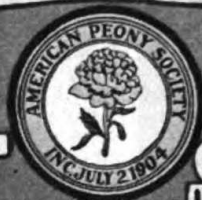


AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

Bulletin



LIBRARY
SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE
AND EXPERIMENT STATION
THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE
September, 1940

NUMBER 80

Table of Contents

W. F. CHRISTMAN, Editor
Northbrook, Ill.

	Page
Octogenarian, A. B. Franklin— <i>Vivian Thorp</i>	3
Peonies— <i>Dean R. W. Goddard</i>	9
Rose Glory— <i>Otis</i>	11
Believe It Or Not— <i>E. F. Kelsey</i>	12
Comments from Canada— <i>Wm. Brown</i>	13
Seed Germination— <i>W. T. Coe</i>	15
Growing Peonies on Lake Superior— <i>W. T. Coe</i>	15
Chicago Regional Show	17
Sixty Fragrant Peonies— <i>James Mason</i>	19
Poet's Glen— <i>Ernest Flint Kelsey</i>	21
Regional Peony Show	22
19th Annual North Dakota Show— <i>Mrs. M. B. Kannowski</i> ..	23
Duluth Peony Show	25
A Communication from the West Coast— <i>E. J. Berneche</i>	26
Peonies in the South— <i>George W. Peyton</i>	27
Peonies in the Midwest— <i>Edward Auten, Jr.</i>	30
Secretary's Notes	34
Department of Registration	37
New Members	43

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Northbrook, Ill.,
July 3, 1928, under Act of March 3, 1879.
Annual Subscription, \$1.00 Per Year. Included with Yearly Dues.

Published quarterly by the
AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY
Northbrook, Ill.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24th, 1912.

Of American Peony Society Bulletin, published quarterly at Highland Park, Ill.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, COUNTY OF COOK,—ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared W. F. Christman, who, having been duly sworn according to law, desposes and says that he is the Editor of the American Peony Society Bulletin, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption required by the act of Aug. 24th, 1912 embodied in section 411, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names of the publisher, editor, manager and business managers are, publisher, Singer Printing & Publishing Co., Highland Park, Ill.; editor, W. F. Christman, Northbrook, Ill.

2. That the owner is: This is the official publication of the American Peony Society and is mailed to all members of the Society who have paid dues of three dollars per year membership, which includes the publication.

3. That the known bond holders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding 1% or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

W. F. CHRISTMAN, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7th day of October 1940

(Notarial Seal)

HERMAN MEIR,

My commission expires 12-15-43.

Notary Public

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

OFFICERS

President—DR. EARLE B. WHITE,
Kensington, Md.

Vice-President — L. W. LINDGREN,
St. Paul, Minn.

Secretary and Editor— W. F.
CHRISTMAN, Northbrook, Ill.

Treasurer—W. W. COOK, Clinton,
Iowa.

DIRECTORS

A. M. BRAND, (1941), Faribault,
Minn.

W. W. COOK (1941), Clinton, Iowa.

HARRY W. CLAYBAUGH, (1941),
Franklin, Pa.

W. F. CHRISTMAN (1942), North-
brook, Ill.

PROF. A. P. SAUNDERS (1942),
Clinton, N. Y.

CHAS. F. WASSENBERG, (1942),
Van Wert, Ohio.

H. F. LITTLE, (1943), Camillus, N.Y.

W. H. THURLOW (1943), West
Newbury, Mass.

DR. EARLE B. WHITE (1943), Ken-
sington, Md.

L. W. LINDGREN (1941), St. Paul,
Minn.

Edw. AUTEN, Jr. (1941), Prince-
ville, Ill.

J. F. STYER (1941), Concordville, Pa.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

District No. 1

District No. 2—

District No. 3—George W. Peyton, Rapidan, Va.

District No. 4—

District No. 5—Frank M. Drake, 1017 Kentucky Home Life
Bldg., Louisville, Ky.

District No. 6—T. E. Carpenter, Arcade and County Road.
St. Paul, Minn.

District No. 6—Later appointment to be announced.

District No. 7—J. A. Bongers, 413 N. Sheridan Ave.,
Ottumwa, Ia.

District No. 8—Later appointment.

District No. 9—E. J. Berneche, RR 6, box 504, Portland, Ore.

District No. 10—J. D. Long, Boulder, Colo.

District No. 11—J. E. Carter, Guelph, Ont., Can.

District No. 12—C. F. Wood, Box 658, London, Ont., Can.

Province of Alberta, Dr. J. F. Brander, 10652 81st Ave.,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Saskatchewan—Prof. Jas. Neilson, University of Saskatchewan,
Saskatoon, Sask.

Manitoba—J. R. Almey, Room 237, Canadian Pacific Ry. Co.,
Winnipeg, Man.



AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



SEPTEMBER, 1940

Octogenarian Creator of Prize Peonies Retains Abounding Enthusiasm of Youth

By Vivian Thorp

In these days of clash and crash; of fallen empires and frightened ideals, how marvelous it must be to have a profession which is concerned only with the creation of beauty. No need for one so occupied to seek an island of escape. Every day's work provides it.

In a tiny house way back from the road on the outskirts of Minneapolis, on a plot of 73 acres of sunny fields, lives such a fortunate and wise man.

In June of every year for many years back he has looked over the 40 acres of glowing beauty which has been his livelihood and his joy. This being America and not Holland or France, he will look on those fields of loveliness till the close of his long life. He has lived 82 years and his name is Alonzo Barry Franklin. Those acres comprise the Franklin Peony Farm.

In June this year those acres produced a peony which carried off grand champion honors at the National Peony Show in Rochester, Minn. The name of this triumphant beauty is *Martha Bulloch*. She is deep pink in complexion; satiny in texture and certainly does not belong in the peony pony ballet; for she measures 10 inches from tip to tip.

Though Mr. Franklin must have been thrilled to carry off the championship, *Martha* is not one of his great enthusiasms. He confessed to me that had he been judging, the palm would have gone to another of his blooms, a glorious flower of exquisite creaminess which he likes so well he named it for himself—the *A. B. Franklin*.

When I went out to talk to Mr. Franklin I rather expected, because it was a rainy day, to find him seated in a comfortable chair in his living room or at least in his office. But the guess was quite wrong. Mr. Franklin had to be retrieved from a far-off field and he came in to me with muddy boots, wet coat and the intriguingly pink cheeks of a young boy instead of looking like a veteran of 80.

Always Worked; Always Had To

To my question "Will you tell me about yourself, Mr. Franklin?" he said, "Well, I've worked all my life, because I had to." However, after talking with him for an hour or two it was perfectly apparent that though the words "because I had to" may be true in Mr. Franklin's own mind but that they really don't mean a thing. This man works and has always worked from inner compulsion, not from outer; and he would have worked just as hard at something, had there been no necessity to earn a living.

He not only works hard at the business of raising peonies, but he's THE BOSS; things have to be done his way and his will be the directing head as long as he lives.

His daughter, Mabel lives with him and keeps house for him since the death of his wife four years ago and according to Mr. Franklin, his daughter "is all right, except she tries to boss me and I don't like to be bossed."

He likes to tell a story his own way too, I discovered; for when I asked how he happened to get into the business of raising flowers he started at the beginning and I had to wait. Once when I tried to hurry the process he dismissed my question with a brief "I'll get to that after a while."

Doesn't Look Octogenarian

Looking at A. B. Franklin it seemed that he must have made a mistake in claiming 1858 for the date of his birth. He looks as if he might be in the early 60s instead of the early 80s.

He was born in Waterville, Oneida county, New York, of old English stock. When he was a little bit of a tad the family came west to Three Rivers, Mich., and there small Alonzo got his schooling which lasted to the end of the grade school only. About that time the necessity of earning a living; the beginning of the "because I had to" of his remark. So he was apprenticed to a combination blacksmith and wagon maker and learned the wagon making trade. He worked in a flour mill for a while in Everett, Mich., "but there was too much dust, I couldn't stand it."

And then he found something to do that was fun. Roller skating was becoming fashionable and it sounded good to him, so he thought he'd be all right because he had always been a good ice skater. Remembering my own early struggles with roller

skates, I suggested that it didn't always follow. "It did with me," said Mr. Franklin, with a boastful gleam in his eye. "The very first time I put them on I was fine—so I asked for a job teaching and got it."

'Ulterior Motive' Exposed

It developed most amusingly that merely liking to skate was not the only attraction in Alonzo Franklin's new profession. With a twinkle he said, "I guess the real reason I liked that job of teach-



A. B. Franklin with his new seedling peony, Mark Twain. Shown for the first time at Rochester, Minn., June 22, 1940.

ing was because I could speak to any girl in the rink without an introduction."

I expressed myself as being properly shocked at this view of his early character; but Mr. Franklin said, "I always liked girls and wanted to know them but I was so bashful I could hardly look at them; and this way it was my job and I had to, so then I got along fine with them."

It seems that for a bashful boy he had worked out quite a good technique of breaking down his shyness; for he confessed that he made it a point to go to all the church socials in town and look around to see where there was a vacant chair between two

girls. Then he'd make a bee-line for it and sit down. That sort of helped him to "get used to them" and then, to use his own words, "When I finally found a girl I liked well enough, I had worked up cheek enough to ask her to marry me. She did and we lived together 49 years."

"That's a pretty long time to live with anyone," I said.

There were tears in the clear blue eyes as he answered, "I wish it could be 49 years more."

Went a Bit Further

Then he went a bit further with the skating business. He went to Waterville, Wis., and built a rink in partnership with an interesting figure, a man who "said he was the brother of the King of Sweden, and I guess from the way the letters he got were addressed he was telling the truth." This man just called himself Charlie Walters in Waterville, but he wanted to take Alonzo back to Sweden with him when he got tired of being what he called "a poor relation of the royal family," and decided to go home. But young Franklin preferred America and roller skating; so he stuck with it until the craze died and stuck him with 400 or 500 "dead" skates on his hands.

Then he went back to Three Rivers and started building Railroad velocipedes. The Fairbanks bought out that business and A. B. Franklin's brother in Minneapolis sent him \$20 to come to Minneapolis where he got a job in a hardware business and worked for 11 years at it.

None of all this early career would seem to lead naturally to flowers but you can't always tell where things may lead and Franklin, all those 11 hardware years had been "aching to get outdoors." On top of that ache came the depression of 1898 and he got let out. So at 40 he had to look for another job. Apparently even then the trend toward hiring only younger men had begun for "Nobody wanted to hire a man of 40," said Mr. Franklin.

Starts With 32 Plants

This made him so mad that he took a vow he'd never work for anybody but himself again; "and I've never worked for anybody since." But what to do? He'd heard that peonies and lilacs paid as cut flowers. So enter the peonies.

"I didn't know much about it but I asked questions, then I took some of my savings and bought two good peony plants; took a butcher knife and a hand ax and cut 'em up into 32 plants."

That was the start of the 45 acres of peonies upon which have been developed plants which have made the A. B. Franklin nurseries famous the country over. Three or four years after the butcher-knife-hand-ax incident, he bought \$3,000 worth of new plants. On the first 10 acres of ground he bought in a good

year long ago he made a sum in five figures and before the depression of 1932 in one year cleared \$24,000.

From those first 32 plants and his first buys of peony plants, he has already discarded 250 varieties as not fine enough; has himself developed 100 new varieties which he has had a right to name and is today testing 150 more.

It seems you don't rush out and buy a new peony plant with the nonchalance of buying a new handkerchief. Mr. Franklin has had to pay as much as a hundred dollars for a fine plant with which to experiment. And he has sold many as high as \$50 a piece. He has raised some 40,000 plants from peony seed? Beside that championship award in Rochester in June Mr. Franklin has had a great many medals and 16 certificates of merit. He is a life member of the National Horticultural society.

"How are these awards made; on what basis?" I asked.

"Well, it seems that there is no such thing as a perfect peony, any more than there is a perfect anything else; but the possible perfect bloom is rated as worth 10 points. No one has ever achieved that 10 points, which is a good thing, for there would be nothing to strive for."

But A. B. Franklin has developed more peonies near perfection than any other grower in the world. He has introduced 23 which have been rated by the International Peony Symposium at nine points and better.

Each Flower Has Personality

When the Symposium last took a rating the nearest competitor to A. B. Franklin has introduced nine peonies with a rating over nine points—leaving the Minneapolis man 14 points to the good.

Every one of his finest peonies has a distinct personality to the grower. The names chosen for the beauties are most interesting. He has named one for himself and one for his wife and one for his son Loren. There is a very fine namesake of Franklin D. Roosevelt and one named for Mrs. Roosevelt which an enthusiastic easterner who grows fine peonies calls "one of the world's best." There is a "*Minuet*," the petals of which remind one of the airy bouffant skirts of a dancer. There is a *Resplendent*, a *Diadem*, a dark lovely bloom called *Gopher Beauty*, a *Cherokee*, a *Madame Butterfly* and a host more, each the perfection of its own type of loveliness. Together they must almost have wiped wagon wheels, flour dust, railroad velocipedes and roller skates from the memory of A. B. Franklin.

In the winter Mr. Franklin goes to Mississippi where he has built a little cottage. But according to his daughter he has to be messing around with growing things even there. In Mississippi

he has gone in for huckleberry plants—2,000 of them—about which his daughter has no enthusiasm. She says “They’re not much good, but I bet father didn’t tell you that.” He also has quantities of Tung trees in Mississippi from the nuts of which airplane oil is extracted.

Miss Franklin stoutly denies “bossing father, except when he needs it and even then I don’t get far.” But she thinks father is pretty fine just the same. “He has a wide acquaintance and hosts of friends and has always liked to live a quiet modest life. Father has always lived at the end of the road and been happy to be alone with his wife and children. Now that mother has gone he is a little lonely.

Can't Listen When You Talk

The way children size up their parents is always a little alarming—to parents. And among other things which Miss Franklin says about this famous and immensely modest peony expert is that “He’s so absent minded that he just can’t be bothered listening to you when you talk to him.”

She told me that he decided a good many years ago that he’d better learn to drive a car. So they packed mother and daughter in the back of the old Buick, put father in the driver’s seat with son Loren and started out to teach father to drive. It was a harrowing experience.

Father was more interested in the surrounding country than the road. At one point he turned completely around from the wheel and said to mother in the back seat: “That’s a very fine field of cabbage over there,” and in less time than it took to finish the sentence they were smack up against a telephone pole off the side of the road. That finished the driving lessons. But when the boys went off to the war, Father Franklin got a professional to teach him and has driven ever since. He isn’t the first man that didn’t think his family worth listening to.

Cares Little for Name

At 80 Alonzo Barry Franklin is as straight as a reed, pink-cheeked and bright eyed, and with a caustic tongue. By the way, he does not care much about the “Alonzo Barry.” It was his uncle’s name given him by his mother on the understanding that Uncle would leave him a farm; “But I never saw the farm,” said Mr. Franklin.

He does not smoke or drink; tried smoking once but decided it was “a filthy habit” and gave it up; he boasts that until four years ago he never had a sick day and thinks he’ll have no difficulty in topping ninety years. Politically he insists he’s a mugwump; isn’t much concerned about the coming election but admires President Roosevelt and thinks he has done more for the poor than

anyone. His daughter is somewhat amused about his insistence that he is absolutely non-partisan, because he once refused to name a peony after the wife of a Republican president.

From the vantage point of 80 years his judgment on Governor Stassen is that "he's done pretty well for a young man."

May A. B. Franklin live long to give us more beautiful peonies, name them how he will.



Peonies

By Dean R. W. Goddard, Rochester, Minn.

Peonies are especially suited to our northern climate. The plant is a native of Siberia and temperatures of 60 below zero apparently do not affect it. In this climate it is practically free from disease. Insect pests or fungi seldom attack it. Ants are seen frequently on the buds, but they do no harm. They are only collecting the sweet juices to be found there.

Peonies are one of our most permanent perennials. An established peony plant in the proper location need not be taken up or moved in your lifetime. Plants are blooming today in the east which were planted more than one hundred years ago. However, if one is raising peonies for competition in shows, taking up the roots and dividing them every six or eight years is considered advantageous.

If one is to plant a root than can be such a permanent fixture in the flower garden, it behooves one to select good roots. Why try to save a few cents on a plant that may be admired for two or three generations? There are any number of reputable nurserymen, many of whom specialize in peonies. Some of the best in the country are in Minnesota. Purchases from them will assure you the pleasure of a peony true to name and color.

Roots at a Dollar and Up

It takes many years to develop a new peony for the market; hence new varieties are expensive. Most new varieties are put on the market at \$10 to \$15 per root. There are plenty of the older varieties, as good as many of the expensive ones, which may be purchased for a dollar or two per root.

Nearly all catalogs give ratings of peonies expressed in numbers. *LeCygne* is the highest rated peony with 9.9. Ten is a perfect rating. These ratings are helpful in selecting peonies, but may mislead the gardener on his first purchase. It did me. Do not rely entirely upon them. To illustrate, *Solange* is rated 9.7 while *LaLorraine* is rated at 8.6. For ordinary garden and home purposes *LaLorraine* is superior to *Solange* which does not

come good every year. In fact, one might have to wait three or four years for fine blooms on *Solange*.

Plant In August or September

Having decided on what roots to purchase, the next problem is planting. This may be done in late August or in September. If the roots are kept in proper storage during the winter, they may be planted in the spring. Most peony catalogs contain directions on the planting of peonies. Most important is rich soil. Set the root so the eyes are not more than two inches below the surface. For best results, care should be taken in the selection of a place for planting. The peony is a gross feeder and should not be planted where the roots or trees or shrubs will draw moisture and nutrition from it. Shade should be avoided and there should be proper drainage. Do not plant close to a foundation. A well-drained open space is best.

Care of peony plants is simple. You may get good results with little attention to the plants. However, a few simple operations will be well repaid by better blooms. Nothing will do more for peonies after they are properly planted than cultivation. If this is done once a week the results will be surprising.

Mulching and Fertilizing

In the fall after frost, cut the stems off close to the ground and burn the leaves. This eliminates the danger of fungi or insects being carried over to the next season. The first winter season after planting a peony, it should have a mulch of straw or hay to prevent the frost from heaving the roots. It is good practice to mulch every winter. If there is no mulch and an open winter occurs, the cracks formed by freezing are apt to injure the crowns of the roots.

A common question is: What fertilizer should be used on peonies? If peonies are planted in good rich loam, excellent results will be obtained without fertilizer. In fact, unless one is careful, it is best to use no fertilizer at all. If one is going to use fertilizer, three rules should be followed: Don't put it on the crown; don't allow it to come in contact with the roots; and don't fertilize too much. Poor results have perhaps been obtained oftener by too much fertilization than by not enough. I have secured good results by using equal parts of steamed bone meal and hard wood ashes. A handful of this mixture is worked into the soil about each plant every two or three years. Some use well-rotted manure between the plants every two or three years. This is alright if a moderate amount is used.

As Cut Flowers

Many prefer to use their peonies as cut flowers in the house instead of leaving them on the plants subject to wind and rain.

The peony has many advantages as a cut flower; one is the length of time it may be preserved. If properly handled it may be stored a month or more. To accomplish this, cut the bloom when the bud is soft, but before it has opened. This should be done after the dew has dried. Strip all the leaves except the top one off the stem. Then cut a hole in the bottom of an ordinary number one and one-half paper sack, insert the stem through the hole, drawing the bud into the sack. Then twist the opening of the sack, closing it gently about the bud. When you have thus collected your buds, take them to a cool basement and insert the stems into cool water for four or five hours. The stems should then be removed from the water and thoroughly dried with a towel. Then wrap the collection closely in several thicknesses of newspapers. Place the bundle in cold storage of about 36 degrees until wanted. The sacks should then be gently torn from the buds and the stems placed in a vase of water. In an hour or two the buds will be in full bloom with colors far more beautiful than if permitted to open in the garden.

If one wishes to keep them in storage for only a few days, they may be left in a jar of cold water in a cool, dark corner of the basement.

—From Minnesota Horticulturist (August)



Rose Glory

I have just been re-reading Mr. Otis' last letter. In it is this paragraph:

"So you think my No. 28 seedling should be named? Many years ago Kunderd put on the market a gladiolus that he named *Rose Glory*. The color of my peony is quite similar to this glad, so why wouldn't this be a good name? However, you are such a wizard at picking appropriate names, why don't you take a fling at it? Peyton has repeatedly urged me to name it. Bongers thought it deserved a name and now you, so I guess I can hold out no longer."

I propose that we take the suggestion of our friend and call it *Rose Glory*. If Mr. Peyton and Mr. Bongers are agreeable I hope the name will stand.



Believe It or Not

And here is a "Believe It Or Not" peony yarn:

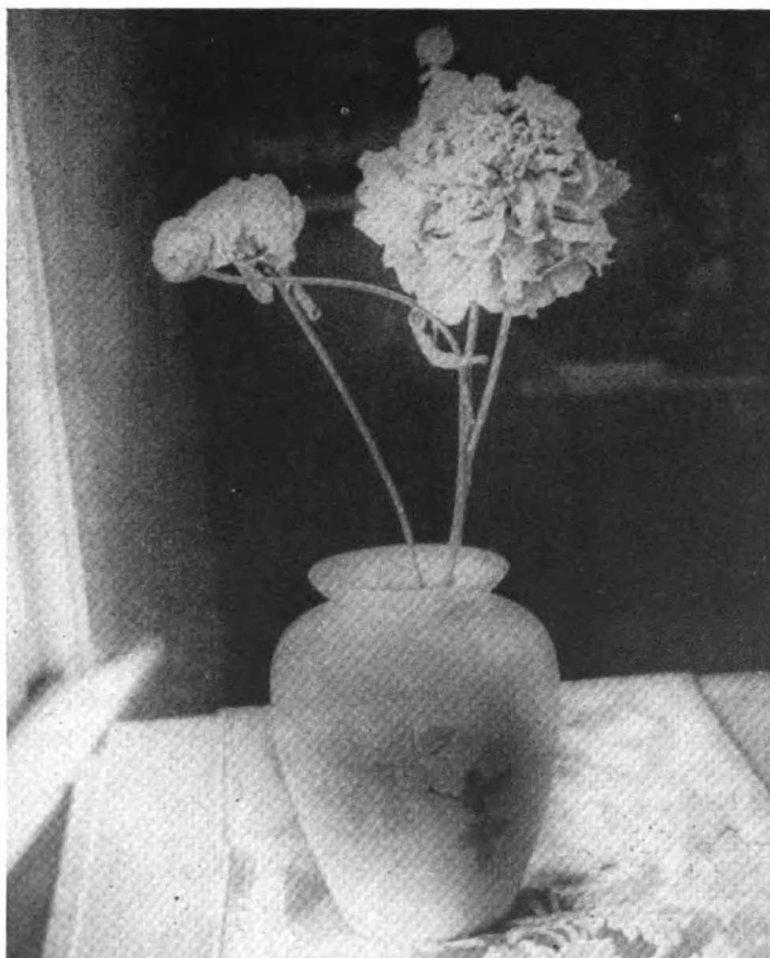
The latter part of May 1940, friends of ours motored from Buffalo to see how the peonies were coming. In the course of

the conversation one of the ladies mentioned that she had a peony bloom which Mrs. Kelsey gave her last June. Thinking she had pressed it or perhaps preserved it by some other process, asked her how she had kept it. "Just in a vase in water." Further questioning disclosed that the bloom was still intact. I took the address and promised to see it but before I had an opportunity to do so she brought the flower to me. Many people have come to see a peony bloom nearly a year old. The petals still are a trifle moist and it still has a pleasing odor like a rose. Here is a photograph of it. It is a seedling, *Shirley*, that originally was a semi-double, but now is a very large rose pink double.

"Believe it or not—"

Cordially yours,

E. F. Kelsey.



Here is the "Believe It Or Not" peony described by Mr. Ernest F. Kelsey.

Comments From Canada

Wm. Brown, Elora, Ont.

The splendid report of the Rochester Show in the June Bulletin by Mr. Christman was, I am sure, greatly appreciated by the members of the A. P. S.

It is a great treat to have these bulletins with their wealth of information every quarter, and we certainly are fortunate in having such an efficient secretary as Mr. Christman.

The winners of the different classes at the Rochester Show are to be congratulated in their success, and those who failed to get into the money have no cause to feel discouraged, as according to the report, every entry was a potential winner and would have been such at most shows.

It was my intention to attend this show but was prevented by sickness. It will always be a matter of great regret to me that I was unable to do so, and thereby missed what was no doubt the greatest Peony show of all time.

I notice in reading over the report of the Annual Meeting that the rating list Mr. Peyton worked on so long is to be scrapped, or was the word junked.

It does seem a pity that all the time and hard work Mr. Peyton put into this list, and he must have done a lot of it, is to be lost. I might also say that if this work was done gratis, and I understand it was, Mr. Peyton deserves every thanks from this Society, which no doubt has already been extended to him, although I saw no account of it in the minutes of the annual meeting.

I also notice that a committee of twenty judges is to be selected to carry on this work. No doubt, these judges will also be growers, for if a judge only knows a variety from its performance on the show table, he cannot fairly rate it, as its appearance at these shows is no indication of its true value.

In my opinion, twenty is far too few for this work. Every member of the A. P. S. who went to the trouble last year to fill out the list that was sent to him should also be on this committee.

If it is decided that a variety must get at least ten votes to be rated, it is going to leave out a great many comparatively new varieties.

I would think that if votes were cast for a variety, say from six different points across Canada and the United States, and if these votes were from widely separated places, it should thereby establish a fair idea of the true worth of a variety.

Varieties receiving less than ten votes should be given a tentative rating; those over ten a fixed rating. And let me repeat, every interested member should have a say in this voting.

If space will allow, I might mention a few of the outstanding varieties in my garden during the past season.

The Peony season in this part of Canada was a very wet one, and the plants and bloom were time after time beaten down by violent rainstorms. However, the peonies seemed to thrive on this sort of treatment, for never have I seen bigger or better blooms.

On June 12th, *Festiva Maxima* opened the season and on July 15th, *Mrs. John M. Kleitsch* was the last to bloom. Over a month of peonies, *Le Cygne* was as is usual with me, the best white. While I have many of the best whites, including *Mrs. A. M. Brand* and *Mrs. J. V. Edlund*, none of them seem to have the charm and appeal and that perfection of form which *Le Cygne* has. *Therese* was undoubtedly the Queen of the garden. A hundred foot row of three year olds was a sight to behold, many blooms measuring over nine inches, and lasted for days. *Blanche King*, that beautiful dark pink, was one of the best, as was *Ella Christiansen* and *Myrtle Gentry*, with *Ella* exceptionally well with her strong stems holding her large white bloom erect. *President Coolidge* was a fine pink with plenty of size. *A. G. Perry* is a large pink which should please everybody. Two of Mr. Brand's very best in our opinion are *Victory Chateau Thierry* and *Mrs. John M. Kleitsch*. The latter extends the peony season a week, and would stop a lot of them at our shows if it were not so late. *President Wilson* gave enormous bloom, although there are better pinks. *Pride of Essex* is a very fine lovely built flower of a pleasing shade of pink. *Mrs. Edward Harding* gave some magnificent blooms, as did *Cornelia Shaylor* and *Lillian Gumm*.

The European varieties seem to have a special liking for wet weather, for never have I seen such bloom. *Lady A. Duff* came quite double and what a beautiful pink it is. *Mad. Emile Debatene* and *Miss Eckhart* are very large with well shaped flowers. The only thing I do not like about *Strassburg* and *Biebrich* is their name. I was surprised to see *Victoire de la Marne* make the Court of Honor at Rochester. It does exceedingly well here. Our Manual tells us the color is decidedly sour. The other French varieties that were very good were *Sarah Bernhardt*, *Mons. Jules Elie*, *La Lorraine*, *La France*, *Souv De Louis Bigot* and *Mrs. Jules Dessert*.

In the Japs *Charm* was the best dark Red. *Nippon Beauty* and *Nippon Brilliant* were extra good. *Soshi* is a very bright purple, *Antwerpen* an extra good Tyrian Pink, among the best six in my garden.

Mr. G. F. Hemerik and *Kukeni Jishi* are very good rose pinks. *Isani Gidui* was the best white and *Onahama* and *Mrs. Mac*, two newcomers, were extra good. *Krinkled White*, *Flanders Field* and Dr. Brethour's *Josette* were easily the best in the singles.



Seed Germination

By W. T. Coe, Minneapolis, Minn.

In August 1939, I planted 150 very dry, hard and black peony seeds. I filed each of them on a carborundum stone until I broke the outer shell; then I soaked them for a week in water. I planted them in my garden on the North Shore of Lake Superior, and to my surprise, 45 of them came up last spring, and they grew to be about four inches tall the first season.

I have been informed that it ordinarily takes two years to get a dry peony seed to germinate.



Growing Peonies on Lake Superior

By W. T. Coe, Minneapolis, Minn.

In the fall of 1937, I planted a peony garden at my summer home at Beaver Bay, Minnesota, on the North Shore of Lake Su-

terior. The garden is situated on a hillside facing south. The ground is very rocky. We took out enough rock to build a wall around the garden. The soil is a glacial silt covering broken rock sloping down to the lake.

Lake Superior is the largest body of fresh water in the world, and its temperature varies but a few degrees in winter or summer. The bottom of the garden is about 30 feet above water level, and the top 60 feet. We dug trenches 18 inches wide and deep, and removed all the dirt and rock. I prepared the ground for the planting in the following manner: In the bottom of the trench I tramped down 8 inches of green quack grass sod. The remaining 10 inches were filled with a 50-50 mixture of rotten cow manure and glacial silt, and into this I planted about 100 of the choicest



A glimpse of W. T. Coe's cottage and peony garden on the north shore of Lake Superior.

named varieties of peonies and set a marker over each root. In 1938 there was a fair amount of blooms. In 1939 there was a good deal of bloom, and in 1940, the garden out-did itself with flowers. I never saw more beautiful peonies. The blooms started July 5th and on August 15th I cut the last bouquet. I find that the blooming of a given variety in this garden depends much upon its location in the garden. Those at the bottom of the garden being nearer the lake, are about 10 days slower in opening than those at the top of the garden. All colors are darker than the official description calls for. I attribute the strength of color to the

prevalence of mist from the lake, which evidently takes out the violet ray from the sun. I was much delighted with the blooming quality of some of the less common varieties. For instance, at the end of the season, *Maude L. Richardson* came out with the most gorgeous display of bright pink peonies that I ever saw. *Harry L. Richardson* had opened only one bud on July 22nd. The blooms on *Martha Bulloch*, *LaFrance*, *Jubilee*, *President Wilson* and *Kelway's Queen*, were each in the vicinity of 8 inches in diameter. Among the reds, *David Harum* was the most beautiful. The largest was *Alex D. Vories*. July 23rd was a hot day with considerable wind. All red peonies were considerably burned, but the whites and pinks were not. There was a sprinkle of rain during the night, and the next day, the 24th, the whites and pinks were about as good as ever.



Chicago Regional Show

The Second Regional Peony Show of the Chicago area was held on June 15-16 at the Garfield Park Conservatory in cooperation with the Midwest Horticultural Society.

The show attracted a larger number of exhibitors than the first one although the proximity of the National Show operated to deter some of last year's. There was a noticeable increase in exhibits from smaller growers, amateurs, and garden club members. The show was attended by more than 12,000 persons. A spell of excessively hot weather served to injure many of the blooms.

Class I had two entries. These were made by Mr. Napier of Blue Island and Mr. Boehland of Rockford. Mr. Napier with 100 varieties in superb condition was awarded the first place. Mr. Boehland with fifty-five varieties was a fine second. Competition in the other classes was rather evenly divided among the other exhibitors with some fine material being displayed.

Commercial entries were very attractive. Splendid blooms were brought in by Mr. Christman and Mr. Klehm. Their lavish donation of flowers for backgrounds and color did much to fill the large space. River Drive Peony Gardens exhibited some fine blooms and decorations.

From the new exhibitors entering and the increasing interest of others the Chicago Regional Show promises to become larger and better every year.

GARFIELD PARK EXHIBITORS IN THE 1940 SHOW

- #1. Henry P. Heizer, 2134 W. 109 St., Chicago, Ill.
Entered Classes. 9-30-31-32-33-34-36-40.
- #2. E. E. Green, 2334 W. 110th St., Chicago, Ill.
Classes 12-17-18.
- #3. J. W. Schaad, 4510 Keokuk Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Classes 30-33.
- #4. Chas Klehm, Arlington Heights, Ill. Not in competition.
- #5. R. A. Napier, 2656 Walnut St., Blue Island, Ill.
Classes 1-9.
- #6. Mrs. W. Hermann, 3910 N. Kimball Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Classes 38-40.
- #7. Mrs. S. H. Holbrook, 413 S. Prospect, Park Ridge, Ill.
Classes 31-35.
- #8. Mrs. A. C. Johnson, 1028 N. Lockwood Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Classes 38-40.
- #9. R. G. Gayle, Rockford, Ill.
Classes 1A.-29-30-31-32-33-36.
- #10. G. J. Boehland, Rockford, Ill.
Classes I-1A.-2-3-4-5-9-10-11-12-19-20.
- #11. Howard Wigell, 120 N. Central, Rockford, Ill.
Class 21.
- #12. E. C. Freed, Downers Grove, Ill.
Class 30-31.
- #13. Northbrook Peony Gardens, Northbrook, Ill. Not in competition.
- #14. Mrs. Frank Maresh, 5840 W. Circle Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Class 40.
- #15. River Drive Peony Gardens, River Grove, Ill.
Class 3-5-6-9-10-12-14-15-21.

* * *

Sixty Fragrant Peonies

James Mason, Chicago, Ill.

A neighbor gave me all his *Mikado* because he couldn't stand the odor. His word for it was something else, and you who know *Mikado* do not need three guesses. The American Peony Society's manual says "disagreeable."

But you may be most interested in the fragrant varieties to put in vases or to cut for friends. Here is a list of sixty fragrant peonies which will cost up to ten or fifteen dollars each:

A. B. C. Nichols
A. B. Franklin
Alice Harding
Anna Sass
Asa Gray
Auten's Pride
Ball O' Cotton
Biebrich
Belle
Blanche King
Creve Coeur
C. W. Bunn
Dr. J. H. Neeley
Duchesse de Nemours
Edulis Superba
Flower Girl
Grace Batson
Hansina Brand
Henry Averv
John M. Good
June Day
Katherine Havemeyer
Last Rose
Lillian Gumm
Livingstone
Loveliness
Mabel L. Franklin
Marie Lemoine
Martha Bulloch
Memorial Queen

Mme. Calot
Mme. de Verneville
Mme. Emile Galle
Miss Salway
Mons. Dupont
Mont Blanc
Mrs. Elva Barron
Mrs. F. A. Goodrich
Mrs. Frank Beach
Mrs. Harry F. Little
Mrs. J. V. Edlund
Mrs. Romaine B. Ware
Myrtle Gentry
Nina Secor
Oliver F. Brand
Philippe Rivoire
Phoebe Cary
Queen of Hamburg
President Coolidge
Richard Carvel
Robert E. Lee
Sarah K. Thurlow
Sistie
Splendida
Standard Bearer
Tourangelle
Venus
W. F. Christman
White Delight

A Difference in Noses

There seems to be some disagreement among writers of catalogues as to the degree of fragrance for *Philippe Rivoire*. Yet, if you placed a bouquet of that flower in your home or office, the perfume would fill the room with a pleasant aroma.

The same is true for any of the varieties in the list above. There are but two full double red peonies in this list. The reason I omit others is because I have not sniffed them.

It is interesting that there are amateurs and professionals who pay little attention to fragrance, though it seems obvious that *Philippe Rivoire* is still at a premium after 27 years of propagation, because it is fragrant. *Kelway's Glorious* will bring a good price per root for a long time, no doubt, because it gives so much rose-like fragrance with its beautiful bloom. *Kelway's Glorious* has been on the market since 1909 and still is in about the same price bracket as *Philippe Rivoire*, which was introduced in 1911. Both of these came from across the Atlantic. What have our own originators offered to match them in fragrance? Plenty. The best flower in the 1940 national show is a fragrant American one. That honor will always go to a peony with a pleasant odor if the judges are instructed to count 10% for fragrance. About two-thirds of the peonies on this list were produced by our American originators. It is not a complete list.

Fragrance and Variety

There is ample opportunity for anyone to have a complete peony garden of fragrant double varieties with long season of bloom. You can have quality and variety, though you demand sweet aroma from the varieties you plant.

A hybrid peony, which bloomed for the first time in 1939, has a fragrance remindful of sweet clover. It is similar in form to *Officinalis Rubra*, in bloom with *Milton Hill*, but more pink than that variety. It stands up in intense heat. The only plant of it has not yet been divided.

Satisfactory Length of Season

The first blossoms in this fragrant peony garden will open early, starting with the pink double *Edulis Superba*. The season will last approximately one month and end in a grand display of *Myrtle Gentry*, *Marie Lemoine*, *President Coolidge* and *Last Rose*.

Which is my favorite? I refuse to pick one. But I'll confess that I am looking for something which I hope to find some day. I'm looking for a larger and darker *Philippe Rivoire*, a peony similar in color to *Mons Martin Cahuzac* with a fragrance like the pleasant odor which I find in every pretty bloom of *Mrs. Frank Beach*, *Kelway's Glorious* or *Edulis Superba*.

Poet's Glen

Ernest Flint Kelsey, E. Aurora, N. Y.

Let me sing you a song of the Poet's Glen
With its tapestry rare overhead,
Surrounded by glorious sentinel trees
From which all unlovely have fled;
With its flowering banks and wandering paths
And a rill on a pebbly bed.

I will sing you a song of the Poet's Glen
Where the thrush finds a spot to rest,
And the sheltering ferns and shadow nooks
Make a place for the woodcock's nest;
Where the wandering hare and migrating bird
Find a rendezvous nature has blest.

Let me sing you a song of the Poet's Glen
Where feverish passions die,
And there cometh content to the weary heart
Where my troubles take wings and fly.
O, the world again seems kind and good
And my God increasingly nigh.

Editor's Note:

Accompanying the above verses was the following note from Mr. Kelsey: "About two miles from here (East Aurora, N.Y.) is the country estate of my friend John Grabaw, Sunset Hill. On this estate is a beautiful glen with virgin forest trees. On many of these trees he has placed plaques with poems of celebrated poets, Longfellow, Whittier, Holmes, et al. To my surprise I discovered a tree with the enclosed poem on it—my own humble verses rubbing elbows with the immortals. Use it if you wish and always give it 'Thumbs Down' if not good enough for the Bulletin or suitable."



Regional Peony Show

The second annual peony show of District No. 14 was held in the Armories, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, on June 28th and 29th.

In this part of Saskatchewan the peony season is usually at its height during the last week in June. This year, however, the season was somewhat earlier than usual, with the result that the early varieties were not much in evidence. Exhibits were on display from Moose Jaw, Regina, Saskatoon, Yorkton, Indian Head, Wilcox and Belbeck.

The show was held upon the same dates as the Moose Jaw Summer Exhibition, and many persons who came to the city primarily to visit the exhibition, availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting also the peony show. A few localities in the district reported heavy rain storms during the previous two days, with the result that some exhibits which were expected from outside points were not forwarded. Approximately 1,100 blooms were displayed, which represented a considerable increase over last year.

The northern end of the Armories was reserved for the show, with light from the east and west, and the view obtained upon approaching from the entrance of the building was a pleasing one indeed. There were a number of fine exhibits entered as "not for competition," but which added greatly to the general effect of the show. These came from the Government of Saskatchewan, Regina, the Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head, the Parks Board of Saskatoon, and from Mr. James Slater of Moose Jaw.

Exhibits were judged by R. M. Wilson of Indian Head; and J. E. Park of Regina, and their awards met with general satisfaction. There were some close decisions, especially in the amateur classes. The award for the best bloom in the show was given, after much consideration, to a splendid specimen of *LeCygne*, exhibited by Mr. A. G. Nelson of Wilcox.

The American Peony Society's silver medal for the most outstanding exhibit in competition was also awarded to Mr. Nelson for his display in class 2 of the "Open" division. This consisted of five varieties, double or semi-double, three blooms of each, and the winning varieties were: *Therese*, *Madame Geissler*, *Sou-*

venir de Louis Bigot, Lora Dexheimer and LeCygne. These were all in fine condition and above the average in size.

A miniature cup donated by the Saskatchewan Horticultural Societies Association for the best seedling in the show, whether in competition or not, went to Mr. Jas. Slater of Moose Jaw. Mr. Slater also exhibited a number of other seedlings which appeared worthy of propagation.

In the class 1 exhibit of the open division seventy-one varieties were represented. Outstanding among these were observed *LaFee, Madame Emile Lemoine, Sarah Bernhardt, Reine Hortense, Kelway's Glorious, LeCygne, Cherry Hill, Therese, Lillian Gumm, Claire Dubois, Mary Brand, Frances Willard* and *Pomponette*. The last named variety, with its delicate unusual color and excellent form attracted considerable attention, and an observer was led to wonder why such a fine variety was rated so low.

The thanks of the Committee are acknowledged to the donors of prizes, namely: The American Peony Society, The Moose Jaw Horticultural Society, The T. Eaton Company Limited, the University of Saskatchewan Horticultural Department, Mr. J. E. Carter of Guelph, Miss M. E. Blacklock, of Meadowvale, Dr. J. F. Brander of Edmonton, Mr. F. L. Skinner of Dropmore, Dr. Seager Wheeler of Rosthern, Dr. C. F. Patterson of Saskatoon, Mr. A. G. Nelson of Wilcox, Prof. J. Neilson of Saskatoon, and the Saskatchewan Horticultural Societies Association.



19th Annual Show

OF THE NORTH DAKOTA PEONY SOCIETY

Mrs. M. B. Kannowski, Grand Forks, N. D.

Mrs. C. O. Haugen of Larimore, North Dakota, exhibiting a large and perfect specimen of *Festiva Maxima* peony, won the grand championship of the North Dakota Peony Show, held in Grand Forks on June 25th and 26th. Mrs. H. D. Benwell of Grand Forks, was the winner of the sweepstakes cup with twenty points.

While the quality of some of the blooms was up to standard, for the most part the flowers were smaller and showed the effects of last fall's drouth, as well as recent dry weather and hot winds. However, a peony show is always beautiful, and this was no exception.

A very fine bloom of *Le Cygne*, exhibited by Dr. C. I. Nelson, of Fargo, was a contender for the Grand Champion. The later peonies had not opened, and the varieties exhibited were early and midseason, which of course does not make for as interesting an exhibit.

Several of the North Dakota peony enthusiasts visited the national show at Rochester, and after viewing that wonderful display came home determined to do as well in the home state. Each year sees the class of peonies improving, newer varieties grown, and better care taken in exhibiting.

New officers for the coming year are R. J. Darling, President; Franklin Page, vice president; Mrs. M. B. Kannowski, secretary and W. W. Blain, treasurer. Mr. Franklin Page, of Hamilton, North Dakota, was judge of the peonies, and Mrs. G. L. Ireland of Grand Forks judged the garden flowers.

The show was held June 28th and 29th, 1940.



The beautiful Shadow Box that decorated the booth of Brand Peony Farms at Rochester, Minn., 6-22-23-40.

Duluth Peony Show

July 9th & 10th, 1940

Choicest blooms of Duluth's 1940 peony crop were put on public exhibition yesterday as the Duluth Peony and Iris Society's 25th annual show opened at Hotel Duluth.

Twenty-one exhibitors contributed several thousand flowers to make up a color profusion of white, pink and red in the hotel ballroom. The displays will remain on exhibition throughout today.

Judges chose Exhibitor Joe Priley's red *Armandine Mechin* as the show's most perfect flower, winning for it the title Peony Duluth.

Priley also won a second leg on The News-Tribune and Herald trophy for the best collection of 25 varieties and looked forward to getting permanent possession of the cup in next year's event.

A first leg on the First and American National bank trophy for the most points gathered in group 2 (non-commercial) competition was won by Omer Prudhomme. The cup went into competition in this year's show.

First leg on the Northwestern State bank cup, also placed in the running for the first time, was won by Mrs. Oscar A. Anderson for the most points gathered in artistic arrangement. Besides winning the title of Peony Duluth for his *Armandine Mechin*, Priley contributed the show's best white (*Mons Dupont*) and best flesh pink (*Cornelia Shaylor*) entries. Mrs. F. A. Johnson's *Therese* was judged the best light pink peony. A. J. Macauley's *Martha Bulloch* was rated the best dark pink bloom, and his *Akashigata* the best Jap bloom. His *A. B. Franklin* was the best of the "single" entries.

Because of inclement weather, a peony street dance on London road scheduled for last evening was postponed until tonight. The Duluth Civic WPA band, directed by Homer P. Krause, will give a concert in Leif Erickson park at 7:30 p.m., and later moved up to a position near London road, where dancing will be held between Tenth and Twelfth avenues east. The thoroughfare will be roped off. The dance was arranged by the Chamber of Commerce publicity bureau as a peony show attraction.

Dr. Earle B. White, Washington, president of the American Peony society, attended yesterday's exhibition for a short time before leaving for his home.

Judges of the displays were A. M. Brand, Faribault; A. B. Franklin, Minneapolis; L. W. Lindgren, St. Paul, and John M. Kleitsch, Duluth. Mrs. F. Arthur Johnson is general show chairman. A. E. Bradley, chairman of the Duluth Peony festival committee, is show manager. H. E. Reynolds is president of the Peony and Iris society.

Hundreds of blooms were sold yesterday to show visitors for benefit of the Red Cross. More will be available throughout today. Handling the sale are committees of the Daughters of Isabella and the Duluth Council of Catholic Women, headed by Mrs. George Kozlik and Mrs. Edward Lanctot, respectively.

A summary of the judge's decisions follows:

Sweepstakes—Best white, Joe Priley (*Mons Dupont*); best flesh pink, Joe Priley (*Cornelia Shaylor*); best light pink, Mrs. F. A. Johnson, (*Therese*); best dark pink, A. J. Macauley (*Martha Bulloch*); best red, Joe Priley (*Armandine Mechin*); best Jap, A. J. Macauley (*Akashigata*); best double, A. J. Macauley, (*A. B. Franklin*); best in show, Joe Priley (*Armandine Mechin*.)



A Communication from the West Coast

E. J. Berneche, Portland, Ore.

Your letter at hand today, May 3rd, and noted. We are still living at the same place and going strong with the peonies. Our tree peonies are in bloom *LaLorraine* opened today and the earliest are gone for this season. *Tenuifolia* is out of bloom too. *Smoutha* is blooming in all its glory and so are all *officinalis* varieties. *Avant Garde* is about thru for this year, also *Lobata*. Next will come the *Chinensis* and they should come in about two weeks if weather warms up.

Lilacs have taken up all of our time the last three weeks. They are still very nice although some varieties are gone. All the poppies opened today and so did some of our roses.

We have had quite a little rain all the month of April, so weeding has been held up and looks like rain tonight again.

—

Our little town of Multnomah, has been made a substation to Portland, and we are getting house to house delivery which necessitates a house number. Our community has grown so that we are no longer in the country any more. It is built up all around us. Auto camps are going up every where along the highway. The reaction from the change of address has been interesting from all corners. We were glad to still be on the Portland mailing list. Makes it easier for us.

Sou de Maxim Cornu, should be in soon, buds are huge.



Peonies In The South

By George W. Peyton

Regional Vice President, American Peony Society, Rapidan, Va.

There is probably no perennial more suitable for planting in parks than the peony. It is hardy in every section of the country. It will grow and bloom in spite of the widest variations in temperature and moisture supply. It requires a minimum of care. It does not need to be dug up every year and stored over winter in a frost proof cellar and replanted in the spring. If properly planted, the death rate is negligible. The expense and trouble of replacements is almost nothing. Once planted it will last a life time and often far more than a life time as many letters that have come to me in recent weeks testify. It is also inexpensive when we consider these facts. While the first cost of rare varieties is probably more than that of most other flowers, yet the cost of the great majority of the the finest varieties is about the same as that of a good rose plant and when we compare the life span the peony is infinitely cheaper. It needs no covering in winter. Its requirements are simple and easily met. In short it would seem to be the ideal park plant. The only fault that can be brought against it is the fact that it is not a continuous bloomer, but that is true of many other very desirable plants and if care is used in selecting varieties, they may be had in bloom over a period of from six to eight weeks. The plant is attractive from the time the vari-colored shoots appear in early spring to the final chapter written in beautifully colored foliage by Jack Frost in late fall.

The notion seems to be abroad that peonies do not do well in the South and that those grown in the North are far superior

in every way. Nothing could be further from the truth. The gardens of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, North Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana are filled with literally hundreds of thousands of plants that have been growing and blooming vigorously for from ten to one hundred years. I have frequently had letters and statements from home owners in these states giving instances of plants that had been growing for from twenty-five to more than a hundred years and were still going strong and they were not usually *officinalis* varieties either, which has the reputation of living longer than the *albiflora*. Difficulty will be experienced in the Coastal plains of our southern states and possibly in almost the whole of Texas.

So far as I have been able to learn there is no difference required in the treatment of the peony in the North and the South. Full sun, or partial shade, good fertile soil, well drained and free from the roots of trees, shrubs and other plants that crowd too close, and a reasonable amount of cultivation and water will produce just as good flowers in the South as are grown anywhere. It may be that the height of the plants in the South is not so great as in the North, but the difference is immaterial, the flowers are just as good.

The plants in the South may be more subject to attack by nematodes than in the North, but they have not constituted a serious menace. Root rot is seldom seen, losses from this source being very few and far between. Botrytis is encountered, but not more often than in the North. It is true that varieties that are very late and very full double do not always open well in the South, but in my experience with about twenty-five hundred different varieties, not a score ever failed to give good bloom with reasonable regularity. Most of those that fail in the South also often fail in the North. When we find a cure for the infestation of thrips I believe we shall have found the cure for the failure of most peonies to bloom in the South and also the North.

To minimize as far as possible the one fault the peony has for park planting, namely short period of flowering, the plan of planting narcissus and lilies in the same bed has been recommended. They are planted in the same hole. The narcissus bloom before the peonies are well up and the peony foliage hides the unsightliness of the dying foliage of the narcissus. The lilies come after the

peonies and the peony foliage gives the roots of the lilies the necessary protection from the heat of the sun. On paper it sounds almost ideal and it would seem that it should work well in practice.

When we speak of peonies we usually mean the *albiflora* varieties, but the tree peonies are worthy of a place in any park and will prove a very great attraction on account of their unusualness and great beauty of flowers. The plants themselves are not always very attractive. They should be grown in plots by themselves as they require somewhat different treatment from the herbaceous species.

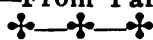
The early flowering kinds and their hybrids also should find a place in every park that has a place for them. They prolong the season by nearly a month and the hybrids especially have colors of brilliancy and beauty almost undreamed of in a peony. These also should find a place for themselves as they are usually rather dwarf in growth and often not especially vigorous and so should not be crowded in with the more vigorous growing kinds.

While peonies may be used with great effectiveness in many ways in parks such as borders for roads and walks, beds and individual specimens, I am especially interested in having regular peony gardens in parks just as they so often have rose gardens. These gardens should be laid off in beds of sixteen feet wide and of any length suitable to the plot of ground assigned. The roots should be planted in four rows four feet apart and the plants four feet apart in the rows and they should be staggered in the rows. The walks between the beds should be wide enough to accommodate the public, say from six to eight feet wide. They may be of grass or other material. Such beds give full view of each variety without anybody having to step on the beds to see. Labels with names should be attached or driven by every plant and these labels should be large and legible enough for anyone to see from the walks. This will discourage the habit of pulling up labels to see what is on them and the inevitable consequence of misplaced labels and confusion resulting. Accurate plots of each bed should be kept on file in the offices of the park to correct any errors in labeling that may creep in. It would also probably be wise for economy's sake to remove labels after each blooming season and so preserve them from the ravages of the weather and illegibility.

Many methods of planting may be used in these beds. If it is not desired to follow a color scheme, they may be planted alphabetically according to variety. This is always the easiest method of locating any given variety for a visitor. If a color scheme is desired, the beds may be made by grouping the whites, light pinks, dark pinks and reds separately in different beds or in separate rows in the same beds. Likewise it is very desirable to separate the different types of peonies, planting the singles in one or more beds, or rows, the Japs in others and the doubles in others. The difference between the single and Japanese types should always be maintained and the park employees able to inform visitors of this difference.

It is hoped that this article and those by my other good friends may serve to increase the planting in parks of the peony on a par with that of other flowers and so encourage the increased use of this flower unequalled in beauty, economy and usefulness, in the gardens of the public where for a minimum expenditure of time and money they will produce dividends undreamed of in fragrance, color and satisfaction.

—From Parks & Recreation, July, 1938.



Peonies in the Midwest

By Edward Auten, Jr., Princeville, Ill.

More peonies can be used to great advantage in our public parks. First of all, the peony, being the finest of all hardy perennials, merits full use of its beauty. Add to that the facts that it is absolutely hardy, just about the easiest of all perennials to grow, and properly established is as permanent as a tree, and its use seems almost imperative.

While the blooming season of any one variety may last little more than a week, the foliage for the rest of the season has full value as a small shrub. Blight ordinarily does not trouble it, but if it does, an occasional spraying with weak Bordeaux will keep the foliage green and bright. Foliage should be cut to the ground and burned about October first each year, just as soon as the first frost threatens it.

Planted about two feet apart, peonies are effective in rows along driveways; they can be used as background for low growing

annuals, they can be planted in display gardens, one or two plants of each variety, the varieties labelled with their names at blooming time, and each plant supported to keep it from being beaten down by storms. Plant them four by six feet or even four by eight feet apart for easy inspection by crowds.

Mass plantings, spaced four feet by four feet, or possibly three by four feet if space is at a premium, carry a special appeal. These plantings may consist of many varieties mixed rather indiscriminately, taking care only to put a white or a pink between the different reds. Or, each planting may consist of only one variety, in that case of course in smaller separated masses.

By careful selection of varieties it is possible to have a peony season lasting from three to five weeks. Besides the common species, *albiflora*, native to northern China and Southern Siberia, there are more than twenty other distinct species, some of them quite valuable to lengthen the season of bloom. First of those robust enough for park use is the cut-leaved *Anomola*, (also called *Smouthii*), which grows to good height, and gives single red blooms usually about May 5th here in central Illinois. After blooming, with seed pods removed, the plant is as effective as a large fern.

Not large, nor showy, but of exotic beauty, are the Wittmaniana hybrids, *Le Printemps*, *Avant Garde* and *Mai Fleuri*, single blooms of unusual shades of light pink. Then the *officinalis* species, native to southern Europe, starting first with the single red, in a few days the red Japanese type, then the full double red, *officinalis rubra* (grandmother's old fashioned piney, which brings back so many memories). There is also a white form both single and double, deep pink and light pink doubles.

In recent years, here in the United States, this *officinalis* species has been crossed on the common *albiflora* species, and the resulting hybrids constitute one of the most important improvements ever made in the peony. The pure *officinalis* varieties bloom from ten to three days before the common *albiflora* varieties. The cross is giving us a new race having the earliness of the *officinalis*, with the superior height and vigor of the *albiflora*. Then as a crowning glory, we get brilliant unfading reds finer than ever before seen in any peony, and new shades, from light to dark, in cherry, salmon and orange. These come in all types of bloom, single, Japanese, semi-double and full double.

The tree peonies (*Moutan* species) are really shrubs, and attract a great deal of attention. They come in various shades of purplish red to white, in all types of bloom—single, Japanese, semi-double and full double. There are several hybrids between the *Moutan* and *Lutea* species (*Lutea* being a small pure yellow tree species). The best known of these, and a very beautiful flower, is the variety *Souvenir de Maxime Cornu*, full double, yellow flushed orange and red. These tree peonies have a long season of bloom, starting growth so early in the spring that it is necessary to cover them heavily over winter with leaves in a wire cage, to hold spring growth back until danger of late frosts is over. Otherwise they are hardy and easily handled. Due to slow rate of increase the tree peonies are rather expensive, but prices are down from past years, and some sizable stocks are now in existence.

Turning now to the common species, *Albiflora*, with its hundreds of varieties, darkest red to purest white, and some with yellow centers, it is possible to have a season of nearly three weeks of bloom from these alone, by a careful selection of varieties. The public as a whole prefers the large full doubles, their size being impressive. Any park display must, of course, include many different doubles. These, however, are beaten down worst in a storm, and seem to tempt some weak souls to theft more than the singles or Japs. A wire support, with a circumference of 6 to 10 feet, depending on the size of the plant will protect from most storms, but it must not draw the plant tightly together. Ordinary two inch mesh chicken wire, eighteen or twenty-four inches high, makes a most inexpensive support, and can be removed immediately after blooming.

The single varieties, with the center of yellow stamens, present a wonderful sight, like enormous wild roses. If not disbudded, they give large clusters of bloom lasting ten days, often, and if the center bloom is cut out as soon as it fades, the later side buds still make a big show. The Japanese type, next step away from the single type in the doubling process, gives much the same effect as the singles, but as a class they bloom later, the singles and Japs together covering the whole period of bloom of the *albiflora* species.

Singles, Japs and doubles can be put in the same planting

if desired, but it is better to have only early varieties in one bed, midseason in another, and late in a third. Then each bed gives one grand effect, to be followed by a fresh display in another.

The cost of the standard *albiflora* varieties is not high. It does not pay to buy bargain stuff from worn out cut flower fields, and care should be taken that the dealer supplies healthy roots. They should be fresh dug, planted in the fall as soon as possible after being dug. A mulch the first winter is advisable in northern climates, but ordinarily, plant with eyes two inches deep, water the root, then add a six inch mound of dirt above permanent level to prevent heaving. Trial seedlings from breeders at low prices make it possible to have endless variations in color and form at low cost in a mass planting and they provide added interest to visitors who never tire of studying the different kinds. The public appreciates peonies well chosen and well grown.

—From Parks & Recreation, July, 1938.



Martha Bulloch, grand champion at Rochester, Minn.
A grand peony in any company.

Secretary's Notes

Another fall season is upon us. The month of September 1940 will soon go down in history and we are entering the fall season that is replete with uncertainties. We cannot look into the future with any degree of certainty as war clouds in foreign lands have cast a shadow over the entire world and a feeling of doubt seems to prevail. What another year will bring forth is purely a guess. Our own country with a presidential election soon to be definitely decided is not free from unrest. Preparations for war in the conscription of all able bodied men; the removal of farmers from homes they have occupied all their lives for the building of powder plants; the enlargement of armament and air plane factories to facilitate the more rapid development and production of death dealing instruments all go to make up this uncertainty. The only things we can be certain of is death and taxes. I do not know why I am writing in this frame of mind for I am not a pessimist in any sense of the word, but this quick changing world with its innumerable problems awaiting solution bear mute evidence that all is not well in this old world of ours. It is to be hoped that out of all this chaos there will emerge a better order of things and an enlightened civilization. We, of the older day, who can look back upon peace and contentment, wonder if the modernized world is not setting a pace that will lead to disaster and utter discontent. * * *

We are in the midst of peony planting and what a pleasure it is to build hopes for a fine peony season in years to come with the utmost assurance of success, and also to make the world a more beautiful place to live in. Some sections of the country are experiencing considerable deficiency in moisture and rains are badly needed. Other sections report ample rainfall and ideal planting conditions. * * *

In looking over this bulletin many will be amazed at the list of new varieties that have been registered. This is an accumulation of data recently supplied due to the efforts we have put forth to have all hybridizers register with the Society names and

brief descriptions of the peonies they have brought out so we can forestall any duplication of names. In all there are 53 varieties briefly described in this September issue of the bulletin. Several are this years introductions and are of recent origin.

We are grateful to some of our members who have submitted names of new members. Our ranks are increasing and we are hopeful that the year ending next June will see a large percentage of increase over any previous period of similar duration in our existence. We are enclosing an application blank in this bulletin and hope you can prevail upon some peony loving friend in your locality to become a member. They will doubtless thank you for the privilege and we will surely be grateful to you for the service you perform.

I am in need of articles for the December issue of the bulletin and will welcome any contributions. Let us have some of your experiences during the past blooming season. Surely you have been impressed with the performance of some particular variety or varieties, or some interesting experiment has been accomplished that you would like our members to know about. Possibly you have some inquiry or question you would like to have answered through the columns of the bulletin. An expression and exchange of ideas through the columns of this publication is most heartily desired.

Do any of my readers raise the Japanese variety *Largo*? I have an inquiry for this variety and would like to know where it can be secured. The writer grows it but only in a limited amount.

* * *

BACK BULLETINS

Anyone desiring to secure a file of back bulletins will do well to get in touch with Mrs. W. G. Dumont, 3116 Ingersoll Ave., Des Moines, Iowa. If at all interested, would suggest that you communicate with her promptly as she will leave for the south some time in November of this year to spend the winter months.

* * *

PEONY STUDIES

A most interesting and instructive bulletin No. 444 issued by the Purdue University, Agricultural Experimental Station, La Fayette, Ind., has recently been published and is available to any member of the American Peony Society who will make application for the same. It is particularly valuable to commercial grow-

ers. Maturity studies showing the proper stage of maturity of peony buds for cutting; Moisture relationship to keeping quality; Fertilizers and their effect on peony quality; Methods of bunching; Grading and standardizing of peonies; Marketing and Cultural Problems, are some of the main topics discussed in detail. Many instructive charts have been prepared and are presented in the issue. The bulletin is profusely illustrated and should be in every peony lovers library.

* * *

CORRECTION

In the report of the Rochester show there was an error made in the original report given me. I am glad to make the correction which is as follows:

Mr. William Anderson of White Bear Lake, Minn., won Court of Honor Class with the variety *Tomate-Boku*. Report shows the variety was won by Dr. Christopher Graham of Rochester.

For the best single in the Court of Honor Class, this was won by Brand Peony Farms with the variety *President Lincoln*. The right varieties were reported but the names of the winners has been mixed.

* * *

NEW MEMBERS

We have had several new members join us since last June. A complete list will be found in this issue. Some members have sent in two and promise more. This is splendid and we are delighted to have this cooperation. We would like to see at least 100 new members before the next annual meeting and I am sure with the continued help of our members we can do so. Surely there is a peony lover in your immediate vicinity who is not a member of the Society and who would doubtless be pleased to join us. If this office can be of assistance in supplying needed samples of bulletins, let us hear from you. We will assist you all we can.

* * *

A REQUEST

In the last bulletin I requested members who had not sent in their rating lists last spring when called for and who still have the book to return it to me. Not a single book was returned and it would be appreciated very much if you would do this for me.

If a dozen members will respond, it will supply our needs. Won't you be one of the number?

* * *

I hope you have added a number of peonies to your plantings this fall. There is still time for this work and if you can find a place for even one or two, by all means add a few more to your collection. Possibly some perennial you have is not giving you as much satisfaction as you would like. If so, dispose of it and plant a peony in its place and I can assure you complete satisfaction after it is properly established.

* * *

Don't forget that we have some nice color slides that are now available for any talks you wish to give before your garden club. The writer has also prepared a talk that will be of considerable assistance to you in making the meeting helpful. They can be obtained from my office at a fee of \$5.00 for the slides and express charges to and from Northbrook.



Department of Registration

The following peonies have been originated recently and brief descriptions presented for registration. This registration does not place the seal of approval of the American Peony Society upon any variety listed, but it is a means of keeping a record of the new originations and avoiding duplications of names that is so undesirable and annoying.

* * *

Mrs. Ruth H. Brant of Iowa City, Iowa, has sent in the following description of one of her originations for registration.

Angel Wings (Brant 1939) Color, ivory white, center tea-tinted as it opens. Form, large, loose flat type when fully opened. Stem, strong, medium, tall. Substance—good texture, waxy in appearance. Distinctiveness—very chaste flower, much admired. Season—late, but opens well.

* * *

The following two varieties presented for registration by Lyman D. Glasscock, Elwood, Ill.:

Eros No. 10 R 15 (Glasscock 1940) Officinalis hybrid, single. Early, medium size. Guards, light salmon pink, stamens yellow, carpels, green tipped pink. Form of bud round, medium stiff stem, medium dark green foliage. Parentage No. 1, B. 5 X Off. Sunbeam. First Class Certificate, Lincoln, Neb., 1937.

Crusader, No. 14 D 1. (Glasscock 1940) Off. Hybrid. Early, large semi-double with 3 rows of petals. Color, scarlet red; carpels, green, tipped red. Round bud, medium stiff stem, foliage medium dark green. Parentage officinalis Rubra X. Ruby.

Little Gem. No. 4 N 1. (Glasscock 1940) Off. Hybrid, early, Japanese form. Small. Color black-red, brilliant stamenoids black-red, edged yellow, Carpels, white, tipped red. Total effect black red. Form of bud round, stem medium stiff. Foliage, medium light green. Parentage *Fuyajo* x officinalis Jap. Pollen obtaining by splitting stamenoids.

* * *

Mr. Myron D. Bigger, R. R. 4, Topeka, Kans., registers the following variety of his origination:

Kansas (Myron D. Bigger, 1940) Double, bright clear red, containing almost no blue. Fades very little, if any. Dependable bloomer every year. Buds all open and color carries better than most reds. Stems strong and stand about 30 inches high. Formerly carried No. 2-35. Large bloom.

* * *

The following descriptions of originations have been sent in by Mr. E. F. Kelsey, East Aurora, N. Y., covering his productions the past few years:

Alberta Kelsey. Semi-double, early midseason, rose pink, very fragrant; petals neatly incurved and interspersed with narrow gold-tipped petals—a gold studded bloom, charmingly different.

Cornie Moore. Large Glossy dark red, single. Fragrant. Early. Very long lasting bloom. Tall plant with dark green foliage.

Charlene. Very large white double. Won honorable mention at Boston. Late.

Donald. Large fully double rose pink. Rank grower and free bloomer. Very tall stems, some measuring 54 inches.

Exotic. Large semi-double, deep pink with lighter edges and lighter tones of pink in the center. *Marie Jacquin* shape.

Fireplace. Dark mahogany toned red shading lighter to tips. Early midseason. Colors do not fade. Lasts well.

Frontier. Very late massive double pink. Blooms last well. Plants strong. Best of the very late pinks.

Grace Kelsey. Large brilliant pink double. Midseason. Coloring resembles *Mrs. Livingston Ferrand*. Strong stems, vigorous grower.

Grace Gedge. Fully double cream white flushed with a delicate shade of pink. Color identical with *Nick Shaylor*. Late midseason. A flower of exquisite refinement.

Irving Flint. Large double rose pink. Delightfully fragrant. Midseason. Rich in coloring and odor.

Kathalo. Jap. The orchid of peonies. A delightful blending of shades of pink and yellow difficult to describe. An artistic bloom.

Laura Kelsey. Very large blush white double of wonderful substance and charming petal formation. Blooms held erect by strong stems that defy wind and driving rain. Buds, sharply pointed, resemble huge rose buds. A perfect combination of large beautiful bloom, strong plants and faultless stems. A profuse bloomer without a fault.

Lights Out. Big rose pink double, the last to bloom, prolonging the peony season. Beauty and extreme lateness combined.

Party Gown. Glistening white double with the sheen of a white satin gown. Large sized blooms, good substance, distinctive. Shimmering loveliness well dressed.

Marilla Beauty. Large blush white double of bewitching loveliness. A late bloomer that opens perfectly and lasts long under all weather conditions on a plant that grows vigorously and produces flowers on strong stems.

Rare China. Large flat semi-double with a splash of gold in the center. A china white bloom resembling a rare china plate gold decorated. A beautiful ceramic in petals. Midseason.

The Fleece. Very large showy double white. A show room with tints of green and gold down deep in the fleecy petals. Plants strong. Multiplies rapidly. A new candidate for honors in the "white robes."

To Kalon (Gr. for The Beautiful) A perfectly formed and finished double white. Opens pearly white and holds its loveliness a long time. Judged a perfect bloom by a group of twenty flower lovers.

White Water. A huge white double large enough to suit all and beautiful enough to please the most critical. Nine inch blooms not uncommon. Good habit, strong stems, a reliable bloomer. Midseason.

* * *

Mr. Julius J. Van Steen of Crystal Lake, Ill., has sent in the following name for registration.

Wendell L. Willkie, pink double. Detailed description to follow.

* * *

Mr. R. A. Napier of 2656 Walnut Street, Blue Island, Illinois, wishes to register the following:

Barbara Jean Rohe (Napier, 1937). Double. Midseason. White. Large rounded guards with reverse slightly suffused blush rose. Center deep cream. Medium height, strong stems, good foliage, free blooming, moderately fragrant.

Miriam Napier Rohe (Sass-Napier, 1940) (Formerly Sass No. 42½.) Double. Midseason. White.

Medium large, full double, pure white with strong, upright stems about thirty inches high and foliage down to the ground.

* * *

New peonies for registration, originated by Edward Auten, Jr., Princeville, Ill.:

OFFICINALIS HYBRIDS

Chocolate Soldier. 1939. "Black" red Jappy bomb type, with some yellow dots on center petals. Color unusually rich, and free from purple suggestion.

Janet. 1940. Large bomb or full double, deep cerise red. Tall. Formerly offered as No. 131.

John Harvard. 1939. Dark red single, two or three rows of petals. Early bloomer. Tall stiff stems. Color clear and does not fade.

Louisville. 1940. Single, with two rows of petals, very early. A charming shade of clear, deep cerise pink, fading lighter but holding its charm to the last.

Old Main. 1939. (No. 1843) Typical bomb type, very brilliant red showing a little purple, but much better than *Felix Crousse* in that respect. Tall, stiff stems.

Red Ensign. 1940. "Black" red semi-double, brilliant and glossy. Medium to small blooms held gracefully above trim dwarf foliage. One of latest hybrids.

Veritas. 1939. Double, unusual type, with narrow pointed center petals fastened to the edges of some, also a collar of stamens. Brilliant dark red, like varnished mahogany.

ALBIFLORA VARIETIES

Alstead. 1939. Deep pink Jap with all yellow center, on fine plant. Offered first under name "Peter Pan" which belongs to an earlier variety.

Carolina Moon. (1940) Bomb type. Yellow center with white guards. Fine stem. Earlier than other yellow centered doubles.

Cleopatra. 1939. Dark red double, very late, opens well. Some fragrance.

Day Dream. 1939. (R. W. Auten) Pink and yellow Jap, medium sized bloom carried gracefully on stiff slender stems above the foliage.

Fair Elaine. 1939. (R. W. Auten) Jap, soft light pink and yellow, larger and lighter than *Day Dream*, but with same charming carriage of bloom above the foliage.

Graduation Day. 1939. White single, well finished bloom on good plant.

Heart of Knox. 1939. Small novelty red Jap, brilliant, odd shade, for table decoration. Tall plant.

Moon Magic. 1939. Anemone type Jap, petals a soft, warm pink, dotted; with all yellow center.

Mount Palomar. 1939. Very dark red Jap, lustrous; with heavy substance. Tall, very stiff stems. Very early for a Jap. Usual yellow markings.

Old Siwash. 1939. Double, opens flesh, fades white. Fragrant. Held very stiffly erect. Good height.

Pathfinder. 1939. Full double, medium pink, some fragrance. Midseason. Good stem for cutting. Good substance.

Patty. 1939. Anemone or low bomb type, small bloom, dwarf plant. Unusual shade of pink, near salmon. For cutting.

Paul Revere. 1939. Dark red double, late midseason, full high

built bloom on good plant. Similar to *Harry L. Richardson*, but much less purple in it.

Robin Hood. 1939. Distinct semi-double, not much more than a single, medium red, trim and nicely cupped. Carried stiffly erect above low growing mass of foliage.

Sky Pilot. 1939. Deep pink Jap, with all yellow center slightly flushed pink. Very large bloom, on extra tall stems.

Town Crier. 1939. Large single, shading from light red to near white, on a very fine plant. Striking in the field.

Vandalia. 1939. Full double white, late midseason, rose fragrant. Some narrow filamental petals among wider center petals. Still stems.

Vincennes. 1939. Full double white, opening flushed pink and yellow, fading to pure white. Fragrant. Early, on tall stiff stems.

Virginia Lee. 1939. Full double pink, fading near white in field. Very late, sure opener. Medium height, stems good for cutting, a bit weak in field. Large bloom, outstanding for color, with deeper glow in center.

White Crane. 1939. White and yellow Jap, medium sized bloom, carried gracefully on tall slender stiff stems.



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 a year, of which \$1.00 is toward a year's subscription to the American Peony Society BULLETIN. 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 25 cents per copy and 50 cents for the Symposium Number (No. 14). To non-members these prices are doubled. No BULLETINS available prior to No. 13.

New Members

Albright, W. D., Experimental Sub Station, Beaverlodge, Alberta, Canada.

Alexander, Delbert, 1441 School Street, Rockford, Ill.

Athrop, Miss Emma B., Route 4, Box 72, Stevens Point, Wis.

Bailey, Miss Alice W., 1343 Kalmia Rd., N.W., Washington, D. C.

Beeson, Dr. H. B., 423 Main Street, Racine, Wis.

Birgi, C. A., Room 227, Live Stock Exchange Bldg., Oklahoma City, Okla.

Burke, Roy, Paulding, Ohio.

Crenshaw, Mrs. John L., 832 9th Ave., S.W., Rochester, Minn.

Crook, Mrs. Geo. H., East Aurora, N. Y.

Fischer, Louis R., 4824 Penn Ave., S., Minneapolis, Minn.

Hoffman, Fred, McDonald Road, Mt. Prospect, Ill.

Hovland, Carrie, Ortonville, Minn.

Johnson, Mrs. Chas. F., Jr. 335 Main Street, Johnson City, N. Y.

Jones, R. W., 275 E. 4th Street, St. Paul, Minn.

Leighton, Roy S., R.F.D., 2, Box 495, Edmonds, Wash.

Lins, E. H., Cologne, Minn.

Massey, Mrs. Linton R., Keswick, Va.

Mackintosh, R. S., Secretary, Minnesota Horticultural Society, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

Marsden, Susan G., R.D.1, River Road, Mays Landing, N. J.

MacArthur, Telfer, R.R. 1, Old School Road, Libertyville, Ill.

Miller, W. L., Miller's Seed Co., Inc., 172 E. 10th Street, St. Paul, Minn.

Moots, Frank E., 1127 W. Broadway, Newton, Kas.

Nelson, A. G., Wilcox, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Rasmussen, Miss Merle A., State Horticultural Chairman, Oshkosh, Wis.

Wigell, Howard E., 120 N. Central Ave., Rockford, Ill.

University of Missouri, General Library, Columbia, Mo.

BRAND PEONY FARMS

**of Faribault, Minnesota
333 E. DIVISION ST.**

At the 1940 National Peony Show just held at Rochester, Minnesota, and pronounced by old timers "the best show the Society ever held."

Brand Peony Farms Won

1st. in Class I, the 100 Class; 6 other first, 6 seconds and 4 thirds

Bringing to them a total of 7 Gold Medallions, 6 Silver Medallions and 4 Bronze Medallions, from the American Peony Society.

THEY ALSO WON

2 Bronze Medallions from the Minnesota Peony Society.

1 American Peony Society Medal on their new red peony, "Ruth Elizabeth."

The Dr. Christopher Graham Gold Medallion for best single in the show on their President Lincoln.

The T. E. Carpenter Gold Cup for the Grand Sweepstakes of the Show winning 115 points out of a possible 300.

And a Brand Peony—"Martha Bulloch" grown and exhibited by Mr. A. B. Franklin, was awarded "best flower in the show."

New Catalog in Colors Now Ready and Free.

We also specialize in Own Root French Lilacs, having probably the largest stock of these in the world.

AN EXCEPTIONAL OFFER

With a time limit covering the balance of 1940, the Directors of the Society have reduced the price of the Peony Manual and supplement to \$2.25 delivered. Membership for one year and Manual for \$5.00.

This is truly an exceptional bargain which should promptly place this valuable Manual in the hands of every peony lover. If you already possess a copy, secure another one for a peony loving friend or persuade them to send for one at once before the limited supply is exhausted.

There are only a few hundred copies available and this offer will be withdrawn promptly at the end of this year, or at any time before that period if available stock has been depleted to a point beyond our actual requirements.

Supplements will be prepared, which may be obtained at a nominal cost to cover preparation, printing and mailing, that will keep the Manual constantly up-to-date.

Send in your order for as many books as you can use while they are still available. All checks should be made to the American Peony Society and sent to:

**W. F. CHRISTMAN, Secretary,
American Peony Society,
Northbrook, Ill.**

To members who do not have the manual whose 1940 dues are paid, manual will be sent them for \$2.00.

Dealers, why not offer the manual as a premium for a certain sized order?

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

The American Iris Society has, since its organization in 1920 published 70 Bulletins which cover every phase of Iris growing and should be useful to all gardeners.

The society has copies of all but three of these bulletins for sale. A circular giving list of contents of each Bulletin, price, etc., may be secured from the Secretary, Howard R. Watkins, Room 821, Washington Loan & Trust Bldg., Washington, D. C.

In order to dispose of surplus stocks of some numbers we offer 6 Bulletins (our selection) for \$1.00.



Through an endowment given as a memorial to the late Bertrand H. Farr, the American Iris Society is able to offer free to all Garden Clubs or Horticultural

Societies the use of our traveling library. This library contains all books ever published on Iris and a complete file of the Bulletins of this society and the English Iris Society, and miscellaneous pamphlets.

The library may be borrowed for one month without charge except the actual express charges. Organizations desiring it should communicate with the nearest of the following offices:

Horticultural Society of New York, 598 Madison Ave., New York City.

Mrs. Lelia M. Bach, 1111 E. Grove St., Bloomington, Ill.

Sydney B. Mitchell, School of Librarianship, Berkeley, Calif.

Lantern Slides Rental Fee (to members) \$10.00. Apply to Mrs. Herman E. Lewis, 180 Grove St., Haverhill, Mass.

The American Horticultural Society

invites to membership all persons interested in any phase of gardening. As specialists in peonies you will certainly want to know about all the other sorts of plants that go into a good garden. In the quarterly NATIONAL HORTICULTURAL MAGAZINE you will find authoritative articles on many kinds of plants and superb illustrations. We can also supply a reprint of peony species, pictures only, for fifty cents. Membership is by the calendar year. The annual dues are three dollars, and should be sent to the Society in care of the Secretary, 821 Washington Loan and Trust Building, Washington, D. C.

SMALL DIVISIONS OF EXPENSIVE VARIETIES OF PEONIES

Early in July we would like to send to every member of the American Peony Society our 1940 catalogue. In addition to a large list of standard varieties which we sell in 3 to 5 eye divisions, you will find in it a very select list of the new, the scarce, and the high priced varieties which we are selling in small size divisions at much lower prices than the same varieties can be purchased in standard divisions. Many of the new varieties are of such high quality that they will win the prizes in future peony shows.

THE BONNEWITZ PEONY GARDENS
Van Wert, Ohio

NICHOLLS PEONIES

A. B. C. NICHOLLS, white, tinted flesh, H.M., A.P.S.	\$15.00
FLORENCE NICHOLLS, white, center suffused pink	15.00
GEORGE W. PEYTON, pinker Solange	15.00
HARRY F. LITTLE, white, Gold & Achievement Medals	15.00
KATE BARRY, pink & orange Jap, double row petals	15.00
MRS. LIVINGSTON FARRAND, pink. Silver & Achievement Medals	40.00
MRS. WILDER BANCROFT, red Jap	7.50
SPRING BEAUTY, pink, early. Semi-double to double.	2.00
THURA HIRES, white, lemon glow	15.00

J. C. NICHOLLS, Sr.
114 Overlook Road Ithaca, N. Y.

PEONIES AND IRISES

We have just prepared a new price list covering both peonies and iris in which will be found some of the most outstanding varieties. A copy is yours for the asking.

For several years we have specialized in growing the finest peonies and iris obtainable and in many varieties have considerable stock, enabling us to fill orders promptly regardless of size. If we can be of assistance in your planting problems, don't hesitate to write us. Visitors always welcome.

NORTHBROOK GARDENS
NORTHBROOK, ILL.

JOIN THE AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

All Dahlia "fans" are cordially invited to join this great organization which is devoted solely to spreading information about and the improvement of the Dahlia.

Read the quarterly Bulletin, a sample copy of which will be sent on request, giving all the latest information and cultural hints on Dahlias. Membership includes the Bulletin, a season ticket to our National exhibitions and all other privileges of the society.

Dues \$2.00 per year.
461 Court Street

C. Louis Alling, Sec'y.
West Haven, Conn.

Cherry Hill Strain

of PEONIES embraces the FINEST VARIETIES in PEONYDOM and their consistent winnings of GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS prove beyond doubt that they have intrinsic value. Please ask for catalog showing varieties and list of awards.

Cherry Hill Nurseries
(Thurlows and Stranger, Inc.)
WEST NEWBURY, MASS.

NEW FRANKLIN ORIGINATIONS

E57r Mark Twain \$ 8.00
R38 Sir John Franklin 10.00
D140 Milady 10.00
E39 Apriglow 5.00
E1 Crusader 10.00

Plants now available from originator.

Franklin Nursery
Minneapolis, Minn.

NEW DAYLILIES

(Hemerocallis)

Dr. Stout's hybrids exclusively. New colors, new types, new seasons. Get to know them by writing for our catalog.

B. H. FARR NURSERY CO.
Box P, Weiser Park, Pa.

THE BEST OF THE WORLD'S BEST PEONIES

can always be supplied at reasonable prices by

GEORGE W. PEYTON
WINDY HILL GARDENS
Rapidan, Virginia

ORDER YOUR PEONY
MANUAL TODAY!

PEONIES

Shaylor's 1931 Introductions
and other Choice Varieties
Price List on Request

SHAYLOR & ALLISON
11 Ridgeway Road
AUBURNDALE, MASS.

PROFITABLE PEONIES

Only best of old and new varieties, at attractive prices. Fine quality roots, liberally graded. Our Catalog names best commercial cut-flower varieties, and gives valuable planting and growing instructions.

Harmel Peony Company
Growers of Fine Peonies
Since 1911
Berlin, Maryland.

The Cottage Gardens

Lansing, Michigan

TREE PEONIES

Pot-grown. We can ship almost any time. Also large collections all other types of peonies.

**COMPLIMENTS
TO
Our Secretary
R. A. Napier**

Your advertisement in this space will be seen by several hundred flower lovers and should bring you some good returns.

WASSENBERG'S

Catalog Free
Quality Stock
Peonies, Irises, Poppies
Hemoracallis
Over 1300 of the Best Varieties
C. F. Wassenberg, Van Wert, Ohio

TREE PEONIES

Finest Named Varieties

—ALSO—

Herbaceous Peonies

Oberlin Peony Gardens
P.O. Box 115, Sinking Springs, Pa.