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1935

Ballay



ahlia Gardens

Palo Alto, California, U.S.A.

# BALLAY DAHLIA GARDENS

R. D. 1, BOX 675 PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

Telephone: Palo Alto 3570

(Member of the National Association of Commercial Dahlia Growers)



FASTERN REPRESENTATIVE.

Success Dahlia Gardens, Lawrence. Mass. (CHARLES G. REED)



### **DAHLIA SEEDS:**

Hand-Pollenized Seeds from the Largest and Best Varieties................\$10.00 per 100 net

These seeds are from the very best dahlias grown and are the same as we plant ourselves. Such seeds are never plentiful. It should be borne in mind that growing dahlias from seed is solely a matter of experiment. It is not easy to originate a good new variety. From a packet of seeds you will get many kinds and colors and you may be fortunate in getting something very good. Some of our seed customers have been quite successful. The better the seed, the better the chance.

### DAHLIA COLLECTIONS:

These collections are made up of first-class varieties, all different and all tagged with their proper names. Each collection is worth at least double the amount charged according to catalogue list price. Purchases made in this manner represent real bargains.

### **BEST TWELVE CALIFORNIANS:**

Our winning collection of the best 12 Dahlias of California origin at the San Francisco Show was made up of Satan, Grandee, Palo Alto, Full Moon, Achievement, Eagle Rock, Fantasy, Amelia Earhart, Elegance, Isabel McElney, Chas. G. Reed, Dresden, and Eugenia Ballay. We are offering as a Special Collection, one root each of these twelve outstanding varieties for \$25.00 net.

ORDER EARLY—Shipments are made about April 1st unless otherwise specified. No deliveries before February 1st.

WE GUARANTEE that all roots are sent true to name and in good growing condition. Prices listed are for strong field grown root divisions. We do not make green plants of our dahlias, feeling they will be heavily propagated in this manner after they leave our hands. Consequently, we have no clumps for sale.

TERMS—Cash with order or before date of shipment. On retail orders for California delivery 2½% should be added to the amount to comply with the Sales Tax Law.

FULL DIRECTIONS for the care of your dahlia garden are enclosed with each shipment.

### JOIN THE AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

Yearly Dues of \$2.00 entitles you to the very fine Quarterly Bulletin of the Society.

Mr. Louis C. Alling, Secretary, 251 Court St., West Haven, Conn.

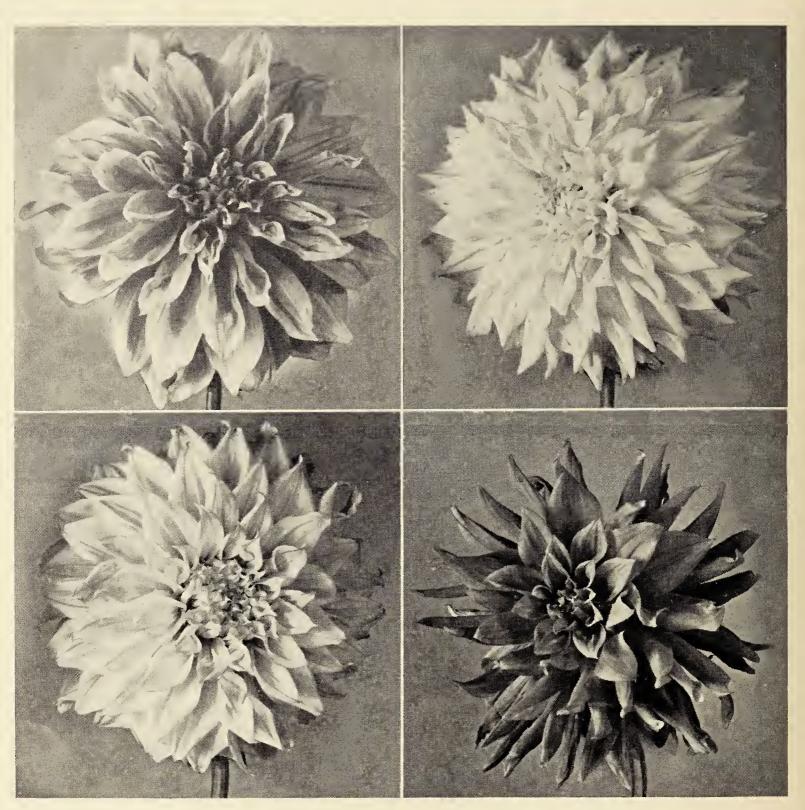
#### read the mid-west dahlia news

A live publication devoted entirely to Dahlias; \$1.00 per year. Send subscription to Mr. D. O. Eldredge, 170 Talmadge St., Madison, Wisconsin.

# \*Our New Introductions for 1935

CALIFORNIA IDOL— (Inf. Dec.) Clear bright self-colored yellow. We have never had more confidence in the real merits of a new dahlia than we have in this masterful brilliant yellow decorative. In size it ranks with the very largest, growing to 14 inches or more, has corresponding depth, and yet is an extremely refined flower in every sense. It won the American Home Achievement Medal at Boston and the Dahlia Society of California's Gold Medal at San Francisco as the Best Undisseminated Three-Year Old. This, you will agree, is a good start, but we hold that the proof of the pudding is in the eating, and unless a dahlia can win for the purchaser, Achievement Medals and Gold Medals do not mean much. We assure you that California Idol, like many of our previous great prize winners, has the capacity to win as the Largest Dahlia or Best Dahlia in the leading shows. Next year when we can tell you about these winnings, we will feel that we have a real sales argument. It has been freely said by those who have seen California Idol that it is the best dahlia since Satan, and others have said, including Mr. Reed at Lawrence, Mass., that it is the best of all. Truly a dahlia that the exhibitor can win with and the commercial grower can sell. We will not attempt a detailed description more than to say that it is an early and a free bloomer and an excellent root maker. You will have to grow it to appreciate it. See cut on front cover. Included in the American Home's list of "Dahlias of Distinction in 1934", and also in Mr. Derrill W. Hart's Dahlia Review published in the December issue of House Beautiful. Mr. Hart's impression of it follows: "This giant yellow has a coast-to-coast record as a 1934 winner. At the show of the Dahlia Society of California it won the Gold Medal as best three-year-old seedling. At Boston it won the Achievement Medal as best undisseminated dahlia. It was one of the outstanding varieties at Storrs this year. It is a fine grower with a deep flower of clear glistening yellow, a true pastel shade. 

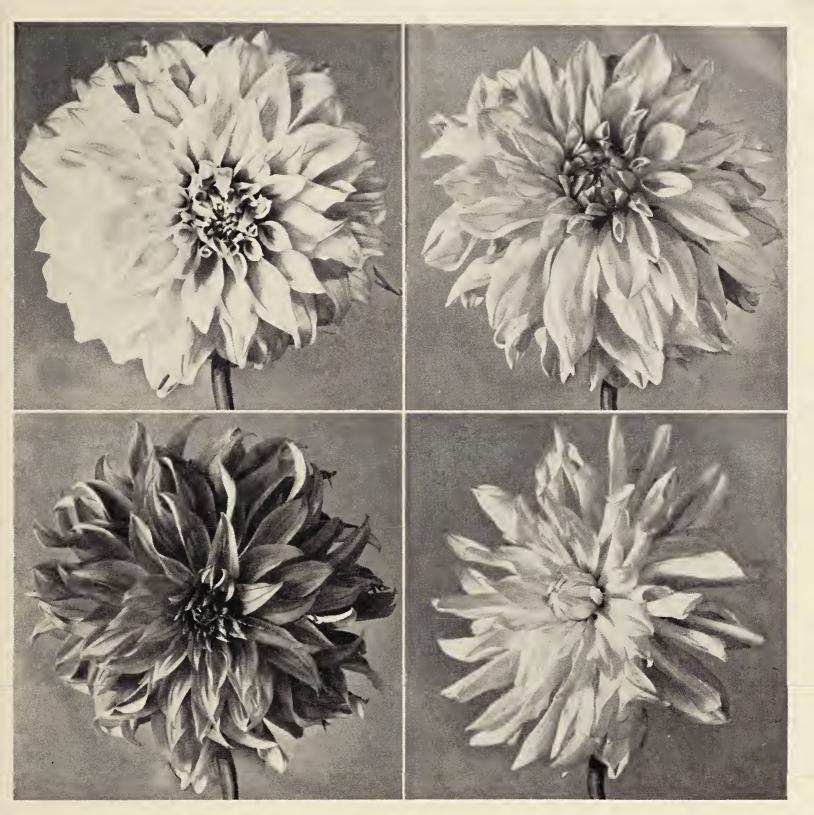
<sup>\*</sup>It will facilitate delivery if orders for shipment east of the Mississippi River are sent direct to the Success Dahlia Gardens, Lawrence, Mass.



Bosphorus (Upper) California Rose (Lower)

California Idol (Upper)
Don Juan (Lower)

DRUM MAJOR—(For. Dec.) Pale gold with a reverse of deeper gold. A very, very tall dahlia, standing head and shoulders above all the rest, and very large and showy. Not an early nor particularly free bloomer but all flowers are perfect on extremely good strong stems. Have you ever needed some large flowers on 4-foot canes to top off your exhibit? This variety will serve that purpose and may win a prize for you, too \$10.00



Drum Major (Upper) May Day (Lower)

Glamour (Upper) North Star (Lower)

### Other Dahlias of Our Own Creation

- CELESTE—I. D. Lilac pink overlaid with carmine. A very handsome large flower that is attractive especially because of its peculiar shadings of color. The well-branched plant produces deep, well-built blooms over a long period. There are no faults noticeable to take from the general usefulness of this valuable addition to dahlias of this color range...........\$1.50

- DOMINO—F. D. Deep unshaded maroon. A very dark decorative that does not fade or burn in the sunshine. It is about a 10-inch dahlia, very formal in type, and compactly built of many rows of broad, flat petals. It will start to bloom early, produce freely all season, and the well-branched stalks of medium height are very straight and strong. To those who are interested in a beautiful and useful new dark dahlia, we can cheerfully recommend this one......\$2.50
- DRESDEN—I. D. Clear pink lavender. Here good color is very much in evidence. The lavender is plainly of the rich pink tone throughout the flower and is in no sense a bluish lavender. This rich coloring is well supported by large size, full formation and a matchless stem. No visitor ever fails to inquire about this one, always remarking that it is exquisite. Blooms with exceptional freedom. Dresden appears to have made a great hit the past season, having done especially well in the Middle West. If the tips of the stems are boiled, as should always be done when dahlias are cut, this variety will prove an excellent keeper...............................\$5.00
- ELEGANCE—S. C. Center and tips of petals yellow, body of flower glistening coral. We classify this variety as semi-cactus but it is not far removed from the true cactus type. A noticeable swirl

to the petals is also reminiscent of certain English type cactus varieties of some years back. Few dahlias have been so cordially received on their first appearance as this one and we consider it one of our very best varieties because of its unusual charm and beauty and because the great quantity of blooms it gives are useful for every purpose. It is a full, deep flower with ideal habits. The illustration on back cover gives a good idea of its fine characteristics. Described on the 1933 American Home Roll of Honor as "a most pleasing variety producing a wealth of bloom of very pleasing and artistic appearance". Winner of the Santa Barbara Trophy at San Francisco and a Blue Ribbon at the World's Fair Show \$7.50

- EUGENIA BALLAY—1. D. Rich cream. This dahlia won in 1933 as the Best Established three-year old in keen competition at the Palace Hotel Show and can always be counted on to exhibit to good advantage. It is a very early and a very prolific bloomer. Under favorable weather conditions the blooms will easily attain 10 to 12 inches with corresponding depth, and at all times will have very long strong stems. In California everyone admired the color and fine habits of this dahlia and now good reports have come to us from many places. This variety was named in honor of our mother and we hope it will worthily perpetuate her name. Eugenia Ballay, along with Palo Alto, Satan and Full Moon, is mentioned in the list of the better new dahlias compiled by Dr. Marshall A. Howe of the New York Botanical Gardens and published in the December issue of the Flower Grower
- FAIR ELAINE—S. C. Delicate old rose. An extra good variety with long evenly rolled incurved petals. Without heavy disbudding it will produce great quantities of good flowers until the very end of the season. Excellent lasting qualities when cut. Roll of Honor Dahlia in 1929 \$1.00

- FULL MOON—I. D. Canary yellow. Here is a variety that can be truthfully called a superlative dahlia and it seems to improve each year. The large distinctive blooms easily measuring 12 inches across, are regularly formed of very broad flat petals that terminate in a perfectly full and artistic center. The thickness and strength of the stems are particularly noticeable and the flowers are always upright, never facing the least bit to the side. We have never seen a variety more consistent, every flower being massive in size and perfectly formed, and the foliage is always clean and bright. In its first year this dahlia made a good start in the East, winning the Gold Medal of the Dahlia Society of California as the best dahlia of California origin, and was also the largest flower in the show, at Boston. It has since won many prizes as Best Yellow, and in some cases as Best Bloom in the show, some customers stating they have grown 13 and even 14 inch flowers without any special effort. It was among the winners at the World's Fair and was a Roll of Honor dahlia in 1932 \$2.50
- FURY—F. D. Rose and copper with a reverse of deep rose. This is a huge dahlia of rather odd but pleasing color. First flowers will measure 11 or 12 inches, and the size is well maintained through the whole season. The plant of medium height is a good producer and every flower counts as the centers are always closed and the stems satisfactory. Fine for garden decoration and for use in a collection of large dahlias \$1.50
- GRANDEE—See picture and description, top of Page 8.
- MONTALVO—I. D. Golden bronze shading to a deep bronze center. Size seems to characterize most of our recent introductions, but not at the expense of beauty. We have been asked repeatedly for extremely large ones and we have been able to supply them with a vengeance. Montalvo is anothr 12-inch dahlia when grown with ordinarily good care and it has proportionate depth and strength of stem. There is great beauty in the coloring as you can imagine, and when you have charm in color, combined with great size, perfect formation and the best growing habits, the variety may be defined as an up-to-the-minute dahlia ........................\$2.00
- NARCISSA—S. C. Bright daffodil yellow. We wanted a name that would express the freshness and warmth of early spring for this dahlia and could think of nothing more appropriate than the daffodil and other yellow flowers of the narcissus family. In the full formation of the flower there is also further suggestion of the double daffodil. This dahlia averages 8 or 9 inches across and is another that grows straight up on a long perfect stem. It is striking in the garden, dignified when cut, and has no faults whatever
- NOB HILL—I. D. Pale orange. Occasionally you see a bed of dahlias containing so many blooms that there does not seem to be room for a single one more. That is how Nob Hill looked last September. In the first crop from eight to a dozen large disbudded flowers on each plant opened all at one time, all with long upright stems, fairly covering the plants. On close examination you would have found every bloom very large and deep and perfectly formed, almost every one suitable for exhibiting in the show. The gay and colorful shade of the flower is another feature to be considered. All our dahlias are tried out in the East before being released and we get a conservative report. The notation for Nob Hill was "Very fine"....\$5.00

GRANDEE—I. D. Light nopal red shaded orange yellow. The great size of this dahlia made the demand for it last season far heavier than we were able to supply. For tremendous size we are inclined to think Grandee surpasses them all. We continue to have 15-inch blooms without forcing or shading on plants 4 feet tall. Six blooms all 14 inches or more at one time on a plant are not unusual and size is maintained through the whole season. As stated last year, we

do not exaggerate when offering a new dahlia, and our statement is borne out by reports from the East that it has been grown over 15 inches there. It was winner of the 1933 American Home Achievement Medal at San Francisco and has won as the Largest Flower in a number of shows. In Southern California it won for an amateur as largest at both the Los Angeles and Long Beach shows, also receiving a Special Award of Merit at the latter show, and was largest at the California Flower Festival last year. A report from Holland states it is the largest American dahlia. Beautiful coloring, good formation, first-class stem, are all present in this superlative dahlia. The accompanying photograph will give you some idea of its appearance. Mr. Hart's Roll of Honor described it as follows: "'Great' is indeed the right adjective to use here. A very large flower of a striking combination of Spanish red and golden yellow. . . . It has individuality" .....\$10.00



RED LION—I. D. Bright red. Another large dahlia that serves the florists' purpose well. A vivid red is always desirable when it has all the good qualities this dahlia possesses. Quantities of first-class blooms loaded the bushes until the very end which never fade or burn. Stems hold the flowers just right whether desired for garden display or for the house. The bloom is oval-shaped with broad heavy petals continuing well to the small pointed center. \$1.00

SATAN—S. C. Flaming red with a slight touch of gold at the center. No dahlia in existence, we believe, is more sensational and spectacular than this giant cactus, and it appears to be the most popular dahlia in the world today. The exquisite coloring is at once fascinating, but what formation and stem. The horn-like petals, perfectly rolled and incurved, give rare form and character to a flower of unusual brilliancy. The rugged, almost leafless, stems give the impression of being nearly as thick at the top as at the base. Wherever exhibited it becomes the general favorite. In previous catalogues we listed a number of prizes won as Best or Largest in many of the leading shows in differ-ent parts of the country, including an Achievement Medal. We told of its record at Storrs Trial Gardens and its place on the Roll of Honor, and of similar honors won at the World's Fair, at New York, San Francisco, and other shows too numerous to San Francisco, and



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### Good Varieties of Other Growers

- AMERICAN LEGION—S. C. (American) Bright yellow. Our stock of this dahlia was strong and vigorous and produced giant blooms on long strong stems. It has frequently been a winner in the "Largest" class and has achieved much popularity throughout the country. Good growing habits with heavy bright foliage......\$2.50
- BAGDAD—I. D. (Redfern) Rich bright red. This is a dahlia of large size, excellent formation and good coloring. It is especially adapted to a warm location where its full formation develops to perfection. A very strong stem adds to its general usefulness................................\$1.50

CAPRICE—F. D. (Mawson) Golden yellow shading to salmon pink. Magnificent blooms of this dahlia have been consistent winners in the Best Dahlia in the Show classes in San Francisco. The plant is a strong grower and holds the flowers up well on long strong stems
CHAMPOEG—1. D. (Crites) Canary yellow shading to salmon pink at the edges of the petals. This dahlia is distinctive because of the very pronounced combination of color. Bloom is large with a good stem
CHAUTAUQUA SUNSET—I. D. (Chautauqua) Sunset pink and gold. A 1932 introduction of most beautiful coloring and with good size both as to diameter and depth. Stems and centers are always good. This new dahlia from the East proved itself worthy when growing under California conditions \$5.00
DAILY MAIL—1. D. (Stredwick) Deep yellow shaded orange. A fine importation from England both in the matter of size and habits. Excellent flowers are produced freely and continuously on long fine stems. A very good variety\$1.50
DIXIE RAVENSCROFT—I. D. (Seal) Bright flaming gold. A huge fluffy dahlia that will give a bright and cheery touch to any garden. The plant grows strong and produces many fine flowers on fine stems
EAGLE ROCK FANTASY—I. D. (Broomall-Success) Clear lavender pink. This is a 1930 introduction of ideal habit and mammoth size. Winner in several shows as the largest flower exhibited. 12-inch blooms are the rule rather than the exception. The broad tapering petals produce a flower of extraordinary charm and it has all the qualifications necessary to designate it as one of the best dahlias to date. It is, of course, on the Roll of Honor\$2.00
EAGLE ROCK PEACH—I. D. (Broomall-Success) Deep rose pink. This dahlia has exceptionally good color, quite unusual in its shade, very much like an old-fashioned rose. The large well formed flower is supported by a perfect stem. Strong grower and profuse bloomer\$5.00
EAGLE ROCK WONDER—S. C. (Broomall-Success) Orange buff shading to rose and salmon. Another massive Broomall variety that responds remarkably to good care. It is one of the most vigorous growers we have seen. It has won as largest and best dahlia in Eastern shows and is another Roll of Honor dahlia. Long strong stems and habitually good foliage make it a worthy garden variety as well as a marvel in the show room. \$1.50
FIREMAN—I. D. (Success) Cardinal red lightly touched with gold. A grand 1934 introduction with an Achievement Medal and a Roll of Honor record to its credit. This dazzling red dahlia strikes us as being one of the best new ones with its ideal plant growth and free blooming habit. A winner of major awards.  \$7.50
F. W. BUTLER—F. D. (Boston) Gold suffused with red. A very large deep flower, the originator describing it as her largest introduction. The plant is of medium height and carries the heavy blooms well. The flower is quite regularly formed with a full solid center\$2.00
GRACE CURLING—I. D. (Stredwick) Lilac pink. A very fine dahlia from England with good coloring and habits. The broad curling petals are tastefully notched at the tips which adds a distinctive touch to the flower. Much admired at all times as it maintains itself well through the whole season \$1.00
H. R. S.—I. D. (Seal) Golden yellow. This is a very fine large dahlia in the most pleasing shade of yellow, especially good under artificial light. Bloom is well formed with long petals and has a long stiff stem with habitually good foliage. Roll of Honor in 1933
INDIANA MOON—I. D. (Martin) Pale dull yellow lightly shaded pink. A large and attractive dahlia from the Middle West that won a place on the Roll of Honor in 1931. The flowers are consistently well formed with good strong stems and good habits. A fine new variety\$1.50
ISABEL McELNEY—I. D. (Boston) Reddish old rose. A new long stemmed dahlia of an unusual "pin-wheel" formation. Flower is very attractive and of large size and is an early and generous bloomer. Color most pleasing
IVORY—F. D. (Boston) Ivory white. This is an excellent variety of rare coloring and pleasing appearance. The blooms are large and composed of long pointed petals that curve backward slightly \$1.00
JANE COWL—I. D. (Downs) Bronzy buff shading to gold at the center. This is one of the most popular dahlias of recent years. Originated in New Jersey, it appears to adapt itself readily to all localities and has won prizes in many parts of the country. We have first-class stock of this fine variety
JERSEY BEACON—F. D. (Waite) Oriental red with a reverse of tan. The brilliant blossom is large and deep and held up well on a tall stalk. A very fine Eastern dahlia\$1.00
KATHLEEN NORRIS—I. D. (Fisher & Masson) Mallow pink. This is one of the best of the real pink dahlias. Especially desirable because of its exquisite coloring, it also has size, good form and a long strong stem. Although originated in the East, this dahlia has been named for a well known and much admired California woman\$1.00

- MARGARET BROOMALL—F. D. (Broomall-Success) White. This pure white formal decorative has the record of winning the highest score ever made at the Storrs Trial Gardens and of being the largest dahlia ever grown there. Flowers easily attain 14 inches or better and are of purest white, most beautifully formed and with splendid stems. Doubtless it is one of the most sensational dahlias in existence, and one of the very largest. As this variety is protected under U. S. Plant Patent No. 36 we are permitted to sell it only under patent restrictions. Special order blanks may be had on request \_\_\_\_\_ Green plants only, \$15.00 each or two for \$25.00, net.
- MARY ELIZABETH REDFERN—I. D. (Redfern) Orchid rose. An excellent California introduction that was one of the features of last year's Roll of Honor. The color of the flower is lively and distinctive, size is good, general habits satisfactory in every way. A prize-winner \$10.00

- MRS. ALFRED B. SEAL—I. D. (Seal) Rich old rose of medium tone. A very fine introduction that is an Achievement Medal winner and a Roll of Honor dahlia. The blooms are large and deep and carried high on fine stems. Plant is tall and strong ...................................\$1.00
- RUBY TAYLOR—F. D. (Garrity) Purplish red. A new and distinctive variety with fine growing habits. Flowers are of good size, well formed and of unusually good substance. Was a winner in the seedling classes and will doubtless continue to be a fine exhibition flower \$5.00

- W. H. WAITE—S. C. (Boston) Shell pink shading to a cream center. This is a delightful dahlia that is a winner in the "pink" class. It is a typical semi-cactus with ideal habits. The large flower is most artistic and beautiful. \$1.50

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#### EXPLANATION OF TYPES—According to the American Dahlia Society Classification.

- INFORMAL DECORATIVE (I. D.)—Double flowers, full to the center, usually with long, twisted petals, and often irregular in arrangement.
- FORMAL DECORATIVE (F. D.)—Double flowers, full to the center, usually with broad, flat petals, often rounded at the tips, and regular in arrangement.
- CACTUS (C.)—Double flowers, full to the center, with long, narrow, pointed petals, incurved, recurved or straight, but rolled more than half their length.
- SEMI-CACTUS (S. C.)—Double flowers, full to the center, with coarse, twisted petals, usually somewhat incurved, and rolled ordinarily less than half their length.
- PEONY (P.)—Semi-double flowers showing a bright yellow center, having small twisted petals circling about the center.



(Described on Page 6)

# BALLAY DAHLIA GARDENS

PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA