

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY *Bulletin*

September-December 1946

Bulletin No. 103

Table of Contents

W. F. CHRISTMAN, Editor
Northbrook, Ill.

	Page
Poets & Peasants of the Peony Parade—Neal R. van Loon	3
My Peony Pilgrimage 1946—George W. Peyton	5
Officinalis Rubra by Albiflora—Benjamin W. Guppy	9
Peonies in an Alabama Garden 1946—Pope M. Long	11
Report on Tree Peonies at Swarthmore College—Louis Smirnow	13
The Minnesota Peony Show—George W. Peyton	16
Report of Duluth 1946 Peony Show—Mrs. Oscar A. Anderson	19
Peonies and People—Ralph M. Schroeder	20
Peonies for the South—Hubert B. Owens	22
Report on Superior, Wis., First Peony Show—Mrs. Chas. W. Lund ..	22
A Communication from England—Alan Fisk	23
Comments from Ohio—John S. Snook	24
Significance of Periodic Soil Tests	24
Notes from Minnesota—F. W. Nichols	27
Ernest Flint Kelsey, In Memoriam—W. F. Christman	30
Ernest Flint Kelsey, A Tribute—George W. Peyton	31
Notice of Boston Show	34
Secretary's Notes—W. F. Christman	35
List of Medal Winners and Awards—W. F. Christman	37
Department of Registration	38
List of New Members—Secretary	39
Changes of Addresses	40
Manual Supply Exhausted	40

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.

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

OFFICERS

President — George W. Peyton,
Rapidan, Va.

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 (1948), Faribault,
Minn.

W. W. COOK (1948), Clinton, Ia.

HARRY W. CLAYBAUGH (1948),
Franklin, Pa.

W. F. CHRISTMAN (1946), Northbrook,
Ill.

PROF. A. P. SAUNDERS (1946), Clinton,
N. Y.

CHARLES F. WASSENBERG (1946), Van
Wert, Ohio.

HARRY F. LITTLE (1947), Camillus,
N. Y.

W. H. THURLOW (1947), West Newbury,
Mass.

DR. EARLE B. WHITE (1947), Kensing-
ton, Md.

L. W. LINDGREN (1945), St. Paul, Minn.

GEORGE W. PEYTON (1945), Rapidan,
Va.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

District No. 1—

District No. 2—J. F. Styer, Concordville, Pa.

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

District No. 4—

District No. 5—Roy G. Gayle, West State Road, R.R. 3, Rock-
ford, Ill.

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

District No. 7—L. E. Foster, York, Neb.

District No. 8—Later appointment.

District No. 9—E. J. Berneche, 3903 S. W. Beard, 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. Andrew Murdoch, 2 Glenwood Manor, Blvd.
N.W., Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Saskatchewan—

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

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.



AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER, 1946

Poets and Peasants of the Peony Parade

NEAL R. VAN LOON, "Madyllone", *Newton, N. J.*

Peony ratings can be completely deceiving, both the older figures and the new.

If some cards could be printed and placed in the hands of twenty-five or more experienced growers, distributed rather evenly in the five general areas, such as the East and North-east, middle West, South, Northwest, and California, a comprehensive report on a peony's real worth might be expected.

No score card could ever be made up that would tell the whole story, but if spaces upon them could be arranged to accommodate figures for three successive years, taking into account *root growth*, shape, number, style of growth, and condition, to total 20 for perfect; *the plant*; with form of foliage, shape of leaf, length and strength and number of stalks, to total 30, if perfect; *the flower*; form, color, fragrance, lasting quality, behavior under unfavorable conditions, precocity, in every stalk producing a good flower and easy opened, address of bloom, sunfastness, and that very real but intangible quality of distinction,—all these to total 50, if deemed perfect, such a score card would not begin to tell a complete story, but it would suggest a great deal that would be exceedingly valuable to all peony growers.

There are ever and ever so many peony varieties that can be real poets and manifest all the qualities that make a top notch showing, and yet frequently they turn out to be apostates, bums, and loafers. *Therese* and *Martha Bulloch* are such kinds. So are *Hansina Brand*, *Walter Faxon*, *Mrs. A. M. Brand*, *Mrs. J. V. Edlund*, with her great form of flower on a wretched plant; *Tourangelle*, with the homely leaves, *Mrs. Edward Harding*, with a look of that perpetually tired feeling.

La Lorraine is sometimes second to nobody when everything exactly suits her, which it seldom does.

Solange is the coquette of the peony parade. She insists on being the best or the worst. *Le Cygne* "has something" that puts her in a class apart, but this "something" does not put in its appearance more than once in about five years. *Fuji-Zomo-Gorono* is not always as bad as it is most of the time but it usually is. It can be a thing of startling loveliness but it brings to mind almost every year the oversensitive Collie puppy who slumps down when looked at a little bit cross eyed.

Another batch of peonies that very seldom get out of the plodding, peasant class includes the following: First, there are some that work faithfully but with little grace like *Festiva Maxima*, *Richard Carvel*, *Auguste Dessert*, *Edulis Superba* and *Sarah Bernhardt*.

I have seen *Edulis Superba* gathered by the truck load in Delaware and not a show flower in the lot. *Sarah Bernhardt*, on the other hand, can, on occasion, shine out like an aristocrat. Especially is this true of her buds when allowed to develop in a cold dark cellar. I have several times seen a bud of hers let go like a whirling star, the edges of the yielding petals making a marvelously geometric design.

Nina Secor, *Milton Hall*, *Georgiana Shaylor*, *La Fee* and *Longfellow* seldom ever do anything at all.

Here are some peonies I should pronounce the real blue bloods and poets of the parade, year after year, with almost perfect constancy: *Myrtle Gentry*, *Venus*, *Cornelia Shaylor*, *Minuet*, *Alice Harding*, *Victory-Chateau Thierry*, *A. G. Perry*, *Ella Christiansen*, *Alesia*, *Elsa Sass* and *Nick Shaylor*.

There are many more kinds that belong in this category and they deserve special notations and citations besides. *Lady Alexandra Duff* varies her form tremendously from year to year. With me, the thing that gives her all that class and distinction is the way she curls and spirals the small petals toward the center over and around her great golden heart. This trait is nothing less than adorable and every bloom is a shining personality that can and does do everything except talk to you. On more than one occasion I have been beyond words when looking into the face of one of these beauties. Of course the ladies are supposed to do most of the talking anyhow.

There is an exceptionally fine photo of *Adolphe Rousseau* opposite page 272 of the Peony Manual. It shows *Rousseau the Great* at his best. One would easily mistake him here for a prize chrysanthemum, but having seen many hundreds of the prize 'mums that go into our great shows, I never saw one yet that had anywhere near the sheen or polish of a *Rousseau* when really show happy.

Mary Woodbury Shaylor is great, for her leaves alone, to say nothing of the superb form of her bloom. She has distinction to burn and in her own way.

Yukon is a white "what am" white. From any viewpoint, here is a noble flower.

Mrs. Harriet Gentry is an aristocrat of the first magnitude. She never lets you down.

Something really high class can be made of either *Cherry Hill* (not disbudded), *Kickapoo* or *Kankakee*. Use a large white or cream colored bowl and arrange your flowers in the holder near the center. Stems should range from six inches on up, and all stages of bloom should be included, even to a few tight green buds. The open flowers would naturally repose near the base. Two or three sprays of leaves make a perfect dress for the flower holder.

About the most buoyant thing I have ever seen anywhere was a cream colored bowl about three inches deep and about 14 inches across made up of the old *Jacqueline Guillot* iris—a porcelain blue—and around these at the base and narrowing toward the top, about nine *Isani-Gidui*. The total height of this arrangement was about 20 inches and it certainly did carry the eye and the soul upward.

There is a very interesting thing about *Isani-Gidui* which some of you readers have undoubtedly seen. When cut in rather tight buds and placed in the dark of a cold cellar, they will open up partially in two or three days and take on the exact shape of a colonial hat such as you see in the pictures of George Washington, except that the half open flowers are square instead of triangular.

Gay Paree is very well named indeed. I should call it a small, dainty flower of rare charm. Its guards are a fine rose pink and the center cushion is near white. It is a great little flower for table use.

Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt often comes with a true imbricated form that makes you think you are looking at an immense camellia. Surely it is one of the greatest of the peonies.

In our basest carnal moments we wish for peony plants that bear a hundred, ten inch blossoms at one time; produce for six months, call for no spraying or cultivation, and which cut themselves and walk into the house and into the vases. When we come to our senses we say, "give us the peony just as it is, caprices, tempers, perfidy and all.

I think it was Mrs. Frances King who said one time something about like this.—"If you have never seen *Solange* your life is utterly dull, barren, destitute, gray and desolate." (Ain't it the truth!)

I doubt if Lord Byron ever saw *Solange*, or any other peony, for at thirty-three years of age, already, he found life burdensome and nothing but a bore. This is proven by the words in the ode he wrote on his thirty-third birthday.

"Through lifes' dull road, so dim and dirty,
I have dragged to three and thirty;
What have these years left to me?
Nothing.—except thirty-three."

With apologies to him, and with only pity for his wretched ashes, I confess my story is different. I have been bitten with the peony bug. I have seen *Solange* and have lived with her for years. Life is an adventure and it gets day by day, in every way, a little better. Hooray!

"O'er life's good road, so gay and fine
I have soared to forty-nine.
What wealth these years have brought to me,
But best of all—the peony."

* * *

My Peony Pilgrimage, 1946

GEORGE W. PEYTON, *Rapidan, Virginia*

My pilgrimage began unusually early this year with a visit to New York on May 7 where I spent the night with my very good friends, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smirnow. In spite of the fact that I inadvertently locked them out of house and home and burglar tactics had to be employed to gain admission, I was royally treated. His peony season had already begun with the opening of some very fine blooms on his tree peonies. His other peonies also gave promises of fine flowers to come.

Bright and early on Wednesday morning Mr. Smirnow and I boarded a train for Philadelphia and then out to Swarthmore to see the tree peonies. Did we see them? I should say so. The sight of that long bank filled with

large specimens bearing up to fifty or more immense flowers of all hues from pure white to deep red with the shades of pink being especially brilliant is a memory that will long linger as one of the most vivid of my trip. Mr. Wood, the man whose responsibility it is to keep the immense plantings on the Swarthmore campus in order, and who succeeds, personally saw to it that our visit was a perfect one. The plantings at Swarthmore are under the direction of the Arthur Hoyt Scott Horticultural Foundation of which John C. Wister is Director. He was absent and so we failed to renew our acquaintance of many years standing. Besides containing probably the finest collection of named tree peonies in the world, the plantings have a very large number of herbaceous hybrid peonies and is fast acquiring all of them, along with what promises to be the outstanding collection of *chinensis* varieties in the United States and that of course means in the world. The plants are given the best of care and in the years to come if one wishes to see peonies of every kind at their best just go to Swarthmore at the proper time and he will see them in all their perfection.

That afternoon that most gracious lady and charming hostess, Mrs. Arthur Hoyt Scott in person, took us to her country estate, Todmorden, near by. It is an education in horticulture just to see it. Grand specimens of azaleas, lilacs, tree peonies, in short every imaginable variety of flowering shrub and tree greet the eye at every turn. Mrs. Scott possesses an amazingly accurate knowledge, and very decided opinions as to the merits of the various varieties of flowers and shrubs and these delivered with her keen sense of humor made our afternoon one long to be remembered for its pleasure and profit.

The next morning in Baltimore I visited the Boys Latin School where I had taught just forty years ago and also had a most pleasant hour with Mr. F. H. Barclay who has probably the best collection of peonies to be found in that vicinity and it will rank with the finest in this country.

On Saturday the tenth, a flower show was held here at home and it contained one of the finest specimens of *Arcturus* that I have ever seen. It came from the garden of Mrs. H. T. Holladay, Jr., whose thirty-nine year old specimens of *Festiva Maxima* still bear flowers of the finest quality and largest size. On the fifteenth I went to Lynchburg, Virginia, to judge the peonies in the joint show of the Lynchburg Garden Clubs. Probably the best specimens of peonies seen there were *Judge Snook*, *Mrs. R. M. Bacheller*, *English Elegance*, *Nippon Beauty*, *Largo* and *Sibelius*. At each of these shows I set up some flowers for display. At Rapidan about thirty varieties and at Lynchburg about double that number. Both of them included some hybrids of which I have no large number. The best of these was *Chocolate Soldier*, the same blooms being shown at each show. It certainly had good keeping qualities. Possibly the best of the others were: *Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt*, (the best), *Dignity*, *Flanders Fields*, *Pico*.

My really long trek began on Monday the third of June when I boarded the National Limited of the B. & O. in Washington for Cincinnati. Arriving early the next morning I went to Liberty, Indiana, for a most pleasant day with Mr. John M. Johnson, in whose garden I saw *Mattie Lafuze* at its best. In its home garden this variety grows very tall on stems of great strength. Its foliage is extra large, deep green and heavily veined. The flowers of a deep ivory pink (possibly as good a description of its color as can be given) are very large, some over nine inches I am sure, and very deep. They bear no trace of coarseness. There are some red markings evident in some flowers.

Mr. Johnson has a number of other seedlings some of which look very promising. After a delicious luncheon which included home made gooseberry sauce, black raspberry jam and home grown strawberries from the efficient hands of Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Johnson drove me to see Mrs. Charles Shrader who lives a few miles out. There we saw the long rows of her fine pastel pink seedling *Rosanna Shrader* and *White Rose*, one of the nicest semi-doubles that can be found. It is tall and strong of stem with beautiful foliage and its flower leaves nothing to be desired in beauty and form. There we saw something which we had never observed before. A row of *Rosanna Shrader* was growing along a walk and about a foot out from four widely separated plants there was an off shoot we suppose whose flowers were several shades of pink lighter and somewhat fuller than the regular blooms of *Rosanna*. All four of these offshoots bore identical flowers. Now you plant specialists let us have your comments. We were glad to see that Mrs. Shrader is now able to get out into her garden after many months of practically house imprisonment from a case of chronic rheumatism.

From there we went to see the garden of Dr. A. B. Price in Richmond. He has a great many seedlings coming along and we hope he will realize his hopes of some good ones among them. We then visited the immense rose range of Joseph Hill a member of the Hill Floral Products Corporation. Under the guidance of Mr. Roy Byrun, the man who does all the hybridizing for the firm, we saw a number of beautiful new seedlings including some hardy outdoor roses which will probably be heard from in the future.

That night we landed on our friend Mr. Harry L. Smith whose household we found in the throes of preparation for the marriage of his daughter, Bonnie. Early the next morning we inspected Mr. Smith's garden. He also is raising some seedlings and has among other good ones an especially fine new white which is very long lasting.

Noon saw us in Peru and at Tuckdawa the home of Mr. R. H. Jones which was presided over for the time being by Dorothy J. in the absence of her mother who had taken the grandfather to the Mayo Clinic for a check up. The time there passed all too quickly with many hours spent in viewing the many fine peonies in bloom as well as other flowers of which Mr. Jones has a large planting. In addition to the several peonies Mr. Jones has already placed in commerce he has several more that will doubtless soon be seen on the show tables. It was too early for *Dorothy J.* only one bud of which showed signs of opening. But there were excellent flowers of his fine blush pink Jap *Sagamon* open. This is one of the nicest Japs we now have. We found among the undivided seedlings a real miniature, a small pink Jap with flowers not over three inches and with small stems and foliage to match. It will be quite a novelty if it stays always a miniature. These small ones sometimes have a habit of developing into giants in after life. Mr. Jones has named his new white *Tuckdawa* (pronounced *Tucked-away*). This won honors at Rockford. It is a very large flower and opens well for a late white. It has some pink tones on opening. We think this will be a good one.

Early the next morning found us on our way to Goshen where the afternoon was spent in looking over Mr. Ernest I. Stahly's garden. He bought Mr. Bonnewitz's peonies two years ago and so he has the beginnings of a very fine lot of peonies. He has stocks of many that are now becoming very scarce. These plants are growing nicely and in another year will be ready for market. After a much enjoyed early evening meal presided

over by Mrs. Stahly, another of those gracious hostesses whom it seems my good fortune to meet so often on my trips, I continued on to Blue Island and the home of Mr. R. A. Napier. I arrived in the early evening and the next week was spent with him in his garden, then in a perfect blaze of bloom. It is futile even to try to mention the finest varieties seen in this garden for it has all of them. But especially conspicuous are the many plants of *Sarah M. Napier*, *Alice Harding*, *Nick Shaylor* and *Mabel L. Gore* scattered all about the garden, highlights among all the rest. Especially good also this year were *Mary E. Nicholls*, *Florence Nicholls*, *Mrs. Harry F. Little*, *Largo*, *Am-no-sode*, and *Hari-ai-nin*. Mr. Napier keeps open house to all peony lovers all through the season and in addition has a special garden day, this year on the ninth. There were probably more than a thousand visitors that day from California to Virginia. Monday night I enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Mull of Glen Ellyn. Mr. Mull came to Blue Island that afternoon and I returned home with him. He has a fine lot of peonies growing under ideal conditions. Late afternoon shade makes for glorious coloring and it is not dense enough to make slender growth. He has a large collection of the van Steen varieties about which we have begun to hear much during the past year. Unfortunately they had passed their prime.

Tuesday I spent with Art Murawska and enjoyed another of those fine meals Mrs. Murawska knows so well how to serve. Here I made the acquaintance again of *Mildred May* at home. The more I see of her the more in love I am with her. She is certainly daintiness and beauty personified if it can be in a peony. Now do not rush to buy it for a show peony for it is above all a garden peony and one for house use. His *Moonstone*, will probably have a very different future for unless I miss my guess it will prove to be a very fine flower for our shows. It was one of the best in my garden this year.

The next few days were spent helping Mr. Napier get ready for the Rockford Show. Henry, Mr. Napier's right hand man for many years, did most of the work, cutting and storing the flowers and packing them up and also setting them up at Rockford. He deserves the major credit for the excellent results in Rockford. An account of what happened in Rockford is in Bulletin 102. On Monday the 17th, I returned to Blue Island for my final night with Mr. Napier. It was with a great deal of regret that I left this hospitable family early Tuesday morning. Mr. and Mrs. Martin Rohe, the son-in-law and daughter of Mr. Napier, always make me feel as if they enjoyed having me even after many repeat visits. They have a very lasting place in my affections. I went far up into Wisconsin for a day with my old friend, Mr. W. A. Sisson whom I found well and happy with his peonies, typewriters and organs. That night I was in Jefferson at the home of my friends, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Haberman, where I saw, among others, that fine plant of *Louise Lossing* which produced the magnificent flowers that were the talk of the town at a local show. This plant had magnificent stems and foliage and another younger one in the garden of Mr. R. W. Jones seemed to be on the way to equal perfection.

Wednesday I returned to Milwaukee and spent a very pleasant hour with Mr. Chas. E. Hammersley. The new "400" of the Northwestern took me on to St. Paul that evening. The next few days were spent very delightfully at Hi-Way Gardens in the comfortable cabin of Mr. R. W. Jones. His good wife fed us royally and treated us as if we were really somebody.

Daughters Margaret, Shirley and Gwen helped make my stay a most pleasant one. As the rains had taken care of the peonies for the most part we spent some time each day on trips to nearby friends. So I saw once again the Franklin fields now managed by Mr. Loren Franklin.

There were still some good blooms of the Franklin Seedlings though all but the very latest had gone. *Ultima* a deep creamy pink fading lighter was especially good. Maybe I should have said deep pinkish cream as the color. We spent a pleasant day with Mr. E. H. Lins at Cologne. His household was being very ably cared for by his two older daughters while the mother was absent on a trip. We saw the excellent stock of all of his now famous varieties and it was growing well. Saturday we went to Hastings to see the Fischers and found them well and busy. Their peonies had suffered little if any frost damage and while they were all gone the blooms had been very fine. A number of friends came in for chats with us while at Mr. Jones', among them being Mr. F. W. Nichols, Mr. William H. Boyle and Mr. and Mrs. Jos. B. Patzke.

Sunday was a day of preparation for the show and Monday we spent at the show having lunch with the officials of the Minnesota Peony and Iris Society. Monday night I was with the Lindgrens and there met the very attractive wife of son, Howard. Tuesday morning I was away for my usual visit to Mr. and Mrs. Brand and all the office force in Faribault which was as always a very enjoyable one. Mrs. Brand was about the house and seemed very much alive.

Wednesday I went over to Rochester to see the Crenshaws and found John able to be out for rides and visits to the peony fields. Mrs. Crenshaw has their daughter Margaret, home from the wars and even more vivacious and charming than ever, with her now and William is also home for the summer. I returned to St. Paul that evening and early Thursday morning took my leave of my grand hosts, boarding the Burlington Zephyr for Chicago where I paused only fifteen minutes, just long enough to change to the Liberty Limited of the Pennsylvania for Washington. A pleasant evening in the observation car with several fellow passengers for company including a very charming young lady from Los Angeles (not a movie star, though equally attractive), a good night's rest in a roomette and early morning arrival in Washington, then on home, reaching here about four-thirty that afternoon. Thus ended a very pleasant vacation if I may call it so. My sincere thanks and appreciation are due all my friends both new and old who helped make this trip one of the most enjoyable I have ever taken. My only regret is that some I had hoped to see did not show up, or were away from home. My thanks are due to Frank Moots for the invaluable help he gave me in making my report of the show. Keith Moots and the girls usually do this but they did not come this year and were greatly missed. Let us hope we shall all gather at Boston next year and make that show one long to be remembered.

George W. Peyton, Rapidan, Virginia, July 13, 1946



Officinalis Rubra by Albiflora And A Few Others

By BENJAMIN WILDER GUPPY

My first record of the *officinalis rubra* by *albiflora* cross is 1919. An earlier unrecorded cross, made "befo de wah" (W.W. No. 1) produced a

small plant with *Officinalis Rubra* characteristics that eventually bore a double bright red blossom.

I started out with one plant of *officinalis rubra* which came from grandmother's garden, wife's grandmother to be exact, and a single dark red *albiflora*, name in doubt, that was not a particularly early variety. Object of the cross was to obtain some early flowering red peonies.

The two plants grew in the same garden in Melrose, Massachusetts and not twenty-five feet apart. *Albiflora* was located in full sun. *officinalis rubra*, by accident, and not by design, happened to be planted in a location where frost is late in coming out of the ground. This is a tip susceptible of elaboration.

Fortunately the buds of *officinalis rubra* do not all open at once but straggle along over a period of a week or more so it was possible to fertilize the last blooms of *officinalis rubra* with pollen from the first bloom of *albiflora*. The cross was repeated in 1920, 1921 and 1922 using the same two plants. Grand total of twenty-five seeds, only four of which germinated producing two plants with single blossoms and two with double.

Pollination activities were then transferred to a small farm at West Newbury, Mass., where all seedlings have been grown since 1920. This place is north of my Melrose home and only thirty miles distant yet there is an appreciable difference in the blooming season.

The original *officinalis rubra* plant was divided and moved to West Newbury and several additional plants were acquired by gift and purchase. Then followed a period of waiting for the *officinalis rubra* plants to start blooming.

I resumed making this cross in 1926. On six different occasions an ambitious single *albiflora* has been found in the bed of seedlings at West Newbury to furnish pollen for the cross, which makes ten times altogether that both parents to the cross have grown in the same locality.

Other years pollen has been brought from Melrose to West Newbury from two plants kept at home for that purpose, namely *Helen* (ThurLOW) which is claimed to be the earliest flowering *albiflora* variety and a single pink seedling of my own which is just as early, but not as good looking.

The race between these two plants is close. *officinalis rubra* by *Helen*, thirty-two plants, all single. *officinalis rubra* by single pink seedling, twenty-seven plants, four of which are double.

Altogether I have raised eighty plants of this cross, ten of which died after a brief existence. Total number of doubles is eighteen.

These plants are sterile. I always leave the pods on the plants and hunt for seed in the fall. In all these years I have only found half a dozen seeds, none of which germinated.

The cross made in 1940 is particularly interesting. The pollen parent was a single white *albiflora* seedling grown in West Newbury. The twelve resulting seedlings were soaked seven hours in a two tenths percent solution of colchicine at time of transplanting from seed bed in an attempt to induce poliploidy and obtain fertile plants. Is it a success? I don't know, because there isn't a single stamen in the lot to furnish pollen. All the plants have double pistillate flowers. I am now waiting for a second lot of colchicine treated plants to bloom in order to carry on with the experiment.

Regarding color, this same lot of twelve plants entirely disregards theory. Theory has it that white crossed with red will produce all pink

flowers in the first generation. These plants all bear red blossoms, from darkest to lightest and brightest.

There is also great diversity in form, varying from a tight round blossom that makes me think of a red popcorn ball to a loose feathery one.

One peculiarity of the plants resulting from the *officinalis rubra* by *albiflora* cross is that the blossoms start opening before those of *officinalis rubra*, the earlier blooming of the two parents. The plants vary in size from dwarf to very tall and vigorous, and there are pleasing variations in the foliage and the type, size and colors of the blossoms, which range from deepest red to very light pink.

Mostly these hybrids are single plants. Five have been lifted, divided and replanted and have come back well. They have been named and registered. See Bulletin No. 92, December 1943, page 40 for descriptions.

Just as a matter of curiosity, occasionally fertilize the earlier opening blooms of *officinalis rubra* with pollen from still earlier blooming species, namely *anomala*, *corallina*, *corsica*, *decora*, *pubens* and *tenuifolia*.

The crosses with *corallina*, *decora* and *pubens* take well and produce fertile plants. The resulting plants have foliage similar to their pollen parents and open at about the same time. The colors are good clear shades of reds and pinks.

Many F2 seedlings have been raised but none have yet bloomed.

These hybrids have also been crossed with *albiflora* varieties with some success, the resulting plants being the product of triple crosses. A few of these have bloomed. Some with single flowers and some with double. They resemble *albiflora* but bloom with *officinalis rubra*.

This season of 1946 has been particularly trying. Abnormal warm weather in March and April started growth prematurely and late frosts blighted many buds on the earlier flowering species.

On Wednesday, May 29th all *officinalis rubra* buds showing color were bagged. Saturday, June 1st it began to rain in the evening and it kept up all day Sunday, June 2nd. All those bagged blossoms were a total loss.

Wednesday noon, June 5th ten blossoms were pollinated by earlier flowering species at noon and at 5:15 it began to rain again.

Sunday, June 9th there were two blossoms left for *albiflora* pollen. When the bags were removed one of the blossoms fell off as a borer had eaten thru the stem.

Yes, I've had lots of fun trying to develop species hybrids this spring.



Peonies in An Alabama Garden in 1946

By POPE M. LONG, *Cordova, Alabama*

This has been a good season for peonies here.

In the Bulletin last year I recommended as best 12 varieties of the time tested peonies as follows:

White—*Festiva Maxima*, *Kelway's Glorious*, *Mme. Calot*.

Pink—*Gigantea*, *Marguerite Gerard*, *Miss Salway*, *Mons. Jules Elie* and *Venus*.

Red—*Cherry Hill*, *Philippe Rivoire*.

Yellow Toned—*Duc de Wellington* and *Primavera*.

All the above have again done well, but as "time marches on" new and better varieties must take the place of some of them.

Below I name a list of outstanding varieties that grew in my garden this year.

Mildred May is a large immaculate white. It is semi double, cup shaped with just enough yellow stamens showing in center to give a golden light to the flower. It is vigorous and prolific with strong stems. It is the best and most beautiful semi-double in my garden. It is charming.

Mary Auten and *Myrtle Gentry*, I class white, but each opens a very light lavender which soon fades to white. These two are distinct but of equal merit. Both have ideal stems which hold upright in all kinds of weather, the extra large blooms which are of the full rose type. These two merit a place in the list of great peonies. They are superior to *Mrs. Frank Beach*. This is a strong but deserved laudation. Both have delightful fragrance. *Mary Auten* blooms first.

Elsa Sass is a very late bloomer, but "mirabile dictu", every bud opens easily here. Of this variety I wrote last year, "I am sure Alabama is too far South for it." I was wrong for this year the same plant produced 12 giant center stem blooms as near perfection as peonies ever come. I will grow more plants of it and forget the capricious *Le Cygne*. *Pico* may or may not be the best white single. It surely is the best one I ever saw. It is cup shaped, free from floppiness, dainty and pleasing with good stems and prolific.

PINK

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt of which I wrote last year, "I consider this superior to *Therese*." I now say, *it is superior* to *Therese* or any other pink in all around good qualities. It is several shades lighter than *Therese*. It does not have as many petals but it has plenty for any purpose and opens easier. It has long strong stems which hold upright the large blooms of great beauty. I wish it had been named *First Lady* for such it is in the garden or vase.

Mrs. Livingston Farrand judged by color and form is without doubt the most beautiful peony. Those who have never seen it may visualize it as a glorified *Walter Faxon*. Of similar form but a deeper, more vivid pink with salmon shades. For exhibition it is unsurpassed. It is the joy and pride of the artist who loves beauty and for the connoisseur who prefers a limited number of super blooms to greater numbers that are mediocre. It is very fragrant. Having weak stems and not very prolific, it is not a variety for the commercial grower.

Venus I list this variety again for it cannot be ignored. It deserves a much higher rating.

REDS

Topeka a light red bomb, is very large and brilliant. It was the second peony in my garden to bloom. It produced over 20 center stem blooms. To my friends in the South who have experienced difficulty in securing a satisfactory red, I suggest that they try *Topeka*. It has my unqualified endorsement. It was my best red.

King Midas is of rose form with wide petals and a bright crimson color. It is a new comer in my garden but it gives promise of greatness and reliability.

Veritas is a strong growing and prolific hybrid. It is a brilliant shining crimson whose center petals have yellow stamens attached to them making it different from other reds and very attractive. Try it out is my suggestion.

Red Goddess is a brilliant crimson. I have marked it "excellent."

JAP TYPE

Nippon Brilliant and *Nippon Beauty* were neck and neck in a race for best Jap red in 1945. This year *Nippon Brilliant* is far in the lead. It has the longest and strongest stems and largest blooms and is just as fine for decorating home or church as it is for lawn. As a red Jap with yellow cushion it has no rival.

Nippon Parade is a different colored red. It opens a uniform color. But later center changes to a lighter tone. It has such distance carrying brightness and such distinct color that it catches and holds the eyes of visitors, who usually make a bee line to it and ask "what is the name of this one? I have never seen one like it." Neither have I. As a specimen plant to decorate a garden, it is in a class by itself. I hope each one who reads this will secure a plant of it and give it ample space so it can be seen and watch how all who see it for the first time are thrilled.

My plant had 35 center stem blooms: each with 2 or 3 side blooms nearly as large as the center. They made the plant look like a huge bouquet. It retained its beauty for a long time. It was so lovely in the garden I did not have the heart to cut one stem to see how it would hold up as a cut flower, so I do not know.

I have written this article at the request of Mr. George W. Peyton, President of the American Peony Society, who wrote me on May 3, 1946 as follows: "Your peony season I suppose is now about over. I shall be glad if you will take the time to send me a complete report of how the various varieties performed for you this year. I am asking a number to do this."

I could not ignore the appeal of this kindly man who has done so much for the advancement of peonies. It so happens that six of the varieties on which I have commented were planted in my garden upon his recommendation and for which he has my sincere thanks.



Report on Tree Peonies At Swarthmore College

LOUIS SMIRNOW, *Great Neck L. I., N. Y.*

In the last Bulletin George W. Peyton described our trip to Swarthmore University Gardens where perhaps the finest Tree Peony collection in this country is under cultivation closely watched by Prof. Wister and his most capable assistant Harry Wood. We arrived about noon and for five hours Mr. Peyton and I were completely engrossed in admiration of hundreds and hundreds of Tree Peonies. Each one is a specimen plant and all of them are grown on a circular embankment so that each plant is visible from almost any position. The condition of these plants is a testimonial to the excellent care received at the hands of Messrs Wister and Wood. Harry Wood was a patient host, extremely affable and courteous and his guidance through the Tree Peony gardens as well as the vast collection of herbaceous peonies resulted in one of the most delightful days of my memory.

I shall endeavor to report about many of the tree peonies I saw, and frankly, wish I had them in my own gardens. Most of these listed are not seen in any of the catalogs I have seen and it seems to me some of these listed should be placed in other gardens throughout the country for the

enjoyment of tree peony fanciers. I shall list these at random without any regard for their importance, beauty or size but as I came across them in that haven of beauty.

Kokko-No-Tsukasa is a many petaled, semi-double velvety maroon on a low growing bush.

Ikuho-Mon, a large white semi-double on medium tall plant showing yellow stamens and white stigmas.

Suma-No-Ichi resembles very closely *Kokku-No-Tsukasa* in every respect, possibly fewer petals on the flower.

Hatsu-Garashu: A very dark maroon almost black when observed from an angle; black shadings on every petal—large bloom, fair stems.

Konron Koku: enormous double flowers, medium crimson, cup shaped, a deep purplish red when flower ages.

Ima Chowkow: light yellow when first opened but distinctly white when bloom develops—enormous size with exquisite arrangement of petals.

Somei: light crimson, semi-double, pinkish red effect, lightly petaled, brightly colored—medium sized bloom—strong stems—worthwhile variety.

Kokirin: medium size, semi-double, pinkish red, brightly colored plant, blooms almost single as they mature, nice plant.

Nishiki-No-Shitone: extremely large, semi-double, large plant, bright pink almost red blooms excellent stems.

Hino Tobira: an enormous double, beautiful red bloom, tall bush, good grower, excellent stems, crinkly petals, a gorgeous variety, would love this in my garden.

Hatsu Hinode: a good sized, free blooming semi-double, rose pink variety, nice plant.

Renkaku: an enormous cup shaped pure white flower, no shadings, plants six feet wide, a gem for every garden.

Okina-Jishi: an interesting variety, average plant, good stems, semi-double white tinted in center.

Tsuki-Sekai: a tremendous white single ten inches across, good stems and medium sized plant.

Haru-Geshiki: another good white, very tall plant, semi-double, cup shaped slightly tinted.

Homei: my favorite, biggest tree peony I ever saw, enormous double rose pink turning white at edges—a must in every collection.

Miyako-No-Nishiki: another giant, 10 to 12 inch rose pink, immense single, free bloomer on nice sized plant, good stems.

Miko-No-Hikan: rose colored medium sized bloom, edges turning white as plant ages, good stems, medium sized plant.

Iwato Kagami: almost double, excellent plant, stems good, white on outside, brilliant pink inside, interesting flower.

Hodai: a very large, full double, about 9 inch bloom, color, a brilliant scarlet pink—gorgeous variety.

Dai Kagura: an enormous double brightly hued free blooming peony—Scarlet pink turning white as it ages.

Aya Nishiki: resembling *Homei* but not quite so double—an extremely desirable Tree Peony.

Hana Den: tremendous white, pyramidal shaped, loosely petaled double,

yellow stigmas cerise tinted, a genuine beauty and a must for all collectors.

Nishiki-Shima: blush colored, rose pink tinted in center, big semi-double, nice plant.

Sakura-Kagami: large fully double, salmon pink color same as herbaceous *Mrs. Livingston Farrand* lighter at edges.

Kintajio: color blush, a big ball shaped beauty, tinted cerise.

Terute-Nishiki: immense single, a gorgeous shade of pink, a highly recommended beauty.

Kngane-Zome: immense semi-double white pearl shades, and blush petals throughout, gorgeously tinted, will try to get this variety for my own garden.

Shuchinka: another must—beautiful in opening stages, big blush—semi-double, deep coloring in throat, splendid plant and stems.

Dokushin-Den: reminiscent of *Sylvia Saunders* in coloring, blush semi-double, good sized bloom, nice plant, satisfactory in every way.

Hana Kurabe: a large medium pink double—crinkly petals—a gorgeous tree peony.

At the risk of boring you I shall report my experience with my peonies this past season. The tree peonies did fairly well especially *Rimpo*, *Gates of Opulence*, *Flambeau*, *Hana-Kisoi*, and *Argosy*. All whites including *Gessekai* and *Gabian* did poorly and showed no blooms. Old standbys like *Shugyo-Kuden*, *Souvenir de Maxime Cornu* and *Ukaregi-Ohi*, free bloomers every year, had an off year. It was quite evident my plants of Tree Peonies need another year to become established. My herbaceous peonies did better. Of the 155 plants about 100 bloomed. Most of newer varieties were planted last year so they need more time for development. Varieties like *Victory*, *Mattie Lafuze*, *King Midas*, *Louise Lossing*, *W. E. Blanchette* were one eyed plants when they were placed in my garden and they developed beautifully this season. *Mrs. Livingston Farrand* gave promise of bearing many blooms but this variety and several others were nipped by the cold nights in late April. In doubles, *Marietta Sisson*, as usual the earliest to bloom, opened with eleven magnificent blooms, a beautiful shade of pink admired by all. This is an excellent variety. The biggest bloom of the year and one of the most beautiful was *Minuet*. Here is a peony which should be in every garden. A fairly tall grower, with ramrod stems, *Minuet* is really one worthy of the Court of Honor. *Le Cygne*, as usual, was very satisfactory and with *Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt* were easily the most beautiful of all Peonies. *Mons Jules Elic*, that old reliable, bloomed well and one bloom was especially gorgeous. It was cut and lasted for over a week in our dining room. *Elsa Sass*, that exquisite beauty, bloomed as well as ever. *Therese*, another reliable, gave many blooms on three plants. *Alice Harding* was never better. *Peggy*, a small beauty, was especially admired. *Lady Kate* grew at least five feet tall and had twenty-four blooms, really a stand out because of its exquisite pink color so late in the season. *Nick Shaylor* gave *Minuet* a close tussle for size and is easily more beautiful in form. *Old Nick* is worthy of being rated right at the top. My reds had an off year but *Felix Crousse* did beautifully. A nice plant with many red blooms was well admired. As always, *Tempest* proved to be the best red. *Mons. Martin Caluzac* had four blooms with very few yellow stamens showing, rather unusual for this variety.

I must not forget to mention *Florence Nicholls*, which I regard as one of my very best peonies. It blooms from a one year plant and this season had four immense, gorgeous white blooms; its fragrance adds to its charm. *Kelway's Glorious*, Rev. H. Tragitt, Mrs. J. V. Edlund did not do as well as they should, but each one had several good blooms. As usual, the flop of the year was *Solange*. In seven years I never had a bloom, as a matter of fact I never saw *Solange* in bloom. I am now convinced I ought to get good stock. Other doubles which did well were *Odile*, *Martha Bulloch*, Mrs. R. M. Bacheller, *Evening Star*, Mt. Everest, James Kelway, Walter Faxon, and surprising to say, *Festiva Maxima*, while *Blanche King* and *Myrtle Gentry* are almost as bad as *Solange*. I shall try to get new stock of these varieties. *Alesia*, *La Lorraine* and *Marie Lemoine* were good and I expect good results from these varieties next season. I lost *Marilla Beauty* and *Ruth Elizabeth*—apparently they could not survive the winter. *Thura Hires*, Mrs. A. M. Brand and *Red Goddess* need more time for development.

Among the singles and the Japs, *Sword Dance* was easily the best. While *Nippon Brilliant* was good in my garden, *Sword Dance* is far superior in plant, stem and flower. I recommend this variety highly. A close second was Mrs. Wilder Bancroft which is exquisite because of the unusual color in the center of the bloom. All my neighbors, especially the ladies, raved over *Silvia Saunders*, that bit of gorgeousness whose beauty is haunting. Another favorite of mine, one seldom mentioned, is *Petite Renee*, recommended to me by my old Hoosier friend, Harry L. Smith, a good judge of peonies. *L'Etincelante* was nice but I don't like this color in peonies. *Shaylor's Sunburst* and *Le Jour* from the distance seem to be alike but *Shaylor's Sunburst* is a much freer bloomer. I can't agree with many of my peony friends who rate *Victory Chateau Thierry* highly. I have two plants which are healthy but the stems are weak and the blooms poor because of few petals. *Tomato Boku* did very well on a low plant. *Dunlora* is a beautiful white and was greatly admired. *Mildred May* needs another year. *Largo* needs replacement, my stock is poor. I know this variety can do better. *Isani Gidui*, as usual, is easily the best of the white Japs.

In going over my notes I failed to mention *Ella Lewis* which had two blooms on a young plant. This easily deserves the good reputation which this variety has. Also *Hansina Brand*—another that never blooms and needs replacement. *A. B. Franklin* is a beauty, still a year away from maturity.

I find that the Long Island soil is good for growing Peonies and I shall continue to interest our community in our favorite flower. My good friend, Geo. W. Peyton has contributed generously to my collection of peonies and I want him to know that many visitors in early June have enjoyed the varieties which he has sent me.



The Minneapolis Show

WINNERS AND VARIETIES SHOWN

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL PEONY and GARDEN
FLOWERS SHOW.

Minnesota Peony and Iris Society and The Minnesota Garden Flower
Society

Northwestern National Bank, Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 25-26, 1946

OPEN CLASSES.

COURT OF HONOR.

Class 100 A. Champion: White: *Mrs. J. V. Edlund*—G. H. Greaves.
 Flesh: *Doris Cooper*—L. W. Lindgren.
 Light Pink: *Myrtle Gentry*—G. H. Greaves.
 Dark Pink: *Loren Franklin*—G. H. Greaves.
 Red: *King Midas*—G. H. Greaves.

Class 100 B. American Peony Society Silver Medal Award.

Five varieties, one bloom each.

Winner: G. H. Greaves with *Alesia*, *Ella Lewis*, *Mrs. A. B. Franklin*,
Mrs. J. V. Edlund, *Nick Shaylor*.

Runner-up: L. W. Lindgren with *Blanche King*, *Dolorodell*, *Doris Cooper*, *Ella Lewis*, *Mount Everest*.

GRAND CHAMPION: *Sea Shell*—G. H. Greaves.

DOUBLES

Class 101. 50 varieties, one bloom each. No entry.

Class 102. Ten varieties, three blooms each. No entry.

Ten blooms, one variety.

Class 103. White or Flesh. No entry.

Class 104. Light pink. First: R. W. Jones—*Nancy Dolman*.

Class 105. Dark pink. No entry.

Class 106. Red. No entry.

Class 107. Vase of six varieties, one bloom each, First: W. T. Coe with
Bataan, *Edith Scovell*, *Minuet*, *Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt*, *Nancy Dolman*,
Tourangelle.

One specimen bloom.

Class 108. White: First: L. W. Lindgren—*Pink o'Dawn*.
 Second: R. W. Jones—*Louise Lossing*.

Class 109. Flesh. First: L. W. Lindgren—*Doris Cooper*.

Class 110. Light pink. First: R. W. Jones—*Last Rose*.

Class 111. Dark pink. First: L. W. Lindgren—*Blanche King*.

Class 112. Red. No entry.

Class 113. Six red varieties, three blooms each. No entry.

Class 114. Not more than fifteen Japanese varieties, one bloom each. No entry.

Class 115. Collection of singles one bloom each. No entry.

Class 116. Not more than twenty varieties one bloom each, rating 8.5 or better. First: R. W. Jones with *A. B. Franklin*, *Ella Lewis*, *Lady Kate*, *Last Rose*, *Mary Auten*, *Nancy Dolman*, *Nick Shaylor*, *Plymouth*, *Pres. Coolidge*, *Solange*. (10).

Class 117. Handle basket not over twenty inches in diameter. No entry.

Class 118. Handle basket not over twelve inches in diameter. First: R. W. Jones.

Class 119. Small vase. First: R. W. Jones.

Class 120. Large Vase. First: R. W. Jones.

ADVANCED AMATEUR CLASSES.

Doubles.

Class 201. Not more than 25 varieties, one bloom each.

First: G. H. Greaves with *A. B. Franklin*, *Acme*, *Alesia*, *Alice Reed Bates*,
Alice Harding, *Blanche King*, *Duluth*, *Ella Lewis*, *Hazel Kinney*, *Karl Rosenfield*,
Mandaleen, *Mark Twain*, *Mary E. Nicholls*, *Matilda Lewis*.

Mrs. A. B. Franklin, Mrs. C. S. Minot, Mrs. J. V. Edlund, Mrs. Livingston Farrand, Mrs. W. L. Gumm, Myrtle Gentry, Nancy Nicholls, Nick Shaylor, Philippe Rivoire, Pres. F. D. Roosevelt, Sarah Bernhardt.

Second: *Mrs. H. B. Tillotson with Blanche King, Duluth, Eucharis, Elizabeth B. Browning, Hansina Brand, Lady Kate, Marie Lemoine, Martha Bulloch, Minuet, Miss Norma, Mrs. A. B. Franklin, Mrs. Frank Beach, Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, Mrs. John M. Kleitsch, Mrs. J. V. Edlund, Myrtle Gentry, Nancy Dolman, Philippe Rivoire. (18).*

Third: *W. T. Coe with Avenger, Bataan, Ben Haberman, E. C. Shaze, Felix Crousse, Franklin's Pride, Grace Batson, Hans P. Sass, Ideal, Last Rose, Mary B. Vories, Mrs. A. M. Brand, Mrs. John M. Kleitsch, Mrs. Livingston Farrand, Nancy Dolman, Peach Glow, Sir John Franklin, Snowball. (18).*

G. H. Greaves made a second entry in this class which could not be placed.

These are the varieties: *A. B. Franklin, Acme, Alesia, Blanche King, Daniel Boone, Dearborn, Ella Lewis, Elsa Sass, Florence Nicholls, Frank E. Good, Genevieve, Hans P. Sass, Harry F. Little, John L. Crenshaw, Joseph Christie, King Midas, Loren Franklin, Minuet, Mrs. A. B. Franklin, Mrs. A. M. Brand, Mrs. C. S. Minot, Mrs. J. V. Edlund, Nancy Nicholls, Pres., F. D. Roosevelt, Sarah Bernhardt. (25).*

Class 202. Ten varieties, three blooms each.

First: *G. H. Greaves with A. E. Rowe, Alesia, Alice Reed Bates, Edith M. Snook, Ella Lewis, Elsa Sass, King Midas, Minuet, Mrs. J. V. Edlund, Sarah Bernhardt.*

Second: *Mrs. H. B. Tillotson with A. B. Franklin, Franklin's Pride, Martha Bulloch, Minuet, Mrs. Frank Beach, Mrs. J. V. Edlund, Myrtle Gentry, Nancy Dolman, Solange, Walter Faxon.*

Three blooms, one variety.

Class 203. White. First: *G. H. Greaves—Mrs. J. V. Edlund.*

Second: *L. W. Lindgren—Mary E. Nicholls.*

Third: *Jos. B. Patzke—Elsa Sass.*

Class 204. Light pink. First: *G. H. Greaves—Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt.*

Second: *J. B. Patzke—Minuet.*

Third: *Mrs. H. B. Tillotson—Myrtle Gentry.*

Class 205. Dark pink. First: *G. H. Greaves—Loren Franklin.*

Second: *W. T. Coe—Mrs. Livingston Farrand.*

Third: *Mrs. H. B. Tillotson—Mrs. John M. Kleitsch.*

Class 206. Red. First: *G. H. Greaves—King Midas.*

Second: *Jos. B. Patzke—Philippe Rivoire.*

Third: *W. T. Coe—Felix Crousse.*

Class 207. Flesh. First: *Mrs. H. B. Tillotson—A. B. Franklin.*

Second: *G. H. Greaves—Solange.*

Third: *W. T. Coe—Mary B. Vories.*

Class 208. Three blooms one variety single or Japanese.

First: *G. H. Greaves—Sea Shell.*

Second: *Mrs. H. B. Tillotson—Tokio.*

Class 209. Basket. No entry.

Class 210. Small vase. No entry.

Class 211. Large Vase. No entry.

NOVICE AMATEUR CLASSES.

Doubles:

Class 301. Not more than ten varieties one bloom each. No entry.
One bloom.

Class 302. White. First: A. M. Chesher—*Victory*.

Second: Peter H. Patzke—*Duluth*.

Class 303. Light pink. First: P. H. Patzke—*Nick Shaylor*.

Class 304. Dark pink. No entry.

Class 305. Red. No entry.

Class 306. Vase of six varieties, one bloom each.

First: P. H. Patzke with *Duluth*, *Ella Christiansen*, *Hansina Brand*,
Lady Kate, *Nick Shaylor*, *Seedling No. 306 (Patzke)*..

Class 307. Vase three varieties, one bloom each. First: P. H. Patzke with
Duluth, *Ella Christiansen*, *Hansina Brand*.

Class 308. One bloom single or Japanese. No entry.

Class 309. Basket. No entry.

Class 310. Vase. No entry.

OPEN CLASSES.

Class 400. American Home Achievement Medal for Best and Most Distinc-
tive New Peony. No entry.

Class 401. Seedlings. Only one entry, J. B. Patzke, No. 306 double white,
some red markings. Flower shown was small. No award.

Class 402. Not more than ten varieties, hybrids, one bloom each.

First. G. H. Greaves with *Bright Knight*, *Crusader*, *Flame*, *May Delight*.

Class 403. Three blooms, one variety, hybrid. First: G. H. Greaves—
Crusader.

JUDGES

Classes 100 A—100 B. 400, A. M. Brand, Faribault, Minnesota.

Classes 101-120. E. W. Becker, Minneapolis, L. W. Lindgren, St. Paul.

Classes 201-211, 402-403. E. H. Lins, Cologne, Minnesota, George W.
Peyton, Rapidan, Virginia. R. C. Schneider, St. Paul.

Classes 301-310. R. W. Jones, St. Paul, L. W. Lindgren, St. Paul.



Report of Duluth 1946 Peony Show

The Twenty-Seventh Annual Peony Show of the Duluth Peony and
Iris Society was held in the Duluth City Hall July 5th and 6th, 1946.

Due to the interruption caused by the war, this was our first compet-
itive show since 1941; therefore there were fewer entries than in previous
years. We hope this will be the start of bigger and better shows in the
future. We had to cut down our classes considerably. We had visitors
from New York, Michigan, Illinois, Iowa and California.

The weather was quite warm but the peonies held up very well.

The best peony in the show, which was also the best White, was *Duluth*,
grown by Mr. Austen Lathers. It was just as beautiful the end of the
second day as it was when placed on the table with the other winners. The
following were also winners:

Best Pink—*E. C. Shaw*, grown by Mrs. Walter E. Wipson

Best Red—*Philippe Rivoire* grown by Mrs. Oscar A. Anderson.

Best Dark Pink—*Anne Pfeiffer*, grown by Joe Priley.

Best Jap—*Nippon Brilliant* grown by Mrs. Oscar A. Anderson.

Best Single—*L'Entinccante*, grown by Mrs. W. E. Wipson.

Mr. A. M. Brand, Mr. W. T. Coe and Mr. H. M. Englund judged the specimen classes and Mr. Clarence Hughes and Mrs. F. A. Kemp of Superior the artistic group.

I wish those who bemoan that peonies do not lend themselves to small arrangements could have seen our artistic arrangements—they would have changed their opinions. We have always had many artistic entries and I mean artistic. Two of the most outstanding in the show, according to the artistic judges, were made with two and three peonies respectively.

Though not as large a show as in previous years it was none the less a beautiful and successful one.

Yours truly,

THE DULUTH PEONY & IRIS SOCIETY

By Mrs. Oscar A. Anderson, Secretary.

Rt. 3, Box 130A Howard Guesen Road.

P. S. Held our annual meeting and Mr. Austin Lathers was elected President.

* * *

Peonies and People

Rockford and the 1946 American Peony Society meeting was a fine post war gathering of fine peonies and fine people. Many items became lodged in my scrapbook mind and I have decided to put a few of them on paper.

I arrived in Rockford on the afternoon of June 14 and drove out to the home of Roy Gayle. His greeting was as usual but I thought I detected a worried look as though he was doubtful as to the success of the show. Of course the doubt may have been about the success of his method of storing peony buds in water. After watching the Messrs. Gayle and Shumway put the finishing touches on the stand for the Court of Honor, proceeded to the Gas Company building where the show was held. From the time of my arrival there events came too fast to bother about the chronology of the week end. This report is written accordingly.

Mr. Gayle's under water storage is not so hot. no more flowers for a bench show but the show in Blue Island will go on for years.

Art Murawska talking while arranging his flowers. Few commercial growers can beat Art on the show bench. I have been told that he can talk louder than I. I am considering the matter and may challenge him to a yelling match. Maybe our noise is a measure of the fun we get out of such meetings.

The sausage king Marvin Karrels and his bosom pal Al Voltz arrive with a carload of flowers which seemed fair to make Milwaukee forget Schlitz.

Mr. Gayle's under water storage is not so hot.

The Chicago red head, Jim Mason, is gently "ribbed" about the fragrance of peonies. Go to it Jim, I have long ago decided that it is the unsurpressed idiosyncracies of flower growers that make them such interesting people.

Late to bed and early to rise and I find Saturday promising to be a hot day.

Have all peony people guilty consciences? I may have arrived at the arena before some of them.

—

Al Voltz showing his first flowers appears to have the load of the universe on his shoulders.

Bill Christman, as usual, tearing around seeing that everything is as it should be. Such energy should be rewarded. Can someone think up a couple of new jobs for our genial editor and secretary? I understand that he sleeps at least five hours out of every twenty-four.

Victory may seldom be the Queen of the show but try to beat it in the ten of a variety class. Also try to beat it when the show closes down.

Anybody living north of Chicago should grow *Le Cygne*. Those south of that landmark should grow it where it will not be seen the four bad years out of five.

Even peonies can be dangerous. Mrs. Voltz stepped on a bud and fell, spraining her ankle. It looks as though Al's peonies will wilt before the judges get to them.

The show room is filling up. Roy Gayle has lost his worried look.

John Howard Wigell has at last opened for a show. Congratulations Howard. This may be a hard flower to open from a bud but it is hard to beat as a landscaper.

Mr. Glasscock, due to storage trouble is unable to show his hybrids at their best. His granddaughter of *Le Cygne* looks like a coming great.

Everywhere one looks there seems to be a *Minuet*. A fine flower of a different color.

Unprecedented. Two queens of the show and both from Milwaukee. *Hansina Brand* and *Illini Belle*. Two fine flowers. Mr. Brand arrives just in time to see *Hansina* crowned.

An annual meeting with frank expressions of radical ideas is good for a society. It makes it something alive. People and their opinions change, so must societies, to be of any value, change. There is no hopes for these changes to be made unless someone speaks his or her mind. I may have differed with some of the opinions expressed but I heard none without some merit.

Mrs. Voltz smiles well from a wheel chair.

To me there were a number of outstanding varieties as the show was well into its second day.

Illini Belle, *Hansina Brand*, *Minuet* and *Le Cygne* which have been mentioned before.

Victory again seemed to be better the second day than it was the first.

Dignity, the finest red Jap that I have ever seen. The color of *Arcturus* with every bit as much finish. A must have.

Charley Klehm dares to bring his pink seedling to a show. Why doesn't some one make him turn loose of part of it.

Did anyone miss that basket of *Rosalie*? If you did it was your hard luck. One of the finest in the garden and for flower arrangements.

Dorothy J. seems very good.

I am glad to see *Mmc. Emile Debatene* in the Court of Honor. It may not be good everywhere, but it is hard to beat in its color class for central Illinois.

A fine show well staged. As for the people I think I met thousands. Some may have been crazier than others along some lines but we all had something in common so all were interesting because we all like one of the fine things of life.

Be seeing you soon.

RALPH M. SCHROEDER

Peonies for the South

Most people seem to think that Peonies will not grow in Georgia. I find that some varieties grow exceptionally well in north Georgia. No one, however, has experimented with Peonies enough to know exactly what to expect from them in this climate. I am of the opinion that most all of the early blooming, single varieties and some of the mid-season varieties will grow nicely here. Some of the semi-doubles should also do well.

Can you tell me where I might get a list and brief description of a large number of single and semi-double early-blooming varieties of Peonies? I would also appreciate your referring me to any articles you might know of which have been written on Peonies growing in the south.

Do you know of any nursery who might be interested in letting this Department of the University of Georgia conduct some trials for them? That is, a firm which would be willing to send us a few plants of the newer varieties of singles and semi-doubles for test purposes.

Sincerely yours,

Hubert B. Owens, Head.

* * *

Report of Superior, Wisconsin First Peony Show

In May you mailed me material on staging peony shows. As we were to have our first peony show in early July the material you sent me was very helpful. Our show was a success and very well attended. We had some lovely peony blooms exhibited as well as many artistic arrangements that awed our visitors. We hope to make it an annual affair.

The sweepstake prize went to the exhibitor of *Solange*.

The following were among the specimen blooms shown: *Reine Hortense*, *Solange*, *Karl Rosenfield*, *Susan White*, *Hazel Kinney*, *Blanche King*, *Mme Jules Dessert*, *Richard Carvel*, *Tourangelle*, *Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt*, *Mary Brand*, *Hansina Brand*, *Longfellow*, *Loveliness*, *Festiva Maxima*, *David Harum*, *Frances Willard*, *Wm. Penn*, *Kekeay's Glorious*, *Myrtle Gentry*, *Mons. Jules Elic*, *Sarah Bernhardt*, and several Jap and single peonies.

The total number of entries in our first show was 127.

Entries for specimen bloom 52.

Entries for artistic arrangement 28.

Total attendance 350.

Out of town guests from Dennison, Iowa., St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Hibbing, Minnesota, Roanoke, Va., Los Angeles, Calif., and Milwaukee, Wis.

Mrs. Charles W. Lund, Chairman.
1731 E. 8th, Superior, Wis.

Editor's note: We are glad to present this report and congratulate the Chairman of this show and the various committees making it possible. You have made a good start; keep up the good work. Editor.

A Communication From England

ALAN FISK, *Burton on Trent, England*

It is kind of you to suggest that some notes of our blooming season here would be of interest to American members.

I believe the greatest difference between our climate and that of much of the United States is the great variability of our winter weather, which can fluctuate between 30 degrees of frost to mild growing conditions, several times between November and March, consequently, the new growths on most peonies can be expected any time after Christmas, and the young sprouts frequently get exposed to severe frosts.

With the exception of tree peonies, however, not much damage is done, and as far as my own limited experience goes, the peony is a no-trouble plant here, and grows and flowers freely wherever it is given decent conditions; even last year, when after quite an exceptionally severe late frost on April 30th, the foliage of the plants was left hanging to the ground like rags, very little damage resulted and flowering was normal. It will be interesting to see the effects of this, another exceptional spring, when we have had mid-summer weather during the first days of April with dry temperatures of 77 degrees.

Tree peonies are a different proposition, and year after year, the flower buds having made early growth, are damaged by late frosts. The only way I know of preventing this is to use screens of lath and sacking, which can be arranged as temporary protection during spells of freezing weather. *Souvenir de Maxime Cornu* is, of course, easier to manage than the others, as it starts into growth so much later, and is at the time of writing, (April 10th) just showing flower buds while *Kimi-gayo* is on the verge of blooming.

In a garden too small for my liking, I try to grow as representative a collection as possible.

Species are: *P. Cambessedesii*, (the earliest to flower.) *Mlokosczevitschi*, *I'titchi*, *tenuifolia* fl. pl. also young plants of *Russi* and *corallina*.

Species Hybrids are—*peregrina* x *officinalis*, *Wittmanniana* x *officinalis*, *Hybrid splendens*. This last is a great favorite with everyone. Its sturdy growth and soft green foliage are so attractive, with the soft apricot mother of pearl single flowers.

Herbaceous varieties are—*lobata* *Sunbeam* (poor bloomer here), *Festiva Maxima*, *Couronne d'Or*, *Sarah Bernhardt*, *Mons. Jules Elie*, *Lady Alexandra Duff*, *Albiflora*, *Albiflora Carnea*, *Elaine*, *Torpilleur*, *Kelway's Majestic*, *Burnt Amber*, *Midget* and *Red King*.

Tree peonies—besides the two varieties already mentioned, are *Adzuma-Nishika*, *Reine Kahu*, *Louise Mouchelet* and one or two unnamed varieties, also *delavayi* (a specie).

Times of flowering: species flower from mid-April to the end of the month, followed by the hybrids about a fortnight later, and the herbaceous varieties continue on from the first week in June to early July.

Editor's note: I am sure we are all glad to hear from our member in England. He has experienced similar climatic conditions existing in many sections of the United States the past two years, as far as unseasonable weather in March or very early Spring is concerned. He refers to the tree peony *Reine Kahu*. I am wondering if this is not the same as *Renkaku* mentioned in bulletin No. 95 in Mr. Wister's classification of the tree peony. Many of the Japanese names have been changed in translation.

Comments from Ohio

It seems that every time I pay my dues I feel inclined to give our Secretary a little information on the state of the peony in northwestern Ohio, though no doubt he gets the news from growers who are more able to give a better survey and far more information than I can.

This has been another one of those years with high temperatures in March and early April, followed in late April and early May with frosts and even freezing weather. About half the varieties in my planting had no bloom at all, and many of those that did bloom were badly effected and blighted.

I think conditions at Van Wert, O., were about the same, as I talked with Mr. Wassenberg and he said he would have no good blooms.

I have about 50 varieties of lilacs and only six or seven varieties had bloom worth while, however, the curious thing is, that some varieties of peonies were not hurt, or affected but very little.

As you have discovered from letters I have written before, I have a very high opinion of *Le Cygne*, and this year again, in spite of adverse weather, it came through like a hero and gave me an abundance of almost perfect bloom. *Kelway's Glorious* too was very good, but I am not able to see how anyone could rate it above *Le Cygne*. However, next to *Le Cygne* was *Victory Chateau Thierry*. Mr. Brand has very many good ones, but in my garden, this one does the best of all his varieties. *Frances Willard* was good and seemed to withstand the frost.

I like his *Martha Bulloch* and *Mrs. A. M. Brand* but they do not like my garden and fail me every year, though they start out like world beaters.

I did not have a failure entirely, as today (June 6th), I have about forty or fifty varieties in the house and the visitors think that in spite of hail and frost the peony year has been a success.

Some time ago you published a letter in the bulletin from my friend Frank E. Moots of Newton, Kas., stating I think that some of his plants were effected with rot and that he had treated them with Bordeaux. I have been having the same trouble, especially with the little stock of the two varieties of my own that I have named. I have been using Bordeaux. I can't tell you yet just how much good, if any, it has done, except that the foliage has been entirely clear this year.

Last week Mr. Henry Reineke of Defiance, O., brought me specimens of his three seedlings. No. 65, 154 and 158. They surely gave me a pleasant surprise. They have fine color, light pink, are very large and have fine form. I believe he has something worth while. He also (there it is again) brought one of the finest specimens of *Le Cygne* I have ever seen. It must have been about 8 x 4 inches and all solid flower. I am sure he knows how to grow peonies.

It seems at 83 I am just as much interested as ever in peonies. The whole trouble is that I am not well and strong enough to dig much in the garden.

JOHN S. SNOOK, *Paulding, O.*

* * *

Significance of Periodic Soil Tests

Because of the increasing interest in soil testing, it will be well for us to consider here the ways and means of getting the most out of this method of alkalinity or acidity, or if they are neither acid nor alkaline, they are

undertake work of this sort, the first being "*Why are soil tests important?*" and the second "*What should one do after the results of soil tests are known?*"

Few people realize the complexities involved in the general make-up of a soil, and since space here will not permit a complete discourse on all of its factors, it will be well to confine the discussion to important plant food constituents necessarily present in a so-called "fertile soil."

Soil Reaction and Plant Foods

Consider first the reaction of soils. All soils have a definite degree of alkalinity or acidity, or if they are neither acid nor alkaline, they are called neutral soils. All three classes of soils have a distinctive usefulness, and in each case the degree of reaction has an important bearing on the availability of the important plant foods, such as phosphorus, potash, nitrogen, etc. This will be obvious when it is realized that plants take up from the water in the soil all of the foods they use, except oxygen and carbon, which they obtain from the air. Their foods then are delivered to them in solution form, consequently, the solubility of the definite forms in which the phosphorus, potassium and nitrogen exist has a direct influence upon the availability of these constituents to the plant. Acid soils have a tendency to make nitrogen only slowly available; potash extremely soluble and hence readily available if the plant is able to utilize it; phosphates very insoluble and hence unavailable. At the same time an acid soil renders more soluble, iron, manganese and aluminum compounds which may act as toxic agents, causing weak plants. This is important inasmuch as acid soils are generally found in all parts of the United States where rainfall amounts to more than twenty inches per year. On the other hand, a neutral reaction makes nitrogen more readily available, while alkalinity renders potash less available, and binds manganese into an unavailable form. One recognizes immediately from the above facts that it is possible only through the proper soil tests to obtain information on the status of the definite plant foods in any particular soil. It will be remembered also that there are still other facts not mentioned above, which will require full consideration, but the essential facts can be disclosed by dealing with those already mentioned. Therefore, it is readily seen that the grower beginning the season's work cannot lay definite and accurate plans for the successful growth of any of his crops until he knows the condition of his soil and the availability of the necessary plant foods.

Results of Tests

Let it now be supposed that the grower has made a number of soil tests and that he has values for soil acidity, available phosphorus, nitrates and available potash. Just what should he do next? The first thing to receive his attention would be the actual requirements of the specific plants which he intends to grow. Compare these requirements with the status of those factors in the soil made available through his tests. It may happen that the soil is too acid for an adequate production of nitrogen, and that his available nitrates are therefore low. An immediate need is expressed for additional lime, and for nitrogen, usually applied in the form of nitrates, to be sure that the nitrogen carrying element does not contribute further to the acidity of the soil. (A fact generally overlooked is the acidifying effect of some of the nitrogen fertilizers, which, if not detected and controlled, will prove to be a serious detriment.) It often happens that in acid soils the nitrogen is not available to the plant, but upon liming such soils, abundant nitro-

gen is released. This fact must be borne in mind and periodic tests for nitrogen will determine this during the growing season. If phosphorus and available potash are present in satisfactory quantities, the grower need give no further consideration to these two elements at this stage. When the plants begin to grow and observations made indicate that a satisfactory growth is being obtained, the grower then begins to realize the advantages of his definite procedure. On the other hand, if unsatisfactory growth in some instances is noted, tests may be conducted during the growing season to disclose the possible deficiency of any of the plant constituents which might have been brought about by leaching with excessive rainfall, or the instance of barren spaces in the field which were not disclosed in the original tests. If the factors mentioned above are all in balanced ratio, then one can look for other causes for the appearance of weak plants, such as deficiency in manganese, magnesium, or the presence of certain toxic substances in the soil such as aluminum, soluble iron, etc. In other words, every grower must begin somewhere to control the ultimate satisfactory growth of his crop, whether it be farm produce, flowers, fruit, lawns, golf greens, etc. By proceeding carefully he can, through proper soil tests, detect the existence of deficiencies in plant foods and then eliminate them by adequate application of fertilizers. There is no surer way of ultimately taking care of all of the important factors in the soil which contribute to his success. These factors, of course, do not include climatic or other natural causes beyond his control, and what is meant to be inferred in this instance is this—that any grower can determine the adaptability of his particular soil in its present state to the growth of any desired crops, and with the proper plan of fertilization, can strike a high average of success in his endeavors.

Minor Plant Foods Overlooked

Growers are conscious chiefly of the phosphorus, nitrogen, potash and lime in the soil, and often overlook the importance of other matters relating to the condition of the soil, insofar as some of the minor elements are concerned. In our research, however, it is necessary that we give full consideration, not only to the elements which are necessary and beneficial to plant growth, but also investigate the presence of other elements, some of which are necessary for the proper stimulation of the plant, but for the most part their presence in fairly large quantities may actually harm the plant and react in a deleterious manner toward its growth. Consequently, our complete soil testing service must of necessity include a means of accurately determining the presence or absence of all of these constituents.

A consideration of some of the so-called minor elements which enter into plant production will show their influence, favorably or adversely, as the case may be, and the ability to determine the presence and quantity of these elements is important in determining the ability of the plant to thrive. Magnesium, manganese and iron are necessary for healthy plant growth. In large concentrations, however, the two last named elements, together with soluble aluminum, exert a toxic effect upon the plant.

With a soil of high acidity there is likely to be a deficiency of magnesium. An examination of the plant will often suggest this fact, which may be quickly confirmed by our short chemical test for magnesium. This test will readily determine if magnesium is present in quantities insufficient for plant growth.

As it is believed that the magnesium which the plant is able to take up is in close agreement with the soluble manganese in the soil, our short chem-

ical test for manganese will tell if it is present in quantities sufficient for plant growth, or if it is present in injurious concentrations in acid soils. The same is true for the element iron.

Only the most acid-tolerant plants are able to thrive in the presence of more than a trace of soluble aluminum, and the chemical test for active aluminum will be of help in diagnosing dangerous acid soil conditions, as the solubility of aluminum increases greatly with increased acidity in the soil.

Our tests may also be of use in diagnosing conditions which may be otherwise hard to understand, such as the presence of large quantities of chlorides in soils which have been subjected to flooding by sea water. Also the test for ammonia will serve as an indication of good or poor nitrogen transformation.

Important New Soil Factors

Since investigations have established the need for other elements, such as sulphur, calcium, magnesium, manganese, etc., we can no longer consider the simple plant foods nitrogen, phosphorus and potash as being the only elements necessary for adequate plant growth. Soil tests will provide assurance that the fertilizers being used will contain sufficient of the minor elements to bring about beneficial results, and they also will indicate whether or not the fertilizers being used are depleting the soil of its natural bases. There should be greater interest in the suitability of present fertilizers to different kinds of soil, since this is an important factor. It is also necessary to bear in mind the residual effect of various fertilizers and other materials used on the soil. For example, spraying materials containing sulphur have been known to greatly increase the acidity of the soil. Straight nitrogenous fertilizers, with the exception of sodium nitrate, calcium nitrate and cyanamid, are also acid forming, and it is interesting to note that the average mixed fertilizer requires from 160 to 200 lbs. of calcium carbonate per ton to render it neutral.

It is true that the time is rapidly approaching when a properly balanced fertilizer will be of neutral or low potential acidity when applied to the soil, and in such a case the growers will be largely relieved of the additional soil lime treatments now used. Recently experimental work has likewise shown the advantage of using dolomitic limestone in correcting soil acidity, since this remedies not only the calcium need, but also supplies magnesium. Where magnesium is not required, as indicated by proper soil tests, ordinary limestone is recommended for correcting soil acidity.

We point out the above facts, and wish to emphasize their importance, in view of the recent disclosures of many investigators working under actual crop conditions. Many plant failures, heretofore looked upon as a direct result of the probable deficiency of plant food constituents in the soil, have been actually the result of the excessive amounts of some of the more toxic minor food elements mentioned above. It is our desire to continue to place before our patrons practical information of this type, so that they may have at their disposal facts which would prove reliable in the diagnosis of their own problems.



Notes From Minnesota

F. W. NICHOLS, *S. St. Paul, Minn.*

I have been reading and enjoying the bulletins of the Peony Society for about three years, and have immensely enjoyed some of the articles on

peony performance from different parts of the country and I have made some notes, which I will send on to you, and you can use any part of them that you think fit for publication, or they can be used in the waste paper drives if of no use to the Bulletin. Well here goes:

Acme—Huge pink, profuse bloomer, very good.

A. B. Franklin—Flesh to white, a very good performer, always blooms heavily, but inclined to be short stemmed with me. Real performer.

Anne Nielsen—Very outstanding, and a real show peony. Good grower.

Cherokee—White. This one opens flesh colored with me and fades to white, rather flat flower, but a real performer.

Clemenceau—A very tall grower, strong stems, but with me just another pink peony.

Commander—Red. This is a very good peony and a very good performer.

Coral Queen—Light Pink. This is the first year this peony has bloomed for me, but it is very good, beautiful form and very outstanding.

Daniel Boone—Red. Good red, robust grower, tall and good stiff stems.

Dr. Brethour—White. Very beautiful form, outstanding with good stems and a very heavy bloomer. One of the best.

Duluth—White. Very outstanding, blooms late with me.

Blance King—Dark pink. I think this one of the best of its color but unfortunately it did not open this year. It has been very outstanding.

Eloise—Lt. Pink. Very good form, and I consider it very fine.

Dr. J. H. Neeley—Very good performer for the first year.

Elsa Sass—White. Perfect form. Without a doubt the most outstanding peony I have in my garden. Always good, strong stems and much better than peonies that rate higher than it, such as *Therese* and *Kelway's Glorious*.

Ella Christensen—Pink. To me one of the best in its color. Always good.

Evening Star—White. This is the second year of bloom for this one and if it performs as it has the past two seasons, this is an outstanding white.

Edith M. Snook—Beautiful form, and a real peony, one of the best.

Ella Lewis—Pink. Good bloomer very good form, good stems, and I will have to put this among my best.

Festiva Maxima—White with crimson flecks on petals. Always good.

Georgiana Shaylor—Pink. Profuse bloomer and a very good performer.

George W. Peyton—Flesh. I consider this one of the best peonies I grow, has always come good, good stems and perfect form.

Hansina Brand—Flesh. Perfect form, outstanding this year, but does not always open well.

Hazel Kinney—Lt. Pink. Good form and a very profuse bloomer.

Hermoine—Pink. Very good.

Harry F. Little—Very outstanding. I consider this one of my best peonies. Would class it among my best ten.

Harry L. Richardson—Red. A very good red. With me it has more fragrance than *Philippe Rivoire*, but is not as dark in color.

Jacques Dessert—Pink. Large coarse flowers, good stems, but does not always open well.

Jeannot—Pink. Very outstanding, good form and stems, one of my favorites.

Jean Cooperman—Bright red. Good form and very outstanding in my garden. A favorite with all my visitors.

Kelway's Glorious—White. Beautiful form, but a very shy bloomer.

Katherine Havermeier—Lt. Pink. Good bloomer but has weak stems.

- Le Cygne*—White. Blooms profusely, but some of the buds did not open properly this year. Usually good. Early.
- La France*—Pink. Due for the ash pile, very rarely opens properly.
- Loren Franklin*—Deep pink. Has very good form, stiff stems and a very heavy bloomer. One of the best in this color.
- Lillian Gumm*—Pink. One of the old stand-bys. Always good, heavy bloomer.
- Last Rose*—Pink. The last peony to bloom for me. Opened this year on the 8th of July.
- Lady Kate*—Pink. A very good peony everyone should have.
- Myrtle Gentry*—Lt. Pink. A very beautiful peony with no bad habits.
- Mrs. J. M. Kleitsch*—Has been a disappointment to me so far. Very poor grower and rarely does it open properly. Shy bloomer.
- Mrs. Frank Beach*—White. Also very erratic, but beautiful when it comes good.
- Mrs. A. M. Brand*—White. Beautiful flower, perfect form, but failed to open this year for the first time.
- Milton Hill*—Lt. Pink. Very late, does not always open well.
- Matilda Lewis*—Dk. Red. Loose formed, but always good, and a very profuse bloomer. Outstanding.
- Mabel Franklin*—Pink. On the same order as Martha Bulloch, but to me is a better performer.
- Mrs. J. V. Edlund*—Flesh to white. A very good bloomer with outstanding form, but has a very weak stem.
- Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt*—Very outstanding light pink, one of the best.
- Minuet*—Lt. Pink. Very outstanding, tall, beautiful form, always good, and one of the best.
- Mons. Jules Elie*—Pink, early, always good.
- Marietta Sisson*—Pink, early, but a beautiful flower, a little on the short stemmed side.
- Mrs. J. M. Good*—White. Rather flat flower, but a real good white.
- Mark Twain*—Red. I consider this the best red I grow.
- Mrs. A. B. Franklin*—White. Very good form and a beautiful flower.
- Mrs. J. H. Neeley*—Lt. Pink. This has only bloomed one year, but looks as if it will be very outstanding.
- Mary Auten*—Lt. Pink. Very outstanding and believe this is a real one.
- Mrs. W. L. Gumm*—Lt. Pink. One of the best and a very good performer.
- Nick Shaylor*—Lt. Pink. This is another well formed good performing peony.. I consider it one of the best.
- Onandaga*—Red. Loosely formed, but a very beautiful peony.
- Odile*—Flesh. I consider this along with *Tourangelle*, but with me it has a much better stem than *Tourangelle*.
- Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt*.—Dk. Pink. This is a very outstanding peony in its color.
- Peach Glow*—(*Franklin*)—The name describes it. One of my favorites. I like the form of this one much better than *Peach Blaze*.
- Priscilla Alden*—White. Beautiful form and a real good white. A worthy addition to anyone's garden.
- Philippe Rivoire*—Red. Has always been good with me, but flowers are a little on the small side.
- Reine Hortense*—Exceptionally good this year.
- Rev. Tragitt*—A very good peony. Good bloomer.
- Sensation*—Pink. Perfect form, a real flower, one of the best.

Sarah Bernhardt—Pink. Has always been good.

Snowball—White. Flowers small but correctly named. Stems a little weak.

Tourangelle—Flesh. Has always come good for me, very beautiful color, but has weak stems.

Therese—Pink. Good form, profuse bloomer, short stems, but fades badly in the sun.

Sir John Franklin—Red. Very good performer for the first year and looks like it will be an outstanding red.

Thor—Red. A little on the short stemmed side, but a good red.

Walter Faxon—Pink. With me this has always been outstanding. I have taken four Grand Championships with this at our local shows. I have *Mrs. Livingston Farrand* that has bloomed for the first time this year and if it does as good as *Walter Faxon*, I will be well satisfied with it. Time will tell.

W. L. Gumm—White. I would class this along with the best of the whites, but it is inclined to be short stemmed with me.

As you undoubtedly know our season here this year was very late, my first peony opening on the 16th of June, and I picked the last blooms on the 12th of July. At our local show this year, *Elsa Sass* was the Grand Champion, I being the exhibitor, with R. W. Jones of St. Paul as judge. Other firsts in their classes were, *Geo. W. Peyton*, *Jeannot*, *Philippe Rivoire*, *Kelway's Queen*, *Nick Shaylor*, *Minuet* and *Walter Faxon*.



Ernest Flint Kelsey — In Memoriam

On August 8th, 1946, one of our most cherished friends, Ernest Flint Kelsey, was laid to rest. Another article in this issue will record his life's activities so we will not touch upon that feature. It is to be regretted that the report of his passing was received after the June Bulletin had gone to press and was partly printed, making it impossible to get this article prepared and presented in bulletin No. 102.

It would be impossible for me to express in a few words the high esteem and affection I held for Mr. Kelsey. He was a gifted writer; a profound thinker; an indulgent student of nature; a fond lover of peonies as well as an outstanding originator and judge of his chosen flower; a most gracious and affable host, and above all an affectionate and devoted husband and father and a devout Christian gentleman. These are but a few of the many splendid attributes he possessed. I will always consider it a grand privilege to have known Mr. Kelsey intimately and will always cherish the happy hours we spent together talking over peonies. When I was short of material for the bulletin, which is frequently the case, I could always depend upon my friend Kelsey for a contribution, and you, who have been privileged to read his articles, know how well they were written and what food for thought they possessed. He was gifted with a keen sense of humor that frequently made itself manifest.

This past June it was my great privilege to go through his garden with him when it was in its full glory to view the many fine creations his hands and skill have wrought. Some were new to me while many of them were old friends, as they have been growing in my garden for some years past, having been sent me with the compliments of the originator. He wrote me some time before his death that he wanted me to have one of every seedling he had named and was to send them to me this fall. He was unable

to complete this task but fate has decreed that I may have this privilege in years ahead, if I am permitted to remain on this earth, for one half of the entire contents of his peony garden were transported back to Illinois under my direction, and it has been my task to get them prepared and planted in a new environment where they will have my careful supervision and attention, as well as study and appraisal, getting them ready for dissemination among peony lovers throughout the land. This will keep his memory very close to me and it will be my pleasure to report from time to time on the best of his originations. Many have not seen the light of other gardens and I am sure will delight, as well as greatly add to the value of any planting where they may be placed.

It is to be deeply regretted that Mr. Kelsey was not permitted to live a few more years to share the honors that are to come to some of his creations. His success can be attested by peony fanciers throughout the country who have seen his *Marilla Beauty*, *Laura Kelsey*, *To Kalon*, *Mothers Day*, *E. F. Kelsey*, *Ruth Clay* and scores of others. In closing this brief tribute, let me present Mr. James Metcalfe's lovely poem entitled Success, which I think conveys a true impression of what success really is, and was the kind Mr. Kelsey merited and possessed.

Success is measured not by wealth, or everlasting fame,
 Or by the winning score we make in any single game.
 It is not gathered up at will, or fashioned overnight,
 And it can never be retained without a constant fight.
 Success is slowly harvested, by energy and toil;
 And it can only come to life, if there is fertile soil.
 It is the house where glory lives and perseverance knocks,
 And faith and courage are the keys, that turn the master locks.
 It is the real and rich reward, that waits from year to year,
 For those whose hearts are honest and whose efforts are sincere.

SECRETARY.

✻ ✻ ✻

Ernest Flint Kelsey

October 1, 1870 — August 7, 1946

GEORGE W. PEYTON, Rapidan, Virginia

When in the early evening of August 7, the long distance operator summoned me to the phone and announced "Buffalo calling" followed immediately by the voice of Miss Laura Kelsey telling me of her father's death that day, the full realization of the fact that our very good friend had gone to his last home, came with a stunning shock. A very severe attack of pneumonia last winter had left him in bad physical condition and he never fully regained his health.

Miss Kelsey sent me a brief sketch of his life and the main facts are here given substantially as she wrote them.

Ernest Flint Kelsey, a loyal member of the American Peony Society, was born October 1, 1870, on the rolling prairies near Ottawa, Kansas. His parents, Kathalo and Agnes Flint Kelsey, had left their home in Great Valley, New York, and their school-teaching posts to pioneer during the era of the covered wagon. After five years of this life during which they lost from fever one of their four children, they sold their home and again came East settling first in Great Valley and then in Salamanca, New York.

From one of his many note books comes this comment: "Mother always introduced me as her Kansas Boy. I recall that once, just as she was giving me a sound lacing in the woodshed, company arrived. She grabbed up the folds of her big blue apron, swabbed off the tears, yanked me into the living room and said in her most dulcet voice 'This is my Kansas Boy.' I thought but did not say it, 'I wish you had left me there'."

He first attended school in the old Crawford School House in West Salamanca where he played leap frog over the grave stones of the cemetery in which it stood. He then went to a larger grade school and graduated from the Salamanca High School in 1889 with the highest honors of his class, making the valedictory address.

During his high school years in his freetime he ran the chain for his father on surveying trips and even did some on his own. He made maps of Salamanca and its environs which were sold. For a time he worked in a kindling factory in Blasdell and then in a laundry where he collected and delivered laundry and bills, made soap, fired the boiler, oiled the machinery and collected driftwood for the fires from the river, frequently taking an involuntary bath in the icy waters. His father found him one day with his clothes frozen from such a bath and made him quit his job. He then helped his father, going on long surveying trips for the Stone Estate in what is now a part of the Allegheny State Park. The scenic road to this park follows the grade surveyed by them for the log road to Patterson Brothers' saw mill where he also knew the rough and hardy life of the lumber camp. Bark peeling was another job during school years the notes reveal. Shortly after graduating from High School he went to Buffalo and studied at Slocum's Shorthand School. In 1893 he entered the employ of the William Hangerer Company, then Barnes and Bancroft, as a stenographer advancing through the years until he was made superintendent which position he held for many years until he became president of the Eleto Company of Buffalo. He retired from business in 1931 and settled down to raising peonies on his farm near Marilla, New York.

Throughout the hectic years of his business life he always found time for church activities in which he was intensely interested. During the early years of his life in Buffalo he was a member of the Niagara Square Congregational Church commonly known as the People's Church. Here he taught a class of boys, was treasurer of the Sunday School, president of the Christian Endeavor Society, ultimately becoming a deacon and the teacher of the Bancroft Class of Young Men and Women which steadily grew in numbers and interest. When the Niagara Square Church was disbanded this class was transferred to the Plymouth Methodist Church and is now after 36 years one of the most outstanding and active classes in Buffalo. He also edited the Church paper called "On the Square." Together with other young men of the Niagara Church he often held religious street meetings, some of the first ever held in Buffalo.

In 1907 he moved to the Riverside Section of Buffalo and joined the Ontario Street United Presbyterian Church. Here he served as ruling elder and taught the Baraca Class of men at one time numbering over four hundred, one of the largest in the country then. He edited the Baraca News at this time. Sunday afternoons he taught a class of young women very appropriately named the Lydians, the section being the Riverside (See Acts 16). He also helped with the Billy Sunday and Aldrich revival meetings each time they came to Buffalo. When he moved to Tri-Terrace

permanently he transferred his membership to the Williston United Brethren Church. Here he taught a class of men, was elected a trustee, class leader and steward and took an active part in all church and community affairs. His election as Justice of the Peace for the Town of Marilla occurred at this time, an office he held until his death.

While connected with the William Hengerer Co. he edited their first paper, "Facts," and without any previous experience assembled and published the store's first mail order catalogue. He also taught the first class in Esperanto, the universal language, ever held in Buffalo.

In addition to these major activities he was always in much demand as a speaker for garden clubs, churches and numerous other organizations. His fertile mind produced countless articles and poems, many of which have appeared in the columns of the American Peony Society Bulletin. In 1941 Field and Co. of New York published a volume of his poems entitled "Jeb Harris and Other Poems."

He was a charter member of the Buffalo Poetry Society, a Mason, a member of the Sons of the Revolution and of the American Peony Society.

In 1893 he met, at church, Miss Grace Pratt and they were married in 1896 on his birthday. They had made plans to celebrate their fiftieth anniversary this past October 1.

The funeral services were held in Buffalo on August 9 and were conducted by Rev. C. N. Warner of Jamestown and Rev. Leo McGaughy of Williston. Interment was in Elm Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo. He is survived by his wife and three children, Laura G. Kelsey of Buffalo, Stillman Pratt Kelsey of Washington, D. C. and Mrs. Claude N. Barrow of Buffalo. There are also several grandchildren. A son, Ernest Flint Kelsey, Jr., died at the age of fourteen in 1919.

In the above account we have purposely left out most of his activities in connection with the peony. These will be more fully gone into in a future bulletin. Suffice it to say now that all peony lovers know him well for his many delightful articles and poems published in the Bulletin. His control of language was noteworthy and he could drive home his points as well as pour oil on troubled waters with telling effect. His keen sense of humor was a joy to us all. We shall all sorely miss him. However far more effectively his memory will be preserved in our gardens by his outstanding originations of which *Marilla Beauty*, *Laura Kelsey*, *Ernest F. Kelsey*, *To Kalon*, *Mother's Day* and *The Fleece* are only a few of the best.

Just before his death he sold his entire planting with a few reservations to Gilbert H. Wild and Son of Sarcoxie, Missouri, and The Mission Gardens of Techny, Illinois. They have already dug and divided the stock fifty-fifty and soon we shall have the privilege of adding them again to our gardens.

Personally I may say that the death of Mr. Kelsey leaves a void in my life that can hardly be filled. His many letters have been a source of pleasure and profit hard to evaluate. It has also been my privilege to have been a guest in his house twice. No one could come into contact with Mr. Kelsey either through correspondence or in person without being helped along life's road and his pathway made brighter and the burdens easier to bear. His wise counsel, ready sympathy and above all his loving friendship will be cherished memories as long as I live.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to his beloved wife and family, but their sorrow may be tempered by knowing that his light was never hid under a

bushel, but always shone brightly from the hill top and they may be sure that the final verdict on his life will be: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter thou into the Joy of thy Lord."

The following lines written just a few days before his death aptly depict his faith, his hope and his dependence:

HOLD ME FAST

Hold me fast, Lord, hold me fast.
This weary mile may be my last.
The valley's dark and very drear
O may I feel your Presence near
Until the shadows deep have passed,
Hold me fast, Lord, hold me fast.

Hold me fast, Lord, hold me fast
Until this fevered life is passed,
Until that day of perfect rest,
Oh let me lean upon your breast.
The tide of time not long will last,
Hold me fast, Lord, hold me fast.

Hold me fast, Lord, hold me fast.
I need you to the very last.
I have no other friend like Thee
To mark the path I dimly see.
The tide of life is ebbing fast,
Hold me fast, Lord, hold me fast.

By Ernest F. Kelsey, August, 1946.

* * * * *

SPECIAL NOTICE

The Annual Show and Meeting of the American Peony Society will be held in Boston, Mass. this coming June, definite dates to be announced in the next issue of the bulletin. Try and be present and bring your best blooms for display. We want to make this an outstanding event.

Secretary's Notes

IN OCTOBER

A glimpse of sunshine filters through the trees,
 Enchanting light, accenting gold and red
 Of oak and maple. A faintly muffled breeze
 Forewarns, in trembling tones, of winter's dead.
 But we have known this phantasy before—
 These Jovian giants in their final fling!
 We'll watch them slowly lose the leaves they bore
 And, yearning, we shall wait another spring.

* * * *

It was our full intention to have a bulletin in your hands before this but circumstances beyond our control made this impossible. We have been obliged to get new linotype-operators to set up our bulletin and had to combine the September and December issues.

I am quite certain that most of our membership do not realize the amount of work that goes into an issue of the bulletin or they would not ask to have it a monthly publication. We are pleased to have it a quarterly, which is not always the case.

✕

✕

✕

As I write these notes, planting activities of peonies is in full swing in this section and I feel that I have done my share of this work, having divided many thousand to date and still more thousands to go. I do feel that we will be able to show visitors one of the finest peony gardens in the country when we complete our task. We will have more to tell you on this subject after another blooming season.

✕

✕

✕

Much has been accomplished during the past few years in producing new peonies of merit and interest in the growing of this fine perennial is growing most surprisingly. This is evidenced by the number of new members we have been adding to our list.

In our Department of Registration will be found some new ones that will be seen on our show tables in the near future.

✕

✕

✕

A matter has been brought to my attention that should make most interesting and valuable discussion material. Some three years ago a large planting of peonies was made, and as some nematode infestation was apparent, the entire lot of plants were given the hot water treatment, consisting of placing the roots in water heated to a 120 degree temperature for a period of thirty minutes. Agitation of the water was carefully watched as well as the temperature to see that it maintained an even degree. The following Spring the plants so treated came through practically 100% and produced fine, disease free stock. Last year exactly the same methods were employed, the work being carefully and thoroughly executed by the same party, with very distressing results. Our impression is that the first treatment of the roots was made after a dry season of growth, there having

been but a few rains during the growing season, and doubtless the growth of the plants made them less able to withstand the hot water treatment. As both experiments were made by the same party with identical thermometer and other apparatus, it is manifestly evident that the growing season of the plants have a great deal to do with their ability to withstand this treatment without damage.

We will welcome expressions from our members on this point. Have any of you experienced similar results? We have found this hot water treatment absolutely beneficial and very gratifying in the elimination of nematode infestation. How can we be assured that the treatment will not injure our stock? What infallible guide can be used to insure success at any time? There must be some way of determining when and when not to treat with hot water; who can answer this \$64.00 question?

A solution to this problem will prove of great value to our members and to the peony loving public as well. The questions I have propounded are vital and it would be a source of great satisfaction to me to have them correctly answered. Even theories might be evolved that would eventually lead to a clarification of these debated questions.

✕

✕

✕

The tree peony is fast becoming more popular where it can be grown without too much trouble. The rather slow growth of this fine peony class, making slow propagation, will keep the price rather high until such time as it is possible with some new method, to speed up production.

I believe the first report on tree peony bloom is to be found in this issue. Mr. Smirnow's trip to Swathmore College last Spring made this possible. He also reports on his own peonies in a most interesting fashion. It is unfortunate that I do not have at my disposal the English translation or meaning of all these tree peony names. Most of them can be found in bulletin No. 95.

✕

✕

✕

The problem of nematode infestation is one that has been of considerable interest to peony growers for some years and from recent reports the matter has been given considerable investigation, and from reports that have been verified by wide experiments in several parts of the country where this pest has been prevalent in vast numbers, bears out the fact that a remedy has been perfected that will solve this problem, as far as the nematode worm is concerned. We will have more about this in the forthcoming bulletin. Space will not permit presenting it in this issue.

✕

✕

✕

Before another issue of the Bulletin the Christmas season will have passed and we will be entering a new year. I want to extend my personal greetings to all members of the Peony Society and trust the coming year will bring out several new and outstanding peony creations. The Board of Directors also express Season's Greetings and best wishes for the coming year.

✕

✕

✕

We urge you all to make preparations to attend the Boston Show this coming June. We want to make this exhibition an outstanding one. Schedule will appear in the March number of the bulletin.

✕

✕

✕

I hope this issue will meet with your approval. We have tried to make it an interesting and worthwhile number. Send in your articles and see how nice they will look in print. We will surely appreciate being swamped

with articles to present to our membership. We must state frankly that we have never experienced this sensation and we are fully convinced that there are scores of members who could supply us with splendid articles that would be of great value.

✕

✕

✕

I wish it were possible for me to write a personal letter to each one of you at this Christmas season expressing my best wishes for your kind co-operation, but we will have to use this means of communicating my thoughts at this season, and assure you that it will be my one purpose to serve you to the very best of my ability. Many years have passed and much has been accomplished since I took over the office of Secretary, but as I look back, the years have seemed very short indeed.

I trust that the coming year will be very kind to you and prove to be one of the best you have ever experienced.

Very sincerely,

H. F. Christman

✕

✕

✕

List of Medal Winners

AT THE JUNE 15th-16th, 1946 PEONY EXHIBITION
HELD AT ROCKFORD, ILL.

Gold Medal—Awarded R. A. Napier, Blue Island, Ill., best exhibit Class A, Rockford, Ill., 6-15-46.

Gold Medal—Awarded Lyman Glasscock for his excellent work with hybrids, as typified by his origination *Golden Glow*.

Gold Medal—Awarded A. M. Brand for the variety *Hansina Brand* for its consistent winning at many shows.

Silver Medal—Awarded M. C. Karrels for best entry in Class B, Rockford, Ill., 6-15-46.

B. H. Farr Medal—Awarded A. L. Volz, Milwaukee, Wis., best Chinensis flower in the show. Variety *Hansina Brand*. Rockford 6-15-46.

B. H. Farr Medal—Awarded M. C. Karrels, Milwaukee, Wis. Best hybrid in the show. Variety, *Illini Belle*, Rockford 6-15-46.

James Boyd Memorial Medal offered by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society awarded to R. A. Napier, Blue Island, Ill., for highest number of points. Rockford, Ill., 6-15-46.

Honorable Mention Certificate. Awarded G. J. Boehland for No. 69-S, a very large, rose-pink Jap.

First Class Certificates to the following: Rockford, Ill., June 15, '46.

H. C. Cooper, Portland, Oregon for No. 103, *Pink O' Daren*, Class 95.

R. H. Jones, Peru, Ind., for No. 51, *Tuckdara*, Class No. 95.

John M. Johnson, Liberty, Indiana, for *Mattie Lafuze*, Class 96.

R. H. Jones, Peru, Ind. for variety *Red Cloud*, Class 96.

R. H. Jones, Peru, Ind., for variety *Sagamor*, Class 96.

American Home Achievement Medal for the most worthy new peony awarded H. C. Cooper, Portland, Ore., for No. 35, *Doris Cooper*.

Full descriptions of the varieties receiving special awards will be found in report of the Rockford Show, page 27 of bulletin 102.

At the Minnesota Peony & Iris Society show held in Minneapolis June 25, 26, 1946. Mr. G. H. Greaves of St. Paul, Minn., was awarded the Silver Medal of the American Peony Society for the best exhibit in Class 100-B calling for five varieties, one bloom each.

Department of Registration

Dr. H. C. Cooper, 206 N. E. 31 Avenue, Portland, 15, Oregon, has sent in the following list of his originations for registration:

Fannie Heath (Cooper, 1946). Seedling No. 1. D. M. W. White with flesh tints when fully open.

Ruth Gallagher (Cooper, 1946) Seedling No. 10. D. - W. Seedling No. 10, Tall, cream colored bomb type.

Doris Cooper (Cooper, 1946). Seedling No. 35. D. L. P. Pink. Very tall robust plant.

Jean Cooper (Cooper, 1946). Seedling No. 102. D. - W. Cream center, large white collar. Very fragrant.

Pink O' Dawn (Cooper, 1946). Seedling No. 103. D. L. F. Tinted pink. Very tall robust plant.

The above descriptions are very incomplete. May we hope for better at some later date.

Mr. Lyman D. Glasscock of Route 2, Elwood, Illinois, wishes to register the following variety:

Evelyn Claar (Glasscock, 1946). *Officinalis* x *sinensis*, No. 7 N. 68. Hybrid. D. E. Cerise. Large flower with two rows of creped guard petals and a bomb center. Stems stiff, medium height. Foliage large, pea green. No fragrance. Color and form make a very beautiful effect. (Named for Mrs. Elmer A. Claar).

Mr. Thomas C. Hawke, Box 126, South Dupont Road, Richardson Park, 166 Delaware, is registering the following variety:

Mary J. Hawke (Hawke, 1946). D. M. R. A medium dark red (several shades darker than Longfellow) flower with some stamens showing. It has a decided sheen. Tall, from 48 to 50 inches. Leaves dark green starting near the ground. Stems are erect, stiff and strong. No fragrance. Strong grower and free bloomer.

Mr. Lyman D. Glasscock, R. F. D., Elwood, Ill., submits the following for registration, all officinalas x albiflora hybrids.

Commando (Glasscock 1944) Double, early red seedling No. 1 M 19. Double, dark red, tall plant, good stems.

Convoy (Glasscock 1944) Double, early red seedling No. 33 V 1. Double, bright red. Holds color and lasts long on the plant. Tall, stiff stems.

Eventide (Glasscock 1945) Single, early pink Seedling No. 31-V1. Albiflora x Sunbeam. Single, deep coral pink, cup shaped, tall.

Red Charm (Glasscock 1944) Double, early red. Seedling No. 12-K 17. Double, bomb shaped, rich red. Large bloom with tall, stiff stems. (This was the variety that won a place in the Court of Honor at the Chicago Regional Show in 1943).

Mr. Glasscock also wishes to reserve the two following names for future use:

Sable (Glasscock 1943) Single, early red. Seedling A1A77, second generation Otto Frobel hybrid. This is a very remarkable, small, black single which is a second generation hybrid as stated above and was displayed at the Milwaukee, Wis., show in 1944. Much darker than any other so-called black peony.

Sparkles 14-K 30. A semi-double, scarlet red with incurved petals and stamens attached to their edges. Carpels stay hidden until the petals fall. Stems are stiff, upright and of medium height..

Mr. G. E. Winchell, 1002 South E. Street, Oskaloosa, Iowa, registers the following described peony.

Eleanor (Winchell 1946) No. 16-C. Large, fully double bomb type, deep old rose pink color with unusually large petals; strong stems and plenty of dark green foliage. Very attractive and fragrant flower blooming midseason. Shown at Rockford, Ill., last June.



List of New Members

Alexander, Mrs. T. E., Rt. 5, Sedalia, Mo.
 Auger, Geo. F., Campbell Greenhouse & Nursery, Simcoe, Ontario, Canada.
 Asbury Brothers, R. R. 2, Waynesville, Ohio.
 Bagley, Mrs. Glenn A., 8423 Island Drive, Seattle, 8, Wash.
 Belk, Cecil Blackmore, 101 Brook Street, Aylomer, Quebec, Canada.
 Bolles, S. D., 1101 Main, McCook, Neb.
 Borne, L. E., c/o Probate Court, 330 Court House, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Chapley, Miss Mary, 955 West Coal Street, Shenandoah, Pa.
 Cook, Franklin, M.D., 636 Church Street, Evanston, Ill.
 Cottrelle, G. R., 241 Warren Road, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.
 Cousins, L. W., 472 Tecumseh Ave., London, Ontario, Canada.
 Croy, Wallace W., 1483 Marine Drive, Bellingham, Wash.
 Diamond, Mrs. C. E., 2121 C. St., Lincoln, Neb.
 Erb, Wm., Half Hollow Road, R.F.D., 4, Box 205 Huntington, L. I., N.Y.
 Fulton, D. Franklin, R.R. 1, Columbia, Tenn.
 Genzmer Frederic C., 36 Caldera Place, Randall Manor, Staten Island, N.Y.
 Gibson, M. E., Flora, Indiana.
 Grootendorst, F. J. & Son, Nurserymen, Boskoop, Holland.
 Hager, Edward T., Rt. 3, Lancaster, Pa.
 Hoffman, Mrs. Chas. A., 951 Wagner Ave., Greenville, Ohio.
 Johnson, Mrs. B. C., 2111 W. Linden Ave., Nashville, 5, Tenn.
 Kaniecki, Edw., 7511 Park Ave., Cleveland, 5, Ohio.
 Kennedy, Blaine, 6551 Windemere Road, Seattle, Wash.
 Kuechler, G. N., 5100 San Francisco Ave., St. Louis, 15, Mo.
 Klosowski, Joseph, 1032 W. Maple Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.
 Kueker, W. H., Tripoli, Iowa.
 Mimura, Luke S., 7 Hamilton St., Bound Brook, N. J.
 Monroe Peony Farm, Monroe, N. Y.
 Nielsen, Jules P., Hotel Wellington, 7th Ave., at 55th St., New York, 19, N.Y.
 Richard, C. W., 9301 Northlawn, Detroit, 4, Mich.
 Roberts, Miss Minnie B., 42-53 Ketcham St., Elmhurst, N. Y.
 Schaefer, John W., 1711 Water St., Olympia, Wash.
 Shuwall, E. & E Co., 80 Main St., White Plains, N. Y.
 Smith, J. E., 541 N. 7th St., Secretary American Oriental Poppy Society, DeKalb, Ill.
 Sullivan, F. W. Jr., 6 Hickory Road, Summit, N. J.
 Taylor, Mrs. F. C., 1875 St. Joseph, Dubuque, Iowa.
 Swanson, Mrs. A. E., 2214 Greenwood, Wilmette, Ill.
 Ward, Mrs. W. M., Rt. 3, Clinton, N. Y.
 Weich, John 9319 Northlawn, Detroit, 4, Mich.
 Whitaker, Mrs. R. O., 199 N. Main St., London, Ohio.

White Cloud Farm, Carthage, Mo.

White, J. E., R.F.D. 1, Box 108, Barbeton, Ohio.

Wisner, Victor, Elberon, N.J.

Wissing, Samuel E., 93 S. Lombard Ave., White Cloud Farm, Carthage, Mo.



Changes in Address

Capitol Iris Gardens, 3823 N. 19th Street, Milwaukee, Wis., change to Box 221, Butler, Wis.

Walter J. Guille, Inc., 42 E. Marie Street, Hicksville, L. I., N.Y., change to Cold Spring Harbor Road, Syosset, L. I., N. Y.

W. W. Grimmer, 549 S. Illinois, Villa Park, Ill., to 154 Poplar Ave., Elmhurst, Ill.

Earl A. Hall, 3520 N. Grant Ave., Indianapolis, Ind., change to Earl A. Holl, 3520 N. Grant Ave., Indianapolis, 1, Ind. Name listed wrong and Zone Number not shown.

John W. Mundt, Clear Lake, Iowa, change to Monro, Wash.

Clair J. Norris, 5049 Main Street, Williamsville, N. Y., change to 3356 Ormond Road, Cleveland Heights, 18, Ohio.

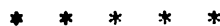
Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, 601 - 1600 Arch Street, Philadelphia, 3, Pa., change to 389 Broad Street Station Bldg., 1617 Pennsylvania Blvd., Philadelphia, 3, Pa.

Mr. C. F. Wood correct address 7 Dale Ave., Toronto, Ontario.

Editor's Note: We will greatly appreciate it if you will write to us at once if your name is spelled wrong or there is an error in your address. We want these to be correct and in many instances members fail to advise us when they change their address and bulletins are returned. As bulletins are second class matter they are not forwarded by the post office and this may account for your failure to receive them.

Leonard C. Coleman should be Leonard H. Coleman.

Mrs. C. M. Runembauer should be Mrs. C. M. Rubenbauer.



THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

The American Iris Society, since its organization in 1920, has published 23 Bulletins which cover every phase of iris growing. These bulletins go four times each year to all members, who may also purchase any back numbers in stock for 50c a copy. Because the bulletins are not for sale except to members a

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER of SIX for ONE DOLLAR is made to non-members. The six are our selection from surplus stock.

THE ALPHABETICAL IRIS CHECK LIST, edited by Ethel Anson S. Peckham and published in 1940, is an invaluable reference book for all who grow irises or wish to know about irises. The book lists about nineteen thousand names of irises (including synonyms and mis-spellings) and contains as nearly as is humanly possible all the old species and varieties as well as the new ones, with added information about obsolete varieties, species, section, season, color and fragrance. There is a long list of names of breeders, introducers, dealers and authors, with brief biographical details. The binding is durable, water-proof cloth, and in spite of its 582 pages the book is of a size comfortable for holding and carrying. The price to A.I.S. members is \$3.00, to non-members \$4.00.

Orders should be addressed to the office of the Secretary, 821 Washington Loan & Trust Building, Washington, D. C., and checks made payable to the American Iris Society.

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

Descriptive price list of forty-five Franklin Peony Originations sent on request. Includes those of 1941.

Franklin Nursery
Minneapolis, Minn.



1600 VARIETIES OF
PEONIES, IRISES,
POPPIES and
HEMEROCALLIS
Catalog Free
G. F. WASSENBURG
Van Wert, Ohio

River Drive Peony Garden

Prices Reasonable
Send for price list
Growers and originators of the
world's finest Peonies and Iris.

RIVER GROVE, ILL.

Peony Manuals Disposed Of

Peony Manual supply exhausted. No more for sale until a new issue can be prepared. We hope to have a new manual ready some time late this year, if conditions warrant. You will be kept informed through the bulletin.

Brand Peony Farms

Are Offering
For the Year 1947

Their usual fine assortment of first class Peonies, Irises, and French Lilacs on their own roots.

FRENCH LILACS

Are now one of our main specialties. We propagate these so that they come to our customers 100% on their own roots. There is no finer stock in the entire world.

FLOWERING CRABS

We are also working up an entirely new, absolutely hardy line of flowering crabs.

During the last 13 years the following Brand Peonies have been awarded Best flower in the National Show.

1933 Chicago	Hansina Brand
1934 Minneapolis	Hansina Brand
1940 Rochester	Martha Bulloch
1941 Syracuse	Blanche King
1943 Minneapolis	Mrs. A. M. Brand

Our Latest Catalog, the most beautiful we have ever sent out in color, is free.

BRAND PEONY FARMS
Faribault, Minn.

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.

GOOD, BETTER and BEST PEONIES

Write for list

J. W. BERNSTEIN
1439 S. 28th St., Lincoln 2, Neb.

TREE PEONIES

FINEST NAMED VARIETIES

—ALSO—

HERBACEOUS PEONIES

OBERLIN PEONY GARDENS
P. O. Box 115 Sinking Springs, Pa.

"BIGGER"

HOLIDAY GREETINGS
to all from

MYRON D. BIGGER
R. R. 4, TOPEKA, KANS.

The Cottage Gardens

Lansing, Michigan

TREE PEONIES

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