



FIG. 2787. CINERARIAS AT THE O. A. C., GUELPH.

inches in diameter. It is perhaps questionable whether these abnormally large flowers are to be preferred to the more moderate sized flowers, as oftentimes—more especially with chrysanthemums—other good points such as beauty of form, habit of growth, and robustness of constitution are often lost sight of in the endeavor to secure flowers of enormous size.

The variety *C. stellata* is of a tall branching habit, and in many respects resembles the original type *C. cruenta*, with the exception that the flowers of *C. stellata* are often seen in various shades of color ranging from creamy white to pink, red and blue.

The flowers of *C. stellata* keep fresh much longer when cut than do those of *C. hybrida grandiflora*, a point that will enhance its value as a florists flower. The flowers of *C. stellata* are usually self-colored (one color), and are only about an inch in diameter. (The plants of *C. stellata* can be seen in the background of the accompanying cut, in the centre row of plants.)

There is no winter or early spring flower-

ing plant that will give such a gorgeous and varied display of blossom as the Cineraria if the plants are well grown. Greenhouse Cinerarias are grown from seed usually, and treated as annuals. Seed sown in June, July or August will produce plants that will flower from Christmas until April or May. A cool temperature, about 50 degrees at night to 65 degrees in the daytime will suit them very well. A moist atmosphere and plenty of water at the roots are also desirable. Frequent syringing of the foliage whilst the plants are growing is necessary. Partial shade must be given the plants during hot sunny weather.

The green aphid and red spider are the worst insect pests that attack the Cineraria. Tobacco smoke or tobacco water will kill the aphid. Copious syringing with water and a moist atmosphere are the best preventives of red spider. Thrip sometimes attacks Cinerarias. Dipping the foliage in strong tobacco water is the best remedy for thrip. Cinerarias cannot be grown very successfully as window plants.