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Aug. 21-30

BULLETIN OF PEONY NEWS

NO. 21

Edited by

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



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THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

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Under the Design Off.
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OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

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Officers of the Society are also members of the Board of Directors.

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 the current publications of the Society as they are issued.

The dues are \$3.00 per year, which should be sent to the Treasurer with application for membership. 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 1st, the payment is applied to the following year—June to June. Thus anyone making application in May and paying \$3.00 would be clear of dues until after the annual meeting in the next year.

Back bulletins of the Society will be charged for at the rate of 25 cents per copy and \$1.00 for the Symposium Number (No. 14). To non-members these prices are doubled.

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; out of print).

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.

1923 Bulletin Nos. 18—19—20.

1924 Bulletin No. 21.

The earlier issues of the Bulletin of Peony News are for the most part out of print and unavailable, but there is still stock on hand of the numbers from No. 12 onwards and a few copies remain of some of the earlier issues.

It is planned for the future to issue four news bulletins a year. They will contain the proceedings of the Society and articles on different phases of peony culture. The bulletins have always been somewhat irregular in their time of appearance and the Society does not guarantee that they will appear either at stated intervals or in fixed numbers each year.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS' MEETING, MARCH 20, 1924

The meeting of the Directors of the Peony Society for 1924 was called to order by President Thurlow at 10:15 on March 20 at the Hotel Astor in New York City. Besides Mr. Thurlow there were present Messrs. Farr, Boyd, Fewkes, Brand and A. P. Saunders. In addition Mr. C. C. Sherlock was present for a part of the meeting as a representative from Des Moines to discuss the details of the spring meeting and exhibition there. Mr. Sherlock gave a very interesting brief talk to the Directors on what had been done so far by the local people, and gave such a description of the accommodations provided for the show and the completeness of all detailed arrangements as inspired us all with the conviction that everything was being done that could be done to make the show a success.

In connection with the cold storage facilities at Des Moines we had something in the nature of an experience meeting in regard to cold storage in general. Mr. Brand reported from his experience of last spring that blooms put into cold storage two weeks before the show turned out as well as those that had been most recently cut. Mr. Farr went even beyond this in claiming that cold storage blooms often kept better through a show than those which had been freshly cut in the fields. Mr. Boyd did not agree with all this and quoted the judgment of florists and his own experience to the effect that cold storage blooms while they open up well enough when first brought into the warmth do not stand the long strain of the exhibition so well as fresh blooms. Mr. Thurlow's experience was that their own cold storage blooms, even singles, kept up very well for three days and he reported that the present method for cold storage is to cut the blooms, slip them into boxes without any water and put into storage; then when the time comes you take them out of storage and set them up in water on the exhibition tables.

With regard to the financing of the prize schedule it was moved and carried that the Society appropriate five hundred dollars on the understanding that an equal amount would be appropriated by the local committee. The actual cost of the prizes awarded to be distributed pro rata. It was further moved and carried that all moneys that may be donated towards the prize schedule insofar as they concern prizes for peonies in the regular schedule should be paid to the treasurer of the Peony Society and by him disbursed to the winners; but in the case of special prizes offered by outside organizations these should be paid by the organization concerned.

The question of the delimitation of the authority of the various committees being raised it was moved and carried that so much of the work of the exhibition as concerned the arrangement of tables and the laying out of the peony blooms should be in charge of the exhibition committee working in cooperation with the decoration committee and it was emphasized in discussion that it was most desirable in the judgment of the Directors that all the exhibits in a

given class should be staged side by side. This greatly facilitates the work of the judges and makes it much easier for visitors to study and compare the various exhibits that come into competition one with another.

It was moved and carried that the chair appoint a committee of one to investigate and report on the cost of printing name cards for the individual varieties staged and report to the President and Directors, the idea being to have such cards printed of the size of standard library index cards and to have them available at the hall for the use of exhibitors, the card to bear the name of the variety in heavy type and to include beneath the name of the originator and date of introduction. The chair appointed A. P. Saunders as a committee of one.

Classes fifteen and twenty-one of last year's prize list were discussed and it was moved and carried that Mr. Fewkes be authorized to decide upon the names of varieties to be included in these classes. The question was raised as to the desirability of introducing additional classes in which the decorative effect of peonies with foliage and with or without other flowers should be emphasized. This matter was finally left in the hands of the local committee.

A letter from Mrs. Pleas was presented in which certain prizes were offered by her for classes in which stems of blooms not disbudded should be staged for purposes of comparison beside disbudded blooms of the same variety. These classes were included in the prize schedule two years ago and brought out no competition. The Directors therefore did not feel justified in continuing them and the Recording Secretary was authorized to write Mrs. Pleas expressing the thanks of the Directors and their regret that her kind offer could not be accepted.

Our present method of paying bills as specified in Article III of the Constitution provides that bills shall be paid by the Treasurer upon written order of the President countersigned by the Secretary. This method has been in the past the source of vexatious delays. The Directors recommend that the Constitution be so amended as to read: "The Treasurer is authorized to pay any bills up to one hundred dollars upon the written approval of any member of the Board of Directors. But in the case of expenses already authorized by the Directors such written approval shall not be necessary."

A movement is on foot in France to create a memorial of some kind to Victor Lemoine, the great horticulturist, in Nancy. It was moved and carried that the Directors recommend to the Society that a contribution of one hundred dollars should be made by the Society to the fund that is being collected.

For some years past there has been need of a reprinting and a unification of the standard descriptions of peonies which appeared in the Cornell Bulletins in 1908, 1910 and 1911. While no formal action was taken the Directors cordially approved the suggestion

that a special number of the Bulletin should be published in the near future in which all such descriptions so far as they include standard varieties which are to any considerable extent in commerce should be included. There are a large number of descriptions of more recent varieties already on hand and arrangements have been made to bring the list better up to date by having further descriptions prepared this spring. The understanding, however, is that none of the older varieties will be included in this reprinting except those whose averages in the symposium indicate that it is still desirable to keep them in cultivation.

Three years have now elapsed since the symposium in Bulletin 14 and it was the opinion of the Directors that it was desirable to prepare a new symposium after the close of the coming peony season. It was decided, following the precedent of the Iris Society, to appoint a jury which should represent competent opinion in all parts of the country. The membership of the jury will be published with the symposium. By limiting the number of voters in this way the labor of working out the averages is much diminished and in addition it is hoped that we may attain a more convincing set of averages.

Mr. Wm. A. Peterson, who has sold his stock of peonies and is going out of the business, presented his resignation as a member of the Board of Directors. This resignation was accepted with regret and expressions of gratitude to Mr. Peterson for his past services to the Society.

The following committees of judges were appointed for the Des Moines show:

For open and special classes:

Messrs. Fewkes, Thurlow, Boyd.

Alternates: Messrs. Hubbard, McClelland.

For amateur classes:

Messrs. Farr, Brand, Christman.

Alternates: Messrs. H. S. Cooper, Becker.

The Directors then presented a slate of officers for presentation to the meeting at Des Moines. It seems desirable that the editorship should be constituted as a special office and a recommendation will therefore be made at the coming meeting that the necessary alteration be made in Article III of the Constitution. At last year's meeting the number of Directors was increased from three to four. In order that the Constitution should be brought into line with this arrangement a recommendation for further change in Article III will also be made at the coming meeting. The meeting then adjourned.

A. P. SAUNDERS, *Recording Secretary*.

THE COMING EXHIBITION AT DES MOINES

Everything looks bright for the meeting of the Society and for a great show at Des Moines this coming June. Those central western cities have a vigor and enthusiasm in the way they tackle things that leaves one in no doubt as to the success of their undertakings. The exhibition will be staged in the big Coliseum which will provide ample space. Arrangements have already been made with the cold storage company to receive and care for exhibits sent in advance by express; as a recent circular says "this will enable the buds to be cut at the proper stage for development and rushed to storage two weeks before the show if necessary. When the exhibitor arrives at the Coliseum the morning of the show his crate of blooms will be there ready for him to stage."

The general chairman is the Hon. E. T. Meredith, but the chairman of the exhibition committee is Mr. W. G. DuMont, 2700 49th Street, to whom application should be made for any other information that may be desired.

LOOKING BACKWARD, AND A GLANCE FORWARD

By A. H. FEWKES

[Mr. Fewkes was secretary of the Peony Society from the time of the preliminary meeting held in Brooklyn on February 18, 1903, until 1912, when the present writer succeeded him in that office. It fell to Mr. Fewkes' lot to carry the work of the secretary's office through those first years when the policies of the Society were maturing and the work of the Nomenclature Committee was adding so much that was of permanent value to the literature of the peony. This was what might be called the formative period in the life of the Society and it was of the utmost importance that its policies were then determined by such men as Charles Willis Ward, Mr. Fewkes and others like them—men to whom the peony was, it is true, business, but also something far more than that—a life enthusiasm and indeed one may say a passion. No peony grower who has come within the circle of my acquaintance has a better combination of warm admiration and cool judgment than Mr. Fewkes himself. His opinions are always to be listened to with respect and where one differs from him the chances are it will be he who will turn out to be right. Mr. Farr loves to tell the story of a visit he paid to Mr. Fewkes one spring in peony season. They had gone over the garden together and Mr. Farr was about to leave when his host said that he had something more to show him. Mr. Fewkes then went into his cellar and brought up a vase containing just three peony blooms, one Rosa Bonheur, one Therese and one La Lorraine. They had been cut at just the right time and allowed to develop slowly in a cool, dark place. As they both stood admiring them Mr. Fewkes said: "I think it is worth a year of any man's life to be permitted just to look at a thing so beautiful."

The general influence of the Society and particularly the work of the Nomenclature Committee began to bear fruit at just about the time when Mr. Fewkes gave up his secretaryship and the rapid growth in our membership and the enormous increase in the popularity of the peony are in very large

measure due to the wise judgment and unselfish devotion of the men who organized the Society and first started it on its way.—Editor.]

Twenty years ago, on June 11, the American Peony Society was organized. A few peony enthusiasts and men interested in the sale of peonies gathered at the Hotel Cadillac in the city of Detroit, intent upon forming such a society. I think there were less than thirty of us, but we were determined to put the peony on a better footing and make it possible to trade in peonies with some degree of certainty. I can not remember all the faces, but I can see that little band of enthusiasts gathered there in a room just off the hotel office. The earnestness with which we discussed matters would have done credit to some great deliberative body, but with all our earnestness we never dreamed that within the next twenty years such improvements would be made in varieties and such widespread interest be taken in the peony. Little did we think that what we were then forming would develop into the influential society we now know and have for its twentieth birthday celebration such a magnificent exhibition as the people of the Twin Cities made it possible for us to hold.

We were meeting almost under the wing of the American Nurserymen's Association which was then holding its convention at the same hotel and at first it was thought that we would have to meet where they chose to meet; in fact, receive our inspiration from members of that organization. However, before the end of the year we found that plan inadvisable and launched out an independent organization. Although frequent attempts have been made to get us entangled with other organizations, we have sailed along our peaceful course and, attending strictly to our own business, now find ourselves one of the most substantial and independent special societies to be found anywhere. Not only have we reached a high level of usefulness and influence in America, but we have made ourselves felt in Europe. It would be a very unwise foreign grower indeed who would now try to foist off the stuff that many of them sent to America under the old conditions, which at the time the Society was organized were decidedly chaotic as regards the buying and selling of peonies. No one could be sure of receiving what they thought they were buying, as the names were almost hopelessly mixed. Not only were the old names mixed, but new names were frequently given to old named varieties, thereby greatly adding to the confusion. To rectify this condition of affairs was the main idea in the minds of the organizers.

It seems a short time ago that we were gathered there, but when we stop to think about it twenty years is no small part of an ordinary lifetime and a considerable number of the men who met there have passed on. Charles Willis Ward, the first president of the Society, is no longer with us, but as I look back to the early days of the Society it seems to me that he was the mainspring of the organi-

zation and his was the guiding hand that led the way over the rough places at the beginning and pointed the way to eventual success. All honor to his memory and we should not let the light of our present success blind us to the importance of the work accomplished by him; and let us take thought of some memorial which will keep his name before the Society as long as it endures.

By far the greater part of the early membership of the Society was in the East and most of the meetings have been held there, although one of our early ones was held as far west as Chicago. This was followed I think by an invitation from St. Paul, but it was felt that the time had not then come when the interest in the peony was sufficient to induce the eastern members to make the journey and stand the necessary expenses of the long trip.

After establishing the Society the next thing was to lay out the work to be done and it was immediately recognized that the first things needed were a check-list and a test collection. Arrangements were made with the Department of Horticulture at Cornell University and Prof. Craig took charge of matters. Invitations were sent out to all the growers to contribute roots, and through the efforts of Mr. Ward large collections of varieties were obtained in Europe, so eventually nearly every known kind was represented by one or more roots and these were planted on a large tract of land furnished by Cornell. As soon as these plants were established the work of identification and description began and was carried out jointly by representatives of the Horticultural Department of Cornell and members of the Nomenclature Committee of the Society. The actual work was done by Mr. Farr and Mr. Dauphin with the assistance of Prof. Batchelor of Cornell.

It was a painstaking job and required several seasons for its accomplishment. Previous to this Prof. Coit had compiled the check-list and had spent much time visiting various collections of peonies and peony shows where he made a considerable number of descriptions, but as these were made before there was any test collection to work from they lack the accuracy of those made later.

After serving its purpose the test collection was abandoned and all the roots, except a representative collection retained by Cornell, were with the consent of the donors sold and the proceeds turned into the treasury of the Society.

It was the original intention to combine the notes made from the test collection with other useful and instructive peony matter into a so-called manual and a vote was passed at one of the meetings ordering such a work to be published, but the preparation of such a book involved an immense amount of work, much more in fact than should be expected to be accomplished by the Nomenclature Committee without remuneration.

The call for such a work is no longer obvious and it is proposed that other means be found for the dissemination of the valuable matter which has already been prepared.

Previous to the appearance of the check-list the early members were provided with the so-called "French list" which M. A. Dessert compiled from the original descriptions of varieties found in old French catalogues.

Through the kindness of Mr. Humphreys, the first treasurer, copies of the Dessert manuscript were made and distributed among the members and proved to be very useful in the identification of varieties.

I often think of the varieties which interested peony growers in those days. *Festiva maxima* stood at the head of the list and it is still a peony of good standing. I well remember the first plant I saw of it, about thirty years or more ago. It bore the name of "Belle Alliance" and was imported by a friend from T. S. Ware of Tottenham, England. The variety "Festiva" or as it used to be called by the western growers "Drop White" came to me from this same friend, he having inherited his stock from his mother.

Then there was "Jenny Lind," a variety much talked about at the early meetings of the Society, and Kelway's "Baroness Schroeder." The former has practically disappeared, but the latter came to stay and is one of the good peonies today.

It was about this time too that the flood of Kelway seedlings began to reach this country, "Baroness Schroeder" being one of the very few really good ones sent out by them. Later came the great "Lady Alexandra Duff," which at that time was the highest priced peony ever sent out. The history of this variety is an interesting one and who will ever forget the difficulty with which the true thing was finally obtained, identified and separated out of the mess of trash which was inflicted upon American growers in place of it? No less than fourteen different varieties were known to me at one time which had been sent to this country under that name. The introducers gathered in a lot of good American money and American growers have been loaded down with a lot of mostly worthless stuff, but we can almost forgive them when we consider that out of this chaff were sifted such varieties as Lady Alexandra Duff, Baroness Schroeder, James Kelway, Phyllis Kelway, Kelway's Glorious, Kelway's Queen and Exquisite.

New things also began to come from Lemoine and Dessert, but these needed no sifting: Many of these were superb and are found among the best today, but unfortunately many of the Lemoine varieties soon developed a disease which presumably was caused by nematode worms. Unthinkingly many refer to this disease as the Lemoine disease, but this is doing a great injustice to the name of Lemoine and right here let me protest against the use of the name in connection with this disease. Wherever there are gardens and gardeners, greenhouses or nurseries the name of Lemoine is revered and the name should not be used in such an unjust manner.

As the Society increased in membership the need began to be felt for some means whereby the management could keep in touch

with the members and the "Bulletin of Peony News" was started to meet this need. Starting in a modest manner it seems likely to develop into a publication of considerable value and it would seem that all the information originally intended to be included in a manual can be transferred to the Bulletin with great benefit to that publication and at the same time provide a means of keeping all peony information up to date.

Through this medium quality ratings of the varieties of peonies have been made from the results of two symposiums and although these ratings have been the subject of much discussion they are in the main of great value to peony growers and show the wisdom of repeating the symposium idea at intervals.

To one who has been with the Society from the beginning it is interesting, to say the least, to note the changes that have come over the gardening public within the last twenty years. Twenty years ago there were, comparatively, very few who were really interested in the peony and collections worthy of the name were exceedingly scarce, but now we find them on almost every hand, with many amateurs taking them up as a hobby and spending thousands of dollars upon them. Then there were few grown otherwise than by color, but now we find them grown in that way only by those who grow them to supply the wholesale flower trade and by those whose appreciation of a flower is limited by its ability to produce landscape effects.

Through our exhibitions and the catalogues of enterprising growers people have found out that peonies have individual beauty and a demand for the fine varieties has been produced which is almost beyond belief.

With a few notable exceptions the time was when all of the new varieties came from Europe, but now America is leading in the production of the finest kinds and the interest in the peony has increased to an extent equaled only by the "tulipomania" which swept over Europe many years ago.

Aside from the actual cultural benefits derived from membership in the Society the social features have been very pleasant and many enduring friendships have been formed. It is true there have been some unpleasant incidents, but most of us are willing to forget these and offer the glad hand of fellowship to all who love the peony.

The foregoing is but a glance at the activities of the Society during the twenty years since its beginning and we earnestly hope that the years to follow will be as full of interest and usefulness to the gardening public as those that have passed.

There are several things confronting us which need immediate attention. We are adding many new members each year and this means that increasing efforts must be made to keep up the interest and make everyone satisfied.

The question of locating our annual meetings and exhibitions is perhaps the most pressing. In the early days of the Society it was

made the custom not to expect any special entertainments to be provided by the people where the meeting was to be held in order that we might go anywhere with our meetings and exhibitions without making ourselves a burden; but in later years there seems to have grown up a sort of rivalry which culminated in this twentieth anniversary at St. Paul. Of course these are splendid affairs and highly appreciated by the members, but we feel that a serious problem is developing out of this practice which will need careful consideration.

Undoubtedly there are many places which would be benefited by one of our exhibitions, but there being no local organizations in these places which feel equal to keeping up the pace that has been set they are loathe to give the Society an invitation. Consequently there is much good peony territory which we have not reached.

In the matter of registration of new varieties a start has been made and it lacks only in details to make it a valuable function of the Society.

Recognition of new varieties is quite thoroughly established and systematized, but as has been suggested a quite valuable adjunct to this might be established in calling upon the judges to make quality ratings, according to their judgment, upon any new variety placed before them, these ratings to be published in their reports.

The whole question of symposiums and ratings is still somewhat unsettled and is the subject of considerable criticism, but this is a matter which can not be settled casually, but must be solved in the light of experience which will be gained as the years roll on. Undoubtedly each will have its special problems to be solved, but I believe the wisest plan will be to adhere to our well tried, dignified, conservative policy and frown upon things sensational.

AN APPRECIATION OF PROF. LEROY CADY

BY W. F. CHRISTMAN

[Prof. LeRoy Cady, Associate Professor of Horticulture in the University of Minnesota, College of Agriculture, died on September 12, 1923, in St. Paul, Minn. He was taken ill at the Minnesota State Fair where he was assistant superintendent of the horticultural display.

Prof. Cady was always interested in the work of the American Peony Society. He never, I think, attended any of our meetings in the East and was therefore personally known to comparatively few of our eastern members, but he was well and widely known in the Middle West where he had made himself a force for the betterment of things horticultural.

The following personal tribute from Mr. Christman very appropriately finds a place in the Bulletin as a mark of our appreciation and a testimony to our enduring regret that he is gone.—Editor.]

A sudden and untimely breaking of a personal association extending over a period of several years touched the writer most

keenly in the recent passing of Prof. Cady. This association had grown into a close fellowship, as we were both deeply interested in horticulture, and during the several weeks preceding the American Peony Society's June exhibition, held in the Twin Cities, we were in constant communication. His sound judgment, combined with his extensive knowledge, the result of many years actual experience in staging flower shows, made him a very valuable man in an advisory capacity. A great deal of the credit for the success of this exhibition, conceded to have been the greatest peony show ever attempted, was due to the indefatigable work he so freely gave to the cause. His interest in instilling a love for the beautiful of the flower kingdom in the hearts of all was untiring. He was never too busy in his duties to give the most courteous attention to the novice in search of knowledge, counsel and advice. He was actuated by the most laudable motives in all that he undertook to accomplish. Personal emolument was not gratified or even considered when the interest of others was in the balance. He possessed the highest ideals of fine, clean, strong manhood. During our many years of acquaintance I cannot remember hearing him speak an unkind or disparaging word; a most commendable record worthy of the highest emulation.

Unselfish generosity of service, coupled with untiring personal effort knowing no bounds, proved his true worth. He possessed a heart alive to all the beauties of nature and a countenance which beautifully expressed a deep interest in all things good. His passing will leave a vacancy most difficult to fill. To have known him was to bring one in closer touch with the beauties of nature and give one a better understanding of things worth while.

NOTE:—Prof. LeRoy Cady was chairman of the Exhibition Committee at the June Peony Show held in the Twin Cities last June. He was Associate Professor of Horticulture at the Minnesota State Farm School, was a great admirer of the peony and for the past seven or eight years has assisted in staging the exhibitions held by the Northwestern Peony and Iris Society.

MRS. EDWARD HARDING'S BOOK "PEONIES IN THE LITTLE GARDEN"

BY A. H. FEWKES

It gives me much pleasure to bring to the attention of the members of the American Peony Society this little book. Mrs. Francis King made a wise choice when she selected Mrs. Harding as the author of this, the third in her series of "Little Garden Books," for Mrs. Harding grows peonies because she loves them individually and collectively and has had many years of experience in their cultivation. Her methods are the results of deductions made from actual experiments made by her in the course of years and the wise adaptation of the experiences of a large number of peony growing friends.

The book is designed to help both the experienced gardener and the amateur just starting out in the cultivation of the peony and it gives sound advice from one who has experienced all the stages from that of the novice up to the enviable position of an expert, pointing out the pitfalls and mistakes to which the uninitiated are liable, as well as the paths leading to success.

The peony is treated from the standpoint of its individual beauty as exemplified in the flowers of the different varieties. These she selects with careful thought both as to quality and price. We cannot always agree with her selection, but this is a matter of personal preference and the beginner will be perfectly safe in relying upon her judgment, feeling sure that in adopting her lists of varieties he will be planting nothing that is inferior.

The chapter wherein she discusses the merits of many of the newer varieties of peonies is very interesting, not only to the beginner, but also to the experienced grower, for she describes them in a delightful manner wholly her own, setting forth their charms or deficiencies according to the manner in which they appeal to her in her own garden and under the conditions therein prevailing.

Perhaps the best chapter in the book is the one on location and soils, looking from a practical standpoint. It treats of matters in connection with soils about which there is much that is imperfectly understood by the average grower, be he amateur or professional, and it is first hand information gained by actual practice.

The subjects of planting, cultivation and fertilization are the source of more discussion and disputes than any other connected with the peony.

Handling the peony in the little garden is, perhaps, the most prolific source of these disputes. Chapter VI is devoted to a detailed account of the way she has handled these subjects and what has been found best for the conditions with which she has to deal. Every garden is subject to its own peculiar conditions, but there are others which in a general way affect all gardens and about these much can be learned by a study of the way in which she meets these problems.

The matter of root division, which seems a bothersome thing to the beginner, is very clearly set forth in the chapter on "Root division and Seedlings" and her comments on various subjects growing out of both methods of propagation are decidedly pertinent and instructive.

Ten causes are given in answer to the ever recurring question: "Why do my peonies refuse to bloom?" Each is very thoroughly explained and the way pointed out in which it can be obviated. As diseased roots is one of the causes mentioned, a chapter on the diseases afflicting the peony naturally follows and contains much which pertains to the handling of a peony garden to insure the greatest amount of freedom from disease.

The book is well illustrated both with reproductions from pho-

tographs and from line drawings, the latter being very helpful in making clear certain matters in connection with the division of roots.

When I began reading this book I expected to find much that would call for criticism from one who is an old peony grower, but I must confess that I have found it exceptionally free from errors or misleading statements and the whole book is written in such an entertaining manner it would seem that the most casual reader can not help becoming an enthusiastic admirer of the peony.

STANDARD DIVISIONS VS. ONE EYE DIVISIONS

BY PROF. J. H. PARK, *Port Murry, N. J.*

Floricultural magazines and certain professional growers have carried on a discussion within recent years as to the proper size of peony root to be given the flower-loving public. Manifestly the subject is of much interest and considerable importance both to the grower and the purchaser. Those who stand for the old standard division of three to five eyes argue that history has proved by results that this is the proper division, in that propagating stock has not deteriorated, loss in planting is negligible and bloom in a fair amount may be expected in the second year. Those who are advocating the one eye division for the use of amateurs insist that the smaller divisions soon catch up with the larger ones, that the price of an expensive variety can be halved, that the public can better be served since the number of available roots of a variety will be doubled or trebled and so on.

In spite of the discussion, nothing like statistical data, so far as I have noted, has been offered to bolster up arguments. Incidents, it is true, have been used by one side or the other, but figures acceptable to a statistician have been lacking. I have tried the experiment, therefore, of getting together in a very small way from my own garden such information as might lead to correct conclusions and in so doing used what is known as the "at random" method. Information was sought only from varieties planted two years. Twenty-five plants from standard divisions from different growers and twenty-five plants from one eye divisions, also coming from different growers, were picked out from my planting plans before careful observation of the plants themselves was made. Since soil conditions did not vary it seemed that the data would give accurate information so far as a test of fifty plants would prove anything at all—and time was lacking for a more thorough experiment. Both the number of blooming stalks and the total number of blooms were counted. The varieties used were as follows: In the standard division lot—*Artemise*, *Bunch of Perfume*, *Delachei*, *Duc de Wellington*, *Eduis Superba*, *Eileen Kelway*, *Eugene Verdier*, *General Grant*, *John Richardson*, *L' Eclatante*, *L' Esperance*, *Leonard Kelway*, *Lord Rosebery*, *Margaret Gerard*, *Marie Kelway*, *Mme.*

Chaumy, Mme. Ducel, Mme. Lebon, Mr. Manning, Pottsi, Prairie Splendor, Sir Thomas Lipton, Suzanne Dessert, Umbellata Rosea, Virginie. In the one eye division lot—*Albatre, Alsace Lorraine, Avalanche, Coronation, Eugene Bigot, Eugene Verdier, Gypsy Queen, Jubilee, Karl Rosenfield, Lady A. Duff, La France, Le Cygne, Long-fellow, Margaret Gerard, Midnight, Midsummer Night's Dream, Mikado, Minerve, Mme. Auguste Dessert, Mme. Jules Dessert, M. Martin Cahuzac, Queen of the Pleasance, Sunbeam, Wild Rose.*

The standard divisions in the second year after planting averaged 4.1 blooming stems and 8.2 blooms; the one eye divisions averaged 1.1 blooming stems and 2.7 blooms. All of the plants representative of the standard divisions gave at least some bloom. Eight of the smaller plants gave no bloom at all within two years.

The writer hardly feels that final conclusions can be drawn from so small a number of cases. Yet he assumes two things to be true: in the first place that most people will not wish to care for more than fifty peonies; in the second place that the amateur will have his patience tried to the limit if some results are not forthcoming within two years. Moreover, although better care of plants may give better results the writer probably handles the hoe with a diligence equalling that of most people.

The conclusions from the above data—at least for the writer's own use—follow: One eye divisions may be expected to live. I have had in last fall's planting of 130 one eye and 160 standard divisions a loss of one small division and one standard division. And they may be expected—usually—to show a bloom in the second year. In the testing of expensive varieties I recommend them. For those who are making trial plantings of many varieties and who are willing to wait somewhat for results they may also be recommended. For those, however, who are using but few plants or those planting varieties usually quoted under three dollars there is no advantage in using the smaller divisions since the returns should repay the extra cost in the larger plants, even within two years. Such conclusions might guide for this region until better knowledge is at hand, but it seems possible that growers possessing a fairly large stock of the newer varieties might give accurate data to the public as to what may be expected in blooms from each variety when the smaller divisions are used. A root of *Le Cygne* sent me two years ago by a grower who said that it had an eye as big as a pin head and might bloom in four years gave two blooms this year. It had a little extra care in the way of mulch, but *Le Cygne* will probably do well from a small division. On the other hand, some of the *Pleas* peonies have given me but little bloom from the small roots. Those who are interested in the sale of the one eye divisions may find purchasers even more enthusiastic than they now are if accurate answers to questions on the behavior of various varieties should be published.

MY YEAR IN EUROPE

BY A. P. SAUNDERS

I must not begin any account of my travels without warning in advance the peony lovers who may read what I have written that I shall really have comparatively little to say about peonies. The truth must come out sooner or later that there are not many collections of peonies in Europe, nor is the plant very widely cultivated there; and I did not succeed in seeing even all of what there was.

My readers must therefore take these notes rather as the jottings of one who loves plants and who had an eye open for peonies though he rarely found any.

We sailed from New York in September, 1922, and after a few days for settling our effects in Paris we moved to Italy, where we spent the month of October. My first glimpse of an Italian garden was at the Giardine Giusti in Verona. This garden was in a dreadful state of neglect and was naturally rather a disappointment, but that was my fault for not knowing better what to expect. An Italian garden is not primarily a collection of flowers. If you have a view, a cypress tree, and a statue, you have all that is essential for an Italian garden of the classic type. It may be that in that mild climate flowers grow so easily that there is no need for making flower gardens; or more probably it may be that a garden in Italy is first and foremost a place where you can get some shade from the hot sun of summer. However that may be, the fact remains that the Italian garden has much more affinity with the Japanese than with the American garden.

About all the flowers in the Giardine Giusti were some very poor perennial phloxes, struggling for life among the weeds and pushing forth a few miserable magenta blossoms. We were forbidden to take any photographs, but I was in doubt whether this prohibition was the fruit of pride or shame.

Here I found about half a dozen tree peony plants a couple of feet high. They had no seed pods and may or may not have bloomed the previous spring. There were a few yellow crocus-like flowers pushing up through the grass on the slope at the back of the garden which I took to be *Sternbergia lutea*. Beyond there I noticed nothing in the way of flowering plants. Nevertheless, this is a beautiful garden, for in the Italian scheme of things the beauty of an ancient garden cannot be spoiled by either weeds or neglect, for its architectural features become only more picturesque through time, and as for the cypresses their heads are far above such things as weeds, and to the attack of time they seem equally indifferent. As Baedeker says, this garden contains "a few Roman antiquities and numerous cypresses, some of them four hundred to five hundred years old and 120 ft. in height, and commands a beautiful view of Verona and the distant Apennines".

We moved from Verona to Venice, and here I paid a visit to

the public gardens, which are quite extensive and contain some fine trees. But the arrangement of flowering plants showed no great taste or knowledge. There was a good deal of the inevitable scarlet salvia, some very small single dahlias, and what was really beautiful, a good deal of a large bright blue morning-glory which I think must have been the lovely *Ipomoea rubro-coerulea*. Here I discovered a few tree peonies about 4 feet high, but no herbaceous varieties. It is possible there may have been some and that the foliage had been cut off, but I think not, for everything that I saw in Italy pointed to the conclusion that the herbaceous peony is practically unknown there.

The flower stores in Venice were but poorly supplied. They offered carnations it is true in a variety of color, though not well grown, some very small and wretched gladioli, wild asters, and occasionally some fairly good dahlias. The most attractive flowers were the hardy cyclamen (*C. Europeum*), which were offered in bunches of 25 to 50 of these tiny bright, purple, fragrant flowers. These are wild blooms brought down from the mountains. We found them again later at Bologna, where they were peddled in the streets at a price equivalent to something less than 3 cents for a bunch of about 50 blooms.

Padua, our next stop, has a botanic garden where the great Saccardo ruled until his death. I went there hoping to find something to my purpose. Not a peony. The garden had a fairly extensive but not very happy looking collection of plants among which I discovered a very few irises, one marked *Iris florentina* and another *Iris pallida*. Here again there were magnificent trees, but the part of the garden given over to herbaceous plants was quite small and mostly in curved geometric patterns marked off with little upright stones.

When we got to Florence we found the florists' shops far better than any we had seen in the more northern cities. Scarlatti's is the best of them, and in their window there was always an attractive lot of stuff; large vases of roses mostly Frau Karl Druschki and Paul Neyron, fine chrysanthemums, beautiful dahlias, Persian cyclamen, and carnations fairly good though small. I was told here that peonies do not do well in the climate of Florence. I was interested in visiting what they called their nursery, which was really a fair-sized garden in the city, hidden behind a high stone wall. Within it were a couple of small greenhouses and then a great lot of potted plants in the open, perhaps a quarter or half an acre of them altogether. Among the plants in pots were perhaps 100 bamboos very well grown, then a lot of rhododendrons, hundreds of *Acacia mimosa* in the shade of a tree of the same, a long row of potted palms, and in a shed half a dozen immense *Daturas* in big pots. The plants were four to five feet high and in beautiful bloom. The gardener who was showing me around said they were to be sent to a grand "festa" which was taking place that day.

I asked about peonies, and the gardener inquired whether I meant the tall ones or the low ones. I answered the low ones, thinking the tall ones must be tree peonies in his lingo. He led me then to a little row of some six or eight herbaceous sorts choked in weeds, a couple of them with rather feeble stems still holding their leaves, the rest cut down to the ground. Then he showed me a dozen or two in pots. I asked why they were grown in pots and he replied that they were much easier to sell that way, that if the plants could be brought into bloom in pots there was no difficulty in selling all that could be supplied. One of the pots was broken and he lifted out the root and showed it to me. It was a sorry enough root, and while one could hardly have called it healthy yet it had no actual disease in it; how anyone could expect to get bloom off it I could not quite understand.

There was in Florence at stated times in the week an interesting flower market, held in a pillared structure called the Mercato nuovo, i. e., New Market. This is ornamented on one side with that wonderful bronze boar familiar to all who are interested in sculpture. Here on several mornings I wandered about examining the wares offered. I wish we might have such flower markets in America as exist in Europe. I shall have occasion later to speak of those in Paris and other cities; they are a constant source of delight to the traveler. Well, in this flower market in Florence there was a very attractive lot of things—potted plants; asparagus, various small ferns, begonias in variety, geraniums, chrysanthemums, carnations, Persian cyclamen, gardenias in bloom, and then, behind these smaller things, there was taller stuff, retinosporas, palms, shapely and graceful bamboos ten feet high. That would be one group. And next to these, cut flowers, chrysanthemums the staple, but also pinks, roses, cosmos, dahlias, paper white narcissus, etc. Then a counter for seeds in packets; then raffia; then bulbs in great variety—tulips, narcissi, ranunculus, freesia, Spanish iris, French anemones—with neat printed and wired labels to go with anything you bought. Some of the names sounded amusing in Italian, and the spelling did not always look convincing. The new colored freesias were offered as "*Fresia Ragionerj di tutti colori assai graziosi*" and the standard white "*Fresia reflatta alba*" mixed montbretias were marked "*Mombretia in miscuglio*"; among the Dutch bulbs "*Tulipano Darwin Mr. Farncombe, rosso fuoco extra*," "*Giacinti diretto d'Olanda*," etc. But really so much here to appeal to the small gardener. Most of the bulb boxes had colored pictures representing the variety offered—pretty bad pictures, but still better than nothing; and the market was full of buyers at all times.

The great public gardens of Florence, the Bobboli Gardens, are handsome in the Italian style, but have little of interest for the flower lover.

My next notes were made in and about Rome, and on one of our trips out from there we visited of course the famous gardens

of the Villa d'Este at Tivoli. Here you find the Italian garden at its best. Fountains and waterfalls and dense shade, magnificent cypresses and other trees, and then when you come out of the darkness on to the high terrace at the edge of the garden, a superb prospect over the Campagna, with the dome of St. Peter's rising above the distant city, and all down the hillside below you hundreds of acres of vineyards. There was a little rose plot in the d'Este garden, but the plants had scarcely any bloom, and here one realizes if never before how little the Italian garden is made for flowers and how much for a refuge from heat and glare.

This garden is a large one and our time in it was very limited. We had allowed a couple of hours for it, but most of that time we had been obliged to spend outside the gates waiting for the passing of the funeral of a young Fascista; for this was in the time of the revolution and there had been more or less fighting in Rome with a good many more casualties than were ever notified to the outside world.

From Rome we came back to Paris, where we settled for the winter. The horticultural life that goes on in Paris throughout the entire year is something to bring joy to the heart of anyone who knows a pansy from a sunflower. There is said to be a special flower train every day in the winter from the neighborhood of Nice up to Paris. I doubt the actuality of the train, but probably there is a special car or two on some through express. At any rate flowers are raised in cold frames and in the open in the south of France and are sent to Paris in a continuous stream all through the winter months. The flowers as they are brought off the train are exposed for sale in the big central market and if you want to see them at their best you must get down there by seven or eight in the morning. Here the small dealers gather together from all over the city to buy their day's supplies. After the regular market is over the remaining stuff is sold off to anyone who will buy for what it will fetch. Paris has flower stores innumerable, though very few as elaborate as a Fifth Avenue shop in New York; but there are hundreds of smaller ones, many of them modest little places hardly more than just a doorway on the street, others somewhat more ambitious with a show window or even two. There were half a dozen such within a couple of blocks from us. Then there are stationary wooden booths in the boulevards which are vacated and locked up at night, and last of all and humblest the barrows which move about through the streets and cater to the cheapest trade. These probably contain the stuff that was left till the end at the big morning market and which was sold there for next to nothing and is now resold for next to nothing—a bunch of little roses or carnations or violets for a few cents. But besides all these there are many flower markets in the city, a big one down on the island just near Notre Dame and another in the heart of modern Paris on both sides of the Church of the Madeleine. It is plain enough that the French love flowers when in times like

the present there is still business for all the thousands of little people who have flowers to sell. And indeed when you settle down to live in Paris you very soon contract the habit of buying at least a few flowers almost every day. The cost is so little. Those beautiful big French anemones were to be had all winter, usually for about four or five francs a dozen, 25 to 35 cents as the franc then was.

I made countless visits to the flower markets all through the winter. The most varied and interesting is the one on the Quai des Fleurs near Notre Dame, for here you find not only masses of cut flowers and flowering plants laid out under canvas on the pavement of the square in the open air, but along the embankment above the river quantities of nursery stuff of all kinds. It seems strange to us to think of buying nursery stock in January or February, but during the winter of 1922-1923 there was never a week when the ground was not open for planting, and there was never a week when you could not go down to the Quai des Fleurs and buy fruit trees, evergreens, ornamental shrubs, or such plants as pansies, daisies, wall flowers, etc. If you then cross the river you come to the Quai de la Megisserie, and here you find the city offices of some of the great nursery establishments—Vilmorin, Cayeux and LeClerc, and others. These shops have counters on the sidewalk where fascinating things are always to be found. During the last days of December I made a visit there and found these bulbs and roots: tulips, hyacinths and narcissi in named sorts and considerable variety, crocuses by color, ranunculus, anemones, squills, iris pumila, little rhizomes with nice green leaves, agapanthus, eremurus, physalis franchetti, Japanese iris, the roots carefully packed in moss; gladiolus nanus, Spanish iris, montbretia and even peonies in named sorts at about ten cents a root; I noted Boule de Neige, La Rosière, La Tulipe, Festiva Maxima and others; very small roots, but healthy looking and well budded. At a shop a little further on, another delightful counter full of stuff—tree peonies by color (think of it!), also lilacs, deutzias, named roses, strawberry plants, bulbs of *Lilium speciosum*, *tigrinum*, *croceum*, *martagon*; *amaryllis*, *formosissima* and *vittata*, *Boussingaultia*, *ixias*, *viola cornuta*; and fruit trees, pears and apples, some of the pears trained in espalier; and last, little evergreens in pots.

If you had a garden in Paris, how easy to keep it filled with these delightful things! But as a matter of fact I do not know where they do all go to. There is very little evidence of any intelligent planting for bloom in city or country gardens in France. There must of course be fine gardens there, with intelligence back of them, but as we moved through the French country whether by train or by auto we got no indication of them. In this respect France is very different from England, where the love of flowering plants is much more widespread and is evident at every turn.

But if the flower stores and markets of Paris are a delight at all times, I cannot say as much for the famous Jardin des Plantes.

I suppose I expected too much of it. It would be easy to do so. At any rate, in spite of its reputation, it is now a pretty sad place to go to see flowering plants. There is a sort of a collection of irises and also one of peonies there, but they leave much to be desired. One of my first visits in Paris was to this spot because I hoped to find there a good collection of peonies, and in particular I wanted to see and later to photograph the original plants of *P. lutea* raised from the seed which was sent there from China by Delavay in 1882. I made inquiry regarding those historic plants of *lutea* from one of the men in charge who informed me that they had all disappeared long ago. However, I made a visit of piety in spring to find at least what there was in the way of plants of this species and found indeed one small plant in unmistakable bloom on June 7th but distinctly labeled *P. Wittmanniana*!

A month earlier I went to see the *officinalis* varieties in bloom as well as some of the other early flowering sorts. I found *maxima rosea plena* and *anemoneflora rosea* as we know them: *splendens fulgens belgica* I noted as "single, with striped anthers purplish red petals; not desirable"; *Pivoine de Chine* (!) *Etoile de Pluton* "fine dark red; stamens entirely transformed into stamenoids of the same color as the petals and much imbricated; a fine *officinalis* variety"; *P. paradoxa*, *La Brillante* "very small anemone type, crimson red, poor"; *P. tenuifolia* *Adonis* "looks like the type"; *P. officinalis* *La Brillante*, "very much like the old double crimson only a little lighter." "All these plants in poor health, stunted, the leaves curled, and the flowers small. The Chinese sorts look in equally poor health." Of these latter there were perhaps a couple of dozen plants including some *Calot* and *Crousse* varieties, but nothing more recent. Indeed of the whole lot one might say it was a fair little collection of old kinds in very poor health.

Irises were not much better. I began to take notes on the individual sorts but found that I was only getting such varieties as *Ignacita* (Lemon 1840), *La Gracieuse* (Lemon 1848), *Mme. Truffaut* (Verdier 1860), so I soon gave up and never went back to them. The *Jardin des Plantes* in spite of its weakness in the lines that most interested me is nevertheless not a thing to be missed, for it has some magnificent trees, particularly the cedars of Lebanon, which are surely among the most beautiful of all trees that exist. Then there is also here the original locust tree *Robinia pseudacacia* brought over from America in 1640 by Robin and planted there where it now stands. It is almost dead but not quite, and even in its decrepitude it is impressive.

But long before the season of peonies and iris, we made a trip of a month to Spain, leaving Paris in the first days of March. As it turned out, we were too early for spring in northern Spain and our visit there would have been more enjoyable a month later. It is a strange sensation after traveling all day through France going south from Paris by way of the chateau country and past hundreds of charming homely much-loved villages and farmsteads,

to wake up next morning in the barren almost uninhabited wastes of northern Spain. The country has an air as if it would scarcely support even goats—a wild fierce land with snow-clad mountains always in view. I had an eye ever open for wild flowers—two eyes in fact—but there were none to be seen in that part of the country, though I doubt not that a month later we should have had interesting things along the side of the railroad. Unfortunately the trains in Spain go just a little too fast to allow of one's stepping off to pick wild flowers. Our first stop was at the wonderful old walled town of Avila, a barren bleak town indeed, in which I will venture to say no peony has ever been seen. After a day here we moved on to the Escorial, the great ugly palace built about 1580 by Philip II. Heavy and hard looking as it is it is full of interest inside, and from there I had a delightful afternoon's ramble in the hills that lie immediately behind the village. Our path led through continuous fields of wild lavender, and springing up under our very feet were little native crocuses, and here and there also wild foxgloves. There are native peonies in Spain, but I did not chance to find any, and at that season they would not yet have been in bloom.

And so, on to Madrid. Here I made a visit to the botanic gardens which were very uninteresting, and through the great public gardens which contain little of notice beyond some handsome trees. Madrid is an unattractive modern town. The picture gallery of the Prado is without doubt one of the most interesting in the world, but the city itself is quite without the strange stern charm of the other towns in northern Spain.

From here we went south to Cordova, Seville and Granada. As we got into warmer weather a few wild flowers began to appear in the fields and at Cordova we found ourselves in asparagus season; however one would scarcely recognize the vegetable as we found it in the markets and in our omelets, in tough stringy stems about two feet long and from an eighth to a quarter of an inch thick.

At Seville, our next stopping place, we found more asparagus much like what we had in Cordova and more bedbugs in the hotels very much indeed like those we had in Cordova. We found the street noises in Spain disturbing just as we had those in Italy. These southern Latin races love to make a noise at any time but especially at night, and groups of young men who would probably walk through the street quietly at 3 p. m. cannot refrain from singing at the top of their lungs if they happen to pass under your window at 3 a. m. However, there is one soul-satisfying noise in Spanish towns which I have enjoyed nowhere else so much, and that is the hee-haw of the donkey. These small animals produce a sound out of all proportion to their size; it is much more as if an elephant were behind it, or as if it were the Angel Gabriel announcing the Day of Judgment. It should be heard in a narrow reverberating street in the early hours of the morning to get the full effect of that wheel-barrow squeak of the intake and then the trombone blast of the outblow.

All this southern country is practically given over to olives and grapes. Not uncommonly you look out from the train over a landscape that is literally covered with green-gray olive trees as far as the eye can reach on both sides, ending only with the horizon line on the far distant hill-slopes. Or it may be grapes, and then you have countless acres of grapevines, each vine cut back to one short stump about two feet high with no branches left on it. Property lines not infrequently consist of a row of great spiky aloes with here and there a huge clump of prickly cactus. At Seville we enjoyed the fine tropical gardens of the Alcazar. There is, it is true, not much intelligence shown in the planting nor are the gardens very well kept up, yet the palms and other trees and the architectural features are quite impressive. I suppose summer is hard on many flowering plants there, yet even on cathedral walls there were wall flowers in full bloom, and it would surely have been possible to grow some flowering plants in the gardens if anyone had cared about them. Some rhizomatous irises were in bloom, all of the same kind, a white form which M. Denis later told me was albicans.

When we came back into northern Spain again and found ourselves in Toledo I decided I must not fail to pay a visit to the botanic garden which Baedeker mentions. I found it at last, or at least found the high stone wall which surrounds it and a locked gate in the wall. I beat on the gate as long as I felt I wanted to do, and nothing happened; so I climbed up on a pile of lumber standing near, from which I could look over the wall. A man and woman were sitting on a bench quite near the gate—the sole occupants of the garden. I went back and banged on the gate again and then climbed to my lookout and took another observation. The curator and his lady, for so I felt sure they were from their behavior, were there just as before quite unmoved by my summons. The garden which I could see quite well contained three beds of single purple stocks, several smaller beds of young stuff in the propagation stage, a few inconspicuous trees and one cactus in a pot with a huge label. Altogether it was about as insignificant an exhibit botanically speaking as could be imagined and perhaps after all it was not such a bad idea to have it shut off from public view by that stone wall. Just after my own visit I saw a party of three go to the gate and knock violently on it several times; but they got as little for their knocking as I did. Evidently the chief botanist did not wish his conversation to be interrupted. I suspect this garden typifies pretty well the state of horticulture in Spain.

As we drove up from the station on our return to Madrid we passed a florist's shop and I caught a glimpse of something in the window that gave me a start. Tree peonies! When we had got settled at the hotel I immediately made my way back and sure enough they were. Very pretty double rather mauve pink and a most welcome sight; I bought a few at about fifteen cents a piece and was told that they came from Barcelona. This was on March 24.

Next day we took train for Barcelona. We had an all-day jour-

ney through a wild and barren enough country, though the river valleys were fertile. We followed one little stream, the Jalun, for quite a distance and its banks were lovely with flowering fruit trees—peach, pear and almond as I thought.

Through the heart of Barcelona runs a very wide street called the Rambla. It has a promenade in the center and here next morning not fifty yards from our hotel I ran into a flower market that was a joy indeed. It was just a long row of little stalls running over a couple of city blocks; such stalls as you would find in Paris; but oh, such beautiful things! And after going for weeks without seeing any flowers worth considering these were incredibly delightful. There were hundreds of cut camellias, hundreds of tree peonies, besides quantities of stocks, violets, narcissus, German iris, Dutch iris and much else. The German iris were only of two kinds, I suppose the stock varieties in Spain, a blue purple not unlike the type *Germanica*, and the variety *Albicans*. Similarly the tree peonies were all duplicates of the ones I had seen in Madrid except for two blooms of a most heavenly flesh pink sort, which I at once seized upon. I made inquiries as to where they were grown and was recommended to visit the garden of the Casa Montero in Pedralbes, a suburb of Barcelona. We got out there about sundown and found it a large private garden, from which apparently the gardener is allowed to carry on a cut flower business. He had in his cellar tree peonies (the variety *Queen Elizabeth*), some tulips, among them *T. Clusiana*, which is much grown here and in the south of France where it is not inaptly called *Le radis*, the radish; there were also some fine yellow narcissus which the gardener said to my surprise were *King Alfred*. This led to talk about Dutch bulbs and I found that he imported his stuff from the Haarlem growers and was really very well informed. He took me into the garden and showed me in the waning light, a block of tree peony plants about fifty feet long and six feet deep, a solid block of green three or four feet high with hundreds of expanded or partly open blooms.

Nothing could better illustrate the difference between Barcelona and the rest of Spain that we saw. Barcelona is not only a beautiful and attractive city, but it is really alive and is the center I was told of a considerable flower culture.

In parks both in Barcelona and in Tarragona we saw many German irises, but always the same two kinds, the purple and the white. M. Denis told me they were brought to Spain by the Moors who used them everywhere in their graveyards. And they have been in Spain ever since without improvement.

Leaving Barcelona we went into Southern France and our first stop was at the charming little sea town of Cette, near which M. Denis, the famous iris grower, had his garden. He has since moved his entire stock to a new location near Toulon and he was at that time much distressed over the problem of lifting so many plants and getting them re-set in a new place under their right labels.

M. Denis gave us a couple of hours in his garden and entertained us most hospitably. It was a villa garden, not at all in character like even a small nursery. It was in fact full of trees and wherever a little sunlight came through there would be a plot of seedling irises or a few frames in which young seedlings or ungerminated seed were waiting their time in safety. Every foot of ground was made use of. We were much too early to see bloom on the Ricardi hybrids, but there were pumilas in bloom and a few regelio-cyclus varieties. M. Denis' own variety, Zwanenburg, was in full bloom and looked very vigorous and healthy for a cross of that kind. There had been no rain, M. Denis said, for many months and indeed the whole countryside had a parched air, so it was surprising to find anything in such robust health.

We had much talk about seedling irises and I found M. Denis very strongly of the opinion that English and American growers had put far too many new varieties on the market. But in England later on I heard the English make exactly the same complaint regarding the French growers. For my own part, after seeing a good many irises in France and England, I am sure that both the French and English have named many that should have been discarded, just as we have done over here. It is of course not so easy for the professional grower to resist the temptation to add a few novelties to his list every year, knowing that his patrons expect it and that there is a market ready made; and reflecting also that many of his seedlings, if not important additions, are in themselves beautiful and at least as good as most of the standard sorts. I thought Denis guilty of some exaggeration, however, when he said, "I count on about one in a hundred being good enough to name, but X. (naming one of the most famous English growers) throws away one in a hundred and puts ninety-nine on the market."

M. Denis had in his garden a few tree peonies not yet in bloom. No herbaceous sorts were to be seen. He told me he had raised one seedling herbaceous peony, a cross between two white varieties, and had kept it for twenty-one years; when at the end of that time it still showed no signs of blooming he dug it up.

After our visit at Cette we lingered in the south of France for ten days longer and when we got back to Paris it was the eleventh of April. The flower shops were overflowing with spring flowers, tulips, hyacinths, lilacs, Dutch iris (very popular as a cut flower in Paris), tree peonies (but only very ordinary ones), potted azaleas and many other things.

After three or four days in Paris we set off for Belgium and Holland. Our first objective was Ghent where the great flower show was now due. The so-called Floralie occurs only once in five years and as the war was still going on in 1918 the show of this year was the first since 1913; and it was a great event. It was as typical of Belgian horticulture as the Chelsea show a month later was of English. In an immense building there was gathered together an astonishing, you might almost say a blinding, display of azaleas and rho-

dodendrons in great variety and in numbers beyond reckoning. Here too were gathered together as you might say all the horticulturists of Europe.

On the 14th of April at ten o'clock in the morning the Floralie was opened in great state by the tall King Albert. The huge building was packed to the doors. All Ghent seemed to have turned out, though whether to see the flowers or the King one did not know. At any rate it was plainly a great social function for which the proper dress for men seemed to be full evening dress with a high silk hat. There was a good military band which discoursed music much and loud to us, but not distressingly. There was immense enthusiasm when the King and Queen and the Prince and Princess appeared. They wandered about for a time through the crowd, ostensibly looking at the flowers, but I doubt whether they could see anything. Certainly no one else could, for the crowd was so dense that it was quite impossible for ordinary mortals to move about. Even on the second day guards were stationed at every turn to keep the mass of people moving all in one direction. Nevertheless it was possible at that time to work through to the edge of the stream and come near enough to the exhibits to see what they contained. The quantity of azaleas and rhododendrons was truly incredible, such a sea of color as one could not imagine without having seen it—plants in tens of thousands massed on the ground and banked together on the sloping edges into glories of pink, orange, yellow, mauve, white and red. There were several large groups of the new white azalea with a broad pink border named Albert-Elizabeth. This seemed to be the sensational novelty of the show and it certainly was a beauty.

But our interest in Belgian azaleas now under the blessings of quarantine 37 is rather remote and I turned to other things that were nearer to the heart of one concerned with plants of an importable character. There were two or three good exhibits of narcissi from England and some tulips from Holland besides orchids, amaryllis, anemones, ranunculus, etc. Some of the new seedling tulips from Krelage's establishment were fine. They are of a race which is called hybrid late tulips and are crosses between the May flowering and the Darwin strains. Leda, a cross between La Merveille and Edmee, seemed to me the best of them. It is a very large cup-shaped bloom of a deep rose color—a grand bloom on a very long stem. Alcmene was somewhat similar and Themis, a fine white, also attracted my attention. Among the more recent narcissi I liked especially White-well, a fine large incomparabilis, not a very recent novelty it is true, but none the less good; also Firetail (Barri) with a crimson cup, and Refulgence.

After a few days in Ghent and other Belgian cities we moved into Holland where we had a glorious week in picture galleries and tulip fields. It was just between seasons for tulips and we did not see so much bloom as we might have seen a week earlier or a week later, but we did see hundreds, yes thousands, of acres in full bloom.

It is truly an incredible sight, for while the nursery business in Holland is spread over a wide territory the bulb growing is practically confined to the little strip of country between Leiden and Haarlem. A good train makes the trip from Rotterdam through Delft, The Hague, Leiden, Haarlem to Amsterdam in about one hour and a half, so the little stretch between Leiden and Haarlem is almost nothing. But this is the section I suppose where the soil is just right for bulbs. It is a sandy soil with a great deal of humus—a very light soil one would say for general gardening; and the weakly condition of the peonies grown in that section showed sufficiently well that it was not a natural peony soil. All through this region one never sees any general nursery stock in the fields; it is bulbs, bulbs, bulbs. But as soon as you get on the other side of Leiden you come to a soil of a richer, stronger, character and here tulips completely disappear and general nursery stock—shrubs, trees, evergreens, herbaceous plants—make their appearance.

The journey from Leiden to Haarlem by train in mid-April is an experience never to be forgotten. Holland in that part is of course as flat as a pancake; in fact, much flatter than a pancake because most of it is below the level of the sea and therefore below the canal banks and railroad tracks. If you so much as stand up you can see over a large stretch of country on both sides and from a railroad train the view is often immense in extent. Sometimes the tulip fields come right up to the track on both sides and then stretch off into the distance, not in unbroken succession indeed, but in patches and spots of bright color as far as the eye can reach. One wants to jump out of the train from time to time to go and identify some glowing pink or red. But for the most part all the larger fields are familiar commercial sorts. The precious things and the novelties are not so conspicuous in the landscape.

As I said, we were a little late for the early tulips and even at the end of our time in Holland still somewhat early for the late ones. The slow European spring must spread out the tulip season much longer than it is with us. In America we have early and late varieties treading on each other's heels, whereas in Holland the early sorts were practically over and the Darwins not even yet beginning. This gap is much aggravated in Holland by the practice of cutting off the blooms in the fields. As soon as a plot is in full bloom a force of men is sent out with big baskets to go through it and clean off every flower. These baskets of flowers are emptied usually into barges and are so conveyed to some corner of the field where they are piled on the land and where you can see them for a week afterward as a great heap of bright color. Here they slowly decay and make in time a kind of humus which is put back on the field as a fertilizer.

I made several visits to the gardens of the firm of C. G. Van Tubergen at Haarlem. The present proprietors are the brothers Hoog, who received me with charming kindness and showed me everything there was to be seen. Their large plantings are in the suburbs of the

town of Haarlem, but in the city itself is the experimental garden of a few acres only where the work of hybridization is carried on and the new seedlings raised. Here we found precious things, especially among the tulips. A new strain is being developed by crossing Greigi on *Gesneriana spathulata* major and the progeny in my judgment put all the older varieties of tulips into the shade. Greigi is a magnificent flower as every one admits who knows it. But its constitution is ill suited to our climate or to that of Northern Europe and the bulbs had never been successfully propagated outside of its native habitat in Asia Minor. These new crosses promise to combine the glorious coloring of Greigi with the sturdy growth of *Gesneriana spathulata*. One is already on the market under the name Advance and another to be called *Gesneriana* Mayflower will be offered this year or next I understand. This latter variety struck me particularly as a real masterpiece in flower creation. The stems are tall, straight and strong, the flowers very large, cup shaped, brilliant rosy red inside and on the outside tinged with a kind of orchid color that gave the bloom a subtle beauty while leaving it brilliantly effective as a garden object. I have no doubt that these varieties will make a great name for themselves in a few years and have an immense vogue if they prove to be as good propagators as their present vigor would indicate.

There were other new tulips in this garden that were well worth looking at, but nothing that so impressed me as those I have named. Mr. Hoog was much interested in some crosses on *T. elegans*, that brilliant scarlet tulip with the pointed petals, and these had quality too.

There were a couple of blocks of *Narcissi*, including many recent and new things, among which *Invincible*, *Apotheosis*, *Icicle*, *The Queen*, *Tresserve*, *Poeticus* King George, stood out conspicuously, but we were rather late for these and many were already past their best. There was quite a field of that strain of anemones which are known as the *St. Bavo* strain, developed out of *anemone fulgens* and now available in a wide range of color. These are somewhat less exacting as to climatic conditions than the French anemones, but are not comparable to the latter in size or in beauty of coloring.

From Haarlem we made a little tour, visiting the gardens of Grullmans at Lisse, Warnaar at Sassenheim and de Graaff at Nordwyk. At Warnaar's place we saw a couple of large frames filled with seedling tulips, most of them blooming for the first time and many of them of high quality. A thrilling sight. As it takes about ten years for a tulip to come to blooming age from the planting of the seed it is quite as long a wait as one has in raising seedling peonies.

There was a fair block of peonies at Warnaar's, including some of the newer sorts, but of course nothing in bloom at that time.

It was during this visit that we heard our first skylarks. The song of the lark is of all bird songs the most thrilling. He soars up and up in the sky spinning out his continuous thread of song until he is

so far up that it is often quite impossible to find him; and there he stays, singing and singing, until he has had his fill of it and is ready to come down. Sometimes he makes his descent by just turning head downwards and making one great plunge until he is within a few yards of the ground when he suddenly checks himself and makes a gentle landing; at other times, especially if he is up at a great height, he does not trust himself to such a long drop, but comes down by stages and when he does this he sings as he descends. But the straight drop is the exciting one to see and it literally makes you gasp. No one should pass the springtime in Europe without making a pilgrimage into the country to hear the larks. Any bright day in May towards sun down, in open meadow country, you are sure to find them; and an hour so spent in the fields will be unforgettable. I heard nightingales, too, but they have rather the air of love-sick poets to my ear and I soon tired of them, beautiful and strange as they are, breaking the silences of midnight with their song. But the lark is the incarnation of the joy of earth and though you may hear them every day all the spring through you never tire of them and are thrilled afresh by each one that you see fluttering up and up as he sings or dropping like a thunderbolt to the earth.

A few days later we made a visit to the nurseries of K. Wezelenburg & Sons at Hazerswoude, just outside of Leiden. This is away from the tulip belt and here we found nothing but shrubs, trees and herbaceous plants. It is a model plantation, enhanced in beauty through being cut up into little squares by the waterways. Here was quite a block of peonies in considerable variety; much of the older stuff, but also many of the newer things and even a small block of seedlings of blooming age. This nursery also possesses a large and representative collection of irises. The drive out from Leiden was most delightful. Nothing can exceed the charm of the Dutch countryside, especially when you get off the beaten track of travel and move along the country roads through little unspoiled villages. After dairying I should suppose horticulture must rank as one of the foremost industries of Holland. There are nurseries on every hand; besides, when you get into the right sections, huge cultures of vegetables grown I was told for the London market. But everywhere the same perfect tidiness, the same high culture. The Dutch appreciate to the full that rich soil for which their ancestors so bled and labored.

On the 4th of May, the only really roasting hot day of the whole spring, we returned to Paris. During the month that followed I made frequent visits to the nurseries of Vilmorin-Andrieux, Cayeux and LeClerc and Millet. These all lie in the suburbs of Paris and are not difficult to reach. Each one of these nurseries has its special interest. The house of Vilmorin is of course famous the world over for its seeds and to French horticulture they have rendered precious services in producing new wheats, raising the percentage of sugar in sugar beets through selection and in countless other ways have made themselves benefactors to their country. The fields of garden flowers

growing for seed were a fascinating sight, but it was Irises and Peonies that I most wanted to see. The house of Vilmorin does not profess to specialize in peonies. Nevertheless in the large garden which they call their Arboretum there was a most interesting collection of species and some unique hybrids. I had the good fortune on my several visits to be received by M. Lerai, who gave up his precious time in order to take me over the grounds. There was much in the Arboretum that was interesting. They have a shrubby peony of the habit of *P. lutea*, but with small whitish flowers. M. Lerai did not consider it a separate species and the label said simply "peonia related to *lutea*." This they have hybridized on *lutea* and there was a cross-bred plant in bloom, with small pale yellow flowers. Then we saw also a cross between the nodding purple flowered herbaceous *P. Veitchi* and the white *lutea*-like species. This cross had the habit of *Veitchi*, but the small flowers were striped red and white. There was no trace of *lutea* blood in either habit or foliage, which made it seem doubtful whether it was really a hybrid.

M. Lerai tells me that their *Witmanniana* gives truly yellow flowers—very light yellow, but still yellow. I have long been interested in the descriptions in some catalogues of *Witmanniana* as yellow-flowered. My own blooms are always white; you might say cream white but not possibly yellow or even light yellow. Mr. Hoog at Haarlem told me that his *Witmanniana* were only white flowered though I notice that the old Van Tubergen catalogue speaks of them as yellowish white. I shall await bloom on the plants I got from Vilmorin with interest.

From the peonies we went over to the iris plantings but found there only some of the earlier varieties in bloom. I should say at once that I make no pretence of posing as an Iris expert, hence my comments must be accepted rather as those of a novice than of a true initiate.

We found *Ambassadeur* and *Magnifica* in bloom and *Zouave* just beginning (this was on May seventh). M. Lerai said of *Zouave* "it does not make much of a show at first, but if you see it in a week from now, you will find that it is really good." I did see it again later on, but never became a very ardent admirer of it. *Ambassadeur* looked very good to me; *Magnifica* I thought of exaggerated height and too straggling in habit; furthermore its color is too dull a shade for my taste.

Later on (May 23) I made another visit to Vilmorin's. There was then not much to be seen among the peonies. I did however see flowers on *P. Delavayi* for the first time. This plant belongs to the group of shrubby peonies and bears single very dark mahogany crimson flowers, which are small but pretty.

Irises were now in full bloom and showed a great deal that was interesting. I transcribe a few of my notes on recent introductions and on some that are not yet on the market.

ALLIES is a "remontant" variety, i. e., it has a second blooming

period later in the summer. At least seventy-five per cent of the plants are said to yield a second crop of bloom. It is a handsome flower of a reddish color and may very well prove the forerunner of an important new group.

GRENADIER is of the type of Alcazar—in my judgment the grandest type of iris that exists; and I must say of Alcazar after seeing it many times and often in large quantities that it seems to me as fine an iris as there is. Grenadier is, I should say, a trifle more effective in color than Alcazar and may be an advance on that sort.

DIANE I marked "fine light and dark blue; near Tamerlan." This is not a novelty, and whether an improvement on Tamerlan I should hesitate to say. The symposium of the iris society would indicate not.

SPAHI like Velouté, but larger and less brilliant in color. A sort of improved Monsignor. Doubtful, I thought.

ATHENEE, another of a type similar to Tamerlan and Ballerine. I thought Athenee a fine kind but could not decide that it was better than Ballerine.

M. MASSE, (Denis). Very unsatisfactory grower, bluish white Ricardi type.

CHASSEUR, Vilmorin's new yellow; saw it only in bud; about the color of Aurea, but six inches taller.

DRAPEAU. Very lovely.

MARSOIN. Not an attractive color.

VELOUTE. Very fine dark velvety blue, but very small.

CHATELET, large pink mauve, lovely shade, dwarf, but a big flower; very good.

LOUTE. Large purple dwarf. Good.

MRS. WALTER BREWSTER. Light and darker purplish blue; good, but not indispensable.

I had a chance to study most of these again at the Paris show and came to the conclusion there that Chatelet, Grenadier and Ballerine were the really fine ones among the newer seedlings of Vilmorin. The French growers are making a great push for improved reds, and I think too many varieties of the general character of Opera, Medrano and Ambigu have been put on the market.

With regard to the new seedlings at Vilmorin's which are still under observation I got the same impression which Mr. Wister received a year earlier, that a large proportion of them were of inferior quality.

At about this time I made two visits to the Gardens of Cayeux and LeClerc. The first on May fifteenth and the second about ten days later. I was very kindly received by M. Cayeux, who showed me around the most interesting part of the gardens himself and then handed me over to M. Bonvallet for the rest of the establishment where the commercial sorts are grown.

I found here a most impressive showing of new sorts not only

among those which have been named but also in several big blocks of original plants of seedlings blooming for the first or second time. The general quality among these was high with here and there a flower of conspicuous beauty which ten or fifteen years from now may be in all our gardens.

After the recent named sorts and the fine unnamed seedlings the block of commercial sorts looked rather tame. There are some that hold their own against all comers new or old. Alcazar is such and Caterina another when you see it in good bloom; but varieties like Caprice, Cherubin, Cordelia, Dawn, Goliath, Hebe, Parisiana, and many others, looked as if they already had their tickets for the dump heap.

Cayeux has a large collection of novelties from all over the world including quite a group of Americans. These last were all too young to show bloom; but I had a chance here to compare some of the English varieties side by side with the French. Among the English Foster's Lady Lilford stood out with its fine dark glistening purple blue color. But it has oncocyclus blood in it and I suppose like most of such crosses is an unsatisfactory grower. I transcribe again a few of my notes regarding some of the better things:

GERMAINE PERTHUIS. Dark purple, fine. Given to Cayeux by an amateur.

MME. HENRI CAYEUX. Grand flower, better than Ambassadeur.

SALONIQUE. Whitish standards purple falls; very good.

M. CORNUAULT. (Denis). Like Prosper Laugier but less brilliant; redder, and much taller.

MME. DURRAND. (Denis). Very tall and big. Gold brown and purple, very fine.

AURELE. Lovely but dwarf.

CAPTIVATION. One of the finest of the Cayeux seedlings. Standards light mauve, falls brilliant purple. Very large flower.

MME. CHOBOUT. (Denis). Curious in color but not very good.

LORD OF JUNE. Looked very well here as it does everywhere. M. Cayeux says it sets no seed, but gives very good pollen for hybridizing.

MLLE. YVONNE PELLETIER. (Millet). Bluish pallida. Much too small.

MARSH MARIGOLD. (Bliss). Much too small but bright in color.

TURCO. (Vilmorin). No. Only curious.

SWEET LAVENDER. (Bliss). No. Standards blue, falls reddish. Poor color combination and too small.

SOMERCOATES. (Perry). Too dull in color.

WHITE QUEEN. (Holland Var.). Not as good as White Knight. (So I thought).

PROSPERO. (Yeld). Fine but not sufficiently distinct.

GLORIAE. Very fine purple.
FEDORA. Near Pfauenauge and not much better.
FIDELIO. Not very good color.
ECLAIREUR. Pretty white and purple. Good only; not good enough.
DRYADE. Fine.
BELISAIRE. Really fine. Pretty near Isoline, immense flower.
ALCIBIADES. Near Alcazar.
HALCYON. Lovely white, fine.
IMPERATOR. Fine new dark red but rather dull.
JACQUELINE GUILLOT. Fine mauve blue pallida, large and good.
JEAN CHEVREAU. Good, not extra.
LE VARDAR. Beautiful rosy pallida like Millet's Mme. Bouscant.
MME. ABEL CHATENAY. Very lovely red, really good.
MME. JANIAUD. Too triste.
PROGRES. Grand new sort, one of the very fine things among the new seedlings of Cayeux.
No. 315, to be named PRELUDE. Very fine purple.
LE GRAND FERRE. Too dull.
SOLFERINO. Light red, very good.
PEAU ROUGE. Fine red; not very good habit.
HORACE. Splendid. Near Alcazar but much better.
MENETRIER. (Denis). No.
IDEAL. Good light blue.

At the Paris show I had another opportunity of studying the Cayeux irises and I marked those staged there on a scale of ten as follows:

- 10—Jacqueline Guillot, Horace.
- 9—Gloriae, Belisaire, Salonique.
- 8.5—Peau Rouge.
- 8—Mme. Abel Chatenay, Ideal, Imperator, Fidelio.
- 7.5—Liberty.
- 7—Eclaireur. Mascotte, Jean Chevreau.
- 6—Fedora, Mme. Janiaud.
- 5—Marc Aureau.

Some allowance should be made for the fact that these grades were based on cut flowers shown under cover, which often gives a different effect from seeing the plants in bloom in the open.

M. Cayeux showed me the new crop of seedlings in a lean-to green house. The separate strains were in large pots separately; some of them crowded with young plants shooting up, while others had only a couple of germinations. Cayeux quotes Bliss as saying that it is the wide crosses such as give only a very poor germination which really produce the fine things.

It remains to say something about M. Millet and his gardens, to which also I paid several visits during iris season. I found M. Millet most genial and friendly and my visits to him always gave me

especial pleasure for he has many things worth seeing, though his plantings are not so large as those of Cayeux or Vilmorin. M. Millet being practically single-handed feels that during the long years of the war he was at a disadvantage with his competitors who with a large staff of assistants in normal times were able even during those difficult years to go on with the work at least to some extent. For this reason, M. Millet is going out of peony culture and plans in future to devote his energies to irises alone.

Here I found a large block of MME. GAUDICHAU in full bloom. It is not an iris that I greatly care for; the color is rather uninteresting; but it has the right stature—about three feet—is large, vigorous and very floriferous; and Millet uses it a great deal for crossing on. The outstanding new sort here is LOUIS BEL (Denis); standards dark purple, falls much darker, almost black, and very glistening. This is a real acquisition, and when it comes to be known will, I believe, be in great demand. I remember that Mr. Bonnewitz when he was in France was greatly taken by Louis Bel. MME. DE SEVIGNE (Denis 1922), I marked "White ground veined and spotted purple. Not very good." My notes run on:

MORWELL. (Bliss 1917). Nice blue pallida, not extra.

RICARDI BLANCHE No. 562. Not in commerce. Very fine, tall, large, white.

QUEEN MARY. (Perry 1903). Pure white but small. Not good.

CORRIDA. (Millet). Good color but too small. Said to be the nearest to a real blue, though Millet claims that Mlle. Yvonne Pelletier is still bluer.

MADY CARRIERE. (Millet). A very subtle mauve blue pallida; a beautiful flower.

MME. CECILE BOUSCANT. (Millet 1923). A sort of rose mauve, very tall plant, flowers very large, a fine variety. This seemed to me the best of Millet's new ones and a real acquisition.

GERMAINE PERTHUIS. Seen also at Cayeux'. Very fine.

I saw here a little block of plants of a dwarf iris which M. Millet says is a cross of *macrantha* on *pumila*; long since out of bloom of course.

M. Millet complains that there is no market in France for novelties. He says irises that cost more than four or five francs a piece cannot be sold there; that there are no true amateurs in France, no "fans" as we should say. The orders come mainly from large estate gardens, where mass effect is the greatest consideration. This is probably true. At any rate all I saw and heard tended to confirm what he had said. There are I believe no specialist societies like our own. On the other hand there is a widespread love—but I think an indiscriminating love—of flowers among the people; this is indicated well enough by the immense supply of cut flowers that come into Paris all through the winter. I had of course a good deal of talk with M. Millet about peonies. He told me that if he were going on with them he would work towards the production of blue

varieties. "If only one could produce a peony of the color of the *Gladiolus Baron Hulot*!" he said.

Of his own peony, Mme. Gaudichau, he is inclined to regret that it is not a freer bloomer and he asked with much interest how it behaved in that respect in America, and what we thought of it over here. Mme. Gaudichau ranks at 8.8 in our symposium, a very high average for a dark red, and just even with Martin Cahuzac and Karl Rosenfield, so I was able to give him a reassuring account of what we thought of it.

The great flower show in Paris at the end of May was an event I had awaited with impatience. It is held on the bank of the Seine near the Grand Palais, in sheds built for the occasion. There was some outside planting, mostly of standard and climbing roses and dwarf fruit trees, also a number of tents and separate sheds, for the display of garden ornaments and machinery. At the entry there was a group of standard roses from Moser et fils of Versailles, which included such favorites as Dorothy Perkins, Hiawatha, Paul's Scarlet Climber, etc. But the most interesting part of the show was under cover. Unfortunately the dates were not right for peonies and very few were staged. Cayeux and LeClerc set up an exhibit of singles including Dreadnaught (fairly good crimson), Souvenir de Zephir (a shade lighter), Comus, Celestial (rather good deep pink), Princesse Mathilde (light pink, fair), Frank Bramley (red), Madeleine Gauthier (rather nice), Hunt cup (just a single pink), Sainfoin (the same). This includes a couple of Dessert sorts of which Madeleine Gauthier seemed to me much the best in the entire group and some Kelway varieties of which Sainfoin was apparently misnamed since that variety, as we know it, is a double. On the whole a rather commonplace exhibit of singles, such as would have excited very little enthusiasm at one of our shows. Nevertheless it was distinguished after the judging with a card bearing the legend "*très vives felicitations du jury.*" I think there were no other peonies staged at all. I saw a large block of plants also at Cayeux and LeClerc's on one of my visits there, and was not greatly impressed.

I have already made some notes on the irises at the Paris show. They were good but not extraordinary. In general I found the show a disappointment. It was too "floristy" for my taste and reenforced my impression of the lack of amateur gardeners in France. I think that even our big spring flower show in New York has more in it to appeal to one who loves plants for themselves, than the Paris show. Immediately upon the steps of the show in Paris came the great Chelsea show in London and I crossed the channel to see it. This is the show in all the world to make the heart of the amateur gardener rejoice and sing aloud. You feel here the influence of a nation of plant lovers. The exhibition was set out in three large tents for the cut flowers and potted plants, while outside were numerous rockeries to provide a suitable setting for their natural inhabitants

and bits of garden to give a more unrestrained grouping for exhibits of roses, etc.

Peonies were not very much in evidence. It was too early for the Chinese sorts, and the officinalis kinds while evidently much more generally grown in England than over here, do not offer a very wide field of variety to the exhibitor. However, the variety lobata, a rather small light cherry red single appeared in many exhibits and was sometimes staged in quantity. This variety is, so far as I could see, identical with one that I have grown for many years under the name Otto Froebel, my plant having been bought from Barr in England. Besides lobata itself there were several named sorts which I felt sure must be seedlings from it; for I know from my own experience that a considerable proportion of the progeny of this variety have blooms almost like the parent. The variety Charmer, shown by Barr, was almost surely a lobata seedling. I noted also officinalis carnesceus plena like alba mutabilis but a shade darker; rather pretty. Crown Prince, not very distinct, dull crimson petals, yellow stamens; Sunbeam, good color, but poor narrow petals; Pompadour, a single rather purplish red; and then frequently to be seen were the old double crimson as well as rosea plena and alba mutabilis. On the whole the blooms were not uninteresting and the appearance of new named sorts among them encouraged me to think that the English are making some effort to improve the garden varieties of *P. officinalis*, a task on which I think we should also be busy.

Irises were much more in evidence than were peonies and some of the exhibits contained good things, though I found most of them disappointing.

I transcribe my notes: Wallace's exhibit:

SUDAN. (Bliss). Small flowered, like a rather poor Prosper Laugier.

YELLOWHAMMER. A seedling of *I. lutescens*. Small dullish yellow, not very desirable.

GOLD CREST. (Dykes). Good blue, but too small.

BRUNO. Not very impressive.

FERDINAND. Reddish purple, not good.

AZURE. Not promising.

DIADEM and ROSEWAY. Reddish, too small.

ASIA. Quite fine.

LEONIE TRENANCE. No.

In the exhibit of the Orpington Nurseries I noted:

MONTE BRION. Not good.

VIOLETTA. Not good.

RUBY. (Dykes). Not good.

GLAMOR. (Bliss 1922). Good.

CRETAN. (Dykes). Very good dark purple.

PALADIN. Quite good.

TITAN. (Bliss 1920). No.
BERTRAND. (Bliss). Very fine.
CANOPUS. (Bliss). Fine, near Alcazar.
APHRODITE. (Dykes 1922). No.
MAJESTIC. (Bliss). Near Alcazar.
AQUAMARINE. Nice blue.

At the end of my notes on this exhibit I added "They name far too many new ones not distinct from older sorts." Dominion was not staged, and most of the new sorts I saw seemed to me of doubtful value. Some allowance must of course be made for the difficulty of staging irises successfully. Perry's exhibit had a good many interesting things in it, especially in the *regelio-cyclus* group. Semele is a big dark blue one, which they say is not hard to manage and would certainly be worth some trouble. My notes on Perry's bearded irises are very meagre. LORD LAMBOURNE, a fine brown, struck me as about the best of the novelties. A weakness of the English seedlings I saw at the Chelsea show was that they were almost all in sombre tones of color—purple, brown or mauve. But here again it is to be remembered that it rained of course all the time and the flowers would certainly have looked brighter under sunlight.

But apart from irises and peonies there was enough in the show to keep one happy for days. For here you had superb exhibits from the great English specialists in all kinds of plants—primroses and auriculas from Storrie, sweet peas from Dobbie, Allwoodi Pinks from Allwood, Delphiniums from Blackmore and Langdon Carnations from Douglas (most beautiful), apples and other fruits from Bunyard, roses from Cant, lupines from Godfrey and from G. R. Donner, Clematis from Jackman (a marvelous exhibit), Lilies from Wallace, peaches, nectarines, etc., from Rivers, gloxinias from Peed and so on through the entire list of flowering plants.

I am sorry that circumstances made it impossible for me to visit any of the iris nurseries in England at that time. And I did not get over again till too late in the summer to see any of their Chinese peonies. I was told that Bath at Wisbech has about the best peonies in England now, but it is generally admitted that the English are not as active in peony culture as the Americans. As one of them said to me, "We do not need to go in for peonies so eagerly as you do in America because you see we can grow so many other things"; and there is after all some truth in this, the English climate being what it is.

As soon as I got back to Paris I received a call from M. Doriat, who has recently bought Dessert's stock of peonies, and who advised me that if I wished to see any bloom in the famous garden at Chenonceaux I should lose no time in getting down there. So I set off next day, and arrived in the afternoon. Chenonceaux is scarcely even a large village and the ordinary traveler goes there

only to see the great chateau. Indeed, I found it hard to get my friends to understand that I was going for any other purpose; for the Parisian knows as little of Dessert as the average foot passenger on Broadway would know of Mr. Brand. Nevertheless, I am happy to say that M. Dessert has recently been made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor by the French Government as a "creator of remarkable varieties of flowers and a powerful contributor to the renown of French horticulture."

When I arrived late in the afternoon M. le Maire (for M. Dessert has the confidence and respect of his community) was from home. We were received by a young lady who I thought at once must be his daughter. She took us out into the fields and showed us about a little. When she spoke of M. Dessert as her father I asked her whether she did not have a peony named for her and she replied "Oh yes. Marcelle Dessert."

After a short look around we went away to return again in the evening and to have one of the most delightful visits it has ever been my good fortune to enjoy. M. Dessert could not have been more cordial, nor can I imagine anyone who could be more interesting to "talk peonies" with. He has been devoted to their culture and has been an enthusiast in their improvement over quite a long lifetime. He told me that he was with Verdier in the early days, and he remembers that when the Calot seedlings began to appear they far outclassed Verdier's productions because of their better carriage "and the question of stem" he added, "is something that I have always laid great stress on. Only in the case of Tourangelle, where the color was so lovely and so unusual did I feel justified in putting a weak stemmed variety into commerce." But he believes there is a new seedling coming on in his field which has as fine a color as Tourangelle and in addition a satisfactory stem. This variety was unfortunately almost out of bloom at the time of my visit, but the flowers still hanging on gave promise of great beauty. I think its number was 2054.

We discussed the adventure of raising seedlings and its vicissitudes. He commented on the experience all raisers of new sorts must have had, of going sometimes for several years without discovering anything of extraordinary beauty among the new ones and then coming to a season that makes up for the years of waiting. Therèse, Madame Auguste Dessert, Germaine Bigot, and Rosa Bonheur, he said, all came into bloom for the first time in the same year. But it also happens sometimes that new sorts which seem entirely worthy of dissemination turn out disappointments when they are put on the market. I imagine that experience also is shared by all who have a long list to their credit. In speaking of roots affected by disease he said he had sometimes been able to get rid of it completely by cutting away the roots entirely and destroying them and planting the eyes only (with I suppose a small heel of root).

Next morning we went back again and after some more talk made a careful tour of his fields. His property never has been large, and it is amazing to think what he has accomplished on such a relatively small plot of ground; but the same is true regarding Lemoine and was the case as well with our own John Richardson.

M. Dessert informed me that Doriat had already taken 30,000 plants so as to have some stock with which to fill the year's orders. This included all the mother plants of tree peonies and must I should think have been by far the larger part of Dessert's entire stock, for there did not appear to me to be more than 10,000 plants in the fields there altogether. I looked about for any young seedlings but found none, and he told me that he had sowed no seed now for a number of years past. I asked him whether he had much used hand hybridization. "Oh, yes," he said, "sometimes, but without taking precautions."

Except for a block of older seedlings, there were not many mature plants to be seen. The main block of standard and newer sorts on the rise of the little hill behind his house were one or two year plants and these two blocks were practically his entire present stock. In speaking of the flood of novelties that is now deluging us in both peonies and iris, most of them no improvement on older sorts, he said he considered all that the fault of the purchasers who are ever clamoring for new introductions, instead of taking the finest of the older sorts. There is wisdom in that.

M. Dessert confirmed my earlier impressions as to the lack of any market in France for novelties in peonies or iris. He told me there were not ten men in France with whom one could talk peonies and he was much interested to hear of the growth and activity of our society and of the immense popularity of the peony in America. I asked him whether he knew our American sorts and he replied that Prof. C. S. Minot had sent him some of the Richardson sorts years ago; but apparently none of them had ever given satisfactory bloom. I found rather to my surprise that he did not know the fine Kelway varieties—Baroness Schroeder, Lady Duff, Kelway's Glorious, etc.

I was, of course, especially interested in the unnamed seedlings grown under numbers only and I found some that seemed to me very good. 1081 I noted as a particularly good double white with some yellow stamenoids, 761 a grand big white showing stamens, 869 a very good dark red Japanese, 880 another fine red Japanese, and 898 a very good pink double with yellow stamenoids.

I was much taken with the effect of a row of his recent variety, Auguste Dessert. It is a cherry red, fading to whitish at the base of the petals and having a few stamens. The lighter color toward the centre gives the flower a very individual look, being the opposite of what is so common among light reds, namely silvery tips.

Victoire de la Marne looked much better than I have ever seen it in America and gave substantial support to the idea which I have long held that many of the reds both in peonies and phloxes which we get from France and which sound so good in descriptions prove disappointing in America on account of the change in color brought about under our clearer skies and brighter sun. It is a fact that all through the spring and early summer in France there was scarcely a day when the sky did not have at least a slight haze over it like a thin white curtain. Those burning clear cloudless days of which we have not a few even in May and June are rare exceptions in France if they occur at all in those months.

I am very glad to report that M. Dessert was in better health than he had been for some years. I trust he will enjoy many years of good health yet and rejoice the hearts of other American peony lovers who call upon him, as he did mine.

It was at this time that I had planned to pay a visit to M. Lemoine at Nancy, but I found that he had engagements which took him away from home for a good part of the peony season and by the time he was back again it had become impossible for me to travel down there, so I had to forego that pleasure with great regret.

It was near the end of July when we left Paris to enjoy a month in England before sailing. No one can motor through the English countryside and not be struck by the cottage gardens. I sometimes wondered whether there are any cottages in England without a flower garden. I think not. In Devonshire such little gardens are universal and the big fuchsia bushes, hardy there, give an unusual note of distinction to even the simplest garden. The fuchsia grows as much as six or eight feet high, and occasionally you see a row of them as a hedge on a property line. All through Devonshire and other parts of southern England in which we traveled I watched for peonies in the cottage gardens, but hardly ever saw one. Even the old double red officinalis seems unknown at least in that part of England.

Horticulture for us was rather in abeyance in England. I was courier for a party of six, sometimes eight, on our travels; and I could not expect them all to be as enthusiastic as I was over visiting nurseries. However, I did manage to see both Sutton's and Barr's establishments. Unfortunately, we were there after a period of heat and drought and things were not looking their best. I was much impressed with Barr's phloxes and noted Europa, Africa, America, Etna, Thor, Antoine Mercier, Wurtembergia, Gen. Haig, Jules Sandeau and one with the melodious name Mrs. Milly von Hoboken, as being desirable additions to my own collection.

As I look back on the year it seems as if I might have gathered together more horticultural lore, and so indeed I should if that had been the main object of my travels. But such as they are I hope my random notes may prove of some little interest to the

readers of the BULLETIN; and I trust those who in the future have such an opportunity as mine may perhaps be able to make a better use of it.

PEONY SHOW OF THE NORTHEASTERN MINNESOTA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, JULY 2-3, 1923

In order to complete our record of the exhibitions of 1923 a brief mention is here made, although somewhat belated, of the show held in Duluth last summer.

The show is said to have been a very good one and Duluth is developing not only a large group of peony growers but also not a few who might well pose as experts. Mr. Brand was the judge for last summer's show and the following is a list of the classes and prize winners:

- Class A**—Collection of twenty-five named varieties of peonies of three blooms each: First, Mrs. E. L. Kimball; second, S. E. Matter; third, John M. Kleitsch.
- Class B**—Collection of ten named varieties of three blooms each: First, Mrs. A. E. McManus; second, Mrs. D. W. Stocking; William Fawcett.
- Class C**—Vase of ten white peony blooms of one named variety: First, J. M. Kleitsch, Avalanche; second, Mrs. W. A. Pryor, with Couronne d'Or; third, Mrs. A. E. McManus, with Festiva Maxima.
- Class D**—Vase of ten pink peony blooms of one named variety: First, Mrs. E. L. Kimball, with Phoebe Carey; second, S. E. Matter, with Claire Dubois; third, Donald Kleitsch, with Chestine Gowdy.
- Class E**—Vase of ten red peony blooms of one named variety: First, Mrs. E. L. Kimball, with Charles McKellip; second, S. E. Matter, with Felix Crousse; third, John M. Kleitsch, with Felix Crousse.
- Class F**—Vase of five white peony blooms of one named variety: First, Mrs. George Ingersoll, with Couronne d'Or; second, Mrs. F. C. Baluss, with Festiva Maxima.
- Class G**—Vase of five pink peony blooms of one named variety: First, Mrs. Joseph Sellwood, with Sarah Bernhardt; second, Mrs. Z. D. Scott, with Marie Crousse.
- Class H**—Vase of five red peony blooms of one named variety: First, Mrs. E. L. Kimball, with Mary Brand; second, Mrs. D. Engelbert, with Felix Crousse; third, Mrs. W. A. Pryor, with Felix Crousse.
- Class I**—Best vase of three peony blooms of any named variety exhibited by one who has not before exhibited in the peony show conducted by the Northeastern Minnesota Horticultural society: First, Mrs. William Prindle, with Le Cygne; second, W. B. Roe, with Couronne d'Or.

Class J—Vase or basket, any size, main feature to be peonies:
First, D. W. Stocking; second, S. E. Matter.

Class K—Best exhibit of singles and Japanese varieties: S. E. Matter.

Special Sweepstakes—Vase of not less than three blooms of one variety, any color, to be selected from any exhibit by the judges: O. S. Andresen, with Sarah Bernhardt.

DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION

It is proposed in this department to provide an opportunity to all growers to register the names of their new varieties in order to establish priority and also to give descriptions of varieties which are being put on the market. The Society takes no responsibility as to the quality of the varieties registered here. A system by which new varieties can be officially rated and approved by the Society is under consideration and it is hoped that the difficulties inherent in dealing with the peony can be overcome and a plan developed which will be satisfactory both to the growers and to the Society.

From Mr. James Pillow, Cold Spring-on-Hudson, the following brief and provisional descriptions:

Eric the Red, Single. Dark red.
Helen of Troy, Single. Light red.
Maid of Athens. Japanese. Pink.
Maid of Honor, Semi-rose. Pink.
Norseman, Single. Light red.

EDITOR'S NOTES

Attention is again called to the fact that our corresponding secretary, Mr. Christman, has lately become associated with Mr. Brand, having left Minneapolis and moved to Faribault on the first of April this year. Letters to him should now be addressed W. E. Christman, 1104 3rd Street, Faribault, Minn.

Mr. Clarence W. Hubbard has lately acquired the bulk of the stock of peonies and irises formerly owned by Mr. Wm. A. Peterson of Chicago. Mr. Hubbard's nursery is at Wilmette and his new address 1530 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, Ill.

The following corrections should be made in names or addresses as they appear in the membership list published in Bulletin 20:

G. A. Peyton, Rapidan, Va., should be G. W. Peyton.

Geo. Churcher, Woodcote, Alverstoke, Hants, England, should be changed to Geo. Churcher, Beckworth, Linfield, Sussex, Eng.

Rev. E. K. Thurlow, Williamstown, Mass., should be changed to Rev. E. K. Thurlow, Sheffield, Mass.

W. J. McKie, 45 Kenwood Ave., Worcester, Mass., should be W. J. McKee.

This further correction in Bulletin 20 should be noted:

Through an error on the part of the linotype operator that got

by unnoticed by the proof reader, the list of varieties credited to Holm and Olsen, St. Paul, Minn., (page 22) should have been credited to the Pfeiffer Nursery, Winona, Minn. Mr. Pfeiffer put on an excellent exhibit, worthy of most favorable comment, and the error is greatly regretted by the writer of this article. Holm and Olsen also had a very good display of peonies as well as a magnificent fern and palm setting which added wonderfully to the artistic effect of the show. In the hurry to get the bulletin out promptly, this error got by.

The attention of our members is again called to the fact that the French color chart is now available and can be purchased from G. E. Stechert & Co., 31 E. 10th Street, New York City. They quote a price of \$5 for the two volumes, which makes this chart as much cheaper than the Ridgway book as it is in my judgment better. True, the French chart consists of loose leaves which become troublesome if the chart is used in the field in a high wind, but the squares of color are much larger and when it comes to the question of names for the different colors I find the French no more outlandish than a great many of Ridgway's. Furthermore, this is the chart that was used in making up our standard descriptions of peonies and I presume we shall continue to use it for that purpose.

Yes, that is Venus that is so bright in the western sky in the evenings now; not Kelway's Venus but God's Venus. Look out for Mars in about two months rising in the early night time. This planet will be brighter this year and nearer to the earth than it will be again for about 18 years. Jupiter is also very bright in the night sky but it rises about two hours before Mars and the latter can be easily recognized by his red color.

I wish to call the attention of the readers of this bulletin to a paragraph in Mrs. Harding's little book of which a review appears in this issue. The paragraph reads as follows: "I would like to enter protest against the name 'Lemoine disease', which has been applied by some commercial growers in this country to the root-gall or root-knot. It is not only discourteous in the extreme to one who has furnished the world with peonies yet to be excelled by any, but it is so unfairly incorrect in its implication as to be ridiculous."

The disease has been known at least since 1850 and affects many plants besides peonies. M. Lemoine has in no sense any responsibility regarding it excepting that he, like other nursery men has not always been able to keep his stock free from this disease.

I regret that in a recent number of the bulletin this disease was characterized as the Lemoine disease and I hope that our members will exercise some conscientious care to disaccustom themselves where necessary from using this very objectionable expression. Readers will find that Mr. Fewkes in another part of this issue adds the weight of his disapproval of the name against which I here protest.

<p>WRITE for list of new peonies Originated by A. B. Franklin FRANKLIN NURSERY 200 W. 58th St. Minneapolis, Minn.</p>	<p>MARY BRAND Small Div. \$1.75. Large Div. \$3.00. Our comprehensive catalogue contains many other fine varieties at equally attractive prices. Clarence W. Hubbard Grower of PEONIES & IRISES 1530 Wilmette Ave., Wilmette, Ill.</p>
<p>WAHNFRIED GARDENS Van Wert, Ohio L. J. GERMAN, Prop. Grower of Fine and Rare Peonies. Send me your name to enter on my mailing list, and receive my new price list when published. The Best Plants—The Best Varieties and the Best Prices.</p>	<p>James Boyd John C. Wister MOVILLA GARDENS Rare and Choice Peonies, Iris and Phlox All the newest European and American Introductions. Catalog on request. Haverford, Penn.</p>
<p>IVAN W. GOODNER R. F. D. 10, Box 214 Green Lake Sta., Seattle, Wash. Buys new and choice Peonies, but has none to sell.</p>	<p>Peonies, Irises, Yellow Day Lilies, Tulips, Narcissus, Hyacinths, Tuberoses In their season. Send for Lists. Oronogo Flower Gardens Cartersville, Mo.</p>
<p>W. L. GUMM Grower of high-grade Peonies Le Cygne, La France, Lady Duff, Therese, and various other fine sorts. Send for Catalog. W. L. Gumm, Peony Specialist Remington, Indiana</p>	<p>PEONIES If you are thinking of importing peonies this fall, and are interested in the best that can be had in Holland grown plants, kindly communicate with us. WARNAAR & CO., Room 1543, 17 Battery Place, New York. Nurseries at Sassenheim, Holland. Wholesale Only.</p>
<p>S. G. HARRIS, Tarrytown, N. Y. High Grade Peonies and Iris Our List Will Assist the Amateur in Making a Selection Catalog Ready in August</p>	<p>JAMES PILLOW Cold Spring-on-Hudson, N. Y. Location—Albany Post Road at North Highland Many fine varieties have been added. Only seven peonies under 80 per cent. in my April 6th, 1919, list.</p>

<p>Flowers Have Names Know Them by Using Rolph's Reversible Plant Labels They won't wiggle with the wind.</p> <p>For circular address ROLPH LABEL WORKS Markham, Ont., Canada</p>	<p>HARDY MINNESOTA GROWN PEONIES</p> <p>I am featuring a combination of Twenty-four Varieties of Peonies. Hand book and catalogue describing varieties, and special planting plan. Full instructions as to arrangement of color and blooming periods. Advises where, when, and how to plant, and care after planting. W. M. STONE Peony Gardens, Annandale, Minn.</p>
<p>The World's Choicest Peonies</p> <p>Including all the rare, Continental varieties: Jeannot, Rosette, Clemenceau, Auguste Dessert, Le Cygne, Martha Bulloch, Candeur, Renee Marie, Mrs. Edward Harding, Mme. Jules Dessert, Therese, Mons. M. Cahuzac, Solange, Tourangelle, Kelway's Glorious, Laura Dessert, etc. Send for free list.</p> <p>D. W. C. RUFF Globe Bldg., St. Paul, Minn.</p>	<p>IRIS Geo. N. Smith, PEONIES Wellesley Hills, PHLOX Mass.</p>
<p>NEW PEONIES</p> <p>Grace Loomis (1920) First-class Certificate, Detroit, 1919. Silvia (1921) Award of merit, Boston, 1915 (under the name Wild Rose). Matilda Lewis (1921) First prize for new seedling, Cleveland, 1918, (under number 365). Price of each variety, \$25.00 A. P. SAUNDERS, CLINTON, N. Y.</p>	<p>The Glen Road Iris Gardens We specialize in Bearded Irises. Shipping season closes in October.</p> <p>Send for list. GRACE STURTEVANT, Prop. Wellesley Farms, Mass.</p>
<p>RARE AND EXPENSIVE PEONIES</p> <p>Price list sent on request only. W. A. SISSON, Rosendale, Wis.</p>	<p>PEONIES IRIS</p> <p>The best American and European varieties attractively priced.</p> <p>Catalog on request. C. F. WASSENBERG Peony and Iris Gardens Van Wert, Ohio.</p>
<p>Your Collection of Peonies is not complete without LUETTA PFEIFFER</p> <p>The most promising Seedling of recent introduction. Early, Large, Fragrant.</p> <p>We have the original stock. For price and description write The Pfeiffer Nursery, Winona, Minn.</p>	<p>PEONIES</p> <p>Rare and Choice Varieties, Northern Grown, the kind that gives satisfaction, consisting of such rare varieties as Adolphe Rousseau, Francois Rousseau, Solange, Karl Rosenfield, Mme. Jules Dessert, Tourangelle, Lady A. Duff, La France, Laura Dessert, E. B. Browning, Therese, Primevere, Martha Bulloch, Miss Salway, etc. Send for price list. RIVERVIEW GARDENS 909 Winslow Ave., St. Paul, Minn.</p>

<p>Peonies for Every Purpose</p> <p>A choice assortment of new and scarce kinds. Send for complete list.</p> <p>American Rose and Plant Co.</p> <p>Producers of Plants that Grow and Bloom Springfield, Ohio</p>	<p>I think how I would want to be served, and then I try to treat you in that way.</p> <p>HENRY S. COOPER, Kenosha, Wisconsin</p>
<p>The members of the American Peony Society are invited to visit my exhibition of seven hundred varieties during the blooming season. The name of each variety will be prominently displayed so that visitors can study the merits of each peony in the collection.</p> <p>LEE R. BONNEWITZ Van Wert, Ohio</p>	<p>TWO CHOICE PEONIES Mont Blanc and Mons. Martin Cahuzac</p> <p>Strong divisions \$20.00 per ten</p> <p>Cottage Gardens Co., Inc. Queens, New York</p>
<p>THE BRAND PEONIES</p> <p>The results of the latest Symposium show that our Peonies constitute nearly 20% of the better class as grown in the United States. If you want the best, you cannot omit Brand's.</p> <p>A. M. BRAND Faribault, Minn. Catalogues on request.</p>	<p>PEONIES</p> <p>The best of the Standard and New Varieties always for sale.</p> <p>MRS. WM. CRAWFORD 1602 Indiana Avenue, La Porte, Indiana</p>
<p>CEDAR HILL NURSERY</p> <p>Brookville, Glen Head, Long Island, New York</p> <p>PEONIES IRISES</p>	<p>NO PEONIES UNDER 7.0</p> <p>286 varieties listed in "Better Plants—by Farr," second edition. None of them are rated less than 7.0.</p> <p>Also bargains in mixed peonies for two reasons: Nursery being moved to state highway; junking all peonies rating under 7.0.</p> <p>Your name should be on my mailing list.</p> <p>B. H. FARR 300 Garfield Ave. Wyomissing, Pa.</p>
<p>PEONIES PEONIES</p> <p>We are the Originators and Distributors of the Famous Cherry Hill Peonies. We have the Best European and American Varieties also.</p> <p>Cherry Hill Nurseries (T. C. Thurlow's Sons, Inc.) Catalog West Newbury, Mass.</p>	<p>HUNTER FILBERT</p> <p>Embossed Zinc Labels and Galvanized Stakes for horticultural purposes. Samples on request.</p> <p>Holmes, Del. Co., Penna.</p>