The Gladiolus, as we know it today, easily takes a place in the front rank as one of the most useful and beautiful members of the floral kingdom. It is one of the most easily grown and universally adaptable of all flowers. In its stately majesty and beautiful tints and variety of color blendings it has few equals. In the garden its long season of bloom together with its great variety of color, form and types makes it one of the most striking and noble of all garden subjects, and in the hands of the floral artist it lends itself to all manner and kinds of floral arrangement. It is suitable for a wide range of floral uses and as a decorative subject has few, if any, equals. Mathew Crawford once said, "It has few equals and no superiors. None are more beautiful and there is nothing in sight to supercede it." Few who have seen a beautiful collection of the newer varieties will dispute this claim. It is susceptible of great variation and improvements in the hands of the enthusiastic breeder of plants and there are yet many possibilities of still greater improvement in store for the future. It embraces many "species" of many varied types, and almost endless possible combinations and variety may yet be secured. There is really no end to the variety which can be attained and this is one of the charms for the dreamer and worker in this branch of the Horticultural World. Among millions of new seedlings from carefully chosen parentage there will be thousands of beautiful new kinds, equal to most of the best in the lists of today, and yet each possessing a distinction and beauty all its own to the careful observer. It would seem as if every type and blending of color might long since have been achieved but such is not the case. "The most beautiful variety" has not yet been produced, perhaps never will be, else Evolution, in this field at least, were at an end. Change and improvement is Nature's Law and the climax in this direction will perhaps never be reached. When we observe and admire a new variety, in beauty beyond our wildest hopes, we can rest assured that soon a newer variety will appear, easily of equal beauty, and of a charm and color harmony at least equal to the best that has gone before, and of distinct and marked individuality. If majestic grandeur and stately beauty alone were required the Gladiolus might easily lay claim as the best representative for our National Flower, for where else could be found a more suitable subject to represent our majestic and wonderful young country. It is indeed to be regretted that the Gladiolus has no representative among its "Species" native to our own fair land, but what is lacking in this respect has been long since made good in another direction, the production and development of its offspring, for America is proud today of easily holding first place in the development and perfection of this wonderful flower, even though we must accord to other nations and their plant originators first place for having discovered its possibilities and laid the foundation for this great development. When one considers that there are well over one hundred botanical species of the Gladiolus, many of which are varied and useful to the breeder of this remarkable flower, it is easy to understand its endless possibilities of variety and improvement yet before us. Only intelligent, patient and careful selection is needed, and who will say that America is lacking in these requirements? Let us not be content to confine our standards of beauty to any certain limits as to color or types but let us strive to encompass every possible type and color combination. Beautiful self-colors and magnificently blotched creations such as are found among the pansies and orchids, so universally and much admired everywhere, should lend pleasures and joys to everyone in endless measure. Even rich and gaudy colors give joys to many, and why not when one considers the different tastes and changes of time and fashion and the eagerness with which we admire these charms in other flowers. Who among us can say this is the best, or that, when Nature furnishes us with such endless variety and beauty of type and color in such great abundance? Who can say this is the best, or most beautiful, for all of us when tastes differ so widely and "experts" fail to agree? The best and most beautiful variety is the one you most enjoy and which pleases you the most, be it red, white, pink, yellow or some other color or shade, self-colored, or marked with beautiful orchid markings. Then let us all enjoy, each in his or her own way, whatever of individual beauty we are enabled to perceive, disregarding all preconceived notions or standards. What is more restful and elevating than a beautiful garden, and what is more beautiful in any garden than an endless array of choice Gladioli? Some one has said that "the flowers of language are not equal to the language of flowers." Be this as it may, the flowers of language are dependent on the endless list of beautiful words. So let it be with the language of flowers, let it be an endless selection of beautiful varieties. Let us all enjoy the varieties now available, yet ever longing for other and newer beauties to admire among one of Nature's marvelous floral creations, the beautiful Gladiolus.
OBJECT OF THE SOCIETY
An altruistic and educational society, national in scope, organized for "the increase and diffusion of horticultural knowledge, and the stimulation of universal interest in horticulture."

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CONSTRUCTIVE PHILOSOPHY
"If every individual in every town of every state would work to improve and beautify his community, we should have the most inspiring spectacle of history—an entire nation working to make life better and more beautiful!" (National Garden Week Program.)

NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK
President Warren G. Harding has endorsed National Garden Week, April 22 to 28th, which will be conducted by The General Federation of Women's Clubs with other organizations co-operating. At the suggestion of the management of The Garden Magazine the noble and patriotic work was undertaken, and the public response from all sections of the country has been spontaneous from the first. Many governors of the several states have officially recognized the good work, horticultural societies, and other organizations all over the United States are actively co-operating. The Board of Trustees of The National Horticultural Society of America at the annual meeting on February 6, 1923, officially endorsed the work undertaken by The General Federation of Women's Clubs, and the Society will do all in its power to make the first observance of National Garden Week a great success.

CHARTER FELLOWS
(Admitted since February 1st.
Chartter closes June 30, 1923)
Dr. Edward F. Bigelow, South Beach, Conn.
Mr. Emil Bollinger, City Forester, Lake Forest, Ill.
Mrs. William Crawford, 2016 Indiana Ave., LaForte, Ind.
Mrs. C. R. Christianson, Mears, S. D.
Mrs. Nellie C. Doubtlev, 167 Willard St., Westville Station, New Haven, Conn.
Mr. John R. Eddy, Paradise, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.
Mr. J. H. Fiebing, 238 Reed St., Milwaukee, Wis.
Mrs. Pearl Heath Frazier, Chicago, Ill.
Miss J. W. G. Fiske, Fort Scott, Kansas.
Mr. Julian Hinchley, Cendarhurst, Long Island, N. Y.
Mr. Joseph J. Lane, in care House & Garden, 19 West 44th St., New York.
Mrs. Mimme McCoy Lindstrom, Lindstrom Farm, Oberon, N. D.
Mrs. Jessica V. Melhart, Sumner, Wash.
Mrs. R. A. Sprague, 312 Kittson Ave., Grand Forks, N. D.
Mr. Walter Traubly, 1417 Center St., Racine, Wis.
Mr. Charles Traub, Wilmington, Calif.
Mr. G. H. Waite, Moorhead, Minn.
Mrs. C. E. Warner, 323 So. Fourth St., Grand Forks, N. D.
Mr. Percy E. Wells, Maple, Ontario, Canada.
Mrs. Olive Wood, Hennyville, Ind.

THE NATIONAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
Incorporated July 1, 1922
Published quarterly and owned exclusively by The National Horticultural Society.
All Fellows of the Society are requested to send in for publication signed articles on gardening and allied subjects. An effort will be made to publish as much of this material as space will permit.
Advertising rates on application.
Edited by the Secretary of the Society—Hamilton Traub, Henning, Minn.

SHALL WE SPECIALIZE?
By Mrs. Wilda Carson, Itaville, Indiana, Charter Fellow, National Horticultural Society.
Most of us, in the days gone by, have read the fairy tale of the water-nymph who gazed and gazed upon her sun-god Apollo and was slowly pining away until Apollo in sheer pity changed her into a sunflower that she might always turn her face to the sun. We thought her very foolish, and yet, today, in our floral fancies is there not the lurking danger of ourselves becoming sunflowers?
It seems hard for the Rose specialist to see equal beauty in the Iris, and vice versa. When the splendor of the Peony blooms is past should we sit with folded hands and "pine" until Peony time comes another year?
The pageant of the flowers passes before us so gradually that we can "specialize" in a dozen or more varieties that will not in any way rival each other in respect to time of blooming, and this broader policy of "specialization" will extend the joys of the enthusiast flower lover through the entire growing season.
The flowering shrubs and trees that greet us in the earliest spring are indispensable for they form the setting of our picture and prepare us for the rush of the hyacinths, tulips and narcissi that closely follow. We are so "hungry" for blossoms that we forget that we were literally down-on-our-knees to them last fall tucking them in the soil in "drizzles" along the driveway, and in clumps among...
bloom from the tiny pompoms to the big
shaggy fellows.
"Specialize?"—if we must, not on one,
but many.

WILDLINGS OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS AND THE RARE AMERICAN LOTUS

By Mrs. Jean Druloy Jensen, Fox Lake, Ill.
Regional Vice President, National Horti-
cultural Society, for the South-
east Midland.

Northern Illinois, with its rolling
woods, rich soil and many inland lakes and sloughs, is no raggard in the
number and variety of its wild flowers,
either on land or water.

Commencing with the Blood-root in the
spring and ending with the actors and
the Fox Weed in the fall, there is always
something in blossom. Among those that
have not yet been mentioned by the Fel-
lows of the National Horticultural So-
ciety of America in other states are:

**Touza, May-apple, Dutchman's Breeches, Great White Trillium, Blue
and Yellow Violets, Red Oyster Dogwood, Hannah's Trillium, Pulvil
care, Calver's Root, Elder, Button Bush,
Pockweed, Wild Balsam Apple, Queen
Anne's Lace, Snake Root, Bellwort,
Toadflax, Jewelsweed, Evening Primrose,
Smooth False Fox Glove, Spring Beauty, the Pink, Orange and White
Wildbeeds, Pink Knitweed, Columbine,
Wake-robin, Turk's Cap Lily, Trumpet
Gentian, Craneshell, Nightshade,
Bergamot, Polyanthus, and Jack in the
Pulpit.

Old settlers tell me that the pink and
yellow varieties of the Lady Slipper were
abundant here at one time, though I have
never seen them here. I believe both to
be extinct in this locality.

The many shallow lakes filled with
wild rice and celery make this section
an ideal feeding and breeding place for
ducks and other wildfowl.

We have several aquatic flowers
worthy of special mention. First and
foremost is the Rare American Lotus,
which grows here in Grass Lake in great
profusion. Acres and acres of it as far
as the eye can see it lifts its great
greenish yellow bloom and gives out its
heavy perfume. It was thought at one
time that this was the only bed on the
continent but I understand that there are
small beds in the Illinois and Mississippi
Rivers. Small beds have also lately
started in Nippersink and Pistakee Lakes.
These colonies probably started from
roots and seeds that have come down with
the current and ice in the spring,
from the larger beds. This flower is the common water
lily, does not lie on the water. Both
the leaves and the flowers are borne on long
stiff stems and stand up at least a foot
out of the water. The blossoms are
as large as a plate. These beds are a
wonderful sight and excursion boats make
trips to them twice daily during the
flowering season which commences about
the middle of July and there are still
some in bloom at that time in September.
After the flower fades, the cone-shaped
seed pods increase in size until it is
three or four inches in diameter. The seeds
inside become about a quarter of an inch.
The seed pods and leaves are gathered in
immense quantities and are carried to
the city where they are dried and deco-
rated in the various shades of bronze,
and mixed with other bronze weeds, they
are made up into beautiful winter
bouquets which bring a handsome price.

There is an old legend that the seed of
the Lotus is ground into flour by the
Indians and made into bread.

On the way to the Lotus bed another
water-loving plant attracts one's atten-
tion, and on questioning the boatman,
one is told that it is Pickerel Weed,
Pontederia cordata, a homely name for
such a pretty flower which has handsome
arrow-shaped leaves. These leaves are
also gathered, dried and used in making
unporterable soup.

Other beautiful floral displays are
seen when the several varieties of Thorns
and Wild Crabs are in bloom; at Violet
time; when the White Trillium is in
flower; when the Mandrake has all its
fairy umbrellas up and still later in the
golden time of the Goldenrod.

**BUreau of registration
AND EVALUATION**

The National Horticultural Society of
America officially endorses the work un-
der taken by the American Joint Com-
mittee on Nomenclature, and the work
undertaken in this field by the several
national societies sponsoring single hor-
ticultural subjects. It is the aim of the Society not to duplicate the work now
carried on so successfully by these
agencies. Any requests for registration
received that come properly within their
fields will be forwarded to the societies
concerned. The National Horticultural Society will, however, maintain a Bureau of Registration and Evaluation for the registration of plants that are not spon-
sored by a national society. As soon as
practicable, test gardens will be estab-
lished in connection with the American
National Botanical Gardens to be spon-
sored in each of the Regional Districts,
and all plants registered with the Society
will be tested, at the request of the
originator, as to quality and hardiness,
and the results will be published.

The Standing Committee on Nomen-
clature, Registration and Evaluation of
The National Horticultural Society has
not as yet made its report, and for the
present, the following informal system of
registration will be used until the report
of the Committee is ready:

1. Registration of Botanical species
and varieties.

2. Registration of originator's name
and general description of horticultural
varieties.

3. Registration of meritorious horti-

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*The NATIONAL HORTICULTURAL MAGAZINE*
Rudbeckia

A r e requested to for ward descriptions of high; leaves bright green and finely plants that do not come within the —What?

lobed; the upper three: pinnate or parted, to 8 cm. broad; rays commonly the terminal much the largest, decurrent pinnate, with 5 to 7 cut or lobed leaves; has therefore been much delayed. It is reported, however, that the species has flowered for Dr. H. Winert, of Berlin, to whom specimens were sent, and that he is about to publish the description of the species. Dr. Winert's description will be re-published in the Magazine as soon as possible.

GARDEN GOSSIP

News Notes, Correspondence, Reminiscences, Questions, Answers

It is the aim of The National Horticultural Society of America to encourage the founding of a comprehensive local horticultural society in every American municipality that is not already blessed with such an organization, and the Society will lend its influence toward the founding of at least one American National Botanical Garden in each of the Regional Districts.

The Grand Forks Horticultural Society was founded by the Fellows of The National Horticultural Society of America resident in Grand Forks, N. D., and vicinity. The Society is affiliated with the National Society, and the Magazine will be its official organ. The purpose of the Society is to promote horticulture in all its branches in Grand Forks, N. D., and vicinity, and especially to aid school gardening, stage, vegetable and fruit exhibitions, and will sponsor the American National Botanical Garden for the Northwest Midwest to be established Nelson after nine years under cultivation. Dr. J. N. Rose has grown it for three years and has had the same experience. The publication of this species has been much delayed. It is reported, however, that the species has flowered for Dr. H. Winert, of Berlin, to whom specimens were sent, and that he is about to publish the description of the species. Dr. Winert's description will be re-published in the Magazine as soon as possible.

* IN MEMORIAM

NANNIE ELIZABETH ALLEN

It is with the deepest regret that we announce the calling from her earthly activities of one of the charter members of the National Horticultural Society of America, Mrs. Nannie Elizabeth (White) Allen, of Clinton, Missouri. Mrs. Allen was born in Illinois March 26, 1859, and moved with her parents to their farm home near Clinton, Missouri, in 1866. Here she was married, February 8, 1877, to Mr. Albert N. Allen, who survives her. Besides her husband, she leaves a son, Mr. Ernest M. Allen, and a ten-year-old grand-daughter, Miss Lila Frances Allen, to mourn her loss. Mrs. Allen was called from her earthly home on January 25, 1923, and was buried in Englewood Cemetery on January 28, 1923. Besides her family and neighbors, a wide circle of pen friends will be grieved to learn that she has gone from among us, for she possessed the gift of radiating good cheer and love to those who were fortunate enough to have ever received her letters. She was my pen friend for many years, and I know I am only one of the many who will miss her great influence on all while still with us, and now that she is gone on before, her sweet radiance shall never be lost to me, and I shall be with her once more in the place where there will be no more partings.

FANNIE MAHODD HEATH.

LITRATURE OF THE TRADE

For the convenience of the Fellows of the Society, the literature of the horticultural trade received by the Secretary will be briefly reviewed.

D. M. ANDREWS, Rockmart Nursery, Boulder, Colo.- "New or Noteworthy Plants, 1923", 12 pp. and cover; a catalog of native herbaceous plants, shrubs and trees that should be in all complete collections.


JOHN LEWIS CHILD, Inc., Floral Park, N. Y.- "Children's 1923", pp. 114 and cover; vegetable, field and flower seeds; plants, summer flowering bulbs, greenhouse plants, hardy herbaceous plants, shrubs, vines, trees, etc.

LUTHER BURBANK, Santa Rosa, Calif.- "Turbank Seeds, 1923", Bulletin No. 63, pp. 30 and cover; the famous Burbank origination.

PENDLETON & LUCKETT-BRADLEY CO. 5700 Detroit Ave., Cleveland, O. - "See Headquarters"; pp. 40 and cover; vegetable and flower seeds, plants, bulbs, fruit, etc.

GARDENS OF SMIDLEY, Waterloo, Iowa.- "Extirpator Gladiolus Price List."

A. C. DICKINSON, [Catalogue of the Kundert Gladioli for 1923?]; pp. 50 and cover; an illustrated catalog of the famous Kundert origination.

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