Mr. Henderson: Ivory soap makes a good solution, and it will do the work for an amateur.

The Secretary: The members of the Executive Committee will perhaps recall that at the session at Green Bay last evening you recommended an amendment to the constitution,—I am speaking to the members of the State Horticultural Society, that is a little matter of business that must come up at this time and be disposed of. It was recommended that Article 3 of the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Article III. Its members shall consist of annual members paying an annual fee of fifty cents excepting that paid members of local societies may become members on payment of an annual fee of twenty-five cents, of life members paying a fee of five dollars. Wives of such members shall be entitled to the privileges of full membership; of honorary annual members who may by vote be invited to participate in the proceedings of the society and honorary life members who shall be distinguished for merit in horticulture and kindred sciences or who shall confer any particular benefit upon the society.

A motion by Mr. Smith, that the amendment as read be adopted, was carried.

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EVENING SESSION.

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NATIVE WISCONSIN PLANTS BEARING BULBS AND TUBERS.

Prof. R. H. Denniston, University of Wisconsin.

A careful study of the herbaria and lists of Wisconsin native plants at our disposal shows a total of fifty-two species which have either bulbs or tuberous roots. Of these over one-half the number are found in four plant families; the Liliaceae or Lily family comes first in the list with ten species, followed by the
Orchidaceae with nine, the Cyperaceae, or sedges, with five, and the Compositeae with four. The remaining twenty-four species are distributed in thirteen plant families, with not more than three in any one family.

Probably the Lily family is the one best known to gardeners as a producer of bulbs. It is to this family that the tulips and hyacinths belong. Of the native plants in this order there are the Alliums, the leek, wild onion, and garlic, plants of unsavory odor and bad reputation with dairymen; the yellow and white adder’s-tongue, or dog-tooth violet, the camassia or wild hyacinth, and the wild orange and wild yellow lily, plants that give a touch of bright color to meadow and woodland in mid-summer.

Nearly related to the Lily family is the Amaryllis family, and although this is so well known to horticulturists through the narcissus, amaryllis and tube-rose, I could find but one representative among our native plants, and that, the humble little Hypoxis, or yellow stargrass which grows from a solid bulb or corm.

The orchids are all of them more or less rare and little known; they are found in low bogs, and seven of the species in this list spring from corms. Among them are two species of Microstyliis commonly known as the white and the green adders-mouth; two species of Liparis or twayblade, the putty-root or Adam-and-Eve, and the grass pink. The Arethusa has a bulbous root and the Pogonia, a cluster of tubers.

In the Araceae, the Jack-in-the-pulpit is one of our commonest types, and most of us are familiar with the turnip-shaped corm from which it grows. In the same family is the less-known dragon-root, with clustered corms.

The Cyperaceae, or sedges, are plants of the lowlands, and a few of them reproduce by corms or tubers. Cyperus esculentus, or yellow nut-grass, often becomes a troublesome weed in cultivated grounds.

In the Leguminosae or pea family, there are two Wisconsin plants which have tuberous roots. Psoralea esculenta, prairie-apple or Indian bread-root, has a tuberous, turnip-shaped root, and was formerly used for food by the Indians of the Northwest. Apios tuberosa, or ground nut, bears edible tubers one or two inches in length, on underground shoots. Three tuber-bearing plants are found in the Compositeae, the Jerusalem artichoke, one of the sun-flowers. Helianthus tuberosus, is often
cultivated for its edible tuberous roots. Other Composites are the tuberous Indian plantain, Cacalia, tuberosa, and the white lettuce, Prenanthes alba, which latter bears a bitter tuberous root.

In this list of tuberous and bulbous plants it is rather difficult in some cases to decide whether or not a plant shall be included. We find such expressions in the botanies as tuberous root-stalk, and rhizomatous tuber, which show that one form merges into the other. I have omitted such doubtful cases.

The list of plants follows, with scientific and common names, classified according to plant families.

Ranunculaceae.


Fumariaceae.

Dicentra cucularia—Dutchman’s breeches—bulbs. Dicentra Canadensis—Squirrel corn—grain-like tubers.

Cruciferae.


Malvaceae.

Callirrhoe triangulata—Poppy mallow—tuber.

Geraniaceae.

Oxalis violacea—Violet wood sorrel—scaly bulb.

Leguminosae.


Umbelliferae.

Eulophus Americana—Eastern eulophus—fascicled tubers. Erigenia bulbosa—Harbinger of spring—tuber.

Compositae.

Labiatae.
Portulaccaceae.
Amaryllidaceae.
Hypoxis erecta—Star grass—corm.
Araceae.
Alismaceae.
Orchidaceae.
Microstylis monophyllos—White adder’s mouth—corm. Microstylis Ophioglossoides—Green adder’s mouth—corm.
Liliaceae.
Cyperaceae.
Equisetaceae.
Equisetum arvense—tuber.