

American Peony Society Bulletin

NUMBER TWENTY-THREE



W. F. CHRISTMAN, *Editor*

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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; out of print*).

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 (*out of print*).

1915-1919 Bulletin of Peony News, Nos. 1-9 (*out of print*).

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 Nos. 21—22.

1925 Bulletin No. 23.

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 three or 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.

CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

ARTICLE I.

MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1.—Membership shall be active and honorary.

SECTION 2.—All reputable persons, professional or amateur, who are known to be interested in the peony, its propagation, culture, sale, and development, shall be eligible to membership.

SECTION 3.—The government of the Society, the transaction of its business, and ownership of its property shall be vested in the active members only.

SECTION 4.—Each active member shall pay an initiation fee of \$5.00 upon joining the Society, which fee shall cover all membership dues for the first year. Each year thereafter each active member shall pay an active annual membership fee of \$3.00, payable to the Treasurer on or before each annual meeting. The payment of \$50.00 shall entitle any eligible person to admission as an active member for life.

SECTION 5.—Honorary members may be admitted, on the recommendation of the Board of Directors, by majority vote of the members present at any annual meeting. Such honorary members shall be entitled to notice of and to attend all meetings and exhibitions of the Society, and to participate in discussion, but shall not be entitled to vote.

SECTION 6.—Active members may be admitted by majority vote at any annual or other regular meeting of the Society, and at any special meeting when notice of such intended action shall have been duly inserted in the notice for such special meeting.

SECTION 7.—All members whose dues are unpaid shall be so notified in writing by the Treasurer within sixty days after each annual meeting. When a member shall fail to pay the dues for any one year, for a period of eighteen months after such payment is due, his name shall be dropped from the rolls of membership and he shall cease to be a member, and can be re-admitted only by vote of the Directors, or of the Society at an annual meeting, and upon payment of the regular initiation fee of five dollars.

ARTICLE II.

SECTION 1.—The Society shall hold an annual meeting for the election of officers and directors, reception of new members, the holding of an exhibition of peony plants and flowers, as well as all articles relating to the growing or handling of the peony, and the transaction of general business.

SECTION 2.—The place where such annual meeting shall be held, the duration of such exhibition, and the day on which it shall be opened, as well as the amount of fee to be paid by non-members for admission to the exhibition, and of fees to be paid by exhibitors, and the general program of the exhibition shall be determined each year by the Board of Directors, and written or printed notice thereof given personally or by mail to each member whose address is known not later than the first day of February preceding such exhibition.

SECTION 3.—At all general exhibitions of the Society plants and flowers of the new kinds, as well as standard sorts, may be exhibited and prizes for exceptional merit may be awarded by the Society, as well as special prizes offered by any person. The examination of and passing upon the exhibits, and the award of the certificates of merit, medals, prizes, and special prizes shall be made by a committee of six judges to be elected by the Society at the annual or special meeting at which such exhibition is held. At the first session of such meeting the Board of Directors shall present the names of at least nine members known to be present, as candidates for judges. The meeting may accept or reject such nominations or call for additional ones. After the nominations are closed, the six judges shall be elected by ballot from the final list of nominees. All protests against any decision of such judges shall be promptly filed in writing with the Board of Directors, who shall examine the same and report thereupon at once, or at a subsequent session of the same meeting, to the Society for its action, if they consider the decision of the judges in any respect erroneous; otherwise they shall confirm such decision. In all cases of protest, no premium shall be paid for, or certificate delivered, until the judges' decision is confirmed by the Directors, or the protest settled by the Society, as the case may be.

SECTION 4.—Special meetings of the Society may be called by the Directors on thirty days' written notice, stating the time, place and object of the meeting, given personally or by mail to each member whose address is known. At such meetings no subjects shall be acted upon other than those specified in the call, except as otherwise specified in this Constitution.

SECTION 5.—The presence of ten active members of the Society shall be necessary to constitute a quorum at any annual or special meeting.

SECTION 6.—Every resolution at an annual or special meeting involving the appropriation of money must be referred to the Board of Directors

before it can be acted upon. The directors shall report thereon at the same session of such meeting at which such resolution is introduced, or at a subsequent session of the same meeting.

No expenditure or contract involving an expenditure of, or liability for a greater sum than one hundred dollars shall be made or entered into until approved by the Society, after approval by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III.

SECTION 1.—The officers (all of whom shall be active members) shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer (all to be elected by ballot at the annual meeting) and one District Vice President for each of the following districts: (1) Eastern States; (2) Middle States; (3) Southern States; (4) Western States; (5) Northwestern States; (6) Pacific States.

SECTION 2.—The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and three other active members of the Society (to be elected by ballot at annual meetings as hereinafter stated) shall together constitute the Board of Directors of the Society, and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified.

At the first annual meeting held under the constitution, there shall be elected such President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and one active member all to serve on the Executive Committee for one year; one other active member for the term of two years, and one other active member for the term of three years. At each subsequent annual meeting there shall be elected such President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, each for one year, and one active member as a member of the Executive Committee for three years; to the end that there shall be one Executive Committee membership to be filled at each annual meeting in addition to such President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Board of Directors shall, subject to the general control of the Society, have the care and control of its property, the transaction of its business and the superintendence of its affairs. The Directors shall supervise the program, and the exhibitions of the Society at its annual and special meetings, and shall make a detailed report at each of such meetings.

SECTION 3.—(1) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and Board of Directors and have general superintendence of the Society's affairs. (2) The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in case of his absence or inability. (3) The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Society and its Board of Directors and conduct its correspondence. He shall have charge of its books and papers, except those relating to its financial affairs. He shall make an annual report to the Board of Directors. (4) The Treasurer shall receive and keep an account of all the moneys and securities of the Society. He shall pay out all moneys under the direction of the Society and its Board of Directors, and upon written order of the President, countersigned by the Secretary. He shall take proper vouchers for all payments. He shall make to the Board of Directors an annual report of all receipts and disbursements and exhibit his vouchers for such disbursements; and the Board shall audit the account and report thereon, and give a synopsis thereof to the Society at the annual meeting. The

Treasurer shall give bonds in such amount and form and with such surety, as may be from time to time required by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4.—Each district Vice President shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting, by members present from the district which he is to represent; provided that when less than three such members are present from any district, such election must be approved by the President. When any district is unrepresented at the annual meeting, the President may appoint a District Vice President for that District. Any District Vice President who shall refuse or neglect to serve, after thirty days may be removed by the President, who shall appoint some other eligible person to serve the unexpired term.

SECTION 5.—Each District Vice President shall make a report at the annual meeting of matters within his district affecting the interests of the Society; shall assist the officers in the performance of their duties with respect to his district, and shall be the representative of the Society in his district and for that district, at all meetings and exhibitions of the Society.

SECTION 6.—The officers shall perform such other duties as may be imposed upon them by the by-laws.

ARTICLE IV.

BY-LAWS

The Directors may adopt from time to time, suitable by-laws, not inconsistent (with the Certificate of Incorporation or) with the Constitution. But any by-laws so adopted shall be subject to appeal or amendment by the Society, and the Society may adopt further by-laws, not inconsistent herewith (or with such Certificate of Incorporation) by two-thirds vote at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting duly called for that purpose.

ARTICLE V.

SEAL

The seal of the Society shall be in the form of



The Board of Directors shall be authorized to have a seal made in accordance with the above form. An impression thereof shall be made on the minutes of the Society. The Board of Directors shall, by suitable by-laws, designate the proper officers to have custody of the seal and to affix the same to contracts on behalf of the Society.

ARTICLE VI.

AMENDMENTS.

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all the members present at an annual meeting, provided that written or printed notice of an intention to move for such amendment, shall have been given to each member whose name and residence or post office address appears

upon the books or are known, personally or by mail, on or before the first of February preceding such annual meeting.

EDITOR'S NOTE:—I find at a directors' meeting held in April, 1916, it was proposed to recommend that a charge of \$25.00 be made for life membership instead of \$50.00, as set forth in Section IV, Article 1, and at the Fourteenth Annual meeting at New York, June 9 to 11, 1916, the recommendation was formally adopted, and the following year, on June 13, 1917, the constitution was so amended, with the recommendation that the receipts from such memberships be put into a separate investment fund.

At the directors' meeting held March 13, 1923, a motion was made to amend the by-laws to provide for both a Corresponding Secretary and a Recording Secretary; also that the number of directors be increased by two. This recommendation was approved at the Annual Meeting of the Society June 21, 1923. At this same meeting it was voted that the annual dues be \$3.00 per year and the \$2.00 initiation fee formerly charged be dropped.

At a meeting of the directors, March 20, 1924, it was voted that the Constitution be amended to change Article III, Section 3, Division 4, to read as follows: "The Treasurer is authorized to pay any bills up to \$100.00 upon the 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." This change in the Constitution approved at regular convened meeting of the Society June 21, 1924.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society held June 21, 1924, at Des Moines, Iowa, the office of Recording Secretary was abolished and the Secretary assigned the additional duty of editor of the Bulletins, performing the duties previously performed by the two Secretaries.

At the Des Moines meeting a motion was made as follows: "That in the future the term of President should terminate after one year serving and that a change in the constitution and by-laws to that effect be made."

An amendment was offered to this motion, as follows: "That an Amendment to the by-laws be prepared and presented at the next annual meeting changing the constitution, making the term of office of President one year, and the Secretary be and is hereby instructed to publish such amendment in the Bulletin and present it at the next annual meeting."

Until a final vote is taken at the next Annual Meeting on the above motion and amendment it will not become effective.

Upon request of some of the members of the Society, and owing to the fact that but few of our members are conversant with the constitution of the American Peony Society as originally adopted, I am having the same reprinted.

IN THE INTEREST OF CORRECT NOMENCLATURE.

As a member of the Committee on Nomenclature of the American Peony Society, I wish to correct certain statements which have been made public in reports of the proceedings of the Society's meeting at Des Moines, concerning the name of M. Lemoine's new peony, "Alice Harding," claims having been made that it should be known as "Amitie Americaine." M. Lemoine having become cognizant of these statements immediately dispatched, unsolicited, the following letter which should settle for all time the correct name of this beautiful variety. To emphatically emphasize this I will here state that whoever offers for sale or exhibits this variety under the name of "Amitie Americaine" will

be guilty of deliberate misnaming and a foe to the best traditions of the Society.

It is well known that at the time the Society was organized, much of the confusion which then existed in peony names was caused by this unscrupulous practise of unauthorized renaming; in fact was one of the principal factors which led up to its formation.

As the letter states, the variety has been recognized and the name "Alice Harding" recorded by the "Societe Nationale d'Horticulture de France," therefore any attempt to put it in commerce under any other name would be an act unworthy of a member of the American Peony Society in good standing.

I herewith submit a translation of M. Lemoine's letter, the substance of which is a complete refutation of any claims that may have been made that this variety should bear any other name than "Alice Harding."

A. H. FEWKES.

Nancy, Francy, 26 August, 1924.

"DEAR MADAME HARDING:

* * * * *

"I reaffirm in the most positive manner the statements made in my letter (to you) of 20 June, 1922.

"When I presented my Peony No. 60 to obtain a certificate of merit and to compete for the prize which you offered, it was necessary for me to give it a name. This name could be only provisional, as you had reserved the right to approve the name of the variety obtaining the prize. I could not call it 'Mrs. Edward Harding,' since there already existed a peony bearing that name, and especially because it appeared to me to be premature to dedicate a peony to you *before it had obtained the prize*. Therefore I selected a *provisional* name, and I confided in no one my reasons for my choice of the temporary name 'Amite Americaine.'

"Mr. Bonnewitz makes a great mistake in attributing to me the reasons which he indicates in his publication. Like all other French people, I am infinitely appreciative of the American intervention in 1917 and 1918, but I must say that it was not of that that I was thinking in choosing the temporary name. I considered that for an American to offer a prize for an unnamed seedling, *obtained in France*, was a valued expression of friendship, and it was solely of you that I was thinking when I named my plant 'Amite Americaine.'

"For the rest, you are aware that when you had accepted the name, 'Alice Harding,' I immediately informed the Societe Nationale d'Horticulture de France of the change of name and the Bulletin announced it without comment.

"Furthermore, the plant which Mr. Bonnewitz secured in 1922 was sold to him under the name of 'Alice Harding.' If the provisional name, 'Amitie Americaine,' was placed on the label in addition to the authentic name (my recollection of this detail is not exact after two years) it was because I thought that Mr. Bonnewitz had mentioned the provisional name in his import-permit-request, and it was necessary for the same name to appear beside the authentic name on the label in order to avoid difficulties with the Federal Horticultural Board.

"Therefore I formally state that no one has the right to change a name which I have chosen of my own free will, with the greatest pleasure,

and with your approval; no one—neither Mr. Bonnewitz, nor the American Peony Society, not even you, nor yet myself. Such an assumption would be utterly reprehensible, and would create a most deplorable confusion. If Mr. Bonnewitz should some day exhibit flowers of the peony in question under a false name for this reason alone the jury would have the right to refuse him award.

* * * * *

E. LEMOINE."

PREPARATION AND STORAGE OF SHOW PEONIES.

By HARRY F. LITTLE, Goodland, Indiana.

So much has been written about the preparation and holding of peonies in cold storage for show purposes that possibly many otherwise experienced gardeners have been led to believe that the showing of peony blooms in competition is a deep and mysterious art only to be acquired by wide experience, and only to be attempted by the most skilled horticulturists.

As a matter of fact, the successful showing of peonies is very simple, and may be undertaken by any amateur gardener, of even limited experience, without fear of disastrous results. Probably no other flower can be as easily grown, as successfully held in cold storage, or as easily transported as the peony. No special laborious preparation or treatment of the plants is required to grow fine show flowers, and no extensive experience is required to handle the blooms in storage. Neither is any special skill required to develop the flowers into form for the show table after they are taken from the cold storage room.

Experience has shown that peonies can be successfully held in storage for days, or even weeks, and then developed for exhibition purposes as successfully as though freshly cut from the plants. In fact, peony blooms, cut in the bud and opened indoors away from the sun, show far more delicate and beautiful colorings than the flowers which open on the plants; and many of the finest varieties only show their real quality when handled in this way. Some growers, of wide experience in handling show flowers, go so far as to contend that peonies, placed in cold storage and then developed for the show table, will hold up longer and better than freshly cut blooms. While the question may yet be held as debatable, it has been clearly demonstrated that it is possible to place the different varieties of peonies in storage as they come into bloom throughout the season, beginning with the earliest *Officinalis* varieties, and ending with the very latest varieties, such as *Loveliness* and *Galathee*, and then develop them for show all at the same time a week or more after the close of the blooming season. Some varieties hold up in storage better than others, and can be held with proper care for a much longer time. In the cut flower trade, certain good storage kinds are kept for eight or ten weeks.

The first thing to be remembered in the staging of fine show flowers is that only well-established plants of any variety will produce the best blooms. It is not possible to say how old a peony plant must be to be at its best, for that depends on the variety itself, the size and vigor of the root from which it is grown, and the soil conditions and cultivation with which it is favored. Certain varieties, under most favorable conditions, are slow to establish, and do not reach their best short of four, or sometimes five years, while other kinds, happily situated, will put forth

as fine blooms on two-year plants as they will ever produce. It is safe to say, however, that flowers must be cut from at least three-year-old plants, if a typical exhibit is to be staged covering any great number of varieties. Even then, the exhibitor must have very well grown plants, if he can successfully show fifty or one hundred varieties in competition with the man who can select his blooms from five- or six-year-old plants.

At the National Peony Shows, where one expects to find all the new and rare peonies shown in perfect form, it is not an uncommon thing to hear the remark, "Why, I have grown finer flowers than these myself." No doubt but that is true with all of us. It is not very difficult, even with but a few plants, to grow one, or even a number of varieties, to perfection. But it is quite a different thing to stage an exhibit of one hundred, or even fifty varieties, and have all of them near perfection. It requires an extensive planting, indeed, to be able to show such a number of varieties, all from well established plants. The desire to show the new and rare things, of which there are but a few old and established plants in existence, often leads to the cutting of blooms from young plants, and so cuts down the average quality of the exhibits.

Having good, healthy, well-established peony plants to begin with, cultivation and moisture are the principle requisites in growing fine show flowers. As soon as the new growth is above ground in the spring, and the soil in workable condition, the earth about the plants should be forked over several inches deep for at least two feet from the crown. Throughout the growing season, this soil should be frequently stirred to maintain a perfect earth mulch to draw and hold moisture to the plant. If the season is dry, water should be supplied in sufficient quantity to thoroughly soak the ground to a depth of at least eighteen inches each ten days until the blooms begin to open. Water is best supplied by letting it run slowly from the open end of a hose into a small trench dug about the plant. Before the top soil has time to dry out, the trench should be filled in, and the earth mulch again stirred to retain the moisture.

With good, ordinary garden soil, no special fertilization is necessary, although a light top dressing of bone meal or wood ashes early in the spring in sufficient quantity to maintain the normal state of fertility in the soil may be beneficial. Thoroughly rotted stable manure may be used to advantage, if properly handled. This is best applied as a top dressing in the fall, and forked under at the first working of the soil in the spring. Fresh stable manure should never be used on peonies under any condition, as the free ammonia therefrom is absolutely harmful to the plants.

Much has been said about force feeding and special fertilization to obtain extra fine blooms, but it is doubtful if any such treatment of plants is beneficial or desirable. Peony plants clearly resent over-fertilization, and far more plants have been injured by forcing than have ever been helped. By the use of liquid manures, commercial fertilizers, nitrate of soda, and other things, strong plant growth can be stimulated, and undoubtedly abnormal flowers produced; but experience has shown that such treatment of a plant one year almost invariably results in a sick plant the following season. It often requires several years for the plant to recover, if indeed it ever comes back, from the seeming *indigestion* caused by the over-feeding. As well-established peony plants represent no small investment in time and money, it is hardly worth the risk of sacrifice for the results to be obtained. Then, the abnormal blooms, which are developed by the feeding beyond their typical form and size, are not the

most desirable show blooms. The fine texture of the petals, and the delicate color tints in the flowers are sacrificed to a great extent for size alone. Such blooms are not typical flowers, and to the true judge of peonies they are not the finest. Good, normal blooms, typical in form, size, and coloring of the variety, are the ideal show peonies; and these are only obtained from healthy, well-established plants grown in a normal soil under normal conditions.

As soon as the growth is sufficiently advanced, all laterals, or side buds, should be pinched off close to the stems, and any weak or defective terminal buds removed. Some growers advocate pinching off all but three or four of the strongest terminal buds on each plant, and even cutting out some of the stems close to the ground to force the growth of the remaining plant. As nature takes care of the relationship, or balance, between the root system and the top growth of the plant, is it not reasonable to suppose that, to a strong and thrifty plant, the natural foliage produced is as necessary to the welfare of the plant system as is the root growth, and that by cutting away stems we are throwing this natural relationship out of balance rather than strengthening the growth?

A few days before the early varieties are ready to bloom, the plants should be carefully gone over, and the strongest and most promising buds of the varieties wanted for show selected. A small paper bag—the grocer's common half-pound size is best—should be slipped over each bud, and secured in place by a small rubber band, twisted about the mouth of the bag below the bud, just tight enough to prevent the bag from being blown away by the wind. After the rubber band is in place, care should be taken to pull the bag well up against the under side of the bud, otherwise the subsequent growth of the stem, especially of the later varieties, will force the bud up against the bottom of the bag and result in a warped or crooked stem. The purpose of sacking the buds is two-fold. First, the bags protect the maturing buds from damage from rain or sun; and second, they furnish an ideal wrapping for the flowers later on when, in a partly developed state, they must be packed for shipping.

After all the bags are in place, a wired wooden tree label, with the name of the variety plainly written thereon, should be attached to the stem under each bud well above the foliage. By thus permanently labeling each bud before it is cut from the plant, much labor and confusion later on, when time becomes valuable, will be saved. The wooden tree labels are the most satisfactory labels to use because they are substantial enough to withstand possible damage in shipping, and are not affected by water.

As the first flowers begin to open, close attention must be given to the sacked buds, for the whole secret of the successful storage of the blooms is in cutting the blooms at just the right stage. Both the length of time the blooms are to be held, and the type of flower or the variety, must be taken into consideration. Assuming that flowers are wanted for showing, say two or three days after the close of the blooming season, it would then be necessary to hold the earlier varieties in the cold storage about three weeks, and the mid-season kinds for a week or ten days. By watching the exposed buds on the plants, and by feeling the buds under the bags, one will quickly learn the *feel* of the buds ready to cut. Early varieties, such as *Umbellata Rosea*, *Grandiflora Nivea Plena*, and *Edulis Superba*, should be cut just as the buds show marked color and begin to feel the first indication of softening. Mid-season varieties, such as *Frances Willard* and *Lady Alexandra Duff*, and in fact most of the

varieties except the very latest, should be cut at the stage just when the petals in the buds begin to grow and loosen and before the first petals begin to unfold. Late varieties, such as Marie Lemoine, Milton Hill, and Enchantresse, must be left on the plants until almost at the half-open stage. Single, Japanese, and semi-double varieties of scant petalage should be cut in tighter bud than the full rose types, such as Therese or Jubilee. Very compact, full petaled varieties, as L'Indispensable and Marie Lemoine, must be allowed to develop proportionately longer on the plants.

As the buds reach the proper stage, they should be cut with stems fifteen or eighteen inches long, and all foliage stripped off. Longer stems on show flowers, unless they are to be shown in large bunches or in bouquets, are superfluous; and the extra foliage can well be left on the plants. All buds of a variety, even on the same plant, do not develop evenly so it may be necessary to make cuttings of the same variety at two or three different times. As fast as cut the buds should be placed in jars of water in a cool basement where the varieties can be sorted and tied together for convenience in handling. Each evening the day's cutting should be taken to the cold storage room, and placed, with stems well submerged, in jars of water to remain undisturbed until time for shipment.

Probably the best storage temperature is an average of forty degrees, although lower temperature has seemed to give equally good results. At forty degrees, most varieties, and especially those cut in tight bud, will remain almost dormant, while other kinds will slowly develop until the immense blooms fill the half-pound bags almost to the bursting point.

If the flowers in storage are to be packed for shipment, the trunks or whatever containers are to be used, should be taken into the storage room, if possible, and heavily lined with paper. After the blooms have been removed from water long enough to allow their stems to dry off, they should be packed in layers tight enough to prevent any shaking about in transit. If thus packed cold in the storage room, and properly insulated with the paper linings, the containers will withstand a journey of 24 to 36 hours, even in hot weather, without becoming heated through to injure the flowers.

At least twenty-four hours will be required for the storage blooms to develop to their best after being opened up, so plans should be made to have exhibits set up well before the judging of the flowers begins. On reaching the show room sufficient jars or bottles of water should be set up to receive all the blooms. As the shipping containers are opened, the ends of all stems should be clipped, and the flowers placed in water as fast as possible. Then, and not until then, the paper bags should be removed, and the flowers given ample room and opportunity to open.

Thrills, indeed, await the exhibitor who has yet his first time to watch, with anxious anticipation, the development of his first show blooms. The already half-opened blooms unfold so fast that one can actually see the immense flowers grow in size and beauty; while those, in seemingly tight bud when unsacked, will open within twenty-four hours time into fully developed flowers, often larger and more beautiful than the finest blooms opened naturally on the plants.

Where a cold storage plant is not accessible, peonies can be successfully held for a week or longer in the family ice box, or in a cool, dark cellar, if the buds are prepared and handled in the same manner as has been described for the storage room.

When it is necessary to ship buds to a storage plant at a distance,

they should be prepared in exactly the same manner. After cutting, they should be given a few hours to fill with water in a basement, and then packed dry in well ventilated containers, such as orange or lemon boxes, for shipment by express. At the storage room, the stems should be clipped, and the blooms placed in jars of water as before described.

THE LURE OF THE PEONY

By GEO. W. VEDITZ.

June is becoming in many gardens more and more the month of the peony, and in more and more gardens is the peony becoming the undisputed queen of the early summer.

In thousands of gardens peonies have become established sojourners, and in hundreds more where plants were set out for the first time last fall, anxiously expected blooms are for the first time, likewise, greeting the eye of the gardener as his very own.

The vogue of the peony as the flower of late spring and just marking the entry of summer is increasing with each passing year, and the delight and pleasure that is the dividend of the space, time and care given the plants is among the most enviable and cherished of the entire garden cycle.

It is not merely the appeal to the eye of the harmony of color and beauty of form of the individual blooms, but the peony more than any other flower seems to lend itself to the play of fancy and imagination. Probably no more extravagantly fulsome word picture of any flower was ever written than the description of Monsieur Jules Elie than appeared in some catalogs a few seasons back, and even now some peony growers attempt to paint the lily and refine pure gold in their word-pictures of their favorite creations.

With most peony lovers the names of the different varieties have no special significance beyond that each calls to mind and represents a certain peony of more or less individuality and excellence. But nevertheless these names recall during eleven months of the year haunting visions of beauty, or white, pink, or red perfection, and more, perhaps, than any other names give a negative answer to the poet's query, "If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?"

But to the originators of our peonies, the Lemoines, Desserts, Brands, Kelways, Thurlows, and the others, there must have been much more in these names than appears on the surface.

Some of these names are descriptive, as Crousse's La Perle, Calot's Couronne d'Or, and Boule de Neige, Brand's Magnificent, Lemoine's Le Cygne, and Mrs. Pleas' Jubilee.

But the great majority bear names bestowed up them as a mark of esteem for some member of the family, or a friend, or some patron of the originator; and to this originator and his friends the name of any such variety immediately conjures before the mind's eye the sponsor in his habit, or in her beauty, as they lived, and brings a train of associations out of memory's jewel box.

But the average peony lover not having this advantage merely associates the name with the flower and seldom goes further unless some incident or association more or less personal gives the variety an individuality not possessed by the other plants in the garden.

It is this possibility of associating the fanciful and imaginative with

so many of its varieties that gives the peony a distinctiveness possessed by no other of our garden flowers, whether roses, iris, gladioli, or dahlias. Many of the fine old standard varieties we have had for generations, so long, in fact, that they have become household friends. Once established, they stay with us through the heat of the summer sun and the furious winter's rages, nor do they, like the dahlia and gladiolus, ask for wages in that they should be dug up in the fall and safely bestowed during the long period of dormancy.

Even where the peony bed may contain only one plant, or two or three, this flower receives a consideration and loving attention that is bestowed on no others, and this is why our grandmothers and great-grandmothers gave their "pineys," despite their short season of bloom, first place in their affections.

Every peony lover will find the beauty of his garden enhanced many-fold if he will allow his fancy free rein and weave a nimbus of the romantic around this or the other of these flowers of his heart of hearts, connecting it with some personal experience which he alone may know.

It was the writer's good fortune to see, some dozen years back, a photoplay starring Madame Bernhardt as Queen Elizabeth. Those who have seen this picture play may recall Madame Bernhardt's rendition of this role as perhaps the most truly regal impersonation ever given of any queen either upon the screen or upon the stage, nor can the writer recall a more vivid representation of this, one of the most dramatic periods in the world's history. Unconsciously he transferred the majesty of the make-believe queen to the peony Sarah Bernhardt as described in the various catalogs, and ever since he acquired a plant of this Lemoine peony he has associated the royally beautiful blooms with the great tragedienne. As often as not when making his morning or evening rounds among his peonies he would stop before this plant and make mental obeisance, "Sarah Bernhardt, I salute you!" To him this flower had acquired a splendor extraneous of itself and beyond its mere appellation.

Another such peony is Lady Alexandra Duff. What owner of this Kelway peony may not have asked, "Who was this Lady Alexandra? If this flower is the most beautiful of all English peonies, was not its fair sponsor possessed of a loveliness in keeping with that of the bloom? Who was this charming and elusive personality? Was she the most glorious of all English women, the Lady Diana Manners of a score of years back?

Most peony lovers are familiar with the tradition connected with this peony; how it was loved long since, then lost awhile to become even nameless except as the "Lost Peony"; to be searched for in unavailing quest here and there, and to be finally found again in the garden of the veteran peony lover, Walter L. Gumm, of Remington, Indiana.

It always jars the writer's sensibilities to see the name of this glorious peony hacked down to "Lady Duff," or to be given even a masculine form, "Lady Alexander Duff." He has always insisted upon giving it its full sonorous name, and has always associated the flower, entrancingly attractive in the fullness of its bloom, with some fair English beauty, that for all he knew never existed.

And reciprocally, no matter who or what the original Lady Alexandra may have been, her peony namesake invests her with a glamour and fancy for those who have never seen or heard of her, and this, after all, is the finest tribute to beauty in the abstract, as it is based entirely on the imagination. Were this lady to visit our next nation's peony show in

person, it is not difficult to picture the consideration and homage that would be paid her by every peony connoisseur there as godmother to one of the loveliest flowers in existence.

In this connection it is quite possible that Lemoine might have invested his greatest creation with more distinctive individual attributes—in the minds of its possessors, of course—had he named it for Madame Recamier, loveliest woman of the First Empire, and claiming a place in history for no other reason than her charm and the sweetness of her disposition. *Le Cygne* must inevitably, then, possess a fascination additional to and apart from its swan-like purity and grace for all those, and there must be many, familiar with the story of this lovely blind French woman of the long ago.

Who were Monsieur Martin Cahuzac, Philippe Rivoire, and Solange? Few of us know. But invest the last with a title, make him the Comte de Solange, and the imaginative peony lover immediately has a trio that may have been contemporary with d'Artagnan, Athos, Porthos, and Aramis, and that with these four might give him a sweeping salute as they stepped out of the pages of some sequel to *Les Trois Mousquetaires* or *Vingt Ans Après*. Solange and Monsieur Martin have a place in the writer's affections that measures up to the reality he has tried to give the unknown, and as for Philippe, instead of being a scion of the modern house of Riviere, he has been moved back three centuries and made into a cavalier of the d'Artagnan type. The blooms themselves have become personal friends and have been invested with an interest additional to their intrinsic beauty.

The writer's *La Fee* is not merely a beautiful peony. She is a fairy, she is *Morgain la Fee*, the *Fata Morgana* of King Arthur's days, the fay of the mirage and of enchantment, of good fortune and great beneficence, the fay of the fairy tales of wondering childhood, and as such her blooms have become visitors from fairy land.

The loveliest of all June flowers is simply *Therese*. *Therese*? Who was she? *Dessert's* innamorata? *Dessert* knew, if we do not. *Therese* what? Affix or substitute the name of any friend that you hold dear, and your garden will have a poesy and glamour it could not have were *Therese* to continue merely a lovely peony with no attribute or association beyond its beauty and fragrance.

The writer has a weakness for Elizabeth Barrett Browning that he does not feel for Martha Bulloch because of the mere name. He can claim personal friendship and acquaintance with the former through her verses, and Richard Carvel is for the same reason more interesting to him than Judge Berry, even though the latter may be a real personage, while the former is a mythical emanation of Winston Churchill's fancy.

Our oldest peony but one, now exactly one hundred years old, has the oddest of all peony names, but just why Lemon should have called it *Edulis Superba* must be a puzzle, unless he regarded its petals as food fit for the gods. *Edulis Superba*! How many countless gardens has it not graced with its presence during its long life of a century! What is the long, long line of ancestry of your own particular plant, what ghosts of peony lovers of yesteryear may not revisit our gardens to enjoy anew the fragrant exhalations of this herald of spring glory? Through what scores of hands may it not have passed in the process of division and transplanting, making it a more frequent household guest than all others, with the possible exception of *Fragrans* and *Festiva Maxima*?

The writer has a friend owning a rare collection of peonies and who, moreover, knows how to make them bud and bloom with a master-gardener's skill who dislikes to cut his flowers, but prefers to let them live, die, and wither on the stem, and who, when he does cut them for vases in the house, accords them the same homage that the priests may have done to votive offerings in some ancient temple of Flora or Ceres. To receive a long-stemmed bouquet of peonies from this gentleman is a true token of appreciation and regard. There are doubtless many others with the same reluctance to remove their flowers from the garden. This attitude is another form of the sentiment that made the ancient Greeks refrain from stripping leaves or cutting twigs, or otherwise mutilating the trees and flowers of certain groves under the belief that they were dryads or wood nymphs transformed for the day, to resume their fairy form and hold their elfin revels on moonlight or starlit nights, a pretty superstition that had its counterpart in the stories of our pagan ancestors, that the circling fairy rings that clean-hearted children might see in the moonlight on the meadows, became field flowers when the gambols were over.

Where imagination and romance do not play a leading part in the annual drama of the garden, a drama with its entrances and its exits, the gardener misses a large share of the pleasure that should be the gift of every garden. The peony lover, perhaps more than any other specialist, if one may use this term, by reason of the long-established tenure of his tenants, may enshrine them in his memory and visualize their coming again, and even if he lives but for and in the present, he may quote Emerson's *Rhodora*:

"If the sages ask thee why
This charm is wasted on the earth and sky.
Tell them, dear, that if eyes were made for seeing,
Then Beauty is its own excuse for being:
Why thou wert there, O rival of the rose
I never thought to ask, I never knew:
But in my simple ignorance suppose
The self-same Power that brought me there brought you."

PEONY PRICES

As Viewed by a Peony Collector.

It may seem odd for peony collectors—to whom peonies, so far as money is concerned, represents everything going out and nothing coming in—to argue for stable prices. But there is reason for our madness, for stable prices mean stable values for the large number of fine and expensive varieties of peonies of which we are now possessed.

The inspiration of this article is the fact that in some of the 1924 peony catalogs a tendency is shown to cut prices on varieties, the intrinsic value of which is such as not to warrant any reduction. If this tendency develops it is well within the range of possibilities for a price war to commence, with its consequent demoralization of established values, and the reduction of the peony business to such a chaotic state that it would not recover for years. Incidentally collectors would see the money value of their prized collections largely dissipated. This might so discourage them as to alienate from the growers this important and lucrative part of their clientele.

We recognize full well that as peony collectors—collectors of a product that may be multiplied—we are in a somewhat different position from collectors of paintings, for instance, or other objects of which the one in the collection may represent the only one in existence; or, as in the case of rare books, represent one of a limited number which will not increase but which rather may decrease. These fortunates, if their judgment in selection has been good, may well expect their treasures to increase in value. So that they have, in addition to the pleasure and pride of possession, the satisfaction that comes from a good investment.

Admittedly it is difficult in the peony business to standardize prices. Varieties differ so much in the number of years in which they have had an opportunity to multiply, and in their disposition to multiply rapidly or slowly, that no hard and fast rule can be made. Festiva Maxima, one of the finer sorts, rating 9.3 as it does, it would seem should be one of the higher priced sorts; but it has been in cultivation for seventy-three years, it multiplies rapidly, an immense stock has accumulated, and it sells variously at from 50 cents to \$1.50 per root. Mona. Jules Elie, another of the finer sorts and a rarely beautiful flower, rated at 9.2, has been in cultivation for thirty-six years, is another lusty grower, and retails at from \$1.00 to \$2.00. The incomparable Le Cygne, originated in 1907, rated at 9.9, has sold consistently for several years for \$20 to \$25, although it multiplies fairly rapidly. The beautiful Kelway's Glorious, originated in 1909, holds steadily at \$35. It multiplies slowly. Martha Bulloch, originated in 1907, first sold for \$10. It multiplies slowly and growers have never been able to fully meet the demand. Its price has mounted to \$25 for a commercial root. So that the law of supply and demand must be considered in fixing peony prices.

But I do claim that otherwise there is nothing in the economic situation to justify the destruction of peony values by indiscriminate price cutting. Labor and material costs are still high. Living costs remain high and are still mounting. The only imaginable excuse for price cutting at this time therefore is to secure more business, and if for this purpose, it is no excuse. To secure business by price cutting is the last resort of poor salesmanship. Secure business rather by good salesmanship as evidenced by a high class presentation of the merits of your stock in your advertisements, in your catalogs, and in your circulars and letters; by your fair dealing with your customers; by the quality, size, vigor and healthfulness of the stock you send out.

I believe consideration should be given to the high rating of the finer varieties in fixing prices. My contention is that a commercial root of Kelways Glorious should not sell for many years for less than its present price of \$35. As beautiful a bloom as Le Cygne should be priced fully as high. Let us accept the fact, however, that the law of supply and demand has forced its price to its present almost universal level of \$20.00. Its value should not drop below this figure for an indefinite number of years, for it is the masterpiece of peonies. Such a variety as Lady Alexandra Duff (the real variety) is reasonably priced at \$10.00, Therese at \$6.00, Mons Martin Cahuzac at \$5.00, Karl Rosenfield at \$4.00, Solange at \$8.00, Tourangelle at \$7.50.

In fact I do not see how any grower can retail even the most common of peonies for less than \$1.00 per root and hope to make a profit. This conclusion is reached after considering the many elements of expense that enter into the production and sale of a commercial peony root: The interest on the money invested in the land; the labor of pre-

paring the soil; the first cost of the stock; the cost of fertilizers; the labor of cultivation, watering, mulching, separating and replanting; the cost of advertising, catalogs, circulars, and money and time spent in correspondence; the labor of taking up, packing and shipping; the cost of packing material, containers, twine, postage, labels, etc. These all constitute charges that must be met before any profit can be made. I have no doubt that many growers who do not maintain an adequate accounting system are actually losing money on roots sold under \$1.00.

You will note the varieties I cite have all had their ratings established by twenty or more votes in the last symposium. There are other splendid varieties, the ratings of which are not yet definitely established. Their values will be refined in the crucible of the deliberations of the juries of the American Peony Society in future symposiums. Their present values are fixed more by the faith and enthusiasm of the originator and the judgment of the collector.

I do not feel selfish in advocating stable prices for peonies. There is a wide range of very moderately priced varieties, many of them of high rating and of exceeding beauty in color and form, from which the casual buyer may make selection. Every such purchaser is a potential collector. The moderate priced varieties he buys arouses his interest and admiration. He sees beyond his possession the more rare and higher priced varieties, and the fact of the rarity and value arouses his desire to possess them. In many cases another collector is thus developed—but who would not be developed if there did not exist the inducement of something difficult in attainment.

Therefore, as a collector who is interested heart and soul in the successful development of this wondrously beautiful flower, I ask growers to think long and well before they commence to destroy peony values.

HARRY JESSOP,

Wilmington, Mass., R. D. No. 1.

BLASTING OF PEONY BUDS

This most disappointing end to promised blooms results from two groups of conditions. The first is from improper conditions underground. These include root gall or nematode worms, the shock of recent division, drouth either in spring or the previous summer, too deep planting, impoverished soil, or inability of a diseased and partly decayed root to furnish enough moisture or food to the growing plant.

Freezing of buds when quite small will occasionally cause them to blast, but with most varieties this result is very rare. The second group of conditions may be laid to some form of blight, which spreads of its own accord, or which is a result of improper disbudding. How many different kinds of blight affect the peony is immaterial, for I have found from experience that a spray of one pound of blue stone and one half pound of lime to fifty gallons of water will keep foliage and buds entirely healthy if applied in time, it being a preventative only. Diseased buds and parts of the plant must be promptly pinched back to healthy tissue, and the affected parts burned. Also, care must be taken not to touch healthy plants after working with affected ones. If only one spraying is given each season, let it be when the buds are the size of buckshot. One before that and one after blooming would be very beneficial in bad cases, but my experience has been that one spraying will work wonders, and reduce loss from blight to practically nothing. Last summer in commercial and other large plantings I invariably saw

so much more bud blasting than there should be, that when opportunity offers, I am prompted to urge the importance of spraying.

Whether the 'candy bud' blight in which a bud turns a reddish brown when the size of a gooseberry, and then dries up is due to a special fungus or not I cannot say, but I do know from experience after two or three years of spraying, that large plants on which every bud had invariably blighted will give a perfect stand of good blooms.

Disbudding when the buds are quite small will so wound the stem that the bud dies. The side bud stems should be an inch and a half long and the side buds at least the size of buckshot before disbudding. Take the bud between the thumb and forefinger, turn at right angles and pull gently. This will cause the stem to break close to the bud and avoid injury to the central stem. Continued disbudding without disinfecting the fingers will spread blight which may not be apparent. Use permanganate of potash or Lysol solution. Burn all buds picked off.

EDWARD AUTEN, JR.
Princeville, Illinois.

SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR A FUTURE SYMPOSIUM

Benjamin C. Auten.

In connection with the announcement that a new symposium is contemplated, there are three ideas that occur to me, which I offer as suggestions.

(1) If the symposium were to cover only unrated kinds, it is very unlikely that the ratings in the new symposium would match in proper relation with those in the old.

(2) In the present symposium ratings there seems to me to be a decided fault:—the standard average good grade seems to group at about 7.5 as a center, which gives a uselessly long range in which to rate the uninteresting, inferior sorts, while all the choicer sorts have to be crowded into the small remaining range of 2.5. This gives no adequate opportunity to differentiate the grades of the finer peonies. The standard of the average of the good grade should be at 5.0, the middle point of the scale.

(3) Although a rating like the present symposium rating is undeniably valuable, and the most valuable that can be given in one figure; it cannot give a statement of the value of a variety nor of the relative values of varieties. It is an approximation, of course. However, some varieties are very valuable perhaps for practical reasons, while others are inferior in practical points. To one grower the practical points may be absolutely essential, while to another they would be of minor interest. The actual values of a variety may, therefore, vary according to the use to which it is to be put, and a blanket rating consolidated into one figure must be misleading to some one class, at least.

While it would be an enormous task to compile, a tabulation giving the percentage ratings of each variety on each of the score card points would be of enormous value. Varieties could then be selected on the basis of the qualities most desired. Under such a tabulation, vigor of growth, freedom of bloom and adaptability to commercial handling should find a place.

If it were desired to make a one-number rating of a variety from

such a tabulation, the totals of the percentages should not be taken, but a proportion of each, according to the importance given it in the score card. For example,—if a variety rated 50 per cent in a quality which was allowed 15 points in the score card; that 50 per cent of the quality would count for 7.5 in the total rating of the variety. It is conceivable that some qualities might be omitted from the total, such as adaptability to commercial handling, that is, not be included in the score card rating. In case a quality were left unrated, perhaps 50 per cent should be assigned it on figuring up the total. This would have to be done, of course, with each individual report. If nothing were put in, the rating as a whole would be badly falsified by the omission, and possibly this and similar details would make a compiled one-number rating impossible.

Possibly my explanation is not well enough put to be understandable. I am giving below a hypothetical score card with hypothetical ratings.

For an example of why such a tabulation is practically necessary, take Ella Wheeler Wilcox, rated 7.6. So far as the representative bloom is concerned, I have no fault to find with the rating. However, I have had the variety several years, and while it sets an abundant crop of heavy buds which promise well up to the point when they should open. I have had probably not one perfect bloom, and have had but very few blooms even representative, most of the buds never expanding at all and some of them expanding only partially. Of course it may be better farther north and east; probably is, but judging from a lot at the Des Moines show, it is more or less faulty even in good surroundings. There is no one number rating that can tell the quality of the flower and the worthlessness of the variety.

A fourth point has occurred to me which I will add. The singles and Japs should be rated separately on their relative merits as compared one with another, and not in comparison with the doubles. As to my own attitude toward them, I considered a bloom of Some Ganoko the most beautiful flower at the Des Moines show, and would rate it with Philippe Rivoire. Others in comparison would rate it at perhaps three or four. This would give a discrepancy of ratings which would make its compiled rating of no value, whereas if it is rated by all on its merits with the other single flowers, the ratings will bear a uniformity, giving a final result of definite value.

As the trouble involved in suggestion (3) would be so great, it might be that two ratings; one of the value of the flower, like the present symposium ratings, and one of the value of the variety, would answer all needs.

An objection to the present ratings is, that under them many growers are discarding valuable varieties and propagating some, at least, varieties of very low value, merely because the value rating of the flower is high. A variety that gives a flower value of 5.0 in beauty, but of dependable commercial qualifications and a good producer, is a more valuable variety than one like Ella Wheeler Wilcox whose flower rates higher, and which is therefore in good standing in the list of so-called "growers of only the choicer varieties."

There is also another type of flower, say Germaine Bigot, which is very fine for landscape effects, but utterly worthless commercially.

Perhaps there ought to be three ratings,—one for beauty of flower: one for landscape value of variety and one for commercial value. There ought to be some means to differentiate the varieties in regard to these points.

<i>Ella Wheeler Wilcox</i>			
Color	75% of 35 points	26½	Rating
Form	60% of 25 points	15	
Stem	100% of 20 points	20	
Substance	95% of 20 points	19	8.0
		<hr/> 100	

<i>Mad. de Verneville.</i>			
Color	75 % of 35 points	26½	Rating
Form	80 % of 25 points	20	
Stem	60 % of 20 points	12	
Substance	60 % of 20 points	12	7.0
		<hr/> 100	

<i>Festiva Maxima.</i>			
Color	70 % of 35 points	24½	Rating
Form	50 % of 25 points	12½	
Stem	95 % of 20 points	19	
Substance	75 % of 20 points	15	7.1
		<hr/> 100	

This is not to be taken as expressing my ideas as to proper score card or my estimates of these flowers. They are merely to illustrate the text of my letter.

The "rating", i. e. 8.0 for Ella Wheeler Wilcox, would not be figured on each individual report, but from your completed tabulation of average percentages reported. By "average percentage" I mean,—suppose five members should report on Ella Wheeler Wilcox and should give color ratings of 95 per cent, 80 per cent, 40 per cent, 65 per cent, and 83 per cent, the "average percentage" would be one-fifth (95+80+40+65+83) equal 72 3-5 (7.3).

NOTE—

The matter of a symposium brings up many phases that are worthy of serious consideration. Some years ago the Northwestern Peony & Iris Society attempted to get a rating value on the different varieties of peonies. A questionnaire was sent out to its members that covers the ground more fully than any I have ever seen and for the benefit of those who have not seen it I am presenting on opposite page, a miniature copy of same to show you the wide field it covered and the complete information called for. I am free to admit that on first appearance it presents some difficulty to properly fill out, but upon further study this seeming difficulty will be dispelled.

Had we at our command definite information on the points indicated on the questionnaire presented, the present list of commercial varieties now being offered would be greatly reduced, and the standard of the peony correspondingly elevated.

EDITOR.

NAME		LOCATION										REMARKS	
APPROXIMATE COLOR GROUP		BEST VARIETY MY CHOICE OF ONE HUNDRED OR LESS		GROWN VARIETY		THE FLOWER				THE PLANT		LANDSCAPE	
						INDIVIDUALITY OR CHARM OF				VIGOR		ESPECIALLY EARLY OR LATE BLOOMING	
						COLOR				FREEDOM OF		RESISTANCE TO SUN OF	
						FORM				OF BUDS		SUBSTANCE AND COLOR	
						SIZE				OF BUDS		BEAUTY OF BUD, ETC.	
						GRACE				OF BUDS			
						BELL-PELLED				OF BUDS			
						STEM				OF BUDS			
						VALUE				OF BUDS			
						PINK				OF BUDS			
						RED				OF BUDS			
						ORANGE				OF BUDS			
						YELLOW				OF BUDS			
						GREEN				OF BUDS			
						BLUE				OF BUDS			
						PURPLE				OF BUDS			
						BROWN				OF BUDS			
						BLACK				OF BUDS			
						OTHER				OF BUDS			
	LACINIAE												
	ELIZABETH B. BROWNING												
	JUBILEE												
	FRANCIS WILLARD												
	FESTIVA MAXIMA												
	LADY ALEXANDER DUFF												
	MARIE LENOX												
	ALBAE LOHRAINE												
	RELWAYS GLORIOUS												
	GERMAINE BISOT												
	MARIE JACQUIN												
	EUGENE VERDIER												
	MARQUERITE GERARD												
	TOURANGELLE												
	ALBERT CROUSE												
	THERESE												
	LUPFRANCE												
	MME JULES DESERT												
	SARAH BERNHARDT												
	MARIE CROUSE												
	MATHIA BULLOCK												
	MONS JULES ELIE												
	AUGUSTE VILLAUME												
	CLAIRE DUBOIS												
	LE MARTINE												
	WALTER PALON												
	MME DIFSEL												
	MRS FOREL												
	ADOLPHE ROSEAU												
	MONS MARTIN CAMUZET												
	KARL ROTENFELD												
	WM F TURNER												
	COLLIER CLEVELAND												
	FELIX CROUSE												

PLEASE LIST BELOW YOUR ESTIMATE OF SUCH OTHER VARIETIES WITH WHICH YOU HAVE HAD EXPERIENCE

Instructions for Grading Varieties.

The basis for grading is the characteristic or quality taken as a whole rather than the flower only. Ten characteristics or qualities have been considered or assumed as representative of a fine variety.

These are indicated by the captions over the ten columns, in each of which opposite the variety you are requested to mark a grade in figures. The captions or headings are made briefly descriptions or suggestive in order to facilitate your marking.

The highest excellence of characteristic is assumed as 10. It is suggested that any variety which will score a total of 70 or more distributed over not less than nine characteristic columns is a penny of more than ordinary quality.

Space is provided for one hundred varieties grouped approximately as to color. Several varieties are printed with a view of saving you trouble in filling out but any may be scratched and substituted as you desire.

In the column for Remarks please note any points of interest not otherwise provided for.

You are urgently requested to state your personal views as to a proper basis for grading, to indicate a just rating for meritorious varieties or wherein you would modify the one herein suggested. If columns of characteristics should in your opinion be equally evaluated please indicate below:

10 CHARACTERISTICS

COLUMN NO.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	IN ORDER OF QUESTIONNAIRE
CHANGE OF HEADING											
ELIMINATE HEADING											
CHANGE OF GRADING VALUE											

CHAMPIONING THE CAUSE OF THE SINGLE PEONY

Peony Bulletin No. 22 received and I want to compliment you upon detailed reports of shows, which I realize means considerable tedious work and am sure many find valuable in various ways.

Mr. A. P. Saunders in his article, page 62, class 145, speaks discouragingly of single peonies: "almost always flag" and "If anyone has seen a really effective and beautiful staging of single peonies at a show, let him stand up."

I'll stand up on both feet. If Mr. Saunders had seen the splendid, effective exhibit of T. C. Thurlow's Sons at the National Peony Show of 1923 at St. Paul containing forty-two varieties of singles and Japanese, occupying two long tables, winning the \$100.00 prize deservedly; (how they stood up straight as soldiers on parade for three days and won the admiration of the public), his disappointment would turn to envy that he did not have a similar collection of singles.

To consider that the Thurlow's brought this exhibit half way across the continent and they stood up for three days, shows that singles have stamina, for not one "flagged."

A certain lady having done her share towards the show, was told she could have any peony she wanted on the closing day. She selected Tokio, was given the whole vase full and had them for two days in the house before they dropped, but they did not "flag".

A flower that will stand all this treatment is surely worthy of the exhibition hall, be it single or double. Wish there would be more exhibits like that one of singles.

Those who saw the St. Paul show will admit that conditions of show room were most favorable to peonies, more than can generally be had, yet the doubles had the same advantage and on the whole did not give such a good account of themselves as the singles.

Am not afflicted with peonyitis, yet appreciate good peonies wherever they are.

CHARLES A. MATHES,
1326 Osceola Ave., St. Paul, Minn.

AN APPRECIATION OF THE PEONY.

By W. F. Christman.

Nature has been lavish indeed in the almost limitless number of beautiful creations that are to be seen on every hand, and God, in His infinite wisdom, has made it possible for us all to possess a love for the beautiful. True, our tastes may be very dissimilar and what might be termed beautiful by one might be deemed only passing by another. It is well that we have these diversified tastes to give expression to our favorite flowers and pastimes. In the field of floriculture, however, there seems to be a more general unification of opinion along this line. We have the rose enthusiast who places his flower on the highest pedestal of beauty, and surely it enjoys an enviable reputation, and rightly so. Some feel that the Iris is the most lovely flower imaginable and when one has had an opportunity to see some of the beautiful creations of the species, it cannot be denied that they have good grounds for their contentions. The gladiolus of the present day has a host of admirers and it must be admitted that it is one of the most beautiful flowers grown, comprising as it does the widest latitude in coloring and variation in form;

lacking only fragrance to place it in a class by itself. Others can see more beauty in the dahlia than any other flower that grows, and with the many beautiful creations of the modern dahlia, their enthusiasm must be given due credence. The peony enthusiast feels that his chosen flower is the acme of perfection with its many commendable qualities, and thus we might continue to laud the beauties of the different flowers and find worthy adherents in each class, but while we might admire them all, we generally give more attention to certain flowers than others.

Some of the most beautiful flowers require the greatest amount of care, and when it is not possible or perhaps practical to devote this attention, we most naturally choose the flower that will give us the greatest amount of satisfaction with the minimum amount of effort expended to produce results.

Wonderful strides have been made during the past few years in floriculture, and it would seem that the zenith of perfection had been reached, but this thought is being constantly dispelled by the appearance of some new creation displacing all rivals for the coveted position of queen of them all.

In the Northwest, where rigorous winters are experienced and where the selection of hardy plants is imperative, there can be found no more desirable flower than the peony. Its extreme hardiness is unquestioned, which at once finds popular favor and commendation; its bold magnificence when in bloom carries us with a new sympathy into nature; enables us to more fully comprehend how lavishly beauty can be expressed; encourages dormant power of observation; creates within us noble desires and aspirations, and opens up possibilities for research and study that are pleasing in the highest degree.

How wonderful and beautiful nature has expressed herself in the bloom of a peony; how majestic and dignified is her stately carriage; how harmonious and pleasing is the formation of her bloom; how ethereally delicate and lovely is the substance of her petals; how entrancing and refined is the perfume wafted upon the breezes.

To behold a field of Peonies in bloom the first time, is to be enthralled and stupified in amazement and wonder. A sea of exquisite beauty greets the eye and a delicate perfume fills the nostrils. Exclamations of surprise cannot be suppressed; a longing for acquisition becomes dominant in our thoughts, and if we have entertained any prejudice against the peony, it is quickly dispelled.

It has been my good fortune to conduct many through such experiences, and I have yet to find a single person who has not been deeply impressed, and nearly all express their sincere admiration for this stately queen of baauty.

As I recall my boyhood days in the good old Buckeye State, I can well recollect that during the latter part of May there would be ushered in a grand display of peonies that would be on dress parade Memorial Day. These, of course, were the old Officianalis varieties of red, white and pink; lacking in fragrance of the later originations but possessing beauty to attract the passerby. These old time favorites are still admired on account of their earliness of bloom, but have been superseded by scores of far more beautiful originations, that were undreamed of at that time.

With the steady march of progress, a transformation in floriculture has been wrought that has not been exceeded in any line of endeavor.

I have often been asked the question—"What caused you to acquire such a fondness for the Peony?" I can only reply that it was the enthusiasm created in my boyhood days when I would behold each spring the gorgeous "Piney" in all its splendor. What utter neglect it suffered in its sod-bound environment; how the winter storms would lash with fury the dead foliage that had been resplendent in its robes of green throughout the summer and fall months; still, with the first breath of spring, it would arouse from its winter's sleep, and the struggle for existence would soon be manifested by the tender shoots as they peeped out once more to resume their conquest and to prove that hardiness and vigor were possessed to the fullest extent.

These commendable attributes influenced me more than any one thing to start a collection of peonies. This collection has grown until it now comprises the best peonies to be secured, and as years pass and new ones of merit appear, they, too, will be added, for my admiration for the flower has never ceased, in fact it has been greatly strengthened with the passing of years.

The satisfaction of sharing the admiration of others, when you acquaint them with the individual characteristics of the different varieties, and present them with bloom that their impressions may be passed on to others, is a source of great delight; to dispense cultural directions to the beginner and give a practical demonstration of same, affords added pleasure; to assist in every way possible the solving of their problems as to what varieties to select, what location they should occupy to give the best results from a landscape point of view as well as artistic effect, proves continued satisfaction, and in this manner our interest increases and our admiration for our chosen flower progresses without abatement.

The love we acquire for the peony broadens our vision for the beautiful, and it is rare indeed to find the peony admirer satisfied with this flower alone.

The iris, with its delicate colorings and artistic poise, its hardiness and drouth-resisting qualities, the stately Delphinium, the royal Lily, the dainty Gypsophila, and many other charming perennials all find a hearty welcome in our garden.

The number of nurserymen who are growing the Peony for commercial purposes, bears mute evidence of its increasing popularity. This popularity has been steadily gaining ground, due chiefly to the satisfactory performance of the flower under most adverse conditions, and to the activities of the various flower societies who are championing its cause.

After its blossoms have gone, leaving an indelible impression of loveliness on our minds, there still remains beauty in the stately plant, that can be easily pruned to any desirable shape to conform with the surroundings. The deep, rich green of the foliage is retained until heavy frosts are experienced. To grow the Peony is to be enamored with its possibilities; to know it is to find these possibilities fully expressed. Give it the same attention you would bestow upon any other of your favorite flowers and most satisfactory results will be reflected from this treatment; let it suffer neglect that would mean total failure to most perennials and you will still get results that will well repay you. Why, then, should we countenance neglect when such admirable results can be accomplished with but little care?

Plant peonies more generously and you will experience a delight that will prove a continued pleasure with the passing of years and materially strengthen your love for the beautiful, so admirably expressed in the bloom of a peony.

NOTE—Above article appeared in March, 1922, number of the Flower Grower.—Editor.

BERTRAND H. FARR.

On the morning of October 11, there passed away one of our members whose services to the society have been of inestimable value. Bertrand H. Farr, although not a charter member, came into the society during its early years and by way of his great love for and interest in the peony, soon made himself felt in the councils of the society.

He was one of those rare personages who are possessed of the happy faculty of making friends with almost everyone with whom they come in contact, and those who attended the annual gatherings of the society looked forward with pleasure to a meeting with him. In fact he was one of the dominating figures at these meetings and to those of us who have been constant attendants and who have had the privilege of calling him friend, will come the keenest sorrow when we realize that his kindly greeting is only a remembrance of other years.

We shall miss too the splendid exhibits of flowers, which, with a seeming sense of duty, he always contrived to bring with him, forming as they did one of the principal attractions of the exhibitions, being replete with the newest and most rare varieties.

With the retirement of Mr. Ward as president, Mr. Farr was elected to fill the vacancy, marking the beginning of his service to the Society.

It was mainly through his devotion to the cause that some semblance of order was brought out of the chaos then existing in the nomenclature of the peony. Although there were others who helped in the work, it was his guiding hand that brought it to completion, so far as it was possible at that time, and laid the foundation upon which any future effort at an official catalog must stand.

The test collection at Ithaca, which Mr. Ward had got under way, was well established at the time of his retirement. This, with Mr. Farr's own large collection, furnished the latter with the material for his studies of the different varieties and for three years he gave much time to the work of identification and description. It was a work of love for him, and he gave freely of his time, feeling that the increased interest in the peony resulting from these studies would be sufficient compensation.

As the society prospered there came a time when it became necessary to hold regular winter meetings of the Board of Directors, at which matters connected with the management of the Society, its meetings and exhibitions, were discussed. As a member of the Board, Mr. Farr was always in attendance, devoting his whole thought to the best interests of the society, subordinating his personal interests for the general good. His influence was always thrown in the way of harmony, condemning all things which tended toward unpleasantness and friction, both in the affairs of the Society and the peony trade as well.

To those who have been personally acquainted with him there would seem to be no call for these remarks for it must be to them simply a

rehearsal of things of which they are already quite familiar, but to the great body of members who have known him only by name. I wish to convey to them a knowledge of what manner of man it has been the good fortune of the society to number among those who have directed its activities in the past and by whose management the society has attained its present high standing.

Born with a love for the beautiful in nature and striving always to bring this love into concrete form, the peony appealed to him as one of the most beautiful of nature's creations and a fit occupant of that "Dream Garden" of which he has told us so delightfully in the introductions to his beautiful catalogs of Hardy Plant Specialties, publications which have seemed more like manuals of garden lore than commercial price lists.

The life of such a man is an inspiration and all who have known him must have felt the influence of his enthusiasm for hardy plants and gardening, leading us to hope that the "Dream Garden" of which he so fondly wrote is now something more than a dream; an actuality.

A. H. FEWKES.

DEATH OF NOTED HORTICULTURIST, NURSERYMAN AND HYBRIDIZER

By H. G. Seyler

Bertrand H. Farr, nationally known figure and authority in the modern horticultural world, died at his home, 118 Wyomissing Boulevard, Wyomissing, Pa., at 11:05 A. M., October 11, 1924. Death was the result of an abnormal blood pressure which developed, on October 6th, and culminated in cerebral hemorrhage.

Interment was made at Webster City, Iowa, the boyhood home of Mr. Farr, on Wednesday, October 15. Funeral services were held at the Farr home on Monday, October 13. Throngs of friends and business associates including members of the Men's Club of the First Presbyterian Church, and the employees of the Farr Nurseries, were present. The Rev. Dr. Marshall Blackburne, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. Farr was an attendant, officiated and preached an impressive sermon. Sympathetic messages and telegrams were received from floriculturists all over the country who were unable to attend.

Among the many floral tributes was a large blanket composed entirely of hardy flowers, which were Mr. Farr's favorites and which were assembled from the nursery.

Mr. Farr is survived by his wife, Anna Willis Farr, and his sister, Mrs. J. O. Crawford, of Chicago, Illinois.

SKETCH OF DECEASED

Mr. Farr was born October 14th, 1863, at Windham, Vt. When five years of age, his parents moved west, going first to Wisconsin where, for three years, they lived at Lake Geneva, and later at Rochester near Milwaukee. Here he made his first associations with peonies by acquiring a single root of the old-fashioned red from his aunt, for the performance of an errand. In biography he refers to this as his first peony; the forerunner of the many thousand peonies which he came to collect and possess later.

Shortly afterward the family emigrated to Webster City, Iowa, where

his father established a cattle farm on the wild but beautiful prairie. In one of Mr. Farr's famous catalogs he refers to this prairie as the environment which instilled in him the love of plants and nature.

Becomes a School Teacher

After attending high school and seminary, Mr. Farr obtained a teacher's certificate at the age of seventeen. His mother, in the meantime, had bought a piano and he had taken some lessons. In a short time, he came to be considered a musical prodigy. As related in his biography, he was sent to the New England music conservatory for two years. While in Boston Mr. Farr was a perpetual visitor at Hovey's place, every spare minute being spent among that rare collection of plants. He returned to Webster City in 1885 to establish a music business. A few years later, he sold the business with the intention of coming east to complete his education at Boston. Upon his arrival there, he accepted an offer to go with a music house in Philadelphia, where he remained for five years. His business trips occasionally brought him to Reading and here he established a music business.

First Wyomissing Resident

In 1896 he purchased his present home site and erected the first residence in Wyomissing. Here he at last had room to start a real garden and after many years he could say "Blessed is he who has a hobby, and can make it his business." He began to collect all the varieties of peonies and irises which were then in existence. Gradually his collections grew famous and visitors began to arrive from all parts of the country. It was then that the hobby became his business—and he was supremely happy. Orders for plants from his collections began to increase in number. Finally, he sold the music business and from then on devoted his entire time to the production and distribution of hardy plants. Not long did he confine himself to peonies and irises. He acquired additional land in Wyomissing and increased his collections to include standard and novelty varieties of other perennials, roses, dahlias, shrubs, trees, and evergreens.

Business Incorporated

The details of the business became so numerous and involved that in 1916 the business became incorporated with a capitalization of \$150,000. Additional land was purchased and the nursery proper, was established. From this period until 1924 the business increased in volume and reputation. As far back as 1908, Mr. Farr was an important member of a committee which spent several summers at Cornell University for the purpose of classifying the 2700 varieties of peonies which were then so hopelessly duplicated and confused. His knowledge of peonies and irises produced an increasing demand for articles on the subjects. Mr. Farr prepared many articles for garden magazines, text books and daily papers. At various times and for many years he was president of the American Peony Society and the American Iris Society. His opinions on plant matters were sought and accepted by horticultural authority and writers throughout the world, as many letters on file with foreign postmarks give evidence. For many years, and until the time of his death, hardly a month went by without a request from some garden club for a lecture. Most of these requests Mr. Farr was able to accept and even at the time of his death, he was scheduled for such lectures.

Creates New Varieties

Not content with the many varieties in existence, Mr. Farr began to develop new varieties by hybridization and cross pollenization. His chief accomplishments are some two score varieties of irises which he has carefully selected and named from thousand of seedlings and which have been accepted and listed in catalogs issued by other growers throughout the world. His developments were also extended to peonies, delphiniums, columbines, and gaillardias. Even now there are many new irises and hemerocallis which are to be introduced during 1925.

New Location For Nursery

During 1923 a new nursery location was obtained by purchase in the form of the Conrad Weiser homestead, Womelsdorf, Pa. Planting operations on the new site were begun in fall 1923 and will be completed in spring, 1926. Business is being conducted, in the meantime, on the Wyomissing premises. In recent years, Mr. Farr assembled and perfected a working organization so that he might be free to devote more of his time to hybridization and to technical plant matters. This organization will continue to carry on the business.

Elbert Hubbard's Tribute.

Elbert Hubbard, author of "The Message to Garcia" editor of "The Fra" and victim of the Lusitania tragedy, once wrote the following in his magazine "The Fra."

"In many families time is reckoned from 'when Johnny was born', or 'when little Willie died', or 'when we were married'.

Thoreau dated events from 'when the blue-fringed genetian bloomed', 'When the *Simplocarpus Foetidus* first called the bees to get fresh honey,' 'when the meadow-larks came back'. Yes, the sturdy, strong, heroic, manly Thoreau lived in fairyland.

"Bertrand H. Farr is a man of the Thoreau type; only where Thoreau was content to admire and describe, Farr must evolve and make the beautiful even more beautiful."

HENRY S. COOPER

Following so closely the death of Mr. Farr, we are grieved to relate the passing of Henry S. Cooper of Kenosha, Wis., our esteemed treasurer. Within the short space of two weeks the society has suffered the loss of two directors whose services and wise counsel will be keenly missed.

Mr. Cooper was born at Attica, Ind., June 10th, 1858, and died at Kenosha, Wis., Oct. 25th, 1924. Death was due to angina pectora with which he was stricken very suddenly.

Through his efforts the Cooper Underwear Company is universally known and his sterling business methods and integrity coupled with the belief that personal honor must be built into a manufactured product, made him one of the most widely known and universally respected men in this great industry in the nation. He was the son of Samuel T. Cooper, one of the best known earlier workers in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

It was the writers good fortune to have known him for the past few

years and to have had the delightful pleasure of being shown through his beautiful gardens and fields of peonies. How he loved and cherished them and what a delight he took in sending out many thousands of blooms each year to cheer the sick and unfortunate throughout the state. To have known Mr. Cooper was an inspiration to anyone. His genial hospitality was unsurpassed.

He had only held the office of treasurer of the American Peony Society for a few months, but during that time he fully displayed his business ability and interest in furthering the work of the society and building it up to a higher standard of efficiency.

I am taking the liberty of quoting an editorial that appeared in the Kenosha Evening News of Oct. 27th, that very fittingly describes the man as he was known to his many friends and co-workers. Mr. Cooper's remains were sent to Milwaukee for cremation and will be returned and find a final resting place in the Cooper plot at Green Ridge cemetery, Kenosha, Wis.

Mr. Cooper's wife, five daughters and three sons survive him.

EDITOR

THE WORLD IS POORER

"That part of the world which appreciates beauty, which believes in idealism being a personal thing and which respects integrity woven into the fabric of industry has been made poorer by the death of Henry S. Cooper, who was laid at rest in Kenosha today.

Kenosha has lost a man who did much for the city as a citizen and as a builder for others. His life will remain an inspiration to others and those who mourn him most sincerely today will be comforted by the fact that his having lived, and having lived in the way he did has been something of value to the world, something of advancement of mankind and something which has made the world indefinitely better and more interesting.

Henry Cooper was an intelligent student of conditions and a masterly marshal of resources. It mattered not whether these resources went into making a better manufactured article, creating a better peony plant, or developing a richer life. He gave to all of these things the same kind of study and the same serious and efficient treatment. He was a man who did things better because he liked the better things. The joy of living to him was reflected in the accomplishment of something better. He never wasted time or resources, but held that both were given to him in order that he might do something which would add something to the comfort or the happiness of others.

He coupled honesty and ability into a working team to accomplish results, and his pleasure in life came from the doing rather than the seeing of someone else do things.

His wonderful flower garden, his acres of peonies, every one of them made more interesting on account of his personal interest in them, have meant much to Kenosha and Kenosha people, and long after Mr. Cooper is laid to rest, people will recall beauty in their own lives which was instilled by his interest in these wonderful flowers. It may be that the peony fields will never bloom as fair again, but they will still be blooming in the memories of many of us. Coupled with the remembrance of them, will be that other remembrance of the courteous kindly man who

thought it worthwhile to cultivate beauty in his own heart and let the reflection of it slip out toward the hearts of others less fortunate.

The real story of the life of Henry Cooper will never be written, but it will be known—a little of it to these people and a little to the others.

A man of many charities, Mr. Cooper gave wisely, but he did not give publicly. He was thoughtful of the needs of others. He was anxious to advance every movement for a betterment of the moral and religious life of the community and yet he did these things in such an unostentatious manner that few people, save those directly interested in his benefactions ever knew of them. "That's nothing" was his oft repeated answer when asked in regard to these sometimes splendid gifts to Kenosha institutions, of which the world never knew.

Today, hundreds of these people aided by his kindly and unknown charities feel that in his death they have lost a personal friend. He realized the fact that he held their friendship and it was a pleasure and a comfort to him.

Mr. Cooper recognized in the highest manner the relations between the man who directed great industry and the men and women who worked to make industry profitable and worthwhile. There is no more sincere sorrow over his death than that which finds expression in "the Cooper family." That "family" was not one bound by the ties of blood, but one bound by the ties of closest personal interest of employe and employer. The sorrow felt by these people is a sincere sorrow over the loss of a friend.

The life of Mr. Cooper brought many compensations to him while it was being lived, and it will bring many benedictions to him as his mortal remains are gathered to his fathers."

NOTE:—It is also our sad duty to report the passing of the following members during the past year:

J. A. Taylor, 401 Exchange Building, Memphis, Tenn.

A. S. Parker, 6500 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich.

E. P. Schwartz, 734 15th street, Washington, D. C.

All three of these gentlemen were deeply interested in the advancement of the peony and the society has suffered a serious loss. I only had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Mr. Schwartz who had a short time before his death compiled a splendid catalog covering his extensive collection of peonies.

It is not presumed that this list is complete, as the loss of members by death is rarely reported to this office. If there are any corrections to the above, the secretary would greatly appreciate a report on same.

EDITOR

SOME CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISMS AND SUGGESTIONS

Sam Carpenter, Oswego, Kas.

If you will permit me, I would like to express through the columns of the Bulletin some criticisms and suggestions with a view, and belief that if followed, it would further the interest of our society, disseminate more widely information about our beautiful flower, and largely increase our membership.

Probably ninety percent of the members of the American Peony

Society, like myself, have not availed themselves of the privilege of attending the annual shows, and having no personal contact with the directors and secretary, our sole source of information, and benefit derived from membership, is the occasional bulletin received, and the past two years these have been only semi-occasional.

Now I understand there is quite a balance in our treasury, and this fund is constantly being increased. While I would not suggest a policy of spending beyond our income or means, it occurs to me this fund could be put to much better use by being expended in literature for distribution among the membership, and I would heartily favor the publication of an annual, similar to the one published by the American Rose Society.

If this proved too expensive for our present dues, I feel quite sure a large majority of our members would prefer to pay \$5.00 a year, if necessary, and get a beautiful annual of two or three hundred pages, an artistic volume, well bound and full of beautiful pictures, many in colors, and information concerning late introductions, and especially those of the current year.

Of course all of this would entail a lot of work on the part of the secretary, or editor, or whoever compiled the work or had it in charge, and it is not to be expected that all this should be done for nothing. This labor, or at least the services of a competent stenographer during the time the work is being done, should be paid for out of the treasury, and this should also be done during the preparation of the Bulletins, which should also be continued, and we should not have less than four issues per year.

The dues of the American Gladioli Society are only \$2.00 per year, and they issue and mail free to their members a very attractive bulletin each month.

It seems to me that we are not measuring up to our opportunities when we permit other similar organizations to surpass us in usefulness and service to their members.

Prof. Saunders wrote in one of his many excellent articles, (I think this was in the Country Gentleman) that the sight or possession of any one of a half dozen of the finest peonies would convince anyone of its superior beauty and desirability above all other perennials.

There is nothing like publicity to awaken the public to the beauty of the peony, get them to look, then to plant, and forthwith we have another "fan," for there are fewer disappointments in raising peonies than any other flower, and one's enthusiasm does grow.

To sum up, let's spend our money; let's have more bulletins and a fine big annual, and then "WATCH US GROW."

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

There are two or three matters which I would like to bring before the Society in order that the directors may know what is most desired by the members and help to make the Society as valuable as possible.

First there is the matter of accurate descriptions for the later varieties. It is not enough to know that a new peony is "pink" or even "sunrise pink". We want to have a fairly accurate description based on points such as those already adopted for what are called the "Cornell descriptions." Even in these days there are some spurious varieties on the

market—La Fee, King of England, Philippe Rivoire, and Kelway's Glorious to mention a few—and I am sure the growers are honest in most cases but must depend on inadequate descriptions. None of these descriptions have been published for twelve or fifteen years and that means a good many varieties. The directors have been working on this for some time and have a number of these ready which may appear in the next bulletin. There are also some in the Cornell bulletins which are not accurate, which should be corrected.

We have talked of a peony manual for many years but in the nature of things some parts would be obsolete almost before it could be printed and I believe it would be better to keep up to date in the bulletins as they appear from time to time.

Another matter is rating of new varieties. We have had a symposium not many years ago but many of the very newest were not disseminated enough then to be rated. A rating by a few members is not as accurate as one by twenty or more but it would give some idea as to the comparative merit. Let us take for example one or two of Dessert's varieties, say Clemenceau and Auguste Dessert. If they were rated at 8.5 and 9.0 even with five or six votes it would give one a fair estimate of their worth. If you or I want to obtain these we would like some index that we were not buying 7.5 varieties. None of us want all the new ones merely because they are new, but only those which may be better than older varieties. The Iris Society has done some fine work in this line and among the bewildering number of new Iris we may pick and choose those which we most desire. I believe a somewhat temporary rating like this would make the work of the next general symposium more valuable. If Clemenceau should have eight votes giving an average of 8.5 and later have thirty votes averaging 8.4 or 8.6 we could at once decide that this latter rating might stand as final. In the bulletin giving the last symposium, Dr. Saunders suggested that this comparison between the two symposiums be a basis for eliminating from further balloting those varieties which only showed a slight difference.

The directors have considered having a jury of thirty or forty from as many states as possible who would have wide knowledge of varieties. This would, perhaps, give as accurate an estimate as it is possible to get.

A third matter for consideration is in regard to a revision of the constitution and by-laws. The Peony Society has grown far beyond the membership thought possible by the founders and many points are not covered adequately, if at all, by the by-laws and a broad policy should be outlined subject to the approval of the members. Recognition and organization of sectional exhibits, number and methods of choosing directors, regional vice-presidents and other matters should be considered and I hope may be presented soon.

Perhaps not all suggestions can be adopted but I would like your views on the things most desirable to make our Society give the most help to peony lovers and promote the purposes for which it was formed.

The Society has sustained two severe losses since our last bulletin was issued and while I realize that these are spoken of elsewhere I cannot help asking that I may be allowed a word of appreciation.

I have known Bertrand H. Farr for many years as a friend. We became acquainted through our mutual love of the peony and we found our likes and dislikes of many other things were mutual also. With his genial good nature I think he was sometimes imposed upon but he

was always ready to give his advice and counsel and stood firm for what he considered right and honorable.

He gave a great deal of time and thought to the affairs of the Society and probably has done more than any one else to establish the nomenclature of the peony on a firm footing. He sought the truth in every instance, and to illustrate this I want to tell an incident which happened a number of years ago but which I have always remembered. There was a great deal of discussion over the variety Lady Alexandra Duff. Probably a dozen different growers had as many different varieties which had been bought under this name and naturally the man who won the decision was in a way to profit. While talking about this he said, "It isn't a question of what you would like to have it or what I would like to have it. We want to find the truth". I think this illustrates his attitude in all peony matters. He put the interests of the Society ahead of all personal interests, and in his death the Society has suffered a very great loss.

Mr. Henry S. Cooper has not been identified with the affairs of the Society as many years as Mr. Farr but his keen interest brought him to one of its most important offices—that of treasurer. He possessed the keenness of the successful business man with an ardent love of the peony and the desire that others should know and enjoy its beauties. I think his peony business was founded on this desire as he often spoke of appealing to those who knew nothing of this flower and once said that he considered his field lay in the north and west among the farms rather than to the suburban gardeners. His generous gift of flowers for tired railroad travelers and to the hospitals showed his efforts reached those who otherwise never would nor could enjoy the meaning of masses of flowers. I always knew where he stood as he always modestly but frankly stated his views and believed in them so fully that he backed them up.

We have lost two directors but we have the inspiration which their work has given us and I sincerely hope that the Society may build a living memorial to them in spreading the love of the beautiful in nature.

WINTHROP H. THURLOW, President.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

FEB. 1, 1925.

HONORARY MEMBERS

Batchelor, Leon D.	Riverside, Cal.
Coit, Prof. J. Elliot	1225 South Normandie, Los Angeles, Cal.
Crousse, M.	23 Rue Jeanne d' Arc, Nancy, France.
Dessert, A.	Chenonceaux, France.
Lemoine, V. & Sons.	Nancy, France
Pleas, Mrs. Sarah A.	Whittier, Cal.
Shaylor, E. J.	Auburndale, Mass.
Whetzel, Prof H. H.	Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LIST

Abbot, Thomas	Sugar Creek, Mo.
Abbott, Dr. C. A.	Oskaloosa, Ia.
Abney, Martin J.	Athens, Ga.
Adams, W. C.	1027 S. 30th St., Birmingham, Ala.
Alderman, J. O.	Pocahontas, Va.
Aldrich, H. A.	Neoga, Ill.
Allen, Mrs. Robert C.	19 Metcalf, Worcester, Mass.
Allen, H. J.	1106 Oakland Road, Cedar Rapids, Ia.
Allison, F. W.	Auburndale, Mass.
Albaugh, Edw. A.	Randallstown, Md.
American Rose & Plant Co., The.	Springfield, Ohio.
Anderson, Mrs. Chas.	2494 Grandin Road, Cincinnati, O.
Anderson, Wm.	1669 Otto Ave., St. Paul, Minn.
Andersen, Kr. Scot.	Raaballegaard, Laven, Denmark.
Anderson, Julius P.	1443 Mattern Ave., Des Moines, Ia.
Andresen, Oliver S.	2609 E. 5th Street, Duluth, Minn.
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 Lewis, Mrs. M. B.....3824 Grand Ave., Omaha, Neb.
 Lindgren, L. W.....1787 W. Minnehaha St., St. Paul, Minn.
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 Littleford, F. Jason.....Downers Grove, Ill.
 Lloyd, Mrs. F. G.....157 E. 71st St., New York City, N. Y.
 Long, P. M.....Cordova, Ala.
 Loomis, Chas. H.....Merriam, Kan.
 Loose, Mrs. D. N.....Maquoketa, Iowa.
 Lorenz, Karl K.....390 W. First St., Dayton, Ohio.
 Lott, Mrs. H. D.....Fresh Meadow Road, Flushing, N. Y.
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 Lozier, C. E.....Elyria, Ohio.
 Luthé, F. H.....3409 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, Iowa.

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 McBride, A. F.....1764 Marshall Ave., St. Paul, Minn.
 McClain, Frederick.....Gibsonia, Pa.
 McClelland, Will.....Saginaw, Mich.
 McCoy, The J. W. Co.....Lake, Ind.
 McCullagh, Mrs. F. H.....Los Gatos, Cal.
 McDonald, Kenneth.....Market Square, Ottawa, Ont.
 McDonald, E.....Coon Rapids, Iowa.
 McEwan, Mrs. A.....Crag Ane, Tarrytown, N. Y.
 McFadden, J. Franklin.....115 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
 McKendrick, Adam M. Y.....Hotel Fuller, Detroit, Mich.
 McKie, Miss K. M.....Cambridge, N. Y.
 McKee, W. J.....45 Kenwood Ave., Worcester, Mass.
 McMaster, John.....372 Oxford St., London, Ont.
 McHenry, L. M.....Denver, Colo.
 Mace, Miss Isabel.....St. John, Kan.
 Macoun, W. T.....Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Canada.
 Magill, W. H.....care Fargo Seed House, Fargo, N. D.
 Maher, John M.....Devils Lake, N. D.
 Marker, C. H.....Jefferson, Iowa.
 Marschke, K. A.....Enderlin, N. D.
 Marshall, J. J.....Lynn, Mass.
 Martin, Mrs. Norman A.....136 Fairfield Ave., New Castle, Pa.
 Marvis, C. G.....Greenwood, Ind.
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 Matter, S. E.....2132 Woodland Ave., Duluth, Minn.
 Maule, E. W.....654 Chester Ave., Morristown, N. J.
 May E. E.....Mount Arbor Nurseries, Shenandoah, Iowa.
 Mead, Franklin B.....Fort Wayne, Ind.
 Meharry, Chas. L.....Attica, Ind.
 Meehan, Thos. & Sons.....Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Melby, C. A.....Northfield, Minn.
 Mellick, Mrs. Geo. P.....218 E. 7th St., Plainfield, N. J.
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 Merrimon, John G.....Asheville, N. C.
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 Meyer, Orval C.....Vincennes, Ind.
 Middleton, J. C.....38 Ridgeway, London, Ont.
 Miller, John R.....Walled Lake, Mich.
 Milton Nursery Co.....Milton, Ore.
 Missouri Fruit Co.....Pomona, Mo.
 Mitchell, Henry F. Co.....518 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Mitchell, C. O.....Portland, Ind.
 Mitchell, Mrs. W. S.....5028 Morewood Place, Pittsburg, Pa.
 Mitten, Arthur G.....R. D. 1, Goodland, Ind.

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 Norton, Harry A. Ayers Cliff, Quebec, Canada.
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 O'Donnel, C. E. 7th & Mulberry Sts., Des Moines, Iowa.
 Oberlin Peony Gardens. Sinking Springs, Berks Co., Pa.
 Oelschlager, H. W. Price Hill Station, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Oleson, Miss May J. S. Ripon, Wis.
 Olmstead, Mrs. H. G. 1914 W. Park Place, Oklahoma City, Okla.
 Old Farm Nurseries. Boskoop, Holland.
 Orr, William. Clarinda, Iowa.
 Orwig, Ralph. 1919 Arlington, Des Moines, Iowa.
 Oswald, P. Techny, Ill.
 Paden, Joseph E. Insurance Exchange Bldg., Chicago, Ill.
 Paddock, Clarence L. Albany, Ill.
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 Paulus, Mrs. Michael.....R. R. 6, Iowa City, Iowa.
 Peabody, Geo. E.....253 High St., West Medford, Mass.
 Peachey, John.....119 Erie Ave., Brantford, Ont.
 Pennock, S. S. Co.....1608 Ludlow St., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Perkins, Merritt H.....2235 Fairfax Ave., Denver, Colo.
 Perin, Mrs. Frank L.....429 Lafayette Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Perkins, Mrs. James H.....3264 Stellinius Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Perry, A. G.....care Butler Bros., Minneapolis, Minn.
 Peterson, John M.....290 Mill St., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
 Peterson, Geo. H.....Fair Lawn, N. J.
 Peterson, W. A.....30 N. La Salle St., Chicago, Ill.
 Petriquin, W. A.....Algonac, Mich.
 Peyton, G. W.....Rapidan, Va.
 Pfeiffer, C. A.....R. D. 1, Winona, Minn.
 Pfeifer, Mrs. Henrietta.....219 37th St., Des Moines, Iowa.
 Phair, Philip D.....Presque Isle, Me.
 Phelps, C. W.....3815 S. 9th St., Des Moines, Iowa.
 Phipps, Howard.....Westbury, Long Island, N. Y.
 Phipps, W. H.....Paulding, Ohio.
 Pierson, F. R.....Tarrytown, N. Y.
 Pillow, James.....Cold Spring-on-Hudson, N. Y.
 Post, Dr. Geo. W.....Milton, Wis.
 Pratt, Miss Frances M.....Orwell, Ashtabula Co., Ohio.
 Proudfit, Miss L. Blanche.....115 E. Hallam Ave., Washington, Pa.
 Prouty, John J.....Baldwinsville, N. Y.
 Pruyn, Anna W.....7 Englewood Place, Albany, N. Y.

Quecke, Frank.....213 S. 3d St., Columbus, Ohio

Rasay, Chas. E. S.....528 Gansevoort St., Little Falls, N. Y.
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 Rawlins, Edward W.....629 Colfan St., Evanston, Ill.
 Reading, H. G.....1321 Otter St., Franklin, Pa.
 Ream, Miss Gertrude T.....Main St., Mount Holly, N. J.
 Reed, Homer.....76th & Main Sts., Kansas City, Mo.
 Reid, Geo. F. W.....P. O. Box 706, Detroit, Mich.
 Reid, R. T.....Belleville, King Co., Wash.
 Reeves, Edwin A.....1280 Noble Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio.
 Relf, R. H.....176 East 5th St., St. Paul, Minn.
 Replogie, W. H.....Route B, Cambridge City, Ind.
 Reynolds, John Q.....231 Ridge St., Glens Falls, N. Y.
 Reynolds, J. C. H.....719 Hutton Block, Spokane, Wash.
 Richards, Chas. T.....Plainwell, Mich.
 Richardson, Harry L.....131 E. Market St., Indianapolis, Ind.
 Richmond, Mrs. Fred H.....428 Essex Ave., Boonton, N. J.
 Ringle, O. L.....305 Third St., Wausau, Wis.
 Risk, O. A.....Care Union Trust Co., Cleveland, Ohio.
 Riverview Gardens.....909 Winslow Ave., St. Paul, Minn.
 Robinson, Francis A.....200 Fine Arts Bldg., Des Moines, Iowa.
 Robbins, Geo. R.....Grand Forks, N. D.
 Roberts, J. T., Jr.....3496 Emerson St., Denver, Colo.

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 Robinson, James S. P. O. Box 288, Memphis, Tenn.
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 Rockwell, John W. 10 Intervale Ave., Medford, Mass.
 Roelfson, R. W. Galt Machine Screw Co., Galt, Ont., Canada.
 Roenfield, F. R. D. 1, Des Moines, Iowa.
 Rohlf Nurseries. Davenport, Iowa.
 Rolph, H. M. Markham, Ont.
 Rollins, Mrs. H. T. 4137 Greenwood Drive, Des Moines, Iowa.
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 Rosenfield, J. F. R. R. A-1, Box 450-J, Indianapolis, Ind.
 Rosenfield, Reno. Route 7, Benson Station, Omaha, Neb.
 Rosenfield, Karl. R. D. Box 98-D, Menlo Park, Cal.
 Rosenfield, Stanley. 35th & Blue Ridge Road, Kansas City, Mo.
 Rowe, Mrs. W. S. 2359 Madison Road, Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Roy, W. Ormiston. 157 S. James St., Montreal, Quebec.
 Ruff, D. W. C. 530 Globe Buldg., St. Paul, Minn.
 Ruhl, J. W. P. O. Box 189, Houghton, Mich.
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 Sass, H. P. Washington, Neb.
 Sass, Jacob. Route 6, Omaha, Neb.
 Saunders, Prof. A. P. Clinton, N. Y.
 Saunders, W. E. 240 Central Ave., London, Ont.
 Sauter, C. F. Lake & Market, Chicago, Ill.
 Sayers, S. D. S. W. 13th St. & Watrous Ave., Des Moines, Iowa.
 Sawyer, Tom. 17th St. & Jackson Ave., Kansas City, Mo.
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 Schroeder, O. H. Faribault, Minn.
 Schnarr, Dr. R. W. Kitchener, Ont.
 Schriener, Frank X. Route 1, Riverview Station, St. Paul, Minn.
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 Schultz, E. K. 4th & Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Schultz, Herman C. City Hall, Milwaukee, Wis.
 Schumm, Lorenz G. 302 C. St., LaPorte, Ind.
 *Schwartz, E. P. 734 15th St., Washington, D. C.
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 Scott, M. H. Piper City, Ill.
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 Seaton, R. A. 722 Humboldt St., Manhattan, Kan.
 Secor, Nina. Forest City, Iowa.
 Seidl, J. A. 879 39th St., Milwaukee, Wis.
 Seither, Frank. 3634 Bosworth Road, Gresham, Ohio.
 Seyler, H. G. Pennhurst, Mt. Penn. Pa.
 Shank, R. J. 2701 49th St., Des Moines, Iowa.
 Shaver, F. H. 418 Third Ave., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
 Shaw, Edwin C. Akron, Ohio.
 Sheaffer, A. W. 1433 Mahantongo St., Pottsville, Pa.

Scheafer, Henry.....325 S. Centre St., Pottsville, Pa.
 Sneldon, W. D.....Galt, Ont.
 Shenandoah Nurseries.....Shenandoah, Iowa.
 Sherlock, Chesla C.....Editor, Better Homes & Gardens, Des Moines, Iowa.
 Shimer, Lee A.....Box 390, Van Wert, Ohio.
 Sheriff, Mrs. H. H.....415 N. 9th St., Oskaloosa, Iowa.
 Shoemaker, Mrs. J. F.....Box 38, Clayton, Mo.
 Simmons, Mrs. Zalmon.....730 Durkee Ave., Kenosha, Wis.
 Simpson, Harry.....825 Taylor Ave., Scranton, Pa.
 Simpson, Mrs. J. F.....Waterloo, Iowa.
 Simpson, R. D.....3671 Bellevue Ave., Kansas City, Mo.
 Sisson, W. A.....Rosendale, Wis.
 Skinner, J. P.....Grinnell, Iowa.
 Sloane, Clifton B.....321 E. 11th St., Kansas City, Mo.
 Slocum, A. M.....521 3d St. N., Minneapolis, Minn.
 Smiley, Daniel.....Lake Mohonk Mountain House, Mohonk Lake, N. J.
 Smiley, Wm.....Grinnell, Iowa.
 Smith, C. H.....Faribault, Minn.
 Smith, Mrs. Annie Y.....814 W. Mulberry St., Kokomo, Ind.
 Smith, Chas. Huntington.....Morristown School, Morristown, N. Y.
 Smith, Everett.....1243 Adams St., Muncie, Ind.
 Smith, Geo. N.....Welleale Hills, Mass.
 Smith, James B.....El Nido, Burlingame, Cal.
 Smith, James P.....R. D. No. 6, Paducah, Ky.
 Smith, Dr. De Forrest.....2108 E. Third St., Dayton, Ohio.
 Smith, Orvil W.....16 Ware Ave., Wakefield, Mass.
 Smith, P. E.....13 Jewett Place, Utica, N. Y.
 Smith, Dr. P. F.....Camrose, Alberta, Canada.
 Smith, Percy W....."The Hedges, R. F. D. No. 1, Merriam, Kan.
 Smith, Col. T. O.....Birmingham, Ala.
 Smith, W. T. & Co.....Geneva, N. Y.
 Snook, Louis F.....Grand Junction, Iowa.
 Snook, J. S.....Paulding, Ohio.
 Snyder, D. C.....Center Point, Iowa.
 Soukoup, Miss Anna.....518 B. Ave. W., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
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 Stahl, Frank J.....Dowagiac, Mich.
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 Stegall, R. J.....Amherstdale, W. V.
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 Stembel, Edna M.....Fowler, Ind.
 Sternberg, David.....Mohican Peony Gardens, Sinking Spring, Pa.
 Stout, J. Prevost.....Spring Lake Beach, N. J.
 Stuart, Mrs. H. A.....3321 3d Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn.
 Stopel, Mrs. F. C.....266 Seminole Ave., Detroit, Mich.
 Stone, W. M.....Annandale, Minn.
 Storrs & Harrison Co.....Painesville, Ohio.
 Stranger, David C.....West Newbury, Mass.
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 Sturtevant, R. S.....Wellesley Farms, Mass.

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 *Taylor, J. A.....401 Exchange Bldg., Memphis, Tenn.
 Tealdi, Prof. Aubrey.....Ann Arbor, Mich.
 The Cottage Gardens Co.....Lansing, Mich.
 The Log Cabin Co.....Waterloo, Iowa.
 Thomas, W. S.....243 Main St., Plymouth, Mich.
 Thompson, N. F.....427 N. Church St., Rockford, Ill.
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 Thorne, Henry C.....602 N. Tioga St., Ithaca, N. Y.
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 Thurlow, Geo. C.....West Newbury, Mass.
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 Tingle, Leamon G.....Pittsfield, Md.
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 Todd, Henry A.....Doyleston, Pa.
 Tormey, Alfred J.....Arlington, Md.
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 Traub, Hamilton.....Henning, Minn.
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 Turpie, Miss Mabel.....2595 Bryden Road, Bexley, Ohio.
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 Upjohn, Mrs. W. E.....223 E. Lovell St., Kalamazoo, Mich.

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 Vories, Judge L. A.....2225 Duncan St., St. Joseph, Mo.

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 Wall, Edward.....Phoenixville, Pa.
 Walcott, F. C.....care Bonbright & Co., 25 Nassau St., New York City, N. Y.
 Ward, Geo. B.....1231 S. 20th St., Birmingham, Ala.
 Ward, Mrs. M. F.....415 Second Ave., Lewiston, Idaho.
 Ware, Romaine B.....218 Amherst St., St. Paul, Minn.
 Warnaar & Co.....Sassenheim, Holland.
N. Y. Address, care J. W. Hampton Jr. & Co., 17 Battery Place.

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 Warren, Herbert F.....Trumbull, Neb.
 Warren, W. W.....Cassopolis, Mich.
 Wassenberg, Chas. F.....Van Wert, Ohio.
 Waters, C. L.....Hammondsport, N. Y.
 Waters, S. E.....315 S. 2nd St., Miamisburg, Ohio.
 Watson, E. H.....Northfield, Minn.
 Watson, Miss E. M.....5400 Bartlett St., Pittsburgh, Pa.
 Weage, D. E.....Coldwater, Mich.
 Weaver, Dr. H. D.....4th Ave. & 20th St., Saskatoon, Sask. Canada.
 Weaver, Roy H.....Norwich, Ont.
 Webb, Dr. W. S.....1705 Warwood Ave., Wheeling, W. V.
 Webb, Mrs. Jennie.....757 Greenwich St., Valparaiso, Ind.
 Webber, Milton J.....Broadway Nursery, Route 1, Box, 147, Arvado, Colo.
 Weed, Howard E.....Beaverton, Ore.
 Weinburg, Carl.....514 S. 7th St., Ann Arbor, Mich.
 Weingartner, Geo. T.....New Castle, Pa.
 Welch, Mark.....*.....R. D. 5, Painesville, Ohio.
 Welles, Ed., Jr.28 W. South St., Wilkesbarre, Pa.
 Wenham, R. P.....Blue Ribbon Farm, Painesville, Ohio.
 Wertz, W. W.....Grand Junction, Iowa.
 Wettengel, C. N.....Peonydale, Macomb, Ill.
 Wheeler, Everett P.....35 Pacific St., Rockland, Mass.
 Wheeler, James.....Natick, Mass.
 Wheeler, W. W., Jr.....Wheeler & Motter Co., St. Joseph, Mo.
 White Elm Nursery.....Oconomowoc, Wis.
 White, Mrs. W. F.3617 Nebraska Ave., Omaha, Neb.
 Wild Bros.....Sarcxie, Mo.
 Wild, Frank H.....Sarcxie, Mo.
 Wilson, A.....Portage La Prairie, Manitoba, Canada.
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 Williams, Mrs. Wm. B.....Lapeer, Mich.
 Wilken, John C.....4029 Congress St., Chicago, Ill.
 Winslow, Arthur F.....5 Choate St., Waterville, Me.
 Winter, Frank G.....58 E. Washington St., Chicago, Ill.
 Winter, Geo. A.....La Salle, Ill.
 Wister, J. C.....Station G, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.
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 Woodruff, Geo. S.....Independence, Iowa.
 Woodward & Woodward.....R. R. 3, Des Moines, Iowa.
 Wright, E. J.....212 S. Garfield Ave., Peoria, Ill.
 Wright, B. B.....Box 353, Oskaloosa, Iowa.
 Wood, S. F.....307 Duffern Ave., London, Ont.

 Zielsdorf, H. O.....840 McIntosh St., Wausau, Wis.
 Zimmerman, A. L.....Weatherby, Mo.
 Zwart, Joe E.....28th & Forest Drive, Des Moines, Iowa.

NOTE—* before name signifies member deceased.

Resigned—

Mrs. Edward Harding.....Plainfield, N. J.

THE PRIZE DOZEN

	<i>Members.</i>	<i>Percentage of total all states. Membership</i>
Iowa	113	14.41%
Pennsylvania	74	9.43%
New York	68	8.67%
Ohio	63	8.03%
Illinois	57	7.27%
Minnesota	52	6.63%
Massachusetts	50	6.37%
Indiana	44	5.61%
Michigan	40	5.10%
Missouri	27	3.44%
New Jersey	26	3.31%
Wisconsin	20	2.55%
	<hr/> 634	<hr/> 80.86%

It will be noted that the above twelve states show a total membership of 634, or 80.86 per cent of the total membership of the United States. Foreign membership not included in percentage computation.

In summing up results we find eleven states that are not represented in our membership, three with but one each, and five with but two. We should have members in every state of the Union.

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH FOR PAST TWENTY YEARS.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Increase.</i>
1904	2
1905	4
1906	7
1907	10
1908	6
1909	5
1910	9
1911	8
1912	13
1913	16
1914	20
1915	16
1916	34
1917	32
1918	28
1919	40
1920	84
1921-22	157
1923	111
1924	152

If this satisfactory growth can be maintained, and I see no reason why it cannot, we can materially strengthen our usefulness as a Society and greatly increase public interest in the peony. Who will co-operate by inviting a peony-loving friend to become a member of the Society?

SUMARY OF MEMBERSHIP BY STATES.

Study over the figures showing division of membership in the various sections of the United States and help bolster up your respective locations. There is a splendid chance for friendly rivalry that will be productive of material results.

Alabama	5	New York	68
Arizona	0	North Dakota	8
Arkansas	0	North Carolina	2
California	9	Ohio	63
Colorado	12	Oklahoma	2
Connecticut	10	Oregon	4
Delaware	1	Pennsylvania	74
District of Columbia	2	Rhode Island	5
Florida	0	South Carolina	0
Georgia	2	South Dakota	6
Idaho	1	Tennessee	12
Illinois	57	Texas	0
Indiana	44	Utah	0
Iowa	113	Vermont	3
Kansas	17	Virginia	3
Kentucky	3	Washington	12
Louisiana	0	West Virginia	4
Maine	6	Wisconsin	20
Maryland	6	Wyoming	0
Massachusetts	50		
Michigan	40	Total of States	784
Minnesota	52		
Mississippi	1	Canada	49
Missouri	27	Denmark	1
Montana	0	England	4
Nebraska	12	France	3
Nevada	0	Holland	5
New Hampshire	2		
New Jersey	26	Total	846
New Mexico	0		

GROUPING OF MEMBERSHIP BY SECTIONS

<i>Western States.</i>			
Arizona	0	New Mexico	0
California	9	North Dakota	8
Colorado	12	Oklahoma	2
Idaho	1	Oregon	4
Kansas	17	South Dakota	6
Montana	0	Utah	0
Nebraska	12	Washington	12
Nevada	0	Wyoming	0
			83

<i>Southern States.</i>		<i>Middle Atlantic States</i>	
Alabama	5	Connecticut	10
Arkansas	0	Delaware	1
Florida	0	District of Columbia	2
Georgia	2	Maine	6
Louisiana	0	Maryland	6
Mississippi	1	Massachusetts	50
North Carolina	2	New Hampshire	2
South Carolina	0	New Jersey	26
Tennessee	12	New York	68
Texas	0	Pennsylvania	74
	22	Rhode Island	5
		Virginia	3
		Vermont	3
		West Virginia	4
			260
<i>North Central States.</i>		<i>Summary.</i>	
Illinois	57	Western States	83 members
Indiana	44	Southern States	22 "
Iowa	113	Middle Atlantic States	260 "
Kentucky	3	North Central States	419 "
Michigan	40		
Minnesota	52	Total	784 "
Missouri	27	Foreign	62 "
Ohio	63	Grand total	846 "
Wisconsin	20		
	419		

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

I was greatly interested in reading the article of Edward Auten, Jr., in the February 1925 issue of Flower Grower concerning the X-Ray treatment of peony roots that were diseased. While complete success cannot be definitely reported at this time, the results obtained were very gratifying and will bear close watching and further experimenting. If this treatment is not damaging to future root growth or does not impair the blooming qualities of the plant so treated, the experiment should prove of inestimable value and may be the means of solving a very perplexing problem. There is no side-stepping the fact that too many disease infected roots are being propagated and disseminated at the present time and an elimination of this practice should be attempted. In many cases the grower is oblivious to the fact that his roots are diseased, taking the matter of fact view that it is a natural condition that cannot be remedied; again the grower may exercise the utmost care in selection of stock that is apparently free, and the disease will manifest itself very prominently a year or two later, and still others seem to possess apparent indifference to the dangerous practice of propagating diseased stock without any remedial measures being attempted. We will watch with continued

interest additional reports from Mr. Auten and others who are trying the X-Ray method of treatment.

It is not too soon to plan early spring activities in our peony gardens and fields. If mulching was done last fall, extreme care should be exercised in removing the covering if growth has made any progress, as the stalks when first breaking through the ground are extremely brittle and serious damage may result if careless work is tolerated.

Plan to take garden notes this spring of your peonies and be able to report your findings to the editor of the Bulletin. It will make mighty interesting reading to have reports on the behavior of the different varieties in widely separated zones.

This issue of the Bulletin has been considerably delayed, which is not entirely attributable to the editor. It was originally planned to reprint a portion of the Cornell Bulletins, now out of print, which contained a fund of material; but owing to some objection being presented to this course, it was thought best to delay the matter until a later date, which necessitated obtaining material for this bulletin and partly accounts for the delay. However, the extra size should compensate in a measure for any delay experienced. There is sufficient material presented in this issue for two good bulletins and we will term it our two-for-one number.

After April 1st, of this year, mail should be addressed the secretary at 1815 26th Ave., North, Minneapolis, Minnesota, until a more definite address is established. I am leaving Faribault, Minn., to engage in the business of growing choice peonies, iris, gladioli and perennial plants, under the firm name of Sunny Acres Nursery. Mr. T. A. Kenning, regional Vice President of the American Iris Society will be associated with me.

The splendid membership list presented in this issue of Bulletin contains 846 names. There are eleven states not represented and it is our hope that within the year every state may be represented. I have listed the membership by states, also by grouping of states. We hope these figures may prove interesting, as they show at a glance where our membership is located. Any corrections in this list should be reported promptly to the secretary.

A correction should be made on report of the Des Moines show, page 9, class No. 10, Bulletin 22. Second prize was awarded to Benj. Auten, Jr., Princeville, Ill., instead of Mr. Bonnewitz, as originally reported. Mr. Bonnewitz's entry was disqualified on account of two *Chinensis* singles being entered. This error in report was called to our attention by Mr. Auten, and we are glad to make the correction at this time, although it is considerably delayed. This covered collection of Japanese varieties.

It may not be known to all our advertisers that they are at liberty to change their ad. each issue of the bulletin if they so desire. Send copy to the secretary if change is desired, as soon after receipt of bulletin as possible and correction will be made in the next issue.

The society suffered a serious loss the past year in the passing of our two directors, Mr. Farr and Mr. Cooper. A brief obituary appears in this issue. Would like to devote an entire bulletin to their memory.

I am in receipt of communications from Mrs. Farr and Mrs. Cooper wishing to thank the officers and members of the American Peony Society for the floral tributes sent.

The directors meeting was to have been held earlier in the season but owing to sickness and absence of officers has been postponed. While no definite date has been decided upon at the time of writing, it will doubtless be held early in March.

A definite meeting place for the next annual gathering and exhibition of the society has not been decided upon at the time this bulletin goes to press. Several places are being considered and as soon as a definite selection has been made, the membership will be advised promptly. In the meantime, study over very carefully the article by Mr. Little in this issue giving complete instructions as to the proper method of preparing peonies for exhibition bloom. Mr. Little's marked success last year at the national show qualifies him to speak with authority on this subject.

Some of the articles presented offer a very fertile field for discussion and it is hoped we may receive the views of many of our members whether in full sympathy or directly opposed to the sentiments expressed. Let us have your articles and we will see that you get more frequent bulletins.

The business formerly managed by Mr. Farr will be continued as well as that conducted by Mr. Cooper. The same policies inaugurated by these two enterprising gentlemen will be perpetuated by those taking charge of the business. The business will be conducted under the same names as formerly.

An advertisement in the bulletin for one year only costs \$5.00 and should be taken advantage of by any member who does advertising. An entire new ad can appear in each bulletin for the year without additional cost. Many changes will be noted in this issue with some new additions. Patronize our advertisers.

We are pleased to report that our new treasurer, Mr. James Boyd, successfully underwent a very serious operation recently, and latest reports indicate that he has fully recovered.

Special attention is called to the insert in this issue of the Bulletin with reference to a vote from the membership to empower your directors to make selection of the next annual meeting place. Due to the very close vote favoring New York at our last annual meeting (less than 50 votes being cast) and with varying sentiment manifested by those who would have direct charge of the exhibition, it has been deemed desirable to select some other location. We have taken this method to get an expression of our membership, knowing the futility of attempting to call a special meeting of the Society to vote on the question. Please let us have your reply promptly so that the Directors may have your opinion and permission, when a meeting of that body is called in the near future, to select a definite meeting place. Our annual peony exhibitions have attained considerable prominence with increasing yearly attendance, and this high standard should be perpetuated.

One of our new members, R. N. Jackson, 14035 Mark Twain Ave., Detroit, Mich., is desirous of obtaining some true stock of peony *Officinalis Lobata*. Anyone knowing where this stock may be obtained will confer a favor upon Mr. Jackson by advising him direct.

We have attempted to make this bulletin helpful and cover many points of interest. An expression from you for the betterment of the publication will be appreciated. We have plans for a very interesting issue following this number and trust that this season may be the very best the Society has ever experienced, and that our membership may increase very substantially over former years. To get the most out of the Society we must put something into it, so send along your articles and see how good they look after the linotype operator has completed his work and the proof is finally ready for the printers ink.

All remittances should be made out to the order of The American Peony Society. This will avoid delay and inconvenience.

President Thurlow has some splendid suggestions to offer in his notes. After reading our constitution and by-laws it will be observed that a number of revisions are in order. His splendid words of appreciation of his officers and co-workers, Mr. Farr and Mr. Cooper very fittingly describe the high esteem they both held in the hearts of all who knew them.

W. F. CHRISTMAN, *Secretary*,
1815 26th Ave. N., Minneapolis, Minn.

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Also some fine ones originated by

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All the newest European and American Introductions. Catalogs on request.

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Including all the rare Continental
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The most promising Seedling of re-
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Selected to carry the different col-
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