude Goodwin, Reporter, 2612 Ave. "S" Ensley, Birmingham 8, Ala.

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Nationwide Dahlia Society News

Mid-Atlantic Dahlia Conference

The Mid-Atlantic Dahlia Conference which was organized last Spring had a successful year. Two meetings were held during 1955 in which a Constitution and By-laws were adopted and plans were adopted for guidance of member societies. The member societies which presently make up the conference are the Baltimore Dahlia Society, Inc.; Virginia Dahlia Society; Suburban Dahlia Society; Williamsburg Dahlia Society and National Capitol Dahlia Society.

The first annual show of the Conference was held jointly with the 20th annual show of the National Capitol Dahlia Society and was considered a successful show by all who attended.

The second show will be sponsored by the Baltimore Dahlia Society. It will be held September 15th and 16th. All member societies have pledged their support to make this an outstanding show. The Baltimore Dahlia Society has already begun plans to make this one of the largest and best shows in the country. John A. Sherwood is president of the Conference for the year 1956. — G. E. Dodrill, Ex-officio President, 4301 Forest Lane, Falls Church, Va.

The Long Island Dahlia Society

The New Year brought several changes to the Long Island Dahlia Society including new officers and a change of meeting room and meeting dates.

Due to the increased membership over the past two years, the Society was compelled to seek larger quarters for its meetings. Beginning January 1956, the monthly meetings of the Society will be held on the THIRD THURSDAY of each month in the large meeting room on the main floor of the Plattduetsche

Park Hall, 520 Hempstead Turnpike, Franklin Square, L. I.

Past President George Yaeger installed the new officers at the January 19th meeting. These included: President, James Lawless, Jr.; Vice-President and Publicity Chairman, G. Joseph Mugno; Vice-President and Show Chairman, Robert P. Pape; Vice-President and Membership Chairman, William P. Ernst; Secretary, Chester D. Francis and Treasurer, Mrs. John R. Stack. The installation was followed by a buffet supper and a social evening.

The 12th Annual Show of the Long Island Dahlia Society will be held on Saturday, September 22, 1956, at the Plattduetsche Park Hall, Franklin Square. — Chester D. Francis, Secretary, 51 Willis Avenue, Syosset, L. I.

National Capitol Dahlia Society

The National Capitol Dahlia Society is going forward with plans for a bigger year than ever before under the management of the new officers elected at the annual meeting in November.

Under the leadership of its editor, Dr. H. C. Parker, the society's monthly bulletin, the DAHLIAGRAM, is becoming increasingly interesting and valuable to members of the Society. Many members of the Society are from far places, including Australia, and their interest in our Society is maintained solely through the medium of the DAHLIAGRAM.

The Twenty-first Annual Show of the Society will be presented on the 29th and 30th of September, 1956 in Washington at the U. S. Botanic Gardens. The management of the Show will be in the capable hands of Mr. Sam Shapiro, who already has many plans to make this the best Show ever.

The Society is also going to give its whole-hearted support to the Second Annual Show of the Mid-Atlantic Dahlia Conference, which will be held in Baltimore, Md. on Sept. 15 and 16th, under the auspices of the Baltimore Dahlia Society. — M. C. Heins, Publicity Director, 5917 Kirby Court, Falls Church, Va.

Dahlia Society of Georgia

Members of the Dahlia Society of Georgia assembled on the evening of December 9th in celebration of the annual Christmas party and dinner. After an inspiring invocation by Mr. David S. Wells, a delicious dinner was served, beginning at 6:30. Place cards for each guest was in a miniature Santa Claus boot, and small

1956 INTRODUCTIONS

REE'S CAMEO—10 inch I.D., Cameo
Pink. Good Grower. On Webb's Review.
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favors at each plate. The U-shaped table was elaborately decorated in the Christmas motif for the forty-five guests present.

There was present at this meeting, nine of our past Presidents—David D. Long (1934), B. E. Phillips (1935-1943-1945), B. L. Kennedy (1938), C. E. Faust (1939-1948), David S. Wells (1946-1947), E. G. Chandler (1951), Wyndal H. Carter (1952), E. E. Montgomery (1953), H. H. Huckleba (1954). Inasmuch as our shows for the past several years have been held October 8 to 10 it has been practically impossible to prepare a detailed report of same and get it in before the deadline, October 10, for the show report issue of the BULLETIN issued in November, therefore we submit herewith a brief summary of our last show, October 8, 1955. This show was not as large as some of our previous shows, due to extended rain during July and August, which brought our blooms on early, and to our members liberally supporting the Southern States Dahlia Association show at Chattanooga October 1-2, and also the Dahlia Society of Alabama show at Birmingham Sept. 24-25. Although small, our show was of good quality. There was a total of 779 entries by 33 exhibitors, who were awarded 144 red ribbons, 171 blue ribbons, 31 gold ribbons, and 14 purple ribbons, in addition to a number of very desirable sectional and class trophies in the form of medals of other Society's, silver, glass, pottery, etc. The best blooms in show were as follows: "A" type, best formal *Five Star General* by G. H. Christopian, Chattanooga. Best informal *Croydon Masterpiece* by Dr. A. L. Stephens, Jr., Atlanta. Best semi-cactus *Surprise* by C. J. Bivens, Chattanooga. Best cactus *Edna D.* by G. H. Christopian, Chattanooga. "B" type blooms, best formal *First Lady* by G. H. Christopian, Chattanooga. Best informal *Crystal Surprise* by C. J. Bivens, Chattanooga. Best semi-cactus *Michigan White* by B. L. Kennedy, Atlanta. Best cactus *Carnaval* by H. W. Skinner, East Point. Best ball *Winner* by A. Vonley Cox, Chattanooga. Best miniature *Glacier* by C. J. Bivens, Chattanooga. Best single *Kokette* by R. O. Cason, Atlanta. Best pompon *Betty Anne* by Mrs. A. C. Caraway, East Point.

Southern States Dahlia Ass'n

The Dahlia Society of Georgia will be host to the Tenth Annual Show of the Southern States Dahlia Association in

Atlanta for 1956. We have so very much enjoyed the visits and fellowships of our friends and fellow dahlia "bugs" from the east, mid-west, and west, and extend a most cordial invitation for a repeat visit and participation in our show.

DAHLIA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA OFFICERS—1956

President — Dr. A. L. Stephens, Jr.; 1st Vice President, David Sullivan; 2nd Vice President—Charles King; Secretary —Mrs. Ralph Huie; Treasurer—Mrs. A. C. Caraway; Corr. Secretary — Miss May Hudson, 1474 Peachtree St., N. W., Atlanta, Ga.; Parliamentarian — E. O. Kellum.

SOUTHERN STATES DAHLIA ASSOCIATION OFFICERS—1956

President—H. H. Huckleba; Secretary-Treasurer — B. L. Kennedy, 3453 Roxboro Road, N. E., Atlanta, Ga. B. E. Phillips, 1570 Westwood Ave., S. W. Atlanta, Georgia.

Badger State Dahlia Society, Inc.

The officers of the Badger State Dahlia Society of Madison, Wisconsin, for 1956 are as follows: Max Freudenberg, McFarland, Wis., President; Hayden Peterson, 10 So. Meadow Lane, Madison, First vice-president; Otto Sell, Evansville, Wis., Second vice-president; L. W. Amborn, 430 Virginia Terrace, Madison, Secretary; Everett R. Loder, 1202 Gilbert Road, Madison, Treasurer. The appointed officers are L. W. Amborn, 1956 show chairman. Justice George R. Currie, program chairman. W. B. Senty, show schedule. Mrs. Mary McKenzie, ladies program. Mrs. Max Freudenberg, arrangements for 1956 show. Peter McKenzie, membership. Earl B. Frusher, publicity. — Earl B. Frusher, 906 Midland St., Madison, Wis.

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Collector's Item (52) A-S.C., color, flame blend.

Kandy Kid (52) B-S.C., variegated, white striped red.

One Root of Each for \$5.00

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Nationwide Dahlia Society News

Dahlia Society of Toledo

The 20th annual Dahlia Show sponsored by the Dahlia Society of Toledo was held in the showroom of Jim White Chrevolet Company on September 17th and 18th.

The weather conditions during '55, in our particular area, was extremely hot and the type of flowers shown this year did not stand up to the standards of previous shows. However, our show attracted a large number of visitors who expressed delight in viewing our blooms and arrangements.

The largest and most perfect bloom in the show was won by Mr. and Mrs. E. Higley of Clyde, Ohio, with a *Jane Lausche*. Smallest, most perfect Pom was won by Mr. Fred Grey of Toledo with *Clover*. The largest bloom in the show won by Mr. E. Leininger with *Sherwoods Peach*.

The Sweepstakes winners are as follows—the Novice Division was won by Mr. C. Gurgin of Toledo. Small Amateur won by Mr. C. J. Holt of Toledo. The Large Amateur won by Mr. H. Brown of Sylvania. The Open Division won by Mr. and Mrs. E. Higley of Clyde, O. In the Silver Metal Classic winners are as follows—"A" bloom by Mr. and Mrs. E. Higley with a *Jane Lausche*. "B" bloom, Mr. and Mrs. E. Higley with *Nicks Orchid*. Pom, Mr. and Mrs. E. Higley with *Edith Mueller*. Ball, Mr. John Schroder with *Alice J. Miniature*. Mr. L. Weber with *Little Shick*.—Gertrud Towslee, 4452 Belmar Ave., Toledo, Ohio.

Editor's Note: This report was received on Nov. 9, 1955, too late to be included in that issue.

For Dutch Dahlias: WM. DE RUYTER of OEGSTGEEST (Holland) 54 Dorpsstreet

Free On Application

New Illustrated Price List 1955/56 of Awarded Novelties and Selected Standard Varieties of the World's Best Dahlias.

Guaranteed only "true-to-name"

Suburban Dahlia Society

At the December meeting of the Suburban Dahlia Society at Reistertown, Md., the following officers were elected:

President, Robert F. Edmonston; 1st V. Pres., Mrs. Howard Cole; 2nd V. Pres., Fred D'Eustachio; Secretary, Mrs. Edgar Miller; Treasurer, Mrs. Hervey Brown; Board of Governors, Conrad V. Brieger, Rudolph Schwanebeck, George Mumma, Harry Quick.

Our Show date, which is set by the Franklyntown Fair, is September 14, 1956. After the meeting a very nice Christmas party was enjoyed by all and there were gifts for everyone.

A special meeting of all officers of the Society was held at 4209 Lowell Drive, home of our President on January 2nd. This meeting was called for the purpose of getting ideas for a bigger and better show, and to map out a program of activities for the coming year.

A cordial invitation is extended to all out of town judges passing through Baltimore Friday morning, September 14th, to stop off and help us judge the show. — Conrad V. Brieger, 612 Cedarcroft Rd., Baltimore 12, Md.

Baltimore Dahlia Society

With the coming of the New Year the Baltimore Dahlia Society has already started an extensive program with the hopes of making 1956 the best ever.

Our Society will be host to the Second Mid-Atlantic Conference Show which we are sponsoring in conjunction with our 31st Annual Show and which will be held, Saturday and Sunday, September 15th and 16th in the Turner Armory, Hillen Road & Argonne Drive, Baltimore, Maryland.

President elect — John Sherwood has already started to line up his committees and with the amount of interest and enthusiasm being shown we should have one of the outstanding exhibitions staged in the East.—Herbert O. Aburn, Sec'y, 610 West Pratt St., Baltimore, Md.

Michigan Dahlia Association

The following officers were elected at our December meeting, for the year 1956: President, Mr. Arthur J. Wulff; Vice President, Miss Annmoray Pedlow; Treasurer, Mr. B. H. Bottom; Secretary, Mrs. D. Millar; Ass't Sec'y, Mrs. Alex Toth; Dir. of Publications, Dr. C. E. Wildon; Trustee, Mr. H. Rhode, Mr. V. Steckle, Mr. H. Rasmussen.

We think you might be interested in reading a copy of our "Michigan Dahlia

News." Sent to members of Mich. Dahlia Ass'n free. A few available to others who forward postage. Our best wishes to you for the coming season. — Mrs. David Millar, Secretary, 15848 Pinehurst Ave., Detroit 38, Michigan.

Dahlia Society of Ohio, Inc.

The Dahlia Society of Ohio began the New Year 1956 with an Annual Banquet in January which was held at "Carl Brown's Colonial Inn" in Cleveland. Installation of the new officers took place. They are: President, E. J. Wind; Vice-presidents, Howard F. Skorepa and Max Berthold; Secretary, Henry Graham; Treasurer, Joseph Mark; Corr. Secretary, Miss Eliene Stephens. The heads of the various committees will be chosen by the President at a later date.

On October 7, 8 & 9, 1955 a Fall Dahlia Show was held at The Garden Center of Greater Cleveland under the able chairmanship of Charles J. Schaefer. The Show was a surprisingly good one with 260 entries. The 35 classes were well filled and the worthy judges had to do much head scratching to arrive at the proper conclusions. Some of them were: Best "A", *Kidd's Climax*, J. Kovar; Best "B", *Seedling*, C. Lasch; Best 3 "R", *Peppermint*, Mrs. Davies; Best 3 "B", *Juanita*, J. Kovar; Best Ball, *Clare Clemens*, Miss Stephens; Best 3 Min., *Ruby Charm*, Mrs. Davies; and Best 3 Pom, *Rhonda*, J. Kovar. It was a very wonderful Show and we all hope we can do as well this year.

The Dahlia Society of Ohio extends a New Year's Greeting to all and hopes to see you in Cleveland this year.—Howard F. Skorepa, 4305 Lucille Rd. Cleveland 21, Ohio.

Southtown Dahlia Club, Inc.

Perhaps some of our Eastern friends would be happy to learn that the Southtown Dahlia Club is now incorporated.

Officers of the Club elected for 1956 are: Louis Dressler, President; J. Clare Moore, Jr., 1st Vice-President; Bernard Bergmann, 2nd Vice President; Marie Dressler, Secretary and Viola Skaley, Assistant Secretary.

May 5 is the date set for our annual spring party, which will finance our Dahlia Show to be held this year on Saturday and Sunday, September 22 and 23, in the Hamilton Park Field House, 72nd Street and Normal Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois.

We are most happy to entertain visitors from other dahlia societies.—Mrs. Marie Dressler, Secretary, 8409 Calumet Avenue, Chicago 19, Illinois.

The Bergen County Dahlia Society

The Bergen County Dahlia Society held its annual meeting and election of officers at the Administration Building, Hackensack, N. J., Dec. 14, 1955, and the slate of officers presented at the previous meeting by the nominating committee was unanimously approved as follows:

For President, Mrs. Caroline Meyer; 1st Vice-President, Joseph Gambi; 2nd Vice-President, Andrew Hoetzel; Recording Secretary, J. W. Stone; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Caroline Dreyer; Treasurer, Stephen Pall; Advisory Board—1 year, Harry Dreyer; 2 years, Mrs. Ethel Wiederman.

The business session concluded, Kodachrome pictures were shown of outstanding varieties at the Gamston Gardens, Joseph Vogl's Gardens and the Trial Grounds at Farmingdale, L. I., B. E. Pitt describing the new seedlings as shown.

Again the Bergen County Dahlia Society outdid themselves in the way of providing entertainment for their mem-

(Continued on following page)

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Ballego 1956 Introductions are in Honor Roll and Webbs Review, and listed with 450 other fine varieties from all over the world.

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bers and guests at the annual banquet and installation of officers held Jan. 8 at the Red Lion Inn, Hackensack. It was a gala occasion and the banquet committee: Mrs. Ethel Wiederman, Chairman. Mrs. Wesley Hunter, Joseph Vogl and Harry Dreyer were congratulated for their untiring efforts. Mrs. Wiederman called the gathering to order and extended a welcome to all and introduced B. E. Pitt of the Program Committee as Master of Ceremonies.

George F. Yaeger acted as installing officer. He instructed the newly elected officers as to their duties and proceeded with the ceremony. Mrs. Caroline Meyer in assuming her office thanked all committees who served her the past year and even hoped for better things during her ensuing term. The other officers spoke briefly.

The honor guests were Frank Marker, E. P. Pitt, Sr., George Yaeger, P. J. Birgy, John Metzger and Mrs. Homer Staley, Mrs. Walter Bardell, President of the New Jersey Dahlia Society; Dr. William Hitz, President of Cliffside Park Garden Club and Harry Lundén, President of Bergenfield Garden Club, were introduced and made brief remarks.—Frank R. Kurzenknabe, 933 Main St., Hackensack, N. J.

East Liverpool Dahlia and Floral Society

Plans for the East Liverpool Dahlia and Floral Society's 1956 show are in the making.

The Show dates for 1956 are September 15-16. The following officers have been elected: Mr. William Haugh, President; Mr. F. N. Richmond, Vice Presi-

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If Every Member of This Society Will Secure Just One New Member in 1956, the A.D.S. Can Double Its Membership. With Such an Expansion, Several Essential Research Projects in Pathology and Entomology Can Be Undertaken. Won't You Please Try to Help by Asking Your Friends to Join NOW?

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Please (Renew) (Enter) my membership in the American Dahlia Society. Enclosed find (check) (money order) for \$4.00, of which \$3.00 is for the annual subscription to the Bulletin of the American Dahlia Society, published quarterly.

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dent; Mrs. Marie White, 2nd Vice President; Mrs. Mary Green, Rec. Sec'y; Wm. C. Craine, Corr. Sec'y; Susan Lewis, Fin. Sec'y; Mr. Charles Glover, Treas. — Wm. C. Craine, P. O. Box 284, Midland, Pa.

Indianapolis Dahlia Society

The Indianapolis Dahlia Society held their annual Christmas party, December 13th, at which time the officers for 1956 were installed. The newly elected officers are: Walter A. Saffell, President; Lawrence Daly, Vice President; Mrs. B. A. James, Secretary; Edith Saffell, Treasurer; C. Wm. Paine, Show Manager; Mrs. Ray Thorn, Asst. Show Manager, in charge of Garden Flower Section; Basil Fischer, Publicity; and Raoul Ayers, Propagator.

Miss Hazel Walther, who has served the Society faithfully for a number of years as Secretary, asked to be excused, and Mrs. B. A. James, 4121 East Washington St., Indianapolis, was elected Secretary. A vote of appreciation was given Miss Walther for her long and faithful service to the Society. The first activity of the new year was the Cherry Festival and Valentine Party, February 14th.

It is hoped that 1956 will be a better Dahlia season than 1955. We had a good show with quality blooms, but the quantity was extremely limited. Our growers reported good tubers were obtained from most of the varieties, even though some of them produced no blooms. We expect to plant in 1956 with the hope that the weather will cooperate better this season and that we may be rewarded by a generous supply of blooms. Unless one is a real Dahlia fan, it is difficult to maintain interest, when we have a season such as most of us experienced in 1955.

Another event of importance will be the Plant Sale and Root Exchange in May, and usually enough profit is obtained at this sale to finance all of our fall show expenses. The 1956 Show date has been set for September 15 and 16. — Basil Fischer, Publicity, 1143 Dudley Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.

The A.D.S. New York Show for 1956 will be staged at the Collonades Ball Room, Essex House, Tuesday and Wednesday, September 18 and 19.

San Diego, Calif. Dahlia Society

San Diego County Dahlia Show will be staged Saturday, Aug. 4, and Sunday, Aug. 5, 1956 at Recital Hall, Balboa Park. Entries open to all. Admission 50 cents; entire net proceeds for benefit of Indoor Sports Club, recreation club for physically handicapped.

Show sponsored by San Diego County Dahlia Society, branch of the American Dahlia Society; G. C. Kern, president.

Correction

In reporting the death of Wm. B. Sweeney, of Willimantic, Conn., in our Nov. issue, we erred in saying he was in charge of the A.D.S. Trial Garden when it was first established there in 1918. George Fraser was in charge and operated and directed the garden from its beginning for many years. We are sorry George.

Send Catalogues, Please to Dr. Charles Connors Chairman A.D.S. Nomenclature

The catalogues for 1956 of all commercial growers are requested by Dr. Connors. One of the requirements of official A.D.S. listing of varieties is that the new dahlia must be listed in catalogues. Others are the registration, with the fee of \$1.00. Dahlias which receive an A.D.S. Certificate at its Trial Grounds are automatically eligible for registration.

Thus every commercial dahlia grower who issues a list or catalogue is requested to send a copy to the address below. By so doing he is performing a real service in the dahlia world. — Charles H. Connors, 115 North 6th Ave., Highland Park, New Jersey.

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GARDENIA, Decorative. Wonderful large white with creamy center. Fine sprays for cutting.

GRAND CANYON, Standard Inc. Lovely rose opal with reverse salmon buff and bronze. Outstanding exhibition blooms when disbudded.

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Above varieties Pot Plants, each \$1.00
Rooted cuttings, 2 of one variety, \$1.00

COLLECTION CP. 1 Pot Plant each of the 6 Hardy Varieties listed below and your selection of 2 of the above varieties. 8 plants in all.

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Varieties listed below: Pot Plants, each 50c, or 2 rooted cuttings of one variety for 50c.

BESS WITT, Spider. Attractive yellow shaded apricot and rose. Early.

CAROL C., Spoon. Pastel mauve tube with purple tips. A real favorite.

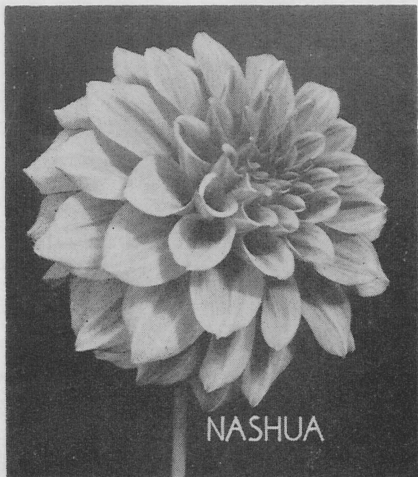
EMPIRE SPOON. Deeper and richer yellow than Yellow Spoon. Full centers and fine for cutting.

HUNTSMAN, Decorative. Brilliant Jasper red overcast bronze.

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LEE POWELL, Decorative. Large fluffy blooms of Empire Yellow. Very prolific.

Send 55c extra for Postage, packing and Special Handling on orders under \$5.00.



NASHUA (Dahliadel), B FD, M. Bloom 6 x 3. Bush 4½ ft. There are few medium size Formal reds so this satiny cardinal red will have little competition. Strong healthy bushes with glossy foliage, and still wonderful at the end of the season. Certified Atlanta, Ga., '55. Mr. Webb and Mr. Dudley stamp their approval too.

Root, \$7.50 Net; Plant, \$2.50 Net

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Chips, yellow suffused soft red; **Hazel Harper**, pleasing pink and white blend; **Snowsprite**, best glistening white; **Sunrise**, beautiful yellow; **Tjiske**, lovely blend of yellow and amaranth rose.

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