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AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY
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Bulletin

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BULLETIN NO. 137

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AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

George W. Peyton, Editor — Rapidan, Virginia

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

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DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

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OBJECTIVES

The Articles of Incorporation state: Sec. 2. That the particular objects for which the corporation is to be formed are as follows: To increase the general interest in the cultivation and use of the peony; to improve the standard of excellence of the flower; to improve the methods of its cultivation and methods of placing it upon the market; to increase its use as a decorative flower; to bring about a more thorough understanding between those interested in its culture; to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of peonies; to stimulate the growing and introduction of improved seedlings and crosses of such flower; and to promote any of the general objects herein specified by holding or causing to be held examinations, and awarding or causing or procuring to be awarded, prizes therefor, or in any other manner.

MEMBERSHIP

The By-Laws state: All reputable persons, professional or amateur, who are interested in the peony, its propagation, culture, sale and development, are eligible to membership.

The annual dues are now \$5.00 a year. The year begins with January 1 and runs the calendar year. Applicants for membership should send a check or money order for five dollars payable to AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY to the Secretary. If cash is sent, the letter should be registered. The Society will not be responsible for any cash remittances made otherwise. Membership fee is \$5.00, \$3.00 of which is for a subscription to the American Society Bulletin for one year. Subscription to the Bulletin to non-members \$5.00 for one year.

THE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is issued quarterly, usually in March, June, September and December. Back numbers will be charged for at \$1.25 a copy for the current years. Contact the Secretary for prices on other available numbers.

DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION

This department was formed "to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of peonies." Those who desire to register a new variety, and all new varieties should be registered to avoid duplication of names, should apply to George W. Peyton, Chairman, Nomenclature Committee. Registration fee is \$2.00 for each variety registered.



AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



JUNE, 1955 — NO. 137

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

As I wrote my message for the March Bulletin just three months ago, the thermometer outside my window registered two below zero. Today, April 28th, the mercury stood in the seventies. It has reached unseasonable high's several times this month and plant development is two weeks ahead of normal. Apple blossoms are falling, lilacs are in full bloom and some peonies are ready to disbud. I do not remember another year when such conditions existed in northern Ohio. I am apprehensive about it. We usually have one or more heavy frosts in May. If it comes this year, what will it do to the peonies, and other things that are far more tender? The peonies show a wider spread in degree of development than I have ever seen before. As stated previously, some are ready to disbud, while some of the late kinds are barely through the ground. It bids fair to be an interesting season; perhaps fraught with disappointments, but possibly with unusual success. My chief concern is how it will affect the show. Will our date be too late? Or will we have any flowers to show if a hard freeze comes?

By the time you read these lines,

we will know the answers. And we will know of any changes in policy and plans affecting the conduct of the affairs of the Society. Unfortunately, the membership at large will have to wait for the September Bulletin for the information concerning action taken by the new Board of Directors. There will be much for them to consider. The President's Advisory Committee which I appointed at the beginning of my term has functioned very well. Many suggestions have been made. Few of them were things upon which the President himself could act. Most of them relate to policy matters and will require action either by the Society or the Directors. But the fact that we have definite proposals for policy changes is encouraging. Some seem a bit radical, but perhaps it will take radical changes to make our society what we want it to be. There will be much difference of opinion on some of the suggestions. But we must resolve our differences and determine a working program. If our Committee's suggestions result in a broadened and more forward looking program, I will consider that my term as President has been in some degree a success.

W. A. Alexander

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THE MEMBERSHIP LIST

American Peony Society

May 15, 1955

Due to some demand, we are publishing the list of active members of this Society who have paid their dues for the current year and also those who have paid through 1954, with a few others, to whom it has not yet been possible to get their bills, this year, due to various reasons.

This list can never be absolutely correct as we get in new members, resignations and changes of address constantly. So do not expect it to be perfect.

If anyone finds that their address is not correct in every detail, we hope they will send us the correct address at once.

It seems almost impossible to get our members to send us their zone number in cities which have them. The Post Office Department requires this for prompt delivery. So please let us have yours if you have one.

This list does not contain exchange members.

If any name has been omitted, that should appear, please advise the Secretary at once.

ALABAMA

Pope M. Long, Sr., Cordova, Alabama

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Toichi Domoto, 26591 Western Road, Hayward, California.

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Mrs. George H. Kolze, 236 North Carlyn Avenue, Campbell, California.

C. Magnussen, 7426 Russell Road, Hayward, California.

H. Dean Poisal, 27 Dutton Avenue, San Leandro, California.

Mrs. Henry E. Rivers, 474 South Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

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COLORADO

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Mrs. D. L. Vaughan, Dogwood Farm, Route 1, Kennesaw, Georgia.

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 Guy E. Tomlinson, Oblong, Illinois.
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 Vaughan's Nursery, Western Springs, Illinois.
 Lester Votrian, Route 4, Franklin Road, Edwardsville, Illinois.
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 Mr. and Mrs. Earl W. Knapp, Route 1, Carmel, Indiana.
 Herman G. Lewis, Route 1, Tipton, Indiana.

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Linkhart and Son, North Vernon, Indiana.
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 Dr. O. H. McDonald, Route 1, Fairland, Indiana.
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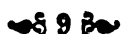
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William Anderson, Rest Home, New London, Minnesota.
William H. Boyle, 799 South Smith Avenue, St. Paul, 7, Minnesota.
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Dr. Alex M. Watson, Box E, Royalton, Minnesota.
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SCHIZOPAENIA

Old Uncle Klunk wobbled down to Zeke's yard and found him complaining about lumbago.

" 'Taint lumbago you old codger, it's old age abustin' in on you sort of ungracefully. Was comin' back from the store and had some gripes 'bout peonies, dumb hombres and our Society, so thought that I'd make a detour of a couple pieces, and gab with you a bit 'til daughter makes me take a nap. By the way, Zeke, wuz down to the District's semi-annual meeting, and heard some of the young squirts yap 'bout peonies. Seems to me, that almost everyone but you and me has a good case of schizopaenia, and I'll bet that if you'd crack their wooden domes wide open, you'd find one of these two things: a complete vacuum or a balloon size peony and nuthin' else. I'd certainly recommend, that the whole shebang go to a psychiatrist to see what's missin' in the belfrey, but any fool that would go to one of these fellers ought to have his head examined. Maybe the thing to do would be to have the whole outfit in our Society psycho-ceramiced, so that the crack pots could be winnowed out. Down at the meetin' one nutty upstart got up and crowed 'bout the fact that he had no peony in his place that you could buy for less than three bucks. What a dumb dizzy pate! Ugh, dopes like these make me wish I wuz young again so I could take 'em in the woodshed and boost their brains where they ough to be."

"Now, Uncle Klunck, I'd like to —."

"Hold everythin', Zeke, don't go hornin' in, its' a bad habit. As I wuz sayin, few of the new crop of peony blokes knows beans 'bout peonies. Like in everythin'

else, you have a gang of codfish aristocrats that want to put on a front, and keep up with the Joneses, and some times these Jones' boys are a scant ham sandwich ahead of their stomachs. That's puttin' on a phoney front and livin' in the land of make believe. And the heck of it is, Zeke, that the kids ape the old man, and if they can't put it over honestly they put it over anyway. No wonder the number in the jails is increasin' faster in proportion to the population. You know, Zeke, one of the late homespun philosophers said, that this once grand country has gone to the spaniels. To prove his point he said, 'Now take any American, with very few exceptions, when they go buyin' one of those gasoline rigamajigs, they want a written guarantee that it will go at least a hundred thousand miles before the sponge has to be tossed in, then when the car is a year old and has run not more than ten thousand miles, they swap it in for a new more glamorous item.' That's hittin' the spike right on the nub. How often do you see such classy swell stuff as Festiva Maxima, Mons. Jules Elie, Mme. Emile Lemoine, Mme. Jules Dessert, Therese or Lady Alexandra Duff on the bench in modern shows? Rarely some brave guy will stake them against the harvest of ridicule. Most of the guys and dames fear that it would tag them with the class from the wrong side of the tracks, too poor to buy this high faluttin' stuff. I'm for a class at the shows for the real umph things of twenty five years ago, and in my big black volume, some of the old birds are miles ahead of the newer high octane introductions. Yep, Zeke, the biggest fool is the fool

who fools himself. And, if folks would search for beauty rather than social tomfoolery we'd be goin' places, and if the dads would study beauty durin' the day instead of beauties at night, we'd have a pretty good down payment on decent livin' in families.

"You know that feller down Rockford way on whom some wise acre plastered the nickname of a famous detective? Well four years ago, Ike, Slim and me took a gander to his place and saw the grand show. What a sight! He's got the finest collection of high grade antiques that you'll find on this side of the big drink. This feller has not only high quality blooms, but all of his plants are super doopers. Sure, he's got some of the modern ritzy, snooty stuff, but he has his feet anchored on terra firma, and don't go sailin' into the high blue 'bout them. Among his collection of selected antiques wuz an unusual white Jap that had lots to say peonywise. The petal arrangement is very orderly and original. We walked around the large garden and made a circle around it. We came back to it several times to soak up its loveliness. It had a surplus of charm and refinement. The heck of it is, Zeke, that only a passin' word is meagerly mentioned in our peony manual 'bout it. The erudite personnel that cooked up the old, obsolete and ancient symposium did not feel that it warranted a second look, so did not think that it should be given a rating above eight. This variety is Miyo-no-hana, and I'm willing to bet a cent to a hole in the wall that you'll not find it listed in any recent catalog. You know, Zeke, that when the next fall came, this fine fellow with the fictional detective appellation favored all three of us with a generous chunk of it. That

wuz three years ago, and last year it spoke a very neat piece for me. Let the social climbers and dumbsnoots follow the tinsel and the bandwaggon, me for the common brand of ordinary horse sense."

"Now, take our shows—."

"Uncle Klunck, now if I were—"

"There you go again, Zeke, buttin' and hornin' in, you don't give a fellow a chance to get a word in edgewise. Now, what was I talkin' about? Oh yes, now if you want to cop the loot at shows all you have to do is own a sausage factory, a butcher shop, or peddle fish. Now take the sausage business, you take all of the waste and dig it around the peonies. But by the taste of sausage now days, one wonders if there is any waste at all. Then, these fellers generally have a smoke house, built along the Chick Sales' design only with a brick veneer. This smudge pot gives plenty of wood ashes and how are you going to beat guys with a flying start like this? I s'pose that there are two sides to anything no matter how thin you slice it. Did you ever dream that so many artifices could be restored to in the exhibiting peonies? They resort to bags, storage, root and leaf fertilization, and the denuding of stalks to watermellon the flowers. And when a feller runs into a new gimick or gadget that works, he has the inside track 'til someone else gets hep."

"That feller, Ike, who has a mansion on the hill, went to Gray's Lake when the government men were seining and culling out the non-game fish. He took his new two hundred fifty horse power palace on wheels and loaded it inside and out with bushel baskets of carp and dog fish. That night, his ball and chain wanted to take a bunch of snobby, snooty

women to an evening church affair. When she opened one of the doors out poured an odor that was a million times intense as roses but one millionth as sweet. The car stood on the farthest corner of the ten acre plot with the trunk lid and windows open for over two weeks. Naturally, the neighbors thought that Ike wuz balmy. They certainly thought he wuz good 'n ripe for white coated boys when they saw him planting fish in his peony patch. But all turned out better than expected, since he yanked down a Court of Honor winner in a national show."

Now, Zeke, I thought that by now some one in the society's outfit would have come up with a headache powder to cure our Society's long hang over. We've been in a stupid stupor with our feet firmly anchored in the goo of pipe dreams and apathy for nearly a quarter of a century. The sixty four dollar question is when are we going to wiggle free?"

"Uncle Klunck, I'm glad you brought—."

"Hold on, Zeke, right when a feller gets his finger on the pulse you barge in and start to filibuster like a licked congressman. Now if I can find out where I wuz, oh, I've the pitch. Take our Board of Directors, when a feller gets elevated to this job, he's got a life time assignment whether he produces or not, like those Supreme Court guys. I'd like to see the Board Members serve their sentence to the Society and get out, and give someone else, who is not pooped, to try out their hands in hoppin' up a big bouquet of slaphappy, docile menagerie of schizapaenia maniacs. A new broom will sweep clean, but even at that, you have to push it before it can do a job in the stable. Instead of allowin' the Board Mem-

bers to hang on, and on, and on 'til apathy induced by senility creeps in, why not limit them to say four years as a maximum stretch, then let 'em step out. After two years looking in, they'd be eligible again."

"How about a new Peony Manual? This ancient document is as outdated as cotton hosiery for the gals, and it has become so rare that it has become a museum piece for the collectors. Us old foggies have a copy, but how about the newer members who would like to have a leaning post when they need a prop? We all are for a new manual. I hate to be ever lastinly harpin' and harpin' and be accused of puttin' casters on folk's crutches, but I'm going to hang on this front 'til we get a new manual, or 'til I get measured for a wooden kimono and planted in a marble orchard. The heck of it is, that everyone that I gabbed with, is willin' to advance five bucks to the purchase price, and a few fine righteous fellers have agreed to underwrite a number of copies. Where, O where is the spirit of the pioneers of 1928, who banned together and pushed the thing thru with only hope and enthusiams? Let's get the right fellers in the bull pen and warm 'em up for a Garrison finish, we can do it. By the way, those old timers done a neat job, too."

"Now, Uncle Klunk your—."

There you go a filirbustin' again. Don't be so rude, Zeke. No, me and my good woman are goin' to the big national shindig, and we were casin' a few of the stores to get an idea of a new gown to wear for this event. Well, we got an eyeful watchin' the models. Believe me, Zeke, the old fashioned gals got more out of their dresses, but in a much different way. Well,

(Continued bottom next page)

VAN WERT PEONY FESTIVAL

Van Wert, O. — The first public event in connection with the forthcoming revival June 8 of the famed Van Wert Peony Festival took place at 8 p.m., April 6, when the festival queen was selected at Lincoln Auditorium.

Nine candidates were nominated for the role of Peony Queen, known more properly as Queen Jubilee. Each of the nine high schools in Van Wert County was asked to select a senior girl as its candidate.

Nominated were:

Sue Adam, Hoaklin-Jackson; Carol Eggerss, Van Wert; June Gallant, Willshire, Janice Gardner, Ohio City-Liberty; Janet Germann, Wren; Mary Lou Girod, Van Del; Sue Moreo, Delphos Jefferson; Beverly Myers, Convoy-Union, and Jeannine Vandemark, York.

The candidates have been taking part in rehearsals under the guidance of a special committee to prepare themselves for their stage appearance before a trio of judges and the general public at the Wednesday night program.

The queen's committee is made up of Mrs. Merl Brady, Clyde Coon, Mrs. L. W. Dustman, Mrs. Betsy Upson, Mrs. Ned Dull and Mrs. Margaret Tomczak. Clarence

got to hurry along, else my good woman will send Daughter to round me up. Zeke, by the way, can you give me a whisper of an eye of this high assay stuff like Ann Cousins, Doris Cooper, Red Charm, Jessie Gist, J. C. Nicholls? If you can, I'd be thankful, but pass the loot under the table, and keep mum about it. So long!

Francis P. Tikalsky
LaGrange Park, Ill.

Cropper is overall chairman of the queen's division of the festival.

The judges for the event were Mayor Alner D. Ryan of Defiance; Mrs. Charles Campbell, Stamford, Conn., who was Queen Jubilee I at the first Peony Festival in 1932, and Mrs. Hope Strong, woman's page editor for the Lima News.

From the nine candidates, the judges selected the queen and two maids of honor. The remainder are designated as attendants.

They will reign over the day-long festivities planned for June 8, including an afternoon and evening parade, and programs in the high school football stadium.

Thirty-five bands from Ohio and Indiana have already been accepted as marching units in the parade.

LYNCHBURG, VA. SHOW

The annual Show of the Lynchburg Council of Garden Clubs was held on Saturday, May 21st.

Our charming lady member of that city, Mrs. William Goode Robinson, won in specimen classes:

Double white or blush: 1st, with Victory. Double deep pink: 1st with Tondeleyo. Double red: 1st with Felix Crousse. Japanese: 2nd with Tokio. Single, pink: 3rd with Pride of Langport. Tree: 2nd with La Lorraine. Collection: 2nd.

R. H. JONES

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PEONIES — Oriental Poppies

Originator Dorothy J — Red Cloud — Sagamore — June Rose Tuckdawa

List Free!

Peru, Indiana

Chicago Peony Notes

Dear Sir:

You ask for a list of varieties which I think are best. That is a mighty tough question to answer as some of my better and scarcer ones were redivided a year ago last fall and others are growing on different types of soil, but will give you some cold facts: I use combination inventory and check sheets and with these I try to go through the entire planting every other day in order to get the blooming dates and performance. The ones that are exceptionally good receive a check mark. On plants three or more years old, I have five varieties that received a check mark the last two years and will list them in order as my best: Nick Shaylor, Kelway's Glorious, White Eagle, Mrs. Frank Beach and Mme. Butterfly. The ones that received a check mark the past season are, but not listed in order: Mons. Jules Elie, Evelyn S. Pierce, Ella Christiansen, Rose Shaylor, Margaret Lough, Blushing Beauty, Silvia Saunders, Nippon Brilliant, White Delight, Tempest, Shattuck (yearling), Evening Star, E. C. Shaw, Harriet Olney, Richard Carvel, Wiesbaden, Auten's Pride and Prudence. Rose Shaylor was the best of the lot this year.

I feel that it is very unfair to condemn any peony for the following reasons: Two years ago Alice Harding was tops, last year they were so bad, to the extent that I destroyed all of them, if they were not diseased, then I do not want any that perform that way and it was not caused by nematodes. Five years ago, I set out sixteen Flanders Fields, they were full of life the first year, the next year they all but died, so I dug them up in the fall, cut out all the

old root, trimmed them short and salvaged eight small plants, planted them in a different field and they have done well ever since. The first patch was where I had trouble with nematodes. If they were the cause, then it seems possible that they can be replanted by cleaning the roots bare and short and replanting in dryer soil. I intentionally planted some that were infected last fall and will watch these closely. Five years ago I broke up five large Nick Shaylor plants and planted them in five different places. Four of these turned out to be tops and the fifth I am going to destroy as the buds are not opening properly. Now suppose that I only had this fifth plant to start with, then my opinion of Nick Shaylor would be very low. I am replanting only the ones that perform the best for me plus some new varieties. I have heard that Mrs. A. M. Brand does not perform well around Chicago, but it has done very well for me. The check sheet shows it to be a very late white double.

The list of thirty outstanding herbaceous peonies by Mr. John Burton Brimer on page 23 of the December Bulletin, fairly well hits the nail on the head in my estimation. That batch should make anyone a nice garden.

I am glad that the rating system has been done away with as it was very unfair to Richard Carvel as it has always been a vigorous upright and beautiful specimen plant, sure to bloom, early and a good cut flower. In fact, I cannot raise enough of them. I even bought a new batch two years ago to increase my stock. Mons. Martin Cahuzac also has a high rating in my book. Another one that

is in great demand here by all who see it is Karl Rosenfield and I believe that it will be growing for a long time to come. Karl always divides into nice divisions for me. Now my idea of a peony may be a whole lot different from the opinion of the average member. The qualities that I want most are peonies that will make good specimen plants and also be good for beds, so my preference is a strong stem, upright grower and sure to bloom consistently. Also, I consider the foliage and its color a good deal. I have had blooms that looked luscious enough to eat, but what about a bush that has a wingspread of about seven feet. Diana and Hansina Brand are good in that respect.

It is rather discouraging to me to visit a good nursery, greenhouse or salesyard and learn their indifference to peonies, that is to varieties. Seems as if there are but three kinds of peonies, red, white and pink.

I have run into something odd in my patch. I do not know whether it is a sport or a seedling that got started in the crown of a large plant of Nick Shaylor, but amongst one block of Nick Shaylor there was a plant about twice as large as any in the field, very large flower, very coarse, rose pink in color, double, it has no beauty, nicknamed it "Whopper", divided it into one large division and four smaller ones just for curiosity.

Yours, truly,
Herman Meyer

The Oberlin Peony Gardens, Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania, will be operated by the new owner, Mr. Morris James. We hope to have full information in the next Bulletin.

— F O R S A L E —

MONOGRAPH OF THE TREE PEONY

We have a number of the January issue of the National Horticultural Magazine which we can sell to our members, or to any one that may wish them, at one dollar each.

If you wish ten or more the price will be seventy-five cents each plus transportation.

HANDBOOK OF THE PEONY

A few copies of the Handbook are still on hand. We can furnish them for twenty-five cents each as long as the supply lasts. PLEASE DO NOT SEND STAMPS.

HYBRID PEONY BULLETIN

There are also a number of the June, 1953 Bulletin which contains the article and list of all herbaceous hybrids then on the market. These are priced to members at twenty-five cents each. To others at fifty cents each. NO STAMPS, PLEASE.

MEMBERSHIP LIST

Extra copies of the Membership List may be obtained for twenty-five cents from members and fifty cents from others.

SEND ALL ORDERS FOR THE
ABOVE TO THE SECRETARY.
NO STAMPS PLEASE.

Peony Shows

Attention is called to the notices of the Peony Festival in Van Wert, Ohio, June 8, and the North Dakota Peony Society Show in Grand Forks, North Dakota, June 25-26. Those who can, should by all means attend these events. As we go to press we do not have the exact dates of the Sussex County, New Jersey show to be held in Newton, New Jersey. A card to Mr. Frank Howell, Route 1, Newton, New Jersey, will bring the information.

We presume there will be a show in Boston as usual. We do not have this date either. The Massachusetts Horticultural Society, 300 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston 15, Mass. can give you this date.

We think there will be the usual show in Superior, Wisconsin. Mrs. Charles Lund, 1713 East Eighth Street, Superior, Wisconsin, is the proper one to apply to for information.

We also suppose that there will be the customary show in Duluth given by the Duluth Peony and Iris Society. Mrs. W. A. Swanman, 5232 Glendale, Duluth 4, Minnesota, will tell you what you may wish to know about this show. This show and the Superior Show usually are held in July.

The Annual Peony Show of the Minnesota Peony and Iris Society will be held Monday and Tuesday, June 13-14, 1955 in the Northwestern National Bank, Minneapolis.

There was to have been a show in Oklahoma City in early May, at which Mr. Allen Wild was the guest speaker. The report of this show has not yet been received.

By now, all of you should know of the change of date of the National Show in Chicago to June 5-6. Notices were mailed as soon as we received word of the change, to all members of the Society in good

standing. We hope that this will be a show long known for its excellence.

North Dakota Show

Directors of the North Dakota Peony Society met there Monday night to make preliminary arrangements for the annual flower show, which is tentatively scheduled in Grand Forks June 24 and 25.

Scheduled in the lower auditorium of Central high school, the show's definite timing awaits spring weather conditions.

The society, which operates to encourage the growing of peonies, urged an expansion of peony cultivation. Directors stressed the importance of the society to prospective growers, who may obtain information and help from members of the organization.

Directors are Mrs. J. L. Booty, Mrs. William F. Froelich, Mrs. Frances Kannowski, Jack Lynch, Wyman Sheppard and Mrs. Earle A. Wood, all of Grand Forks; Mrs. R. D. Heald, Larimore; Donald Hoag, Harwood; and George E. Tollefson, Fargo.

Edward K. Lander is president of the society, with L. A. Potter as secretary and Amos Martin, treasurer.

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Also we have large collections of iris, tritomas, hemerocallis, eremurus, etc. Catalog gladly sent on request.

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GREENHURST, N. Y.

Secretary's Notes

George W. Peyton, Secretary, Box No. 1, Rapidan, Virginia

This issue of the Bulletin is being mailed early, as we plan to change the dates of publication if it seems advisable, beginning with the next issue. This matter will be brought before the directors at the coming meeting.

It will be necessary to elect six directors at the coming meeting. The terms of those from the First, Second, Third, Sixth, and Seventh Districts will expire, while our director from the Ninth (Canada) has asked that his resignation be accepted.

It is provided in the By-Laws that each district shall have one member on the Board. The Eighth has never had one. It should have.

Inasmuch as none of the districts except the Fifth are fully organized, it will be necessary for the membership present at the coming meeting to elect the directors, while complying with the regulations as far as possible.

The section of our By-Laws dealing with the selection of directors, as published in the June, 1951 issue of the Bulletin is far from conforming to the wording as passed. It should be re-written and the expiration dates of directors changed so that the terms of the directors expire at equal intervals, instead of about half of them in one year.

The question of the length of time a director should serve also may need revision. At present no limit has been placed on the number of terms a director may serve. In consequence the charge is often made that they are a self perpet-

uating body and there is truth in the charge, as it is hard for a body to turn down one of their number when it comes to a recommendation. Limiting the length of service would eliminate any such embarrassment that might be caused when one has served his stipulated number of terms.

JUDGING SCHOOL IN RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Your present secretary has just returned from assisting in an advanced course in Flower Show Judging, held in Richmond, Virginia, under the auspices of the Virginia Council of Accredited Flower Show Judges, May 17-19.

His assignment was Instruction in Judging and Point Scoring of Peonies, Critical Analysis with Class Participation and an examination which consisted of the judging from actual specimens and comments by those taking the examination.

There were about eighty present of which thirty-seven took the examination.

Your secretary was able to take some fairly good specimens from his own garden which even included a few hybrids and one tree peony. As is well known, few gardeners of the class belonging to Garden Clubs know really a great deal about peonies. As far as many of them get with peonies, is to get a plant from some neighbor, dig it up and plant it and expect it to bring forth grand flowers ever afterwards. The specimens taken were mainly far different from any

the majority of those present had ever seen and they created a great deal of interest. Let us hope some of it will be lasting.

As is well known, no table of points for judging peonies in a show has ever been adopted by our Society. The scale we have was for for judging seedling peonies in the show room and not the general classes. Reference to the scale as published in 1920 will confirm this. It is utterly inadequate for use in any other way. Due to the fact that there is the demand for a scale of points for judging in the regular flower shows, it might be well for the Society to give the matter serious consideration. We know that these scales are seldom used as it would take an interminable time to judge a show, if every bloom were scored, but in cases of close decisions, such a scale should be available.

The next Bulletin will be issued as soon as possible after July 1. We hope the reports of the shows will come in promptly.

Advertising should be received by June 15.

THE PEONY SEASON

In many places the season started out to be extra early, only to have cool weather slow it down and bring it to nearly normal. In Rapidan, Smouthi opened on April 22, a week ahead of last year. Nearly all the varieties have now opened, except some of the late ones. Mattie Lafuze is now in gorgeous bloom, while Victory still shows hard buds, though it will open unless something unusual happens and it often does.

The hybrids were generally not as good as they should have been. Some were killed by frost, among them Red Charm. Laddie, opening April 23, was probably the best, though Golden Glow and Choco-

late Soldier were good. The latter came a pure Japanese type. Golden Glow showed many side buds and they are now in full bloom. The past two years, many hybrids in my garden have had side buds. A number of them are still small plants and, due to the dry weather the past two years have made little growth.

Only one tree peony of the Mountain class bloomed. Beatrix, it was far below standard. Aurore of the hybrid trees, opened a small bloom well and that was taken to Richmond as mentioned elsewhere.

The early varieties were in many cases small, Mons. Jules Elie being only about half normal size. The singles were generally normal in size and exceptionally long lasting. Blooms of Dawn Pink and Dunlora that had been open for several days were shown in Richmond and lasted well throughout the two first days of the School. A bloom of Miss America was forgotten the first two days, but shown the last day and was one of the best there. Ada Priscilla, which is advertised in this issue of the Bulletin by its originator, was one of the best of all. It has beauty, form, color and stems that recommend it as one of the great peonies for the garden.

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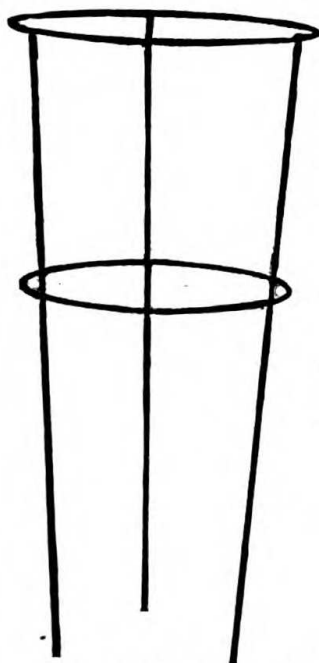
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(*) This name, having previously been used, will be changed.



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