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Robbinsdale, Minn.

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CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

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 upon.

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, and *all checks covering membership dues should be made to The American Peony Society and sent to the Secretary with application for membership.* Dues in future are to run from January 1st to January 1st of the following year.

Back bulletins of the Society will be charged for at the rate of 50 cents per copy and \$1.00 for the Symposium Number (No. 14). To non-members these prices are doubled. No bulletins available prior to No. 13.

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AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



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The Peony Shows

By W. F. CHRISTMAN

THERE have been a number of peony shows held throughout the country the past two months. I think it can be safely stated that more displays of peonies were made in the year 1928 than any two years in the past. I was agreeably surprised to learn of the large number of shows staged and to note the interest shown. A brief report of a few of the largest ones are noted below. We have not received reports of all.

MINNEAPOLIS PEONY SHOW

June 19 and 20 were the dates selected for the annual peony exhibition which always brings out a large number of exhibitors. The exhibition was staged by the Northwestern Peony and Iris Society, and the Minnesota Garden Flower Society, cooperating with the Minnesota State Horticultural Society.

Twenty classes were provided in the professional and open class, eight classes for advanced amateurs and five for novice amateurs. Each class was represented and in a number there was keen competition. Quality of bloom displayed was very good. Riverview Gardens of St. Paul carried off first honors in the large collection. Pfeiffer Nursery of Winona, Minn., had a splendid display, in which they exhibited many of the new originations of recent introduction. The best flower of the show was selected by the judges from their collection, and the variety chosen was Mrs. John M. Kleitsch. This is one of the new Brand seedlings that created so much favorable comment when first exhibited.

A. B. Franklin of the Franklin Nursery, Minneapolis, Minn., staged some very fine blooms and a large number of seedlings, a few of which will be offered to the public when sufficient stock has been propagated. The most promising were as follows:

- D-29. Named "Ramona" at the show. A fine deep pink, shading slightly lighter at edges. Yellow stamens visible in center.
- J-16. Japanese type and a good one.
- D-60. A pleasing pink of promise.
- P-114. Fine, loosely built flower with strong stems and pleasing fragrance. Color deep pink. No stamens or carpels visible.
- C-23. Full rose type even shade of pink.

Riverview Gardens exhibited a seedling of Lady Alexandra Duff, a very fine flesh pink of most attractive appearance.

Some of the newer seedlings displayed in splendid form were Myrtle Gentry, Victory Chateau Thierry, Mrs. Frank Beach, Mrs. John M. Kleitsch, June Day, W. F. Christman, Mabel L. Franklin, Mrs. A. M. Brand, Blanche King, Mary P. King, Serene, Pride of Essex, President Wilson, E. C. Shaw, Katharine Havemeyer, John M. Good, Frankie Curtis, Florence McBeth and Ball O' Cotton.

Riverview Gardens of St. Paul, Minn., won the silver medal of the American Peony Society as sweepstake prize.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, PEONY SHOW

June 14 and 15 the annual Seattle Peony Show was held under the auspices of the Seattle Rose Society at Woodland Park.

Solange, exhibited by Ivan W. Goodner was selected as the best flower at the show by the judges. In Class No. 1, Mr. Goodner exhibited 177 varieties. Sherbrooke Gardens were second with 84 varieties.

Some very fine blooms of Jeannot, Martha Bulloch, Grace Loomis, June Day, Ella Christianson and many other of the newer varieties were shown.

Ivan W. Goodner of Seattle, was the winner of the silver medal of the American Peony Society offered as a sweepstake prize.

DULUTH PEONY SHOW

July 9 and 10 were the dates chosen for the annual peony show in Duluth, which always proves to be a very worthy exhibition. About 20 classes in all were provided making it possible for everyone desiring an opportunity to compete for worthy prizes.

La France carried off honors for the best flower at the show. Lillian Gumm placed second. Season was not the best, but in spite of adverse conditions many fine bloom were on exhibition.

Duluth is working hard for the 1930 show of the American Peony Society and is paving the way for a wonderful exhibit of bloom. They

have some of the finest peonies in Duluth and surely know how to display them to the best advantage. A. M. Brand of Faribault, Minn., acted as judge, assisted by A. B. Franklin of Minneapolis. A fine banquet was served and a splendid entertainment followed.

Sweepstake prize was won by Joe Priley of Duluth, which carries with it the silver medal of the American Peony Society.

SIoux FALLS, S. D., PEONY SHOW

The seventh annual peony show was held June 14 and 15 in beautiful McKennan Park. Twenty-three classes were provided and as usual, fine bloom was displayed. Outstanding bloom noted were Therese, Le Cygne, Tourangelle, Sarah Bernhardt, Mary Brand, and Lora Dexheimer.

Some of the prize winning varieties were Karl Rosefield, Therese, Marie Crousse, Reine Hortense, Claire Dubois, Sarah Bernhardt, Mme. Geissler, and Judge Berry.

Sioux Falls is also looking forward to entertaining the American Peony Society at some future time. Their yearly exhibitions are growing and with them interest in the peony increases. Therese carried off honors as best peony at the show.

Silver medal of the American Peony Society given as sweepstake prize awarded C. R. Bond, of Sioux Falls, S. D.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., PEONY SHOW

The Dutchess County Horticultural Society held its second annual peony and flower show June 21 and 22. Considerable interest in the growing of peonies is manifest throughout the county and this is only natural, for the state of New York is ideally situated for the growing of fine peonies and some of the largest peony farms in the country are to be found within its borders.

John M. Peterson of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., was a consistent winner of first prizes. Personally knowing John's hustling ability, we are not surprised at this.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, ANNUAL PEONY SHOW

The fifth annual Peony Show under the auspices of the Manitoba Horticultural Society was held in Breen's Automobile show rooms July 3 and 4.

Twenty-two classes covering a wide range made it possible for all to show who had flowers.



Gorgeous Blooms at the Portland Peony Show

The interest in peonies in Canada is growing very rapidly as the climatic conditions seem to be ideal for their best development. Peonies in that section this year were not up to their usual form but in spite of this they had some very fine bloom, well-staged.

The premium list called for 22 classes and every class had a number of exhibitors.

J. R. Almy, secretary, Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg, Can., had charge of exhibits; G. H. Balls was chairman of the Board of Management.

The usual standard varieties, as well as some of the more recent introductions were on display. They have some real hustlers up there and they are hopeful that they can get the annual exhibition of the American Peony Society in the very near future.

We noted very good blooms of Mme. Emile Lemoine, Mons. Martin Cahuzac, Reine Hortense, Marie Crousse, Karl Rosefield, Sarah Bernhardt, Avalanche, and Mons. Jules Elie.

The best flower in the show was keenly contested for and a very close decision had to be drawn between the first and second selection. Claire Dubois was finally selected as the winning variety.

John Bunting of Sturgeon Creek, Manitoba, won the silver medal of the American Peony Society as sweepstake prize. This was keenly contested for and the final outcome could not be definitely established until all classes were judged, so close was the race.

DENVER, COLORADO, PEONY AND IRIS SHOW

On June 18 and 19 the annual exhibition of the Home Garden Club was held. The show surpassed previous exhibitions and great interest is being shown in that locality in the growing of peonies. Interested and enthusiastic peony lovers are working hard to make arrangements for entertaining the American Peony Society at some future date. The manner in which this show was conducted speaks well for the hustling ability of the Committee. Registration, reception, program, banquet, automobile, radio, flower information, decoration, ribbon and press committees were under the general chairmanship of Mrs. Lewis M. McHenry.

A splendid schedule covering 28 classes was provided. Denver wants the 1931 show of the American Peony Society.

L. M. McHenry of Denver, Colo., carried off sweepstake prize, the silver medal of the American Peony Society.

PORTLAND, OREGON, PEONY SHOW

The third annual Portland Peony Show was held in the assembly hall of the Multnomah Hotel, June 4 and 5, 1928. In the City of Roses, by which name Portland is justly famous, these annual peony shows are receiving more and more attention and over 4,000 blooms were displayed consisting of over 150 varieties.

Therese carried off the honors as the best flower exhibited.

E. J. Berneche was general manager of the show and has been instrumental in bringing the peony to the front in that section of the country.

The silver medal of the American Peony Society offered as sweepstake prize was awarded to E. J. Berneche of Portland, Ore. Mr. Berneche is devoting considerable of his attention to the peony, in fact has been specializing in this flower for years until he has accumulated a very large collection of worth while varieties including the new and rare ones.

The Weed Nursery of Portland, are also growing a considerable quantity of fine peonies and it will be but a few years until Portland will be as famous for her peonies as her wonderful roses.

NEW BEDFORD, MASS., PEONY SHOW

The seventeenth annual Peony Show of the New Bedford Horticultural Society was held June 20 and 21. In spite of discouraging weather conditions, one of the best shows ever conducted was held.

The largest exhibits were made by T. C. Thurlow's Sons, West Newbury, T. F. Donahue of Newton Lower Falls and Mrs. Bancroft Winsor of Acushnet, Mass.

Outstanding features of the show were a vase of twenty-four Adolphe Rousseau staged by Cherry Hill and a large vase of the variety Mrs. James Wheeler, shown by Mr. Donahue.

Martha Bulloch easily carried off honors of the day for the finest flower at the show but the second day it had over matured and was supplanted by Therese.

Outstanding bloom were noted as follows: Ruth Brand, President Wilson, Rachel, Jubilee, Wilton Lockwood, Mrs. C. S. Minot, Perette, Felix Crousse and Tomatbako.

FARIBAULT, MINN., PEONY FESTIVAL

On June 20 the second annual peony festival was held in Faribault, Minn., a name that is familiar to every peony lover as the home of the

Brand Peonies. It is planned to have this a yearly event, as many thousand people make the pilgrimage to view some of the finest peonies grown. The peony parade, consisting of scores of floats decorated with peony bloom, makes an impressive sight. The Brand Peony Farms staged a fine show in their spacious packing sheds which had been artistically decorated for the occasion. All flowers used in the decoration of floats were furnished by the Brand Peony Farms.

The writer was obliged to leave for Boston the day of the festival and it was impossible to attend. We very much desired to view some of the new seedlings Mr. Brand is developing.

Scores of peony shows were held throughout the country of which I have received no report. In no better way can the peony be popularized and attain the recognition it so justly deserves.



The Boston Peony Show

By W. F. CHRISTMAN, *Secretary, American Peony Society*

THE twenty-fifth annual exhibition of the American Peony Society held in Boston, June 22, 23, 24, is now a matter of history, but to those who had the pleasure of viewing the bloom exhibited it will long be remembered as a splendid showing of peonies. The Massachusetts Horticultural Society co-operated to the fullest extent in making the show a success.

Cherry Hill Nurseries put on a decorative display of peonies in the main exhibition hall that consumed nearly a third of the allotted space. The exhibition was set up by Frank Wheeler of Natick. Large masses of bloom were grouped in beds and artistically displayed to show the decorative possibilities of the flower. Evergreens, in variety, adorned the walls, entirely hiding them from view. The stage in the upper hall was largely filled with seedlings of their own origination, many of which rank with the best.

SAUNDERS' EXHIBIT OUTSTANDING FEATURE

To my mind the outstanding feature of the exhibition was the display made by Prof. A. P. Saunders, of Clinton, N. Y. Prof. Saunders needs no introduction to members of the American Peony Society, whom he served so efficiently for so many years as secretary. His work with officinalis hybrids has been highly successful as attested by the splendid exhibit shown in Boston.

Some years ago at the Philadelphia show I had the pleasure of studying some of the new creations that were commencing to show the fruits of his labor, but this year's exhibit exceeded by considerable, both in quality and quantity, the one I saw at Philadelphia. He was awarded the president's cup of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, offered by Alfred C. Burrage, and was also voted a gold medal of the American Peony Society in recognition of the splendid work he has accomplished. Not only in the *Chinensis* varieties is there a marked improvement but also in the tree peonies is to be noted remarkable achievement.

Those of you who receive the July issue of *Horticulture* will see a splendid picture of his new tree peony, which has been named *Argosy*. This creation is a seedling of *Lutea* and in color a delicate yellow shading to maroon at base of petals. It has splendid substance and holds up well. There were other lovely tree peonies that attracted considerable attention and much favorable comment.

Prof. Saunders' exhibit of single and double hybrids of *officinalis* crossed with *sinensis*, as well as hybrids resulting from a cross of *sinensis* with *Otto Froebel* were especially attractive and to my mind No. 1173 was the most outstanding of the lot. New colors in peonies have been produced by these crossings.

Seedling No. 1474, a cross of double *officinalis* with *sinensis*, and *Man of War* were two of the ones that appealed most favorably to me. No. 1474 grows to a height of four feet and is a glossy ball of maroon with a collar of golden tipped petals shaded maroon. No stamens. It is very near *Cherry Hill* in color. Of the singles, the result of these crosses were noted in 3223, 3217, 2797, 2801, 3218, 3235 and 1174 as being outstanding.

GOODNER SENT EXHIBIT FROM SEATTLE BY AIR MAIL

Another very interesting exhibit was that of Ivan W. Goodner of Seattle, Wash. Mr. Goodner sent his exhibit by air mail and many of them came through the 3,000-mile trip in very good condition. The writer noted the following as being especially fine:

Jeannot	Karl Rosefield
Myrtle Gentry	Mrs. Frank Beach
Loveliness	W. F. Christman
Enchantresse	Ella Christiansen

All of the peonies sent through were of high rating and the experiment showed the possibility of transporting peonies great distances and

getting them through in condition to display. The exorbitant air mail rate will prohibit exhibiting displays of this kind to a very limited number, but the future will bring about conditions more favorable with increased mail service and corresponding reduction in rates.

Indian Spring Farms of Baldwinsville, N. Y., carried off the sweep-stake prize as well as the gold medal of the American Peony Society. They were consistent winners in many classes and are to be congratulated on the fine showing they made. Mr. Harry F. Little, representing the Indian Spring Farms, brought on a very large consignment of fine bloom. Winning gold medals is not a new experience for Mr. Little, and the exceptionally large stock he had to make selection from in the field, coupled with his knowledge of handling exhibition bloom, merited the highest approbation of the judges.

CLASS NO. 1 CENTER OF GREATEST INTEREST

As usual, the greatest interest centers about Class No. 1 which is the outstanding class in regard to number of blooms displayed. A very large collection is necessary to properly compete. As has been our custom in the past we are going into considerable detail in reporting the varieties in this class as a number of our members have expressed a wish that this be done.

CLASS No. 1. Collection of not more than one hundred nor less than eighty named varieties, double, bloom of each.

First prize, carrying the gold medal of the American Peony Society, together with a substantial cash prize was awarded Indian Spring Farms of Baldwinsville, N. Y. In spite of considerable unfavorable weather, their showing of bloom was of a high quality. Ninety-seven varieties were shown in this exhibit. Varieties making up the exhibit were as follows:

Souvenir de Louis Bigot	Monsieur Dumont
Fanny Lee	La France
Bertrade	La Fiancee
Avalanche	Kelway's Glorious
Mrs. C. S. Minot	Rachel (Terry)
Jubilee	Asa Gray
La Perle	Estafette
Brand's Magnificent	Pride of Essex
Mme. de Verneville	Benjamin Franklin
Octavie Demay	Mme. Emile Lemoine
Sisters Annie	Mlle. Rousseau

Martha Bulloch	Reine Hortense
Le Cygne	Judge Berry
Longfellow	Gretchen
Marie Calot	Marie Jacquin
James Kelway	Lora Dexheimer
Richard Carvel	Frankie Curtis
James Kelway	Phoebe Carey
Francois Rousseau	Mme. D. Treyeran
Georgiana Shaylor	Grace Ott
Monsieur Martin Cahuzac	Frances Shaylor
Henry Avery	E. G. Hill
Perette	Rachel (<i>Lemoine</i>)
Gigantea	Jessie Shaylor
Rosette	Mme. Savreau
Lake of Silver	La Fayette
Frances Willard	Marcelle Dessert
Mary Brand	Ginette
H. F. Reddick	John M. Good
Cherry Hill	Monsieur Jules Elie
Venus	Alexandriana
Opal	Mme. Ducel
Kelway's Exquisite	Amanda Yale
Luetta Pfeiffer	Primevere
Wm. F. Turner	Simonne Chevalier
Mme. Auguste Dessert	Mrs. Edward Harding
Paradise	Mary P. King
Lady Iris	Ruth Brand
Duchess de Nemours	Penemah
Nymphaea	Cherry Hill
Rose Shaylor	Sarah Carstensen
Lady Alexandra Duff	Gov. Johnson
Mrs. Chas. Gilbert	Augustin d'Hour
Boule de Neige	Edulis Superba
Mlle. Jeanne Riviere	Umbellata Rosea

Second prize honors went to Cherry Hill Nurseries, West Newbury, Mass. In this display was noted the following varieties, a number of which are very recent introductions:

Elisa	Mme. Jules Dessert
La Tendresse	Sarah Carstensen

Mrs. Geo. Bunyard
Kelway's Glorious
Frances Willard
Standard Bearer
Rose Shaylor
Exquisite
A. P. Saunders
Jessie Shaylor
Pride of Essex
Rachel (*Lemoine*)
Phyllis Kelway
Mrs. C. S. Minot
Minnie Shaylor
Katharine Havemeyer
Souvenir de Louis Bigot
Therese
Candeur
James R. Mann
Mabel L. Franklin
Nymphaea
Ginette
Longfellow

Mont Blanc
Mme. Emile Lemoine
Mons. Jules Elie
Bertrade
Reine Hortense
Secretary Fewkes
Festiva Maxima
Richard Carvel
June Day
Will McClelland
Elwood Pleas
Lady Alexandra Duff
Eugenie Verdier
Le Cygne
Mrs. Chas. Gilbert
Cherry Hill
La France
President Wilson
Georgiana Shaylor
Karl Rosefield
Adolphe Rosseau

Many other varieties were noted in this display but the ones above mentioned were outstanding in the collection. In all ninety varieties were shown.

Third prize in Class No. 1 was won by T. F. Donahue, Newton Lower Falls, Mass. Eighty-eight varieties were shown by Mr. Donahue, who made a very creditable display.

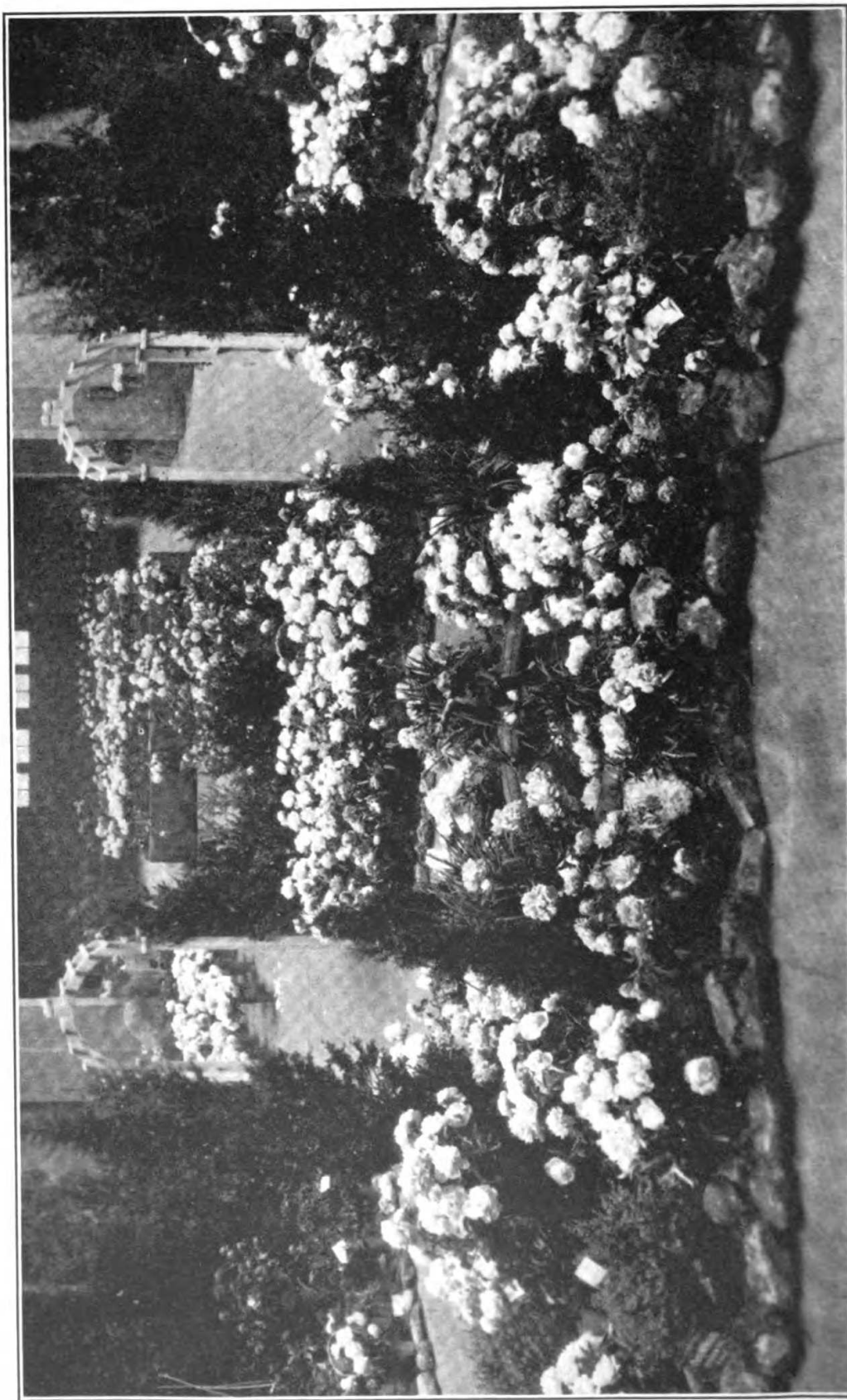
The varieties showing exceptional quality were as follows:

Raoul Dessert
Miss Salway
Rita
Elwood Pleas
Clemenceau
Phyllis Kelway

Mme. Emile Dupraz
Ginette
Wilton Lockwood
Mrs. Geo. Bunyard
Inspecteur Lavergne

COMPETITION KEEN IN CLASS NO. 2

CLASS NO. 2. Collection of ten named varieties, double, three blooms of each. Interest in this class is nearly as close as in Class No. 1.



Beautiful, Isn't It? A Glimpse of the Boston Show

Competition is usually keen and only the very best peonies have a show.

As in Class No. 1, Indian Spring Farms carried off first honors with the following:

June Day	Le Cygne
Frankie Curtis	Judge Berry
Souvenir de Louis Bigot	Mons. Martin Cahuzac
Brand's Magnificent	Rose Shaylor
Lady Alexandra Duff	Kelway's Glorious

I have never seen finer *Le Cygne* than those displayed at Indian Spring Farms where I visited after the show.

Second prize was awarded to Cherry Hill Nurseries with a splendid showing of:

Pride of Essex	Asa Gray
Marie Jacquin	Mons. Martin Cahuzac
Adolphe Rousseau	Standard Bearer
E. C. Shaw	Therese
Reine Hortense	Venus

CLASS NO. 3. Twenty blooms, double, named, white or cream, one variety. First prize again awarded Indian Spring Farms, with a beautiful vase of *Le Cygne*.

Cherry Hill Nursery awarded second with the variety, *Festiva Maxima*. A third prize was awarded this same firm with the variety, *Nymphaea*.

CLASS NO. 4. Twenty blooms double, named, light pink or pink and cream, one variety.

Indian Spring Farms awarded first with *Lady Alexandra Duff*. S. G. Harris, Tarrytown, N. Y., second with *Solange*. Cherry Hill Nurseries third with *Reine Hortense*.

CLASS NO. 5. Twenty blooms, double, named, dark pink, one variety.

Only one entry in this class, which was made by Indian Spring Farms who were awarded first. The variety shown was *Mons. Jules Elie*.

CLASS NO. 6. Twenty blooms, double, named, red or crimson, one variety.

Again Indian Spring Farms awarded first and second honors with the varieties *Mons. Martin Cahuzac* and *Cherry Hill*.

Cherry Hill Nurseries awarded third with *Adolphe Rousseau*.

CLASS NO. 7. One specimen bloom, double, named, any variety. *Therese* carried off the first honors and was displayed by Indian Spring Farms. They also received second and third honors with the varieties *Le Cygne* and *Mme. Emile Lemoine*, respectively.

CLASS NO. 8. Vase of six blooms, Japanese, one variety. The entries in this class were poor specimens. A third prize was awarded T. F. Donahue of Newton Lower Falls, Mass.

CLASS NO. 9. Collection of tree peonies, single or double.

Prof. A. P. Saunders of Clinton, N. Y., stood alone in this class with no competition. He was awarded first prize for his display, which was very fine indeed. The variety of his own origination named *Argosy*, referred to in the beginning of this article, was easily the outstanding variety shown. We feel that this class will be more keenly contested in a few years as interest in the tree peony is surely growing.

CLASS NO. 10. Collection of early flowering herbaceous species, and hybrids derived from *Officinalis*, *Wittmanniana*, etc., but not including Chinese peonies.

Again we find Prof. Saunders leading the field with a splendid array of meritorious varieties of his own origination. Some splendid colors were noted and we have mentioned some of the outstanding ones earlier in this article.

CLASS NO. 11. New varieties introduced in the year 1915 and later. One bloom of each, no limit as to number.

Indian Spring Farms again carried off first honors, showing 46 varieties. There was no competition in this class, but the quality of bloom shown as well as the high class of varieties would not have changed results. Those of especial merit were the varieties *President Wilson*, *Rose Shaylor*, *June Day*, *Wm. F. Turner* and *Myrtle Gentry*.

CLASS NO. 12. Seedlings. In this class is to be found the new originations that will later find their way to the exhibition tables. Not many seedlings were shown in this class but there were several that gave considerable promise.

A First-Class Certificate was awarded Col. Benjamin W. Guppy of Melrose, Mass., for his seedling No. 14-13. It is a bright red with form of *Winnifred Domme*, but larger.

Honorable mention was given to the seedling *Sherbrook Record*, exhibited by Harry A. Norton of Ayers Cliff, Quebec. This is a fine

Japanese pink possessing appealing charm and grace. Mr. Norton has a wonderful collection of peonies that you will hear more about through the columns of the BULLETIN in the near future.

Honorable mention was also given the variety *Priscilla Alden*, originated by Elizabeth D. Roberts of Medford, Mass., and exhibited by A. H. Fewkes of Newton Highlands, Mass.

A. B. Franklin of Minneapolis, Minn., brought through a number of seedlings of late varieties that failed to open for inspection the first day of the exhibition. One, No. D-33, was an exceptionally fine white that proved one of the outstanding new varieties exhibited last year at the Faribault, Minn., Peony Carnival.

CLASS No. 13. The *Garden & Home Builder* offers an "Achievement Medal" for the best new peony exhibited at the show. This was awarded to Prof. Saunders for his new tree peony *Argosy*.

In this matter of seedlings a suggestion has been made by A. H. Fewkes as follows:

"Certificates should be reserved for varieties which have undergone division and have proved their worth by producing flowers as fine, or better than the blooms on the original plant. Honorable mention can be given to such varieties as show much promise but whose real value has not been proven."

James Boyd is in favor of a ruling of this nature and adds: "It sometimes happens that a seedling will produce some wonderful flowers before the plant has been disturbed, but the dividing process seems to discourage it so that it never gives blooms of the same quality again."

I think such a ruling would meet universal approval, and any originator of peonies will heartily agree with Mr. Boyd's statement, as they have all doubtless experienced this same disappointment. There is no question but that fewer seedlings are being offered than formerly, and it is also true that the quality of new seedlings is exceptionally good. The work of the Seedling Committee is to be highly commended.

AMATEUR CLASSES

CLASS No. 14. Collection of not more than fifty nor less than forty named varieties, double, one bloom each.

Unfortunately the exhibitor in this class failed to have the required forty varieties as called for in schedule and was disqualified by the judges. Duplication of varieties brought the number slightly under forty. The same rule is adhered to rigidly in the open or professional classes and it

very often happens that an exhibitor loses out through an error of this nature.

CLASS NO. 15. Collection of ten named varieties, double, three blooms of each.

No entry in this class. Was sorry to note this as there was a splendid opportunity for some amateur to carry off a worth-while cash prize.

CLASS NO. 16. Vase of peonies arranged for effect, one or more varieties. Not over twenty-five blooms.

Again no entry and another splendid opportunity for some one to get in the winning classes.

It is quite possible that most of those formerly exhibiting as amateurs have graduated into the professional class. It is to be regretted that there were so few amateurs making displays in the peony section of the exhibit.

CLASS NO. 17. Vase of fifteen blooms, double, one variety, named.

W. C. Otis of Woburn, Mass., awarded second in this class with the variety *Mons. Jules Elie*.

The Massachusetts Horticultural Society staged eighteen classes for peonies of which I did not get a report. This added greatly to the general display.

Mr. Allison of Shaylor & Allison, Auburndale, Mass., had a fine exhibit of the Shaylor creations. There is being prepared at the present time an article on the Shaylor seedlings that will give new light on the work of Mr. Shaylor who, during his later years in life, was actively engaged in the production of new seedlings.

Another exhibiting was Wilton B. Fay, of West Medford, Mass. A large stone water jar filled with *Festiva Maxima* by Mr. Fay won first prize in its class.

First prize for a basket of fifteen blooms arranged for effect was awarded Mrs. Clement S. Houghton of Chestnut Hill. The first for a basket of ten blooms was carried off by Samuel Knowles of Wakefield, Mass.

Hardy roses, perennials in variety, orchids, and other interesting flowers and plants made a beautiful setting and added greatly to the value of the exhibition.

MOTOR TRIP TO CHERRY HILL NURSERIES

The delightful motor trip to the Cherry Hill Nurseries through historical Boston, along the north shore through the picturesque New England towns covered a distance of over 75 miles.

Shortly after the noon hour we arrived at Marblehead where a most appetizing and delightful shore dinner was provided by Harry Norton and Winthrop H. Thurlow. To many of us far removed from the ocean, this was an innovation that proved delightfully appetizing, and I am sure will be of interest to briefly mention the menu.

Starting the dinner course with clam chowder each guest was provided with a generous helping of steamed clams, melted butter and clam broth. Following this in order we were served very generously with fillet of sole, a very palatable ocean fish, fried clams and broiled lobster with the usual dessert, etc. Harry Norton was a busy man instructing the novice how to properly disengage and prepare for consumption the stewed clams, and the dinner hour was filled with mirth provoking experiences as each fell in line and showed their sportsmanship by discarding eating utensils and employing cave men methods to throttle the clams and bring them under subjection. This was my first shore dinner but I am hopeful it will not be my last.

The route took us through Everett, Lynn, Swampscott, Marblehead, Marblehead Neck, Salem, North Beverly, Hamilton, Georgetown, Topsfield, Byfield, Bradford, Haverill, to West Newbury, Mass., where the Cherry Hill Nurseries are located. It was a most interesting and instructing drive and a fitting climax was reached when we arrived at Cherry Hill. Peonies met the gaze in every direction, beautiful specimen evergreens in variety, wonderful hedges of various species of hedge plants and above all the delightful hospitality at every turn. Everyone was made to feel a freedom that is rarely experienced on trips of this nature. Dainty refreshments were served and the nursery was turned over to the guests to roam where they pleased. A large tent was provided where specimen bloom was displayed and those who did not care to roam through the fields could feast their eyes on the many fine varieties displayed. Large, airy offices and spacious packing sheds have recently been built to take care of the constantly increasing business of this nursery. I am sure each one who was fortunate to take the trip will long remember it as one of the pleasant events of their life.

Returning we passed through Haverill, Bradford, Handover, Reading, Stoneham, Melrose, Baldwin, Medford, Summerville, Cambridge, and then on to Boston, our starting point.

The systematic manner in which the Boston show was conducted and the smoothness and lack of confusion in staging exhibits showed very clearly to me the many years of experience of staging various flower shows which are held frequently during the year at Horticultural Hall.

The twenty-fifth annual exhibition of the American Peony Society will stand out as a prominent milestone in the progress already achieved, and I am sure we will all look forward to meeting again in Boston at some future time.



The Dutch Peony Exhibit at Sassenheim

By JOHN T. VAN LEEUWEN

Report of the Peony Exhibition of the Society of Dutch Peony Growers and Dealers, Held at Sassenheim, Holland, on June 20-21

SASSENHEIM is a village of about 5,000 inhabitants in the heart of the bulb growing district of Holland. Years ago the local of the General Society of Bulb Growers, on a very moderate scale, began staging shows of flowers produced from various kinds of bulbs. While the years went on, these shows increased in importance and popularity to such an extent that the space available in this village was entirely inadequate to house these exhibitions. The committee taking care of these shows had to solve this problem and to their honor be it said, they solved it in grand style. This committee simply put up a building devoted solely to the purpose of exhibiting flowers, and as long as there are flowers to be shown every bona fide grower can exhibit there without charge, and the public is admitted without charge, with the exception that when special shows are being held both exhibitors and visitors have to pay a small fee.

COLD STORAGE FLOWERS MAKE BEST SHOWING

It was in this building that the Society of Dutch Peony Growers and Dealers had its peony show on June 20-21. This show was not on as elaborate a scale as the one in Boskoop in 1926. The 1928 show was intended to show as many varieties as could be brought together at that time. About two hundred varieties were shown by the eleven growers which exhibited there. Most of these growers had put their flowers in cold storage and it was shown again here, like in 1926, that the flowers

which had been in cold storage kept much better than those which had been cut fresh and brought to the building after having been in water for a couple of days in cool storage places, other than cold storage. For cold storage we have excellent facilities in The Hague in the general storage house which belongs to the city of The Hague. In this storage place the temperature is kept absolutely even, while the air is being kept admirably clean and fresh. No odors of fruits or meats can be noticed.

To tell about all the varieties which were shown would be superfluous. It might interest the reader, however, if we mention some of the varieties which are not widely known in the states as yet. Of these we saw:

Argentine—Not only from the flowers shown in the hall, but also when seen on the plants, the opinion was that this is probably the most beautiful and perfect white double peony at present in existence. The stems of this variety are tall and strong. The flower is beautifully formed, has no stamens and is pure white. It reminds one very strongly of *Le Cygne*, but men who know peonies, seem to prefer it even to that marvelous sort.

Alice Harding—Truly a gorgeous flower. It opens with a very light shell pink, which changes while the flower ages to a warm shade of very pale blush white.

Clemenceau—A flat flower with evenly rounded petals. A very pleasing shade of clear reddish pink, almost light red.

Denise—Enormous flower, pale pink to white.

Elisa—A fine shade of salmon pink.

Henri Core—Reminds one in its color of *Tourangelle*, but *H. Core* is darker and a higher built flower. A very fine variety.

Inspecteur Lavergne—Something new and different in red. There is no magenta in this flower. It is a clear, warm red. The flower is built like *Felix Crousse*, only the inside petals are larger. The unanimous opinion at the show was, that this is the finest red of all peonies.

Mme. Edouard Doriat—A very large pure white, finely rounded flower with large petals. This flower shows stamens, but this only increases its beauty.

Madelon—Flat, full rose-shaped flower, extremely full. Silvery pink. One of the finest pinks ever shown. It drew a lot of attention.

Princess Juliana—A very large flower, made up of large petals. Clear pink, deepening toward the edges of the petals.

Of the single *Chinensis* the following were very much admired:

L'Etincelante—Clear red.

(Continued on Page 28)

The Single and Japanese Peonies

By FRANKLIN B. MEAD

*Illustrated with Color Drawings of Subjects from the Author's Garden by
J. Marion Shull*

A HORTICULTURAL writer has somewhere attributed to Mæterlinck the epithet "apoplectic" for the sometimes lippy double herbaceous peony. This article, however, is no brief against the gorgeous flower that dominates the early June garden with its great globes of satin lustre through all shades of cream and white and pink to the deepest red, but is one in praise of the single and Japanese peonies and of some of the peony species and their hybrids which have not yet attained the station in the gardens of America which their grace and beauty deserve.

A search of the inimitable writer of bees and flowers fails to disclose the epithet referred to, but in "Old Fashioned Flowers" may be found this characteristic passage, "The peonies, who have drunk their imprudent fill of the sun, burst with enthusiasm and bend forward to meet the coming apoplexy." The splendor of the peony is thus of the earth, more material than that of the iris, whose evanescent beauty is that of the sea and sky, whereas the beauty of the peony betokens earthly luxury. In China, where it has been cultivated from the earliest times, it is regarded as the rich man's flower, and after its introduction from China into Japan in the eighth century it was regarded as the king of flowers, a companion in art with the lion and the peacock, the kings of the animal world. In decoration of palace or temple the three are always painted together, and when lions dance on the Japanese stage they always have a gorgeous background of peonies.

The Chinese have a fondness for the single peony, whether of the herbaceous or tree peony type, as have the English, while the particular Japanese artistic sense has craved the type which has been designated "Japanese." The original peony species found in the wild are single, that is they have a single row of petals surrounding a mass of yellow stamens, with the seed bearing carpels, often brilliantly colored, in the center. In the Japanese type, too, there is only a single row of petals, but the doubling process has just begun; the filaments to which the anthers are attached have broadened and the anthers have become very large, even shaggy and often variegated in color; the flower has developed that character and appearance which we designate as "Jappy."

Numerous peony species are native to southern Europe, central China, and Siberia. There is one, *P. Brownii*, twelve to eighteen inches high with columbine-like leaves, which is endemic to the western slope of the Rockies, particularly in California, from near the sea level up to nearly the snow line. The most important of all peony species, from the hybridizer's point of view, is *P. albiflora* (white flowered) which is native to central China and Siberia, sometimes called *P. sinensis* or Chinese peony. The modern peony gets its greatest infusion from this species, which was introduced into Europe in the seventeenth century although it has been prominent in China from the earliest times.

Another important species is *P. Officinalis*, a native of southeastern Europe, which, toward the close of the eighteenth century, was first introduced into China where the early hybridizing was carried on most extensively. In the middle of the nineteenth century a number of the best Chinese peonies were shipped into France, but quite a few of the early albiflora hybrids were imported into England from China early in the nineteenth century. It was after these importations that the development of the modern double herbaceous peony was begun in France and England.

Single peony species and their immediate single hybrids possess considerable individuality, with great diversity of foliage and habit of growth; some have large and poppy-like flowers and others are like water lilies. Many of them are dwarf and bushy, not more than eight to fifteen inches in height, and, as they are native to rocky slopes, they make capital subjects for the rock garden, where they have a charm and grace not attained by those "bloated beauties," their cousins of the border. They are also valuable for woodland planting, for they will thrive under large trees. Furthermore, they flower from two to five weeks earlier and thus extend the period of bloom for the peony devotee.

The rare *Peony Mlokosewitschii*, a "pleasant little assortment of syllables" after the fashion of the name of its Slavic discoverer in the wilds of the Caucasus, is the first to unfold close to the ground its leaves of red, coppery bronze; these change chameleon-wise, as the surrounding vegetation advances, to a bronzy green, like the varicolored alloys of some Japanese bronze worker. This work of the Great Artist is said to support huge water-lily-like blooms of delicate saffron and citron-yellow, which the past two inclement seasons have rendered abortive in the writer's garden, as has also been the case with the delicate primrose-yellow of *Wittmanniana*, an upstanding species also from the Caucasus and north Persia.

Early in the first week of May peony Corsica, from the cliffs of Napoleon's youth, opens its blooms of deep rose. It has a unique center with red topped carpels like pelicans in their nest.

A host of other species and their hybrids follow Corsica into the middle of May: arietina, from the Levant; Bakeri, deep vivid rose with heavy gold stamens; paradoxa, mallow purple shaded brighter and deeper; peregrina, deep rose; triternata, and many others. They all differ in habit and foliage, and in arrangement of stamens; some have wooly carpels tipped red and some are tipped pink, subtle differences dear to the "eye of minute love." Broteri, a native of the mountains and sub-alpine regions of Spain and Portugal, has leaves of glittering green. The rare Veitchii from western China has fine, delicate leafage of pale green, prettily divided, their drooping mass affording a most picturesque effect in the rock garden. Similar in leaf and habit is the beautiful and rare *Woodwardiana*, said to exist in but one garden in England, Warley Place, where Miss Willmott has brought woodland, stream, marsh, rocky dell, orchard and border to the highest development. Two lovely forms are in the writer's garden, one with blooms of white and the other of pure pink. The graceful Triternata, another native of the Caucasus, was brought from England into France in 1810 for the Empress Josephine at La Malmaison near Paris where, after her divorce from Napoleon in 1804, she lived a life of retirement, surrounding herself with curios and rare plants and flowers. Russi Major, a hybrid between Russi, a Corsican species, and Wittmanniana, is most distinctive in stem and leafage, the reverse of the revolute leaves being beautifully tinted in buff and pink. Emodi, from the Himalayas, is a rare and beautiful species with pure white flowers of satiny texture and soft green foliage, glaucous gray beneath. *Macrophylla* has the most magnificent leaves of all and big blossoms of soft yellow which are enhanced in beauty by the lovely carpels tipped with pink, making a beautiful color contrast.

Numerous hybrids multiply the splendid array. Many of them were developed by Peter Barr, who was an indefatigable collector of peony species. Officinalis Charmer has lovely rose-cerise flowers of perfect form; arietina Northern Glory has flowers of soft rose pink with a beautiful blush tinge and soft pea-green foliage; arietina Excelsior has large showy flowers of brilliant rose. No pen, however gifted, could depict the brilliant beauty of the rosy scarlet of officinalis Ophia with its fluttering stamens of purest gold intermingled with gorgeous rose, and its wooly, creamy, salmon-tipped carpels; nor that of the somewhat similar officinalis Lucida with its cup-shaped flowers of the most vivid scarlet with stamens



Isami-jishi



Tokio



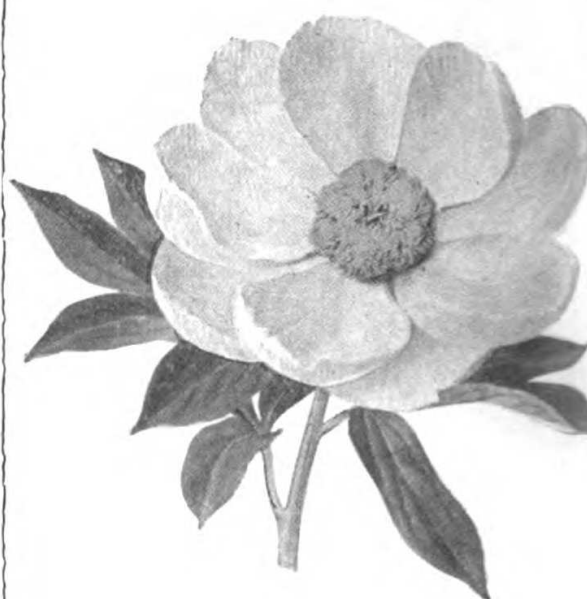
Tamate-bako



Tora-no-maki



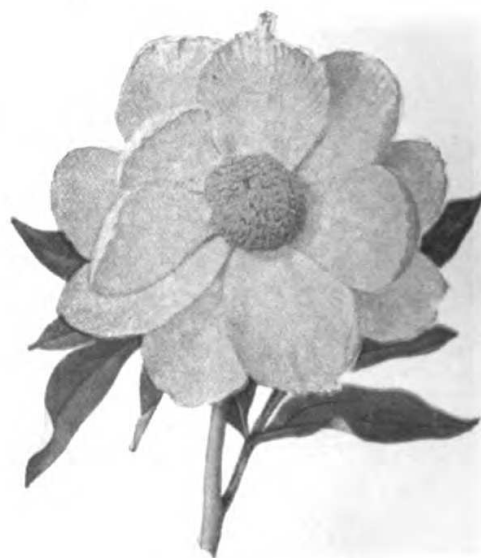
Pride of Langport



Marguerite Dessert



Helen



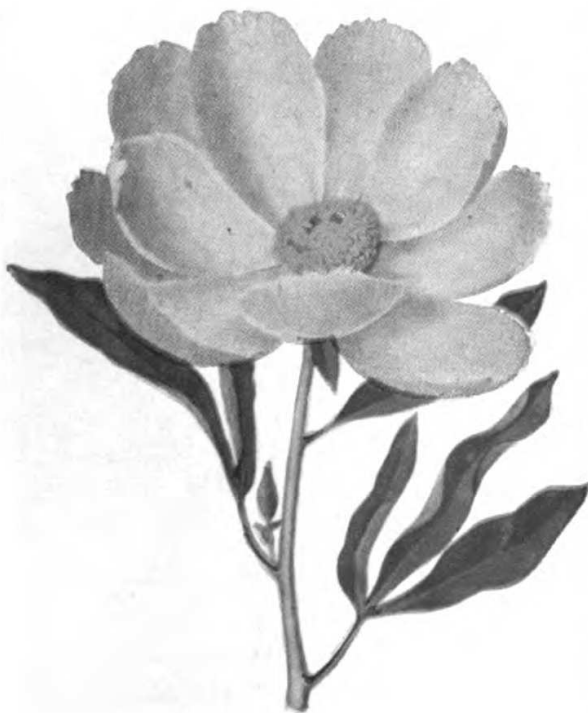
Madeleine Gauthier



Russi-Major



Triternata



Nellie



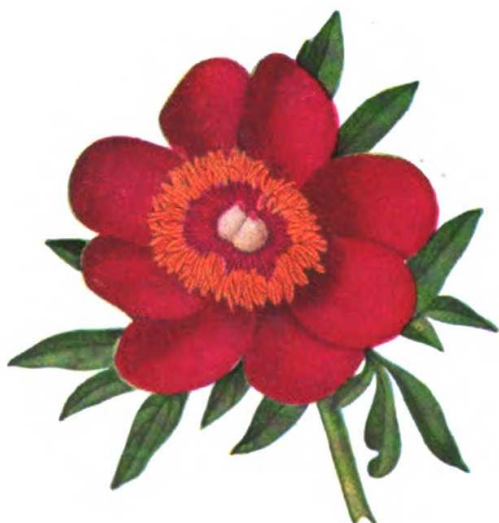
L'Etincelante



Le Printemps



Ophia



Lucida



Avante Garde

of old gold striped red, both so well represented by the skill of the sympathetic artist. But the supreme despair is officinalis Lobata, which fairly tortures the mind with its exquisite memory. Its waxen cups of deepest and richest coral-rose met the coming apoplexy so speedily from the torrid winds of last season that shipment to the artist was prevented, which has been a matter of never-ceasing regret. There is a second form of *lobata* in the writer's garden which is tomato red in color. These two forms evidently account for the discrepancy in color descriptions which one sees of this peony. The origin of this marvel is almost lost in obscurity; it is supposed to be the product of a Frenchman named Desboutain, although it is known that it was first received in England from the Royal Gardens in Paris by a Mr. Alexander Maclean, in whose garden it flowered in 1821. But the treasure of treasures is the *lobata* var. *Sunbeam* with beautiful cups of cerise salmon; it has been inimitably described by Reginald Farrer as "blossoms of a perfectly pure crimson-scarlet which in the sunshine seem positively incandescent, luminous as globular lighted lamps of blood with a golden heart."

Lemoine, by crossing albiflora with Wittmanniana, has produced some beautiful hybrids which prolong the season of the early peony into mid-May. These have charming foliage of light bronze green with red-tinged stems. Two of these are shown here, Avante Garde, crinkled satiny pink, and Le Printemps, deep cream with a rosy flush.

The grace of the single peony begins with the early border peonies. They have a certain charm not possessed by the double varieties. They are wonderful subjects for landscaping, as their beautiful goblets are always held erect, and they are especially picturesque by the water side.

The one most frequently seen is albiflora The Bride (syn. La Fiancee), which is sometimes praised, but it is far surpassed in habit and quality by more recent varieties. The best white is the American variety *Le Jour*, remarkable in substance and finish, with petals as white as the Alpine snow and beautiful carpels of vivid carmine-rose.

Ranking with *Le Jour* and entirely different in character, is the beautiful English variety, *Lady Godiva*, with dainty, fluffy petals of crystalline white.

The most beautiful in habit and symmetry of growth is Marguerite Dessert—like a trim, well-dressed girl of good birth, good taste, and good health. The descriptions of the catalogues never do this exquisite variety justice—"large single flower of pure white, powdered and splashed carmine, central tuft of golden stamens." As gardeners we are not primarily interested in the *means* to the effect. In *effect* Marguerite Dessert is

clear, melting white with the most delicate flush of life which never deepens to an unbecoming blush, for Marguerite is a well nurtured maiden with never an unseemly contact of body or spirit.

There are a number of beautiful pink single peonies, the best of which have been well portrayed by the artist: Helen, an extremely large and beautiful pink of great substance, an American variety which blooms with the earliest border varieties; Madeleine Gauthier; and the two Kelway masterpieces, Nellie, large, pink shading to deep cream at the center, and Pride of Langport, a never-to-be-forgotten-peach blossom pink of heavy waxen substance. E. St. Hill is a splendid rose-pink, entirely different in tone from the others.

The well named L'Etincelante, brilliant carmine, is one of the best landscape varieties, for it has exceptional carrying qualities with stems that defy the most dashing rains.

The one that has the most individuality in color is Kelway's Gorgeous, of an indescribable tone of deepest rose, shaded still deeper to the margins—Tyrian pink, perhaps, but assuredly no mollusk of ancient Phœnicia ever afforded a richer pigment.

Passing to the deeper shades we have still a splendid procession to illuminate the landscape: King Albert, bright solferino; Mafeking, still deeper, claimed to be the brightest of all; and Vera, the Indiana product of Mr. Gumm, darkest of all, a rich bordeaux, darker even than Mons. Martin Cahuzac, which is the darkest of all double peonies.

Not quite a single peony and scarcely a semi-double, is *Silvia Saunders*, one of the most beautiful of all peonies. The shapely cups of this variety are pink, shading to lighter to the center, as pure as any cameo; the effective carpels are of reddish brown tipped with pink.

The spirit of Nippon is brought to our gardens by the character and form of the Japanese peony; no flower is of a beauty more sumptuous and rich than these. The best of the white Japanese peonies is Isami-jishi (corrupted in the lists to Isani-Gidui). The Japanese have a wonderful knack in dealing with names which is well illustrated by Isami-jishi, which means The Cheerful Lion; see, too, how well the artist has brought the spirit of the flower into his painting—The Cheerful Lion indeed!

Other good white Japs are White Lady and Margaret Atwood. Pocahontas is an attractive carmine-rose flower with a coppery center and, in the deeper shades, King of England, ruby madder in color, and Mikado, with crimson petals and shaggy center of gold and crimson, should be included in every collection.

Flashlight, an American variety, has deep rose petals and a long, fluffy center of buff yellow flushed brilliantly at the base with rich rose and stigmas of an even brighter rose; it has an individuality all its own.

Dawn, another American variety, has charming cup-shaped flowers with rich pink, petals, shading to cerise-pink at the middle, and deep rich buff-yellow stamenoids surrounding cherry-rose stigmas.

The jappiest of the Japs^s is Fuya-jo, a cup of purest bordeaux with a full center of bright and brilliant amaranth-purple, illuminated with a reflex of buff. It is well named—An Illuminated Castle.

Amano-sode (Heavenly Sleeves of a Garment) carries the same beautiful rose-pink as E. St. Hill in the singles and Kelway's David in the doubles.

The three glories of the type are reserved for the last. Tokio, deep, glowing, iridescent pink with clear gold center, is the counterpart in all save color tone, of Tora-no-maki. The inimitable tact of the Japanese is revealed in the significance of the name, A Book That Enlightens Every Secret under the Heavens. Heavenly indeed is the purity and freshness of Tora-no-maki, with a delicacy not surpassed by any other flower. The shell-like glow and iridescence of the petals of an even pale pink form a goblet filled to the brim with the purest light gold of faultless yellow, unequaled in any other flower.

But the glory of glories is Tamate-bako, a plant of wonderful symmetry, supporting flowers of surpassing size and brilliancy, with texture and substance of unusual quality. Tamate-bako is reminiscent of a fairy story of old Japan, of Urashima Taro, a poor fisher boy who long, long ago befriended a tortoise that was being mistreated by a crowd of boys. The following morning, while happily day-dreaming in his fishing boat, he heard his name clearly and softly floating over the waves and soon recognized the tortoise, which had come to the side of his boat. The tortoise offered to take him to one of the most wonderful sights in the universe, to Riu Giu, the palace of the Dragon King of the Sea. Urashima Taro mounted the back of the tortoise and arrived, in an incredibly short time, at the gate of the palace, which was built of coral and adorned with pearls and surrounded with a wonderful garden in which simultaneously were to be seen all four seasons of the year. To the east the plum and cherry trees were in full bloom; to the south the vegetation of summer; to the west the autumn maples and chrysanthemums were in perfection; the north was snowclad.

In the palace he met the Princess Otohime-Sama, who became his bride. At the end of what he considered three happy days Urashima

Taro felt he must return home to see his friends. The Princess wept but was reconciled and brought him a beautiful lacquer box, tied with a silken cord and tassels of red silk, as a token of their love. "This is Tamate-bako, Box of the Jeweled Hand; it contains something very precious and must never be opened, whatever happens; you must promise me that," said the Princess.

Upon his return Urashima Taro found everything strange and finally discovered that he had been gone three hundred years and that his absence had become a fable in the village. He then yearned to go back to his Princess and made his way to the beach. Not knowing how to return he decided to open the box, with the hope that it might contain the secret. The box contained only a beautiful purple cloud, which at once arose out of the box in three soft wisps and enveloped him; whereupon he became old and wrinkled and fell over dead on the beach. Tamate-bako contained the spirit of his youth.

The rich, deep, glowing pink of the petals, with their creamy undertone, the gold and the pink of the stamens, and the brilliant rosy carmine of the carpels of Tamate-bako typify the beauty, the health, and the freshness of youth, with its thirst for experience and knowledge and pleasure, its *joie de vivre*. It is the acme of beauty in peonies and its name is a splendid example of the love and adeptness of the Japanese for the symbolic.

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The Dutch Peony Exhibit

(Continued from Page 21)

Nympe—Clear bright pink of one shade.

Pink Delight—The most beautiful shade of pink in peonies.

Queen of the Belgians—Purest white and beautifully rounded petals with a bright yellow center. Looks almost like a Japanese peony.

Of the Japanese types we mention:

Akalu—Dazzling carmine red with clear yellow, large center.

Antwerpen—Clear pink with a fine yellow center. One of the largest of all Japs.

Emma—A clear pink, very large, with a very full yellow and pink center.

Eva—A light cherry red with a haze of salmon.

Geisha—Clear red. Very strong petals, compact yellow center. Tall.

Ho-Gioku—A very fine white with long yellow petaloids.

Hakodate—This with the variety *Jan Van Leeuwen*, is the finest white among the Japs.

Instituteur Doriat—Dark velvety red. The petaloids, which are very large have almost the same shade as the guard petals with little silvery tips. Something very different.

Iroka—One of the finest light pinks.

Jacoba—A beautiful light pink with just a thought of yellow mixed in. Clear yellow center. A very lovely variety.

Jan Van Leeuwen—Glittering pure white. Large rounded petals. A bright yellow center. Earlier than *Hakodate*.

Soshi—Clear red with two rows of beautifully rounded, extremely strong petals. Center of clearest yellow. The finest red among the Japs known here.

Suruga—Running *Soshi* a very close second.

Tamate-bako—Well known to every one who visits the American shows. A wonderful variety.

Tokio—Another beautiful, large flower of a clear pink.

Yokohama—A pale clear pink and very fine.

It pleases us here on this side to be able to say that all these varieties can be seen at the trial garden which has been planted by your society at Urbana, Ill.

There were three seedlings at this show which drew a lot of attention. Two of these were double *Chinensis*, of enormous size. The one was a clear, bright, solid pink. Large petals, well rounded. A perfect rose-shaped flower. It is thought here that it is the finest pink ever shown. The other a full semi-rose type. Clear pink in the center, changing toward the edges of the petals into white. These two peonies will easily find their way, as they, no doubt, are wonderful additions to the existing list. The third seedling, which was very much admired, is a seedling of *Paeonia Lobata*. In this seedling the orange is very bright and intense. A great improvement of the mother variety.

For some of the finer late varieties the show was held a little too early. *Katherine Havemeyer*, Mrs. A. M. Brand, Mrs. John M. Kleitsch and *Myrtle Gentry* could not be shown. To such as had an opportunity to see these varieties in the field, especially the last three named, it was quite a revelation. They are indeed varieties of the greatest merit and worthy of the reputation which they already have attained.



Secretary's Notes



ANOTHER blooming season has passed and with its passing has left a panorama of beauty rarely excelled. We have seen some very beautiful bloom but from most sections of the country we learn that bloom was not up to its usual fine standard. This is doubtless due to the erratic spring we experienced. Many late freezes in the southern section laid fields flat after the peonies had attained a height of several inches. Like the proverbial cat, they came back, but real keeping quality was lacking. On our various peony pilgrimages throughout the country, we were told that unfavorable weather had materially lessened both quantity and quality.

SECURING NEW MEMBERS

One of our good Canadian members, Mr. J. E. Carter of Guelph, Ont., has delegated himself as a committee of one to secure more members for the Society, and he has been having very satisfactory results. Mr. Carter has solicited a large number of his Canadian friends and is figuring on increasing the list of Canadian members very materially before the end of the year. He has already added a number and has others in view. Wish we had a few more members with similar ambition. We should have at least 1,500 members. Monthly or bimonthly bulletins would be possible with increased membership.

FARR MEMORIAL MEDAL

I am sure many overlooked the article in the last bulletin with reference to the Farr Memorial Medal that is to be given each year at the annual exhibition. A very small number have responded to the request and we want to urge every interested member to send in their donations at once. A maximum of \$5.00 has been decided upon by the directors for individual subscriptions but any sum under that amount will be gratefully received. Work on the medal has been completed and it will prove a very desirable prize for the winner each year. All checks should be sent to this office and made payable to the American Peony Society. May we have a generous response?

MAKING REMITTANCES

All remittances should be made to the Secretary and checks, money orders, etc., made payable to the *American Peony Society*. We note a

number of catalogues state remittances should be sent to the Treasurer. With the record we are keeping in this office, *remittances should be made to the Secretary*. These checks are deposited by me and remittances made to the Treasurer at stated intervals. All details are carried out in the Secretary's office.

PRICE OF NEW PEONY MANUAL

After careful consideration it has been decided to make the price to members \$5.00 and to non-members \$6.00. Cost of compilation, printing, color work, etc., has considerably exceeded the original estimate and the Directors feel that every member will consider the Manual well worth the price asked. It is a valuable treatise on the peony and should be in the hands of every member. Send in your order with remittance to the Secretary, W. F. Christman, Robbinsdale, Minn., and book will be mailed you as soon as completed by the printer. At this writing forms are being closed and the books will be ready for distribution in August.

SPECIAL DIRECTORS MEETING

A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Peony Society was called Friday evening, June 22, at Hotel Statler, Boston, Mass., directly following the banquet and splendid illustrated talk by E. H. Wilson of the Arnold Arboretum.

Price of the Manual was discussed at some length and the price has finally been set at \$5.00 for members and \$6.00 for non-members.

A gold medal was awarded Mrs. Edward Harding for the work she has done to promote interest in the peony by the publication of two splendid books devoted exclusively to the peony.

She was also elected to honorary membership in the American Peony Society and I quote a portion of her letter of acknowledgment:

"Upon my return from a brief absence I find your letter of June 30, and write at once to acknowledge the honors which the Directors of the American Peony Society have accorded me, and to express my appreciation.

"When one has worked hard from the sheer joy of the work itself, and without thought of reward, the pleasure of unexpected guerdons is more than doubled. Please convey to the Directors my pleasure and my thanks."

Mrs. Edward Harding,

July 10, 1928.

Plainfield, N. J., R. R. 1

Prof. A. P. Saunders of Clinton, N. Y., former Secretary of the American Peony Society, was also awarded the gold medal of the Society in recognition of his work in developing hybrid peonies.

Sentiment expressed by the Directors present favored holding the 1929 exhibition and meeting in Canada, place and date to be selected later.

Directors present at the Boston meeting were Messrs. Little, Brand, Boyd, Saunders, Thurlow and Christman.

Your attention is called to the large number of new seedling peonies that have been registered. Many of these will doubtless be seen at the peony shows next year. I have had the good fortune to see a number of them and know they will rate high.



Some members have been dilatory in sending in their remittance and requests have been mailed out from the Secretary's office that we hope will be acted upon promptly. It is gratifying to know that a very large percent have paid their yearly dues and we are sure the reminder we have mailed out will bring a generous response.



We have this issue enlarged the size of the BULLETIN and considerable good material is still held over for another issue. Let us know what you think of this number. Criticisms will enable us to get out better issues. Write us your peony experiences the past year and give us any items of interest regarding the peony in your section.



LIST OF NEW MEMBERS SINCE LAST BULLETIN

Arnett, Mrs. C. N., 902 S. Willson Ave., Bozeman, Mont.
 Bain, James W., 641 E. Center St., Marion, Ohio.
 Betz, Frank S., Personal, Hammond, Ind.
 Chadwick, L. T., 1100 Paris Bldg., Winnipeg, Canada.
 Dickie, H. A., 79 Wimburn Hill, Truro, Nova Scotia.
 Du Brock, Miss Helen L., 333 Downer Place, Aurora, Ill.
 Dunlop, G. Thomas, Room 810, Colorado Bldg., Washington, D. C.
 Elsner, Willis W., 1421 N. Oneida St., Appleton, Wis.
 Fleming, T. C., 175 Duchess Ave., London, Ontario, Can.
 Fleming, Wm. G., 154 Sydenham St., London, Ont., Canada.
 Fish, Mrs. A. G., 2711 W. 37th Ave., Denver, Colo.
 Harding, Mrs. Edward, R. F. D. 1, Plainfield, N. J.
 Herrick, A. H., 63 Larchwood Drive, Cambridge, Mass.
 Hill, C. H., Emporia, Kans., care of Kansas State Teachers College.
 Hill, T. H., 35 Tecumseh Ave., London, Ont.
 Hooker, Levi, 902 Bedford Ave., Evansville, Ind.
 Kuckhoven, H. Van Den, Bethel, Maine.
 Lange, Wm. F., Station A, R. F. D. 5, Box 6, Green Bay, Wis.
 Lowman, F. A., R. F. D. 1, Willimantic, Conn.

Ludington, Mrs. Roy, 2034 Ave. O, Anacortes, Wash.
 McLaughlin, Mrs. Wm. L., Ridgewood Terrace, Chappaqua, N. Y.
 National Landscape Service, Newark, N. Y.
 Osborne, Miss Mary, 120 Eaton Ave., Meriden, Conn.
 Parker's Peony Farm, Fayetteville, N. Y.
 Palmer, Edw. C., 800 N. Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.
 Ralston Iris and Peony Fields, West Lafayette, Ohio.
 Sears, Mrs. Montgomery, 12 Arlington St., Boston, Mass.
 Simpson, W. W., Cambridge St., Guelph, Ontario.
 Smith, Mrs. Donald, Barre, Vermont.
 Stevens, Mrs. T. A., Clayton and Conway Roads, Clayton, Mo.
 Svoboda, F. J., 1440 Miner St., Des Plaines, Ill.
 Toothaker, A. R., 4312 Orleans Ave., Sioux City, Iowa.
 United Bulb Co., Mount Clemens, Mich.
 Vaughn, C. W., R. F. D. 6, Madison, Wis.
 Ware, Romaine B., 765 E. 19th N., Portland, Ore.
 Winsor, Bancroft, New Bedford, Mass. R. F. D. 1, Flying Cloud Sta.; Lunds Corner Sta.

CORRECTED ADDRESSES

Ickes, Harold L., 1627 State Bank Bldg., 120 S. LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill.
 MacCrea, John A., 243 Parkwood Ave., Kenmore, N. Y.
 Stottlemeyer, W. B., Box 4884, Clarendon, Va.
 Stonaker, C. H., Prospect Plains, N. J.



Department of Registration

IT is proposed in this department to provide an opportunity for all growers to register the names of their new varieties which are being put in the market. The Society takes no responsibility as to the quality of the varieties registered here. A system by which new varieties can be officially rated and approved by the Society has been established and it is hoped that the difficulties inherent in dealing with the peony can be overcome.

A. B. Franklin, 5550 First Avenue S., Minneapolis, Minn., desires to register the following seedlings:

- Rotarian* (No. 053), Franklin, 1928. Very large, rose type, large pink. Strong stems. Fragrant.
- Minnie Lucas* (No. 07), Franklin, 1928. Large, loose, rose type. Color medium pink. Tall, stiff stems. Fragrant, mid-season.
- Harry Moore* (No. 9), Franklin, 1928. Very large, loose rose type. Color dark pink. Strong, stiff stems. Mid-season.
- Jack Rose* (No. 401), Franklin, 1928. Semi-double, rose type. Very dark, glossy red. Strong, stiff stems. Very free bloomer and very early.
- Henry Webster* (No. S-B-7), Franklin, 1928. Large rose type. Medium red. Upright, tall grower. Very early and fragrant.
- Betty Barnes* (No. D-75), Franklin, 1928. Rose type. Pale pink. Very upright, strong grower. Free bloomer, fragrant and late.
- Edith Scoville* (No. D-43), Franklin, 1928. Very large, rose type. Compact. Resembles a rose in bud and blossom, rose color. Stiff, strong stems. Late.
- Ramona* (No. D-29), Franklin, 1928. Very large, rose type. Dark pink. Stiff stems. Fragrant. Awarded first prize Northwest Peony & Iris Show, Minneapolis, 1928, as best flower in the show.
- Mrs. A. B. Franklin* (No. D-30), Franklin, 1928. Large, compact rose type. Pure white in color. Sturdy, upright grower with strong stems. Fragrant. Late.

A. *B. Franklin* (No. D-33), Franklin, 1928. Very large, compact rose type. Color pale pink. Strong stems, fragrant and late. Color very much resembles Tourangelle. A perfectly formed flower of great beauty. Exceptionally fine and I consider it one of my best introductions.

Mrs. Mac (No. 051), Franklin, 1928. Japanese type. Large, light pink. Upright, strong grower. Very free bloomer.

Jean Anne (No. S-B-1), Franklin, 1928. Japanese type. All crimson. Central petals gold tipped. Good grower. Medium height.

Jimmie Franklin (No. 096), Franklin, 1928. Single. Two rows very dark red petals. Golden center. Extra strong, upright stems. Dark foliage. Early.

Mrs. Mary E. G. Freeborn, Proctor, Vt., registers a new seedling and furnishes the following complete description:

Mrs. Julia E. Goodwin (Freeborn, 1928). An eight-year-old seedling of Eugene Bigot. Similar to August Dessert but stronger plant. Color—Very deep pink. Margins of petals softened with lighter color, base of petals yellow, giving yellow glow to heart of flower. Color and form held for ten days in intense heat. Type—Loose, rose type similar to Rev. Page Roberts rose. Habit of growth—Very thrifty, dark green foliage. Stems—Strong, holding blooms up in rainy weather. Carpels—Pale green, tipped same shade of pink as petals. Stamens—Numerous and visible. Fragrance—Marked and pleasing. Style—Good, dominant, color carries way across garden.

Lyman D. Glasscock of Joliet, Ill., registers the following new varieties:

Legionnaire (Glasscock, 1928). *Officinalis* hybrid. Single with Japanese effect. Medium size. Color, deep red. Form of bud, round. Medium stiff stems. Foliage narrow, light green. Odor almost lacking. Blooms a week earlier than *Officinalis* Rubra.

Buttercup (Glasscock, 1928). A mid-season to late variety. Japanese form. Medium size. Color, white guards with yellow, round petaloids. Medium stiff stem. Foliage narrow, dark green. Pleasing odor.

Red Delight (Glasscock, 1928). Very late, rose type bloom of large size. Guards, collar and petals light red. Shorter petals toward center. Form of bud, round. Stem stiff to medium. Foliage medium dark green. Strong rose odor. Cup shaped bloom.

Rosy Glow (Glasscock, 1928). Early to mid-season, single. Light violet rose. Small round bunch of yellow stamens. Saucer shaped bloom. Very long, stiff stems. Foliage, broad, dark green. Slight odor.

C. N. Wettengel of Macomb, Ill., registers the following:

W. F. Miller (Wettengel, 1928). Color, deep rose. Late mid-season variety.

Question and Answer Department

IT is the purpose of this Department to place before our readers problems that have been sent in by members to the Secretary's office. The main purpose is to get an expression of opinion from others to make this an interesting and instructive page.

(Q.) I would like to inquire if Solange and Suzette are identical. I have a plant of each growing almost side by side and the bloom seem to me to be identical, but the latter more free flowering. The bloom on the plant under the name of Solange was several days later than Suzette.

(A.) There is a marked distinction between the two varieties. In color they are entirely unlike. Solange is a deep creamy white, shaded orange-salmon at the heart, suffused with a hue described as Havana brown. It is one of the most charming flowers imaginable and is in a class with the very finest rated peonies. Suzette (Dessert, 1911) is a Bengal rose, shaded deeper carmine-purple with a silvery reflex. In form, Solange

is a perfect rose type while Suzette is a large, loose, semi-double flower. Solange is very late, while Suzette is a mid-season variety.

(Q.) I would like to inquire as to your experience in the number of flowers one peony root should have one year compared with another. Last year I had on my peonies, which have been in about four years, about an average of ten to twelve blooms. This year in spite of the fact that it is a most favorable season, I don't think that the plants would average more than two. There are some with probably half a dozen blooms but there are some varieties with practically none. I take it for granted that it is like some trees or shrubs, where for instance, we have a good crop of crabapples one year and the next very few, where the tree or shrub was possibly resting up after a heavy cropping season the previous year. I was told by someone that if the flowers were cut off the peonies one year that they would not bloom well another year. I should think that the reverse would be the case, if the bloom was cut off the bloom would be that much stronger for the next year. I leave one or two leaves on each stem when I cut off the bloom, which I presume is right. I would appreciate a note from you giving me any information along this line.

(A.) Your peonies, along with some of your other Canadian peony gardens, suffered from the late freezes this spring. You were not alone in this respect as we had reports of severe damage from late frosts as far south as central Missouri. At a certain stage of development of the bud the damage from frost is very much pronounced which would doubtless account for some of your plants being almost void of bloom. I do not think that a free blooming season will affect the following year's bloom, at least it has not been noticeable in my garden. As to failure of peonies to bloom where the flowers had been removed the previous year, will say that this is not a fact, unless all foliage was removed in the cutting process. I have worked in commercial fields where the plants were cut rather severely for the bloom but the following year there was no decrease apparent. By leaving two or more sets of leaves, there will be sufficient foliage to properly feed and care for the following year's bloom.

(Q.) I raise peonies for Decoration Day, and depend on them largely to pay the expenses of my favorite hobby, gardening. The last two years officinalis has been gone and the *Festiva Maxima* has not been in bloom at this time, though as a rule the officinalis is not in bloom by Decoration Day. Is there anything I can do to either retard the earlier or hasten the later bloom? Also to hasten the officinalis when the season is late?

(A.) It is said that the blooming of peonies can be hastened by applying hot water in considerable quantities direct to each hill or plant. The water should not, of course, be scalding hot, but the hotter it can be without damage to the plant the more effective in forcing growth, and the water can be applied in rather large quantity two or three times per day for two or three days in succession with good effect, especially if the weather is clear and with plenty of sunshine. The action of the hot water in warming the ground will take the place of at least several days' action of sunshine in the natural way. Where bloom comes too early for Decoration Day, it may be retarded by cutting when the buds first begin to break, wrapping in paper and placing in a refrigerator or cold storage. Can any reader throw more light on both these subjects?

(Q.) Will you suggest a good commercial fertilizer to use between rows?

(A.) See answer to question 15, page 25, Bulletin No. 34 issued in June. Ashes, steamed bone meal and other commercial products will prove helpful. Well-decomposed manure worked in between rows will doubtless be the most valuable.

(Q.) What is considered a good spray for one-year peony plants?

(A.) This depends upon the nature of the disease. Leaf spot, and certain blights may be materially lessened by an application of Bordeaux. Any eating insect could be eliminated by using an application of paris green or arsenate of lead.

(Q.) What would you suggest as treatment for what seems to be ants eating peony stock off at the ground?

(A.) This would appear to be the work of cut worms which do considerable damage in the early season while the plants are still tender. Poisoned bran or meal

will be effective in reducing damage from cut worms. It is possible some worm is working on your plant other than the cut worm but you may rest assured that it is not the ant.

(Q.) Do you advise cutting the immature buds from plants started the fall previous and not allowing them to bloom?

(A.) It takes strength of root to produce large flowers and it is well to remove the buds the first year. Some leave one bud to test authenticity but remove immediately after bloom and before seed is formed.



A Trip to Indian Spring Farms

By W. F. CHRISTMAN

IT HAS long been my desire to be able to visit some of the nurseries in the East during peony blooming time and this year that wish was gratified, as I had the pleasure of visiting the Indian Spring Farms, located at Baldwinsville, N. Y.

Many of my readers have doubtless received the very interesting account of the early history of these farms when the Indians roamed the beautiful, peaceful valley through which the Seneca River gently flows on its way to the sea.

Immediately following the trip to Cherry Hill Nurseries at West Newbury, Mass., early Saturday evening, a party consisting of the parties shown in the accompanying illustration, made the journey to Baldwinsville, N. Y., at the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Harry F. Little, to visit Indian Spring Farms and view the acres of peonies that were in full bloom, many being at their very best.

SEE MANY CLUMPS OF PEONIES

Arriving at Syracuse, N. Y., early Sunday morning we were driven a distance of about twenty miles through a very interesting and beautiful farming community that comprises that section of the state of New York. Gently rolling fields of fast ripening grain were to be seen in every direction. Large herds of cattle grazing in the valley attested to the fact that dairying was also carried on to a considerable extent. Frequently we saw clumps of peonies, and in some instances a generous planting, that we were assured had their origin at Indian Spring Farms.

Threatening clouds and frequent showers during the day did not dampen in the least the enthusiasm of the small group of peony fans making up the party. We were nearly all provided with necessary equipment to combat the elements and between showers, Mr. and Mrs. Little conducted us through the vast fields of peonies, giving us an opportunity to study some of the very latest introductions as well as all of the standard and rare varieties that have been offered to the public.

A VAST PANORAMA OF BEAUTY

The main farm is located on a beautiful bluff overlooking the tranquil Seneca River that forms the most picturesque setting imaginable from the heights above. Gently winding roads lead a gradual ascent to the heights above, where fields of peonies, gladiolus, iris and other perennials vie with each other to make a most attractive display; a vast panorama of beauty not soon to be forgotten.

The late F. A. Goodrich, who established Indian Spring Farms, was a great lover of the peony, and had ample means to satisfy his every desire. No money was spared to secure the very best varieties obtainable and in considerable quantity. This also holds true with the gladiolus, iris, poppy and other flowers growing in profusion on every hand.

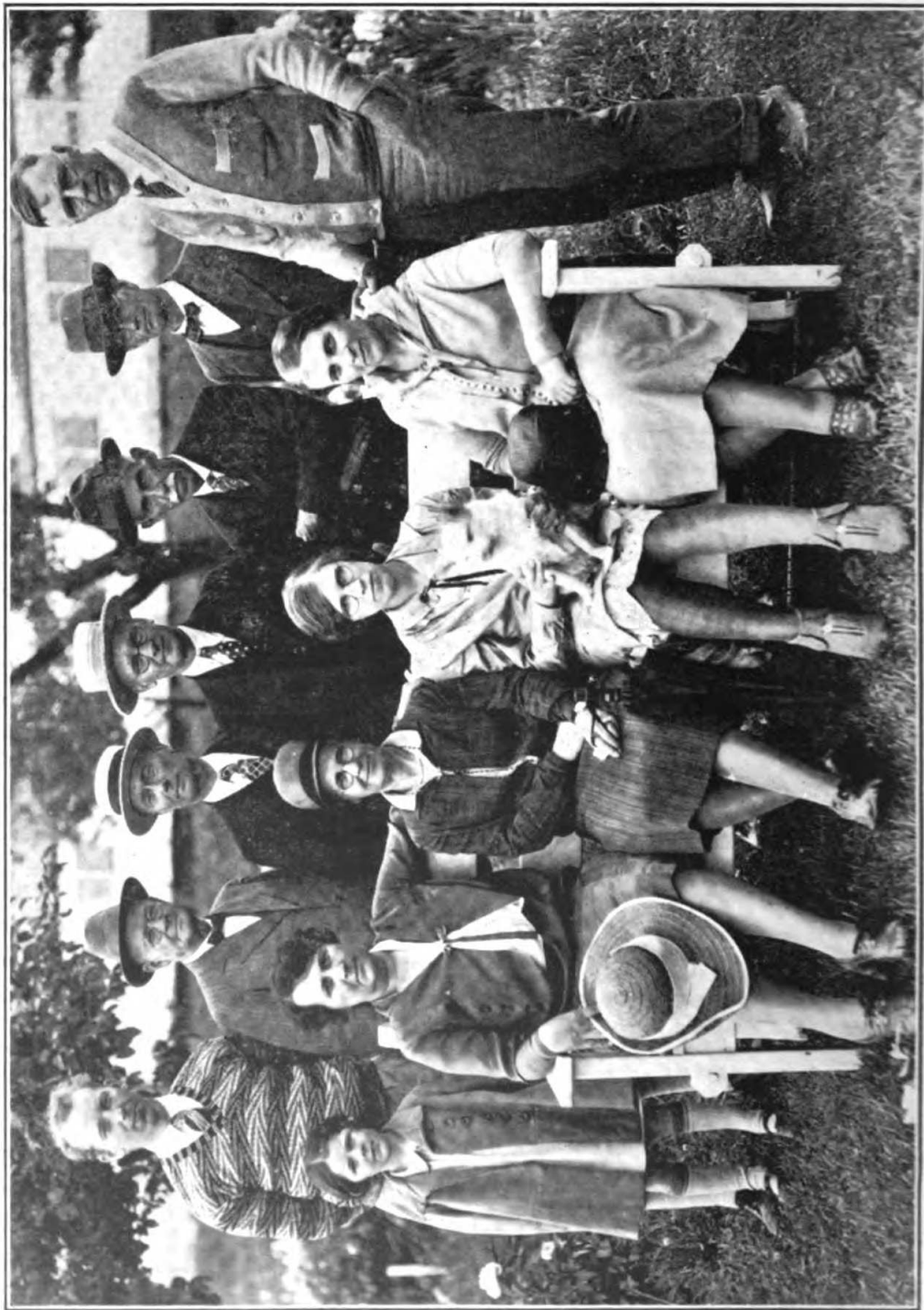
In going through the fields I noted many very charming varieties, a number of which were practically strangers to me. Among these varieties that stood out very prominently among their neighbors were: Marie Crousse, Silvia Saunders, Rose Shaylor Rosette, Phoebe Carey, Ponemah, President Wilson, Perette, Opal, Robert Lee Davis, Alex D. Vories, a fine red; Clemenceau, Cherry Hill, Francis Willard, Numphaea, Sarah Carstensen, Therese, E. G. Hill, Rose Shaylor, Pride of Essex, Argentine, E. C. Shaw, Denice, Grace Ott, Mlle. Jeanne Riviere, Lillian Gumm, and scores of others that were almost as outstanding.

SOME IRIS STILL BLOOMING

With the peonies we were able to study the merits of some of the new tulips that were at their best. The striking, gorgeous colors of the score or more of varieties were most pleasing to the eye. Some lovely iris were still blooming, attracting particular attention of the iris enthusiasts in the party.

The day proved entirely too short to get more than a fleeting glance of the thousands of bloom to be seen in every direction. We were royally entertained by our host and hostess and while some of us were obliged to continue on our journey, others remained over until the following day. The fields were thronged with flower lovers from far and near and a large room was provided for exhibition purposes, where a large number of the best peonies were on display during the day and evening. Some of the most perfect *Le Cygne* I have ever seen were displayed in quantities, as well as many other favorites.

When we have another opportunity to visit Indian Spring Farms it will be a great pleasure to avail ourselves of it.



A Group at the Indian Spring Farms, June 24, 1928

Standing (left to right)—Fred A. Staeck, Indian Spring Farms, Baldwinsville, N. Y.; A. B. Franklin, Minneapolis, Minn.; Harry A. Norton, Ayres Cliff, Quebec; W. F. Christman, Robbinsdale, Minn.; A. H. Fewkes, Newton Highlands, Mass.; A. M. Brand, Brand Peony Farms, Faribault, Minn.; Harry F. Little, Indian Spring Farms, Baldwinsville, N. Y. Seated—Mrs. Douglas Pattison, Quality Gardens, Freeport, Ill.; Mrs. E. M. Garrison, Davis Peony Farm, Quinton, N. J.; Mrs. Fred A. Staeck, Baldwinsville, N. Y.; Mrs. Harry F. Little, Baldwinsville, N. Y.

The Giant Oak and Fairyland

By CHARLES JEROME TRAXLER

Lawyer, Lecturer and Author of Twilight Sketches

This poem was suggested by the close proximity of a large peony garden to a Giant Oak which is 30 feet 6 inches in circumference at its base

I.

At eventide in fairyland, the fairy met the elf
Who brought the fleecy, cloud-like float to transport with himself
From fairyland, the Fairy Queen in royal robes and cloak
To meet the fairy folk on earth beneath the Giant Oak.

II.

The jolly little fairy folk, they gaily dance and sing
Their praises of the Giant Oak, the giant forest king;
It is the fairest place on earth for jolly fairy folk
To meet their Queen and dance and sing, beneath the Giant Oak.

III.

The Fairy Queen gave strict commands to elf and fairy too
To paint the flowers near the Oak in every rainbow hue,
To notify, as fairies can, the common earthly folk,
That fairyland is not far off from this great Giant Oak.

IV.

The elf and fairies painted well, obeyed the Queen's command,
And made the gardens near the Oak resemble fairyland;
So by decree of Fairy Queen, which courts cannot revoke,
The fairyland on earth shall be near by the Giant Oak.

V.

Should any doubt this fairy tale of rainbow tinted flowers,
So painted at the Queen's command in early morning hours,
Let him but call in May or June when Spring is full awoke,
He'll find a fairyland of flowers near by the Giant Oak.

VI.

Ten million fragrant peonies, of every rainbow hue,
In matchless shades and blendings that mortals cannot do,
That tally with the flowers of which the fairy spoke,
Are grown in mammoth gardens near by the Giant Oak.

Judge C. J. Traxler of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, the author of *Twilight Sketches* and the poem shown above, died at his home July 22, 1928, after a brief illness of three days. Kidney trouble which weakened his heart was the direct cause of his death.

Judge Traxler was greatly interested in the peony and during the latter years of his life, failing vision, that finally resulted in total blindness, caused him to specialize

in fragrant peonies. He had quite a representative collection some years ago, but the past few years he was unable to care for them and his collection was distributed among friends and relatives.

A lawyer by profession, specializing in corporate law, he was very successful and gained considerable prominence.

He was born in Marion Township, Henry County, Iowa, Dec. 10, 1858. He received his early training in the Mt. Pleasant public schools, later graduating in law at Iowa City, Ia.

About ten years ago his sight began to fail and within a few months he was totally blind. The writer spent many happy hours with him talking over peony matters. He was a former president of the Northwestern Peony and Iris Society and his daughter Hazel, who is an artist of considerable ability, designed the letter head and cut of that society.

The last few years of his life was devoted to lecture work and he possessed a very fine collection of colored peony slides which he used to illustrate his talks.



Sulphurea

By MRS. FRANCES H. McCULLAGH, *Los Gatos, California*

Referring to the article, "Peonies in California" in Bulletin 34, Sulphurea was credited to Lemoine. This is, of course, a printer's error. I hope you will correct it to Lemon—1830.

Lemon also gave us Grandiflora Nivea Plena—1824, Edulis Superba, and many others—1824 to 1830. Grandiflora Nivea Plena is very fine, but I think Sulphurea the finest of Lemon's productions that I have seen. The flower is a glorified Duchess de Nemours (Calot). It is larger and a deeper cream. It does not develop a high crown, keeps its lovely cupped form to the last; strong, lovely fragrance. The plant is medium dwarf. 26 inches to 28 inches high; stems are strong and carriage perfect. It is a week or more later than Duchess de Nemours here. I have heard that it is also fine in Oregon and Washington.

Good & Welsh's description of it in 1927, says: "It ranks with Festiva Maxima"; 6.6 versus 9.3.

Personally, I think it is more beautiful than Festiva Maxima in color and form; no red marks; far finer fragrance, and better stems.

Good & Welsh also say it is much confused with inferior varieties. Here is probably the reason for the "knocks" it has had. The low rating does not matter much, unless the authorities "drop it out," for no fault of its own.

I would rate Festiva Maxima about 8.8 and Sulphurea 9.5 or maybe 9.4.