

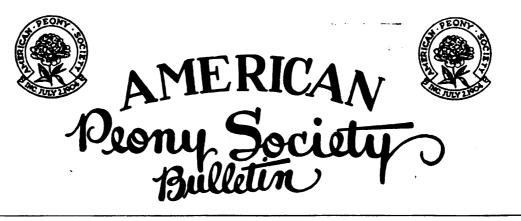
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AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY
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CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP
Membership in the Society is open to both professional and amateur growers. Nomination is not necessary for those de- siring admission, but a list 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 Amer- ican 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.

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#### MARCH, 1948

## Society News

The Membership Campaign is gaining momentum—our Committee members are busy. I want to again appeal to the membership to get into the new membership contest as the qualifying total is only three new memberships. We have a very fine list of new varieties to give as awards. They are listed, together with the donors, elsewhere in this issue of the Bulletin.

It was my pleasure to attend the annual banquet and meeting of the Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, Garden Club, January 7, 1948. The meeting was devoted to a discussion of peonies. I have had occasion to speak to various garden clubs in the past, but this group of gardeners certainly made it a lively and enjoyable evening for me. Their questions showed a wide knowledge of peonies and it was very gratifying to me and bodes well for the future of the peony in the gardens of these club members.

Mr. W. T. Coe, one of our enthusiastic members of Minneapolis, Minnesota, has just returned from an extended vacation in California where he went to recover from an illness. I am sure the membership joins me in wishing him a complete recovery and we all hope to again have a report from his pen of his peony garden.

Professor James Webb has written me a fine letter accepting the appointment to our judges panel for the Essay Contest. Prof. Webb says, "Minnesota is full of peony fans and it is no trouble at all to get a dinner group together to discuss peonies." How I envy him those meetings—and what a fine suggestion that is to peony fans. I hope the Professor will favor us with a report of one of these meetings.

January 11th, henceforth, will be a wedding anniversary date in the Myron Bigger home. Myron, I am sure I can vouch for the good wishes to you both from the entire membership.

What do you consider the most interesting type of article in our Bulletin? My own preference leans to those discussing peony varieties and opinions thereof. Reports and discussion of the new ones are most interesting, but accounts of the behavior of the older ones are also of widespread interest. Most home gardeners who are building peony collections want a nucleus of the older tried and true varieties. They are intrigued by the new novelties and will generally add one or two of them from year to year. At my own Garden Club and others I have attended, I have often been asked the question—"What are the 25 best double peonies in all colors in the moderate price class to plant as the basis of a good collection?" I always explain that there are over 2.000 peonies in commerce and that no one could grow them all, so any recommenda-

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tion would, of course, have to be limited to those one grew himself and had experience with. A limited list of 25 would, of course, exclude many fine varieties. The following list of 25 has been my recommendation for local gardens:

#### DOUBLES

White	Elizabeth Huntington	Mrs. F. D. Roosevel:
Le Cygne	Light Pink	Martha Bulloch
Elsa Sass	Minuet	Mons. Jules Elie
Mrs. J. V. Edlund	Myrtle Gentry	Sarah Bernhardt
Kelways Glorious	Hansina Brand	Red
A. B. Franklin	Nick Shaylor	Philippe Rivoire
Flesh	Cornelia Shaylor or	Tempest
Solange	Reine Hortense	Mary Brand
Alice Harding	Medium or Dark Pink	Matilda Lewis
ludge Snook	Blanche King	Richard Carvel
Mrs. J. H. Neeley		

The next question, invariably, is-"What are the 12 best Japanese type and six best singles, also in the moderate price range?"

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	JAPS	
White	Pink	Red
Isani Gidui	Ama-No-Sode	Nippon Beauty
White Gold	Kukeni Jishi	Nippon Brilliant
Toro-No-Maki	Largo	Charm
Yellow King	Akashigata	Hari-Ai-Nin
	SINGLES	

Le Jour	Angelus	Pres. Lincoln
White Perfection	Arcturus	Imperial Red
Helen		• • • •

All Gardeners and peony fans, in common with the rest of humanity, are always interested in something new. I have never attended a garden club meeting where peonies were under discussion that somebody didn't ask the question-"What's new in peonies?" This offered a most interesting basis for discussion. The question immediately arises, "How long must a peony be on the market before it ceases to be new?" Peonies are notoriously slow propagators, so I feel varieties that have been introduced even 12 to 15 years ago are still new. Originators and introducers are sometimes prone to exaggerate the fine qualities of their own children, so gardeners and collectors have learned to be cautious in paying \$10 to \$25 for one root. By the same token I feel that an originator who has really produced a fine, new variety should spare no laudatory adjectives in describing his new introduction. It represents years of painstaking and hard work to put a new peony on the market. New varieties of peonies are not produced as readily, or as rapidly, as new iris, glads or dahlias. So, if ever a new floral variety earned the right to bring \$20 or \$25 when it is introduced, it is the peony.

As I mentioned before, gardeners, collectors and growers are cautious in laying \$20 on the line for a new peony. They like to see the flower or observe the plant if possible. Unless they live near the originator's garden this is often impossible, so they must rely on unbiased opinion. This is where reports from the Society members are of value and of interest. I feel it is the duty of us who grow this new "stuff" to get in an article at the end of each blooming season, even if it deals with only one new variety. We are a peony society and peonies are our hobby, so we all are itching to read about those we don't grow or haven't seen. Our own experiences and opinions often are of greater interest and carry more weight with the rest of the membership than what the introducer says in his advertisement. I, personally, have felt hesitant about depreciating a variety for fear I might not have planted it correctly or in an unfavorable spot, or possibly my stock was from a weakened strain, or it contracted some disease in my own garden. If all possibilities, not the fault of the plant, are ruled out, it is of equal value and interest to the membership to hear of your opinion that a variety is not what it is cracked up to be.

I grow over 300 varieties and each year I make notes of a number of them relative to plant growth, quality of bloom, color, etc. The following comments are on some of the newer introductions, or at least new in my garden. I have selected only those that showed well.

Doloradell The finest of my new varieties. Stems as good as Alice Harding with foliage low down. Clear, medium pink—large bloom of fine form full double. Every flower opened perfectly. My rating--9.3.

Tondelyo Brilliant, dark pink. The color is very outstanding. The plant is not as good as *Doloradell*, but adequate. The flower is of good form—full double. Each bud opened perfectly. *Tondelyo* has a lot of appeal and will be sought after in the future. I would rate it 9.2.

Romona Lins A tint of tan diffused throughout the bloom. Very fine form—full double. A topnotch peony. The stems are average and of medium height. It should warrant a rating of 9.1.

Mandaleen Light pink—full double—sweet fragrance—every division produces a very fine plant. A strong growing peony with a fine flower. My rating—9.1.

Ruth Elizabeth My best red in 1947. Clear, lively dark red—not dull in color. Fine form for a red, but medium in size. Stems—slender but strong. A very fine red peony. My rating—9.0.

Kansas Light red but distinctly no pink. Very good form-medium size with a few hidden stamens. Tall plant-strong stems-a vigorous grower. My rating-9.0.

Marilla Beauty A white with a tint of pink throughout. A large informal bloom of much charm. Medium tall plant with average stems. The first three years the buds did not open well, but the fourth season the buds all opened perfectly and of breath-taking beauty. My rating—9.0.

Mary E. Nicholls A very beautiful, well-formed medium-to-large white. A white of real top quality. The plant is rather of low growth but very strong an exhibition quality bloom. My rating—9.4.

Laura Kelsey Blush—very large flower of exhibition quality. Very strong, thick stems—tall. I would prefer this to Marilla Beauty if I had to make a choice, but both are extra fine peonies. I would rate this 9.3

*Moonglow* This has all the earmarks of an improved *Elsa Sass*, especially so in plant growth. I would hesitate to say it is better than *Elsa Sass*, but would say it is its equal. A very strong, heavy stemmed, medium-to-tall plant with an exhibition quality bloom. My rating—9.4.

Yosemite 'This is another top quality white, tall, heavy stemmed, strong growing plant. Full double—well formed—bloom of large size, with a yellow sheen. Fragrant—very late. In its third and fourth season it bloomed magnificently, every bud opened. My rating—9.2. *Miss America* This, in my estimation, is the finest semi-double I have ever seen. It is superior to *Minnie Shaylor*. The carpels are green instead of red and well hidden. The bloom is very large and perfectly symmetrical. The bud tinted pink and opens up pearly-white with a greenish glow in the depths. The substance is extra good. It is very early. The plant is tall and strong stemmed. My rating-9.3.

Ave Maria A sister seedling of Miss America, both being originations of Julius Van Steen. This appears to be a glorified Avalanche. It comes into bloom later than Miss America, but like it, tall and strong stemmed. Both of these are good propagators and grow vigorously from small divisions. I would rate it 9.0.

White Gold A white Jap with thread-like, pale yellow stamenodes. No feathering in three seasons of bloom. A vigorous, floriferous plant. The guards are creamy, wax-like white of good size. I liked it better than *Isani Gidui*. It is definitely a better plant than *Isani*. My rating—9.0.

Sibelius -Strong, vigorous, translucent pink—much on the order of Myrtle Gentry—with equal fragrance, but it is not any better, if as good, but none-theless, a very desirable peony. A day or two earlier than Myrtle Gentry in blooming season. My rating—9.0.

Dignity This red Jap has a lot of quality, both plant and bloom are outstanding. The guards are clear, dark red of a very pure color. The center is filled with bright gold stamenodes. My rating-9.2.

Victory As a two-year old it sent up 8 strong stems—everyone produced a fine, full double bloom. The flower is ivory with a slight pink tint in the center when first opening. It appears to be a vigorous grower with a high quality bloom. The substance of the flower also seems to be an outstanding trait. Being a two-year old I feel it requires at least another year before I would rate it, although some varieties produce as fine a bloom in two years as they ever will. If this is characteristic of Victory, it should add to its desirability.

I have notes on another 40 or 50 but must save some material for another issue. In closing I want to emphasize the Essay Contest. Get in your article at once. The contest is a challenge to our membership.

> Marvin C. Karrels, Pres. Milwaukee, Wis.

## **Problems of Peony Growers**

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A Cultural Paper on Peonies Containing Invaluable Information on Soil and Disease Problems

#### By F. F. WEINARD

Peony growers as a group have taken an active interest in the development of new and better varieties. At the same time a commendable effort has been made to avoid synonymy in nomenclature and to eliminate inferior varieties from commerce. Trial gardens, for example, have been established from time to time for the comparison of varieties, and the collective opinion of growers has been set down periodically in the rating lists published by the American Peony Society.

A recent effort along this line has resulted in the planting of a trial garden for the Japanese and single types of peonies only, at the University of Ill-

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inois, in cooperation with the American Peony Society. The preliminary check list being prepared will contain over 800 names. One or more specimens of over 400 varieties are now in the garden. Most of these plants are established, and considerable progress in the work of comparison is expected during the coming season.

#### SOIL FERTILITY

Aside from questions of variety, the commercial grower particularly is confronted with the problems of soil fertility maintenance and plant disease. At the University of Illinois a series of plots containing some 1200 peonies are being used for the study of problems of this nature. Observations made on these plots have served to bring out some of the points which the grower should have in mind. No doubt most commercial plantings of peonies are located on soils which are fertile, as field soils go. But with an intensive crop such as peonies, care in the preparation of the soil is likely to prove well worth while.

In the first place, if the soil is acid it should be limed. Your state agricultural experiment station will test any samples you may send in and recommend the amount of limestone required. Next, because of the length of time that the plants are in the ground, it is important to get as much organic matter into the soil beforehand, as possible. Under commercial conditions, this can be done most economically through the use of green manures. Soybeans, white sweet clover and alfalfa are three of the most useful green manure crops adaptable to conditions in the Cornbelt. Green manures should be plowed under two or three weeks before the time for planting peonies.

#### **APPLYING PHOSPHORUS**

In addition to manure or green manure, some phosphorus and potash should be applied. All of our cultivated soils are low in phosphorus, which is, moreover, particularly effective in stimulating root growth and flower production. The response of most crops to phosphorus is as a rule, more marked than the response to any other one element. Super-phosphate (acid phosphate) may be worked into the soil of the row before setting the plants, or broadcasted and worked in. A half ton per acre is not an excessive application, once in the rotation. The cost of super-phosphate is considerably less than for bone meal, while the absence of nitrogen in the former is probably not important.

The benefit from potash may be expected to be found in increased root growth, with some effect perhaps on stem strength. Even though clay soils contain considerable potash, the crop grown thereon may respond to applications of potash in a soluble form. Potatoes, a somewhat similar crop to the one we are considering, show increased yields with potash fertilizers. The effect is more noticeable in sandy soils, but it also holds true for loam soils which have been under cultivation for some time. Muriate of potash is efficient, and it is the cheapest source of potash on the market. Applied at the rate of 200 pounds per acre the cost is about \$5.00. Wood ashes equivalent in potash would cost five times as much. A high grade complete commercial fertilizer, drilled in between the rows at the rate of 500 pounds per acre, is the most convenient and effective treatment for established plantations. This should be done early in the spring.

#### FOLIAGE DISEASES

The diseases of peonies which affect the foliage primarily. are of much less consequence than those troubles which have their origin in the roots. The Botrytis blight, which appears early in the season, and the several leafspots which are prominent after the blooming period is over, can no doubt be controlled in part by cutting and burning the tops in the fall. Bordeaux spray. 4-4-50 or perhaps weaker, may sometimes be advisable, early in the season while the buds are still small.

Root-knot caused by nematodes is one of the most widely recognized and perhaps the most serious disease condition of peonies with which the grower has to contend. The problem of control is not a simple one, but with more careful methods in the selection and preparation of roots for planting, and with proper methods of crop rotation, practical control should be possible in the northern latitudes, where peonies are mostly grown. It must be borne in mind that although clean divisions may be obtained by careful trimming and superficial treatment with a disinfectant, or by hot water treatment, this will be of little avail if the roots are replanted in infested soil. At the same time, the disinfection of field soil is not practicable. The nematodes are likely to be present in the soil at depths of 18 inches or more. Methods of soil disinfection which have proved effective in shallow beds or benches, steam, hot water, or chemicals as the case may be, are less effective in the field and the cost is very high. On the other hand, the difficulties in the way of control by crop rotation alone are emphasized when we face the fact that the root-knot eelworm includes in its list of hosts more than 600 kinds of plants, among which are most of our common field and garden crops. The comparatively few varieties which are more or less resistant includes the cereals, corn, wheat, rye and oats, most grasses, certain varieties of soybeans and cowpeas, and velvet beans. Just how to best take advantage of such resistant plants in a rotation which will free the land of peonies for three or four years will depend largely on local conditions. The following suggestions are made as being applicable in the cornbelt. Follow peonies with corn for a year or two. The corn should be carefully cultivated to keep down weeds. Iris might be grown in place of corn. Follow with soybeans (Biloxi, Laredo, or Otoo-tan varieties), just previous to planting peonies. Keep the field clean cultivated between crops. In growing soybeans or other legumes, inoculation of the seed is advisable to insure a stand in case the land has not previously produced a crop of the same kind. In certain cases this may not be necessary. If in doubt, or for methods of inoculation, consult the nearest Agricultural Experiment Station.

#### THE LEMOINE DISEASE

The distorted condition of the larger roots, encountered in certain varieties particularly, and known to growers as "Lemoine disease," may be an afterresult of nematode infection. This, however, remains to be proved. In the meantime, definite suggestions for control are lacking. Root and stem rots of the peony caused by at least four different fungi are recognized. Little or nothing is known, however, as to the factors which influence the spread and severity of such troubles. Where strong clean divisions are properly planted in rotation in well drained soil, it is logical to expect a minimum of trouble from diseases of this kind. The caution of experienced growers against the use of manure, at least as regards its use for mulching, should be kept in mind in this connection. A type of disease of unknown cause remains to be mentioned. In this case occasional plants are found which remain stunted and fail to bloom. The leaves curl and dry up early in the season. The root systems are small, and the crowns show an unusual number of weak, elongated buds. The plants do not recover, but become weaker and die. They should be destroyed as soon as their condition becomes apparent.

Summary of address delivered before the Commercial Peony and Iris Growers' Association, Hotel La Salle, December 10, by F. F. Weingard, Ass't Prol. Floriculture Physiology, University of Illinois.

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## **Peony Ratings**

#### FRANK E. MOOTS, Newton, Kas.

Much discussion about symposiums, ratings and related subjects has taken place at annual meetings of the American Peony Society and in our Bulletin. The subject is quite complex and nearly all peony growers have strong convictions or at least definite ideas about it.

No one, least of all this writer, would belittle the great contributions made to the peony world by past symposiums and the facts brought out in conducting them. Professor A. P. Saunders and Mr. George W. Peyton and their coworkers have done much to increase public interest in peonies and have brought order and understanding to a formerly muddled and confused situation.

However the results of their work have not been entirely satisfactory to everyone and considerable criticism has been voiced over the findings as well as the limited areas represented by the individuals taking part in some symposiums. It is possible that some people tried to give too much weight more than was really intended—to the ratings received by certain peonies. No doubt there are limits to what can be accomplished by such arbitrary meth<sup>2</sup> ods as must be used in compiling such information.

Recently there has been some speculation and discussion about improving the methods of rating new peonies as well as correcting the standing of some of the older varieties for certain areas. We still have many advocates of methods used in the past so I would like to point out some of the deficiencies in results obtained in that way.

There are certain areas in America which grow peonies on a much larger scale than others. The North Atlantic area and that belt from Western Pennsylvania to Nebraska and the Minnesota and Wisconsin area are probably much larger producers of peonies than the Middle Atlantic states, the belt from Kentucky to Kansas, Canada, and the Pacific Northwest. In the past the majority of those taking part in symposiums were growers in the Northern areas. The results were accurate for the particular places where they lived but were often sadly misleading for all others.

The classic example is the peony Le Cygne. It is generally one of the very best whites in the certain parts of the north but a complete failure in many places. I know the same is true of many other varieties, especially the late more double ones. They simply refuse to open in the warmer parts of America but are beautiful and reliable in the north. On the other hand certain early bloomers which are outstanding in southern Illinois or Kansas are not valued so highly elsewhere. Some people who have taken an interest in peonies and relied on the published ratings as a guide to the real worth of a variety when purchasing plants, were disappointed to the extent of quitting in disgust with the results of their efforts to grow peonies.

Criticism has also been directed at the decimal system of ranking varieties. Can a difference of one tenth of one percent really indicate the relative value of varieties, even in the same location? And it should be pointed out that this ranking would change almost every year if symposiums were conducted that often. The relative performance of one top notch variety in comparison to another is seldom the same year after year.

The introduction of new varieties has also presented difficulties. To report the rating of a new variety on a percentage basis according to its performance in one locality is surely a bit risky, but it has happened and often to the dismay of gardeners in distant places who paid a stiff price for some highly

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rated new flower which was a flop for them. No commercial grower wants to mislead a customer but the information available in the past has sometimes had that effect. Surely the peony society has enough intelligence and initiative to work out a way to remedy this.

All this leads up to the idea that a symposium conducted every three to five years on a single nationwide basis does not furnish an accurate appraisal of the value of a peony in any one region.

Various proposals have been advanced seeking to promote a better method of establishing the comparative worth of the many varieties in different parts of America. Most of them have a regional background and it cannot be denied that regional ratings would be more accurate than the present system. But the amount of labor and expense involved in conducting and publishing regional symposiums with a rating in decimals as at present makes it impractical and it might still be somewhat misleading.

For several years I have observed the methods used by the iris and dahlia growers, and I believe that the peony people could profit by their experience. These two groups do not use identical systems but it seems to me that they both obtain better integrated and generally satisfactory results than the peony symposiums have produced.

The annual reports of the surveys made by the iris and dahlia societies have been published in the magazine "Flower Grower." I feel sure that a study of these surveys would be beneficial to the peony society.

A system which divided America into a few general areas and secured a list of the outstanding 20 to 50 or even 100 varieties for each year could be worked out. By discontinuing the decimal arrangement and compiling a simplified report which would show the outstanding kinds in each region without regard to the exact relative standing of the different kinds, much less time and expense would be involved. This yearly report for each area should show where a variety was listed the previous year and new kinds should be noted as such and not given full recognition until mentioned by a certain number of growers.

I do not think that this idea is new to the peony society. I understand that Mr. Peyton has been working along these lines recently. I hope that we can have more discussion of this matter in the near future and I am confident that we can work out a more equitable and satisfactory system than we have had in the past.

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# Report of Second Annual Show of the Superior Garden Club

The following is a report of the Second Annual Peony Show held July 17th and 18th by the Peony Group of the Superior Garden Club which was indeed an outstanding event. In spite of the lateness of the season, beautiful blooms were in abundance and comments were heard that the peonies on display were of exceptional fine quality.

Under the able Chairmanship of Mrs. Charles Lund and her committees, all who worked tirelessly, the show was a complete success.

To add emphasis to the display this year, a new feature was inaugurated, that of a Court of Honor, in which were placed the special entries.

Original from PENN STATE

The best pink peony	Walter Faxon
The best medium pink	
Additional prizes were given to the Court of H	Ionor winners. Most points
in the show were won by Mrs. Charles Lund.	
Total number of entries	161
Specimen entries	

Specimen entries	09
Artistic Arrangements	92
Exhibitors for specimens	21
Exhibitors for artistic arrangements	26
Total attendance	

Out of town guests were from Long Beach and Fresno, California, Lakeland, Florida, Manitou Beach, Mich., Minneapolis, Minn.. Milwaukee, Wis., as well as many from nearby towns in Wisconsin.

Judges were from our neighbor city of Duluth, Minn., and were Mrs. Oscar Anderson and Mrs. F. Arthur Johnson who judged our specimen entries. Judging the artistic arrangements, also from Duluth were Mrs. Leonard Passel and Mrs. Willis A. Swanman.

More enthusiasm is being shown each year, not only by our own members but by many other flower lovers as well. This was indicated by the many inquiries being received regarding the purchase of named peony roots.

I might add that for the past two years we have held a spring plant sale. selling perennial nursery stock. The profits derived from this venture is used to defray the cost entailed in staging our show.

> Mrs. Elmer C. Peterson, President 2402 E. 5th Street, Superior, Wis.

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# A Partial List of Peony Prizes to Be Offered In Membership Drive Described Elsewhere

I am sure that when you have had an opportunity to glance over this list of fine peonies that are being offered by our members for winners in the membership contest that is now in progress, you will want to get in the winning classes and will make an effort to secure some new members. This list of peonies will be augmented before the contest ends and anyone of our members who may wish to contribute to this preliminary list can do so by writing the Secretary's office. We will list the name of the donor and the variety offered.

#### DONOR

#### VARIETY

Harry J. Mull, Glen Ellyn, Ill.	Ava Marie
William Brown, Elora, Ont.	
Franklin Nursery, Minneapolis, Minn.	
Lyman D. Glasscock, Elwood, Ill.	
Frank E. Moots, Newton, Kas.	Elsa Sass
Reno Rosefield, Tigard, Oregon	Gold Standard and Yosemite
James Mason, Chicago, Ill.	Illini Belle
George W. Peyton, Rapidan, Va.	Mattie Lafuze
Mission Gardens, Techny, Ill.	Mrs. Livingston Farrand
Allen J. Wild, Sarcoxie, Md.	
	(Bert Shaylor
-	(lwo
C. F. Wassenberg, Van Wert, O.	

J. W. Bernstein, Lincoln, Neb.	Nancy Nora
Cherry Hill Nursery	
Brand Peony Farms, Faribault, Minn.	Ruth Elizabeth
Marvin C. Karrels, Milwaukee, Wis.	Tondeleyo
W. F. Christman, Northbrook, Ill.	Victory
Edward Auten, Jr., Princeville, Ill.	
Myron D. Bigger, Topeka, Kas.	Westerner
L. W. Lindgren, St. Paul, Minn.	

If you will study this preliminary list carefully you will find many of the top list peonies and there is not a single one that is not worthy to be placed in any garden along with the top ranking peonies grown.

New members are already coming in on this contest so get busy and get in touch with the membership chairman in your district and send in your prospects, or they can be sent direct to the Secretary's office and you will be credited accordingly.

> W. F. Christman, Secretary Northbrook, Ill.

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# Officers and Executive Committee for 1948 American Peony Society's Exhibition to Be Held in Guelph, Ontario, Canada

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President—William Brown, Elora, Ontario Vice President—O. A. Kummer, Preston, Ontario Secretary—Mrs. J. A. Carleton, Guelph, Ontario Treasurer—Harry Occomore, Guelph, Ontario.

#### ..., EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman-J. E. Carter, Regional Vice President American Peony Society District No. 11, Guelph, Ontario

Show Committee-Bruce Robinson, Guelph, Ontario

Prize List Committee-William Brown, Elora, Ontario

Seedling Committee-Dr. R. W. Beattie, Guelph, Ontario

Publicity Committee-H. Occomore, Guelph, Ontario

Peony Queen Committee-J. E. Carter

Rules & Regulations-J. A. Soule, K.C., Hamilton, Ontario

Cold Storage-Dr. J. H. L. Truscott, O. A. College, Guelph, Ontario

Banquet Committee-Miss Nellie Stockford, Guelph, Ontario

Entertainment Committee-Russell Daley, Guelph, Ontario

Reception Committee-Mayor Gordon Rife, Guelph, Ontario

(Names mentioned are chairmen of their committees)

The Executive Committee will meet every two weeks during February. March and April and once a week in May and June.

The Collector of Customs has advised that there will be no trouble or delay in clearing bloom at the ports of entry into Canada.' All exhibitors who bring their exhibits with them will advise the customs officers at port of entry that the bloom is being exhibited at the International Peony Exhibition at Guelph and it will be allowed entry.

Any bloom shipped by express will be cleared at Custom Office in Guelph by the Secretary. The Express shipments should be addressed to the Secretary, Mrs. J. A. Carleton. Guelph, Ontario. The Customs Officials will cooperate in every way so that there will be no delays.

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## **Tree Peony Chat**

LOUIS SMIRNOW, 6 Hartley Road, Great Neck, L. I.

It is my purpose to report on the tree peonies I saw on May 17th of this year at Swarthmore College. My visit this year was made ten days later than last year and it was still early enough to see the earlier blooming varieties. This time I met Professor John C. Wister for the first time. He graciously consented to spend the afternoon with me but I preferred to be turned loose alone among that fabulous collection of tree peonies with the understanding that Prof. Wister would take me through the vast collection of herbaceous hybrids and the special collection of approximately 3500 young grafted tree peonies to be followed by a visit to Todmorden, the home gardens of that famous, genuinely remarkable lady, Mrs. Arthur Hoyt Scott.

This year the number of blooms were not as numerous as last, but fortunately it was possible to see the varieties I missed last year in full bloom now.

- KIGYOKU—This is a white semi-double 6 to 7 inches on a low symmetrical plant.
- SUMINA-NAGASHA---A glistening purplish red flower---8 inches, semidouble on a large plant.
- KOKKU-NO-TSUKASA---A velvety maroon, free of purple, semi-double, medium sized stems, low growing plant.
- SUMI-NO-ICHI—Almost identical with above variety with possibly a little purple in it.
- KOKKOSHI-Brilliant deep red almost black on a tall plant, almost full double.
- HATSU-GARASHU—Identical in every respect with Kokkoshi but flowers larger, freer bloomer, a genuine beauty.
- KONRON-KOKU—A tall growing immense plant, blooms semi-double maroon; desirable variety.
- KANSENDEN—A creamy white semi-double very large flower, plant of medium height, spreading.
- HAKUOW—A huge white almost single variety, three rows of petals when fully open with yellow stamens and streaks of cerise in center.
- HIRYO-A beautiful scarlet semi-double fading to pink at maturity.
- NISSHO—Perhaps the brighest color of any I saw—this is a brilliant scarlet—blooms do not fade as they mature, the yellow stamens add to the beauty of this variety.
- NISSHOKO—A low growing plant flower four inches of a rather poor scarlet fading to white at edges.
- KOKIRIN—Medium size bloom semi-double, symmetrical big plant, scarlet pink, brightly colored—blooms when fully developed, are inclined to be single type.
- KUMONA-NISHIKI—Almost similar to Kokirin—except that the beautiful scarlet pink blooms fade to white at edges as they mature.
- HIODOSHI—A single pink variety on a medium plant—flower fades to a magenta after maturity.
- HIRYO NISHIKI—A tall plant good stems pure pink single, desirable.
- HINO TOBIRA—An enormous, brilliant red bloom fully double does not fade. many blooms on plant—one of the best.
- TSUKI-SEKAI—An immense white gorgeous bloom, tall stems. semi-double plant, beautiful in every respect.
- HAKU-RAKU-TEN-Semi-double, white on tall plant, good stems.
- GEKGYUDEN—Almost full double white, beautiful shaped bloom with good center on nicely shaped plant—excellent variety.

- FUJI-OE-RYO—While not too big—flower only four to five inches, this beautiful white semi-double is a highly desirable variety tall upright strong bloom.
- MIKUNI-NO-HOMARE—A full double, large rose pink flower, on a tall plant, good stems, free bloomer.
- TSUKASA-BOTAN—This is a rose-red, semi-double, fading to white, on a low plant, fair stems, sparse bloomer.
- HIGURASHI—An immense semi-double light rose-red, on good plant, several blooms on plant—rather ordinary variety.
- DAIHOCHO—A semi-double light rose-red flower, vigorous, desirable variety of large size.
- HANADEN—An immense white double, pyramidal shaped, yellow stigmas cerise tinted, tall plant—outstanding.
- HAKU-ZURU—Another tall, gorgeous white, semi-double, good stems.
- AKASHI-ZURO—A rose pink semi-double on huge plant; evidences of purple on some of the petals—a good variety.
- ADZUMA-KAGAMI—A beautiful tree peony, rather unusual in that the very large flat deep pink blooms blend beautifully with yellow stamens and red carpels in the center—a low plant covered with many blooms.
- GABISAN—A highly recommended variety, gorgeous white double, krinkly petals, blooms holds up well even after maturity.
- KASUMI-NO-MORI-Light blush almost white semi-double, large, with most beautiful center, cerise markings.
- IRO-NO-SEKI—A huge single of light pink with attractive center, a beautiful bloom, excellent variety.
  - HANA-KURABE—Ideal for background, tall, full double, light pink, deeper in center white at edges, beautiful foliage, one of the best of all tree peonies.
- MEIKOW-HOW—A large, full double, white tinged blush beauty—a low grower—flower beautifully shaped, excellent variety.
- TAMA FUYO—An eight inch blush fading to white, on a gorgeous plant. full double—recommended.
- ARLISIENNE—A most attractive variety, blush color with amazing center of yellow and red, petals marked with purple.
- AUGUSTE DESSERT—Lavender purplish cast large semi-double each petal showing deeper purple markings near center, a gorgeous variety which should be in every collection.

Professor Wister took me on a tour of an amazingly large selection of hybrid herbaceous varieties and other interesting plants. I was particularly impressed by Prof. A. P. Saunders No. 16264. This plant an orange, peach, buff colored variety combines the blood lines of officinalis, macrophylla, mlokosowetchi and albiflora. It is a fitting testimonial to Prof. Saunders' skill. Another interesting variety is No. 16363, a new yellow semi-double. Among the other varieties I saw and found them all interesting in either color of flower, foliage and shape of plant are Late Windflower, Early Windflower, Chalice, Fantasia, Burgundy (A beautiful semi-double) Autens Officinalis hybrid Beacon Hill a small maroon beauty. Passa Dumkeag, an interesting semi-double scarlet, Garden Peace (not open) but tremendous in bud, arietina Northern Glory (name maybe incorrect—I have it marked as Prof. Winter's magenta beauty, a 4 inch semi-double beauty, exquisitely formed plant and beautiful foliage).

I was amazed when Prof. Wister accompanied me to Swarthmore's planting of Tree Peony seedlings of two immense rows of four hundred feet each. He expects some good results from these healthy plants.

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Another amazing sight was the beds of young grafted tree peonies, numbering 3500 plants. The percentage of grafting success is nearly one hundred per cent. Prof. Wister and his affable assistant, Harry Wood, truly know how to grow and propagate tree peonies.

I had planned to visit Oberlin's, William Gratwick and Prof. Saunders but just could not make the trip. I shall try again next year.

In my own garden, tree peonies did very well. As usual, that most gorgeous of all varieties, the sensational Gessekai was outstanding. On May 15th there were five blooms of sensational size which were seen by many visitors to my garden. Adjacent to it is a beautiful show of blooms on an unusual plant of Hanakieoi, that immense pure pink double. Kamada Fuji is a disappointing variety-I dislike the magenta colored flower. Yae-Zakura, a beautiful brilliant pink semi-double was greatly admired. Gates of Opulence was gorgeous in full double rose red immense blooms, Yoyonshomare, a light blush immense single, could not stand up after the rain, Ukare-oho had many blush semi-double beautiful blooms; Fuji-no-mari again proved to be a sparse bloomer and if it does no better next year, I shall discard it. Banksi usually a free bloomer was disappointing this year. Ubatama, Gabisan, Renkaku and several others need another year of development. Of my Lutea hybrids, Surprise was outstanding, Chromatella on a young plant did well and Souvenir de Maxime Cornu had many excellent blooms. Argosy was better than ever. I forgot to mention that those gorgeous scarlet pinks Hatsu Hinode and Ukare Jishi gave quite a show of their own. The most sensational bloom I have seen in many years was an amazing immense ball of smoky pink, Hino Tsukasa (Ashes of the Setting Sun). I accepted this plant from William Gratwick three years ago. Mr. Gratwick is an expert, on Tree Peonies, and will soon have one of the largest commercial collections in the country. Tree Peony fanciers have too few sources of supply and we can use additions to Oberlin, Cottage Gardens, Prof. A. P. Saunders and the remaining one or two, commercial growers. I have added fifteen varieties to my collection and expect the receipt daily direct from Lemoine in France, several plants including Alice Harding, L'Esperance, Satin Rouge, Sang Lorraine and Lemoines newest - Mine d'Or. In all, I have 75 varieties and treasure them all.

It may be interesting to learn that in this community of Great Neck, we now have twenty tree peony enthusiasts. The great collection of Col. J. C. Nicholls was purchased by them and it seems to me Great Neck will be the Tree Peony Centre of the East before long. This great enthusiasm was the direct result of seeing Tree Peonies in bloom in my garden. To those who have not seen any in bloom, make it a point to do so. You should have at least two Tree Peonies in your garden; they will amaze you with their beauty of flower and foliage.

In the next issue of the Bulletin, I shall discuss grafting of Tree Peonies and will give you the opinions of our leading experts. I shall at the risk of boring you, give a report of herbaceous varieties in my garden and in many gardens I visited during the season.

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# Why I Have Sworn Off Growing Vegetables In 1948

By BENJAMIN WILDER GUPPY

WHY? Because I will have to devote all of my spare time (and then some) to grubbing witch grass out of my peony patches.

And why the witch grass? Because I answered the appeal to grow more and more vegetables (fed twelve people most of the time) and having had very little help the peonies were pretty well neglected. I did manage to raise a few seedlings and after taking care of them, what time I could spare from the vegetable garden was devoted to weeding and cultivating a bed of hybrids which contains 190 plants, all true hybrids (crosses between different species) plus a row of sixteen plants of *Officinalis Rubra* used for pollinating.

In the spring of 1947 a young neighbor grubbed out the witch grass in my trial bed No. 1A so I could run the cultivator between the rows and then, alas, he moved away. That is all the help I had last year except for lawn mowing and fruit tree spraying.

Now about Trial Bed 1A.

Seedlings are Transplanted after two years in the seed bed and when plants have bloomed those that show promise are lifted, cut in two and replanted in a so-called trial bed. No. 1A contains 144 divisions, two of a kind. Some of these plants on trial have beautiful blossoms. There are four different varieties of one particular cross that are worth following up.

A semi-double light pink-No. 5-41-25.

A jap. with ivory guards, yellow center and pistils pale green with pink stigmas-No. 5-41-18.

A jap. with ivory guards, yellow center and pistils pale green with pink stigmas—No. 5-41-36.

A jap. with pale pink guards, center of pink petaloids edged yellow and pistils yellow with white stigmas—No. 5-41-23.

The cross is No. 1-5-11 seed parent and No. 4-88-25 pollen parent. No. 1-5-11 is an *albiflora* seedling of unknown parentage. An anemone type flower with pink guards and buff center. Seeds were planted in 1915 or 1916 and records lost as the seedlings were transplanted while I was "over there" (1917-1919) either making the world safe for democracy or paving the way for W.W. No. 2. (Take your choice.)

No. 4-88-25 has a single red flower, a cross between Officinalis Rubra. seed parent, and Decora, pollen parent, and blooms before O.R.

So, think it over, and you will conclude, as I have, that the four hereinbefore mentioned plants are hybrids combining three different species, but if you didn't know their genealogy you would think them straight *albiflora*.

I have not had time to give these plants much study, but other triple crosses that I have raised have the same *albiflora* characteristics but bloom with or earlier than *Officinalis Rubra*, which is something gained.

It has long been my desire to advance the blooming time of peonies, but not to prolong the season for the benefit of the rose beetles.

My experience has been that crossing a single with an anemone type will produce some japs. among the first generation seedlings as already shown, and that if a single is crossed with a jap. the first generation seedlings may be all singles. (I had 86 singles and no japs. in one such cross. the japs. reappearing among the second generation seedlings.

Decora is still alive. I may be able to save No. 4-88-25 if I am careful in cleaning out the weeds and grass this spring.

I originally set out 30 seedlings of the cross  $1-5-11 \ge 4-88-25$  in row 41 of bed 5. The other plants in the row are seedlings of another triple cross. This row will have prior preferred precedence in the spring clean up.

To heck with the vegetables.

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## Membership Drive Campaign

## By ROY G. GAYLE, CHAIRMAN, Rockford, Illinois

In the due course of time, after the Boston meeting, our newly elected president brought forth and hurled upon this nation a masterful product of his uncanny wisdom—he impulsively appointed me as chairman of the Membership Committee! He pinned this honor on the starboard panel of my Parisian pajamas and with that fascinating radio voice quoth he: "Wake up son—get busy—and go ye forth far and wide, deep into the highways and by-ways of life, and get for the old alma mater a gang of new members." A dazed look illuminated my keen blood-shot eyes as my alert mind grasped the situation and then and there I witlessly accepted the responsibility, delivering a speech of acceptance that history will record as a great classic.

This aforesaid speech of acceptance, this masterpiece of pure spun English, is hereinafter mentioned at the cost of my modesty but is given as a heritage to posterity. It was terse, clear and forceful and it is literature's loss that the written word fails to portray the vibrant qualities of emotion. To the emotional reaction stemming from the honor conferred upon me can be attributed the birth of the following classical acceptance phrase: "Uh-huh I will."

To stop here would be to leave you amazed, your mind confused, and your hopes blasted, but be not disturbed and let not your heart be troubled for when our president came to the full realization of his ghastly error he intuitively and magically produced an antidote that saved the Society. What did he do? Well as evidence of his genius he appointed a constellation of stars on this committee so brilliant that no one could see the chairman due to the glare. And realizing the fullness of the jeopardy in which the Society had been plunged. this great galaxy of stars unhesitatingly agreed to make the noble sacrifice. and thus the situation was saved and the Society secured. So I have supporting me on this committee a progressive group of men. They need no introduction but I now proudly reveal their identity: Neal R. Van Loon of Newton, N. J., Frank Moots of Newton, Kansas, Louis Smirow of Long Neck, N. Y., Clarence Kleffman of Hibbing, Minnesota, J. W. Bernstein of Lincoln, Nebraska and J. E. Carter of Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

Casting aside the preliminary robe of levity and re-robing in a garb of seriousness, I feel that Our Society warrants a far greater membership than is now recorded on our roster. While we can earnestly deny any willful intent of exclusiveness we must admit of having been neglectful in encouraging the admission of new members. Have we been too modest to ask them to join?

This Committee will now put your loyalty to a test. You dislike to ask a friend to join, for you are conscientious and fear that he may not derive the pleasure you get from your membership . . . Right? Well then try this conscience crusher: Offer to give to each new member a peony root, or roots, having a retail value equivalent to the \$3.00 membership cost. Hardly any of us but what have some surplus stock which could be made available for such a fine purpose.

Proof of the effectiveness of such a method of getting new members is found in a test made by President Karrels. He sent an offer to members of Garden Clubs in Milwaukee, and the inducement resulted in 14 new members joining the A.P.S. the very first week. He is not satisfied to stop at that and plans on making a like offer to all Garden Clubs in the Milwaukee environs. His loyalty is recorded in actual results. Being of a highly jealous nature I shall adopt his plan and hope I can locate twenty new members to whom I can contribute prize-roots. Hope responses require me to double that amount.

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The committee appreciates the fact that all our members are not equipped with sizable propagation beds so we herewith appeal to members with good surplus varieties to support us by offering contributions of available material. We naturally prefer stock of good standard well-rated varieties that will be the means to create a permanent member. Many commercial growers have also generously offered to underwrite a substantial proportion of this program. Therefore, should you not have "gift" material do not let that deter you—just contact any member of the Committee for gift stock. Be sure to inform new members that as planting of roots cannot be made before next September a card will be issued to them certifying the gift.

The sum total of successful results of this campaign should not be the result of the work and generosity of a few. Surely each member can sponsor one new member. So we appeal to you to assist in making this an enthusiastic, properly financed, active and aggressive Society. We, individually and collectively, believe the grand old American Peony Society is worth working for and you can rely on our cooperation. Let's not be pleased with the results of the other fellow's work but be proud of our own individual results. We, the Committee, will be proud of you if you get that one new member.

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## A Message from Our Canadian Director

The Mayor and Council of the City of Guelph, Ontario, and the Guelph Horticultural Society extend a very cordial invitation to all the members of the American Peony Society across both the United States and Canada to visit Guelph during the International Peony Exhibition in June. Tentative dates Friday and Saturday, June 25th and 26th, 1948.) Plan to make this your vacation.

The show will be held in the New Memorial Arena which is now nearing completion. Every effort will be put forth by the Guelph Horticultural Society and the Guelph citizens to make this Exhibition an outstanding success.

Guelph is ideally situated for a show of this kind. It is in the centre of the richest agricultural district in Ontario and has many points of interest that will make your visit well worth while.

The Ontario Agricultural College with its thousand acres of grounds is one of the largest of this kind in the entire world. Its trial plots of peonies, iris, lilies, roses, gladiolus, perennials, rare shrubs and trees provide a treat that will delight the most ardent horticulturist.

The Ontario Reformatory also covers a thousand acres and is one of the most beautifully landscaped institutions in Ontario. The Cutten Golf Course of three hundred acres, and other points, will be of interest. A sight seeing trip is being arranged by an energetic committee.

Guelph is centrally located between the lakes and it is seventy miles from Niagara Falls, two hundred miles from Windsor and one hundred miles from Sarnia. These are the pints of entrance by which our United States visitors are likely to enter Canada. Guelph is connected by good highways to all these points and the bus service is of the best.

The Malton Airport is forty-five miles from the city. Transportation will be arranged for exhibitors wishing to travel by air. The Committee will have to be notified of their probable time of arrival so that arrangements can be made to meet them. Guelph is also served by the Canadian National and Canadian Pacific Railroads. Arrangements have also been made with the Customs that bloom entering Canada for the show will be admitted at the Port of Entrance without the usual permit. If bloom is sent by express it should be addressed to the sender in care of Mrs. J. A. Carleton, International Peony Show Secretary, Guelph, Ontario. All conveyors must be plainly marked, PEONY BLOOM FOR THE INTERNATIONAL PEONY SHOW, GUELPH, ONTARIO, CANADA. Every assistance is promised by the Customs Officials to handle the bloom expeditiously.

Bloom for cold storage should be sent to the ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, GUELPH, ONTARIO in CARE OF DR. J. H. S. TRUSCOTT with shipper's name and instructions..

Visitors are requested to make early reservations at any of the following hotels. The Royal Hotel, (Show Headquarters), The King Edward Hotel and the Wellington Hotel. Should these accommodations prove inadequate, a number of tourist homes are available. The Ontario Agricultural College has also promised to give accommodations to all who desire it.

For any information on this or any other matter pertaining to the show write to Mrs. J. A. Carleton, Willow Road, Guelph, Ontario.

William Brown,

Canadian Director, American Peony Society

## **Comments From Illinois**

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#### MRS. ROYCE E. PETTIT, Reynolds, Ill.

Enclosed you will find the check for my husband's membership in the American Peony Society for 1948. It is late this year and so are our bulletins. As my husband is editor of a country weekly, we are well aware of your problems of newsprint and labor, and are glad to get the bulletins whenever they come.

I always have good intentions during peony time, "this year I am going to keep notes and write an article for the peony bulletin," but is always such a busy time that I never do.

So many people speak of *Solange* as being uncertain. We have never found it so. We got our plant from a nursery in Centerville, Iowa. It didn't bloom for several years so my husband divided it and set it out in what is now our peony bed, and we have several gorgeous plants that have bloomed each year since, dry, wet, hot or cold. At the same time and place we got a plant named *La Fee*. It is the only plant from any nursery that we have felt was not true to name, though the flower fits the name much more than the flower in the peony manual. It is early-midseason, very large bloom on a medium sized, weak stemmed plant. The purest white peony I know. Loose, large lacinated petals and pleasing fragrance. Two *La Fee* and two *Martha Bulloch* fill a large white vase, and with that vase on the altar I often think our pastor could do worse than choose the topic, "What Hath God Wrought?"

We were in Rockford for the show, but hadn't driven down to Princeville, Ill., to see Mr. Auten since before the war until June 8, 1947. We found his peonies just coming into bloom in a sea of mud. Ours did the same, but in spite of cold, wet weather, they did beautifully. By keeping the flowers in the basement we had peonies until July 4th, a late date for Illinois.

As I write this, (Feb. 5, 1948), I have a vase of forsythia and pussy willows on the table before me. The forsythias are a mass of bloom. I start forcing the bunches just after New Year and have almost continuous bloom 'til spring, and the branches are always so full of bloom, we never miss the few that I bring into the house.



I sometimes wonder if this section of the bulletin is appreciated. It is about my only means to speak to our members. I find it impossible to personally answer all the correspondence I receive, as much as I would like to do so. I want to thank each one of you for the many favors I have received at your hands; for your remittance of dues which makes it possible for us to carry on our work; for your encouraging words which makes my duties much easier; for the fine articles some of you have contributed, which adds greatly to the value of our bulletins; for the hope and expectation that this year will be a great year for our Society. For the first time in our many years of existence we are having a membership contest that should prove of great interest and value to those who take an interest and participate. The contest will run through the entire year and in this issue we are giving a list of some of the fine varieties of peonies being offered. There is not a single one in the lot that is not most desirable for any peony planting and worthy of a place in any collection. You are to choose your own prizes if adjudged a winner. They are not allocated by any committee and in this manner you will not have to accept a variety you may already have in your garden. By the way, some of them have never been offered before so you will be the possessor of something really rare and worthwhile. As we have previously stated in bulletin No. 107, the one sending in the largest number of members is entitled to select any variety from the list we will have prepared, a number of which are listed in this issue. The one securing the second largest number will have second choice. and so on as long as the prizes last. Commercial growers in most cases have contributed these fine prizes but they will not be entitled to participate in the prize peony awards. A scroll or some other form of award will be made in such cases. New members are being added to our membership roll, and as you will notice by the lists in each issue, a number of our enthusiastic members are proving energetic workers as well.

Mr. Roy Gayle of Rockford, Ill., is General Chairman of this drive and if there is anyone more enthusiastic than Roy in our Society I would like to shake hands with him. He is devoting much of his time to this project without any remuneration, other than his desire to build up our splendid society, and have the peony more generally grown in the vast region of this, and other continents, where it has proved itself a most worthy and desirable perennial.

The membership contest alone would be a most worthy project in itself. but we are promoting an Essay Contest, in addition, that is of equal importance, as it is intended to provide some splendid material for the bulletin in the way of helpful articles on various subjects relating to peonies, as well as to discover the literary talents of some of our members whom we are sure possess this attribute in a very high degree. Read carefully the rules governing this contest and any member in our Society can qualify. Mr. Neal A. van Loon of Newton, N. J. is Chairman of this Contest and has very ably presented the requirements for participation in another section of this issue of the bulletin. You will note that he states fine literary style, or talent, will not influence the judging of the articles submitted. I am intensely interested in this contest as it will be the means of producing some splendid bulletins, and also affording me some surplus material that I can eventually use to complete the issues, so that they may reach you on time. It seems to me that the past two or three months have occupied every minute of my spare time in compiling the bulletins; checking galley sheets: correcting copy; answering correspondence and using every effort at my command to get caught up and stay ahead of the publishing periods of the bulletins. We have just passed the middle of January and I am at work on the March issue, which number will get us squared up and caught up with back issues.

We hope our efforts are appreciated and that you will find the bulletins most interesting and worth while.

This kind of work keeps us on our toes and does not give us a chance to feel our age, or to realize how many years we have faithfully worked at this task. I much fear that if I asked for a vote of confidence I would be greatly shocked at the results. I do ask for your confidence as well as your cooperation, however, and we will try our best to make our bulletin second to none. It can, and will be done with your assistance.

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I firmly believe that working with flowers adds many years to our lives and we can grow old serenely and happy. In This Week Magazine of Jan. 11, 1948 Adela Rogers St. Johns has beautifully expressed the sentiments and views I cherish and share on this subject. Many of you may have read it and shared the inspiration it gave me, but to those of you who have not read it I am taking the liberty of passing along some of her comments.

"Accept and live by the blessed idea that the best is yet to be, and you'll have a rich, full span on this earth, wasting none of it in future fears or vain regrets.

"Many strong, fine, exciting things belong to youth, but they pass out of our experience in due time and we must let them go and be ready to take on others just as good, or better. There are those who store nothing in those splendid, reckless young years to fill the later ones. They think of happiness in terms of what youth alone can be, and know, and do. For them, the last of life can be barren, cold, sometimes ugly in its attempts to prolong that youth.

"But those who plant seeds of love, service and friendship know the last of life as a privilege and a continuing adventure. The fevers of blood die down, the spirit grows serene. Friendships grow holier with shared years, memories become hallowed, beauty can be enjoyed without the torturing need for possession, humor becomes a part of wisdom, and service is a gift worth offering to those still on the battlefield of youth. The harvest of work well done, of love freely given, is ripe for reaping. "The books we never had time to read, the people we never had time to talk to, the games we never watched because we were so busy playing them, the prayers we never had time to say, the God we never had time to know—all these can be ours at last. And when that chapter ends, surely the Best of All—is yet to be."

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As these notes are written in mid-January for the March issue of the bulletin, I do not yet have the show schedule for the annual exhibition to be held in Guelph, Ontario, Canada but understand it will soon be in my hands and it will be presented in this issue. Read it carefully and plan to participate. if at all possible. Classes are provided for all and we want to make this an outstanding exhibition of peonies that will create most favorable comment for months to come, after its presentation.

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Mr. Louis Smirnow, 6 Hartley Road, Great Neck, Long Island, N. Y. is making plans to stage a peony show in connection with the June exhibition of the New York Horticultural Society to be held in New York City this coming June. I do not know the dates at this time but by getting in touch with Mr. Smirnow at the above address he can tell you definitely. Mr. Smirnow is exceedingly anxious to stage a peony show of real merit and asks the cooperation of growers over a wide territory to assist him in making this possible. If it is not possible for you to personally attend this show and exhibit your bloom, ar rangements will be made to have them properly staged for you, I am informed by Mr. Smirnow. A number of growers have indicated their willingness to make exhibits at this show and it will also afford an opportunity for growers in that immediate vicinity to put on a fine exhibit. The peony has not been featured at the spring exhibitions of this great Society as generally as we would like and we are hopeful that Mr. Smirnow's efforts will bear fruit that will result in a fine peony exhibit being staged annually.

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Feb. 26, 1948. Word has just been received of the sudden passing of one of our long time members Miss Frances R. Ives of 391 Broad Street, Meriden. Conn. She suffered a stroke Feb. 12th and died in the Meriden Hospital Feb. 15th without regaining consciousness. She has been a faithful member and took great delight with her flowers which she worked with until poor health made it impossible for her to continue the strenuous work necessary to handle them. As this notice has just been received and copy is going to press we do not have any particulars of her life to present at this time.

We trust you will find much of interest in this bulletin and it is our plan to get out the June issue before the show this year if it is at all possible to do so.

Any reports of shows being held throughout the country should be sent to me as soon os possible so I can assemble the information for the June issue.

While this notice is somewhat tardy, it is the first opportunity we have had to announce the wedding of Myron D. Bigger of Topeka, Kas., and Miss Ann Duncan, also of Topeka. The wedding took place Jan. 11th, at Grace Cathedral. Mr. Bigger's interest in peonies is well known to many of us and he has also originated some very fine peonies that are fast gaining popularity as they become better known. Westerner, a most beautiful Japanese type, is truly outstanding. Other fine ones are Shawnce Chief, Lady Orchid, Prairie Belle, Kansas, Kaw Valley, Anne Bigger and Snow Mountain. Our heart'est congratulations and best wishes.

With this issue of the bulletin we have caught up the back numbers and hope to stay ahead from now on. This will be possible if I am supplied with articles. This, I can positively assure you. If the articles are not forthcoming, naturally there will be a delay in the regular issue of the bulletin. We have just mailed out bulletin No. 107 and we hope you will find it instructive and interesting. In this issue we have tried to keep up the high standard that we have followed in the past. It is simply impossible to have them all a manual of

26, 1948. Word long time members length on the suffered a stroken to the stroken to

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peony knowledge, as articles of this kind are sometimes dry and uninteresting to the general public. To have a balanced issue is more to my liking and I think this kind of a number will be most favorably accepted.

There is no life without the sunshine sometimes being obscured by clouds of unhappiness and sorrow. This is the true pattern of life through past centuries and will continue throughout our existence on earth. A post card dated Feb. 21, 1948 recently received from Miss Nettie A. Ives of 391 Broad Street, Meriden, Conn., advises of the passing of her sister Miss Frances R. Ives on Feb. 15th. Miss Ives suffered a shock on Feb. 12th and was removed to the Meriden hospital where she failed to regain consciousness. She had long been a very faithful member of the American Peony Society and a few days before her death had remitted dues for the coming year. These remittances were always accompanied by a most interesting letter, which we greatly enjoyed. She had been blessed with many years of life, and while I do not have her letter before me, I think she informed me she was approaching her 80th year or had attained that age. A few years back she and her sister were quite actively engaged in garden activities and grew many iris, but in later years, infirmities due to age, made it impossible to continue this strenuous work. She was exceedingly fond of both peonies and iris, as well as other plants, and when she was physically able, spent many happy hours with her flowers.

We are not commenting on any of the several articles appearing in this issue but will let them speak for themselves. Your comments will surely be welcome. We want to please you and get material in the bulletins that will be helpful. We truthfully feel that in every issue there is food for thought.

So many peony lovers who grow fine peonies, seem to get stage fright when asked to exhibit them at shows. We have tried to make this matter clear in the informative article appearing in this issue to which we give all credit to our greatest peony showman, the late Harry F. Little. His method is carefully explained and gone into with considerable detail. You, who have doubted your ability to make a good showing, will find this article most helpful. We want to urge everyone who has peonies and can do so, to try and take or send some to the Guelph, Ontario, show this coming June. We want this show to be a huge success and we are certain it will be.

If it is impossible to display your peonies at the International Show, be sure to get in touch with your local garden club chairman and display some of your bloom at the local shows or at nearby exhibitions that may be within your reach. In this way we can make the peony more universally grown and better known. Help others enjoy the real thrill you get out of growing your own peonies. There will be peony exhibitions throughout the country where you can exhibit as well as become acquainted with new varieties that you may not possess. Mr. Louis Smirnow of Great Neck, Long Island, N.Y. is working with the New York Horticultural Society and is to stage a fine peony exhibit this coming June. He is wanting to make this a yearly feature and urges everyone in the New York territory to assist. We do not have the dates as we write these notes but anyone interested can obtain them from Mr. Smirnow. They will be announced shortly.

F. Christman

## **Comparing Prices**

It might be interesting to some of our readers to get a list of prices that prevailed in 1920. These prices have been taken from Mr. Bonnewitz's catalog and represented actual sale prices made and orders received by him within a period from July 5th to 10th, 1920. 9 Opal 6 Lady Alexandra Duff, 5 Philippe Rivoire, 4 Primevere, 3 each of Jubilee, Kelway's Glorious, Le Cygne, Mrs. Edward Harding, and Tourangelle were sold, as well as 2 each of the following: Exquisite, Frances Shaylor, Giorgiana Shaylor and 1 each of the remaining list, making a total sale of \$1,115.00.

Here is the list of varieties and prices:

Cherry Hill	<b>\$25.00</b>	Mme. Manchet 15.00
Exquisite	15.00	Mme. Treyeran 15.00
Enchanteresse	10.00	Maud L. Richardson 5.00
Mr. Bonnewitz lists this		Mons. Martin Cahuzac 5.00
Enchantress.		Mary Woodbury Shaylor 50.00
Evening Glow	10.00	Midsummer Night's Dream 10.00
Frances Willard	10.00	<b>Opal</b> 5.00
Frances Shaylor	20.00	Philippe Rivoire
Georgiana Shaylor	10.00	Primevere 5.00
lubilee	25.00	Richard Carvel 5.00
Karl Rosenfield	5.00	Raoul Dessert 15.00
Kelway's Glorious	40.00	Solange
Le Cygne	25.00	Standard Bearer 25.00
Lady Alexandra Duff	5.00	Tourangelle 5.00
Mrs. Edward Harding	100.00	Walter Faxon 15.00
Mme Jules Dessert		

Mr. Lemoine sent out a variety as Enchanteresse in 1903. Kelway distributed Enchantress, which is very likely the same variety.

At least nine or ten out of the above list have been superseded by better varieties and are not now propagated by many growers. How times have changed. Mrs. Edward Harding, of course, topped the list at that time with a price on her head of \$100.00. Many were sold at that price, but the greed for gold resulted in the unmerciful propagation of the variety by root and stem cutting, that for at least twenty years the variety did not recover the shock. A number on this list still retain their popularity and will remain favorites for some time to come. Others have fallen by the wayside where they rightly belong. Time marches on as well as peony varieties. The sales listed above was made to eighteen customers. The late Mr. A. B. Franklin was the largest purchaser, his order amounting to \$350.00.

Mr. John S. Snook of Pauling. O., sent me the clipping from the catalog of Mr. Bonnewitz from which the above information was obtained.

W. F. Christman, Sec'v

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Dear Mr. Christman:

Members of the American Peony Society who are also interested in organ music might be glad to know about a new solo for organ entitled "Prelude" with the subtitle "Chanson des Pivoines" which is French for "Song of the Peonies." It was composed by Mrs. Harold Harsch, who besides being cashier of the First National Bank of Peoria. Ill., is also an accomplished organist and composer. This number is published by the Clayton F. Summy Co. of Chicago and New York and should be obtainable through any music store or from the publishers. The price is fifty cents. It bears the dedication "To Edward Auten, Jr."

> Very truly yours, (signed) Edward Auten, Jr Princeville, Ill.

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Editors note: The above memorandum was received from Mr. Auten recently. Music and flowers make a good combination and some of our readers may wish to obtain a copy of this Prelude for organ.

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## **Peonies for Exhibition**

W. F. CHRISTMAN, Secretary

A large number of our peony lovers seem to get stage fright when they are asked to make an exhibit at our regional or annual exhibitions as they seem to be under the impression that they have no chance to get in the winning classes if they do not have a large planting of peonies from which to secure their bloom. May I ask you to dismiss this false impression from your mind, as some back yard gardens may possess the finest bloom that can be found anywhere; blooms that will hold their own in the stiffest competition. I admire the exhibitor who makes an attempt to make an entry, even though he does not have a chance to win. This is true sportsmanship. I have seen exhibitors of this kind who were not at all disturbed if they did not get into the winning class at all. The following year they would profit by the mistakes they had made in their first attempt, and quite frequently they would get a winner, even though it was a third award, and by repeated attempts they would eventually get into the winning classes every time.

One of our greatest showmen, the late Harry F. Little, has given us a splendid article in the Manual of the A.P.S. on this subject. As some of our readers do not have this Manual, and as it is no longer available, we have taken the liberty to use this article as a basis of this condensed treatise.

At the start, let me ask you to discourage the thought that only commercial growers have a chance to win in the various classes. It has been my experience, over a period of many years, to find that amateur growers carried off more winning ribbons than the commercial growers. While they do not have the large number of peonies to select from, they frequently have all of the finer kinds and can give them attention that is not possible for the commercial grower to bestow upon them. For the amateur grower it is invariably a hobby while with the commercial grower it is a livelihood.

To the uninitiated, it must appear that the growing and preparation of the gorgeous show peonies now seen in competition is a deep and mysterious art; but the successful handling of show peonies is very simple, and may be undertaken by any gardener of even limited experience without fear of the results.

Probably no other flower can be as easily grown, as successfully handled in cold storage, or as easily transported as the peony. No special laborious preparation or treatment of the plants is required to handle them in storage. Neither is any special skill required to develop the flowers into form for the show table after they are taken from the cold storage room.

It is possible to hold peonies in storage for days and even weeks for exhibition as successfully as though freshly cut from the plants. In fact, peony blooms, cut in the bud and opened indoors away from the sun, always show far more delicate and beautiful coloring than flowers that open on the plants; and many of the finest varieties only show their true beauty when handled this way. With proper care in cutting, the different peonies may be placed in cold storage as they come into bloom, beginning with the earliest and ending with the very latest, and all developed for the show at the same time, long after the close of the blooming season.

The first essential in staging good show peonies is to have well established plants from which to cut the flowers. It is not possible to get the finest blooms from young or immature plants. Neither is it possible to say how old a peony plant must be to be at its best, for that depends on the variety itself, the size and vigor of the root from which it was grown and the soil conditions and cultivation with which it is favored. Certain varieties, under most favorable conditions, are slow to establish themselves, and do not reach their best short of four, or sometimes five years; while other kinds happily situated, will put forth as fine blooms on two year plants as they will ever produce.

It is safe to say, however, that flowers must be cut from plants at least three years old, if a typical exhibit is to be staged covering any great number of varieties. Even then, the plants must be very well grown if an exhibit of fifty or one hundred varieties is to compete successfully with flowers from plants five or six years old.

Having good, healthy, well-established plants to begin with, cultivation and moisture become the chief requisites in obtaining show blooms. As soon as the new growth is above the ground in the spring, cultivation should begin. With a fork or cultivator, the earth about the plant should be turned over two or three inches deep for at least two fect from the crowns. Throughout the growing season this top soil should be frequently stirred to maintain a perfect earth mulch to draw and hold moisture to the plant. If the season is dry, water should be supplied in sufficient quantity to soak the ground thoroughly to a depth of at least 18 inches every ten days until the flowers begin to open. Water is best supplied by letting it run slowly from the end of a hose into a trench dug about the plants. Before the top soil has had time to dry out, the trench should be filled in and the earth-mulch stirred up to retain the moisture. One thorough soaking is far more effective than frequent light sprinklings.

With good, ordinary garden soil, no special fertilization is necessary, although a light top-dressing of bone meal applied in the fall, of wood ashes in the spring, in sufficient quantity to maintain the normal state of fertility in the soil, may be beneficial. Thoroughly rotted stable manure may be used to advantage if properly handled. This is best applied as a top dressing in the fall and forked under with the first working of the soil in the spring. It should be kept well away from the crown of the plants. Fresh stable manure should never be used on peonies under any conditions. By using liquid manures, commercial fertilizers, nitrate of soda, and other concentrated plant foods, strong plants can be stimulated and abnormal flowers produced, but experience has shown that such treatment of peony plants one year almost invariably results in sulking plants the following season. Often they are permanently injured when this fertilization is carried on to excess.

Well established peony plants represent no small investment and the results to be obtained from force-feeding are hardly worth the risk of their sacrifice.

The abnormal flowers which are developed by forcing peonies beyond their typical form and size, are not the most desirable for show purposes. The fine texture and delicate color tints of the petals are sacrificed to a great extent for size alone. Such forced blooms are not typical flowers of the varieties they represent and their showing should be discouraged. Good, normal flowers, typical of the variety, are the ideal show blooms, and these are only obtained from healthy, well-established plants grown under normal conditions.

As soon as spring growth is sufficiently advanced, the plants should be disbudded. All laterals, or side buds, should be removed from the plants. If this is done early enough it is easily accomplished by holding the terminal bud firmly between the fingers and with the other hand gather the remaining buds and with a quick motion to the right or left, as the case may be, they will become readily detached from the stem without damage of any sort. After these lateral stems become woody there is danger of tearing the main stem, which should be avoided. When these lateral buds have attained the size of a small pea they are large enough to be removed. In the commercial plantings we become quite adept at disbudding and make but one move to remove the two, three or more terminal buds. We do not recommend pinching off the buds and leaving the stem on which they are produced unremoved, as they continue growth and mar the looks of the finished flower.

Some growers pinch out all but three or four of the strongest terminal buds on each plant, and even go so far as to cut out some of the stems close to the ground to force the growth of the remaining plant. This is but another way to force abnormal flowers at the sacrifice of the future vitality of the plant.

Several days before the earliest varieties are ready to bloom, the plants should be gone over carefully selecting the strongest and most promising buds of the varieties wanted for the show. A small paper bag—the kind commonly used by the grocer, a half pound size is the best—should be slipped over each bud and secured in place by a small rubber band twisted about the mouth of the bag below the bud, just tightly enough to prevent the bag from being blown away by the wind. After the rubber band is in place, care should be taken to pull the bag up against the under side of the bud, otherwise the subsequent growth of the stems, especially of the later varieties, will force the buds up against the bottom of the bags and result in warped and crooked stems.

The purpose of sacking the buds is two-fold: First, the bags protect the maturing buds from danger from rain and sun; and second. they furnish an ideal wrapping for the opening flowers when, in a half opened state, they must be packed for shipping.

After the bags are in place, the buds should be labeled. By permanently labeling each bud before it is cut from the plant, much time and confusion will be saved when the rush of cutting and handling is on and time becomes valuable. The common painted wooden tree labels are the most satisfactory ones to use as they will withstand damage in handling and are not affected by water. The label should be attached about the stem, well up near the bud. so it will be visible when the stems are in water.

When the first flowers begin to open, close attention must be given to the sacked buds, for the whole secret of the successful storage of peonies is in the cutting of the buds of the different varieties just at the right stage. While this is a trick that must be learned by experience, there are certain rules that may be followed and the knack quickly acquired. The length of time the blooms are to be held and the type of flower must be considered. If flowers are wanted for showing a week after the close of the blooming season, it would be necessary to hold the earlier varieties in cold storage from three to four weeks and the midseason kinds about two weeks. By watching the exposed buds on the plants and by feeling the buds under the bags, one will quickly learn the *feel* of the buds ready to cut.

Early varieties such as Grandiflora Nivea Plena and Edulis Superba, should be cut rather tight, just as the buds begin to swell and show color. Midseason varieties such as Frances Willard and Lady Alexandra Du/f, and most of the varieties except the very latest, should be cut just as the petals loosen, but before they begin to unfold. Late varieties such as Marie Lemoine, Milton Hill and Enchanteresse, must be left on the plants until almost half open. Single, Japanese and the semi-double varieties of scant petalage should be cut in tighter bud than the fully double types such as Jubilee and Phoebe Cary. Very compact, full petaled varieties, such as Marie Lemoine, Karl Rosenfield, and several others, must be allowed to develop proportionately larger on the plants.

As the buds reach the proper stage they should be cut with stems 15 to 18 inches long, and all but the top foliage stripped off. Longer stems on show flowers, unless they are to be shown in large baskets or in bunches, are superfluous, and the extra foliage can well be left on the plants. All buds of one variety, even on the same plant, do not develop evenly, so it may be necessary to make cuttings of the same variety at several different times.

As fast as cut, the buds should be placed in jars of water in a cool basement where the different varieties can be assembled and tied together for convenience in handling. The sooner they can be transferred to the cold storage room, the better.

If necessary to ship a distance, pack the buds dry and tight in light boxes or cartons and forward the quickest way. In storage, the buds are best placed in jars or buckets of water, although satisfactory results are obtained by storing dry at a low temperature. A low temperature would be about 34 to 35 degrees. For short holding, the best temperature is an average of 40 degrees. Under such conditions the tight buds remain almost dormant for days and then develop very slowly until the immense buds fill the half pound bags almost to the bursting point. At lower temperatures the flowers may be held almost dormant, but require a longer time to develop when removed from storage.

Where a cold storage room is not accessible, peonies can be held successfully for a week or longer in the family ice box, or the deep freeze boxes now so generally used. If this is not possible, a good, cool, dark basement is satisfactory. The buds should be prepared and handled in exactly the same manner as described for the storage room.

When shipment from the storage to the show-room is necessary, the containers that are to be used for transportation should be taken directly into the cold-storage room for packing and heavily lined with paper. After the stems have been thoroughly dried, pack the blooms in layers tight enough to prevent any shaking about in transit. Water left on the stems will dampen the bags, spot the petals and ruin the flowers. If packed cold in the storage-room and insulated with the paper linings, the containers will stand a journey of twenty-four to thirty-six hours, even in hot weather, without injury to the flowers. On reaching the show room, sufficient jars or bottles of water should first be provided to receive all the blooms before the shipping containers are opened. As fast as possible, the ends of the stems should be clipped and the flowers placed in water. *Then, and not until then*, the paper bags should be removed, and the flowers given ample room and opportunity to open. At least

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twenty-four hours are required for the storage blooms to develop after being unpacked, so plans should be made to have exhibits set up in ample time before judging. The half opened buds unfold so fast that one can almost see the immense flowers grow in size and beauty, while seemingly tight buds respond to the welcome warmth and unfold into fully developed flowers, often larger and more beautiful than the finest blooms opened naturally on the plants.

If the ideas set forth in this article are followed explicitly, I can assure you that you will have some grand blooms to display, as these instructions were given by the greatest showman that I have ever known. His belief was that anything worth doing was worth doing well and he carried out to the letter his convictions.

I have watched his displays with interest ever since he made his first exhibit, and I cannot recall his defeat in a single entry he competed in. He did not always get first, but if he did not he was a close second.

When I first started to prepare this article, I intended to boil it down considerably but when I got into it I felt compelled to report it almost word for word, for I know of no one who could advise on this point with more authority. Mr. Little was surely a master showman and to follow his methods will insure success.

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## Peony & Iris Show of the New York Horticultural Society

The Horticultural Society of New York is sponsoring a Peony and Iris Show in June 1948, the exact dates to be announced later. Louis Smirnow. a member of the American Peony Society will cooperate with the Horticultural Society in an effort to put on a successful show.

Peonies in the New York area have had no active display; as a matter of fact, peonies are known very little in the largest city in the country. Gladiolus, dahlias and other flower shows are visited by thousands of people, and this show will afford peony lovers an opportunity to see a good display. It will also serve the purpose of introducing all the varieties of peonies to thousands of flower lovers in this area.

Mr. Smirnow has received the assurance from such well known exhibitors as Marvin E. Karrels of Milwaukee, Wis.; Frank E. Moots of Newton, Kas.; Myron D. Bigger, Topeka Kas.; Roy G. Gayle, Rockford, Ill., that they will exhibit. Rev. Neal R. van Loon, too, has expressed his willingness to support this show.

It is the hope of the committee that every effort will be made to send peonies for exhibition for this show to insure its success. Should you wish to exhibit, please communicate directly with Mr. Louis Smirnow, 6 Hartley Road, Great Neck, Long Island, N.Y.

The schedule for this class follows: The dates for this show will not conflict with the International Show at Guelph, Ontario, on June 25 and 26, 1948. If definite dates are established before issue of this bulletin they will be announced. Mr. Smirnow will be able to supply this information by the first of May, or before.

#### PEONY SHOW of the HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NEW YORK. INC. to be held at

#### 598 Madison Avenue, New York 22, N.Y.

on

#### date to be selected later

Unless otherwise specified all varieties shown must be named and double or semi-double. No hybrid herbaceous or tree peonies may be shown except in classes so specified. Each variety must be shown in a separate container unless otherwise specified. The number of entries by an exhibitor in each class is limited to one unless otherwise specified.

**GROUP NUMBER I—OPEN TO ALL** 

1. Collection of 20 varieties, one bloom each.

2. Collection of 10 varieties, one bloom each.

NOTE: If any one exhibitor enters in both classes 1 and 2, no variety may be duplicated.

- 3. Three varieties, one bloom each to be exhibited in one vase.
- 4. Collection of 6 Japanese varieties, one bloom each, to be exhibited in one vase.
- 5. Collection of 6 single varieties, one bloom each, to be exhibited in one vase.
- 6. Collection of hybrid herbaceous peonies, any number, covering space not to exceed 50 square feet.

7. Collection of tree peonies, one bloom each variety.

In classes 8 to 20, inclusive, more than one entry will be allowed an exhibitor, but entries must be different varieties.

- 8. One bloom, double or semi-double, white.
- 9. One bloom, double or semi-double, blush.
- 10. One bloom, double or semi-double, light pink.
- 11. One bloom, double or semi-double, dark pink.
- 12. One bloom, double or semi-double, red.
- 13. One bloom, Japanese, white or blush.
- 14. One bloom, Japanese, pink.
- 15. One bloom, Japanese, red.
- 16. One bloom, single, white or blush.
- 17. One bloom, single, pink.
- 18. One bloom, single, red.
- 19. One bloom, hybrid herbaceous, any color or type.

20. One bloom, tree peony, any color, any type.

21. Basket of peonies, arranged for effect.

GROUP NUMBER II—OPEN ONLY TO THOSE WHO GROW NOT MORE THAN FIFTY (50) VARIETIES

101. Collection of 8 varieties, one bloom of each, to be exhibited in one vase. 102. Collection of 3 varieties, one bloom of each, to be exhibited in one vase.

NOTE: If any one exhibitor enters in both classes 101 and 102, no variety may be duplicated.

In classes 103 to 109 inclusive, more than one entry will be allowed an exhibitor, but entries must be of different varieties.

103. One bloom, white or flesh.

- 104. One bloom, pink.
- 105. One bloom, red.
- 106. One bloom, Japanese, any color.
- 107. Ane bloom, single. any color.
- 103. One bloom, hybrid herbaceous, any type or color.
- 109. One bloom tree peony, any color or type.

GROUP III—OPEN ONLY TO THOSE WHO GROW NOT MORE THAN TWENTY-FIVE (25) VARIETIES. ANY TYPE, DOUBLE, SEMI-DOUBLE, JAPANESE SINGLE, HYBRID OR TREE MAY BE ENTERED IN THESE CLASSES

201. Collection of five varieties, one bloom each, to be exhibited in one vase. In classes 202 to 204 inclusive, more than one entry will be allowed an exhibitor, but entries must be of different varieties.

202. One bloom, white or flesh.

- 203. One bloom, pink.
- 204. One bloom, red.

#### **GROUP IV—ARRANGEMENT CLASSES**

Space for each arrangement to be the same as that usually set by the Horticultural Society.

Accessories may or may not be used in classes I and II.

- 1. An arrangement using not more than three peonies, additional foliage permitted.
- 2. A mass arrangement of peonies and one other kind of flower, additional foliage permitted.
- 3. Arrangement of iris in low metal container, using an accessory as part of the arrangement.

**GROUP V—SEEDLINGS** 

301. Display of seedlings by originator or agent.

**GROUP VI—DISPLAYS** 

401. Display by any grower to cover space not less than 50 square feet.

**GROUP VII—COURT OF HONOR** 

- 501. Best Flower in the show.
- 502. Best white or blush double.
- 503. Best pink double.
- 504. Best red double.
- 505. Best Japanese, any color.
- 506. Best single, any color.
- 507. Best hybrid herbaceous, any type or color.

508. Best tree peony, any type or color.

#### NOTE: THE ABOVE FLOWERS WILL BE PICKED BY THE JUDGES FROM ALL EXHIBITS IN THE SHOW. THE WINNER WILL BE RE-MOVED TO A SPECIAL TABLE RESERVED FOR THESE BEST FLOWERS.

#### **IRIS CLASSES**

1. One stalk of bearded iris, named variety, any color.

2. Three stalks bearded iris, named variety, any color.

3. One stalk bearded iris undisseminated seedling.

- 4. Three stalks, Siberian iris, any variety, any color, to be exhibited in one vase.
- 5. Collection of iris, 7 varieties, any color, any type, to be exhibited in one vase.

NOTE: Not more than two (2) entries in a class will be allowed by any one exhibitor, except in class 3 where entries are not limited.

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## Notes Concerning the Guelph Peony Show

Those figuring on going by air to Guelph, Ontario will find the nearest airport is Malton, Ont., about forty-five miles from Guelph. Frequent transprotation by bus to Guelph is available, or if anyone is contemplating a plane trip, it would be well to notify Mr. William Brown at Elora, Ont., or Mr. J. E. Carter at Guelph, Ontario, and arrangements will be made to meet the plane. If flowers are shipped by air express, be sure to advise Mr. Brown, and arrangements will be made to get them into Guelph and into cold storage promptly.

Guelph is ideally situated for anyone wanting to make the trip by auto as many of us will. Good paved highways are available. It is located about 200 miles from Windsor. Mr. Brown states this is the best way for anyone coming from Illinois or points southwest or west. The writer figures on crossing at Detroit, Mich., and returning by way of Niagara Falls, N.Y. Niagara Falls is located about 80 miles from Guelph. There are splendid paved highways leading from most directions.

The main line of the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian National Railroads serves the city of Guelph. If explicit auto directions are wanted by anyone, write to Mr. Brown, Elora, Ont. He will be glad to advise you, giving explicit directions.

March 15, 1948 the Trans Canada Air Lines will inaugurate a new branch of their service known as "Aircargo" and the following copy of letter may be of interest.

> C-24 Union Station Toronto, Ontario, Canada Jan. 21, 1948

Mr. Wm. Brown. Canadian Director. A.P.S. Elora, Ontario. Dear Mr. Brown:

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Trans-Canada Lines has been in the process of establishing a new branch of their organization known as "Air-cargo." This, I think, will be adequate for your purpose and for those people in the United States who may wish to display flowers at your show in June. Unfortunately, I cannot give you the tariff rates at this time as they have not yet been filed, but are to be filed Feb. 15th and the service is expected to start on March 15th.

Our aircargo representatives, Mr. Maloney in Chicago, Mr. Halloway in New York and Mr. Hargreaves in Cleveland can all be contacted in their various locations through the T.C.A. switchboard and will be very glad to give assistance to those people interested after the inauguration of our service in March.

I would suggest that your people be informed to contact them with regard to rates and assistance in clearing customs between the United States and Canada.

Inasmuch as there is an embargo on flowers coming into Canada from the United States for wholesale and retail distribution, it would have to be clearly stated that they were being brought here for display purposes only and not to be sold.

If this office can be of further assistance to you, please call on us.

Yours very truly, (Signed) R. L. Avey, District Manager, Cargo Sales. We are hopeful that express service, both rail and air, may be greatly improved over last season. Due to strikes and inefficient help the service was greatly curtailed and impaired with the result that shipments were very uncertain. To be forewarned it might be well to make inquiry before shipments are made as to probable delay enroute, if any.

Hotel rates will be found in another section of the bulletin. Mr. Carter informs me under date of Feb. 9th that the Hotel Royal is the best hotel in Guelph with rates of \$3.50 for single and \$6.00 for double rooms. Other hotel prices are about the same. Much less expensive rooms may be obtained in private homes or at the Ontario Agricultural School. It will be well to make reservations early to avoid inconvenience. For further information write the Chairman of the committee handling this portion of the program.

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## "Don't Let George Do It."

I never did think much of this fellow "George." He is a deadbeat, a chiseler and a cheat. He has never helped anybody pull an ounce like "Tomorrow." He never comes through. He never gets there like "Ol' Man River;" "he don't say nuthin', he don't do nuthin'." He don't even keep rollin'; so dont let George do it, for George wont do it.

## You Do It

Two hundred serious minded Society members could make our bulletin blossom out big and handsome like that super duper Solange of your fondest dream. It would no longer have to be sold; it would sell itself.

## And Here's How

Keep a note book handy at all times. When you think of something worth passing on, jot it down at once.

If you see an unusual phenomenon taking place in your peony patch, take notes, study the eccentricities and peculiarities of your varieties from start to finish.

Push your proboscis into the heart of your favorites. If you are transported to third, fifth or seventh heaven, record that. If an idea bounces off your noggin at night, climb out of bed, pronto, and put it down.

You will find that all these seed thoughts are extremely viable. With a little watering they will sprout and grow like the mischief. In no time at all you will be able to organize a mighty fine article based on actual experiences.

You can pop it into our Essay Contest. Thus the whole society joins and everybody wins. BUT DON'T LET GEORGE DO IT!

> Neal R. van Loon. Essav Contest Manager.

## List of New Members Since Last Bulletin

Ahlf, John A.-1226 Niles Ave., St. Paul, Minn. Anderson Carl—Gilman, Ill. Barron, Wm.-7 Hutchinson Court, Great Neck, L.I., N.Y. Brown, Katherine-New Springfield, O. Brenneman, Mrs. H. C.-43 Sheldon Ave., Rittman, O. Caldwell, Sam Y., Sec'y, American Iris Society-444 Chestnut St., Nashville 10, Tenn. Christensen Gardens-R.R. 3, Marcus, Iowa Connor, Mrs. Howard-Oakville, Ind. Davison, Mrs. Ruth-R.R. 3, King, Ontario, Canada. Dittman, W. Jay-16721 Kentfield Ave., Detroit 19, Mich. Feuerman, Nat.-Hutchinson Court, Great Neck, L.I., N.Y. Ferge, Mr. Richard-8036 Milwaukee Ave., Wauwatosa, Wis. Gorski, Nick-5915 W. Giddings, Chicago 30, Ill. Grist, Mrs. Cecil A.-P.O. Box 535, Buzzards Bay, Mass. Hill, Mrs. A. R., Glasgow Garden Club-218 Leslie Ave., Glasgow, Ky. Hess, Nathaniel E.—Cornwell Lane, Sands Point, L.I., N.Y. Hollingshead, Mrs. Frank N.-R.R. 3, King, Ontario, Canada. Houts, Thos C.-20 Vista Road, Great Neck, L.I., N.Y. Hunt, Wm. Lanier-Box 637, Chapel Hill, N.C. Kniphorsts Boekhandel-Hoogstraat 49, Wageningen, Holland. Kummer, Mr. Ollie-823 Hamilton Street, Preston, Ontario, Canada. Mack, Edward—2661 S. Howell Ave., Milwaukee, Wis. Morese, Earl-20 Sury Road, Great Neck, L.I., N.Y. Mulcahy, Andrew J., Sec'y, American Dahlia Society-20 Marshall Ave., Floral Park, L.I., N.Y. McDonald, Clarence-83 Coulter Ave., Weston, Ontario, Canada. Neilson, Charles-Fergus, Ontario, Canada. Oberg, Mrs. E. O.-R.F.D. 1, Hartford, Wash. Olson, Christian-Colfax, N.D. Pelham, Alphonse-15 North Drive, Great Neck, L.I., N.Y. Platt, David-7 Preston Road, Great Neck, L.I., N.Y. Podell, Max D.-28 Hutchinson Court, Great Neck, L.I., N.Y. Robinson, Philip Luther-80 Hicks Lane, Great Neck, L.I., N.Y. Rudder, Wm. H.-Box 214, 403 E. Market, Salem, Ind. Sektor Spetzbibliotek-Akad Nauk, Pyzhevskij, per 7, Moscow 17, USSR. Shinkle, Mrs. Herbert S.-R.R. 1, Box 165, Clayton, O. Sierolawski, B.-666 Kirkwood Ave., Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Smith, Mrs. Karl H.-R.F.D. 1, Waldorf, Md. Thwing, Walter E., Publisher, Home Garden-444 Madison Ave., New York 22. N.Y. The Sun Dial Garden Club, Mrs. L. E. Vance-2516 Fairway, Fort Worth 5. Texas. Wade. Mrs. Cleetis E.-1508 Hendricks St., Anderson, Ind.

- Wambach. John T.-2873 N. 73rd St., Milwaukee, Wis.
- White. G. E. R.-311 Kansas Ave.. Topeka. Kas.
- Welch. Andrew--528 Tweedsmuir Ave., Westboro, Ontario, Canada.

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## **Changes in Address**

It would save this office considerable trouble and some expense if any member moving to a new address would promptly advise me. It is impossible for us to anticipate these changes. 'If we have your name spelled incorrectly or the address in error, we will appreciate it very much if you will drop us a line to that effect and we will make the necessary changes in our records which we want to be as accurate as possible to have them. Here are some changes that have come to our notice, some through our members but most through the Post Office Department.

Mrs. Glen A. Bagley, 8423 Island Drive, Seattle, Wash., change to 10232 59th St. S., Seattle 88, Wash.

Myron D. Bigger, R.F.D. 4, Topeka, Kansas change to 713 Topeka Ave., Topeka, Kansas.

W. W. Cook, 1029 N. 2nd Street, Clinton, Iowa, change to 2929 N. 3rd St., Clinton Iowa.

Mrs. F. B. Eylar, correct address to read R.R. 2, Box 610, Renton, Wash. Mrs. Eylar no longer an officer in the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs and wants mail sent direct to her home.

Harry A. Hoberg, P.O. Box 32, Clintondale, N.Y. We have this shown as Harry O. Hoberg

G. H. Murray, 109 Harding Court, Monrovia, California, listed incorrectly as Colorado.

Jules P. Nielsen, 247 W. 24th Street, New York 11, N.Y. formerly sent to Hotel Wellington.

John A. MacCrea, Williamsville, N.Y. R.F.D. 2 is the correct address of Mr. MacCrea.

Hon. Will Leach, Court House, Scranton 3, Pa., should be changed to Room 406, Scranton Life Bldg., Scranton 3, Pa.

George T. Reid, 210 Nebraska, Pontiac 11, Mich., change to R.F.D. No. 8, Pontiac, Mich.

Telfer McArthur, R.R. 1, Old School Road, Libertyville, Ill., change to 190 E. Pearson St., Chicago, Ill.

J. L. Underwood, Cahaba Road, Rt. 4, Birmingham, Alabama, change to Rt. 13, Box 160, Homewood Station, Birmingham, Ala.

Oregon Bulb Farms, New address Gresham, Oregon.

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## **Department of Registration**

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Mr. Lyman D. Glasscock of Route No. 1, Elwood, Illinois, presents the following herbaceous hybrid peonies for registration:

BRIGHTNESS (Glasscock, 1947). S., VE., R. Seedling No. 5 R 1. (albiflora x officinalis Sunbeam.) Bright scarlet red single. Perhaps the brightest red so far. Medium height, good stems.

MAY DAWN (Glasscock, 1947). S., VE., P. Seedling No. 20 R 1. (Tokio x officinalis Sunbeam.) Bright scarlet red single. Perhaps the brightest red SALMON GLORY (Glasscock, 1947). D., VE., P. Seedling No. 28 V 1. (officinalis Rosea Plena x albiflora.) Deep salmon pink double. Tall with adequate stems.

SALMON GLOW (Glasscock, 1947). S., VE., P. Seedling No. 8 R 44. (Albiflora x officinalis Sunbeam.) Salmon pink single. Medium height. many stems, upright plant.

Mr. W. S. Bockstoce of 2803 Bergman Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, presents the following variety for registration:

HOWARD R. WATKINS (Bockstoce, 1947). D., VE., R (Officinalis x Chinensis.) Very large double hybrid, bright red with strong stems of medium height. No stamens show. Carpels tipped pink. Named for the past Secretary of the American Iris Society.

Mr. William MacDonald, of Brooklands, 755 George Street, Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada, wishes to register the following variety:

HENRIETTE CLARKE (MacDonald, 1948). D., M., W. Cross Unknown. White with scarlet splashes on a few petals. Bomb shaped buds opening into compact, large, airy, rather flat blooms. Rose fragrance. Stems strong and wiry. Flowers about seven inches in diameter. Stems three feet or more in height. Floriferous. Good cut flower. Few lateral buds.

Miss Ethel Christenson of Marcus, Iowa, desires to register the following variety:

PINK ANGEL (Christenson, 1948). S., VE., P. Hybrid tomentosa x F2 hybrid. (Parentage of F2 hybrid not given.) Tall, pale pink with crepe textured guard petals. Single. Large center of stamens wine red at base and for half their length upward. Leaves large and stamens strong. (Color of disc, carpels and tips not given.) Blooms at the same time as Golden Glow.

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#### **Grant B. Babcock**

The older members of our Society will be distressed to hear of the death of Mr. Babcock on December 22, 1947, at his home, Busti, New York. He was eighty years old. His wife, Kate Simmons and two sons Harold of Palmetto, Florida, and Lawrence of Jamestown, New York, survive him.

His gardens (Babcock Gardens, Jamestown, New York) were formerly noted for the fine collection of peonies grown. Peony growers are indebted to Mr. Babcock for two Japanese type originations both registered in 1929. One Hari-ai-nin, has risen to the top rank in reds, being rich in coloring, exuberant in flowering and of splendid growth. His other origination, Spinning Wheel, a pink Jap, is not widely known as yet. Hari-ai-nin was named at the National Show in Washington in 1929 and its English translation is The Rival.

Those of us who knew Mr. Babcock personally remember him as a genial, kindly, generous and hospitable gentleman and our sincere sympathy goes out to his family in their loss.

> (signed) George W. Peyton. Rapidan, Virginia, January 22, 1948

#### MRS. WALTER F. MILLER

The heartfelt sympathy of the Society is hereby extended to Mr. Walter F. Miller of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, whose wife died on December 6, 1947. She was born January 28, 1877, and was Mr. Miller's second wife. We shall always remember her as a very gracious and attractive lady whose hospitality was unbounded.

(signed) George W. Peyton

#### The Passing of Roy Burke

I have a letter from Judge S. Snook of Paulding, O., dated Jan. 8, 1948, sending a clipping announcing the death of Roy Burke of that city, Jan. 2. 1948.

I quote from his letter as follows:

"It seems that I am elected to write you the news of the death of another of our peony growers. (He wrote me recently of Mr. Bonnewitz's death—Ed.) I enclose the obituary notice published in our local paper. It tells about all there is to say with the exception that it does not refer to Roy's interest in peonies. He was a very close friend of the late Dr. Neeley, and with his help and advice started a peony garden which grew very rapidly until his garden soon had the largest number of varieties of any amateur grower in this vicinity. He was a splendid judge of peonies and knew how to successfully grow them. He also had a fine collection of iris.

"Some of the finest peonies I have ever seen grew in his garden. Many active members of the American Peony Society were his friends. I will always remember the vivid descriptions I have heard him give of some flowers he had seen at the shows and in gardens of his friends. He corresponded with many of the active members of our Society. He had several very good seedlings. He will be missed by all flower lovers in this community as no one can fill his place."

Mr. Burke was 61 years of age and passed away after an illness of six weeks. He resided in Paulding, O., for 43 years. Leaves a widow, Fern, one daughter, Mrs. Rhue Leaders of Defiance, O., and three sons, Lynn, Rex and Dr. Robert Burke, all of Paulding, O. Six grandchildren and two brothers, Arthur and Stanley Burke, both of Columbus, O. Flowers were a hobby and he spent a considerable time collecting his large collection. I recall meeting him in person at some of our annual exhibitions and know how enthusiastic he was about peonies.

On one occasion I made an exchange of varieties with him but never had an opportunity to visit his garden to examine his stock. For the past seven years he had not been in good health and was rather inactive in the construction business of which he was a partner.

#### Flash

Word has just reached us of the death of Richard A. Napier, Chairman of the Board of the insurance firm of R. A. Napier & Co., of Chicago, Ill., who died Tuesday, March 30th, at West Palm Beach, Fla.

Mr. Napier's home was at 2656 Walnut Street, Blue Island, Ill. He had attained the age of 82 years and until the past two years was quite active. Funeral was held April 3rd, at Blue Island, Ill.

Mr. Napier's collection of peonies was one of the finest in the country. He loved his peonies and nearly all the very best varieties obtainable were to be found in his extensive collection.

Survivors are a daughter Mrs. Miriam Rohe and a son. Richard F., both of Blue Island, and five grandchildren. A fuller report of Mr. Napier's life will appear in the next issue of bulletin.

Secretary.

#### Medals Awarded by the A. P. S. for the Year 1947

- Gold Medal. Awarded Neal R. vanLoon for best collection Class No. 1 at Boston, Mass. 6-17-47.
- Silver Medal. Awarded Moots Family for best collection advanced amateur class 101, Boston, Mass. 6-17-47.
- Silver Medal. Awarded Croix Farms, Hastings, Minn., Class 100 B, Minneapolis, Minn. 6-25-47.
- B. H. Farr Memorial Medal. Awarded Myron D. Bigger for best double bloom, Boston, Mass. 6-17-47. Variety Blanche King.

Bronze Medal. Awarded Myron D. Bigger for best Japanese bloom, Boston, Mass. 6-17-47. Variety Westerner.

Bronze Medal. Awarded Roy G. Gayle for best single bloom, Boston, Mass. 6-17-47. Variety Pres. Lincoln.

- Bronze Medal. Awarded Prof. A. P. Saunders for best hybrid peony, Boston, Mass. 6-17-47. Variety Ludovica.
- American Home Achievement Medal. Awarded to Myron D. Bigger of Topeka, Kas., for the variety Westerner.
- James Boyd Memorial Medal. Awarded Cherry Hill Nurseries for their display in Main Exhibition Hall, Class 1, 2 and 3 of Massachusetts Hort. Society.
- Honorable Mention Certificate. Awarded Myron D. Bigger for Pink Seedling 52-37 at Boston, Mass. 6-17-47.
- First Class Certificate. Awarded E. H. Lins, Cologne, Minn., for Seedling R-4-9, large double creamy white, Minneapolis, Minn. 6-25-47.
- First Class Certificate. Awarded Franklin Nursery, Minneapolis, Minn., for Seedling 474 R.S., very large deep red single, Minneapolis, Minn. 6-25-47.
- American Home Achievement Medal in bronze awarded to Franklin Nursery, Minneapolis, Minn., for the variety Bonanza, Seedling L I-R, Franklin 1947.

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#### Notes You Can Use

Your Home and Garden, Horticultural Magazine printed in Toronto, Ontario, will have much of interest to the peony growers. Several important articles from prominent American and Canadian Growers, Articles from the President and Secretary of the American Peony Society regarding the 1948 Exhibition. The 1948 Peony Exhibition will be the special feature of the February issue. It will also contain a full page ad contributed by the City of Guelph.

This Magazine has a wide distribution in Canada and a large number will go to the United States growers and Horticulturists. This magazine is giving the local Executive every assistance in making the 1948 International Exhibition a big success.

On March 11th and 12th the Ontario Horticultural Association delegates will meet at Niagara Falls, Ontario, for their Annual Convention. This Convention represents every part of Ontario with some 30,000 members. The Peony Exhibition will be given full publicity at this large meeting.

### The Forty-Fourth Annual Exhibition of the American Peony Society, Guelph, Ontario, Canada

## June 24 - 25, 1948 RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 1. Entries are open to any one regardless of membership in the Society. No entry fee is required.
- 2. Entry list giving names and number of classes to be entered should be in the hands of the Show Secretary two days before the date set for the show if possible, so that space may be provided for the exhibits. However, entries may be made up to eleven o'clock in the morning of the first day of the show.
- 3. All exhibits must be in place, ready to be judged, by twelve o'clock noon the first day of the show.
- 4. All entries must be staged under a number obtained from the show committee. The entry card showing the exhibitor's name, may be displayed after the awards are made.
- 5. No exhibitor may make more than two entries in any one class, nor receive more than one award in a class except in the Seedling Classes which see for rules governing these classes.
- 6. All varieties of peonies must be correctly named and labelled except that in the seedling classes they may be either named or numbered and in the arrangement classes no names or numbers are required.
- 7. All peony blooms staged for competition must be cut from plants owned by the exhibitor, except in the arrangement classes.
- 8. Any exhibit containing more or less material than specified in this schedule or that in any other way violates the conditions, will be disqualified.
- 9. All containers, except in the arrangement classes, will be furnished by the Exhibition Committee.
- 10. Prizes will not be given to unworthy exhibits even if they are the only ones in the class and the judges may award first, second or third prize or make no award at all, at their discretion. The judges' decision must be accepted as final.
- 11. In the arrangement classes the container must be furnished by the exhibitor at his own risk. Name and address of the owner should be placed on the bottom of the container. The Show Management assumes no responsibility for these containers in case of loss or breakage.
- 12. Length of stem for specimen peonies should not exceed eighteen (18) inches.
- 13. All flowers shown, except in the arrangement classes, will become the property of the Show Committee and will be disposed of as seen fit.
- 14. The American Peony Society Manual will govern type of bloom shown.
- 15. No exhibit may be removed from the show room until after the final closing of the show.
- 16. Unless otherwise specified only albiflora (chinensis, sinensis) varieties may be shown
- 17. Three ribbon awards shall be made in all classes unless otherwise specified.
- 18. In collections, duplication of varieties by an exhibitor will not be allowed.

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#### SCHEDULE

GROUP 1. OPEN TO ALL (except as otherwise specified).

- 1. GOLD MEDAL CLASS. Collection of not more than sixty (60) nor less than fifty (50) different varieties, one bloom of each in separate containers, of which not less than sixty (60) per cent shall be double or semidouble. Highest award the Gold Medal of The American Peony Society.
- VISITOR'S CLASS. (Note: Exhibitors living within one hundred fifty miles (150 m.) of Guelph may not enter this class.) Collection of twenty (20) varieties one bloom each in separate containers. At least sixty per cent (60%) must be double or semi-double.

#### SPECIMEN BLOOM CLASSES 3-20.

NOTE: Every exhibitor is urged to enter his finest blooms in these classes as it is from these classes that the blooms winning highest awards are placed in the Court of Honor and the various medal awards may be made from these blooms. These classes are open to every exhibitor in the show. The following special rules will apply:

The judges of these classes will make four (4) awards in each class.

First: They will choose the best flower in each class and award it the Purple Court of Honor ribbon and immediately remove it to the place provided in the Court of Honor attaching a card to it stating the exhibitor's name and the class from which it was removed.

Second: They will then select the second best bloom and give it the blue ribbon.

Third: The third best bloom in each class must be selected for the red ribbon, and

Lastly: The fourth best bloom for the white ribbon.

#### ALBIFLORA (CHINENSIS, SINENSIS) ONLY. DOUBLE OR SEMI-DOUBLE.

- 3. One bloom-white.
- 4. One bloom-blush or flesh.
- 5. One bloom—light pink.
- 6. One bloom-medium pink.
- 7. One bloom-dark pink.
- 8. One bloom—red.
- 9. One bloom—yellow predominating, double or semi-double. Varieties showing yellow only in the stamens and anthers will not be admitted. Anemone types will be admitted.
- 10. One bloom—any color—semi-double only. Varieties shown must have the stamens distinctly visible and not hidden.

#### JAPANESE

- 11. One bloom—white or flesh.
- 12. One bloom--pink--any shade.
- 13. One bloom -red.

#### SINGLE

- 14. One bloom-white or flesh.
- 15. One bloom—pink—any shade.
- 16 One bloom—red.

# HERBACEOUS HYBRIDS OR VARIETIES OF SPECIES OTHER THAN ALBIFLORA.

- 17. One bloom-double or semi-double-any color.
- 18. One bloom—Japanese type—any color.
- 19. One bloom—single type—any color.

#### TREE PEONIES.

20. One bloom—any type—any color—any species—any hybrid. NOTE: In classes 21 to 40 inclusive only *albiflora* varieties may be shown.

#### **OTHER OPEN CLASSES**

- 21. SPECIAL HONOR CLASS: Collection of ten varieties double or semidouble, three blooms each, each variety in a separate container.
- 22. One variety double or semi-double, white or flesh, ten blooms in one container.
- 23. One variety, double or semi-double, pink, ten blooms in one container.
- 24. One variety, double or semi-double, red, ten blooms in one container.
- 25. One variety, double or semi-double, white, three blooms in one container.
- 26. One variety, double or semi-double, flesh, three blooms in one container.
- 27. One variety, double or semi-double, light pink, three blooms in one container.
- 23. One variety, double or semi-double, medium or dark pink, three blooms in one container.
- 29. One variety, double or semi-double, red, three blooms in one container.
- 30. One variety, semi-double (See Class No. 10) any color, three blooms in one container.
- 31. One variety, Japanese, white or flesh, three blooms in one container.
- 32. One variety, Japanese, pink, three blooms in one container.
- 33. One variety, Japanese, red, three blooms in one container.
- 34. One variety, single, white or flesh, three blooms in one container.
- 35. One variety, single, pink, three blooms in one container.
- 36. One variety, single, red, three blooms in one container.
- 37. One stem, not disbudded, any type or color.
- 38. Collection five varieties, double or semi-double, one bloom each in one container, white, flesh, light pink, dark pink, red.
- 39. Collection ten varieties, Japanese, one bloom each in separate containers.
- 49. Collection six varieties, single, one bloom each in separate containers.
- 41. Collection herbaceous hybrids, any number, one bloom each in separate containers.
- 42. Collection tree peonies, any number, one bloom each in separate con tainers.

#### ARRANGEMENT CLASSES-OPEN TO ALL.

NOTE: No other foliage or flowers may be used except in class No. 58.

- 51. Basket of peonies, double or semi-double, one variety, any color.
- 52. Basket of peonies, Japanese or single, one variety, any color.
- 53. Basket of peonies, double or semi-double. Any combination of colors may be used for artistic effect.
- 54. Basket of peonies, Japanese or single. Any combination of colors may be used for artistic effect.
- 55. Vase of peonies, double or semi-double, any variety or varieties.
- 56. Vase of peonies, Japanese or single, any variety or varieties.
- 57. Best arrangement of peonies in a low receptacle for dining room table. Receptacle not to exceed six (6) inches in height.

58. Best display of flowers by a Horticultural Society to occupy not less than one hundred (100) square feet. Peonies must predominate.

#### **GROUP II. ADVANCED AMATEURS.**

Open to those who do not issue price lists or catalogues or sell roots, plants or flowers as their main source of income. Novice Amateurs may also enter these classes. Advanced Amateurs may enter any class open to all.

- 101. SILVER MEDAL CLASS. Collection of not more than thirty (30) nor less than twenty-five (25) varieties of which at least sixty (60) per cent must be double or semi-double, one bloom each and each variety in a separate container. Highest award the Silver Medal of the American Peony Society.
- 102. One variety, double or semi-double, white or flesh, three blooms in one container.
- 103. One variety, double or semi-double, light pink, three blooms in one container.
- 104. One variety, double or semi-double, medium or dark pink, three blooms in one container.
- 105. One variety, double or semi-double, red, three blooms in one container.
- 106. One variety, Japanese, white or flesh, three blooms in one container.
- 107. One variety, Japanese, pink, three blooms in one container.
- 108. One variety, Japanese, red, three blooms in one container.
- 109. One variety, single, white or flesh, three blooms in one container.
- 110. One variety, single, pink, three blooms in one container.
- 111. One variety, single, red, three blooms in one container.
- 112. Collection five varieties, double or semi-double, one bloom each in one container.
- 113. Collection five varieties, Japanese, one bloom each in one container.
- 114. Collection five varieties, single, one bloom each in one container.
- 115. Collection of three to five varieties of herbaceous hybrids, any type or color, one bloom each in one container.
- 116. Collection of three to five varieties of tree peonies, any type or color, one bloom each in one container.

#### **GROUP III. NOVICE AMATEURS.**

Open only to those who do not sell roots, flowers or plants and who do not grow more than fifty (50) varieties of peonies.

Novice Amateurs may enter any class in the show.

- 201. BRONZE MEDAL CLASS. Collection of not more than fifteen (15) nor less than ten (10) varieties of which not less than sixty per cent (60%) must be double or semi-double, one bloom each in separate containers. Highest award the Bronze Medal of The American Peony Society.
- 202. One variety, double or semi-double, white or flesh, one bloom.
- 203. One variety, double or semi-double, pink, one bloom.
- 204. One variety, double or semi-double, red, one bloom.
- 205. One variety, Japanese, white or flesh, one bloom.
- 206. One variety, Japanese. pink, one bloom.
- 207. One variety, Japanese, red, one bloom.
- 208. One variety, single, white or flesh, one bloom.
- 209. One variety, single, pink, one bloom.
- 210. One variety, single, red, one bloom.
- 211. Collection three varieties, double or semi-double, one bloom each in one container.

212. Collection three varieties, Japanese, one bloom each in one container.

- 213. Collection three varieties, single, one bloom each in one container.
- 214. One to three varieties herbaceous hybrids, one bloom each in one container. Any type or color.
- 215. One to three varieties tree peonies, any type or color, one bloom each in one container.
- 216. Basket of mixed flowers, peonies to predominate. Basket opening not to exceed six inches.

NOTE: The judges assigned to these classes shall choose the bloom they consider the best shown from any class and attach the Purple Court of Honor ribbon to it and label it with the exhibitor's name and the class from which it was taken and place it in the Court of Honor. They must also place a card in the exhibit from which it was taken stating on the card the name of the variety removed, and the exhibitor's name.

#### GROUP IV. SEEDLINGS AND NEW VARIETIES. OPEN TO ALL.

The following classes shall be judged by the Standing Seedling Committee of The American Peony Society. If less than three members of this committee are present the President of The American Peony Society or his representative shall appoint sufficient temporary judges to serve.

Any variety that has not been offered for sale in general commerce shall be recognized as a seedling. It may be shown under either name or number.

Any variety of comparatively recent origin that has been named and offered for sale shall be recognized as a New Variety.

Each exhibitor is limited to five entries in classes 301 and 302 and to ten entries in classes 303 and 304. Number of entries is not limited in classes 305, 306 and 307.

- 301. Seedlings of *albiflora* varieties that have never been divided or propagated. One to three blooms of each variety may be shown. Only Certificates of Honorable Mention may be awarded.
- 302. Herbaceous hybrid seedlings or seedlings of any species other than *albiflora* that have never been divided or propagated. One to three blooms of each variety may be shown. Only Certificates of Honorable Mention may be awarded.
- 303. Seedlings of *albiflora* varieties that have been divided and propagated. Three blooms of each variety in one container must be shown. Gold, silver. bronze medals, First Class Certificates and Certificates of Honorable Mention may be awarded.
- 304. Herbaceous hybrid seedlings or seedlings of species other than *albi/lora* that have been divided and propagated. Three blooms of each variety in one container must be shown. Gold, silver, bronze medals, First Class Certificates and Certificates of Honorable Mention may be awarded.
- 305. Seedlings of tree peonies, any species or hybrid, that may have been propagated or not. From one to three blooms of each variety may be shown in one container. Gold, silver, bronze medals, First Class Certificates and Certificates of Honorable Mention may be awarded.
- 306. New Varieties that have been named and offered for sale. Three blooms of each variety must be shown. New varieties of tree peonies. hybrids of any kind and species may be shown. Gold, silver, bronze medals, First Class Certificates and Certificates of Honorable Mention may be awarded.

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- 307. AMERICAN HOME ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL CLASS. This medal in silver is offered by the magazine, American Home, of New York, to the originator of the Best and Most Distinguished New Peony whether shown by him or some one else. The following conditions must be met:
  - 1. A specific entry must be made in this class. The number of entries made by any one exhibitor is not limited.
  - 2. Not less than three blooms of each variety entered must be shown.
  - 3. Any type, species or hybrid may be shown including tree peonies.
  - 4. The varieties entered must have distinctiveness as compared to existing varieties.
  - 5. No variety that has been offered for sale for more than three years prior to the date of this show may be entered.
  - 6. No variety that has won this award in any previous year may be entered.
  - 7. Every variety entered must be named and the name approved and registered by the American Peony Society. No award will be confirmed until this provision has been met.
  - 8. The award shall be made by the standing Seedling Committee of The American Peony Society.

NOTE: Any variety entered in the above classes that has been previously awarded an honor is eligible only for higher awards.

#### GROUP V. MEDAL CLASSES.

In addition to the classes already listed as medal classes (Nos. 1, 101, 201, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307) the following medals may be awarded: (No entries may be made for any of these awards.)

- 401. B. H. FARR MEMORIAL MEDAL IN BRONZE, for the best double or semi-double bloom in the show to be chosen from all exhibits by all the judges or a special panel of judges as may be decided by the management of the Show with the consent of the President of The American Peony Society or his representative.
- 402. THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY MEDAL IN BRONZE for the best Japanese type bloom in the show to be chosen by the above committee of judges.
- 403. THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY MEDAL IN BRONZE for the best single type bloom in the show to be chosen by the same committee of judges as class No. 401 and 402.
- 404. THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY MEDAL IN BRONZE for the best bloom of a herbaceous hybrid in the show of any type or color awarded as above.
- 405. THE JAMES BOYD MEMORIAL MEDAL IN SILVER for the best and most distinguished peony entry in the show to be chosen by the standing Seedling Committee or its chairman and the President of the American Peony Society or his representative, the General Show Chairman or his representative and the Regional Vice Presidents of any Canadian regions that may be present or their representatives.
- 406. AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY MEDALS IN GOLD, SILVER OR BRONZE may be awarded to any variety, whether shown or not, considered worthy by the Seedling Committee or the Board of Directors of The American Peony Society by unanimous vote only. The Board of

Directors may also award any one of these medals to any person considered worthy of this honor for his contribution to the improvement, advancement or for any other worthy contribution to the Peony, by unanimous consent of the members present.

#### **GROUP VI. DISPLAYS.**

501. Any originator, grower or individual may make a display of the varieties. grown by him. From one to three blooms of each variety in one container may be shown. No variety may be duplicated in any one display. All varieties must be plainly labelled with their names or numbers. There is no limit to the number of varieties that may be shown except one of space available. Any type class or color may be shown. The exhibitors may arrange their exhibits in any way they please subject to the approval of the Show Committee. If an originator does not have a complete collection of his originations from his own garden he may show blooms grown by others of his own originations only. Those intending to exhibit in this class should notify the Show Committee at least a week in advance so that ample space may be provided. A special award will be given to displays deemed worthy. This class is provided so that those who wish to do so may show all their varieties in one exhibit and they should be of great interest to the public. Price lists or catalogues may be placed on the show tables for public distribution. Orders may be taken but no active soliciting for business may be done.

#### COURT OF HONOR.

The Court of Honor shall consist of the following blooms:

- 1. The winner of the B. H. Farr Memorial Medal for the best flower in the show.
- 2. The winner of The American Peony Society Bronze Medal for the best Japanese type flower in the show.
- 3. The winner of The American Peony Society Bronze Medal for the best single type flower in the show.
- 4. The winner of The American Peony Society Bronze Medal for the best herbaceous hybrid in the show.
- 5. The best flowers in classes 3 to 20 (Purple Ribbon winners).
- 6. The best bloom in the Novice Amateur classes 201 to 215.
- 7. The blooms winning any award from the Seedling Committee or the Board of Directors.
- 8. The bloom winning the American Home Achievement Medal.

NOTE: The date set for the show, June 25-26, 1948, is only tentative and if weather conditions make it necessary to do so, it will be changed so that the dates will enable the greatest number of exhibitors to take part.

NOTE: In addition to ribbon awards in all classes it is the intention of the management to offer certain other prizes in many classes details of which may be obtained from the Show Committee at Guelph.

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## THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

The American Iris Society, since its organization in 1920, has published 83 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.



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### Brand Peony Farms Are Offering For the Year 1948

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

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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.

BUSH CHERRIES 30 varieties of bush cherries. Big black, blue, red and yellow cherries grown on bushes no larger than a currant bush. (Handled in spring catalog only.)

#### **FLOWERING CRABS**

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

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1933 Chicago Hansina Brand 1934 Minneapolis

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### BRAND PEONY FARMS

Faribault, Minn.

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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 \$3.50 per year. 20 Marshall Ave. Andrew J. Mulcahy, Sec'y. Floral Park, L.I., N.Y.

#### BONANZA

The new variety which won so many awards and excited so much comment at the N. W. show this year.

It is a dark red, luminously brilliant. A strong grower which stands the weather well without fading.

"The red we have all been looking for." We had not intended to sell any this year but insistent demand for prices has induced us to offer a few.

3-5 eye divisions from 3 year plants. \$30.00

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One of the most outstanding introductions in recent years. At the Rockford, Ill., American Peony Society's annual exhibition it won in every class shown. Not a single variety stood up better throughout the exhibition. Supply limited and orders should soon take available stock. If you miss this one, you are losing out on one of the finest peonies you could wish for. Year old, undivided plants will be supplied on orders. Price \$20.00.

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Removed under Mr. Bonnewitz's supervision three years ago and now again ready for redivision. You will want to see this list and add some to your collection. Prices very reasonable and quality to satisfy you.

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