

# AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

INC. JULY 2, 1904

## Bulletin

JUNE - 1958

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**American Peony Society**

George W. Peyton, Editor — Rapidan, Virginia

## AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

### OFFICERS

President: Harold E. Wolfe, 24 South 86th St., Belleville, Illinois.

Vice-President: Myron D. Bigger, 1147 Oakland Ave., Topeka, Kansas.

Treasurer: L. W. Lindgren, 1787 West Minnehaha Avenue, St. Paul, 4, Minnesota.

Secretary and Editor: George W. Peyton, Box No. 1, Rapidan, Virginia.

### DIRECTORS

W. A. Alexander, 145 Eberly Avenue, Bowling Green, Ohio. (1960).

Myron D. Bigger, 1147 Oakland Ave., Topeka, Kansas. (1959)

L. W. Cousins, 472 Tecumseh Avenue, London, Ontario, Canada. (1959)

Frank L. Howell, Lake Lenape, Rt. 1, Newton, New Jersey. (1959)

Dr. D. Sanford Hyde, 810 Bonnie Brae, River Forest, Illinois. (1959)

Marvin C. Karrels, 3272 South 46th St., Milwaukee 15, Wis. (1959)

Clarence Lienau, 25804 Joy Road, Rt. 1, Detroit 28, Mich. (1959)

L. W. Lindgren, 1787 West Minnehaha Avenue, St. Paul, 4, Minnesota. (1958).

Frank E. Moots, 1127 West Broadway, Newton, Kansas. (1958).

George W. Peyton, Box No. 1, Rapidan, Virginia. (1958).

Miss Silvia Saunders, Clinton, New York. (1959)

Louis Smirnnow, 35 Linden Lane, Brookville, Long Island, New York, (1958).

Allen J. Wild, Sarcouxie, Missouri. (1960).

Harold E. Wolfe, 24 South 86th Street, Belleville, Illinois. (1958).

Director on Board of American Horticultural Council: Dr. J. Franklin Styer, Concordville, Pennsylvania.

### DISTRICT V

President: Roy G. Gayle, 6930 West State Street Road, Rockford, Ill.

Secretary-Treasurer: Theo. R. Mysyk, Box 525, Hebron, Illinois.

### 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 Peony Society Bulletin for one year. Subscription to the Bulletin to non-members, \$5.00 for one year.

### THE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is issued quarterly. Back numbers when available, will be charged at prices which will be furnished by the Editor. Current year back numbers will be fifty cents each to members.

### 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, 1958 — NO. 149

## *President's Message*

It seems a little odd, this writing my last "Message". And as I cast about for the ideas I would like to include in it, I begin to wonder in all honesty whether any I have submitted have been worthy of the name. Remarks they may have been, but true messages are more rare.

It is one thing to feel deeply about something: it is quite another to become intelligently and constructively articulate about it. It is one thing for us to feel individually and collectively as we do about the peony and its future place in the plant world, but it is quite another for us to combine and correlate those feelings, and translate them into appropriate action. Herein lies one of the primary functions of the Board of Directors, and one of the reasons why at our Annual Meetings we must have more time for deliberations than we have sometimes had.

In addition to the problems regularly faced by an organization such as ours, we seem to be facing a time of change in horticultural and cut-flower fields. In our own particular area the sale of peonies Memorial Day is declining, and this at a time when maintenance costs are up. Could this portend the end of the day of large fields of

peonies for "Decoration Day"? Certainly it indicates that fewer acres will be needed. Situations change. In our own family, the value of a large planting of narcissus here in Southern Illinois declined rapidly with the lifting of the bulb embargo and the establishment of plantings in the Northwest. In the case of the peony, it is largely the use of other blooms on Memorial Day, and the gaudy-colored wreaths I saw displayed by the hundreds the other day at several of our Super-Markets. Bright they were—bright indeed. So gaudy it would seem a sacrilege to use them in the quiet places cemeteries should be. But there they were, and going like hot-cakes. Oh they have their commercial advantages all right. No refrigeration required by either seller or buyer, they can be thrown together cheaply, and can be sold weeks ahead of Memorial Day. If this is a problem, how can we meet it?

I have made a move to provide an institutional planting of tree peonies in this area. Have given more than 2,000 plants to my Alma Mater, Southern Illinois University. This is located at Carbondale, about 90 miles south-east of Belleville. The plants, in nursery rows there now, will be placed on the campus in a couple of years.

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The school is a focal point for many interests in Southern Illinois, and will be a perfect "show off" spot for the tree peonies. Later on I hope to be of some influence in bringing about the planting of many peonies by residents of Belleville. All this will help the cause of the peony. And paradoxically, would help their sale as cut flowers.

Much can be done. But up in Minneapolis, in a few weeks from now, we will be discussing these and other things having to do with the welfare of the peony. I am sure that we will have a fine show, and a fine meeting. Mrs. Wolfe and I look forward to seeing you there.

Harold E. Wolfe

## The Kingwood Center Project

On May 25th Mr. W. H. Krekler and the writer met at Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio, to inspect the peony planting for which members of the Society donated roots in the fall of 1955, and to confer with the Director of the Center, Dr. Ray Allen, regarding plans for the future. The other two members of the committee, Pharon Denlinger of Dayton and Clarence Lienau of Detroit were unable to go.

Because of the disaster which occurred during the early spring following their planting, the question arose whether the original plans could be carried out. It will be remembered that part of Ohio had an unprecedented amount of rain during the spring of '56. The extremely heavy rains and a breakdown of the drainage system at Kingwood resulted in the loss of many peonies as well as much other plant material in that area of the grounds. This was reported to the Society at the annual meeting that year. For a time it was feared that the peonies would be a total loss. But prompt action in correcting the drainage situation resulted in saving a considerable number. Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Krekler, many of those that died were replaced last fall. While growth is uneven—some that survived are badly stunted—some have made excellent growth and there will be a considerable amount of

bloom this year.

According to the original plan, the plants were to be dug this fall and transferred to the site that is to be their permanent location. The increase was to be used so there could be two or three plants of each variety, with possibly some left for other similar projects. Thus the burden of donating for display plantings by Society members would be held to a minimum. Fortunately we did not solicit the newest and most expensive varieties, but received promises from most of the originators for their newest things when we got ready for the permanent planting. Whether to proceed with the plan this fall was the question which confronted us. The uneven growth and doubtful value of some of the stunted plants seemed to be valid reasons for delaying a year. However, the poor appearance of the planting as it is and our desire to get the permanent planting under way as soon as possible led to the decision to go ahead if the permanent site can be made ready in time. We decided, however, to defer for another year the planting of the newer and most expensive varieties or until we are very sure that all difficulties have been met and overcome. We feel sure that the originators will go along with us and hold their offers open.

A few hybrids were blooming the

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day of our visit; one or two had dropped. None of the albifloras were showing color yet. The season was late there, actually behind my home area some forty miles or more north of Mansfield. The Central Ohio Iris Society show was in progress that day. There were very few entries—not much iris in bloom. The tree peonies appeared to be doing very well. Doctor Allen said there was some loss of small, one-year grafts. Most of the tree bloom was gone, only one variety in bloom and a few yet to open. I did not make an actual count and figure percentages, but it seemed to me that more hybrids weathered the deluge than albifloras in proportion to number planted. The trees were not planted until the

fall of '56 and so were not subjected to the flood.

Despite the misfortune that befell, we are still convinced that no better place than Kingwood could be found for a display planting. The place is visited by thousands on Sundays and holidays and hundreds at other times during the garden months. Adequate financing insures continuing care. Doctor Allen and his staff are able, competent and cooperative. If the Society and its individual members continue to take an active interest in the project, its eventual success is assured and it will become a potent force in the promotion of our favorite flower.

W. A. Alexander, Chairman, Kingwood Center Project Committee.

#### NEW MEMBERS

Leo J. Armatys, Central City, Nebraska.

Mrs. Richard S. Barnes, 1628 North Wells Street, Chicago, 14, Illinois.

Mrs. Opal L. Bechstrand, 256 Carney Street, North, Twin Falls, Idaho.

Miss Minerva Castle, Rowancroft Gardens, Meadowvale, Ontario, Canada.

Mrs. Saul Friedlander, 4510 Crestwood Way, Sacramento, 22, California.

S. Greno, End of Windermere Way, College Hill, Cincinnati, 24, Ohio.

Mrs. James L. Nunn, Sullivan, Kentucky.

Mrs. Adele Paputa, 4815 Renville, Detroit, 10, Michigan.

Usona L. Purcell, Route 1, Old Bruceville Road, Vincennes, Indiana.

G. D. Richter, Route 4, Box 298 Puyallup, Washington.

Earl F. Ripstra, 25 East Maple, Lombard, Illinois.

Dr. Charles P. Sheldon, 67 Old-

ham Street, Newton Highlands, 61 Massachusetts.

Mrs. A. Tarapsak, 162 Hewes Street, Brooklyn, 11, New York.

E. K. Towles, Box 56, Haywood, West Virginia.

Library, Tulsa Garden Center, 2415 South Peoria Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

John van Zandt, 1735 Wallace Avenue, Duluth, 3, Minnesota.

Wally Ziminiski, 3904 Victory Circle, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

#### DEATHS

It is our sad duty to report the death of two of our life members who have been connected with the Society since its early days. They are Miss Blacklock of the Rowancroft Nurseries, Meadowvale, Ontario, who had passed the age of ninety and Mr. Pope M. Long, Sr., of Cordova Alabama, who has contributed many articles to the Bulletin about Peonies in The South. We have as yet received no particulars. We hope we can pay them due tribute in a future issue of the Bulletin.

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# CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION of AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

We, the undersigned, all persons of full age, all being citizens of the United States, and at least one of us being a resident of the State of New York, desiring to incorporate as a membership corporation under the laws of the State of New York, a national association to be known as the American Peony Society for the purposes hereinafter set forth, do hereby make, acknowledge and file the following certificate:

FIRST. That the incorporate name of the proposed corporation is "AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY".

SECOND. 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.

THIRD: The territory in which the operations of said corporation are to be principally conducted is that of all the States, Districts and Territories of the United States of America.

FOURTH. It is not now practic-

able to fix the location of the principal office of such corporation.

FIFTH. The number of directors of said corporation shall be seven.

SIXTH. That the following are the names and places of residence of the persons to be directors of said corporation until its first annual meeting:

Charles Willis Ward, Queens, N. Y.; Arthur H. Fewkes, Newton Highlands, Mass.; John Howes Humphries, Chester Hill, Philadelphia, Pa.; Charles S. Harrison, York, Nebraska; Edwin A. Reeves, Cleveland, Ohio; William A. Peterson, Chicago, Illinois; and Guy A. Bryant, Princeton, Illinois.

SEVENTH. Neither said corporation nor its members, directors, governors, or officers on its behalf, shall have any power to consolidate or merge with any other persons, corporations or associations, nor to transfer or to surrender to them its name or functions, or to do any act tending or leading to such consolidation, merger, transfer or surrender, or to the absorption of said corporation by any other corporation or association, without a due resolution, duly adopted by the vote, at the regular and regularly called annual meeting of the corporation, or at least two thirds of the whole number of the members of said corporation (including those absent from said meeting); previous written notice of an intention to move such resolution being given at, and duly entered upon the minutes for the preceding annual meeting; and also served personally or by mail upon all the members of said corporation whose residences or Post Office addresses are known, at least six months be-

fore the holding of the meeting at which such resolution is proposed to be moved, together with written notice of the time, place and hour when and where such meeting is to be held.

**EIGHTH.** The first annual meeting of said corporation shall be held at New York, State of New York with in thirty days after the approval of this certificate by a justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, as required by law, and the filing of this duplicate certificate in the office of the Secretary of State of New York, and the County Clerk of the County designated by such justice. Written or printed notice of the holding of such first annual meeting, and the exact place and time at which the same shall be held, shall be served by or in behalf of the persons whose names are signed to this certificate, upon all persons whose names appear upon its records as existing members of said unincorporated association, and whose residences or Post Office addresses appear upon such records, either personally at least ten days before such first annual meeting, or by depositing in any Post Office in the United States of America, a copy of such notice enclosed in a securely closed postpaid wrapper, addressed to any such member, at such residence or Post Office address, at least twenty days before

such annual meeting. The subsequent annual and other meetings of the corporation formed hereby shall be held and called as provided in its constitution.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** we have made, signed and acknowledged the foregoing certificate in duplicate this 1st day of August, Nineteen Hundred and Three.

Edwin A. Reeves  
William A. Peterson  
Guy A. Bryant  
Charles S. Harrison  
Arthur H. Fewkes  
J. Howe Humphries  
Charles Willis Ward

I Samuel J. Maddox, being a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, do hereby approve of the foregoing certificate of incorporation of the "AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY," and do approve of the incorporation thereof.

**AND WHEREAS,** it has not yet been determined in what county the office of said corporation is to be located,

**NOW, I ORDER AND DIRECT** that a duplicate original of the certificate of incorporation, or a certified copy of such original certificate be filed in the Clerk's Office of the County of New York. Dated, June 21, 1904.

S. J. Maddox  
Justice Supreme Court

## ***Proposed Changes in By-Laws***

All references are to the **By-Laws** as amended by The Committee appointed for the purpose.  
(Suggested revisions follow beneath.)

### **Article I—Membership**

1. The yearly membership fee of each active member shall be five dollars and is due on or before January 1st of the calendar year. Three dollars of such fee shall be

for a subscription to the American Peony Society Bulletin and two dollars for other necessary expenses of the Society.

Would it be wise or profitable to offer a reduction for a three-year membership, say \$12.50?

2. A life membership shall be

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available to any eligible individual only. It shall be available at the rate of one hundred dollars for the duration of the life of the individual purchaser. Corporations, firms or organizations are not eligible to purchase life memberships. Life memberships carry with them all the rights and privileges of an active membership.

3. Any active member whose dues remain unpaid on July 1 of the current year or for such time as may be specified in the Postal Laws and Regulations of the United States Post Office Department, shall cease to receive the publications of the Society. If the dues remain unpaid on December 31 of the current year, the member may be dropped from the roll of membership of the Society.

4. Any horticultural organization may be admitted to affiliated membership under such rules and regulations as may be specified.

5. Honorary members shall be elected only by majority vote of the members present at an annual meeting of the Society. Recommendations for recipients of honorary memberships may be made by the Board of Directors or by nominations from the floor. Honorary members shall be entitled to attend all meetings and exhibitions of the Society and shall be entitled to participate in all discussions but shall not be entitled to vote or hold office.

6. All annual memberships shall be for a calendar year. All new members joining prior to August 1st of any year shall be considered members of that calendar year and receive all issues of the Bulletin for that year unless previously exhausted. Those joining after August 1st of any year shall be enrolled as members of the following year but shall receive all Bulletins issued from the date

of joining to the end of that fiscal year.

7. The Postal Laws of the U. S. Post Office Dept. shall govern the mailing of the Bulletin to those who are eligible to receive it. For mailing purposes the membership shall be divided into active, complimentary, exchange and honorary. Complimentary mailing memberships may be given to any firm, person or organization when deemed advisable by the Board of Directors. Exchange mailing memberships are those organizations to whom the Bulletin is mailed free in exchange for the publications of such organizations.

8. The payment of the annual dues shall entitle the wife or husband of that person to all the privileges of membership, provided that at any meeting of the Society only one vote may be cast for each membership and only one copy of the Bulletin will be mailed.

## Article II

### Meetings Of The Membership

1. The Society shall hold an annual meeting of the active membership for the purpose of electing directors and the transaction of general business. The time and place of the meeting shall be determined by the membership itself at a previous meeting or by the Board of Directors or by a committee appointed by the Board of Directors.

2. Other meetings of the Society membership may be held on call by a majority of the Board of Directors. Any member of the Board of Directors may petition the President of the Society to issue a call for such other and special meeting stating the purpose of the petition. The president shall then poll the Board of Directors and if a majority concur that the special meeting should be held the



President shall then instruct the Secretary to so issue the call either by mail or through a notice in the Bulletin immediately prior to the date of the call. The date and purpose of the call shall be a part of such notice.

3. The presence of ten or more active members of the Society shall constitute a quorum at any meeting whether annual or called. Absent active members may be represented by legal proxy.

#### Article III—Directors

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of not more than eighteen active members of the Society.

Would it not be better to reduce this number to say 12 or 15? The number was set at 18 in order to keep in office the old men on the Board like Mr. Brand and Prof. Saunders. As these are all now dead or no longer members of the Board, would it be better to reduce the number or keep it at 18 to provide for future needs? It would not be necessary to have the full number of 18 always on the Board. In fact we never have. Also it might be wise to add: "nor less than three". The reading would then be "not more than eighteen nor less than three active, etc."

2. They shall be elected by the Society at its annual meeting from those recommended by the Board of Directors and the Regional Districts and from the nominations made from the floor, provided each such floor nomination is seconded by at least three active members for a term of three years which shall begin on the day following their election. They may be elected singly or in a group or groups.

3. They shall have charge of the affairs of the Society, its funds and property and shall have the authority to designate the officers

who shall make contracts and purchases for the Society. They shall have full power and it shall be their duty to carry out the purposes of the Society according to its charter, constitution and by-laws.

4. Each organized Regional District shall be entitled to one director to serve a term of three years.

As written each *organized* regional district is entitled to one director to serve for three years. Would it not be wise to say that such choice shall be approved by the Society? In other words to have Section 4 read: Each organized Regional District shall be entitled to one director to serve a term of three years, who must also be approved by the Society.

5. To comply with the New York State law, one member of the Board must be a legal resident of the State of New York.

6. The Canadian membership, if twenty-five or more, should have at least one member of the Board who should be selected from recommendations made to the Society by the Canadian membership, if such recommendations are made.

7. Any vacancy on the Board, from whatever cause, may be filled by appointment of the President, subject to approval of the Society at its next annual meeting or by election by the Society of an active member to serve the unexpired term, except that organized Regional Districts shall fill vacancies in their districts in the usual manner.

As written there is no provision for what shall constitute a quorum in a meeting of the Directors. Would it not be wise to have such a provision, say the presence of six

members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business unless the number of directors is less than twelve, when a majority shall constitute a quorum?

Also in recent years the nominations for directors have been made by a Nominating Committee appointed by the President at each annual meeting, usually consisting of three members from the active membership and two from the Board of Directors. Should this be made legal by its addition to the methods of nomination for directors? The section should then read in part: They shall be elected by the Society at the annual meeting from those recommended by the Board of Directors or a Nominating Committee, appointed by the President, and the Regional Districts and from nominations made from the floor provided each such floor nomination is seconded by at least three active members, etc.

Also there has been much criticism that the Board is a self-perpetuating body. Should the terms of office of directors be limited to say two or three successive terms?

Again we have an increasing number of members from the West Coast States, Washington especially, Oregon, California where tree peonies do exceptionally well and all kinds in the more elevated sections and lately from Idaho and even one from Nevada. So would it be advisable to specify that at least one director shall be from Regional District 8 whether organized or not. This district consists of Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Idaho.

#### Article IV—Officers

1. The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. They shall be chosen by the Board

of Directors at its annual meeting and shall hold office for one year from date of election, or to the next annual meeting of the membership of the Society.

Article IV Section 1 reads in part: They (the officers) shall be chosen by the Board of Directors at its annual meeting and shall hold office for one year from date of election, or to the next annual meeting of the membership of the Society. By action of the Board officers now take office on July 1 following date of election unless this date is after July 1 when they take office one day after election. This practice is to avoid some confusion at meetings by having the president-elect supercede the outgoing president in the middle of a meeting. Should this be made legal by changing the reading to "shall take office July 1 following date of election" etc.?

2. The President and Vice-President must be members of the Board of Directors and may not serve more than two successive terms. The Secretary and Treasurer may or may not be members of the Board of Directors and may serve as many successive terms as advisable.

According to Section 2 the terms a president and vice-president may serve are limited to two which means two years. Often a president institutes certain improvements or projects which cannot be completed in two years and however beneficial to the Society they may be his successor may abandon them entirely and so his efforts come to naught. It is certainly wise to limit the number of terms these officers shall serve, but do you think the number should be increased to say four?, which would

mean four years. This is certainly debatable.

3. The PRESIDENT shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors. He shall have general direction of all activities of the Society and shall at all times, seek to promote the interests and extend the usefulness of the Society. He shall be governed by the rules and regulations of the Society and be subject to the decisions of the Society and the Board of Directors. Unless otherwise provided for, he shall have power to fill all vacancies that may occur, such appointments to be subject to approval by the Board of Directors at their next annual meeting. He shall appoint all committees except when otherwise provided and shall, ex officio, be an advisory member of all committees.

4. The VICE-PRESIDENT shall perform such duties as may be assigned him by the Society, the Board of Directors or the President. In the event of the absence of the President or his inability to serve or by his request, the Vice-President shall preside at the meetings of the Society and Board of Directors. In the event of the death or resignation of the President, he shall assume the duties of that office until a new president is duly elected.

5. The TREASURER shall receive and keep account of all moneys and securities of the Society. He shall deposit them in a bank or banks approved by the Board of Directors. He shall pay out by check all moneys of the Society under the direction of the Society and its Board of Directors, and upon written order of the President, countersigned by the Secretary. Only in the event of the death or inability of the Treas-

urer, may checks be signed by another, who, shall be designated by the President and whose signature is on file with the depository bank. The Treasurer shall give bonds in such amount and form and with such surety, as may be required by the Board of Directors. His accounts must be audited annually by a certified public accountant at the expense of the Society or by the Board of Directors or by a committee appointed by the President for that purpose. At each annual meeting of the Society, he shall present a report of the receipts and disbursements of the funds of the Society accompanied by the report of the last audit. He shall furnish a report of the financial status of the Society to the Board of Directors, the President or the Secretary at any time when asked for. He shall make to the proper authority such financial reports as may be required by any governmental agency.

6. The SECRETARY shall give notice of all meetings of the Society and Board of Directors in the manner required and shall attend and keep records of all such meetings. He shall conduct the correspondence of the Society and keep all records of the Society except those required to be kept by others. He shall receive all membership dues and payments for advertising and publications of the Society and shall forward them without undue delay, accompanied by an itemized statement, to the Treasurer. He shall be the keeper of the seal of the Society. He shall notify all officers, directors, and members of committees of their election or appointment. He shall perform such other duties as may be assigned him by the Society or Board of Directors. He shall be the Editor and Business Manager

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of the American Peony Society Bulletin and of any other publications of the Society unless such duties shall be assigned to others by the Society or Board of Directors. He may employ such additional help in the performance of these duties, as may be necessary to the extent allowed by the Board of Directors. He shall present a yearly report of the activities of his office to each annual meeting of the Society.

#### Article V—Salaries and Wages

1. All salary or wages payments must be authorized by the Board of Directors.

2. The Society shall pay its lawful percentage of all such authorized salaries or wages when paid to those eligible to Social Security Benefits.

3. The Society shall pay the traveling expenses of the President and Secretary or their representatives to all meetings they may be required to attend.

4. The Society shall pay any other expenses of the President or other person, incurred in the execution of their duties to the Society as may be authorized by the Board of Directors or the Executive Board.

5. The Society is exempt from the payment of Federal Income taxes under Section 101 (1) of the Income Tax laws. This exemption was confirmed by letter to the Secretary from the Collector of Internal Revenue under date of February 18, 1954.

6. All employees of this Society who are paid one hundred dollars or more during any years are entitled to Employees Federal Insurance, commonly called Social Security benefits or F.I.C.A. contributions. The Treasurer is authorized to pay to the proper District Director of Internal Revenue the Society's lawful percentage of

such salaries and wages and to withhold such part of the salaries or wages as may be required by law and to remit same to the proper authority. For proper identification the Society's number is 54-0567098 A. It is the duty of the Secretary to make the reports of such salaries or wages as may be required.

#### Article VI—Publications

1. The Society may issue at its expense a Bulletin under the title of "AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY BULLETIN" and other publications that are designed to further the interests and objectives of the Society.

#### Article VII—Exhibitions

1. The Society shall hold an annual exhibition at such times and places as may be determined by the Society, the Board of Directors or the Show Committee. It may or may not be under the sponsorship of another organization. The locality in which it is held shall assume all financial responsibility except such as may be authorized by the Board of Directors.

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Article VII Exhibitions, Sec. 1 reads in part "The *locality* in which it is held shall assume all financial responsibility except such as may be authorized by the Board." Is the word "locality" a good choice of words? Would it be better to change it to "the sponsors if any" instead?

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2. The schedule of all such exhibitions shall be submitted to the Schedule Committee of the Society for approval, addition or revision. This approved schedule must be published in an issue of the Bulletin at least thirty days prior to the date of the exhibition or a copy of it mailed to each active member of the Society at least thirty days prior to this date.

3. The descriptions of those

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classes and the conditions of award which have been fixed by the Board of Directors, the Seedling Committee or the donors of the awards must be strictly followed and no changes shall be made unless duly authorized by the proper authority.

4. **SCALE OF POINTS.** The following is the scale of points recommended for judging cut blooms of peonies in any show that employs such scores:

<b>HORTICULTURAL SPECIMENS</b>	
Color .....	25
Form .....	15
Size .....	15
Stem .....	10
Substance .....	10
Distinctiveness .....	15
Fragrance .....	10
Total .....	100

#### **COLLECTIONS**

General Quality .....	40
Condition .....	30
Conformity to schedule .....	20
Labeling and display .....	10
Total .....	100

Section 4 of this Article 4 is the Scale of Points to be used in judging shows. Such a scale should be adopted at this meeting. Probably it will not be the one in the proposed By-laws as we have it. It seems the general consensus of opinion that the number of points given to Distinctiveness (15) and Fragrance (10) are too high and that some others may be changed. The scale published is the one adopted by the Directors long ago to judge seedlings in the field. Others have been proposed from time to time, but none adopted.

#### **Article VIII—Medals and Awards**

1. The Society may offer medals or other awards as prizes in exhibitions under conditions set by

the Board of Directors. The Society may accept medals and other awards donated by other organizations or persons for award at exhibitions under conditions set by the donors and subject to approval by the Board of Directors or other authorized authority.

2. The Society may award medals or other awards to any person, firm, organization or corporation they may wish to honor, for any worthy contribution to the objectives for which this Society was formed.

3. The Board of Directors and the Seedling Committee are also authorized to make such awards as may be delegated to them in these By-Laws.

4. The **GOLD MEDAL** of the Society may be offered for award as first prize for a collection of fifty different cultivars (varieties) one bloom of each and each bloom shown in a separate container, in the Annual Exhibition of the Society. Not over twenty blooms may be single or Japanese types. All blooms to be correctly labeled. It may be awarded by the Seedling Committee to the originator for any named cultivar that they may deem worthy, such award to be confirmed by the Board of Directors.

5. The **SILVER MEDAL** of the Society may be offered for award at the Annual Exhibition of the Society as first prize for a collection of twenty-five different named cultivars—one bloom of each and each bloom shown in a separate container. Not over ten blooms may be single or Japanese types.

6. The **Bronze MEDAL** of the Society may be offered for award at the Annual Exhibition of the Society as first prize for a collection of fifteen (or ten if allowed by the Schedule Committee) different named cultivars, one bloom

each and each bloom shown in a separate container. Forty per cent of the blooms may be either single or Japanese type. It may also be offered for the best Japanese type bloom in the show, for the best single type bloom in the show, for the best hybrid shown and for the best tree peony shown.

7. The B. H. FARR MEMORIAL MEDAL may be offered for award at the Annual Exhibition of the Society for the best albiflora (lactiflora) double or semi-double in the show.

8. The Society or Board of Directors may award any medal of the Society to any one whom they may deem worthy of the award for any outstanding contribution to the cause of the Peony.

9. The GOLD MEDAL CLASS shall be open to all exhibitors. The SILVER MEDAL CLASS shall usually be limited to ADVANCED AMATEURS (those who grow more than fifty cultivars and who do not sell roots, flowers or plants as their main source of income and who do not issue price lists, and Novice AMATEURS (those who grow not more than fifty varieties and who do not sell roots, plants or flowers. The BRONZE MEDAL CLASS shall usually be limited to Novice Amateurs. However the Show Committee has the authority to change these conditions if considered advisable only for the Silver Medal Class and the Bronze Medal Class.

10. The Society or Board of Directors may allow any Regional District, local club or any other horticultural organization to offer the Silver Medal or the Bronze Medal of the Society for award in any one outstanding class in their shows as may be agreed upon.

#### Article IX—Committees

1. The permanent committees of the Society for the performance of

the duties assigned them in the By-Laws shall be: EXECUTIVE, MEMBERSHIP, NOMENCLATURE, PUBLICITY, SEEDLING, SCHEDULE, SHOW, ADVISORY, PUBLICATIONS.

2. Special committees may be appointed from time to time for the performance of duties not under the control of the permanent committees, when so ordered by the Society or Board of Directors.

3. The EXECUTIVE Committee shall consist of the officers of the Society, the President being Chairman, and shall have general supervision of the administration of the Society and act upon all such matters as may be referred to them by the president or other officer.

4. The MEMBERSHIP Committee under the direction of the President who shall appoint its members and chairman, shall be primarily concerned with increasing the membership of the Society. It should have at least one member from each Regional District whether organized or not and such other members as the President may deem advisable to appoint.

5. The NOMENCLATURE Committee shall consist of two or more members, elected by the Board of Directors, who shall have charge of the approval and registration of all names of new cultivars. They shall follow the Code adopted by the International Registration Authority in approval and registration of names and shall be diligent to detect any variations from this code by any person or firm. All such violations should be reported at once to the registrar and every endeavor made to have them corrected. They shall see that the official check list of names is kept up to date at all times. The registration fee

shall be two dollars for each new cultivar registered.

6. The PUBLICITY Committee shall consist of one or more members appointed by the President and it shall perform all such duties that are usual to such committees and that may be assigned it by the President.

7. The SEEDLING COMMITTEE shall consist of at least five members elected by the Board of Directors to serve until their successors are chosen. They shall determine or approve the conditions for the showing of seedlings and new varieties in the Annual Exhibitions of the Society and judge and make all awards in such classes. Three members present shall constitute a quorum and if less than three are present at any show, competent persons shall be appointed by the President or Chief Judge to act in such shows temporarily only.

8. A SEEDLING is defined as any new cultivar that has not been offered for sale. When shown, it must be either named or numbered. A NEW VARIETY is defined as a cultivar of recent origin that has been offered for sale. When shown it must be named. This Committee may award the Gold Medal (subject to approval by the Board of Directors), the Silver Medal, the Bronze Medal, First Class Certificates or Certificates of Honorable Mention to the originator of any cultivar that they may deem worthy of the honor. Certificates of Honorable Mention only may be awarded to a seedling that has never been divided and propagated.

9. The SCHEDULE Committee shall consist of two or more members appointed by the President and all schedules of the Annual Exhibitions and other shows that are held under the auspices of the

Society shall be submitted to them for approval, correction or addition. They must see that all conditions under which awards are offered by the Society are met.

10. The SHOW Committee shall consist of two or more members appointed by the President to select the place and time necessary, of all annual exhibitions of the Society and shall have general supervision over such shows.

11. The ADVISORY Committee shall be appointed by the President and shall consist of as many members as he may desire and its members shall be appointed by each incoming president. They shall act in an advisory capacity only and shall be subject to his authority and assignment of duty.

12. The PUBLICATIONS Committee shall consist of the Editor of the Bulletin, and the other officers of the Society and shall have supervision over all publications of the Society.

#### Article X—

##### Regional Districts And Clubs

1. Every active member of a Regional District must be an active member of the American Peony Society. Each active member of the Society automatically becomes a member of the Regional District in which he resides.

2. Each organized Regional District must have as a minimum a President and a Secretary and may adopt rules and regulations, dues and by-laws as they may see fit to adopt, provided none are in violation of the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution or By-Laws of this Society. A Regional District must have at least 10 active members to qualify as an organized District.

3. Each Regional District is entitled to representation on the Board of Directors.

4. The area served by the So-



ciety shall be divided into the following Regional Districts:

District 1. Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

District 2. New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

District 3. Maryland, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi.

District 4. Michigan, Ohio, Indiana.

District 5. Illinois and Wisconsin.

District 6. Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota, North Dakota, Nebraska, Montana and Wyoming.

District 7. Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana and New Mexico.

District 8. Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Arizona.

District 9. Canada, Alaska and all other areas not embraced in other districts.

5. The formation of local peony clubs is urged for all communities or combination of communities where it may be feasible. Such club to be properly recognized by the Society by the issuance of a club certificate by the office of the Secretary of the A.P.S.

#### Article XI—Affiliation

1. The following are the organizations with which the Society shall at present be affiliated:

The American Horticultural Council Incorporated

The American Horticultural Society, Incorporated

2. This list may be increased by proper action of the Society or Board of Directors.

3. The Treasurer is authorized to pay the membership dues to affiliated organization on presen-

tation of the proper vouchers.

4. The Society may become an affiliated member of any organization upon due action by the Society, the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee of the Society.

#### Article XII—Order of Business

1. The following is the recommended order of business for all meetings of the Society, which may be varied to suit circumstances:

1. Call to order.
2. Reading of minutes of previous meeting.
3. Report of President.
4. Report of Treasurer.
5. Report of Secretary
6. Report of Editor of Bulletin
7. Report of Committees
8. Election of officers and directors.
9. Reading of communications and petitions.
10. Unfinished business.
11. New business.
12. Discussions.
13. Adjournment.

#### Article XIII

##### Amendments And Rules

1. These by-laws may be amended at any annual meeting of the Society or special meeting called for the purpose by a majority vote of the members present, provided that written or printed notice of an intention to move for such amendment, shall have been given to each active member whose name and residence or post office address appears upon the books or are known, personally or by mail, at least (thirty) days prior to the date of the next annual or called meeting, and then presented in writing at the next annual meeting for discussion and adoption.

2. No amendment or addition to the constitution or by-laws shall take effect until the day after the final adjournment of the meeting

at which such amendment or addition is adopted except by unanimous consent of all active members present at such meeting.

3. The rules contained in "Roberts Rules of Order, Revised,"

shall govern the Society in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Certificate of Incorporation, the Constitution or By-Laws of this Society.

## ***Recommendations for American Peony Society Handbook for Judges***

*By Irma W. Searles*

"He that judges without informing himself to the utmost that he is capable cannot acquit himself of judging amiss." —*Locke*

"One cool judgment is worth a thousand hasty councils."

—*W. Wilson*

### **SCALE FOR JUDGING**

As Dr. Hyde has said in his able article of March, 1956, it is imperative that an official scale of points be established by the American Peony Society. It is quite true that judges of long experience usually do not need one; even the less experienced may scorn its use.

However, such experts cannot possibly serve in all of the general shows, large and small, which are becoming increasingly popular and numerous. For these, there is a growing number of non-specialist judges who start their work with varying degrees of knowledge, experience and training. These judges look to the various plant societies for authoratative information.

For this reason, any scales adopted must be carefully thought out, then explained very clearly. The Society members themselves can best decide the relative importance of the different qualities. Each of these can then be assigned its proportionate share of the total points.

The scale of points in the newly published Handbook for Flower Judges can be made workable if

the explanations are clarified and augmented. As it stands, too much knowledge of peony terms and varieties is taken for granted.

The point scoring suggested by Dr. Hyde seems to fit the need better. The following scales are actually adaptations of that. The first is an all purpose scale which can be used for any type by explaining the possible variations. The second is designed for strictly exhibition varieties. Less stress is placed on good garden qualities such as sturdy stems, fade resistance, heavy substance, etc.

### **SCALES FOR JUDGING PEONY SPECIMENS**

#### *A. General or All Purpose*

*(Or Decorative)*

Color .....	25
Form and Pattern .....	25
Substance and Texture .....	15
Stem and Foliage .....	15
Size (according to variety) .....	5
Distinctiveness .....	5
Condition and Freshness .....	10
	100

#### *B. Exhibition Varieties Only*

Color .....	30
Form and Pattern .....	30
Texture .....	10
Stem and Foliage .....	10
Size .....	5
Distinctiveness .....	5
Condition and Freshness .....	10
	100

It may be that tree peonies will

need a third, or perhaps one of these would serve. Field and seedling scales, also, should be evolved for use by Society judges. Fragrance, floriferousness, etc. will appear on these.

**COLOR: Merits—(A)—**Clear, harmonious, rich; true to variety under local conditions. Unusually beautiful coloring will rate a little higher than that which is attractive but commonplace.

(B)—In general, much the same as for A. However, here the outstandingly beautiful coloring is a requirement; an extra five points have been given. This could be found in delicacy of the shading, the loveliness of the combination of colors, etc.

**Faults—(A)—**Fading, discoloration of any part; lack of distinctive markings; blotches, streaks or other defacing marks; unpleasant combination of colors.

(B)—The same as for A. Also, lack of unusual beauty in coloring.

#### **FORM AND PATTERN;**

**Merits — (A) —** Symmetrical, graceful, attractive; true to type and variety. The form of the individual petals, the regularity and attractiveness of their placement, the depth of the flower, the form and degree of development of the center are all considered.

(B)—Much the same, but even more important in the exhibition flower which is dependent upon "eye-appeal" alone.

**Faults — (A) —** Lopsided shape or development; unattractive, abortive, poorly developed, notched or crimped petals; lack of uniformity in placement of petals and other parts; a looseness or "falling apart"; any deviations from the norm for a particular type or variety; coarseness.

(B)—The same as for A. Also, lack of real distinction of form.

#### **SUBSTANCE AND TEXTURE:**

**Merits—(A)—**Firmness, thickness, crispness indicate good substance. The petals will hold their place and resist bruising, some weather damage. Texture, a surface quality, is so inter-related with substance that they are usually, not always, together. Silken sheen characterizes good texture but additional charm and interest are produced by velvety, suede-like, glistening, or satiny petals.

(B)—In purely exhibition varieties, substance is of importance only so far as it affects the important show qualities—form and color. The petals might be thin and delicate or fragile. If the exhibitor can get the specimen to the show without damage, loss of form or condition, it should be judged without prejudice. On the other hand, texture is even more important. Beauty may be only skin-deep, but show beauties are such because of their eye appeal rather than their characters.

**Faults—(A)—**Thin, irregular, soft, spongy or flabby substance; floppy or loose form often an indication. Dull texture; irregular, coarse, unattractive surface.

(B)—Poor sheen; lack of sparkle, iridescence or glow; no particularly outstanding quality to texture. Coarse.

#### **STEM AND FOLIAGE:**

**Merits—(A)—**Sturdy; able to hold flower erect and well poised. Of an attractive length, thickness and shape for size and shape of bloom. No side shoots or buds or signs of recent disbudding. Foliage should be adequate in quantity, of good size, color and condition; well placed in relation to flower with only lower leaves removed to prevent bruising and waterlogging.

(B)—Stem needs only be adequate to support flower in container; may be cut much shorter than

above. However, one or two leaves should be present and in good condition since they help set off the flower, enhancing its beauty. Neither stem nor foliage should show actual damage.

**Faults**—(A)—Weak; too long or too short; crooked, bent, broken, scraped; damaged by insects or disease. Foliage missing, torn, bruised, poorly placed, too small, inadequate; damaged by insects or disease; of poor or unhealthy color. Presence of side buds or signs of recent disbudding usually counts against stem. Poor poise of flower counts against stem, also.

(B)—Lack of any stem or leaves; damage. Much as above with consideration for the requirements for each type.

#### SIZE:

**Merits**—(A)—Size should be considered in relation to the variety. *Good* size for variety is the usual requirement. There should be no penalty for oversize *excepting for miniatures*. If no maximum size has been set for these, it should be done. In many plants, the normal size is affected by the climate and soil type found in the locality.

(B)—Here, large size has more value for its psychological effect. Peak or slightly above normal size would be favored. If this can be secured with no loss in other qualities, it should receive credit. If secured at the expense of color, form, texture, etc., the points gained will not be enough. Distinctly small size would be an advantage in the miniatures but as a rule, these will fit well into class A.

**Faults**—(A)—Undersize for variety as found under local conditions. Oversize at the expense of other qualities. Big miniatures.

(B)—Undersize for variety and type since only the larger sizes should be in this category.

#### DISTINCTIVENESS:

**Merits**—(A)—Novelty; rarity; difficulty of culture in locality; overall charm and quality of specimen, well staged to bring out its best points.

(B)—The same as in A.

**Faults**—(A)—Old, valueless variety; commonplace variety; commonplace characteristics; poor staging of specimen.

(B)—The same as in A.

#### CONDITION AND FRESHNESS:

**Merits**—(A)—Correct degree of maturity; general healthy condition; cleanliness without insects, spray residue, foreign matter of any kind. No fallen pollen or stain therefrom. Turgid.

(B)—The same as for A.

**Faults** — (A) — Waterspotting; soil, spray residue, pollen stains, etc.; over- or under-age; general indications of poor culture; wilted.

(B)—Same as for A.

Under these scales, it is possible to include other qualities by allocating them to a suitable category. Fragrance, for example, could be included under "Distinctiveness" since it is one more thing which adds to charm without being a required characteristic. No doubt, the Society members are aware of both Merits and Faults which should be added to the explanation of the qualities.

\* \* \*

Dr. Hyde's analysis of the reason for point scoring is both interesting and accurate. Other than in close competition, it is used only for the training of students, and for the guidance of judges in general. A scale of points assesses the relative value of the qualities, making judgment more objective and fair as well as uniform. Beauty in a specimen flower or plant can be broken down into its component parts much more easily than in a flower arrangement—or a woman. In the

last two, there are intangible values which can never be completely separated from emotional response. On the other hand, fairly exact standards of beauty and high quality can be established for specimens. The good judge learns to ignore his personal preferences. To be biased is to be unfair; the prejudiced judge has pre-judged before he ever sees the exhibits.

A well thought out scale of points is of value to the exhibitor as well. He cannot know how to select exhibition material if he has no idea as to its characteristics. Often, competition-minded exhibitors in search of plants with winning possibilities, greatly improve the quality of their gardens. In his turn, the breeder works toward new strains or varieties which will combine all of the desired points with the ultimate result that improved or unusual material is more generally available. He is encouraged to continue seeking the Ideal; never found since it moves on ahead.

#### CONTENTS OF HANDBOOK —

The first step in organizing and writing a Handbook is to decide its scope. It can be merely a Show Handbook which would include necessary information for chairmen and exhibitors as well as for judges. It can be a complete Handbook which might give, in addition to the above, basic cultural information, lists of varieties by type, history of the flower, history of the American Peony Society. The present Handbook of Peonies takes care of the latter need for the present. The immediate problem is the first. Following are some suggestions for the possible content of such books. No doubt the Society members will be able to add other things to the lists.

**SHOW HANDBOOK:** Scales of points with each quality defined

and explained. Merits and Faults in detail with a description of the signs by which they can be recognized. That is, what does an exhibitor look for to tell if a specimen is overage, has good substance, has had good culture, has suffered disease, etc. If certain varieties or types tend to have faults which make them less valuable for exhibition, list and discuss them.

Describe the ideal form for each type in clear, simple terms. Give the variations which may be found which are acceptable, and those which are faults.

Give a glossary of terms used in describing peonies, and in staging flower shows. This need not be long.

Be sure that tree peonies, hybrid peonies, and all others are included.

Describe proper planting, feeding, disbudding briefly, emphasizing the method advised to produce specimen blooms.

Describe the bagging, storing, cutting, etc., of exhibition material. As given by Mr. Peyton in the present Handbook, this information is very helpful. New methods may have been developed; if so, they should be included.

General directions for staging a show. It is rather a waste of time and space to go into a complete repeat of much of the National Council Handbook for Flower Shows. It would be better to refer chairmen to that book, listing only variations. For example, most plant societies have their own system of awards: Queen of Show, perhaps, instead of the Award of Merit given by the National Council.

A definition of a collection should be given if this class is usually included; also, definitions of such items as Advanced Amateurs, Novice Amateurs. Often garden clubs or horticultural societies wish to

give specialty shows in conformance with the rules of the society involved.

The requirements for Society Judges might be listed.

Sketches or photographs showing in detail the parts of peonies, would be extremely helpful to the beginner who may be confused by filaments, staminodes and carpels.

**GENERAL HANDBOOK:** So much is included in the above that not a lot more is needed for a general book. However, detailed cul-

tural information, including planting, cultivating, feeding, pest control, care after blooming, fall care and such can be expanded greatly.

A description of regional differences in care would be good, and is rarely seen. Types and varieties suited to particular areas could be recommended.

Information on crossing, seed sowing, other means of propagation. A list of qualities sought by breeders is interesting to the beginner.

## FLOWER SHOWS ARE FOR EVERYONE

Flower show season is here. From May to October, hundreds of garden clubs, plant societies and others throughout the U. S. will be staging all kinds of shows—shows specializing in peonies, iris, roses and chrysanthemums and those including a wide variety of annuals, perennials and other plant materials. As fall approaches, vegetables and fruits become more prominent in the shows which provide for them.

Flower show? Perhaps it would be better to think in terms of garden show and to expand the horizon beyond a roomful of arrangements and a few apologetic specimens. Arrangements beautifully done, specimen blooms well grown and neatly groomed, informational exhibits cleanly staged; these, together, are what makes a show interesting, enjoyable and stimulating.

The rules, regulations and specifications which govern a show are contained in the show schedule. It is the formal pattern or structure of the show and serves as the guide for putting it together. At best a schedule is apt to contain a few complications, but it should never be cumbersome. Groups sponsor-

ing shows must be sure that their schedule is clear, easily understood and as simple as it is possible to make it. Exhibitors or potential exhibitors should read the schedule thoroughly, including all of the rules, and follow it closely in the process of preparing for the show.

Many a top level arrangement and choice specimen has been disqualified because the exhibitor failed to read the schedule carefully. If a specimen class in a show reads, "Roses, hybrid tea, three blooms same variety" it means exactly what it states. The exhibitor must enter three blooms, they must be hybrid tea roses, and all three must be of the same variety. If an exhibitor enters two blooms in this class of the finest quality imaginable, it must be disqualified.

With the arrangement classes, adhering to the class as stated in the schedule is just as important. If it reads, "Class 22, an arrangement of calendulas in a copper or brass container, arrangement not to exceed 24 inches in height," the container must be of copper or brass, and not of silver, pottery or any other material. The flowers must be calendulas, and in the particular case, only calendulas; and

while the arrangement may be 16, 21 or 24 inches in height, it must not be 30 or even 24½ inches in height.

Unfortunately, in almost every show several exhibitors fail to win awards because they did not read and follow the show schedule carefully.

### SHOW STRUCTURE

The structure of the show is made up of *divisions*, *sections* and *classes*. The *class* is the basic unit, is usually numbered and in the schedule may read, "Class 23. Delphinium, any color, one spike". The exhibitor having delphinium would then enter a single spike in this class to compete against other spikes of delphinium for an award. Like kinds and like entries compete against each other, delphinium against delphinium and roses against roses. Some shows may call for a single spike in one class and three spikes in another class, but the classes do not compete against each other. Only when the very high awards are considered such as "Best Specimen in the Show," is there competition between classes and even then a rose is not judged against a delphinium, but on the basis of how good the rose is when compared to perfection in roses and how good the delphinium is when compared to perfection in delphinium.

The classes of a flower show schedule are usually grouped into *sections*. There may be sections for roses, house plants, annuals and vegetables, or if the show is a specialized one, such as a rose show, there may be sections for hybrid teas, floribundas, climbers, etc. In some shows, after the first, second, third and honorable mention awards are made within each class, a sectional award may be given such as for the best annual, best perennial, best house plant, etc.

Where the break occurs depends on the size of the show. A very small show might devote simply one class to house plants while another show might provide a section for house plants under which might be separate classes for foliage plants, flowering plants, african violets etc, Arrangement classes may be grouped into several sections, i.e.: a novice section for arrangers who have never entered a flower show before, an open section in which anyone may enter regardless of how many shows entered or ribbons won in the past. In some shows, accredited judges or professional arrangers may be barred from this section if the rules so state. If so, a section of invitational arrangements may be provided for judges and professional arrangers. Usually these are not in competition and each receives a special award.

The *divisions* are the largest sub-unit of the show and serve to separate different types of exhibits. Divisions may be provided for horticulture, arrangements, educational exhibits, gardens, etc.

Visually the show schedule is set up on an out-line basis which looks something like this.

I Division (example: Horticulture)

A. Section (example: Roses)

1. Class (example: Hybrid Tea, red)

### SHOW TERMINOLOGY

As with any specialized activity, certain terms have come into use in connection with flower shows to better define and make more clear the components.

*Entry*—a single unit presented for competition by the exhibitor.

*Exhibit*—often used interchangeably with *entry*, but usually refers specifically to non-competitive material placed in a show for educational or other purposes.

*Display*—a grouping of flowers



or other material covering a definite area or containing a specified number of units arranged for artistic or educational effect.

*Collection*—An assemblage of a number of kinds or varieties.

*Amateur*—One who grows plants primarily for pleasure and for whom the returns from sales, if any, are less than the outlay for seeds, plants, etc.

*Novice*—a person entering the show for the first time. Some show rules allow an exhibitor to enter as a novice for a specified period and under certain conditions. For example, the Ohio State Gladiolus Society rule in the shows staged at Kingwood Center reads, "A novice grower may exhibit in division A (Novice Division) for three years provided he has not won the Novice Champion Award.

#### AWARDS

Ribbon awards are usually given in most shows. They may be professionally made or the members of a club may make their own awards by using ribbon and combining it with a seal of some sort upon which can be lettered the standing of the award. Standard practice calls for blue as the first prize, red as second, yellow as third and white for honorable mention.

#### ASSISTANCE

It is easy to be frightened by the thoughts of competition if one has never entered a garden or

flower show, but, by the same token, one of the most heard comments at any show is, "Gee, I've got a geranium at home much better than that one with the blue ribbon on it!" The remark may not always be about a geranium, but the lament—combined with an element of surprise—is always the same. If you have heard yourself make this statement, then the time you entered a flower or garden show and captured the blue ribbons which rightfully belong to you.

Entries and classification committees are on hand to help exhibitors when entering a show, so even the very newest of newcomers can depend on having some help. It is the duty of the organization sponsoring the show to see to it that they have the best possible people serving on these committees and that they clearly understand their duties and responsibilities toward exhibitors.

Not all shows are open to all gardeners. Many garden club shows provide classes for only their own members. Some clubs provide a section or division which is open to exhibitors from other garden clubs. Nearly all shows sponsored by plant societies are open to all gardeners even though they may have no connection with the society or any other garden organization.

—Kingwood Center Notes, 1958

## R. H. Jones

All the fine varieties and our originations  
**DOROTHY J., JUNE ROSE, SAGAMORE,  
RED CLOUD, AND OTHERS**

. . . List Free . . .

**Peonies From Peru**  
**PERU, INDIANA**

## Hardiness Of Tree Peonies In Canada

R. H. Giff, Sarnia, Ontario, Canada

While there has been an improvement in recent years in the volume of cultural information applicable to the Tree Peony yet there is, in my opinion, need for further enlightenment. It is with this thought in mind that I shall attempt to deal with one phase, namely its hardiness.

We, here in Canada, are not exactly in what one would call the "banana belt" yet it may come as somewhat of a surprise to those not too familiar with our Country, to learn that the southwestern corner of the Province of Ontario extends slightly below the 42nd degree of north latitude. Furthermore, as to that portion of Ontario lying between north latitudes 42 degrees and 44 degrees, it is not, as a rule, subjected to the violent storms and low temperatures as are the States of New York, Pennsylvania and portions of the New England States. One has only to review the weather reports for February of 1958 to verify this. This, as seems to be the general opinion, is accounted for, to some extent, by the fact that Lakes Huron, Erie and Ontario have, with some variances, a tempering effect within the latitudes mentioned.

Within the latitudinal boundaries mentioned in the preceding paragraph and more particularly in what we speak of as south and southwestern Ontario and which extends from about north latitude 43° down to the 42nd parallel, winter weather conditions are very trying on plant life. Temperatures will range from perhaps somewhere in the upper 40's down to the low 10's with occasional dips to zero or near thereto. Mixed in with this temperature range are a

few sunny days, cloudy days, warm rains, sleet storms, snow storms and thawing periods. This goes on from December to late March. February of this year was one exception in that for the better part of a week night temperatures went as low as 14 degrees below zero and seldom rose much above 10 above during the day.

Getting to the point as to how the Tree Peony stands up to all this freakish weather, I would explain that I first became interested in the species in the early 1930's. At that time I made a humble start by procuring one plant of Souv. de Maxime Cornu from the Kelways of Langport, England. Having no literature to guide me I had to work out my own salvation as regards winter protection—assuming the species to be tender. I started out by encircling the plant with poultry netting of a width sufficient to extend six inches or so above the tops of the canes and filling the enclosure with dry leaves, being careful not to pack them. Over the top, but not the sides, I would place a waterproof shelter either of a paper or cloth base—whichever happened to be handy—to keep moisture out. This method was adhered to for five years or so when one Spring, upon removing the protection, I found every cane dead to the ground. That was the blackest day of my life, but not for long, as about two weeks later that silver lining behind the dark clouds appeared in the form of six (if I recall correctly) amazingly strong shoots piercing their way through the earth's surface. That Spring I had the greatest display of bloom, both from a quality and quantity standpoint, I had ever had before or have since experienced on any one

plant. What caused those canes to die remains a mystery. It was a normal winter with the temperature seldom dropping much below 20 degrees, but on two or three occasions dipping down to around zero during the night but swinging back up to much more tolerable temperatures during the following mornings. This behavior is a rather rare experience among growers of the species and prospective growers should not be at all alarmed. I have never had it happen since.

Following the experience mentioned above, I switched to evergreen boughs for protection using Xmas trees, available from sales lots after Santa Claus has made his rounds. The evergreens—piled loosely around and above the plants—offered splendid protection even where snowfall was lacking. In sections where snow is abundant it is trapped in the evergreens thus creating perfect protection.

After three or four years' use of evergreens I became acquainted with a commercial grower of herbaceous Peonies in a locality 20 miles north and east of Toronto. Somewhat to my surprise, he also had a planting of a dozen Tree Peonies. What amazed me, however, was the fact that he left them exposed to the elements the year around. While, as he pointed out, some killing back of canes was experienced, yet they never failed to bloom. His practice prompted me to dispense with protection of either leaves or evergreens, merely mulching the ground around the base of the plants to a depth of about 6".

During the years I was using top protection, killing back of canes was negligible—never more than two or three inches. Since that time, when leaving them unprotected,

killing back has not at any time increased to the extent of causing concern.

As to the flower buds; under protection I found them in the early Spring in much the same condition as when they went into their winter dormancy. Without protection I find them somewhat browned and shrunk, but regardless of this a few warm days and a few April showers correct all this and in due course gorgeous blooms are "stealing the show". I mentioned in paragraph three our having had an exceptionally cold spell in February of this year with the temperature as low as fourteen below. Despite this Reine Elizabeth as of this date of writing (April 12th) is just about ready to burst into leaf. Actually I wish this one would learn to "sleep in" in the Spring just as some of us humans are inclined to do on the Sabbath day. This early activity sometimes presents a bit of a problem in later weeks when freezing nights threaten. All my Tree Peonies have come through this past winter in excellent shape.

Mr. Tree Peony is a courageous fellow and venturesome too when it comes early Spring as evidenced by an experience I had. In the Fall of 1954 I made a graft of Souv. de Maxime Cornu, planting it in an 8" flower pot. In November I plunged the pot in a sheltered corner close to the house foundation, putting about 3" of earth above the top bud of the scion and a few leaves over that again. In late March of the following Spring it occurred to me to take a look. Snow to the extent of two or three inches was on the ground— even in the sheltered corner - and as I approached the spot I could hardly believe my eyes for there before me was a shoot off the scion two inches above the surface of the snow. I lifted the

pot and took it into the house where I kept it until suitable transplanting time arrived. That same graft is now a sturdy plant and will be flowering this year for the first time. This instance in itself does not necessarily substantiate any claim for hardiness, but it does indicate the strong will of the Tree Peony to live.

I have purposely confined my remarks as regards climatic conditions in Canada to that portion of Ontario below north latitude 44°. While I have a general knowledge of weather conditions in all other parts of our Dominion, it is to be preferred that Peony fanciers in the various Provinces write our Editor and Secretary advising him of their experiences in growing Tree Peonies in their localities. I will, however, go out on the end of the proverbial limb by stating that I would prefer a —25° F. temperature with four feet of snow to the type of weather related earlier in this article, particularly

when it comes to growing Tree Peonies.

Finally, I wish to emphasise that my observations of the species' hardiness are not based on a wide range of varieties but upon the humble start referred to. To this I have since added Allice Harding; Gessekai; Hinode Sekai; Lutea (a species); ReineElizabeth; Sakuragasane; Suigan and Ubatama. I have also increased my stock of Reine Elizabeth and Souv. de Maxime Cornu by the division method. Beyond that it is my desire to add to the varieties I have, a few of the "tops" in the Japanese group. My ultimate objective is for an abundance of the generally recognized choicest - say a limit of 25 - rather than a few each of the rather abundant list the market is offering. This, of course, is a matter of personal taste and no reflection upon the list of named varieties among which I believe there is beauty to satisfy all who undertake to grow them.

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### **MRS. CHARLES M. SHRADER — Liberty, Indiana**

The many friends of Mrs. Shrader will be distressed to know that she passed to her reward at Easter. For a number of years she had been an invalid, often suffering great bodily pain, which she endured with patience and fortitude.

She took great interest in her peonies and was justly proud of her two originations, Rosanna

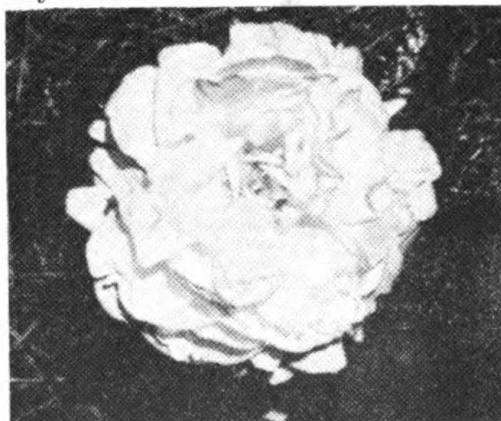
Shrader, a tall and graceful grower with flowers of shades of pink, delightfully blended and an excellent cut flower; and White Rose, one of the most exquisite of all peonies, a semi-double with some delicate tints of pink, a fine garden flower and late flowering.

The writer has had the pleasure of visiting her home several times,

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and the pleasant memories of these visits will always be bright spots in his life.

She was a devout Christian and a devoted wife and mother. To her survivors we extend our heart felt sympathy. They can be assured that her reception into the future life was: "Thou good and faithful servant, Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."



WHITE ROSE

### ***Attention Members!***

The next Bulletin will be issued as soon as it can be prepared after July 15. The time will depend on how soon the reports of the various shows are received. Please let us have them and make them as complete as you can, giving the varieties as well as the persons winning in each class, not forgetting the collections.

Also, we shall need replies from every one of you to the two Questionnaires, sent you on May 15 last. Every one can give us some of the information asked for in each one. Please do so and let us have them by the above date, July 15. It takes some time to gather together the information supplied, so please do not make it necessary for us to send you another reminder. To do so costs time and money which we can ill afford to spend so unnecessarily. *Advertisers, please send in copy by then also.*

## ***Secretary's Notes***

### **THE ANNUAL MEETING MINNEAPOLIS**

Our March Bulletin contained full information about this meeting. At it there should be considered the new By-Laws as revised by a committee appointed for the purpose, of which Mr. Marvin C. Karrels is Chairman. A draft of them is published in this issue together with some revisions which have been suggested by various members of the Society from time to time. It will be noted that there are many sections which need careful consideration and we hope our members will read them carefully and come prepared to offer whatever suggestions they think would better the Society.

Those who attended our last meeting may remember that the question of a scale of points to be used by those who may have to judge classes containing peonies was discussed. This is urgently needed and such a scale should be adopted at this meeting. At present there is no scale for the guidance of these judges, many of whom are not at all familiar with peonies. Please read the article in this issue by Mrs. Searles, who has under her supervision the judges and their instruction in the St. Louis area.

As our supply of Handbooks has been entirely sold out, we have the urgent duty of getting out a new one. So far we have had few replies to our request for opinions as to its contents and how it may be improved. However there are many who think the size should be increased to 48 pages instead of 36 and the charge from 25c to say 50c, though probably more think there should be no change

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in size or price. PLEASE ANSWER THAT QUESTIONNAIRE sent out on May 15th to all members. We especially wish to know how many want it in large quantities and how many want advertisements and listings in the Classified Directory of Sources of Supply. So far few have indicated any desire to purchase them. We need a guaranteed prepublication sale of at least \$1,200 if the size is to be 36 pages and \$1,500 if 48 pages. PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU AT ONCE.

There is some demand for a larger book to sell at a dollar or more. Such a book is now in preparation by the American Horticultural Society under the supervision of Dr. John C. Wister who so ably edited the Tree Peony Monograph with our President, Mr. Harold E. Wolfe. Several of our members will assist Dr. Wister among whom is Mr. William H. Krekler. The publication date as now suggested is January, 1959. It may be possible for this Society to enter into some agreement with the American Horticultural Society so that this book may serve as our Manual until sometime in the future when we can publish such a book ourselves. It will contain about 100 pages more or less.

The question arises in this connection how large a check list of varieties should be included in its contents. We have such a list which was prepared by the late Byron Gist and his wife. The typewritten copy is about five hundred pages. Of course it would have to be reduced in size to about fifteen to twenty five printed pages in such a book. As there is little demand from our membership for this list, at present it seems that its publication by this Society cannot be undertaken unless

the cost of revision and publication can be underwritten beforehand.

We hope all of our members will send in the Questionnaire sent out May 15 from which the Most Popular Peonies-1958 list will be compiled as soon as possible after the close of the season. Also some other useful information was requested, so we hope every member will send the completed questionnaire in as soon as possible after the close of their peony season. We have already received a few. Please save us time and money sending a second request for the return of this questionnaire, which will have to be made by letter to each member who fails to return them. Every member can supply some of the information, if not all questions are answered.

This spring the Lynchburg, Virginia, Federation of Garden clubs had planned a Spring Show which was to have been built around an exhibit of tree peonies in full bloom. These plants were donated by Mr. Marinus Vander Pol of Fairhaven, Massachusetts, and shipped to Lynchburg through the efforts of our energetic Lynchburg member, Mrs. William Goode Robinson. However the show had to be cancelled due to lack of material caused by the late blooming season this year. We understand that the tree peony plants were shown in several of the department stores in the city. However we have not yet received the final report. We may be able to give it in another issue.

Reports from many different areas tell us this season is the finest they have ever had. Let us have a report from *you*!

A notice of unpaid membership dues was sent to all who had not paid on May 15th. Many have an-



swered the call, since then. Many have not. Please let us hear from you at once.

The Secretary will be absent from home, attending the Annual Meeting for a week or more. There will be a competent person in charge to acknowledge all correspondence during his absence.

We hope every member who possibly can attend this meeting will come and as many as can do so, make exhibits. So far the season promises to be a good one for the Twin Cities' area though somewhat early and maybe on the dry side.

We are able to present a picture

of the late Mrs. Chas. M. Shrader and of her origination, White Rose, in this issue which see.

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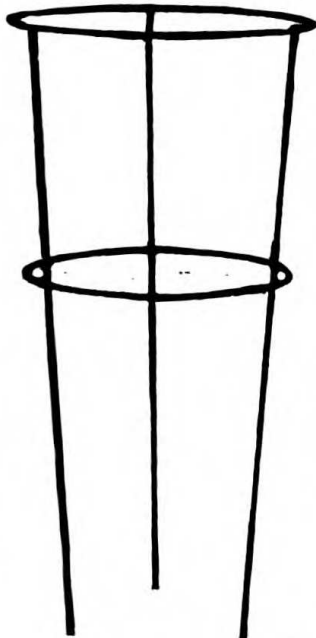
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