

Storage
Botanical Garden

SB
413
P4
A2
A5
2490.1-10

**A BULLETIN
OF
PEONY NEWS**

No. 1.

**TOGETHER WITH THE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE**

American Peony Society
FOR 1914 & 1915



**PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY
AUGUST, 1915.**

CONTENTS

	Page
What Are You Doing for the Cause of the Peony?	
A. H. Fewkes.....	1
A Communication from France. A. Dessert.....	3
The Season's Experiences from Some of Our Members.	
1. An Amateur near Philadelphia. James Boyd..	5
2. From Missouri. Benjamin C. Auten.....	6
3. Growing for Cut Flowers in Ohio. W. J. Engle.	8
4. Notes from the Pacific Coast. H. E. Weed....	9
5. Peonies Good, Bad, and Indifferent. W. H. Groschner	10
On Raising Seedlings.	
1. By Eugene Secor.....	12
2. By Everett P. Wheeler.....	13
3. By O. L. Ringle.....	14
4. By A. P. Saunders.....	15
Proceedings of the American Peony Society	
for 1914.....	17
for 1915.....	19
Report on the Boston Show, June, 1915.....	22
Some Notes on the Recent Exhibition. A. H. Fewkes..	28
From the Secretary's Office.....	29
List of Officers and Members of the Society.....	30

Peony Design (off)
Society
7-3-1929

Peony Design
Society
9-9-80

WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR THE CAUSE OF THE PEONY ?

By A. H. Fewkes, Newton Highlands, Mass.

Often when the prospective member is approached with regard to becoming a member of the Society, the question is asked, "What will the Society do for me?", and a similar question is often asked by those who are already members, "What is the Society doing for me?" These are very natural questions, but they may be met by another equally pertinent, "What are you, a lover of the peony, doing for the cause of our chosen flower?" If you can answer the last question by showing that you are actually helping the cause along either with your money or your appreciation and encouragement, or by all together, then the other questions will in time answer themselves.

Members who do not see immediate personal returns are too apt to look upon the Society — and this applies to other societies as well as ours — as a combination of a few men, forming a little circle for the exploitation of the flower for their own benefit, at the expense of the other members; or else as a circle on whom has fallen in some way the duty of providing others with everything that can be learned about the special flower for which the Society stands.

It is true that a few have been chosen to do this sort of work in the Peony Society, and they are doing it conscientiously and well, although unremunerated. But it is a tremendous task, and their efforts would have been futile but for the coöperation of the faithful; and future success depends largely on whether you will join the ranks of the faithful and help to hold up the hands of those who are striving to bring forth results creditable to themselves and to the Society. There is much still left to do, and they need your help both materially and morally.

To appreciate what has been done by the Society one must look backward to the time of its organization and call to mind the condition under which peony growers were struggling. Then no man could be sure of the name of any

variety. Now the one who is careless, or worse, with his names, is apt to be severely let alone, while the trade goes to the man who has been willing to make some sacrifices for good nomenclature, and who is therefore able to send out plants true to name. Then there were but few really good varieties in commerce in this country, and the standard of quality was comparatively low. Now, through the efforts of enthusiasts both in and out of the Society, the most choice varieties have been introduced, and the standard of quality has risen to an astonishing degree. This in all probability would never have been brought about by individual effort alone. The combined efforts of many lovers of the peony were necessary to secure such results.

When we stop to compare the condition and appreciation of the peony even twelve or fifteen years ago with what it is today, we are almost ready to say that if nothing more were to be accomplished, and the Society were to be dissolved, its life would not have been in vain. But the Society is not to be dissolved; its work is far from finished, and it intends to keep right on. But nomenclature work is by no means all that is to be accomplished by the Society. Popularization is an equally important matter both from the commercial standpoint and the aesthetic. The flower must be placed before the public in all possible places, and in the most attractive manner. More amateurs must be encouraged to take up its cultivation and to make it a hobby. To this end the Society must encourage exhibitions of the flower all over the land, for there is no better way of showing its possibilities than by placing it on the exhibition table. In ways like these the Society will find abundant work to do in the years to come, and the greater the number who are willing to help, the greater will be the benefits both to the public and to those who are helping.

Although the man with his shoulder to the wheel is doing the hard work, this work is made much easier and is gladly done if those who are standing by will only speak words of encouragement to him, and do their best to help him out. This is no place for the pessimist, the growler, or the knocker. If you feel you are not financially able to become, or to continue, a member, then speak good words for us and encourage those who are to join and help the good work along.

FROM M. A. DESSERT, CHENONCEAUX, FRANCE

In response to your kind invitation I am glad to send a few notes which may, I hope, be of some interest to my colleagues in the American Peony Society.

You speak of the war. Certainly we in France have to repel the most fierce and formidable onslaught that ever was made, but we have never doubted that we should triumph in the end; and all of us who, like myself, are too old to go to the front, consider it our first duty to concentrate all our energies on the maintenance of economic activity by working harder than ever.

* * *

I have indicated in my catalogue No. 16 the different synonyms of which I have been able to satisfy myself absolutely.

I should be particularly interested to know whether the opinion of the Committee is still unchanged with regard to the difference supposed to exist at Cornell between the varieties Albâtre and Avalanche. With me these two varieties are absolutely alike; and I shall tell you what steps I took to set at rest the doubts that were raised in my mind because of the contrary opinion entertained by the Committee of the American Peony Society.

The variety Albâtre was sent to Cornell University by Messrs. Goos and Koenemann, who had received it from me some years previously. When I found that this variety was indicated as different from Avalanche and superior to it, in the Bulletin No. 278, I feared that some error had arisen in my stock and that the varieties I had under these names had become mixed. I therefore wrote to Messrs. Goos and Koenemann about the matter, and received word from them that they had two types of Albâtre, one identical with Avalanche, and the other, in their judgment, superior to it. I then asked them to send me two plants of the type of Albâtre which they considered superior to Avalanche, and also two plants of their Avalanche. Two years ago I planted these four plants side by side, and where they would receive the same cultivation. The blossoms of this year were imperfect and I shall have to wait another year to be absolutely sure that these four plants of Albâtre and Avalanche

are all one and the same variety; but all the characters that I have been able to observe, — (1) the character of the young shoots in spring, (2) the foliage, (3) the style and general appearance of the plants, — all these are so perfectly alike that I do not think an experienced eye could be deceived about them, and I have now the conviction that there is absolutely no difference between the plants.

I suspect that if at Cornell and also with Messrs. Goos and Koenemann *Avalanche* has been found inferior to *Albâtre*, it is because the comparison has been made with blooms of *Avalanche* taken from plants that were not in full vigor, or which for some reason had not attained to normal development. A comparison made with cut flowers only may very easily lead to errors, and I know from long experience that it is often necessary actually to plant side by side several roots of the varieties which one wishes to compare, in order to draw a positive conclusion.

I know it seems singular that one variety should be put on the market under two different names within a few years by the same originator; yet this has happened not infrequently. As examples I cite: *Felix Crousse* and *Victor Hugo*; *La Tulipe* and *Multicolore*; *Augustin d'Hour* and *Général MacMahon*; *Charlemagne* and *Ornement des Massifs*; and there are others.

Such cases of synonymy may pass for years unobserved, especially where the two sorts are planted at a distance from each other in a large nursery. It is often quite by chance that their identity is discovered, and it is embarrassing to find that one has cultivated a variety for perhaps twenty years under two separate names without discovering that both represented the same sort.

Returning in a postscript to the matter of *Avalanche* and *Albâtre*, M. Dessert asks whether the clumps of these two varieties at Cornell were clearly distinct in foliage and in general appearance. It will be worth while for the members of the Society who have the two sorts side by side to keep them under careful observation.

Mr. William A. Peterson of Chicago writes in a recent letter: "I find no difference between *Albâtre* and *Avalanche*, and prefer the latter name."

THE EXPERIENCES OF AN AMATEUR IN THE VICINITY OF PHILADELPHIA WITH PEONIES DURING THE SPRING OF 1915

By James Boyd

In the latter part of April we had some very hot and dry weather, and as there was still sufficient moisture in the ground, things grew rapidly. Early in May we had nice rains, and at that time it seemed as if the season was about two weeks ahead of normal. On the 9th of May *Officinalis* peonies were just showing color, and on the 17th they were in full bloom.

In the latter part of May we had much cold, rainy weather and the season fell back to normal and then began to lose. *Grandiflora nivea plena* and *Mme. Calot* bloomed on the 25th, and opened exceedingly well. The latter, although one of the oldest, is a great favorite with me, because it is such a profuse bloomer, so fragrant, and such a strong grower.

This year I was impressed with the fact that weather conditions make a great difference in the proper development of the flower, for some varieties that I had heretofore looked upon with indifference, and considered only "good," impressed me this year as being "exceedingly good" or really "fine." On the other hand, favorites like *Marie Lemoine*, *Richardson's Grandiflora*, *Baroness Schroeder*, *Thérèse* and others, suffered from the cold June rains and did not develop properly. Indeed, disappointing, water-soaked buds were plentiful.

Le Cygne, *Miss Salway*, *President Taft*, *Mme. Emile Lemoine*, *M. Jules Elie* and *Triomphe de l'Exposition de Lille* all produced beautiful flowers. *M. Martin Cahuzac*, purchased in 1912, gave some beautiful blooms this year for the first time. It is certainly very dark; but aside from color, I think there are several other dark ones that are as fine and certainly much stronger growers. Amongst my dark favorites are *Mme. Bucquet*, *Grover Cleveland* and *Adolphe Rousseau*. *Felix Crousse* is exceedingly attractive, but *Victor Hugo* seems to be exactly like it. *Mme. Jules Dessert* and *Mme. Auguste Dessert* are wonderfully beautiful. *Philomèle* is so distinct and novel that it always at-

tracts attention. *Primevère*, which is the closest approach to a yellow, is a strong grower, and my big plant more than three feet high and about four feet in diameter made a magnificent show. *Solfatare*, *Helena Leslie* and *Zephyrus* are all good and much on the same order, having snow-white petals and a sulphur yellow center. None of them, however, can compare with *Primevère*. *Mme. Emile Lemoine* is certainly beautiful and is a strong grower and free bloomer. It is glossy white in color, with a pink tinge and covered with minute lilac dots. I like it better than *Asa Gray*, which it closely resembles. *Mme. Geissler* was wonderful, with enormous flowers that attracted the attention of everybody. *Pierre Duchartre* is one of those that surprised me this year, by producing beautiful flowers and stepping from the "good" to the "fine" class. *Tourangelle* did not open until June 20th, but it certainly is a beauty and worth waiting for. *Festiva maxima* can always hold its head up amongst the very best, and *Walter Faxon* I consider one of the finest pinks. *Mlle. Léonie Calot* and *Mme. Duce* are inexpensive but beautiful. *Lady Alexandra Duff*, *La France* and *Eugénie Verdier* disappointed me this year. There were plenty of buds, but all rain-soaked and would not open.

I will not attempt to mention all my favorites from fear of taking up too much of your space.

PEONIES IN MISSOURI

By Benjamin C. Auten, Carthage, Mo.

It seems very strange that peonies should be at their best in New England late in June. Here it is only the last blooms of the latest varieties that can by any possibility outside of cold storage be kept from falling to pieces before Decoration Day. This is not "down South" either.

I was much impressed this year by the exquisite beauty of *Eugène Verdier*, and the magnificence of *Marcelle Desser*. I believe the latter to be an acquisition for this part of the world. Conditions are different here to what they are with you in the north. Our spring opens early, and hot weather is on almost at once. My *Avalanche* and *Albâtre*

seem to me too delicate for this region. It is all right for very early varieties to be delicate, but the delicate later ones are rushed open too soon by the hot weather.

A number of years ago I bought one hundred little seedlings from Mr. George Hollis. Quite a number of them bloomed this year. While the majority came mediocre singles and poor doubles, there were three very fine singles, a fine double plain red, and a very fine light pink double. Both of these are of the loose style in which the petals are long, making the flower very large, while still light in weight. I do not like a crowded flower. For outdoor use I am more than ever convinced that a light-weight flower is decidedly preferable to a heavy one. Perhaps in your country there are no winds to blow and no drenching rains, but to me a peony blossom bedraggled and dirty from pounding on the ground is not a thing of beauty. I do not consider size a very important quality; nor, I guess, does the rest of the world, for all they exclaim at it so loudly; else would sun-flowers be preferred to violets. A quality that I consider preëminently necessary in a cut flower is substance.

But there is one character on which I think there should be a rating outside of merely technical points. In declamation contests a rating is given on "general effect"; in flowers I would give a rating on "charm." For example, I do not know how, on technical points, Festiva could be counted any more than equal to Festiva maxima, if even equal to it; however, it makes an appeal to me that Festiva maxima does not. The latter has size, form, color, carriage, all unsurpassable; but to me it is cold and forbidding; it commands admiration, yes; but when I see a fine opening bud of Festiva I want it. This has a charm for me, makes an appeal to me, that Festiva maxima does not. I think a committee familiar with a vast number of varieties ought to be able to give a rating on this point as satisfactory to the majority of people as those on strictly technical points.

It seems to me that the Society should publish a list of the names of the varieties it considers unworthy of propagation. Of the varieties worthy of propagation there ought to be an official rating, not exactly on the score-card plan, but something like a numerical tabulation on a scale of, say, one to five on the different characteristics, such as size, substance, form, texture, keeping qualities, vigor of growth, clearness of color, etc.

GROWING FOR CUT FLOWERS

By W. J. Engle, Dayton, Ohio

I have been growing peonies for some twenty years, mostly as a Memorial Day cut flower. This is the best year I have had. Two small cards in two trade papers brought me more orders than I could fill from my four acres of plants.

We try to handle our stock just right; buds are cut at the proper stage, taken to the cellar, where they are graded, bunched, and wrapped; as soon as there is a wagon load they are hurried off to cold storage, where in a temperature of 34° they are cooled, packed, and shipped to their destination.

The modern peony is little known about here, and it surely has a bright future before it. For cut flowers I shall go on putting in three or four thousand roots each fall for some years to come, although some people are telling us this part of the business will soon be overdone.

A little money put into the finer varieties of peonies each season I consider a fine investment. Three years ago this fall my youngest son put ten dollars into M. Jules Elie. Last fall I offered him twenty dollars for his stock, but he would not sell. After digging and dividing half the roots, we found that his stock was worth fifty-five dollars at the lowest wholesale price. In the meantime he had sold a root or two, and cut flowers to the amount of five dollars.

About twelve years ago I got a root of Tecumseh about the size of my thumb. The stock from this root is now worth something like three hundred dollars. About the same time I purchased four roots of Baroness Schroeder. I think the cost was five or six dollars. My stock now from these is worth well on to one thousand dollars, and I have sold many roots of it in the meantime.

I think there are too many varieties of peonies in the trade today, yet there is surely room for great improvement. Who will give us a Festiva maxima with the keeping qualities of the old Queen Victoria? I am still on the lookout for an ideal peony, a plant of good growing habit, fine in bud

and mature flower, a good keeper, odor good xxx, color good, and a bud that will open well after being cut. La Perle comes about as near this ideal as any I have tested. I have subjected this variety to some severe treatment, and it has behaved itself amazingly well. Perhaps La France or Mont Blanc is the ideal; they have neither of them bloomed for me yet.

If we want to increase the popularity of the peony as a cut flower, I think we should grow varieties with a good odor; especially those used for interior decoration. I shall touch very lightly on varieties with "odor bad xx." I was well pleased with Tecumseh this year; I have seen nothing among the reds that I like better.

SOME NOTES FROM ONE OF OUR PACIFIC

COAST MEMBERS

Howard Evarts Weed, Beaverton, Oregon

The peony is not as yet very well known here. In California it does not succeed, but here in the Pacific Northwest it grows to perfection. However, the people of Portland and the entire Pacific Northwest are so enthused with roses that they have yet to learn that other flowers also are worth growing here. But conditions are changing, and some are beginning to know the peony as it is. The one criticism of the peony that I hear is that its season is too short. But I have peonies for over two months, so this objection cannot hold good. People are also just beginning to realize how much longer the peony lasts as a cut flower than almost any other kind of flower.

For my part, I should like to see the list of varieties cut down to one hundred. Have the proper committee come right out in their report and agree to discard certain varieties. Then again, I hate to see a grower raise a lot of seedlings and place new varieties on the market that are not one bit better than those we already have. I like new things, but we must have a standard, and any new varieties should be superior to the old ones, or entirely different from what we have.

Then, again, I don't like to have two Dr. Bretonneau. According to the accepted laws of nomenclature, the Dr. Bretonneau of Guérin must stand, and that of Verdier be changed to either Canista, or Lady Leonora Bramwell, whichever name has priority.

Then, again, why have such long names? Some years ago the American Pomological Society appointed a Nomenclature Committee to take up the names of apples — some five thousand varieties only. This committee has made a report which has been adopted by the fruit men generally, and this report states the simplified names by which the varieties are now called, or will be called in the future. So let us also simplify the names, never having more than two words to a name. Why can't "Triomphe de l'Exposition de Lille" be just "Triomphe"? The name would show what is meant. Everyone interested would have a copy of the report of the Nomenclature Committee, and in three years' time we could have all the names simplified in all catalogues, both in this country and in Europe. Let the American Peony Society take a bold stand in this matter of names and there will be no trouble in all getting on the band wagon.

PEONIES GOOD, BAD, AND INDIFFERENT

By H. W. Groschner, Napoleon, Ohio

In judging any kind of flowers I consider the color 75% of the value of a flower. If the color is not there the flower is to me not worth while. I do not lose sight of the other good qualities a plant should possess, but these must be subservient to color, for it is for that that we like flowers, — for their beauty.

In giving my opinion on varieties, those that are not good enough to be classed as good are not worth having; one's time is too valuable and life is too short to bother with common, ordinary, or mediocre varieties. I would not even give such away; I destroy them.

The list I have selected is for the home grounds, for the peony enthusiast who wants a collection of good varieties. It is difficult to rate peonies, and I do not doubt some of mine belong in the next higher class than the one I have

put them in, but the list is made for beginners and if they will stick to it they will not regret it.

Extra Fine Peonies

Asa Gray, M. Jules Elie, Milton Hill, Avalanche, Le Cygne, Soulange, La France, Alsace-Lorraine, Baroness Schroeder, Thérèse, Karl Rosenfield, Claire Dubois.

Fine Peonies

Marie Lemoine, Couronne d'or, Mme. Crousse, La Perle, Mons. Dupont, Duchesse de Nemours, Marie Jacquin, Grandiflora, Adolphe Rousseau, E. G. Hill, Felix Crousse, Edwin Forrest, Alice de Julvécourt, Jeanne d'Arc, Princess Beatrice, Eugénie Verdier, Festiva maxima, Livingstone, Madame Ducel, Philomèle, Mathilde de Roseneck, Avalanche, Volcan, Meissonier, Agnes Mary Kelway.

Good Peonies

La Tulipe, Festiva, Flora Treasure, Sulphurea, Candidissima, Blanche Cire, Modeste Guérin, Mme. Calot, Solfatare, Delachei, Eclatante, Gloire de Chas. Gombault, Mme. Ducel, Edulis superba, Officinalis rubra, Alexandre Dumas, Triomphe de l'Exposition de Lille.

Common, Ordinary, or Mediocre Varieties

Duchesse d'Orleans, Andre Lauries, Achille, Crimson Queen, the entire Humei tribe, Gigantea, Mme. Bréon, Mme. Furtado, Ne plus ultra, Queen Victoria, Grandiflora carnea plena, Mme. Lebon, Rosea superba, Lady Bramwell, Formosa (single), Grover Cleveland, Gen. Miles, Thurlow's Red, Clarissa, Congress, Mme. Geissler, Chrysanthemiflora, Berlioz, Mrs. Lowe, Virgo Maria, Atrosanguinea, Boadicea.

Note on Richardson's Rubra superba: Personally I would not add this variety to my collection until I had at least a dozen, because it takes its time before beginning to bloom. Instead of the usual two or three years it would be better to say of this variety that it takes four or five years before it begins to bloom. I advance the theory that it should not be planted in very rich soil. Rubra superba has such a fine dark red color, and comes in so very late, that it must be retained, in spite of its weaknesses.

(I am sure none of us would refuse Mr. Groschner the privilege of changing his mind on the merits of some varieties after he has had them under observation a few years longer).

ON RAISING SEEDLINGS

1. By Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa

I began planting peony seeds in 1904. At that time I had quite a lot of different sorts, both singles and doubles, which laid the foundation for numerous possible and interesting crosses. Since that date I have planted seeds quite freely every year.

All my plantings since the first year have been according to a plan by which I know the parentage on the mother's side, of all my seedlings. This method is more interesting than mixed plantings. One interesting fact is that seeds from any known sort planted year after year will show quite different results. The combinations are continually changing.

It is also very interesting to cross known varieties by hand, but our bungling methods of pollination can hardly accomplish the perfect results attained by the bees. I have counted twelve honey bees on one peony bloom at the same time. They assure good seeds. We do not always.

It is easy to create hundreds of varieties, and the temptation is to name them too soon. They ought to be well tried out before being put on the market. I have on trial perhaps a hundred that looked good to me in the seed patch in the first flush of creative victory, but less than a half dozen have so far been christened.

There are a few points that ought always to be kept in mind before launching a new peony into the sea of confusion:

First — It ought to be unlike any named sort already catalogued.

Second — It must be hardy.

Third — It ought to be so vigorous and recuperative that it will stand cutting all to pieces and yet come up smiling in spite of it.

Fourth — It ought to be free flowering — not simply a good plant, but good for something.

Fifth — It needs a good stem; not lopping over on the ground as if ashamed to hold up its head.

Sixth — The odor must be agreeable to make it popular.

One cannot determine all these points the first time a peony blooms, nor even in a couple of years. I know of varieties which if judged by a sample bloom would be considered choice, but in the sum total of the points named are disappointing.

It is of absorbing interest to plant seeds, but one must have the patience of a scientist and a discriminating mind that can see the faults in one's own children.

2. Mr. Everett P. Wheeler, Rockland, Mass., sends some interesting notes on the method of raising seedlings followed out by the late George Hollis. He has on his place, Mr. Wheeler writes, a large number of four sash cold frames, which were made so that they could be divided into one sash compartments if necessary; in these he used boxes say 12 x 8 inches, and 6 inches deep. These had small stones placed in the bottom for drainage, and were then filled with good potting soil.

The seeds were gathered when ripe, before they had time to harden; just as they are turning brown is the best time, for if they once get hard nothing will induce them to come up before the second year; they are planted immediately in the boxes, these placed in the frames, and thoroughly wetted down. The sash is then put on. The glass must be slightly shaded so that the sun will not dry out the boxes. By this method most of the seed will germinate the following spring. I would suggest that you plant a few seeds in a box of sand and keep it moist until late in the fall, and then examine them; you will find some that are already sprouted.

The plants thus raised are grown on in the boxes the first season, as they make a better growth than in the open ground; they should be given plenty of air and the soil kept moist but not wet. I have known Hollis to grow them in the boxes for even a second year, but they must be transplanted about three inches apart, then when planted out they grow very fast, and will bloom in from three to four years from seed.

Great care is necessary in selecting seeds if you wish for the best results. Full double flowers pollinated by others nearly as double will give fewer seeds but better results, and that is what you should work for; some of the large double sorts rarely produce any seeds, but when they do form some these should be saved with the greatest care.

Be sure to plant seed every year, then you will have plants in all stages of growth, and surprises will await you every season.

3. By O. L. Ringle, Wausau, Wisconsin

I have been saving seed and planting for the last five years, and find the work most interesting; a number of my oldest plants ought to give the first bloom next year. I have made no effort to keep the varieties distinct except in two cases. I have about twenty-five plants each from M. Martin Cahuzac and Primevère, which I have kept separate, and I am waiting to see how they will develop. Last fall I planted a large amount of seed from the best varieties in my collection, including Le Cygne, Lady Alex. Duff, Mme. Jules Dessert, etc. There is no difficulty in getting seed from these, and I have been trying to raise seed from such varieties as do not set seed so freely, or which do not naturally produce any at all. That seed can be obtained from Festiva maxima by cross-fertilization I proved to my satisfaction last summer, though I only got two or three well-filled seed pods on a half dozen plants. On Couronne d'or I only got *one seed*. On Thérèse I have not been able to produce seed, though I have noticed that incipient seed pods are often formed during the subsequent growth of the plant, and this leads me to believe that the variety will yield seed by proper fertilization. I renewed my efforts to get seed from Thérèse this year, and while I do not yet know whether I shall be successful, I am more than ever convinced that it is possible. I found that on well-established plants the tiny red points of the stigmas were easily perceptible on such flowers as had been open three or four days, but I had to dig down among the closely folded petals in order to fertilize them. The season here was not very good for that kind of work, so if I am not successful I shall blame it on the weather.

4. By A. P. Saunders, Clinton, N. Y.

(Being part of the Secretary's Address at the Chicago Meeting, 1914)

I wish that in America we might have a larger and more ardent band of raisers of new sorts of peonies. There is still so much to be done. Lemoine and Dessert, to mention no others, are at work all the time, and give us wonderful new varieties once in a while; but there is need of a hundred such enthusiasts. I wish we might have seedling peonies raised here as they raise seedling Narcissi in England, where amateur and professional raisers have their sensational novelties ready for the spring shows every year. Think what Richardson produced — one man working on a tiny plot of ground.

Why should we not at least do much better than we are doing? This Society might, I believe, do much to encourage the raising of new sorts. I should like to see a good substantial prize offered every year for the best new variety — a prize large enough to be worth some pains; say \$50 or even \$100; not with the idea that we should have to pay it out every year, but under the intention that it should be given only for the occasional really good thing; to be awarded, let us say, only to such varieties as the Nomenclature Committee would wish to put into its list of best sorts. Very few American kinds that I know of could get it on such a requirement, but recognition like that would mean the reputation of the variety ready made.

I believe we might foster, in that way, this infant industry, and raise it up to a stage of importance in the horticultural community. The tradition of Richardson is bearing fruit in the neighborhood of Boston, where the Massachusetts Horticultural Society from time to time puts its stamp of approval on a new seedling. But we cannot all get to the Boston shows, nor would the dates fall right for many of us if we could. Our own shows moving year after year, north, south, east and west, offer an opportunity to almost everyone once in a while to bring out what he has.

Think of the added interest in these exhibitions if we could count on finding at each of them even a couple of dozen new sorts, any one of which might be a real acquisition. We have, I know, in the past suffered from an overproduction of new kinds, or rather from an over-naming of new kinds; and our Nomenclature Committee has spent

a good deal of time in examining and describing kinds that might much better have been confined to the originator's own premises. But I think those days are over, and it is just by setting up a high standard that we can prevent them from recurring.

Now I know that the professional man often feels that he cannot be bothered with a batch of new seedlings every year; they take too much attention. That may be true for him, but certainly for the amateur, who does not have to look to his garden as a source of profit, it is always possible to set aside a corner for the "youngsters." And the thrill with which the peony enthusiast sees the first blooms open every year is very much intensified if there are even a few new ones to be watched as they gradually develop their beauty. Only, it cannot be too often said that if he will avoid disappointments he must be very particular as to his choice of seed, and take only the very best.

Since cross-fertilization goes on continually in the garden, if one is determined to get the highest quality of seed it is necessary, first, to collect only from the finest varieties; but then also to weed inferior sorts out of one's collection altogether; for a few inferior kinds with an abundance of stamens will, through the kindly activity of the bees, contaminate the seed on many blooms of the finest kinds.

If I may speak of my own experience, I get a large percentage of good sorts among my seedlings. I have probably bloomed about three hundred up to the present time, of which perhaps fifty singles and one hundred and fifty doubles have been thrown away; of the remaining hundred at least fifty are very good kinds, including perhaps ten really fine ones. From these on further trial some should prove worth naming and propagating; half a dozen at least now promise to be of this quality. If even three of these fulfill their promise, that is one per cent of the original number, and for investments of this class I should call that a very good return.

PROCEEDINGS
of the
AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY
for the Years 1914 and 1915

1914

Twelfth annual meeting held at the Art Institute, Chicago, June 10 and 11, 1914. President Farr in the chair.

There was a fair attendance of the members from the vicinity of Chicago. Two sessions were held, the first at the Art Institute, the second over the luncheon table at the Auditorium.

The President spoke at some length about the publication of the Peony Manual, and urged on all members the necessity for coöperation in order that the work might be as nearly as possible free from faults.

As to the varieties of doubtful authenticity, Mr. Farr took the stand that it really makes very little difference whether a given variety is sold under one name or under another; what is important is that all dealers should sell the same sort under the same name. For instance, in the present confusion over the Richardson variety *Grandiflora*, or Henry Woodward, the question which of these two names is to be used is of secondary importance; what is of primary importance is that we should all agree to use either the one name or the other, so that the purchaser may rely on getting the sort he has seen, no matter from whom he orders his roots.

Mr. Farr then spoke of the descriptions as they now exist in the bulletins, which will form the backbone of the new manual. These descriptions are much better in the last bulletin than in the earlier ones. It is the intention to make them uniform for the Manual, following in general the style of those in the last bulletin.

A good many of the varieties described in the bulletins will be omitted from the Manual, or at least relegated to a special section. This will include varieties that were in the Cornell Collection, but which have never really found their way into commerce; such as some of the less important of Hollis's seedlings. The original descriptions will always be available in the bulletins themselves for any who may have occasion to look them up.

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Secretary presented the Treasurer's report for the past year, showing a balance to the Society's credit of \$1394.96.

On account of the shortness of the time available for the meeting, the Secretary's address was omitted, the understanding being that it would appear in the horticultural press. It is given in part elsewhere in this bulletin.

The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer were reelected to hold office for another year.

Mr. E. A. Reeves was elected Director for three years to succeed himself.

Applicants for membership according to the list presented by the Secretary were declared elected. There were twenty names in the list.

The President added the names of Messrs. W. A. Peterson and Reimann to those constituting the Publicity Committee, and appointed Auditors and a Committee on Resolutions to report at the adjourned meeting.

The report of the judges was presented by the Secretary. The principal prize winners were: William A. Peterson, Chicago; E. A. Reeves, Cleveland; B. H. Farr, Wyomissing; W. W. Bannard & Co., Chicago; Vaughan's Seed Store, Chicago; Martin Kohankie, Painesville, Ohio, and in the amateur classes, A. P. Saunders, Clinton, N. Y.

The first prize, for the largest display of blooms of any one variety, went to Vaughan's Seed Store with a fine lot of Duchesse de Nemours (Calot), the other winning sorts in the same class being Charlemange and Golden Harvest. For fifty blooms, white, Avalanche, Baroness Schroeder, and M. Dupont formed the procession. In the light pink or pink and cream class, Couronne d'or, Albert Crousse, and Eugénie Verdier. Dark pink, M. Jules Elie, Jules Calot, Mme. Geissler. Red or crimson, with stamens, Delachei,

M. Krelage, Pierre Dessert. Red or crimson, without stamens, Felix Crousse, Augustin d'Hour, Rubra triumphans.

In the classes for twelve blooms of a kind, the same sorts reappeared, with the addition of Claire Dubois in the light pink class; Livingstone and M. Barral in the dark pinks; Karl Rosenfield in the crimsons with stamens, and Directeur Aubry, Général Davoust, and Modeste Guérin in the class for red or crimson without stamens.

In the classes for combinations of two or more colors, Jeanne d'Arc ran off with the first premium in one class, and La Tulipe in another, Princess Beatrice and M. Dupont following along after.

At the adjourned meeting the Auditors reported that they had examined the Treasurer's accounts and found them correct. The Committee on Resolutions presented a resolution which was cordially adopted, expressing the thanks of the Society to the Horticultural Society of Chicago and to the Chicago Florists' Club for their hospitality and coöperation, which had made it possible to put the show through successfully.

A resolution was adopted recording the sense of loss to the Society in the death of one of our members, Wilton Lockwood, a painter of wide reputation, known not only for his excellent portraits but highly esteemed also for his paintings of flowers; and among these, some of his most charming canvases were of peonies.

Adjourned.

1915

Thirteenth annual meeting, held at Horticultural Hall, Boston, June 19 and 20, 1915. President Farr in the chair.

There were two sessions, the first in Horticultural Hall, the second over the supper table at the Parker House.

The meetings of the Society were well attended by the local members.

The President, Mr. Farr, reported on the progress of negotiations regarding the proposed planting of a collection at Washington. Mr. Farr had made a trip to Washington to look over the plot of ground which was to be used for the

purpose. The permanent grounds are not yet ready, and will not be for some two or three years; it is therefore proposed to set the peonies into temporary quarters until their permanent home is ready for them. Mr. Farr was satisfied that the arrangements were adequate and satisfactory, and advised the members that several generous offers of roots had already been made.

The Secretary, instead of making any formal address, brought before the members a number of matters for consideration and discussion. Among these was the question of a color chart. In this connection he read a letter from Mrs. Francis King calling attention to the merits of the Ridgway chart, and suggesting that the question of its adoption by the Society be brought before the meeting. It is now in use for the Tulip trials at Wisley in England and is said to have received much commendation. Mrs. King, who has had a good deal of experience with both the Ridgway and the French charts finds the former much more convenient in the hand and amply complete for most purposes.

In the discussion which followed the reading of the letter, the following points were made in favor of the French chart: (1) It has obtained an international recognition which the Ridgway chart has not up to the present received; (2) The French chart is much more complete, and gives a surface of color of greater extent for each shade, thus making comparisons easier; (3) The French chart has not only been in use by the Peony Society itself for about ten years, but is also adopted as the standard chart by the Rose, Sweet Pea, and Chrysanthemum Societies.

(The substance of this discussion was transmitted to Mrs. King after the meeting, and she comments that not only has she had no trouble in using the smaller color blocks of the Ridgway chart during the three years in which it has been in her hands, but finds also that the unglazed surface of the colors in the Ridgway chart gives a softness of texture preferable to that of the French color blocks. The question of color names is a difficult one at best. Mrs. King suggests that the English color names given on the French chart would strike our public as absurdly inappropriate; at the same time she writes that one of the objections made to the Ridgway chart in England is that the color names are not well chosen).

There was then some discussion of the question of registration of new varieties. Mr. Fewkes called the attention of the members to the fact that two processes are included under such a heading which should be carefully separated. One is the registration of a name to secure priority; the other is the registration of a new variety which thus obtains the approval of the Society. It was moved and carried that new names be submitted to the Secretary for registration. With regard to the official recognition of new varieties of merit, a committee was appointed to work out practical rules on which such recognition could be secured.

New York was chosen as the place of the 1916 meeting, and a local committee was appointed which, in addition to its other powers, should have the arrangement of the premium list. It was generally recognized in a discussion on prize schedules that the present schedule in the amateur classes gives too much advantage to the amateur with a rather large collection. It was the sense of the meeting that classes should be arranged for the grower of small means and of limited selection.

(The Treasurer, Mr. Humphreys, in a letter received since the meeting, after voicing in rather strong terms his regret that there were not more amateur entries at the Boston show, offers the following suggestion:

"From my experience of flower shows for the past twenty years, I feel that the reason lies in the arrangement of our schedules, not this Boston offering alone, but practically all that we have made since the Society was formed. The difficulty is in requiring a man to have a collection of considerable size before it is possible for him to show at all, and I urge that instead of using collections, the future schedules offer premiums for the best three or the best six blooms of a kind or of a color; then instead of having two or three exhibitors in a class, I firmly believe we shall have dozens."

Another suggestion that has been made in the same connection is that in place of the two prizes now offered in a class there should be three or even four; for instance in a good many classes the premiums this year were \$10 and \$5 for first and second. If the same money were offered in four

prizes, \$6, \$4, \$3 and \$2, the man with a small collection might be more encouraged to take a chance).

In the election of officers, the President, Secretary, and Treasurer were elected to serve another year. Mr. Fewkes was elected Vice President, and Mr. R. T. Brown a Director for three years to succeed Mr. S. G. Harris. The election of new members then took place. The Secretary presented a list of seventeen applicants who were all declared elected.

The report of the Judges' Committee was received and adopted. Its substance is given in another part of this bulletin. In the report special recognition was given to the collection of seedlings staged by A. P. Saunders.

The Treasurer read his report, showing a balance to the credit of the Society amounting to \$1577.78.

At the adjourned meeting the Auditors announced that they had examined the Treasurer's report, and found it correct.

A resolution was adopted recording the loss sustained by the Society in the death of Prof. C. S. Minot, for years an enthusiastic lover of the peony, and the originator of some excellent new varieties. A scientist of world-wide reputation, he yet found time to cultivate and enjoy a choice collection of peonies.

It was further resolved that the Society extend its thanks to the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for its hospitality and for the very efficient way in which the large exhibition was cared for.

Adjourned.

REPORT ON THE EXHIBITION

The exhibition was in combination with that of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. There was therefore a double schedule of prizes, one from the Horticultural Society and one from the Peony Society. This should have brought out a big list of exhibitors. Among the professional growers there was some good competition, but in the amateur classes the number of contestants was disappointingly small. Of course it must not be forgotten that the number of amateurs in any one locality is not large, and that a date which

suits Boston makes it practically impossible for anyone in the latitude of New York and Philadelphia to stage anything at all. It is very much to be hoped that future committees on prize schedule will be able to devise a list of prizes that will bring all the local amateurs "into the ring."

The following is a list of the prize winners:

Commercial Classes

1. Largest and best collection of not less than 100 named varieties.
First prize, American Peony Society's Gold Medal, T. C. Thurlow's Sons.
This was a fine collection, including most of the best standard sorts.
2. Best six blooms any variety.
First, A. P. Saunders, with Thérèse.
Second, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Lady Alexandra Duff.
3. Best collection of 20 named varieties, three blooms of each.
First, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with the following varieties: Marie Jacquin, Venus, M. Martin Cahuzac, Mr. Manning, Rosa Bonheur, Marguerite Gérard, Lamartine, Duchesse de Nemours, Felix Crousse, Asa Gray, James Kelway, Mons. Dupont, Dr. Caillot, Modeste Guérin, Mme. Ducel, Mme. Calot, Thérèse, Lady Alexandra Duff, Mme. Auguste Dessert, Triomphe de l'Exposition de Lille.
4. Best collection of 25 varieties, one bloom of each.
First, A. H. Fewkes.
Second, T. C. Thurlow's Sons.
Mr. Fewkes showed in this class a particularly choice lot of blooms, including Rosa Bonheur, La Lorraine, Claire Dubois, Lamartine, Admiral Togo, Walter Faxon, Sarah Bernhardt, Souvenir de Gaspard Calot, Eugène Verdier, Neptune, M. Dupont, Mme. Auguste Dessert, Avalanche, Milton Hill, Sarah Carstensen, Mme. Bollet, Albert Crousse, Germaine Bigot, Etienne Méchin, L'Indispensable, Mont Blanc, Lafayette, Baroness Schroeder.

5. Best collection of single peonies with one whorl of petals.
First, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Victoria, Prince Alexander, Surprise, Queen of May, Black Prince, Duchess of Portland, Stanley, Emily, Defiance, Rosy Dawn, Hermes, Areos, Mrs. Key, Dreadnought.
6. Best fifty blooms, one variety, white.
First, Mrs. J. F. Flood, Woburn, Mass., with Festiva maxima.
Second, Cottage Gardens Nursery Co., with Marie Lemoine.
7. Best fifty blooms, one variety, dark pink or rose.
Second, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Modeste Guérin.
8. Best fifty, flesh or salmon pink.
First, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Venus.
Second, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Triomphe de l'Exposition de Lille.
9. Best fifty, deep crimson.
No entry.
10. Best collection Japanese varieties.
Second, A. P. Saunders.
11. Best new seedling peony of American origin.
American Peony Society's Silver Medal to A. P. Saunders for a bloom shown as No. 362. The varieties shown as White Wings, and Wild Rose were given V. H. C. as was also the variety Cherry Hill shown by T. C. Thurlow's Sons.
12. Best new variety introduced since 1910.
No entry.

Amateur Classes

The following awards went to A. P. Saunders, in most cases without competition:

13. Largest and best collection. Peony Society's Silver Medal.
14. Best collection white varieties. Second.
15. Best collection dark pink or rose. Second.
16. Best collection salmon and flesh. First.
17. Best collection crimson. First.
18. Best six blooms any variety. First, with Venus. Second, with James Kelway.

In class 18 there was a good vase of Triomphe de l'Exposition de Lille shown by Mrs. F. S. Kellogg of New York Mills, N. Y., and a very good half dozen of Albert Crousse shown by Mr. Sumner Perkins of Danvers, Mass.

Prizes Offered by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

Open Classes

199. Collection 20 named varieties, one of each.

First, A. P. Saunders, with the following varieties:
Tecumseh, Venus, Lucrece, Marguerite Gérard, Duchesse de Nemours, James Kelway, Mme. Auguste Dessert, L'Indispensable, Volcan, Le Cygne, Carmen, M. Martin Cahuzac, Marquis de Lory (Virginie), Gloire de Charles Gombault, M. Bastien Lepage, Marie Crousse, Germaine Bigot, Thérèse, Mme. Calot, Graziella.

Second, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with the following:

Asa Gray, Thérèse, M. Martin Cahuzac, Duchesse de Nemours, Triomphe de l'Exposition de Lille, Mr. Manning, James Kelway, La Tulipe, Lamar-tine, Eugène Verdier, Modeste Guérin, Mme. Duce, Rosa Bonheur, La Perle, Germaine Bigot, Triumphans Gandavensis, Baroness Schroeder, Venus, Kelway's Glorious, Alba sulfurea.

Mrs. Kellogg also staged a good group in this class, including Mme. Bigot, Mme. Loise mère, La Tendresse, M. Dupont, Mme. de Galhau, La Rosière, Eugène Verdier, Mlle. Rosa Rendatler, Albert Crousse, Pierre Dessert, Alexandre Dumas, M. Boucharlat aîné, Mme. Bollett, M. Martin Cahuzac, M. Jules Elie, Avalanche, Couronne d'or, Comte de Nanteuil, Triomphe de l'Exposition de Lille.

200. Ten varieties, three of each.

First, T. C. Thurlow's Sons.

Second, Mrs. F. S. Kellogg.

The varieties for the most part were duplicates of those entered in the preceding class.

201. Specimen bloom, double.

First, George N. Smith, with a mammoth bloom of M. Jules Elie.

Second, A. P. Saunders, with L'Indispensable.

These exhibitors also staged in this class, Thérèse, Carmen, Coronation, Marie Crousse. And Mr. S. A. Perkins had Festiva maxima, Mme. Ducel, Adolphe Rousseau, M. Jules Elie, and Albert Crousse.

202. Collection 12 named varieties, single.

First, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Stanley, Duchess of Portland, Defiance, Prince Bismarck, Rosy Dawn, Black Prince, Queen of May, Dreadnought, Areos, Meteor, Prince Alexander.

203. Collection 12 Japanese.

First, A. H. Fewkes.

204. Collection six varieties white.

First, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Kelway's Glorious, Mme. Crousse, Duchesse de Nemours, Mme. Emile Lemoine, Baroness Schroeder, Alsace-Lorraine.

Second, Mrs. C. S. Minot, with Avalanche, Mrs. C. S. Minot, Albâtre, Marguerite Gérard, Emilie Hoste, La Rosière.

205. Collection six varieties rose pink.

First, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Coquelin, Arsène Meuret, Nobilissima, M. Boucharlat aîné, Washington, Modeste Guérin.

Second, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Berlioz, M. Chevreul, Claire Dubois, M. Jules Elie, Mme. Bollet.

206. Collection of six varieties, salmon pink.

First, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Georgiana Shaylor, Mlle. Desbuissons, Thérèse, Lamartine, La Perle, Mme. Barillet Deschamps.

207. Collection of six varieties, red or crimson.

First, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Pierre Dessert, Cherry Hill, Decandolle, Plutarch, Adolphe Rousseau, M. Martin Cahuzac.

208. Collection six varieties, any other color.

No entry.

209. Vase of 25 blooms, white or blush.

First, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with James Kelway.

Second, Mrs. J. L. Gardner, with Festiva maxima.

210. Vase of 25 blooms, pink or rose.

First, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Mme. Ducel.

Second, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Venus.

211. Vase of 25 blooms, red or crimson.
First, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, with Mr. Manning.
212. Vase of 25 blooms any other color.
No entry.

Amateur Classes

213. Collection of 12 varieties, one of each.
First, William Whitman.
Second, R. C. Morse.
214. Collection of 12 blooms, pink.
First, A. P. Saunders.
215. Collection of 12 blooms, white.
First, A. P. Saunders.
Second, S. A. Perkins.
216. Collection of 12 blooms, red.
First, A. P. Saunders.
Second, William Whitman.

Gratuities were also awarded by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for displays of peonies, to Blue Hill Nurseries, Braintree, Mass.; T. C. Thurlow's Sons; G. N. Smith; J. K. Alexander; Mrs. J. F. Flood; William Whitman; Mrs. N. P. Cutler; Mrs. E. M. Gill.

A Silver Medal was given to T. C. Thurlow's Sons for their fine new dark red peony Cherry Hill; and another to R. & J. Farquhar & Co. for their artistic display of peonies.

The latter firm showed a grand vase of a Richardson seedling about the name of which there was some uncertainty; but it was generally considered by the experts to be the variety Walter Faxon. The color was a remarkably good shade of pink.

Among the blooms conspicuous for fine quality should be mentioned: Thérèse, shown in many classes, and almost always grand; Mme. Auguste Dessert; Marguerite Gérard; Mme. Jules Dessert (in Thurlow's exhibit); Milton Hill and Rosa Bonheur (Fewkes' exhibit); Albert Crousse; M. Jules Elie; L'Indispensable; Mme. Emile Lemoine (Thurlow's); Triomphe de l'Exposition de Lille.

Some acknowledgment should be made to the Cottage Gardens Co. for their vase of Marie Lemoine, and also to Mr. Farr, who, though peony season with him was long past, brought on a big vase of that grand variety Maud L. Richardson, which he had held over in cold storage. No doubt the Marie Lemoines had been similarly held over. Would that all of our members would show a like determination to bring what they could to our exhibitions.

SOME NOTES ON THE RECENT EXHIBITION

By A. H. Fewkes, Newton Highlands, Mass.

A noticeable feature of the recent show was the fine keeping quality of the flowers staged, indicating that exhibitors generally have learned the lesson that peony flowers to stand well throughout an exhibition must be cut at least a day before they are to be staged. This feature was even more noticeable the second day than the first, for the flowers had increased both in size and in beauty. Nowhere were there to be seen the faded and wilted blooms so common a few years ago. It is an important lesson for peony lovers to learn, not only for exhibition purposes, but for flowers cut for house use as well; for to get full enjoyment of a peony bloom one must cut it just as it is opening, say a day or two before it would naturally open on the plant, and place it in water in a cool cellar, cutting off a small portion of the end of the stem each day. In this way the flower develops much more slowly and perfectly than it does in the open air, and all the delicate shades of color are preserved.

Remarkable, too, at this exhibition was the interest shown by visitors in the named collections of varieties. Those exhibited simply as displays without names were quickly passed by, while those with names were lingered over, individually examined and admired, and often the names taken for future reference.

The choicer new varieties are having a marked influence on peony exhibitions, raising the standard of quality to a much higher point than formerly obtained. Although the highest quality is not invariably found in the newest varieties, it is a fact that the best of the older were exceedingly slow in finding their way into collections, and it would seem that the stimulus given by the introduction of new kinds has had the effect of bringing out the older varieties of high quality, and causing many to be discarded which at one time were extensively grown.

There seems to be a difference of opinion in regard to offering prizes for fifty blooms of one kind to be shown in one vase, and I am inclined to agree with those who believe

that it is too many. It takes a very large vase to hold that number, and it is seldom that one can be found that is large enough to take them without crowding the blooms and consequently destroying much of their beauty. Twenty-five blooms are enough, and if more classes are needed to make up for the fifties, make classes for special kinds to be shown in the same way.

A point often overlooked by exhibitors in staging their blooms, and one which often means the difference between first and second prize, is the necessity of paying careful attention to the arrangement of the varieties in a collection; particularly to harmony of colors. If there are several rows of vases in the collection, see that the back row is the highest, with each row a little lower until the front row is reached. The flowers should also be arranged so that their colors will harmonize with those immediately in front and at each side. In this way it is possible to avoid the dullness which often seriously mars the appearance of a collection.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S OFFICE

The present Bulletin is published as the result of action taken at the Boston meeting. It seemed best, while we were at it, to include the Proceedings of the past and current years, even though the volume acquires in that way rather a mixed character.

I should be glad to hear from the members expressions of opinion as to how the Bulletin might be improved, and also what their judgment is as to the desirability of issuing it regularly, say once or twice a year.

* * *

I have a little seed of the officinalis variety, Otto Froebel, which I should be glad to send to anyone interested. The bloom is single, and of a very pretty bright shade of cherry pink, most unusual. I have raised seedlings, and a large percentage come nearly true to the parent.

* * *

As surely as peony season comes round, so surely comes someone with that hardy perennial question: What do you do to keep the ants off your peony buds? One of my

visitors this spring told me of a neighbor of hers who had cut strips of sticky fly paper and tied one around each stem of her plants. Nurserymen please copy!

* * *

I am reminded of another of the spring's experiences: I staged a rather big bloom of Claire Dubois — 8 inches or over — at a local show; and overheard a fair visitor praise it in these terms: "That's the kind of peony I like. You can see that from the street." There's a criterion of beauty.

* * *

Singles are increasing in popularity, and stocks of them are evidently low. Not long ago a correspondent wrote asking where 18 May Donaldson and 12 L'Etincelante could be had; his order had been declined by some of the largest growers. At last report he had been able to get only part of what he wanted in this country.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

(July, 1915)

Officers

President, B. H. Farr.Wyomissing, Reading, Penna.
Honorary President, C. W. Ward. . . . Queens, Long Island
Vice President, A. H. Fewkes. . . . Newton Highlands, Mass.
Secretary, A. P. Saunders.Clinton, N. Y.
Treasurer, J. H. Humphreys. Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pa.

Board of Directors

President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, ex officio; also John M. Good, whose term expires 1916; E. A. Reeves, whose term expires 1917; and R. T. Brown, whose term expires 1918.

Honorary Members

Dessert, A.Chenonceaux, France
Coit, Prof. J. Eliot. . University of California, Berkeley, Cal.
Whetzel, Prof. H. H.Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.
Batchelor, Leon D.Logan, Utah
Harrison, The Rev. C. S.York, Neb.

Members

Andorra Nurseries Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Auten, Benjamin C. Carthage, Mo.
 Baird, C. A. 11 Granger Place, Rochester, N. Y.
 Bartlett, John Oshawa, Ontario
 Betscher, C. Canal Dover, Ohio
 Blacklock, Miss M. E. 504 Dovercourt Road, Toronto, Ont.
 Bogert, Prof. M. T. Columbia University, New York
 Boyd, James 25th and Wharton Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Breitmeyer, Philip Detroit, Mich.
 Brown, R. T. Queens, Long Island, N. Y.
 Bryant, Arthur, & Son Princeton, Ill.
 Campbell, Frank W. 23 La Mothe Ave., Detroit, Mich.
 Carter, George F. 128 N. Salina St., Syracuse, N. Y.
 Cavers, John Oakville, Ontario
 Chambers, Alfred H. 938 Pear St., Reading, Pa.
 Charlton, John, & Sons Rochester, N. Y.
 Chase, H. F. Andover, Mass.
 Clarke, Mrs. E. L. 757 N. Genesee St., Waukegan, Ill.
 Coffin, Nathan E. Ewing Farms, Des Moines, Iowa
 Conard & Jones West Grove, Pa.
 Connon, John Hamilton, Ontario
 Cowan, James Oshawa, Ontario
 Crane, Alfred J. Monroe, Orange Co., N. Y.
 Crawford, Mrs. William 1602 Indiana Ave., LaPorte, Ind.
 Cutting, Judge Frank H. Municipal Court, Duluth, Minn.
 Dauphin, Joseph Queens, Long Island, N. Y.
 Dickinson, O. H. 27 Lyman St., Springfield, Mass.
 Dockray, Thomas D. 155 Rusholme Road, Toronto, Ont.
 Dreer, H. A. Philadelphia, Pa.
 Early, Charles P. Merchantville, N. J.
 Ellwanger & Barry Rochester, N. Y.
 Embree, Mrs. Emma D. West Chester, Pa.
 Engle, William J. R. R. No. 8, Dayton, Ohio
 Farr, B. H. Wyomissing, Reading, Pa.
 Felix & Dykhuis Boskoop, Holland
 Fengar, E. F. 1 Broadway, New York
 Ferodowill, Frank Wayzata, Minn.
 Fewkes, A. H. Newton Highlands, Mass.
 Field, Henry, Seed Co. Shenandoah, Ohio
 Fisher, R. Eric 660 Sherbrooke St., West, Montreal, Can.
 Fraser, Mrs. George C. 300 South St., Morristown, N. J.
 Gifford, A. L. 334 Fourth Ave., New York

Good, John M. Springfield, Ohio
 Gould, A. L., Co. Gilman, Ill.
 Groschner, H. W. Napoleon, Ohio
 Gumm, W. L. Remington, Indiana
 Harris, S. G. Tarrytown, N. Y.
 Harrison, J. G., & Sons. Berlin, Maryland
 Hart, George E. Lynbrook, N. Y.
 Havemeyer, T. A. Hempstead, Long Island, N. Y.
 Hedges, Edwin B. Westfield, Mass.
 Hicks, Henry. Westbury Station, Long Island, N. Y.
 Hoysradt, Lyman H. Pine Plains, N. Y.
 Jackson, Prof. R. T. . 9 Fayerweather St., Cambridge, Mass.
 Jackson & Perkins. Newark, N. Y.
 Kallen, H. Boskoop, Holland
 (Care of Kallen & Lunnemann)
 Kellogg, Mrs. F. S. New York Mills, N. Y.
 Kelsey, Carl. Mendenhall, Pa.
 King, Mrs. Francis. Orchard House, Alma, Mich.
 Klehm's Nursery. Arlington Hts., Ill.
 Knapp, Dr. A. J. Evansville, Ind.
 Kohankie, Martin. Painesville, Ohio
 Lahodney, Albert. Hempstead, Long Island, N. Y.
 Linton, W. S. Saginaw, Mich.
 Manning, J. Woodward. Reading, Mass.
 McKissock, James. . . . 590 Lexington St., Waltham, Mass.
 McMaster, John. 372 Oxford St., London, Ontario
 Meehan, Thos., & Sons. Germantown, Phila., Pa.
 Meneray, F. W. Council Bluffs, Iowa
 Menninger, Dr. C. F. . . . 727 Kansas Ave., Topeka, Kansas
 Merkel, John. Mentor, Ohio
 Michell, Henry F., Co. . . . 518 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Miller, William. Bar Harbor, Maine
 Milton Nursery Co. Milton, Oregon
 Mullen, H. J. Westfield, Mass.
 Murphy, R. H. Urbana, Ohio
 Needham, Dr. A. V. Oneida, N. Y.
 Owerkerk, P. 216 Jane St., Weehawken, N. J.
 Parker, A. S. 709 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich.
 Peterson, George H. Fair Lawn, N. J.
 Peterson, William A. 108 LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill.
 Pierson, F. R. Tarrytown, N. Y.
 Plump, Charles H. West Redding, Conn.
 Post, Dr. George W. . 4138 Washington Boulevard, Chicago

Reed, Homer. Kansas City, Mo.
 (Proprietor Kansas City Peony Gardens)
 Reeves, Edwin A. Cleveland, Ohio, Sta. B
 Reimann, W. A. Vincennes, Ind.
 Ringle, O. L. 305 Third St., Wausau, Wis.
 Roberts, Mrs. Milton F. 273 High St., West Medford, Mass.
 Robertson, James W. 811 Van Buren St., Wilmington, Del.
 Rosenfield, J. F. West Point, Neb.
 Rowland, Henry L. Waterbury, Conn.
 Ruff, D. W. C. 530 Globe Building, St. Paul, Minn.
 Russell, Charles F. Weston, Mass.
 Saunders, Prof. A. P. Clinton, N. Y.
 Schultz, E. K. Jenkintown, Pa.
 Schultz, Herman C. City Hall, Milwaukee, Wis.
 Scott, Arthur H. Valley Road, Oak Lane, Penna.
 Secor, Eugene. Forest City, Iowa
 Seither, Frank. 11 Joseph St., Cleveland, Ohio
 Sloan, Mrs. Long. 2700 Tracy Ave., Kansas City, Mo.
 Smith, A. M. Tie Plant, Miss.
 Smith, George N. Wellesley Hills, Mass.
 Smith, W. & T. Geneva, N. Y.
 Stannard, F. H. Ottawa, Kansas
 Storrs & Harrison Co. Painesville, Ohio
 Styer, J. J. Concordville, Pa.
 Sutherland, W. G. Boulder, Col.
 Thurlow, George C. West Newbury, Mass.
 Thurlow, Winthrop H. West Newbury, Mass.
 Tormey, Alfred J. Arlington, Maryland
 Traub, Paul. 1341 Vine Place, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Underwood, Arthur A. Cheyenne, Wyoming
 Van Leeuwen, John. Sassenheim, Holland
 Van Vorst, F. B. 25 Broad St., New York
 Vaughan's Seed Store. Chicago, Ill.
 Walcott, F. C. 14 Wall St., New York
 Ward, C. W. Queens, Long Island, N. Y.
 Weed, Howard Evarts. Beaverton, Oregon
 Wheeler, Everett P. 36 Pacific St., Rockland, Mass.
 White, Edward H. Lyndhurst Farm, Hammontown, N. J.
 Whitman, F. E. 947 Portland Ave., St. Paul, Minn.
 Wild Bros. Sarcoxie, Mo.
 Wild, Frank H. Sarcoxie, Mo.
 Winslow, Arthur E. 5 Choate St., Waterville, Maine
 Wister, J. C. Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.