

BULLETIN OF PEONY NEWS

No. 18

A. P. SAUNDERS, Clinton, N. Y.
Editor



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W. E. Saunders, London, Ont., was elected to act as Recording Secretary and Editor during the absence of A. P. Saunders in Europe.

CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

Membership in the Society is open to both professional and amateur growers. Nomination is not necessary for those desiring admission, but a list of applicants for membership is presented to the Society at its annual meeting and the names are there voted on.

Those who make application for membership at any time receive at once the publications of the Society, so far as they are available; the editions of the first five or six issues of the Bulletin of Peony News are now however nearly or quite exhausted.

The dues are \$3.00 a year, but applicants for membership are required to accompany their applications, which should be sent to the Treasurer, by a payment of \$5.00 of which \$2.00 is an initiation fee and \$3.00 a payment for their first year's dues. When the application is made before January of any year, the \$3.00 is considered as applying to the current year—June to June—but when the date of application

is later than January first the payment is applied to the following year—June to June. Thus anyone making application in May and paying \$5.00 would be clear of dues until after the annual meeting in the next year.

The publications of the Society include the following:

1907 A Peony Checklist (in co-operation with Cornell University).

1908 Descriptive Bulletin, No. 259 (with Cornell University; out of print).

1909 Proceedings of the American Peony Society for the years 1903—1908 (out of print).

1910 Descriptive Bulletin, No. 278 (with Cornell University).

1911 Descriptive Bulletin, No. 306 (with Cornell University).

1914 Proceedings of the American Peony Society for the years 1909—1913.

1915—1919 Bulletin of Peony News, Nos. 1—9.

1920 Bulletin No. 10 (Hollis Number); No. 11 (Iris Number); No. 12, No. 13.

1921 Bulletin No. 14 (Symposium Number); No. 15 (Membership List).

1922 Bulletin No. 16, No. 17, No. 18.

It is planned for the future to issue four News Bulletins a year. These contain the proceedings of the Society and articles on different phases of peony culture.

CORRECTIONS TO BULLETIN NO. 14 (Symposium)

Our member, Mr. Pillow of Cold Spring on Hudson, whose article will be found below, is by training an expert accountant, and has only recently taken up the peony as an additional profession. In such a welter of figures as the symposium involved, he of course found a congenial field, and in his own interest he has made a recalculation of the averages on all varieties ranking at 80 or better. As explained in the symposium itself, a calculation of the averages using the detailed votes as they are printed, will not always give a result in accordance with the average given in the tabulation. This is due to the fact that some of the fractional votes had to be rounded off to make them fit into the tabulation. Anyone who takes the pains to recalculate the averages must therefore expect now and again to find a slight variation from these given; but it should never exceed a tenth. Mr. Pillow has dug out

some more serious errors that should be rectified, and we should all be grateful to him for discovering them. Two of these are large enough to be really important and should be corrected in all copies of Bulletin No. 14.

The average for M. Dupont is 8.5, not 8.3 as given; and that for Mont Blanc is 8.6, not 8.4 as given. These mistakes are due to the mathematical inexactness of the original calculator.

But if they are to be laid to the charge of the editor, it is some comfort that the next group of errors are attributable to that most aggravating machine, the linotype. How such things can occur is beyond my comprehension, but it does happen that lines of figures perfectly correct in the printer's proof come out utterly wrong in the published bulletin. Whether this can occur through the malicious deviltry of the linotype without the co-operation of human beings, I leave to be decided by those who are more familiar with the domestic habits of that animal.

In the case of the three varieties, Comte de Diesbach, Le Noir, Little Sweetheart, the detailed votes as tabulated have perhaps through protective mimicry, taken on the form of the next line of figures above or below.

The correct tabulation for these three is as follows:

	No. Votes	Aver.	In Detail				
			8.	7.	6.	5.	Below 5
Comte de Diesbach.....	6	5.8		2	2	1	1
Le Noir	5	7.4	2	3			
Little Sweetheart.....	10	7.0	6		2	2	

In every one of these cases the general average is given correctly in the printed tabulation, the only error being in the votes in detail.

Another error, this one to be laid to the change of the proof reader, occurs in the case of the variety La Fontaine (Lemoine). This should have followed Dessert's La Fontaine, but La Lorraine, given again below, crept in here.

This correction should then be made: following La Fontaine, Dessert, cross out La Lorraine (Lemoine, 1901) and insert:

	No. Votes	Aver.	9.	8.5	8.	7
La Fontaine (Lemoine, 1904)	7	8.3	4		1	2

Mr. Pillow's aim has been to arrange in the order of their average ratings, all varieties above 8. This makes an inter-

esting tabulation, but I think it is pushing the averages beyond their true significance to calculate them to small fractions. And then, there is the question of averages based on too few votes. But whatever one may think of the significance of small fractions, the writer of this is indebted to the extent of a very large fraction to Mr. Pillow for his careful revision of the figures.

PERCENTAGE RATING OF PEONIES

By James Pillow

I hold percentage in the highest esteem as a system for comparison of peonies or any other product which may be subjected to such a test.

Percentage ratings will, I believe, eliminate inferior varieties absolutely and that is what we are supposed to be aiming at.

Many inferior peonies are still being offered by men high in the confidence of buyers, with no mention of ratings, and unwary purchasers are taking them; but if collectors insist upon knowing the ratings and discontinue buying on faith there will be no further profitable outlet for the low rated varieties and they will disappear as they should, and the peony will then receive the respect it deserves, as the finer ones, highly rated ones, surpass all other flowers.

I would probably not be permitted to publish here all that might be said regarding the tactics of dealers in disposing of low grade varieties and continuing to multiply them, but I may say that if the dealer fails to publish ratings the wise buyer will beware.

The American Peony Society should discourage the withholding of percentage information from buyers by dealers in their catalogues and thus thwarting the purpose for which the society exists.

The secretary wishing to send this knowledge in its various forms as far as the society's bulletins can carry it, and knowing that I had a list in numerical rotation as to rating of all varieties in Bulletin No. 14 rating 80 per cent or over for my guidance in purchasing, proposed that I submit it for publication, which I am quite willing to do as it will enable members to fix in their minds the relative positions of the best 204 rated varieties.

I omit from the list Albiflora (synonym of The Bride), Bridesmaid, Henry Woodward, La Fiancee (Dessert), Lamartine (Calot) (synonym of Gigantea), Pottsi Alba, President Taft, The Jewel (synonym of Opal), and Water Lily. Each variety in the list has as the denominator of its

fraction, the number of votes cast, and in tie ratings the variety with the higher number of votes wins. If a tie still exists the one higher alphabetically has precedence, thus no deadlock as to position is possible.

In four instances where I differ from Bulletin No. 14 my ratings are endorsed by the secretary and members may correct the bulletin.

A. P. Saunders 91, Helen Wolaver 81, Monsieur Dupont 85 and Mont Blanc 86, may be so corrected.

Aside from these four changes this article and its accompanying list are in no way official and merely represent an outline of one member's views.

- 1 99 16/56 Le Cygne (Lemoine, 1907)
- 2 98 11/13 Mrs. Edward Harding (Shaylor, 1918)
- 3 98 2/71 Therese (Dessert, 1904)
- 4 97 19/33 Kelway's Glorious (Kelway, 1909)
- 5 97 2/4 Thomas C. Thurlow (Thurlow, 1919)
- 6 96 41/59 Solange (Lemoine, 1907)
- 7 96 1/4 Cornelia Shaylor (Shaylor, 1919)
- 8 96 0/5 James R. Mann (Thurlow, 1920)
- 9 94 17/47 Mme. Jules Dessert (Dessert, 1909)
- 10 93 4/5 Edwin C. Shaw (Thurlow, 1919)
- 11 93 38/49 Tourangelle (Dessert, 1910)
- 12 93 11/18 Mary Woodbury Shaylor (Shaylor, 1916)
- 13 93 4/7 President Wilson (Thurlow, 1918)
- 14 92 6/7 Mrs. C. S. Minot (Minot, 1914)
- 15 92 57/84 Festiva Maxima (Mieliez, 1851)
- 16 92 29/48 Walter Faxon (Richardson, 1904)
- 17 92 4/78 Monsieur Jules Elie (Crousse, 1888)
- 18 91 27/28 Philippe Rivoire (Riviere, 1911)
- 19 91 7/8 Grace Loomis (Saunders, 1920)
- 20 91 13/27 La Fee (Lemoine, 1906)
- 21 91 14/31 Frances Willard (Brand, 1907)
- 22 91 11/29 Elizabeth Barrett Browning (Brand, 1907)
- 23 91 2/8 Nymphaea (Thurlow, 1919)
- 24 91 1/4 White Swan (Pleas, 1913)
- 25 90 35/36 Martha Bulloch (Brand, 1907)
- 26 90 45/49 Lady Alexandra Duff (Kelway, 1902)
- 27 90 5/6 James Boyd (Thurlow, 1919)
- 28 90 5/6 Secretary Fewkes (Shaylor, 1916)
- 29 90 2½/5 A. P. Saunders (Thurlow, 1919)
- 30 90 15/33 Longfellow (Brand, 1907)
- 31 90 10/27 Raoul Dessert (Dessert, 1910)
- 32 90 0/5 Rosette (Dessert, 1918)
- 33 89 44/49 Sarah Bernhardt (Lemoine, 1906)

- | | | | |
|----|----|-------|---|
| 34 | 89 | 41/46 | Rosa Bonheur (Dessert, 1905) |
| 35 | 89 | 37/42 | La France (Lemoine, 1901) |
| 36 | 89 | 59/79 | Baroness Schroeder (Kelway, 1889) |
| 37 | 89 | 33/63 | Milton Hill (Richardson, 1891) |
| 38 | 89 | 13/38 | Jubilee (Pleas, 1908) |
| 39 | 89 | 15/50 | Marie Crousse (Crousse, 1892) |
| 40 | 89 | 3/13 | Pride of Langport (Kelway, 1909) |
| 41 | 88 | 28/29 | Georgiana Shaylor (Shaylor, 1908) |
| 42 | 88 | 45/50 | Mme. Emile Lemoine (Lemoine, 1899) |
| 43 | 88 | 32/36 | Enchanteresse (Lemoine, 1903) |
| 44 | 88 | 8/9 | Jeannot (Dessert, 1918) |
| 45 | 88 | 14/22 | Laura Dessert (Dessert, 1913) |
| 46 | 88 | 7/16 | Souvenir de Louis Bigot (Dessert, 1913) |
| 47 | 88 | 4/12 | Pride of Essex (Thurlow, 1916) |
| 48 | 88 | 1/3 | Martha Washington (Hollis, 1909) |
| 49 | 88 | 14/62 | Monsieur Martin Cahuzac (Dessert, 1899) |
| 50 | 88 | 2/36 | Richard Carvel (Brand, 1913) |
| 51 | 88 | 1/33 | Kelway's Queen (Kelway, 1909) |
| 52 | 87 | 16/17 | Ginette (Dessert, 1915) |
| 53 | 87 | 16/17 | Standard Bearer (Hollis, 1906) |
| 54 | 87 | 51/57 | Karl Rosenfield (Rosenfield, 1908) |
| 55 | 87 | 23/26 | Loveliness (Hollis, 1907) |
| 56 | 87 | 26/42 | Alsace Lorraine (Lemoine, 1906) |
| 57 | 87 | 9/18 | Phoebe Cary (Brand, 1907) |
| 58 | 87 | 8/16 | Mme. Gaudichau (Millet, 1902) |
| 59 | 87 | 8/16 | Phyllis Kelway (Kelway, 1908) |
| 60 | 87 | 26/62 | Grandiflora (Richardson, 1883) |
| 61 | 87 | 11/27 | Mary Brand (Brand, 1907) |
| 62 | 87 | 4/13 | Brand's Magnificent (Brand, 1918) |
| 63 | 87 | 4/13 | Exquisite (Kelway, 1912) |
| 64 | 87 | 1/62 | Albatre (Crousse, 1885) |
| 65 | 86 | 21/24 | Cherry Hill (Thurlow, 1915) |
| 66 | 86 | 9/11 | Frances Shaylor (Shaylor, 1915) |
| 67 | 86 | 30/40 | Reine Hortense (Calot, 1857) |
| 68 | 86 | 36/49 | James Kelway (Kelway, 1900) |
| 69 | 86 | 39/56 | Avalanche (Crousse, 1886) |
| 70 | 86 | 24/36 | Elwood Pleas (Pleas, 1900) |
| 71 | 86 | 16/24 | Mignon (Lemoine, 1908) |
| 72 | 86 | 8/12 | La Fiancee (Lemoine, 1898) |
| 73 | 86 | 9/16 | Bayadère (Lemoine, 1910) |
| 74 | 86 | 18/42 | Mont Blanc (Lemoine, 1899) |
| 75 | 86 | 22/58 | Albert Crousse (Crousse, 1893) |
| 76 | 86 | 4/11 | Sarah Carstensen (Terry, 1901) |
| 77 | 86 | 13/47 | Primevere (Lemoine, 1907) |
| 78 | 86 | 6/24 | Judge Berry (Brand, 1907) |
| 79 | 86 | 5/20 | La Lorraine (Lemoine, 1901) |

- 80 86 7/58 Eugénie Verdier (Calot, 1864)
 81 86 1/9 Pallas (Terry,)
 82 86 0/5 Edmond About (Crousse, 1885)
 83 86 0/5 Mme. Jules Elie (Calot, 1873)
 84 85 30/31 Mikado (Barr, 1893)
 85 85 10/11 Clairette (Dessert, 1905)
 86 85 45/62 Claire Dubois (Crousse, 1886)
 87 85 10/14 Marguerite Gaudichau (Millet, 1903)
 88 85 25/39 Mme. Auguste Dessert (Dessert, 1899)
 89 85 5/8 Lady Emily (Pleas, 1907)
 90 85 5/9 Mrs. George Bunyard (Kelway, 1898)
 91 85 30/56 Adolphe Rousseau (Dessert & Mechin, 1890)
 92 85 20/42 Octavie Demay (Calot, 1867)
 93 85 5/12 White Lady (Kelway, 1900)
 94 85 5/16 Henry Avery (Brand, 1907)
 95 85 15/57 Monsieur Dupont (Calot, 1872)
 96 85 0/12 Midsummer Night's Dream (Pleas, 1906)
 97 85 0/8 Black Prince (Thurlow,)
 98 85 0/8 Jessie Shaylor (Shaylor, 1916)
 99 85 0/8 Whitleyi Major (.....)
 100 85 0/6 Madeleine Gauthier (Dessert, 1908)
 101 85 0/6 Marguerite Dessert (Dessert, 1913)
 102 85 0/4 Mme. Jules Calot (Calot, 1868)
 103 85 0/4 Rosy Dawn (Barr,)
 104 85 0/4 The Bride (Dessert, 1902)
 105 85 0/3 Isoline (Lemoine, 1916)
 106 85 0/3 Paradise (Hollis, 1907)
 107 85 0/3 Ralph (Pleas, 1913)
 108 84 60/65 Mme. Emile Galle (Crousse, 1881)
 109 84 52/67 Marie Lemoine (Calot, 1869)
 110 84 34/49 La Perle (Crousse, 1886)
 111 84 26/46 Germaine Bigot (Dessert, 1902)
 112 84 12/22 Opal (Pleas, 1908)
 113 84 11/21 Maud L. Richardson (Hollis, 1904)
 114 84 5/15 William F. Turner (Shaylor, 1916)
 115 84 16/56 Marguerite Gerard (Crousse, 1892)
 116 84 4/14 Alma (Shaylor,)
 117 84 2/7 Luetta Pfeiffer (Brand, 1916)
 118 84 2/7 Rachel (Lemoine, 1904)
 119 84 1/6 Mme. Guyot (Paillet,)
 120 84 2/22 Lora Dexheimer (Brand, 1913)
 121 84 1/21 Lamartine (Lemoine, 1908)
 122 84 0/5 Mrs. John Smythe Fogg (Hollis, 1907)
 123 84 0/5 Perle Blanche (Dessert, 1913)
 124 83 3/4 Fraicheur (Lemoine, 1914)

125	83	55/75	Felix Crousse (Crousse, 1881)
126	83	19/27	Chestine Gowdy (Brand, 1913)
127	83	11/18	King of England (Kelway, 1902)
128	83	4/7	The Gem (Pleas, 1909)
129	83	25/50	Venus (Kelway, 1888)
130	83	6/13	Jeanne Gaudichau (Millet, 1902)
131	83	18/44	La Rosière (Crousse, 1888)
132	83	17/46	Marie Jacquin (Verdier, -----)
133	83	5/15	Splendida (Kelway, -----)
134	83	1/3	Edmond Lebon (Calot, 1864)
135	83	1/3	Sunbeam (Hollis, 1906)
136	83	1/3	T. B. Terry (Pleas, 1911)
137	83	1/3	The Queen (Kelway, 1902)
138	83	1/3	Tragedy (Hollis, 1909)
139	83	1/8	Mme. Joanne Sallier (Paillet)
140	83	0/60	Eugene Verdier (Calot, 1864)
141	82	6/7	La Fontaine (Lemoine, 1904)
142	82	22/29	Eugene Bigot (Dessert, 1894)
143	82	8/16	Victoire de la Marne (Dessert, 1915)
144	82	2/4	Marjorie Allison (Shaylor, -----)
145	82	5/15	Coronation (Kelway, 1902)
146	82	2/9	Harriet Farnsley (Brand, 1916)
147	82	7/39	Grover Cleveland (Terry, 1904)
148	82	4/23	Pierre Duchartre (Crousse, 1895)
149	82	5/40	Gigantea (Calot, 1860)
150	82	3/31	Mme. de Treyeran (Dessert, 1899)
151	82	0/30	Marcelle Dessert (Dessert, 1899)
152	82	0/5	Sarah (Pleas, 1913)
153	81	19/21	Galathée (Lemoine, 1900)
154	81	21/24	Gismonda (Crousse, 1895)
155	81	7/8	Mrs. A. G. Ruggles, (Brand, 1913)
156	81	11/14	Faribault (Brand, 1918)
157	81	13/17	L'Etincelante (Dessert, 1905)
158	81	4/6	Innocence (Hollis, 1904)
159	81	2/3	Lucienne (Dessert, 1908)
160	81	26/49	Mme. Calot (Miellez, 1856)
161	81	17/33	Mlle. Rousseau (Calot, 1886)
162	81	5/10	John Richardson (Richardson, 1904)
163	81	5/10	Le Jour (Shaylor, -----)
164	81	29/66	Duchesse de Nemours (Calot, 1856)
165	81	3/7	Marchioness of Lansdowne (Kelway, 1899)
166	81	3/7	Winnikenni (Thurlow, -----)
167	81	15/40	Grandiflora Nivea Plena (Lemon, 1824)
168	81	5/15	Stanley (Crousse, 1879)
169	81	10/35	La Tendresse (Crousse, 1896)
170	81	1/4	Evening Glow (Hollis, 1907)

171	81	1/4	Hercules (Terry,)
172	81	16/59	Asa Gray (Crousse, 1886)
173	81	1/9	Lucy E. Hollis (Hollis, 1907)
174	81	0/5	Eglantine (Dessert, 1913)
175	81	0/5	Emilie Hoste (.....)
176	81	0/5	Helen Wolaver (Brand, 1918)
177	81	0/5	Moses Hull (Brand, 1907)
178	80	15/18	Florence Nightingale (Brand, 1907)
179	80	55/68	Couronne d'Or (Calot, 1873)
180	80	15/19	Ruth Brand (Brand, 1907)
181	80	10/13	Marie (Calot, 1868)
182	80	5/7	Bertrade (Lemoine, 1909)
183	80	5/7	Euphemia (Terry, 1890)
184	80	15/23	Mlle. Leonie Calot (Calot, 1861)
185	80	35/58	Livingstone (Crousse, 1879)
186	80	10/17	Pasteur (Crousse, 1896)
187	80	5/10	Evangeline (Lemoine, 1910)
188	80	15/32	Etta (Terry, 1895)
189	80	5/11	Marquis C. Lagergren (Dessert, 1911)
190	80	15/36	Boule de Neige (Calot, 1867)
191	80	5/15	Suzette (Dessert, 1911)
192	80	5/22	Mme. Lemoinier (Calot, 1865)
193	80	5/38	Aurore (Dessert, 1904)
194	80	0/31	Festiva (Donkelaer, 1838)
195	80	0/22	Perfection (Richardson, 1869)
196	80	0/13	The Moor (Barr,)
197	80	0/10	Mlle. Jeanne Riviere (Riviere, 1908)
198	80	0/7	Marie Deroux (Crousse, 1881)
199	80	0/4	Wiesbaden (Goos & Koenemann, 1911)
200	80	0/4	Wilbur Wright (Kelway, 1909)
201	80	0/3	Assmanshausen (Goos & Koenemann, 1912)
202	80	0/3	Fine Lady (Kelway, 1909)
203	80	0/3	La Fraicheur (Dessert, 1905)
204	80	0/3	Mme. Benoit Riviere (Riviere, 1911)

(Editor's Note—Two things should be remembered with respect to the above tabulation. In the first place Mr. Pillow, by using a fraction in each number, indicates by the denominator of that fraction the number of votes on which the average is based. Thus 90 0/5 for Rosette, means an average of exactly 90 on the basis of 5 votes.

In the second place since some fractional votes were rounded off in the printed tabulation, and since Mr. Pillow's figures are based on that tabulation, there would be minor corrections to be made in his averages if these were to be brought into strict conformity with the original votes.

These changes, however, would be very slight and would probably not affect the order of the various sorts in his list in more than a very few instances.)

TREE PEONIES

By John C. Wister.

In 1919 my notes on my visit to M. Auguste Dessert at Chenonceaux, France, were published in Bulletin No. 9 of the American Peony Society. Since seeing the Tree Peonies in bloom there the collection of Tree Peonies which M. Dessert sent me has bloomed in Philadelphia, and the flowers have been as beautiful as they were in France.

I had a hard time getting this collection. I ordered it first about Christmas time in 1915, but the order did not reach M. Dessert in time to ship in the spring of 1916, it being an especially early season with him. However, he made the shipment in November of 1916, but unfortunately sent it by way of Havre, as was the custom before the war, and this port being congested with English war materials, the shipment stayed on the docks for some months and was finally returned to him dead. He however took the responsibility upon himself of replacing this order for me, as I had never received it and in November made me another shipment which reached my home after I had left for France. As the ground was frozen the plants were buried in soil in a cold green-house for the winter, and were planted by my mother and sister with the aid of Mr. Arthur Scott in the spring. The plants grew well and had a few flowers on them in 1919 before I returned, and this year about 50 varieties bloomed splendidly. The Tree Peony is a slow grower and the plants even now (1920) are hardly more than single stem, a foot or two in height. They are planted 18 inches apart each way, which is much too close and every other plant will have to be removed in 1921, leaving 3 feet by 3 feet, which will be much better, and even this will probably not be far enough apart five years from now. Of the collection of about 200 plants of the original shipment from Dessert, I lost altogether not more than 10 per cent, which is a very much better showing than that made by another collection which arrived in my home in the spring of 1918 from Japan, and of which over 75 per cent died the first season, apparently due to Peony disease in the roots. In December, 1918, I discovered that the rabbits were enjoying eating the stems of these Tree Peonies, which were then about as thick as a lead pencil, and I was fortunate in making this discovery early and at

once placed a chicken wire around the whole bed, so that the rabbits could not get in, and I will do so each winter until the plants get much bigger. I give this experience as a warning to others.

Of the two classes, single and double flowering, the single bloom earlier and are to me much more beautiful. This year the variety *Eclaireur* was the first to bloom, opening on May 12, and the other varieties followed within a week or so, so that the height of the season was reached about May 20th. There were still a large number of varieties in bloom on May 25th, but the single varieties were about finished on May 27, a few of the double varieties holding on until nearly the first of June. The flowers of the single varieties, however, are very fragile, and easily hurt by rain storms, so that the length of the season is rather dependent upon the weather. The varieties are also so beautiful it is hard to make much intelligent comparison between them until the plants are much bigger and the flowers are seen in quantity year after year. In my last year's notes I gave some of the varieties which struck me at Chenonceaux and some of these same varieties again attracted attention, but the most beautiful of all this year was undoubtedly *Beatrix*, an enormous single white which reached its height on May 20, and of which I have several fine photographs. Of the early varieties *Eclaireur* already mentioned, a purplish pink, and *Mme. Pierre Dessert*, a pale pink, were among the best.

A list of most of the varieties which bloomed is attached, hereto, with the colors. I want to mention particularly *Dokusbinden*, a very pale pink, *Aurora*, pale pink, and *Marceaux*, a deep crimson. The color range of these flowers is indeed remarkable and all who saw them were very much pleased with them. Whether they would be of any use as cut flowers is rather hard to tell; I cut only two, and those had very short stems, but they lasted in water for several days and traveled exceedingly well when packed, as they were taken to several Garden Club meetings by my mother where they were much admired. The double varieties did not bloom as freely and I did not get such a variation in color in them. In fact, the only one I wish to mention here particularly is *Chantecler*, which, although having purple in it, gives the effect of light pink and is of very fine form, instead of being coarse as the double Peonies sometimes are.

I shall hope to contribute further notes of these varieties

from year to year, as I feel that they should become important plants in the future as soon as they can become available to our gardens. I understand that Mr. Farr has experimented with them and propagated them with some success, so that we may hope to get some from him in the future. It is interesting to note in this connection that as early as 1860 a dozen or twenty varieties of Double Tree Peonies were offered in American catalogs, while today there is scarcely an American nursery man listing as many as six kinds.

I should like to urge upon the members of this Society the desirability of making a check list of all varieties of Tree Peonies and in conducting a test such as was done for Herbaceous Peonies at Cornell. It is important that such work be started as soon as possible, as there will undoubtedly be many novelties coming in in the next few years which will cause great confusion unless there is some foundation to go on. This Society should also establish a policy concerning the names of Japanese varieties; that is whether Japanese names should be retained or whether French or English names should be substituted. In Dessert's catalog there are a number of French synonyms given for Japanese varieties and as the Japanese names are so hopeless to spell or pronounce correctly or remember, I am using these French synonyms in my own garden. I do not know what the policy of this Society will be on the subject of names, but I feel it desirable to settle upon a policy and to have it established at once and for all, so that there will not be confusion resulting from the use of the Japanese name along with French or American synonyms for the same variety. I think it would be well also for this Society to get such information as name of originator and date of introduction, as they did in the case of Herbaceous Peonies.

I do not know what hope there is of importing these Peonies under the present quarantine regulations. Under the present policy of the Federal Horticultural Board, permits would undoubtedly be given to nurserymen to import plants for propagation, but whether the delicate plants would stand the long delay for fumigation at Washington, appears extremely doubtful. If anyone in America is propagating these varieties and has them for sale, I hope they will inform the Peony Society; as far as I know, no one but Mr. Farr has tried it commercially. I may say that I imported my first collection with the idea of doing some

of this work myself, but have been extremely disappointed in the slow growth of the plants, and it will be many years before the plants would be big enough to supply scions in any quantity; in fact, the plants which have been growing now three full years with me would not supply more than two or three scions apiece without cutting the plant entirely to pieces. It may be that a way can be found to make these grow more quickly, and when big plants are available undoubtedly the best means of propagation would be mound layering, but I imagine that for this at least a 10-year-old-plant would be necessary. Professor Saunders has grown a number of plants from seed and can give an idea of the time required for that, and as to the likelihood of getting flowers comparable in quantity to the present named varieties, which it seems probable were selected from many hundreds of seedlings.

I can only urge again that the great beauty of these flowers and their early season of bloom make them extremely valuable in the garden.

Partial List of Tree Peonies Blooming in Germantown, 1920

Single—May 12

Eclaireur, purplish pink

May 20

Akashi-gata, pale pink

Aurora, light pink

Dokusbin-den, very pale pink

Eclair (Kumona-Nishiki), scarlet pink

Gil Blas (Adzuma-Nishiki), reddish pink

Kinepaisetin, white

L'Aiglon (Hinode-Dsuru), dark pink to red

Mignon (Gioku-senshiu), pink

Nuage Rose (Dai-kagura), pink, semi-double, close to

Phenix

Phenix (Iwato-kagami), pink, semi-double.

Rosette (Ginko-Saki), pink

Talma (Akashi-Nishiki), reddish pink, close to Gil Blas

May 25

Kintegio, pink

Kokirin, cherry pink

Psyche (Nishiki-Shima), pink

Robinson, purple pink

May 28

Eden (Shisinden), semi-double, pale pink

Date Not Recorded

Arlesienne, pink
Beatrix, white
Beaute de Tokio, purple
Calypso, pale pink
Favorite, salmon pink
Mme. Pierre Dessert, pale pink
Marceau, crimson
Marie Stuart, white
Negricans, purple
Queen Alexandra (Yaso-Okina), white

Double May 20

Bijou de Chusan, pale pink
Jeanne d'Arc, pink
Purity, pink

May 25

Comata, light pink
Comtesse de Tuder, pink
Chantecler, light purple pink
Lilacina plenissima, pink like Banksii
Mme. de Montmarin, dirty purple pink
M. Auguste Ravel, pink
Reine des Fleurs, purple pink

[I wish to add something to what Mr. Wister has said concerning seedlings. About three dozen bloomed for me this year for the first time. Some bore nearly 30 blooms. The quality was, I think, fully up to the run of named sorts, whether from Japan or from Europe. I feel, therefore, that the plan of growing one's Tree Peonies from seed, so as to have them on their own roots, has been fully vindicated. Of course it takes time. Most of the plants that bloomed for the first time this year were from seed sown in 1913 or 1914. They might have bloomed at any time these past two or three years but for the unfavorable winters.—The Editor.]

A GIFT OF PEONIES TO CHINA

Mr. Edward P. Schwartz of Washington sent over in 1921 to the University of Nankin in China, a collection of 100 of the European varieties of Chinese peonies, two plants of each variety. It was an original and generous thought to return from the western hemisphere to the original home of the peony, a group of the magnificent modern sorts that have been brought into existence through the skill and patience of European and American horticulturists.

Mr. W. T. Swingle of the Bureau of Plant Industry in Washington, who was particularly interested in this gift and who was instrumental in effecting the shipment, has this to say regarding the condition of the peony in China:

"It is not possible to buy the finest peonies in China, but it is possible to secure them by exchange. When once the Chinese see how fine the improved peonies are I have no doubt they will be interested in our flowers and turn over to American institutions, such as the University of Nanking, their finest new varieties."

It is of course familiar to all who know the peony, that we get no varieties whatever from China. And as far as I have been able to learn, there are no Chinese nurseries which offer peonies. One would think there must be local trade at least, but in spite of many inquiries I have never been able to learn of a source from which peonies might be obtained in China. Mr. Schwartz writes me: "I know it is a rule in China not to sell the peony. They reverence it to such an extent that it is used solely for the purpose of decorating the graves of their ancestors. I have, on a number of occasions, tried to purchase some of their varieties through friends of mine who have visited China, but have been unsuccessful."

Would that one of our members who knows the peony would make a trip through China and report to us on the state of peony culture there, and on the quality and character of the plants to be found in the Chinese gardens.

Failing that, an important step has been taken by Mr. Schwartz, and we hope within a few years to have some of the Chinese varieties growing in this country. How interesting it would be to see a class for them in one of our shows. Perhaps in 1930?

Mr. Schwartz's list of 100 varieties includes a great many of the best standard sorts, such as Albatre, Adolph Rousseau, Duchesse de Nemours, Eugenie Verdier, La Perle, and so on. It does not include the newer things, but Mr. Schwartz expresses the intention of filling out the collection by later additions if the first planting proves successful.

SOME SUGGESTIONS FROM MR. FARR

In a letter received from Mr. Farr more than a year ago, there occurs this passage which I am sure will be of interest to everyone who has given thought to the question what we should do now with the older varieties of peonies, many of which on the basis of the ratings in the symposium are put into the doubtful class.

"My idea is to classify my peonies in several lists. List No. 1 should contain varieties which open so unsatisfactorily, and when they do open are so little worth, that they are not to be recommended for the average amateur's garden. For example, Mme. de Bollement, Madame Chaumy.

"List No. 2.—Varieties of the same general habit, but which, when they do produce good blooms, are so fine that the connoisseur will be glad to grow them for the occasional fine bloom that may be obtained. In this list would fall Auguste Villaume, Marie, Richardson's Perfection, Dorchester, etc.

"List No. 3.—Varieties which are free bloomers, good growers, and fairly satisfactory to the novice but which have been supplanted by better varieties selling at similar prices. In this list I should name, if possible, the variety or varieties to replace the one dropped. Thus, for Whitley use Festiva Maxima; for Dr. Bretonneau (Verdier) use Modeste Guerin or Gen. Bertrand; for Meissonier use Felix Crousse or Masterpiece, etc.

"List No. 4.—A fourth list could even be made, to include varieties of poor color and form, for which there might be no similar and better variety to suggest. It would perhaps be better to drop such varieties altogether. This list would include Denis Helye, Prince Troubetzkoi, Teniers, etc.

"This plan would not affect to any extent Dessert's or Lemoine's varieties, or high-priced novelties, for with these sorts we have not yet reached a point where we are ready to take such radical action."

Is not Mr. Farr's idea an excellent one? And who would not be interested in such lists made up by one who has had a wider experience with the many varieties, old and new, than probably any other man in this country. The pages of the Bulletin are wide open to Mr. Farr if he will work out such lists; and perhaps we can get some discussion started that will lead us farther in the direction in which many are now moving—towards the elimination of the unworthy kinds. Every old variety that we can agree should reasonably be eliminated marks a step of progress. But it is high time, too, that the Society should take another matter in hand, not less important, namely to check the hasty and ill-considered introduction of new kinds. How can this be done? A Department of Registration is inaugurated in this number of the Bulletin, and will be maintained. But that alone will not provide the check

without further action by the Society which should in some way provide for an authoritative estimate by unprejudiced judges, of the merits of new kinds. The mechanical difficulties of such a plan have in the past stood in the way of its successful prosecution. But it is my judgment that we must learn thus to protect ourselves or all the benefit which we hope to attain at one end through doing away with the older sorts will be undermined and set at naught by the feeding in to our lists of "novelties" which are not either new or worthy.

NOTES ON CERTAIN BRAND PEONIES

There is a group of varieties under Mr. Brand's name, not now offered by him, but which are more or less in commerce. Regarding these sorts Mr. Brand in a letter received some time ago, speaks as follows:

"For years I have not thought the varieties Aroma, Edison, Effie Pingree, Emerson, Antares, and Wagner worth keeping, and I have accordingly dropped them. In fact I never did think any of the list worth much, and have not changed my mind about them, and am perfectly willing that the peony purchasing public be so informed. I think it was

I wrote to Mr. Brand asking him to clear up an uncertainty regarding the two peonies Harriet Farnsley, and H. F. Reddick. The latter variety being sometimes written Harriet Farnsley Reddick, it seemed to me there was a good chance for confusion between the two names. Mr. Brand gives the following explanation of the double use of the name: "Mrs. Brand has a great friend in Harriet Farnsley Reddick. We wished to name a peony for Mrs. Reddick. We had a very fine late pink seedling come on; it was the best of the season and was much admired by Mr. Ruff and other good peony people. We named it Harriet Farnsley. Mrs. Reddick and her husband were at the time away on a vacation and on their return Mrs. Reddick expressed the hope that the variety named for her was a dark red. As roots had already been sold, the name could not well be changed over to a red variety, so having a fine red unnamed, I gave this red the name Harriet Farnsley Reddick, afterwards shortening this to H. F. Reddick."

The matter then is clear and there should be no cause for confusion in the future. Harriet Farnsley is the late pink, H. F. Reddick the red.

The suggestion was made to Mr. Brand that the name Elizabeth Barrett Browning might well be shortened. He

gives his consent to anything that is acceptable to growers a mistake to name them and send them out." in the way of a briefer name, and I therefore suggest that in future the standard name for that variety be E. B. Browning.

A NOTE ON HOLLIS' EVENING GLOW

Mr. Homer Reed of Kansas City writes regarding this variety:

"Confusion has already begun in descriptions of the Hollis peonies. Mr. Farr, in his new catalog, describes 'Evening Glow' as 'white, flushed lilac, large fine flower.' That is all; does not say whether it is early or late, tall or low.

"The Cornell Bulletin describes 'Evening Glow' as 'semi-double.' 'Color, total effect, hydrangea pink tipped white, uniform color.' 'Stamens are plainly visible in the center of the bloom when fully open.' 'Medium erect to erect, tall, compact.' 'Stem long.' 'Early, size very large.'

"My Evening Glow I got of Hollis in his last year when Miss Kelly had charge of the selling. With me it fits the Cornell Bulletin description except it is late midseason and shows no stamens. In the center of old blooms very slender, almost hairy stamenoids show, which in a hasty examination might be taken for stamens. Has very long stems. A rampant grower, blooms in clusters and is an astonishing landscape sort."

Mr. Farr in his description follows Hollis, who describes the variety in his 1907 catalog as "white, flushed lilac; large and fine."

Hollis' original descriptions are almost always too terse to serve for identification where any doubts arise. But there does not seem to be a real difference in this case except as to season. It is, I should think, quite possible that the bloom studied at Cornell may have had some stamens even though the flower shows none when grown under more favorable circumstances. However, points like this are always worth straightening out, and perhaps some others who grow this variety will give us the benefit of their observations.

GLORIA PATRIA NOT A HOLLIS SEEDLING

Mr. E. P. Wheeler wrote sometime ago stating that he had been informed that a variety under the name Gloria Patria was being offered in the trade as a Hollis seedling,

for the price of \$25. His letter goes on: "How this ever got into the list of Hollis varieties in Bulletin No. 10 I do not understand, for in his last catalog, No. 6, 1909, under series D, you will find at the bottom of the page:

Gloria Patria, Foulard 1855, pink, shaded violet, fading to nearly white; fragrant.

"This is as good proof as one needs that it is not one of Hollis' seedlings."

Mr. Wheeler's statement is correct. Hollis did give in his printed lists for 1908 and 1909 and for earlier years as well, the variety under discussion, attributing it sometimes to Foulard and sometimes without originator's name. But in a manuscript list supplied to Mr. Early in 1910 by "E. C. K." writing for Mr. Hollis, it is stated that "all varieties marked with a cross (X) are not my own seedlings. All others are my own." And Gloria Patria in this list is not so marked. That is how it came to be included in the list of Hollis sorts in Bulletin No. 10. But I think the evidence is satisfactory that the variety offered by Hollis under the name Gloria Patria was the old Foulard variety. The name should undoubtedly be written Gloria Patriae, and it appears in this form in Dessert's manuscript list made up for the Peony Society many years ago.

AUTHENTIC LIST OF RIVIERE VARIETIES

The following list of peonies put into commerce by the firm Benoit Riviere is made up from their catalogue with some additional information obtained by correspondence.

1908 Madame Benoit Riviere.

Cup shaped; border of large petals of a tender rose color; those of the center narrower and of a rosy salmon color; dark salmon at the base.

Mlle. Jeanne Riviere.

Collarette of large petals of a tender rosy flesh color, center sulphur white.

Souvenir de Francois Ruitton.

Large globular flowers of a vivid rosy cerise, dark carmine at the base.

1911 Mme. Emile Dupraz.

Cup shaped; tender carmine rose, darker at the base and slight tinted bluish.

Mme. Francois Toscanelli.

Bomb shaped; rosy flesh, shaded tender rose, center dark salmon rose.

Philippe Rivoire.

Cup shaped, petals laciniated and slightly incurved, very dark purple amaranth. Late.

Poete Frederic Mistral.

Bomb shaped, large collarette of light rose, center petals narrower, laciniated, rosy salmon flesh with a central tuft of bright rose, sometimes carmine. Early.

1914 Entente Cordials, uniform rose color.

1919 Souvenir du General Galieni.

Rose and salmon, small petals in center.

The house was formerly Ruitton & Riviere, M. Ruitton being the father-in-law of M. Riviere. It then became Benoit Riviere, and upon the death of M. Riviere passed into the hands of his widow and son.

The correct address would, I presume, now be:

Madame Benoit Riviere et Fils
France.

Cuire-les-Lyon, par Caluire (Rhone).

AUTHENTIC LIST OF MILLET VARIETIES

From the firm of Millet et Fils, Bourg-la-Reine (Seine), France, I have received a recent catalogue and letter giving the following information:

The varieties which have appeared so far from this firm, exclusive of those of the Japanese type are these:

A. Delatour, crimson carmine

Lille, 1902, cerise red

Mme. Gaudichau (1902), satiny purple garnet

Mlle. Cimochowska, violet magenta

Mlle. Jeanne Gaudichau (1902), white shaded rose, edge of petals touched with carmine.

Mlle. Maguerite Gaudichau (1903), white blotched flesh, center petals intermingled with fine yellow petaloids.

M. Launay, violaceous purple.

Of these, all but the three that bear that name Gaudichau in the above list, are to be suppressed, as not being, in M. Millet's words, "sufficiently interesting."

The letter continues: "I have at present five varieties which I shall put into commerce next year—varieties of great merit, especially the variety Mme. Millet, which will be one of the most beautiful peonies that I know."

Besides the above, the firm has put out a considerable number of varieties of the Japanese type, listed herewith, along with their dates.

- 1905 Awadji, rose
- 1907 Hawa, red
 - Suruga, flesh, mixed with salmon
 - Yokohama, flesh, white
- 1909 Hiogo, rosy violet
 - Kossi, flesh white shaded rose
- 1910 Karatsu, white with rosy streaks
 - Kuazoku, rose, petaloids yellow
- 1911 Oki, garnet purple, petaloids chrome yellow
 - Shinso-Jibiki, white shaded rose
- 1912 Kakodate, pure white
- 1919 Baron J. Hulot, solferino red
 - Mlle. Germaine Perthuis, white with rose shadings.
 - Souvenir de Guynemer, lilac, washed magenta
 - Souvenir d'Haracourt, rosy white changing to white

THE INFLUENCE OF FREQUENT DIVISION ON THE HEALTH OF PEONIES

By W. T. Ferguson, Smith's Falls, Ontario.

Four peony growers tell in their circulars how often a peony root may be taken up and re-divided. Two of them state that some varieties can be dug up every year and re-divided but that with other varieties it is better to divide every other year.

I believe two things: (1) That every successive step or successive generation from the seed plant is just one step more degenerate than the parent plant; and (2) That taking stock from a weakened or shocked plant too often will only lead to a weakened and degenerate race of that variety, in the same way that the farmers of half a century ago nearly ruined the dairy industry by breeding from immature yearling bulls.

My reasons for believing No. 1. A florist who has filled his benches with cuttings of geraniums for five or six years and then grows a bed from seed, will be amazed at the increased vigor and much more with the intensity and brilliance of colors which he obtains, and which he again loses

by successive cuttings. A new variety of potato is originated from seed and will out yield any other variety, but when propagated from the tubers for ten or a dozen years its weakened vitality forces it into the discard and a new variety from seed replaces it.

A sugar planter in British Guiana told me that their business existence depended on their getting more pounds of sugar from a ton of cane than did their rivals in Jamaica or Cuba, and they were able to do this by each year growing a part of their plantation from seed.

The great McIntosh apple, which is a favorite with us in Ontario East was originated from an old tree in Dundas County, and fruit growers are finding out that nursery stock grown from scions cut from trees twelve or fifteen plant generations removed from the original tree, grow apples which cannot compare in either flavor or appearance with the fruit grown on trees where the scions were cut from the original tree.

We cannot measure peonies by the bushel or by the pounds of sugar per ton, but if growers do not propagate with wisdom, our fine varieties like *Le Cygne* and *Therese* will soon degenerate into second raters and have to be replaced by new seedlings.

ON BUYING SMALL DIVISIONS OF PEONIES

By W. T. Ferguson

This spring I have received three peony circulars all advertising small divisions and each even recommending small one-eye cuttings apparently in preference to larger divisions or decent plants.

I felt it my duty at least to let those who have never tried small cuttings know what my experience has been.

In 1915, a Holland agent persuaded me to order a dozen peony roots from him along with my Dutch bulbs, because they were so cheap. I planted on arrival, October 4, the twelve miserable one-eye cuttings, in as good soil as ever grew plants. They were watered when they needed it, and the ground was kept clean. Six seasons have gone by since then. Seven of these plants have bloomed twice, four only once, and one plant, *Mlle. Léonie Calot* has not bloomed yet. Would it not have paid me to have expended a few dollars extra and saved a five and six year wait?

Another time I ordered 21 roots from an American grower; many of them, when they came, were no bigger than

my thumb and not much longer. The result has been about the same as with those that came from Holland.

But when I buy good cuttings or roots from a reliable grower, 75% of the plants give at least one flower to show the color the first year.

It is never economy to buy a poor article, no matter how cheap. The quality is always remembered long after the price is forgotten.

[This question of small divisions is one of the most disturbing of questions for the peony dealer today. Mr. Ferguson's experience is interesting, and certainly not encouraging to those who have been buying one-eye divisions. The Editor would be very grateful to any others who will give us the benefit of their experience along the same line. It may be that some have had better success with small divisions than has Mr. Ferguson. If so, the pages of the Bulletin are equally open to them.]

Miss Salway

The variety under this name has given rise to a good deal of discussion already, some growers classing it with the best, others not finding anything very remarkable about it. Mr. Bonnewitz belonged in the latter class, though I understand he has revised his impressions in more recent years. However, some remarks of his called forth the following letter from Mr. Pope M. Long of Alabama which is of interest as showing what the variety can do at its best. The letter is addressed to Mr. Bonnewitz, but Mr. Long sent a copy to me, and I am sure neither of them will object to its publication.

"In your garden notes for 1920, I notice the following in speaking of Miss Salway:

"I am sure it does not belong in the \$10 class and I do not care to list it in my \$1 class."

"The foregoing was quite a surprise to me, as I consider Miss Salway one of the very best peonies in the world, in every way entitled to be classed among the best five, which in my opinion, are as follows: Thérèse, Miss Salway, Lady A. Duff, Le Cygne, and Solange.

"You further say in your Garden Notes:

"My great objection to the variety Miss Salway is that even before it is in full bloom it opens at the centre and shows the carpels like the old discarded variety Queen Victoria."

"Miss Salway, as I know it, is as free from the above

objection as any peony in my list, and three vases of this variety remained in perfect condition in my parlor for two weeks, opening out the centre very slowly and retaining their wonderful beauty until the petals shed. I am sure that either your variety or mine is not the true one.

"My peony season for this year is over and I give below the notes taken by me as the flowers were in full bloom. When your variety blooms, please take careful notes of it and see wherein yours and mine differ.

Miss Salway

"As grown in the garden of Pope M. Long.

"In growth the bush is very tall and vigorous, fully the equal of *Festiva maxima*. No peony, not even *Modeste Guerin*, can surpass it in large long strong flower stems. I know of no peony that will produce more perfect flowers.

"The blooms are of crown type, and of large size, equaling *M. Jules Elie*. Its lovely color is, however, its greatest charm. The guard petals are of good substance and are of a delicate rose or baby pink color. The pink color is almost identical with that of a perfect bloom of *Mme. Jules Dessert* cut in the bud and allowed to open in the house. The crown has an outer ring of creamy yellow. The centre of the crown is of the same baby pink color as the guards. The centre opens very slowly, and as a cut flower the variety is perfect. Several vases of it kept in my parlor in perfect condition for two weeks. As the flower ages, the crown increases in height just as does *M. Jules Elie*.

"It easily ranks with the best five; in fact, if I were confined to one peony it would be a toss-up between *Miss Salway*, *Thérèse*, and *Le Cygne*."

SPELLING LESSON

One of our members who shall be nameless, sends me this note which I commend to the attention of any who may need it in making up their catalogues.

Frances Willard, not Francis.

Lady Alexandra Duff, not Alexander.

Henri Murger, not Henry.

Mme. Geissler, not Geisler.

Philippe Rivoire, not Phillipe.

Marquis C. Lagergren, not Lagergreen.

As for the name Enchanteresse, Mr. Boyd and I have had a discussion that has now lasted several years, though not continuously, as to the second e. Mr. Boyd quotes dictionaries as giving the spelling Enchantresse and I quote other dictionaries back at him giving Enchanteresse. I am quite sure that the latter is the correct spelling. But unfortunately Mr. Boyd seems to be equally sure that the former is the right one.

However, Lemoine uses the spelling Enchanteresse consistently, and the dictionary of Littré, one of the standard French dictionaries in French gives the same spelling.

The need of attention to such details is brought home to us when we find as I did not long ago, an advertisement in one of the best of our garden magazines, offering the following, among other, peonies:

“Alsace Crousse
'Espo D'Lille
Atrosingunia
Berloize
Horace D'Chossel”

DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION

From T. C. Thurlow's Sons the following description of new varieties has been received. The descriptions of the first three were made by Mr. Fewkes.

Analysis of Thurlow Seedling Peony No. 14—Sarah K. Thurlow.

Form: Rose.
Size: Large.
Color: Total effect, flesh white.
Guards, flesh white with crimson streaks.
Collar next to guards, nearly white.
Extreme center, deeper than guards.
Petals: Guards, not differentiated, quite broad and well rounded, but mostly notched at the ends.
Collar next to guards, not conspicuous and merged into the other petals. Those between the collar and center are mostly broad and rounded, but with notched ends, many of them crimped like crepe.
Extreme center petals, small and much crowded, about one-third the length of the outer petals, giving a cupped appearance to the center.

Calyx: Light green, with crimson streaks and edges.
Stem: Stiff.
Odor: Sweet.
Remarks: This flower resembles the variety Tourangelle very much in color and general form, but the petals are not imbricated and are considerably laciniated. A remarkably beautiful flower and exceedingly promising.

June 1920.

Analysis of Thurlow seedling Peony No. 49A—Katharine Havemeyer.

Form: Rose.
Size: Large.
Color: Total effect, flesh pink.
Guards, shell-pink.
Collar next to guards, white.
Center, extreme, same as guards.
Petals: Petals between collar and center, flesh pink.
Guards, broad and rounded, somewhat notched at the ends.
Collar next to guards, inconspicuous, and stamenoids very narrow.
Center, extreme, filled with narrow fringed carpelodes, shorter than outer petals.
Calyx: Dark green, with crimson edges and midrib.
Stem: Drooping.
Odor: Sweet.
Remarks: This is a promising flower with high center, but, as examined, it is a little too rough in build and lacks strength of stem.

(Note. Above blossom taken from small plant.)

June 1920.

Analysis of Thurlow seedling Peony No. 66—James R. Mann.

Form: Semi-rose, with stamens in center.
Size: Large.
Color: Total effect, deep rosy pink.
Guards, deep rosy pink with deep carmine streaks.
Collar next guards, same color as guards.
Extreme center, some petals with crimson tips and central line of crimson reaching nearly to the base; but these marks not always present. Some stamens around the carpels, the latter greenish white with crimson stigmas.

Petals: Guards, long, with well rounded tips, sometimes notched.

Collar next guards, made up of rather short and comparatively broad petaloids, hardly distinguishable from the other petals.

A few petaloids, in center, next the stamens, about half the length of the outer petals; the latter are long and quite broad, mostly notched at the ends, much crimped and folded inward over the center, giving a lotus-like appearance to the inner part of the flower.

Calyx: Dark green with crimson edges.

Stem: Strong and upright, with broad foliage.

Remarks: The peculiarities of this flower are its long, broad petals, the crimson streaks in the center, about three to each flower, the peculiar crimped appearance and the lotus-like center. Odor is strong but not unpleasant.

Analysis 1919 taken from flowers just ready to drop their petals.

A remarkably fine flower as shown in 1920.

June 1919 and June 1920.

ThurLOW seedling Helen. 1922.

Single. Double row of broad rounded petals of deep shell pink, with a mass of golden stamens. The petals have a great deal of substance and do not droop for a long time. Stems tall and erect. Foliage dark green and heavy. Early midseason.

From Mr. C. M. Wettengel, Macomb, Ill., I have received descriptions of the following varieties which he wishes to register:

Martha A. Twyman—Very soft delicate pink. Full double.

Lothario—Japanese, bright violaceous pink.

Toreador—Single, light red, large, tall, very late.

The name Toreador was used by Hollis for a variety which he includes in one of his later lists among a number which he proposed to introduce in commerce, but there is no evidence that the variety was ever disseminated, and hence there seems to be no objection to using the name on Mr. Wettengel's variety.

MME. LEMOINIER, MME. LEMONIER AND MME. LEMONNIER

A letter has come in from Mr. F. G. Harris regarding the

two varieties to which the above names are variously attached. I think I can not do better than quote from Mr. Harris' letter.

"In bulletin No. 14 you have listed Mme. Lemoinier (Calot 1865) votes 22, average 8. Dessert lists another variety Mme. Lemonier (Calot 1860). He and other growers rank this much higher than the Mme. Lemoinier (Calot 1865).

"I am wondering if, through similarity of spelling there has not been a higher rank given to this latter variety than it should have. We would place the former variety pretty near the 9 mark."

In Dessert's manuscript list made up for the American Peony Society it is true that these two varieties occur, thus:

"Mme. Lemonier (Calot 1860). Large flowers, very double, of a fine lilac color.

"Mme. Lemoinier (Calot 1865). Rosy white, center white slightly tinged yellow."

In the Krelage list however, which must have been made up about 1890, and is one of the best sources of information regarding the older varieties, I find the following:

"Mme. Lemonnier (Verdier 1860). Rosy white, center white with a little yellow.

"Mme. Lemoinier (Calot 1865). Fine lilac."

It will be seen on comparing the Krelage descriptions with Dessert's that the colors are interchanged and besides that, the earlier sort is attributed to Verdier.

A variety under the name Mme. Lemoinier and attributed to Calot 1865, was in the Cornell collection and is described in bulletin 278, page 281, as follows:

"Large, compact, pale lilac rose (130) fading to lilac white, rose type bloom. Outer guards flecked and splashed with crimson. The color of this bloom may sometimes be spoken of as shell pink; fades to nearly white with age. Midseason too late. Good variety, good commercial bloom.

"Entirely transformed; full rose; collar of cream white petals almost concealed by guards, and central petals which are nearly as wide as the guards and are occasionally flecked with crimson. Linear, cream white petals in the extreme center of the bloom. Odor pleasant."

It is plain enough that we have here a complicated case of confusion of names. Further discussion of these varie-

ties would be very much welcomed. In the meantime, there is at least a moral to be drawn and that is that two names so similar as these should not have been used for two varieties of peonies.

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Solange

In a recent number of one of the horticultural papers (*Horticulture*, Nov. 10, 1921) I find a description of Solange from the pen of Mrs. Edward Harding. The characterization is so good that it deserves quoting as an example of the way in which peonies should be written about.

"This incredibly beautiful flower is difficult to describe adequately. It is high-built, compact, and composed of large thick petals which closely overlap. The color is deep cream, tinged with amber throughout, and with a touch of soft salmon pink glowing from its heart. This rare coloring, in combination with the heavy texture gives the bloom a radiance of beauty equalled only by pearls of finest orient."

We should be the richer if we had such descriptions for a number of our best peonies. They give more of the real character of the flower than the cut-and-dried details of our own official descriptions.

It might not be a bad idea for the Society to offer a prize for the best descriptions (not too poetic or highfalutin) say of Thérèse, Le Cygne, Tourangelle, Milton Hill, and Philippe Rivoire.

Lists of Best Peonies

There is a great fascination in lists. I make one almost every year of the best twelve varieties for that year as they have been in my own garden.

Mr. Pope M. Long of Cordova, Ala., writes thus regarding his "best" list. "Two varieties, Mme. Jules Dessert and Baroness Schroeder were so extraordinarily fine this year that I have advanced them from 'good' to 'best.' My revised best list now includes the following:

"Le Cygne, Miss Salway, Thérèse, Lady Duff, Kelway's Glorious, Baroness Schroeder, Mme. Jules Dessert, Primevère, M. Jules Elie, Solange, Festiva maxima, Felix Crousse, Mme. Auguste Dessert, President Taft, Eugenie Verdier, Standard Bearer, Venus, and Tourangelle."

I give elsewhere some notes by Mr. Long on Miss Salway as grown by him. If any are surprised to find that variety

in the above list, the explanation will be found in Mr. Long's memorandum on another page.

The Ridgway Chart

A letter has been received from A. Hoen and Company, Baltimore, Md., which reads as follows:

"We have now taken over the publishing of Mr. Robert Ridgway's book on Color Standards and Color Nomenclature.

"Quite a number of the societies interested in flower culture have ordered this book from us.

"We are selling this publication to the individual at \$12 per copy, net, and to the dealer at \$10 per copy, net. We have, however, decided to give the various societies interested in flowers the dealer's rate of \$10 per copy, when ordered by their secretaries.

"This publication comprises over 1,000 blocks showing as many different colors, all with definite names.

"The edition is limited.

"A number of societies have already adopted this book as their standard."

(The secretary of the Peony Society will be glad to transmit orders for any who may wish to place them. Or they may be sent direct.)

Germaine Bigot

Last spring I paid a visit to Mr. J. Prouty at Baldwinsville, N. Y. Mr. Prouty is a well known *Gladiolus* man, and has recently gone in for peonies. But he had in his garden some old established peony plants, and among them a plant of Germaine Bigot that was an eye-opener to me. The blooms were truly magnificent, and would have been hard to beat in any class in a show. I make this note because I have grown the variety for years myself and have never thought very highly of it. It ranks only 8.5 in the symposium, but if everyone could do it as Mr. Prouty does, it would certainly go well over 9.

Late Blooming of *P. lutea*

Peonia lutea is well known as being somewhat irregular in its time of flowering. I wonder whether anyone has a later date to record than the one I find in my book for last year, 1921—"September 9. A bloom on *P. lutea*."

Again this year, 1922, it has given bloom in both August and September.

Seedlings Identical With Named Varieties

One often hears it stated that peony seedlings never come identical with standard varieties. I have had two or three that were close enough to be indistinguishable by any tests that I could make. A few years ago there was one of my seedlings that was seemingly fully identical with Felix Crousse, and another that was the image of The Nymph, and I have now one which is such a close duplicate of La Perle that I cannot separate them. The seedling has the same characteristic foliage, the same form, color, fragrance and season. I staged it at London this year and the general verdict of those who examined the two sorts side by side was that they were indistinguishable. It was plain from the expression on the faces of some that they thought the seedling was really a plant of La Perle that had gotten misplaced; but I am sure this is not so.

Carmen

Mr. Bonnewitz, and to judge from the figures in the symposium, others as well, do not rank Carmen very high. Mr. Homer Reed of Kansas City says a few words in its defense which I am glad to quote here:

"Before the Society adopts Mr. Bonnewitz's recommendation as to Carmen and orders this peony placed on the *index rerum prohibitarum*, I would beg, as a special dispensation on my behalf that I may be permitted to keep my Carmen a few years longer.

"I turn to my field notes for justification.

"1916. Fine flowers with stamens, lasting, valuable cut flower. Very high class.

"1917. Marguerite Gerard class. Drooping habit, but very fine. Fine when cut.

"1918. A magnificent bloom. Light flesh, rose and white. Showing stamens; touched red in center. Fine as ever.

"This too on a very poor piece of alkali land. In a hundred varieties it stood amongst the ten best."

A Request for Exchange

Dr. Marshall A. Howe, Pleasantville, N. Y., desires to exchange roots of first class dahlias for roots of one or more of the three peonies, Le Cygne, Solange, and Thérèse. Dalhia roots in May, exchange peonies in September.

An Unkind Remark

A friend of ours inquiring how often the bulletins appeared and being told at what intervals the last issues had come out was unkind enough to ask "Do you call your bulletin a periodical or a spasmodical?"



Entry Form

American Peony and Cooperating Societies Hippodrome---State Fair Grounds June 1923

Exact dates to be announced

This blank must be filled out and sent to reach W. F. CHRISTMAN, Secretary of American Peony Society, 200 West 58th Street, Minneapolis, Minn., not less than 48 hours prior to the morning of the opening day of the exhibition.

Class	Description of Class

Each exhibitor agrees to abide by the rules governing this exhibition.

Additional entry blanks may be secured from the secretary.

Exhibitor's Signature _____

Address _____

