

Newsletter

International Lilac Society, Inc.



VOL. 2, NO. 2

CONVENTION

ISSUE

1973

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NEWSLETTER

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IN THIS CONVENTION ISSUE

- 3 Convention Program
- 4 The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University..
Site of 1973 Lilac Convention
- 7 Listing of Lilacs at the Arnold Arboretum
- 9 Breeding and Growing Hybrid Lilacs from Seed
by Richard A. Fenicchia
- 10 Photos of L.A. Kolesnikov Hybrid Lilacs
- 11 L.A. Kolesnikov..Hybridist and Author
..a Tribute on his 80th year..
Rearing of Hybrids..by L.A. Kolesnikov
- 14 In Search of Practical Programs for Hybridizing Lilacs
by Fr. John L. Fiala
- 16 A Proper Perspective in Landscaping..
Common Plants...the Lilac?
by William A. Stiles (a timely reprint)
- 17 Meeting Our Nurserymen..and Women..
The Franklin Lilacs..by Mabel L. Franklin
- 18 Delhi, N.Y. a 'Lilac Town'
by Anne Robinson
- 19 Places to Stop..Along the Convention Route..
by Robert B. Clark
Letters to the Editor

In the interest of the membership of the Society a wide variety of information on lilacs is sought. The Society is anxious to obtain original pictures of hybridists, lilac gardens and items of interest to members. Send articles on lilacs or material for print to:
Editor, John L. Fiala, 7359 Branch Rd.
Medina, Ohio 44256

Front cover: Top left: 'Nikolai Ostrovskii (Kolesnikov),
top right: 'Russkay Krasavitsa (N.S. Stashkevitch), Bottom:
'Pamiat o S.M. Kirove' (Kolesnikov)

Back cover: Top- 'Izobillie', Bottom: 'Krasavitsa Moskvyy'
and 'Pamiat o S.M. Kirove' (Kolesnikov)

Photos and materials on L.A. Kolesnikov were supplied by
Dr. Alexander Astrov, Botanical Garden/Academy of Science
Moscow, U.S.S.R.

INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY
BOSTON, MASS.
ARNOLD ARBORETUM OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY

- Convention Headquarters: *MARRIOTT HOTEL, Commonwealth Avenue
(Rt. 128 & Mass. Pike)
Newton, Mass. 01266
Tel: (617) 969-1000
- Tours: ARNOLD ARBORETUM (Jamaica Plains, Boston)
CASE ESTATES (Weston)
- Convention Theme: LILACS IN THE CONTEMPORARY LANDSCAPE
- Convention Chairman: Dr. Owen M. Rogers, University of New Hampshire
- Convention Speakers: Alfred J. Fordham, Arnold Arboretum,
Harvard University
Dr. Randolph Pike, University of New Hampshire
Mr. Thomas Wirth, Sasaki Associates,
Watertown, Mass.
- Special Convention Features: Cut-lilac Show (Bring sprays of your choicest lilacs —
Awards to be given)
Auction of lilacs and Lilac Things (materials etc. with
Lilac motif)
Show 'n Tell (Bring your pictures, slides, exhibits)
- Registration Fee: \$20 per person (includes 4 meals: barbecue, Lilac
Banquet, two box lunches plus
bus tour)
Remit to: Robert B. Clark, 375 Westfall Road,
Rochester, N.Y. 14620 by May 21st at very
latest. (Please make checks payable to
International Lilac Society, Inc.)

* To reach the MARRIOTT HOTEL:

From the Mass. Pike take Exit Rt. 128 straight ahead marked "NH-Maine, North". Be alert! IMMEDIATELY the first exit is "US 30". Make right turn to traffic light. Marriott Hotel entrance is second left beyond this light, ample parking. (This exit and US 30 are all in very close proximity to the giant traffic outlets from the Mass. Pike so be alert)

Remember this US 30 Exit for later when coming from Jamaica Plain to Weston we shall exit onto US 30, this time making a left turn instead of returning to hotel.



View towards Lilacs from top of Forsythia banking

THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY.....

James Arnold of New Bedford left about \$100,000 — 5/96th of his estate — for the “promotion of Agricultural, or Horticultural, improvements . . .” With New England thrift, his Trustees persuaded Harvard University to establish an arboretum on land already owned by Harvard to leave the maximum income-producing endowment.

Arnold’s trustees provided for the cultivation “as far as is practicable, all the trees, shrubs and herbaceous (woody at or below ground) plants, either indigenous or exotic” that could be grown in Boston’s climate. The trustees were in touch with the renowned botanist Asa Gray, a Harvard professor then in charge of a botanical garden in Cambridge. Gray wanted the Arboretum in Cambridge but land was too expensive. Harvard owned land in the Jamaica Plain section of Boston donated by Benjamin Bussey for an agricultural institute, and 125 acres was set aside for the Arboretum (later additions from the Bussey land and from the City of Boston have brought the Arboretum to 265 acres).

The Bussey Institution in 1872 had obtained the services of Charles Sprague Sargent, as Professor of Horticulture. Sargent was an 1862 graduate of Harvard College who had been in charge of the grounds of his family’s estate in Brookline. In 1873, the Harvard Corporation chose him as Director of the Arboretum and Arnold Professor of Botany. Sargent found 123 species of trees and other woody plants on what he called a “worn-out farm.”

In that same year, 1873, the pioneer landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, proposed the incorporation of the Arboretum in the greenbelt system of parks he was planning for Boston. Although Sargent was agreeable, the two men met indifference from authorities of both City and University. It took until 1882 to reach the mutually beneficial agreement with the city.



Syringa cv. 'Alba Grandiflora' foreground

(Photos: Arnold Arboretum)

1973 CONVENTION

MAY 25 -26

Under that agreement, the city took over the property and leased it to Harvard at \$1 per year for 1,000 years, with a renewal clause. The city built roads to a park plan laid out by Olmsted and provides police patrols. In return, Harvard keeps the grounds open to the public and maintains them.

Sargent journeyed to gather specimens in Japan in 1892, around the world in 1903, to South America in 1905-06, and to Europe frequently. He supplemented the scarce endowment with donations from his personal resources, particularly his botanical library, and vigorously raised money from his friends. Other staff members made trips to the Far East and brought back important species from remote parts of China and Tibet. Over the years, the Arboretum has introduced to cultivation in the United States more than 3,000 species.

On Sargent's death in 1927, the Arboretum came under Prof. Oakes Ames, who was also in charge of the Botanical Museum in Cambridge and the Atkins Garden in Cuba. Under Ames, research work expanded from exploration and taxonomic identification and horticulture to include diseases of plants (under J. H. Faull), genetics and breeding (Karl Sax), and wood anatomy (I. W. Bailey).

In 1935, Ames turned over the Arboretum to Elmer Drew Merrill, a specialist in the plants of Southeast Asia, to devote more time to the Botanical Museum. Merrill had to contend with the stresses of depression, war, and the hurricane of 1938, damage from which certain parts of the Arboretum are still recovering. During Merrill's directorship, the widow of Larz Anderson, a former ambassador to Japan, donated a famous collection of dwarf trees made by her husband while ambassador in 1912-1913. The important Arboretum collection of Bonsai trees now includes specimens more than 230 years old. The Case Estates in Weston came to the Arboretum during the second World War through the generosity of the sisters Louisa and Marion Case.

In 1946, Karl Sax succeeded to the directorship, and the President and Fellows of Harvard approved a plan to consolidate in Cambridge the botanical activities of the University. Under this plan, a new University Herbarium in Cambridge was to combine most of the library and tree specimens of the Arnold Arboretum with the library and specimens of flowers, plants, and ferns of the Gray Herbarium. For easy reference, these collections were to sit between the Farlow Herbarium with its specimens of bacteria fungi, algae, lichen, and mosses, and the Museum of Comparative Zoology with its collections of animal specimens. A working collection of tree specimens and a working library was to be continued in Jamaica Plain. In fact, the new building was not completed until 1954, coincident with the retirement of Dr. Sax as Director and the appointment of Richard A. Howard as Director of the Arnold Arboretum and Arnold Professor of Botany.

The plan was opposed by some supporters of the Arnold Arboretum, and a lawsuit was instituted in 1953. After the dispute had been in the courts for thirteen years, the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts upheld Harvard in 1966.

Under Professor Howard, the Arboretum has consolidated its work and further developed both as a showplace and as a center for botanical research.

Today the Arboretum's more than 6,000 kinds of woody plants, 935,839 herbarium sheets, 79,741 library volumes, and active research and publications program make it a major resource of horticultural and botanical science for the whole world.

Moreover, the foresight and skill of Boston citizens of 1882 made the Arboretum a priceless civic asset — a free park, open from dawn to dusk to all — in the heart of the city. In that year, ownership of the land was transferred to the City of Boston for inclusion in its park system, and the land was leased to Harvard for 1,000 years at \$1 per year.

With recent growing concern for the quality of the environment, the public service activities of the Arboretum are moving into sharp focus. The present Director of the Arboretum, Richard A. Howard, who is the Arnold Professor of Botany at Harvard, wrote in his annual report for 1970-71:

"Every concerned group soon faces the problem of what to do beyond the picking up of debris. Almost everyone knows that a vacant lot can be made into a park, but how is the soil to be treated? What plants will grow there? How should they be placed? What subsequent maintenance is necessary? What are the best plants for the control of erosion, for the screening of noises or vistas? Ultimately, the questions become 'Will you help us?' or 'Do you have plants to spare which we can use for our project?'"

The Arboretum can supply few plants but can offer help. The most important help is information, demonstrations and advice, all free. During 1970-71, 26 organizations — ranging from neighborhood committees to city and state agencies — drew on the expertise of the Arboretum staff.

The Arboretum does make available samples of its collections to other institutions and in the last academic year the greenhouses made 169 shipments of 800 kinds of plants to recipients in 17 states and 12 foreign countries.

The services of the Arboretum have extended beyond the boundaries of place and specialization. Arboretum staff members in this country have been able to help the Armed Forces significantly in little-known parts of the world through identification of and information about exotic plants. The Arboretum staff answers thousands of questions from the public each year by mail, including questions about identification of particular plant samples. Several thousand persons each year attend its six public course series, two lecture series and frequent tours.

During the summer, the Arboretum offers apprenticeships for training interested young persons in the care of grounds, plants and trees.

SYRINGA NAME LISTING IN THE ARNOLD ARBORETUM...APRIL 1973

SYRINGA
 CHINENSIS
 CHINENSIS VAR. ALBA
 CHINENSIS VAR. METENSIS
 CHINENSIS VAR. SAUGEANA
 CV. ABEL CARRIERE
 CV. A. B. LAMBERTON
 CV. ADDIE V. HALLOCK
 CV. ADELAIDE DUNBAR
 CV. ADMIRAL FARRAGUT
 CV. ALADDIN
 CV. ALBA GRANDIFLORA
 CV. ALBA VIRGINALIS
 CV. ALEXANDER HAMILTON
 CV. ALICE
 CV. ALICE EASTWOOD
 CV. ALINE MOCQUERTS
 CV. ALPHONSE BOUVIER
 CV. ALPHONSE LAVALLEE
 CV. AMBASSADEUR
 CV. A. M. BRAND
 CV. AMBROISE VERSCHAFFELT
 CV. AMETHYST
 CV. AMI SCHOTT
 CV. AMOENA
 CV. ANNA AMHOFF
 CV. ANNABEL
 CV. ANNA NICKLES
 CV. ANNE SHIACH
 CV. ANNE TIGHE
 CV. ARIEL
 CV. ARTHUR WILLIAM PAUL
 CV. ASSESSIPPI
 CV. ASTRA
 CV. AUCUBAEFOLIA
 CV. AUDREY
 CV. AZUREA PLENA
 CV. BANQUISE
 CV. BELLE DE NANCY
 CV. BELLICENT
 CV. BERANGER
 CV. BERRYER
 CV. BERTHA PHAIR
 CV. BETTY STONE
 CV. BICOLOR
 CV. BLEUATRE
 CV. BLUE HYACINTH
 CV. BOULE AZUREE
 CV. BOUJIFUL
 CV. BOUSSINGAULT
 CV. BUFFON
 CV. CALPURNIA
 CV. CALVIN G. LANEY
 CV. CAPITAINE BALTET
 CV. CAPITAINE PERRAULT
 CV. CARLTON
 CV. CARMEN
 CV. CARMINE
 CV. CATINAT
 CV. CAVOUR
 CV. C. B. VAN NES
 CV. CHARLES BALTET
 CV. CHARLES HEPBURN
 CV. CHARLES JOLY
 CV. CHARLES NORDINE
 CV. CHARLES SARGENT
 CV. CHARLES X
 CV. CHARLOTTE MORGAN
 CV. CHARM
 CV. CHARMIAN
 CV. CHRIS
 CV. CHRISTOPHE COLOMB
 CV. CHURCHILL
 CV. CITY OF GRESHAM
 CV. CITY OF KELSO
 CV. CITY OF LONGVIEW
 CV. CITY OF OLYMPIA
 CV. CLARA
 CV. CLARA COCHET
 CV. CLARENCE D'VAN ZANDT
 CV. CLAUDE BERNARD
 CV. CLAUDE LE LORRAIN
 CV. COERULEA SUPERBA
 CV. COLBERT
 CV. COLMARIENSIS
 CV. COL. W. R. PLUM
 CV. COMTE ADRIEN DE MONTEBELLO
 CV. COMTE DE KERCHOVE
 CV. COMTESSE HORACE DE CHOISEUL
 CV. CONDORCET
 CV. CONGO
 CV. CONSTANCE
 CV. CORA BRANDT
 CV. CORAL
 CV. CORINNE
 CV. CRAMPSEL
 CV. CRAYTON RED
 CV. CREPUSCULE
 CV. CROIX DE BRAHY
 CV. DAME BLANCHE
 CV. DAPHNE PINK
 CV. DAWN
 CV. DECAISNE
 CV. DE CRONCELS
 CV. DE HUMBOLDT
 CV. DE JUSSIEU
 CV. DE LOUVAIN
 CV. DE MIRIBEL
 CV. DE SAUSSURE
 CV. DESDEMONA
 CV. DESFONTAINES
 CV. DEUIL D'EMILE GALLE
 CV. DIANE
 CV. DIDEROT
 CV. DILLIA
 CV. DIPLOMATE
 CV. DONALD WYMAN
 CV. DORCAS
 CV. DOYEN KETELEER
 CV. DR. CHADWICK
 CV. DR. CHARLES JACOBS
 CV. DRESDEN CHINA
 CV. DR. LEMPKI
 CV. DR. LINDELEY
 CV. DR. MAILLOT
 CV. DR. MASTERS
 CV. DR. NOBBE
 CV. DR. TROYANOWSKY
 CV. DR. VON REGEL
 CV. DUC DE MASSA
 CV. DUSK
 CV. EARLIEST EVANGELINE
 CV. EARLY DOUBLE WHITE
 CV. EDEN
 CV. EDITH CAVELL
 CV. EDMOND ABOUT
 CV. EDMOND BOISSIER
 CV. EDOUARD ANDRE
 CV. EKENHOLM
 CV. ELINOR
 CV. ELLEN WILLMOTT
 CV. EMILE GENTILE
 CV. EMILE LEMOINE
 CV. EMIL LIEBIG
 CV. ENID
 CV. ERZHERZOG JOHANN
 CV. ESTHER STALEY
 CV. ETNA
 CV. ETOILE DE MAI
 CV. EVANGELINE
 CV. EXCEL
 CV. FANTASY
 CV. FARRIONENSIS
 CV. FELLEMBERG
 CV. FLOREAL
 CV. FLORENCE CHRISTINE
 CV. FOUNTAIN
 CV. FRANCISCA
 CV. FRANK KLAGER
 CV. FRAU BERTHA DAMMAN
 CV. FRAU WILHELM PFITZER
 CV. FRED L. KLAGER
 CV. FRED PAYNE
 CV. FREEDOM
 CV. FRITZ
 CV. FUERST LIECHTENSTEIN
 CV. GALINA ULANOVA
 CV. GALDICHAUD
 CV. GEANT DES BATAILLES
 CV. GEHEIMRAT HEYDER
 CV. GEHEIMRAT SINGELMANN
 CV. GENERAL ELWELL S. OTIS
 CV. GENERAL KITCHENER
 CV. GENERAL PERSHING
 CV. GENERAL SHERIDAN
 CV. GENERAL SHERMAN
 CV. GEORGES BELLAIR
 CV. GERODE W. ALDRIDGE
 CV. GERTRUDE LESLIE
 CV. GIGANTEA
 CV. GILBERT
 CV. GIRALDI NANA
 CV. GLOIRE DE LA ROCHELLES
 CV. GLOIRE DE MOULINS
 CV. GLORY
 CV. GOODRON
 CV. GOLIATH
 CV. GORTENSIA
 CV. GRACE ORTHWAITE
 CV. GRAND DUC CONSTANTIN
 CV. GISPONDA
 CV. GUINEVERE
 CV. GUIZOT
 CV. HANDEL
 CV. HECLA
 CV. HEDIN
 CV. HENRI MARTIN
 CV. HENRI ROBERT
 CV. HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW
 CV. HENRY WARD BEECHER
 CV. HIRATHA
 CV. HIPPOLYTE MARINGER
 CV. MIRAM H. EDGEKTON
 CV. HORACE
 CV. HUGO DE VRIES
 CV. HUGO KOSTER
 CV. HUNTING TOWER
 CV. HYAZINTHENFLIEDER
 CV. H. ZABEL
 CV. IRVINA
 CV. ISABELLA
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 CV. JACQUES CALLOT
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 CV. LEMOINEI
 CV. LE NOTRE
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 CV. LEONORE
 CV. LEON SIMON
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 CV. LE TROYES
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 CV. L'ONCLE TOM
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 CV. MARECHAL LANNES
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 CV. NIEBO MOSKOVY
 CV. NIGHT
 CV. NIGRICANS
 CV. NOCTURNE
 CV. NOISETTIANA ALBA
 CV. NOKOMIS
 CV. NORAH
 CV. NOUVEAU
 CV. OAKS DOUBLE WHITE
 CV. OBELISQUE
 CV. OBERON
 CV. OLIMPIADA KOLIESNIKOVA
 CV. OLIVIA
 CV. ORCHID BEAUTY
 CV. OSTRANDER
 CV. PAMYAT O S. M. KIROVE
 CV. PARADISE
 CV. PASCAL
 CV. PATRICIA
 CV. PATRICK HENRY
 CV. PAUL DESCHANEL
 CV. PAUL HARTOT
 CV. PAULINA
 CV. PAUL THIRION
 CV. PEARL
 CV. PEGGY
 CV. PERLE VON STUTTGART
 CV. PERLE VON TETLOW
 CV. PHILEMON
 CV. PIERRE JOIGNEAUX
 CV. PINK CLOUD
 CV. PINK MIST

CV. PIONEER
 CV. PLANCHON
 CV. POCAMONTAS
 CV. PORTIA
 CV. PRAIRIAL
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 CV. PRESIDENT FALLIERES
 CV. PRESIDENT GREVY
 CV. PRESIDENT HAYES
 CV. PRESIDENT LAMBEAU
 CV. PRESIDENT LEBRUN
 CV. PRESIDENT LINCOLN
 CV. PRESIDENT LOUBET
 CV. PRESIDENT MASSART
 CV. PRESIDENT MONROE
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 CV. PRESIDENT VIGER
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 CV. PRINCE IMPERIAL
 CV. PRINCE NOTGER
 CV. PRINCE OF WALES
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 CV. PRINCESS CAMILLE DE ROHAN
 CV. PRINCESS CLEMENTINE
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 CV. PRISCILLA
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 CV. PROFESSOR SARGENT
 CV. PUCK
 CV. PURITAN
 CV. PURPLE GEM
 CV. PURPLE GLORY
 CV. PURPLE HEART
 CV. PYRAMIDALIS
 CV. PYRAMIDALIS ALBA
 CV. QUADRICOLOR
 CV. REAMUR
 CV. REAGAN
 CV. REINE ELIZABETH
 CV. REINE MARGUERITE
 CV. RENE JARRY DESLOGES
 CV. RENONCULE
 CV. ROI ALBERT
 CV. ROMANCE
 CV. ROMEO
 CV. ROXSARD
 CV. ROSACE
 CV. ROSEA GRANDIFLORA
 CV. ROSE DE TRIANON
 CV. ROWANCROFT PINK
 CV. ROYALTY
 CV. RUBELLA PLENA
 CV. RUBRA INSIGNIS
 CV. RUHM VON HORSTENSTEIN
 CV. RUSSKAYA KRASAVITSA
 CV. RUSTICA
 CV. RUTILANT
 CV. R. W. MILLS
 CV. SCHEMERHORN
 CV. SCOTIA
 CV. SENATEUR VOLLLAND
 CV. SENSATION
 CV. SIBERICA
 CV. SIEBOLD
 CV. SILVER KING
 CV. SILVIA
 CV. SONIA COLFAX
 CV. SOUVENIR DE CLAUDIUS GRANIDORGE
 CV. SOUVENIR DE GASPARD CALLOT
 CV. SOUVENIR DE GEORGES TRUFFAUT
 CV. SOUVENIR DE LOUIS THIBAUT
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 CV. SPLENDOR
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 CV. ST. MARGARET
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 CV. SUNSET
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 CV. THAMBERG
 CV. TITANIA
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 CV. TOM TAYLOR
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 CV. TRIOMPHE D'ORLEANS
 CV. TRISTE BARBARO
 CV. TRUE BLUE
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 CV. TURGOT

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 CV. VALETTEANA
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 CV. VAUBAN
 CV. VERGISSMENNIGHT
 CV. VERSALIENSIS
 CV. VERSCHAFFELTI
 CV. VESTALE
 CV. VICTOR LEMOINE
 CV. VILLARS
 CV. VILLE DE TROYES
 CV. CIOLA
 CV. VIOLETTA
 CV. VIRGINIA BECKER
 CV. VIRGINIE
 CV. VIVIAN MOREL
 CV. VIVIAN EVANS
 CV. VOLCAN
 CV. WALDECK-ROUSSEAU
 CV. WEDDLE
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 CV. WILLIAM S. RILEY
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 CV. ZUKUNFT
 CV. ZULU
 SYRINGA DIVERKIFOLIA
 SYRINGA EMODI
 SYRINGA HENRYI
 SYRINGA HENRYI VAR. ALBA
 SYRINGA HENRYI X S. TOMENTELLA CV. GERMI
 SYRINGA HYACINTHIFLORA
 SYRINGA JOSIFLEXA VAR. RUBRA
 SYRINGA JOSIFLEXA
 SYRINGA JOSIFLEXA VAR. EXIMIA
 SYRINGA JOSIFLEXA VAR. RUBRA
 SYRINGA JULIANAE
 SYRINGA LACINATA
 SYRINGA LACINIATA X S. AMURENSIS
 SYRINGA LACINIATA X S. VULGARES
 SYRINGA MEYERI
 SYRINGA MICROPHYLLA
 SYRINGA MICROPHYLLA VAR. SUPERBA
 SYRINGA MICROPHYLLA X S. MEYERI
 SYRINGA OBLATA
 SYRINGA OBLATA VAR. DILATATA
 SYRINGA OBLATA VAR. GIRALDI
 SYRINGA OBLATA VAR. GIRALDI NANA
 SYRINGA PALIBINIANA
 SYRINGA PEKINENSIS
 SYRINGA PEKINENSIS VAR. PENDULA
 SYRINGA PERSICA
 SYRINGA PERSICA VAR. ALBA
 PERSICA VAR. ALBA
 SYRINGA PINETORUM
 SYRINGA PINNATIFOLIA
 SYRINGA POTANINII
 SYRINGA PRESTONIAE
 SYRINGA PUBESCENS
 SYRINGA REFLEXA
 SYRINGA REFLEXA VAR. ALBA
 SYRINGA RETICULATA
 SYRINGA RETICULATA VAR. MANDSHURICA
 SYRINGA RHODOPEA
 SYRINGA SKINNERI
 SYRINGA SP.
 SYRINGA SWEGIFLEXA
 SYRINGA SWEGINBRETTEA
 SYRINGA SWEGINZOWII
 SYRINGA SWEGINZOWII VAR. ALBIDA
 SYRINGA SWEGINZOWII VAR. DENSIFLORA
 SYRINGA TIGERSTEDTII
 SYRINGA TOMENTELLA
 SYRINGA TOMENTELLA VAR. ROSEA
 SYRINGA VELUTINA
 SYRINGA VELUTINA VAR. EXCELLENS
 SYRINGA VELUTINA X S. PUBESCENS
 SYRINGA VILLOSA
 SYRINGA VILLOSA X
 SYRINGA VULGARIS
 SYRINGA VULGARIS VAR.
 SYRINGA VULGARIS VAR. NANA
 SYRINGA VULGARIS PURPUREA
 SYRINGA VULGARIS VAR. VIOLACEAE
 SYRINGA WOLFFI
 SYRINGA YUNNANENSIS
 SYRINGA YUNNANENSIS VAR. ROSEA.

(Editor's Note: The Computer readouts are not necessarily the "official name". Officially some names are abbreviated, sic. Mme., Gen., Souv., Pres. -not always and in every case: see Lilac Survey or Official Registration)



BREEDING AND GROWING

HYBRID LILACS FROM SEED

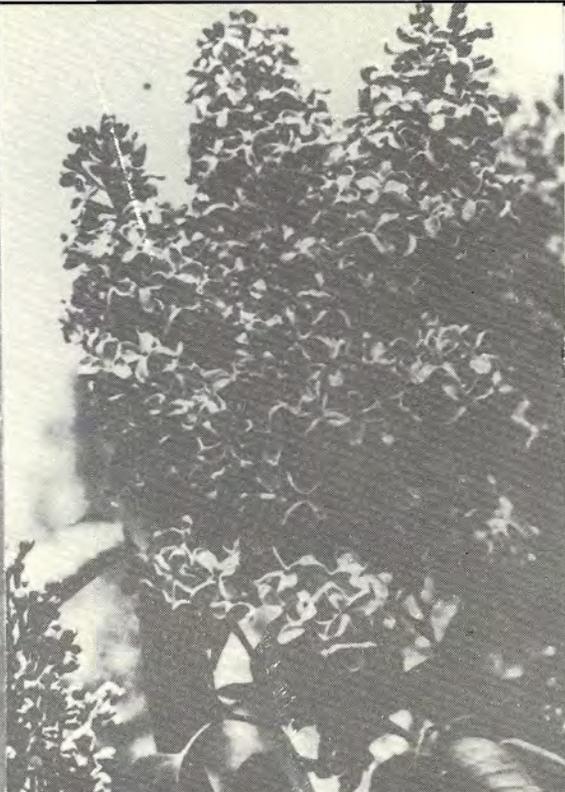
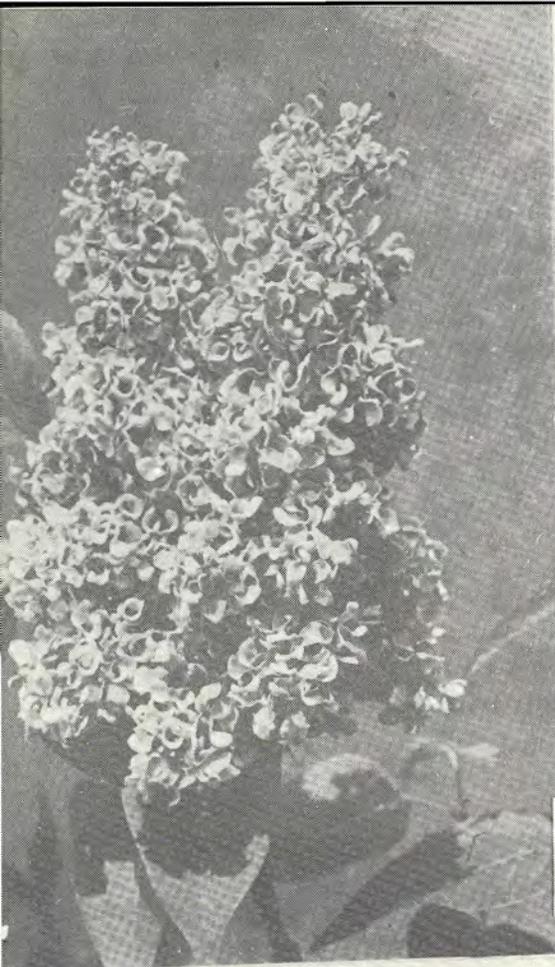
By Richard A. Fenicchia*, Dept. Parks, Rochester, N. Y.

The Rochester lilac was selected from a batch of so-called French lilacs. It is slow-growing, broad and shrubby, on the dwarf side. Thyrses (ovate panicles) erect, usually in pairs, narrowly conical — 7" to 8" tall. Florets white, of good substance; corolla lobes often five (occasionally to 17 inches teratological instances); late blooming. 'Rochester' Lilac was used as the female parent for further hybridizing. Male plants used were: 'Madam Charles Couchet', blue; 'Dusk', purple; 'Ed G. Gardener', pink; 'Sensation', purple and white; 'Glory', magenta.

These crosses were made using potted plants, forced into flower in the greenhouse in January, 1960. Under controlled conditions the other lilacs were brought into bloom about the same time. Emasculation of the Rochester lilac was started by nipping the tender top off the thyrses; the corolla and anthers of each flower was pulled off by using the thumb and forefinger. Obviously emasculation must take place before the pollen matures. Select between 15 and 20 flowers on each thyrses. Pinch off the other flowers. A brush, the thickness of lead in a pencil, may be used to gather the pollen as soon as it has burst from the anther capules; pollination of the stigma should start as soon as emasculation has taken place. Repeat pollination for several days. Thyrses may remain fully exposed without a cover till seeds have ripened. When seed pods have turned brown and brittle, gather seed before carpels fully open. Clean the seeds and store in a cool, dry place until the time for sowing, the first week in January for greenhouse growing.

Cedar flats are used for sowing the seeds. A 1:1 mixture of sterilized loam and coarse sand is used. Firm mixture in flats with drainage holes in them. Sow seeds by broadcasting evenly or in rows, label and firm seeds in the ground; seeds may be covered with unsterilized coarse sand to a depth of 1/8 inch. Firm sand, place flat in a tank of water below rim of flat. When the soil is wet through, place flat on shelf in greenhouse at a temperature of 65°-75° F. Temperature variations may delay germination. A pane of glass may be put over each seed flat. Three days after sowing seeds, the soil should be sprayed with a mixture of captan and malathion; spraying seed flats should continue weekly until seedlings have developed three or four leaves. Seed flats should be kept moist at all times until seed germinates. Good drainage is essential for optimum germination and growth of lilacs in all stages of development.

**Richard Fenicchia was the 1972 I.L.S. recipient of the DIRECTORS' AWARD presented for outstanding work in hybridizing the Rochester Strain of lilacs.*



LEFT: 'Alexsei Marejiev', TOP RIGHT: 'M.T. Kalinin', LOWER LEFT: 'Marshal Vasilevskii', LOWER RIGHT: 'P.P. Konchalovskii'





HYBRIDIZER L.A. KOLESNIKOV AND 'Miehta'

Amateur floriculturist L. Kolesnikov has won the Stalin Prize for breeding new strains of lilac. His garden in Moscow holds about 500 kinds of lilac, including more than 300 new ones of his own breeding.

L. A. KOLESNIKOV

....A TRIBUTE TO 80 YEARS AND STILL
GOING STRONG!

The following section on Hybrid Lilacs is by L.A. Kolesnikov and is taken from his book LILAC published in Moscow in 1952.

REARING OF HYBRIDS

Preparations for sowing, sowing itself and pricking out are with hybrids the same as with root stocks grown from seed. The difference is that in rearing hybrid seedlings I often put them in strictly individualized conditions.

All patches with hybrid seed, as later all beds and rows of seedlings, have labels denoting their parent forms.

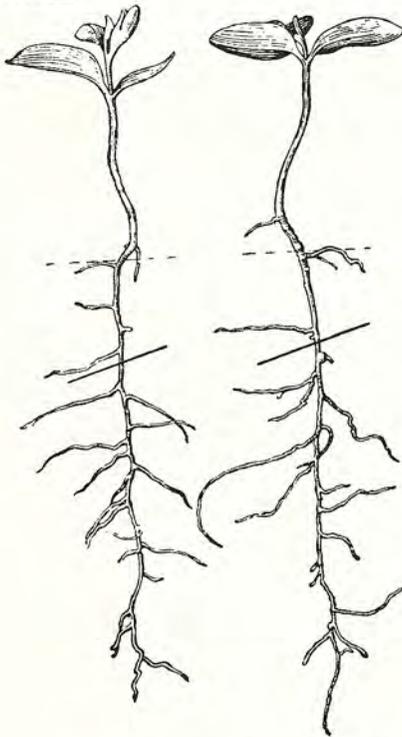
As a rule my seedlings are reared on soil that has been well fertilized in advance and is regularly weeded and normally humid. In cases of food shortage I practise additional fertilizing.

When pricked out the seedlings are given a nutritive area of 5.5 square inches each.

A certain number are put in worse conditions to inure them to hardships which the selector intends them to encounter in future.

In normal circumstances the seedlings gain 10 in. or even more in their first year. They go into winter with foliage yet green. In spring their tops have a frost-bitten look. This should not discourage the beginner, as they will soon recover and develop normally.

By the end of June of the second year I pinch down the tops of the seedlings, thus promoting the formation of the meristematic buds that will later give rise to the head.



Hybrid seedlings of lilac 21-23 days after sowing. Dash shows length of main root to be left when pricking out, dotted line shows depth of planting

The head itself I train in the third year, though preparations for this, I already begin in the first by removing side-buds and suckers from the root-crown. During the second year this is repeated two-three times. My aim is to make the shrub standard, i.e., to grow it in one stem. Therefore it is only in the second year, in the middle or end of June, that I leave a few well-formed meristematic buds, which in the third year will develop into the main branches of the head.

In the fourth year some of the seedlings start to bloom, and it is then I make my first estimates of their value and conduct preliminary selection. But I never forget



THE KOLESNIKOV LILACS NEAR MOSCOW

that the first flowering may not bring out all their merits. Many of them may yet be successfully improved and modified if given the appropriate conditions.

BELOW: '*Ogni Moskvy*', note the large thyrsus



IN SEARCH OF PRACTICAL PROGRAMS FOR HYBRIDIZING LILACS

By Fr. John L. Fiala

Lilacs in the future will be what the hybridists of today plan and work for them to be. Undoubtedly, there will always be those who gather and plant seeds. From these there will from time to time appear an outstanding lilac worthy of being named and several hundred thousand that should be discarded. This does not have to be if the hybridist plans a controlled program. A scientifically planned program is called a hybridizing model or design. It seeks through controlled breeding to obtain planned results and objectives. Inherent in an hybridizing plan should be (1) to combine particular genetic characteristics, some of which, perhaps, may never have been combined before. (2) There must be a controlled observation of the total population of plants produced to note the special characteristics of any given cross. Here is one of the most important aspects of an hybridizing plan, namely, to provide information about inherited characteristics, dominant and recessive factors. Often we make a sweeping cross and fail to observe it thoroughly and long enough to obtain all the information possible, even though at that time it may not be of use to the hybridizer. Hence, we have only skeletal information and someone else must redo and retrace the steps of the same cross to obtain information that could have been supplied by more accurate observation and more responsible accountability. Above all an hybridist must learn the technique of being a good observer: This may mean that plants of a given cross (that are not to be named or will even be totally rejected) must be kept for some years to observe certain factors, e.g. how tall will plants of a certain cross grow? What is their adult form or bloom? In hybridizing *Syringa* we should set up basic information sheets to be completed by hybridizers to be published by the Society's Research Committee from time to time so to make such facts available to all engaged in lilac research. (The Research Committee has a tentative form available to those who wish to use it and hopefully future researchers will find such information an asset to their work.) Too often a cross is made purely from a utilitarian view. A few promising seedlings are selected because of bloom or color and that is all the information provided after a considerable amount of work. How much more could have been gleaned that would be helpful? A survey of general characteristics of any given cross should include: fertility of the cross, time of germination, seedling vigor, characteristics of leaves, stem and form of growth, time of first florescence (bloom), length of bloom, flower characteristics such as color, size, form, fragrance, dropping of petals, pod characteristics and color. These are only some factors that hybridists should record and thus will become more observant and see beyond color and bloom. Systematically we learn to educate ourselves and see the unusual characteristics. The author once asked the noted Dutch hybridist, Dirk E. Maarse, why he seemed to find and introduce proportionately more lilac sports? "Because I look a little longer at the whole plant. I spend more time looking and thinking! There are probably just as many profitable sports in everyone's lilac collection. Others do not take time to see them!" This same could be said of seedling crosses. Frequently one plant of a cross is selected because of some very unique characteristic and the rest of the cross is discarded. This 'one unique characteristic' is publicized as a 'cross characteristic' simply because this one unique plant is the only remaining member of that cross. Undoubtedly the confusion in the rather diverse population of *S. patula* must have some of this kind of selectivity that has been given "species status" in the past! (3) There must be selectivity for further work or propagation. "Selectivity" implies a careful evaluation for special qualities. Selectivity for hybridization may at times be quite different from selectivity for the commercial market. Very often a "winner" on the commercial market may have little to offer future generations and be a poor parent, although not always. When any plant is selected for a breeding program there should be a determined set of reasons for this choice. It should be stated as a typical random sample of the plant population or a selected clone with some special characteristic not found in the general plant population. Unless somewhere stated, future generations will give a selected plant a 'random sample' status and expect all members of a similar cross to have the same characteristics which in all probability they will not.

An Hybridization Plan Within A Species (Intra-species Hybridization)

'Inbreeding' within a species is simply crossing within that species and selecting for some special characteristics. Crossing the best plant with the selected characteristics producing an inbred line strong in the desired characteristic. (e.g. selecting the darkest purples and crossing them to each other until the darkest purple is obtained. Hulda Klager did most of her work with *S. vulgaris* by intensive 'line breeding' from three original clones. Any characteristic can be intensified to a certain point if there is continued selectivity for that factor.

'Back Crossing' is taking the end product of any inbred line and crossing it back to one of the original or very early parents. Frequently some very outstanding results are thus obtained.

'Outcrossing' within a given species such as in a greatly varied species as *S. vulgaris*, which has had the greatest selectivity of clones of all the lilac species, would be crossing one clone with another clone of diverse characteristics. (e.g. *S. vulgaris* 'Mt. Blanc' which is the result of several generations of selective white flowered breeding crossed with *S. vulgaris* 'Prodige' which is the result of line breeding for deep purples). Often the infusion of different clones with fixed characteristics gives to the offspring what is known as 'special vigor' (best illustrated in the crossing of different species). In the above example the deep purple line-breeding has a characteristic for weak-growing plants the infusion of the white growing vigor can add this to the purple line.

There are many advantages to crosses within closely related members species. Consider the results obtained in crosses of *S. vulgaris* x *S. oblata dilatata* or *giraldi*. Each of these has added something new to *S. vulgaris* (earlier blooming and stronger plant vigor- each cross with its own uniqueness.) What of crosses with *S. rhodopea*, *S. Tierstedti* for although they would be 'inter-species crosses' yet they appear closely related to *S. vulgaris*.

An Hybridizing Plan Using Different Species (Inter-species Hybridization)

The 'inter-species' crosses of *Syringa* will undoubtedly provide some of the most exciting and profitable crosses for lilac hybridists. They also provide some of the most difficult work, less commercially profitable in the beginning, but should prove among some of the most rewarding in successive generations. All of the horticultural world is aware of the work of Isabella Preston and of F. L. Skinner. They are the first steps of what should be great forward strides in interspecies hybridizing. The work of Dr. W. Cumming is in this direction. There should be controlled inbreeding of the *Prestoniae* *Hybrids* to the fourth and fifth generations (e.g. the work of Dr. W. Bugala at Kornik, Poland and J. Herbert Alexander of Mass.) The best of these should be crossed to other interspecies crosses (as has been done by Dr. Cumming with 'Hedin' x 'Hunting Towers' and others or some of the work of R. Fenicchia at Rochester and Dr. Pringle at Hamilton, (all with considerable success!) These in turn should be line-bred and back-crossed especially to the 4th and 5th generations. We have only now begun to scratch the surface with *Syringa*'s inter-species crosses! As Dr. John C. Wister pointed out to the Society at its 1972 Convention, "We have enough work for all the plant hybridists the world can produce to last us to the end of this century." Often some species that seems rather insignificant has some recessive characteristic and literally "explodes" when properly hybridized. (An 'a pari' example can be taken from the peony breeding of Victor Lemoine and Dr. Saunders in using the insignificant *P. lutea* and crossing it with the beautiful tree peonies of *P. suffruticosa* to produce a whole new race with exciting colors.) To date many *Syringa* species have been left relatively 'untouched' by the hybridists e.g. *S. yunnanensis*, *S. pinetorum*, *S. Potanini*, *S. velutina*, *S. reticulata*, *S. pinnatifolia* and others. What a treasury of beauty is still to be unfolded!

Note: The Research Committee of the International Lilac Society will attempt to gather and funnel information that it sent to it to those who are interested in lilac hybridizing and research. We need to accumulate valid and complete records and evaluate them. Efforts will be made through the NEWSLETTER or SPECIAL BULLETINS to present outstanding hybridizing contributions.

COMMON PLANTS. . . . THE LILAC?

By William A. Stiles (a reprint from June 1897 Gard. & For.)

In decorative gardening a plant of Golden Elder or of *Prunus pissardi* may have the highest value, while the same plant in a natural landscape would be worse than useless, and, indeed, might ruin a quiet picture by their obtrusiveness.

There is another kind of gardening, however, which has been called specimen gardening, and which has many attractions to genuine lovers of plants. To such persons a garden exists for its plants rather than the plants for the garden. It is not a landscape picture that is desired, nor yet geometrical designs of pleasing form and color. It is individual plants that are cherished irrespective of their arrangement, and they may be selected for their rarity or their oddity, or for any other quality that appeals to the fancy of the planter. This makes a pleasant diversion, but it is by no means the highest form of gardening. A wise observer once said that it marked a distinct decline in garden art when a gentleman led you to a point on his estate where he could show you the finest *Cryptomeria* in England, instead of conducting you to the point where you could see the most delightful view.

But we have wandered from our purpose. We set out to make a mild protest against the idea that a plant is not desirable if it is common. A great patron of horticulture once declared that he could get up no enthusiasm for Lilacs because they could be seen at every farmhouse door. Now, since there are hundreds of varieties of the common Lilac and many distinct species besides, there is opportunity for gathering a collection of these shrubs, which represent a wide diversity of habit as well as in the form and color of their flowers — many of them rare plants which never graced a farmer's yard. But the common Lilac itself will always be a desirable shrub. It has such intrinsic merit that it cannot be vulgarized by mere abundance. Its habit of growth, the graceful way in which its dense panicles of flowers are carried above the thick leaves, their exquisite color, which has no exact duplicate in the vegetable kingdom; the fragrance, which is their own and unmistakable, will always make this a useful plant. It is hardy, long-lived, and will endure abuse; it is often found by the wayside cabin without a single companion, and yet it is beautiful enough to have been the chief ornament of the home of one of our great poets. It is admired because of its many good qualities, and it will be more and more valued for association by every succeeding generation of plant lovers. The fact is, that for all practical purposes the cheapest plants are the best. Among the novel introductions every year there are some that will stand the test of time, and as soon as they demonstrate their usefulness they will be common. In order to be widely useful a plant must be easily propagated, it must be hardy and long-lived, and these are qualities that will ultimately make it cheap, just as the Tartarian Honeysuckle is cheap, although one of the most beautiful and indispensable of shrubs. Grass is common, but it is an unfailing refreshment to the eye, and it is so universally appreciated that no one considers Ruskin's glowing description pitched on too high a key. No novice need be deterred from planting trees or shrubs on account of the high price of novelties or rarities. If his purse will allow him to import the most expensive sorts he may find pleasure in gratifying his desires in that direction, but if he buys no others he will discover at last that he has a sickly lot of incongruities. He will learn that the common plants are the basis of every good collection, and that cheap plants are the most effective in producing pictures which are impressive and permanent.

THE FRANKLIN LILACS

By Mabel L. Franklin, Minneapolis, Minn.

Ninety-nine percent of my lilac plantings have yielded to the bull dozer to make way for industrial buildings and a road. My 5 acres the center third of an area one block wide and four blocks long, was a large lilac planting. Local dealers would not buy. They would bide their time like vultures. (I may never know who got my \$300 large tree lilac that I was so fond of.) Nurserymen at a distance declined moving expenses.

I had worked 25 years to improve the beauty of the place, thinking that it would be used as a park eventually. (People told me how they would go out of their way to drive by.) A park-playground is needed in this area. Children swarm thru in spite of chain link fence leaving trails of discarded candy and softdrink wrappers and containers, flying their kites, digging holes and picnicing. The city fathers preferred industry and more tax income, and decreed a street thru the center. The lilac plantings could not be saved without group action. The green spot in the midst of pollution of industrial air is becoming a parking lot and a street. Alone I could not save it.

Enough plants were saved to make a start growing lilacs again somewhere. Orders are being filled, tho some varieties will not be available this year.

Looking back to the beginnings of my lilac collection to 1927 when my father imported lilacs from LeMoine of Nancy, France and bought from Koster of U.S.A. takes us back over a period of 46 years.

The LeMoine invoices have not survived. However, my father did list the lilacs received from them.

The permit to import was dated February 2, 1927. W. M. Jardine was Secretary of Agriculture.

At this time my father was neglecting the lilacs. His absorbing interest was his peonies. He had introduced about 60 new varieties. One day I said to him, "Dad, will you sell me the lilacs?" He says that I got a tremendous bargain. The deal cost me all the money I had at the time. I was working for free. The only income I had was the rent of a house I owned.

I grew the lilacs on the nursery property. At times my father let me have a man for a day to help me take care of them. I got out a list, and I was in business. Our local columnist called me "The Lilac Lady".

After my father's death the nursery property was subdivided into lots and sold, the lilacs destroyed. A planting of 5000 which I had made on land leased from a neighbor was moved to 9225 S. Penn. I am still selling lilacs and am as interested in them as ever!

April 1973
Mabel L. Franklin

In Memoriam . . .

Word has reached us of the passing earlier this year of ROY F. HAWKINS, a member of the International Lilac Society since its founding and a lover of Lilacs, at his home in La Porte City, Iowa.

DELHI, N.Y. A "LILAC TOWN"

BY ANNE ROBINSON, HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY OF DELAWARE COUNTY

Following a visit to a small town in Connecticut during their "Dogwood Festival" our garden club decided that we would like to have a similar project using another tree or shrub. We wanted to choose a good plant for our area and to stimulate growing it as a border for our streets to fill our gardens with color all over at one time. We would hopefully plan 'Homecoming Week' to coincide with this floral lovliness.

It took some time to decide on lilacs. We had tried a similar project once before using the flowering crab. It had not succeeded we thought because the crab trees were somewhat expensive, were rather slow growing and at maturity were somewhat too large for the places we had for growing them. Lilacs grow luxuriantly here in Delhi and only once in a long time is the bloom even partly lost by early frosts. In the past few years many new varieties are now available which are hardier, earlier and later, single and double, with oh, so many, many colors! One can find almost anything in lilacs that we needed for our project!

In the beginning we shared and exchanged shoots of good varieties we already had. Then we purchased ten fine, new varieties and gave them to good gardeners in town to grow with the intention of spreading them around the village year by year as they grew off-shoots or suckers. We were somewhat disappointed when we discovered that some of the finest hybrids do not produce suckers readily, if at all. From these we have grown cuttings. With our planting program went instructions for planting and care in our newspaper and a public demonstration on pruning lilacs. We have had displays of arrangements of the lovlies in our store windows. We hope to have a number of gardens specializing in certain forms, showing many of the colors or various types for continuous bloom of the entire season. We are making an effort to specialize in long lilac hedges by fences or hanging over our beautiful stone walls and clustering them at the entrance of the Village.

We have been stimulated in our interest by discovering that we have been growing for many, many years a large number of seedlings of the white tree lilac (*Syringa reticulata* — formerly known as *syringa amurensis*). This was planted here in Delhi, N.Y. as far back as 1814 as is found recorded in the diary of the owner of one of our local estates, quite evidently brought here from the Amur River region by some sea captain or early traveler. The earliest other record as far as we can determine is of seed sent to this country to the Arnold Arboretum in 1855 (our Delhi tree lilacs — and they have even naturalized in some areas forming considerable lilac thickets — would seem to be considerably older). Specimens of the Delhi tree lilacs have been given to Highland Park in Rochester, N.Y. and more than fifty have recently been planted throughout the Village. A project such as this grows very slowly but hopefully some day we will be planting other shrubs to enhance the beauty of our lilac plantings.

Editor's Note: It is through the efforts of such individuals as Anne Robinson and the members of the Delhi Horticultural Society that a lasting project is born to bear beauty for future generations. What about your town? What are You doing to promote the Lilac?

Places to stop . . .

ALONG THE CONVENTION ROUTE

. . . Things to see

Enroute to Boston you might wish to make a stop or two to visit or admire an historical site or horticultural highlight. New England abounds in historical wonders. For instance, *OLD DEERFIELD* (off Route 5 between Greenfield and South Deerfield) is celebrating its 300th Anniversary this year. Of 57 houses along the mile long main street 29 date before the nineteenth century. Charm, architecture and history so intertwine that you simply must not pass up the chance to make a short detour. You will discover ancient lilacs in dooryards too.

OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE also is worth a stopover. Here history has been collected into a small compass for your convenience. The similarity to *FARMERS' MUSEUM* at Cooperstown, New York, is noteworthy. *STRAWBERRY BANK* at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, is a museum village of authentic houses. Easily reached from US 1 you will find yourself yielding to enchantment of yesteryear amid salt air and dooryard lilac. Not far away is the *GOVERNOR WENTWORTH MUSEUM*, a waterside farm where lilacs are reputed to have been first planted in the New World, hence New Hampshire becomes the "Lilac State".

On "*THE CAPE*" you will find lilacs in every dooryard. Since it is the cape, you will have to make a special side trip crossing the canal to drink in the charm of sea and its life. *HERITAGE PLANTATION* of Sandwich, the old Dexter place renowned for rhododendron is certainly worth visiting.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I was delighted the other day to receive two copies of the PROCEEDINGS of the International Lilac Society (Vol. 1, No. 5) in which the proceedings of the First Annual Convention are set out, and I congratulate you on this very worthwhile publication . . . May I make one or two comments on Lilac names used in *NEWSLETTER No. 4* (Which I was equally glad to have). The back page shows a photograph of a semi-pinnate leaved Lilac and is labeled *S. persica var. laciniata*. However, the plant shown is *S. x diversifolium* (the hybrid between *S. oblata* and *S. pinnatifolia*). *S. laciniata* (it is a good species — not a variety of *S. x persica*) has a quite different shaped leaf. There was also a small slip in the caption to a photograph on the front cover: the plant in the center (left) is *S. pinnatifolia* and not *S. pinetorum*. These criticisms are offered with a desire to be helpful, thinking that you would be glad to know of any errors. If I can be helpful with identification (of species) at any time, please let me know . . . I hope all of you have a most successful meeting at the Arnold Arboretum with the Lilacs at their best this year.

Peter Green,
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England

Many, many thanks to Peter, a Society member and dear friend, for his most pertinent and helpful identification. He has authored a most scholarly article for the forthcoming LILAC SURVEY on the classification of the tree Lilacs. We are most grateful to have him in our membership (Peter is also a member of the Board of Directors and is Regional Vice-President for England). Should you have problems in identification of species send your Editor a good clear picture or pressed leaves and we will forward them to our expert at Kew if we are not able to identify them here. (Peter, some of the identification was from McKelvey — so now you see why we need you to make an expert and scholarly revision of that work.)

Members, please make the corrections on your Vol. 1, No. 4 Issue.

