

IN MEMORIAM

Notice of the death of Mr. Sam Burchfield has just reached me (November 20th) and I wish to record this passing of one of our foremost private growers of Irises. From the earliest years of the Society he has passed on to me his experiences and reflections on varieties. In 1924 I had the pleasure of meeting him in Mr. Williamson's plot, where we argued muchly and finally shared a diminutive seedling that had been relegated to the dump. An appreciation of such a wee flower was typical of Mr. Burchfield's whole attitude toward his hobby. He liked best the unusual thing, particularly if it were a strange species or color. His introductions were often of this type, dwarfs or dull blends that appeal only to the discerning eye. Perhaps if I had known him in everyday life I should find that such a liking was typical of his whole attitude toward the world. He was greatly enthusiastic—his hobby meant much to him—and yet he was unassuming and most reluctant both to desert a once formed opinion and to enforce it upon another—but once did I succeed in getting him to appear in our bulletins. He has passed on but for those of us who have met him there are many pleasant memories.

R. S. S.