


AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY



Bulletin

DECEMBER - 1958

BULLETIN NO. 151

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American Peony Society

George W. Peyton, Editor — Rapidan, Virginia

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

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President: Theo. K. Mysyk, Box 525, Hebron, Illinois

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Irene 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 method; 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.

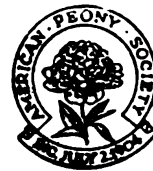
The annual dues are now \$5.00 a year. The year begins with January 1 and runs the calendar year. Applicants for membership should send a check or money order for five dollars payable to AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY to the Secretary. If cash is sent, the letter should be registered. The Society will not be 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

DECEMBER, 1958 — NO. 151

President's Message

In all my experience as a peony grower, I believe 1958 gave the best blooms and plants that I ever saw. Everywhere we went we saw the same high quality.

The high quality of the flowers at Minneapolis and in the gardens around and about were indeed a pleasure to the eye. Now then with the fine growing conditions in the summer and fall of 1958 the 1959 season should be as good or better than 1958. Keep an eye on the PEONIES. How anyone can see that kind of quality and not become a Peony BUG is more than I can understand.

Many more people seem to be getting interested in the peony every year. The increase seems to be in the Japs and singles. The general public is finding that the peony will make more show for their money, with a minimum of care than most any flower.

There are many homes that have peony plants that have been there for years and years without anyone paying them any attention except during the two weeks when they are in bloom. It is a curious fact that the more attention a flower demands the more it gets. roses, dahlias, gladiolus, all of the annuals, and many other species of flowers demand constant care. Many of them have to be

planted and dug every year and others like the rose have to be cared for constantly or they will fade out. But not the peony: it goes on year after year whether you pay it any mind or not.

Seasons Greetings and a most prosperous New Year to all.

Myron D. Bigger

COMMITTEES APPOINTED

Our President has announced the appointment of the following advisory committees for the new peony plantings:

National Arboretum, Washington, D. C.: Leland H. Cole, and Hoyt H. Haddock, both of Silver Spring, Maryland and F. H. Barclay of Baltimore.

New York Botanic Garden, Bronx Park, New York: Louis Smirnow. Brookville, New York, Walter J. Guille, Syosset, New York and William T. Gotelli, South Orange, New Jersey.

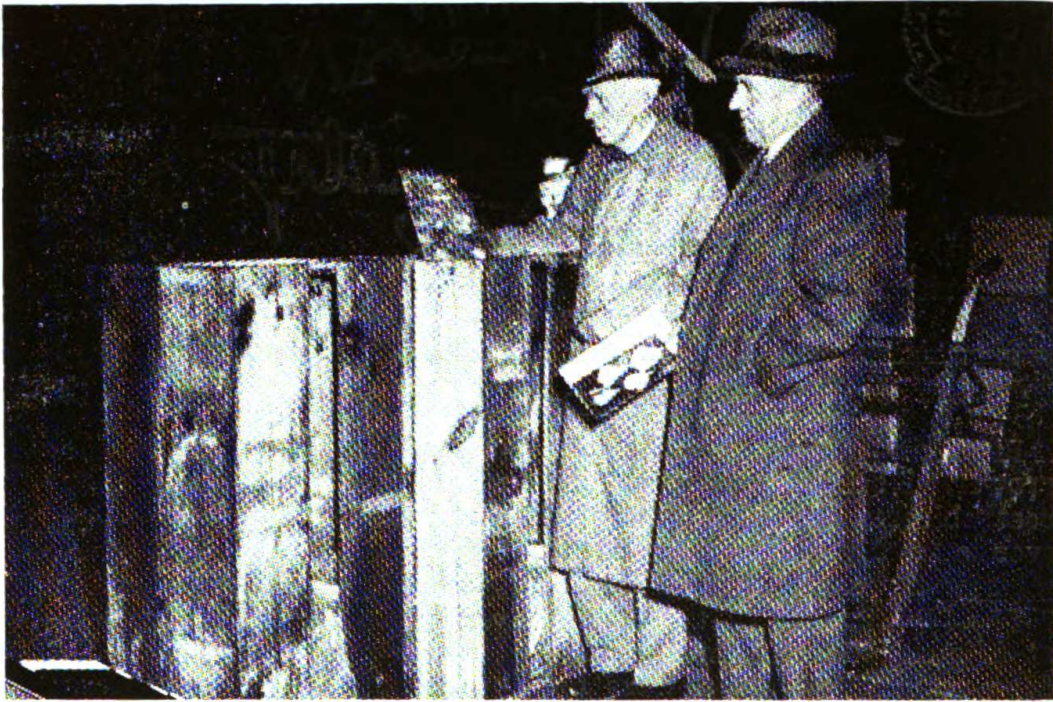
Oglebay Park Peony Terrace, Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia Laverne C. Atha, West Liberty, Ohio.

MR. BIGGER HAS A BIRTHDAY

Mr. J. W. Bigger, the father of our President, passed his ninety-second birthday on November 30. He is still active and in excellent health. May he have many happy returns of the day.

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A Tale Of Two Tree Peonies



LEAVING BOSTON—Marinus Vander Pol. Left. Ed Williams, Terminal Manager for Hartman's Incorporated. ("Virginia Trucks")

On February 10th last, just five days before the worst snow storm in many years (14 inches on the level, many drifts ten feet) hit this part of the country, a phone call was received from our energetic member in Lynchburg, Virginia, who has a way of getting the impossible done, as will be seen from the following, which started a ball to rolling which may continue to roll for many years to come.

We shall let Mrs. Robinson tell the story in her own way in the letter which follows:

Last spring, the Staging Chairman for the Spring Show of the Lynchburg, Virginia Council of Garden Clubs asked Holberton Farms to do the ONE exhibition garden for the show, making only two stipulations: 1, the space allotted must not be exceeded, and 2, something most distinctive by way of plant material would be used in order to create great in-

terest in the show. The date of the show was Palm Sunday weekend - the last Saturday and Sunday in March. Since this meant that there could be NO peonies included in the schedule, I thought at once of the opportunity of having peonies steal the show if only it were possible to have forced tree peonies featured in the garden. Although this seemed too remote a possibility to even consider, when we met with the Staging Chairman at the show location, we tentatively planned a garden with two plants as the focal point. Meeting with us, at my invitation, were the two Home Economists of the Appalachian Power Company, who were delighted with my request that they use their recently acquired know-how in garden lighting to enhance the eye-catching qualities of these dream plants. The entire garden was planned right there - you could see it in your mind's eye! The

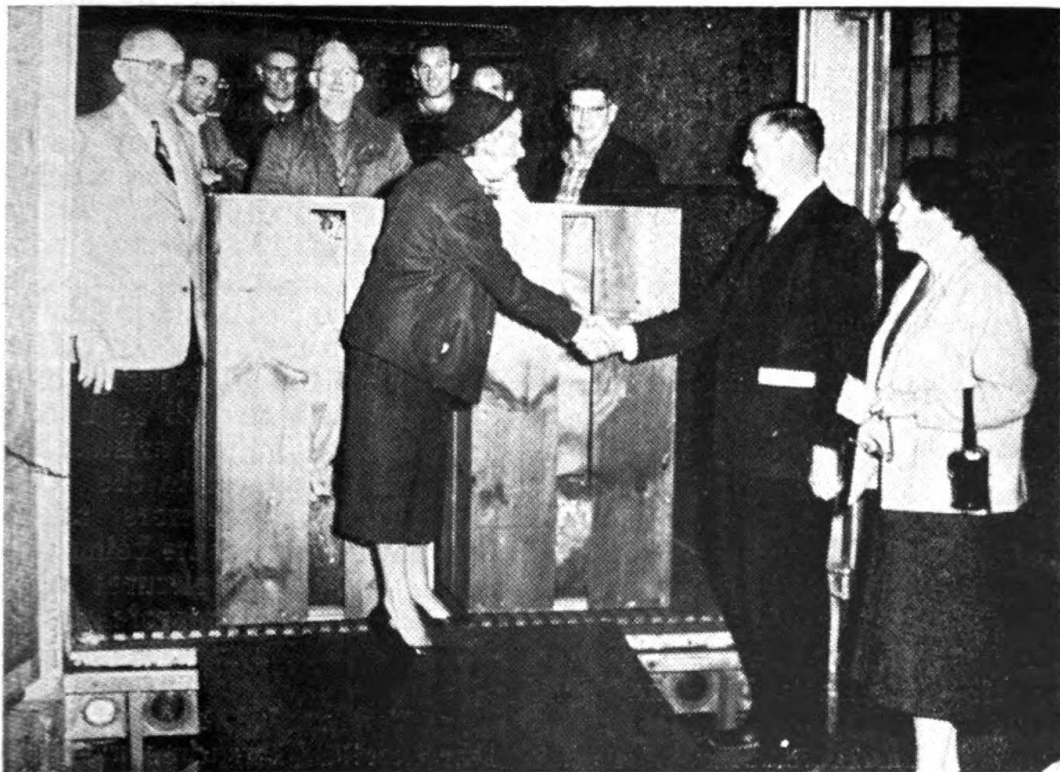
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huge foyer of the wonderful new Auditorium was to be the scene of the show, and the space allotted to us was so situated that the garden would be the first and the last thing that visitors to the show would see. Can you think of a better way to present the Empress of flowers?

You will remember that I called you, February 10, and that as a result of your efforts in the interest of this project, Mr. Marinus Vander Pol of Massachusetts, generously offered plants that he had forced for the Boston Flower Show. (He won the Gold Medal again this year for his marvellous exhibit there). In talking with Mr. Vander Pol, he said it would be necessary to come for the plants in a station wagon. That was impossible, because of the time element. Having gotten that close to the realization of this almost

unbelievable opportunity, this **was** an obstacle that **HAD** to be overcome. But **HOW**?

Having been quite involved with safety activities, both on a local and a state level, I had come to know and appreciate many fine people in the Virginia Highway Users Association. I called Calvin Falwell, one of the officers of the Association, who lives in Lynchburg, and told him the story. I asked him if he thought it might be possible for some member of the Association to add two plants to a truck loading in Boston. Calvin didn't tell me to go take an aspirin and go to bed, nor even to go jump in the lake! He's a DO-ER himself, and he said Sure! One of their members loaded a truck in Boston about twice a week and came straight through to Craddock-Terry Shoe Company here in Lynchburg. He said he'd



ARRIVAL IN LYNCHBURG—Center: Mrs. Wm. Goode Robinson congratulating W. Calvin Falwell, Vice-President Va. Highway Users' Association. Far right: Mrs. F. E. Brown, Staging Chairman of the show. Far left: Carleton Garette, Traffic Manager, Craddock-Terry Shoe Corporation. At rear: Employees Hartman's Inc.

(Lynchburg News and Daily Advance)

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As shown in foyer Lynchburg General Hospital.
(Lynchburg News and Daily Advance)

be glad to see if they wouldn't accommodate us by bringing the plants. He called back in a few minutes to say everything was fine - he'd talked to Dan Hartman, of the Hartman Motor Express in Harrisonburg, Va., who had the contract with Craddock-Terry and he said they'd be glad to do it. Told me what day they planned to come down from Boston, where they loaded, what time of day, etc. Then I got in touch with Mr. Vander Pol, and relayed the information to him. All arrangements were made and went off without a hitch, including the photographing of the loading in Boston, with Mr. Ed Williams, terminal manager for Hartman's Inc. and Mr. Vander Pol shown as the plants were being loaded. The pictures were taken through the cooperation of the Massachusetts Highway Users Association, and were for use in the magazine of the VHUA, Virginia TRUCKS. (Note:

The plants left Boston at 2 p.m. Friday,, March 14. Editor)

When the plants arrived in Lynchburg 18 hours later (isn't that amazing?) there was a delegation on hand at Craddock-Terry to greet them. The staging chairman of the show, Fred Menagh (feature writer of the Lynchburg NEWS), C. E. Garrette, Traffic Manager of Craddock-Terry, and Calvin Falwell, as well as Goode and I, welcomed these aristocrats from New England to the Old Dominion! Pictures were taken here showing the plants being unloaded, and these pictures also included the expert professional truckers of the Hartman Motor Express.

Mr. Vander Pol had not only given excellent directions over the phone for the proper handling of these plants to bring them into bloom at the proper date - and NOT before or after - but he also sent written instructions along

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with the plants. These instructions were to the effect that the plants were to have a thorough watering, but NO water was to touch either foliage or bloom buds. The plants were to be kept at a temperature of 36 - 40 degrees until the day before the show, when they were to be given a room temperature of 66° (I hope I have remembered this correctly. I am writing all this from memory—and I am delighted that I have this to think about as one of the most wonderful things that I have ever been involved in). Also, they were to be given a subdued daylight - that is, they were to have light, but NO sunlight on the plants themselves. We thought we had the right conditions in one location at home, but it became evident almost at once that we could not keep the temperature low enough. We couldn't put them in the cold storage room at Goode's factory, because there were no light there. Other cold storage facilities had the same lack. There was a frantic time for awhile, until, while talking to one of the cold storage appliance men, Mr. H. L. Curlee, we found that his warehouse afforded everything we needed. We immediately took the plants there, placed them in the 38 degree room by a window facing due north! They were perfect! Each day we went by to see them - and the plants continued to give promise of doing exactly what Mr. Vander Pol said they would if we followed instructions. Then-

Due to the long, cold spring and the consequent lack of anything for garden club members to exhibit, the show was postponed two weeks! However, Mr. Vander Pol had told those plants when to bloom - and they obeyed. There we were, with these fabulous

(THEY WERE FABULOUS) plants-and no show! People were calling the newspaper - what about the tree peonies they had expected to see? It was wonderful to see how much interest had been aroused about these plants. Well, after all the effort that had been made to get those plants to Lynchburg for people to see, we had to do some fast thinking to come up with an idea as to how and where they could be exhibited to the best advantage and to the greatest number of people. We did this, too.

We not only have a magnificent High School here - we also have a new hospital that had only been open a few months at this time. It is a superb example of a modern hospital (Lynchburg General), and the foyer is not only handsome and spacious, but is open twenty-four hours a day. Mr. Raymond Hagon, the Hospital Administrator, was most gracious when we asked if we could exhibit the plants there - in fact, he seemed delighted. We placed them in a garden setting, outlined in bricks, and filled in along the border with pansies and similar plant material that had been brought along to be used at the show. (We had told THESE plants when to bloom!) Since there was plenty of room to place the little garden in the center of the foyer, the plants could be seen all around—and were they handsome. Just imagine a soft pink, along with a pure white, tree peony with at least thirty blooms on both, the foliage in perfect condition, standing well over three feet from the floor, greeting you as you enter a large and lovely building!

People came to see them, too! There was a notice in the paper that they were on exhibition in the foyer at Lynchburg General

Hospital, and many people called various Council members to ask about them and were told where they could be seen. Not only did the general public get to see these remarkable plants, but all hospital patients who could either walk or be wheeled into the foyer were brought to see them.

The interest that was generated in this fine plant is growing. Already garden clubs, as well as interested individuals, are asking about coming out next spring to see the varieties that we have in bloom. All the catalogs Mr. Vander Pol sent me are gone, and while I know of some orders he has gotten, there will be many more as time goes on.

Incidentally, a friend of Mr. Garrette's whose home is in Boston happened in for a visit about the time all this was going on. He asked Mrs. Garrette if she could tell him what plant a twig he held in his hand was. She laughed and told him to ask her husband, that he'd just been associating with horticulturists! Whereupon, Mr. Garrette showed the friend Mr. Vander Pol's catalog. The friend sat down and wrote Mr. Vander Pol, asking for an appointment the next week to discuss certain plants he wanted. Small world! Man comes to Virginia only to find what he wants is next door!

We had planned to have a silent auction of these plants as a feature of the show. It was, of course, not possible to do this after the show was cancelled. Mr. Vander Pol had given the plants to be used, but it seemed only fair to use them to the best interest of the Society, which is the best interest of the Peony! Consequently, the money from the auction was to have been sent to the American Peony Society. Since that was not possible, we planted

them in a most effective location in our garden, where they may be seen by any and all who are interested. The two varieties, by the way, are Genkimon (white) and Yae-sakura (pink).

We have put in a special area which includes tree peonies, camellias, and daffodils. The camellias provide a handsome background for the tree peonies, and the daffodils a foreground. This section of our garden is next to the peony garden. It should be well worth the time of the clubs which have already scheduled visits next spring.

Garden Week in Virginia is usually the last week in April. As a rule, tree peonies are in bloom at that time. This is just one reason why this magnificent flower deserves to be planted more extensively. Another reason is that it is an aristocrat of the garden - and we all enjoy having something that is "special". And what plant gives so much for so little of your labor? This could go on— and on— and ON!

Thinking back on this experience, I wonder if anyone has ever heard of a finer example of many specialists in as many areas of activity cooperating to bring about an achievement in beauty? There was George Peyton, representing the American Peony Society, who thought there was enough promise in the idea presented to him to start the ball rolling. There was Marinus Vander Pol, perhaps the one man in all the world who knows how to force tree peonies to come into bloom at a certain time or for a specific date, and who was generous enough to share with us here in Virginia. There was Calvin Falwell, who knew about transporters like Mr. Peyton knew about peony people! And there was Dan Hartman, who

willingly permitted his business to mix for the pleasure of countless hundreds of people - and I suppose the same thing can be said for Carlton Garrette, although I had the feeling that this was in the public interest of Carlton's own home town, while Dan Hartman lives in Harrisonburg. (This is to the credit of both of them!) Then P. M. Jackson, Editor of Virginia TRUCKS, who used his professional know-how to promote the grand-daddy of good public-relation jobs, aided and abetted by Judge Williams, the Executive Vice-President of VHUA. (If you don't think this is so, let me remind you that people are still talking about what a fine thing the TRUCKERS did for us - and I intend to keep on talking about it.) Then, Mr. Curlee taking the tremendous interest in the proper temperatures - and going to the trouble on a Saturday of helping us get the plants into his storage room. Mr. Menagh, who is a "P.M." newspaper man, getting up in the cold grey light of dawn to get the story. Mr. Hogan, making the lovely setting available to us at a moment's notice. Isn't it amazing and isn't it wonderful? And who says the age of miracles is past? When two enormous tree peonies can be made to bloom a month ahead of time - and on a certain date - and can be safely brought, without a leaf bruised, hundreds of miles to another climate, to unfold into breathtaking beauty to bring pleasure to thousands, we are living in an age of miracle men!

And I thank you each and everyone with all my heart.

Sincerely,

Mrs. W. Goode Robinson

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Peony - Amelia Olson

Aug. 10, 1958

Dear Mr. Peyton,

Please forgive my delay in sending in my peony poll. I had not forgotten but the load of work I do with my own lone two hands, especially in the spring, compelled me to neglect desk matter. I am afraid my answers may not be too consistent for in some cases I have not yet made up my mind.

I was greatly tempted to insert something about the Olson seedling, Amelia (Amaleta) Olson, in the report, for, at present it has become about the most beautiful flower I possess: as exhibition flower, pure white leader, rose-like formation, stem and productivity. We have our own Peony Show here each June, (June 15 and 16 this year) and have a good patronage from people who could not otherwise get to a Show. Over 420 registered here this year. (I have converted my barn-garage into a show place.) The first thing they saw as they entered was a large bouquet of Amelia Olson. It caught the eye.

Each bloom was like a newly opening white rose, the petals being arranged spirally toward the center. The outer row of large petals possessed a glow of ivory-blue which lasted the first two days and then faded to white. Both the large bouquet and single blooms held up for four days. The fragrance was fairly positive. The stems were strong. Next year I will try hard to show this flower.

Mrs. Nelson and I both extend to you our best wishes and our thanks to you for the valiant work you are doing for the Peony. Wish I were younger and might have started earlier.

Casper I. Nelson

River Falls, Wisconsin

1958 – The Year Of Le Cygne

The season of 1958 has gone into my peony chronicle as "The Year of LeCygne". It was a year when most varieties in my garden produced top quality flowers. Several of the reluctant ones were ready and willing, the most notable of which was LeCygne. After ten or a dozen years I had flowers; and practically every one was of exhibition quality. One I cut at the right time and brought into the house was as big as any peony needs to be, and was perfection personified.

Last year, in writing of the 1957 season, I said that reluctantly I had decided LeCygne would have to go. In all the years I had had the variety, it produced quality flowers just once, and then they were rather small. However, I did not get around to digging them out. And as if in gratitude for a special dispensation, I was rewarded with enough beauty to make up for at least several of the ten or so years I had waited. Now what shall I do? I can't wait another ten years—time is getting to be an important consideration - I am reluctant to pass up the possibility of another LeCygne year in the near future. Better keep them, I guess. There are only five plants.

The season was unusual in several respects. It was dry, so dry during the time of flower development that I began to wonder whether there would be any bloom bigger than a silver dollar. But there must have been an ample supply of moisture in the subsoil, and the cool weather reduced transpiration. At any rate there was size, the largest I have ever grown. Another peculiarity of the season was that the early ones were late and the late

ones were early. The tree peonies and earliest hybrids were nearly a week behind schedule. But by Memorial Day, time had been made up somehow and I actually had four or five albiflora varieties which opened a part of their flowers, a thing which happens once in four or five years in my locality. After June 1st they came in rapid succession, the latest varieties, such as Elsa Sass and Marilla Beauty, being nearly a week early. Strangely enough the weather was rather cool during most of that period. I attribute the rapid bud development to the brilliant sunshine day after day - never a cloud in the sky. Photosynthesis was more rapid, and in consequence growth and maturity of flowers was hastened and size of flowers expanded beyond normal.

It was not a good year for evaluation of varieties. Practically all were good. If LeCygne had not taken the honors, I might have called it the Year of Rosedale. This hybrid, which blooms before Memorial Day, has always produced some flowers, not too many and of only fair size and quality. this year there were more flowers, most of which were of good size and full double. They made quite a show. As the big buds began to develop and it became certain that the bloom was going to be better than average size and quality, I kept thinking of the coming show at Minneapolis. As the earlier ones opened, I was convinced that I could make a creditable showing. Kansas, Mary E. Nicholls, Mrs. F. D. R., Nancy Nicholls, Nick Shaylor, Victory, Dolorodell, Alice Harding, Mattie Lafuze, Lowell Thomas, Lillian Wild, Charm, Westerner, Toro-no-

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maki and several others looked as though they would not have to take a back seat in any company. That promise was later fulfilled even beyond my expectations.

But I had no means of keeping them for the show. The locker plant, which I have depended on heretofore for storage, had fallen victim of the freezer and given up the struggle. Florists refrigerators were overcrowded for the commencement trade. So, when I went to Minneapolis, I was compelled to join the ranks of those for whom I have always had nothing but contempt - the people who, as they walk through the exhibit hall casually inspecting the various classes, keep saying, I have better flowers than these at home. Actually I could not say that. Plenty of others seemed to have had just as good a season as I had and the classes were filled with top notch flowers. All I could say was that I had some that might have been in the running.

As mentioned before, it was not a season to bring out the strength or weakness of a variety. Extensive comments on varieties would be pointless. Even thrip injury, to which some of the late varieties are susceptible, was at a minimum. In at least one case the season was too good: Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt which I have always considered a beautiful flower, perhaps tops in the dark pinks, was so massive and thick that it was coarse and "cabbagey". But many of our visitors saw it with a less critical eye and thought it was wonderful. A list of varieties which were the "mostest" in certain respects may be of interest.

Tallest: Goshen Beauty. Largest flower, (diameter): LeCgyne, Mattie Lafuze, Dolorodell, Marilla Beauty and Minuet were practi-

cally tied (about 8½ inches).

Stiffest stems: Tempest. One stalk, purposely left with all buds, had the terminal, four laterals and two sublaterals all open at once and came through a rain without breakage. Kansas was a close second.

Best keeper when cut: Frances Mains.

Color most admired by visitors: Mrs. Livingston Farrand. One lady called it a "shocking pink". My own choice, Moonstone.

The long dry spell broke early in June and the later varieties were subjected to one downpour after another resulting in many broken stems and ruined flowers. The kinds with bending stems suffered the least and the most flowers were salvaged from them. Japs and singles, as usual, were little affected. If every flower could have stood to the last undamaged by wind and rain, what a sight it would have been. But I have little basis for complaint. After all it was a year long to be remembered, "The Year of Le-Cygne".

W. A. Alexander,
Bowling Green, Ohio

THE GUS J. BOEHLAND MEMORIAL

A recent letter from Mr. Roy G. Gayle tells us of the excellent progress being made by the citizens of Rockford, Illinois, in developing a section of Sinissippi Park into a memorial to the late Mr. Gus J. Boehland. Many of his seedling peonies and other plants from his garden are being used and an especially fine pink single seedling of his will be named for him.

3116

The Secretary's Trip To Minneapolis

Contrary to my usual habit of traveling by train, this year my son James F. Peyton, who works in the Pentagon, took part of his vacation and drove me to Minneapolis in his Ford.

We left Rapidan about ten fifteen A. M. on June 15, passing through Washington, thence going on the Washington-Baltimore expressway, and by-passing Baltimore through the new Baltimore Harbor tunnel.

Our first stop was at Woodbury, New Jersey, to pay a short visit to my friends, Mr. and Mrs. Harold E. Roberson, whom I have known for over fifty years. We arrived at Haddonfield, N. J. early in the evening for a night with my son-in-law and daughter, Mr and Mrs. Thomas D. Downey, Jr. They had as dinner guests, Tom's father and mother and his sister and her husband and child. There I saw for the first time two of my granddaughters, Janet and Jean. Next morning we left early for Syracuse, stopping at Ithaca to see a friend, Col. J. C. Nicholls, whom we found with a broken leg, caused by a fall on the ice during last winter. He hopes to be out soon. We spent the night with Mr. and Mrs. Ray Getman. Mrs. Getman is Harry F. Little's daughter whom many of you have met when she so ably assisted her father in setting up his exhibits at many of our National Shows.

En route to Newark, N. Y. we paused long enough to take a look at Westhill House, for so long the home of Harry Little and his beautiful collection of peonies. The house has been sold and the present owner, a Syracuse architect, seems to value the peony garden enough to keep it in beautiful

order. Plants now have a carpet of grass growing both under and between them. It is a living demonstration of how well peonies will do when so planted. They all looked in splendid condition and were in beautiful bloom.

We stopped in Newark to see the rose show in Jackson and Perkins celebrated garden. The cold weather had so delayed the growth that few roses were in bloom. But the plants seemed to be in excellent health and were loaded with buds which gave promise of much beauty to come. We had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Perkins and several other members of the organization. This firm was one of the first members of our Society though they have let their membership lapse. They promise to remedy that. They grow about 40,000 peonies for the wholesale trade. We had a splendid lunch of Long Island duckling at the Inn just outside the entrance to the rose garden.

We then hastened on to Niagara Falls for the night. We entered Canada at Queenston and went to Mr. Clare F. Wood's peony garden for our first stop. But it proved to be our second as we were directed to the wrong garden. So our first stop was at a beautiful peony garden belonging to some institution whose name I did not get. Those who would like to see a great many of the old peonies which we no longer see in the U. S., should by all means visit this one which is on the Parkway a mile or two out of Queenston on the way to Niagara Falls. We were there directed to Mr. Wood's garden which is on the other side of the street leading to the bridge across Niagara River. Those wishing to see it should turn right on

the Parkway just a block from the bridge and go up the hill. Mr. Wood's place is at the top of this hill, just about two minutes from the bridge, and on the left side of the Parkway. The garden is at the back of the caretaker's house, so keep a sharp lookout for it. Coming from Niagara you just keep straight on the Parkway, cross the street to the bridge and up the hill as before. From St. Catherine's the turn is to the left.

This garden contains two or three acres of peonies, most of which are for cutting. The exhibition garden contains two or three hundred varieties of herbaceous peonies including many hybrids. It has practically all of the finest we have. Most of the plants were in good condition, though there had been a few losses. We arrived so late we missed Mr. Wood who had been obliged to return to his home in Toronto. Mr. Shipp who has charge of the garden showed us around, but we did not have time to stay long.

We reached the Falls just before sundown and took a good look and some pictures. As Jimmie had never been there before we stayed over night at a good motel on the Canadian side and saw the Falls lit up by the new colored lights which had just been installed. Our dinner was good and served by an attractive Canadian lass who gave me a nice parting pat when we left. The best views of the Falls are from the Canadian side, where they have a wide walkway along the brink of the gorge and plenty of free parking space just behind the walkway.

Early the next morning we crossed the Rainbow Bridge into New York and entered Prospect Park, intending to stop and view the

Falls from the several vantage points on the American side, but everywhere we were met by signs saying parking fifty cents and, as we had to walk some distance from each of these parking lots to the points from which we could see the Falls, we just drove around the park, though the road does not afford a good view of the Falls at any point. Then we were on our way to Buffalo via the River's edge encountering on the way a toll bridge, fee fifty cents. These New Yorkers sure do know how to relieve you of your cash. What a contrast. In Canada everything free, in New York, pay, pay and pay again unless you walk.

We paid an early morning visit in Buffalo to Miss Laura Kelsey, one of Buffalo's most distinguished music teachers and the daughter of our late good friend E. F. Kelsey, well known to all of us for his many fine originations. From Miss Kelsey we learned that Mrs. Kelsey is still living, though in bad health.

Leaving Buffalo we deviated from the straight way to pause for a few minutes to see Harry W. Claybaugh, for many years a director in our Society which he also served for two years as President. He has retired from his position as engineer for the Pennsylvania Highway Department. About eighteen months ago he was partially paralyzed, but has now almost fully recovered from the stroke. He has sold his grand collection of peonies of which Mr. W. H. Krekler bought the major part. He wished to be remembered to all his host of friends in the Society.

Just before reaching Franklin, Pennsylvania, where Mr. Claybaugh lives, we had our first small mishap as a hen pheasant flew up just in time to be struck by our

right hand front directional light, breaking both the glass and bulb and bringing death to the pheasant.

Our intended destination for the night had been Mansfield, Ohio, stopping to see Bruce Krekler at the Peacock Nursery on the way. But just ten miles from there we were confronted by a sign reading Road Closed. Detour. The detour led us far to the North, in fact nearly to the outskirts of Cleveland. So, as it was now fast getting dark, we stopped at a nice motel near Twinsburg for the night and early next morning started out again reaching The Peacock Nursery soon after seven. There we saw many old friends and partook of a bountiful breakfast which Elvira, the grand wife of Bruce, insisted on cooking for us, though they had just finished theirs.

Soon after ten o'clock saw us at Mansfield and Kingwood Center. We found Dr. Allen away on his vacation, but his able assistant, Mr. Carlton Lees, left his work and showed us around. The peony planting looks in splendid condition as the drainage problem seems to have been licked, though it left some gaps in the beds. Only a few of the late bloomers were still in flower. Among them we saw excellent plants of Hans P. Sæ's Victory and an especially fine one of Mattie Lafuze with many of its exquisitely colored blooms at their speak of perfection. There were also many fine plants of Mr. Krekler's own originations. We shall look for some fine ones among them.

When we were ready to leave Kingwood and Jimmie stepped on the starter it only gave forth a few rattlesnake-like whirs and nothing happened. Mr. Lees called his garage man, who soon had

the trouble corrected and after only about an hour's delay we were again on our way to Lake Tippecanoe in Indiana. We soon ran into a hard rain-storm and when we passed by the Wassenberg Gardens, just East of Van Wert, Ohio, the rain was coming down in such torrents we could not get out of the car without being soaked, so we just kept on.

The rain stopped just before we reached Lake Tippecanoe where we stayed two nights and a day just loafing. Our hosts were Mr. and Mrs. Martin Rohe, and their three daughters. We watched the two teenagers water ski and went for rides on the lake in their motor boat. Besides we were treated to a charcoal broiled steak dinner, cooked outdoors just right by our host and the second night to a turkey dinner and all the trimmings. It was a great pleasure to me to see again Miriam, who is the daughter of my old friend, Mr. R. A. Napier of Blue Island, Illinois, in whose home I have spent so many happy hours when he was living; and Martin who is the same good fellow and Barbara the oldest daughter of the house and her young boy and we cannot leave out the two delightful youngest daughters who have grown up since my last visit into most attractive young ladies.

As our time was getting short, we hurried on our way on Saturday across the broad plains of Indiana and Illinois crossing the Mississippi into Iowa at Dubuque and thence through the hilly country of Northeastern Iowa, spending the night in a fine motel in Decorah. We spent the evening talking with the proprietor of the Midtown Motel who is well versed in the history and attractions of this part of Iowa.

We reached Rochester, Minnesota, a little before noon on Sunday and spent an hour or two with Mrs. John L. Crenshaw, the widow of Dr. Crenshaw of the Mayo Clinic and a native of Virginia who often spent many days at his grandfather's estate near Rapidan. After a bountiful lunch we went on to Faribault for a last visit to Mrs. A. M. Brand, who died from the effects of a fall a few days later. We are glad we had this opportunity to see her this time. For many years she has been one of my best friends, as was Mr. Brand, as long as he lived.

As we drove into the Nursery we were hailed by Frank and Clemma Moots and Louis and Anna Smirnow and had a short reunion with them.

We were in time to see the last of the private show of the Brand Peony Farms in which there were still some magnificent flowers. We also had a view of one of the finest fields of one and two year peonies it has ever been my good fortune to see.

We reached St. Paul about six P. M. passing Hi-Way Gardens of many pleasant memories. We did not have time to stop and greet Mr. Johnson, the present owner. We then paid a short visit to Margaret the eldest daughter of Mr. Jones, the former owner of Hi-Way. But we missed Shirley who was on a visit from her home in Arkansas, but was in Minneapolis at this time. We then went to see Mr. and Mrs. William H. Boyle and were shown over his garden plant by plant. As all who know Mr. Boyle are aware his garden contains about the finest collection of the best peonies in this country, though confined to the area of a back yard. There we saw just opening the bloom of Greens Farms which we took into the

show and won for Mr. Vanderbilt, the originator, and Mr. Boyle, the exhibitor, a Certificate of Honorable Mention in the Seedling class.

We arrived at the Show room about nine P.M. where we were greeted by many old friends and introduced to many new ones. But this story was told in September issue. So we shall pass on to the afternoon of Tuesday when we left Minneapolis behind and spent the night with the Lindgrens, always a pleasant experience, long to be remembered. There we were joined by Myron and Annie Bigger and all taken out to a somewhat belated celebration of the anniversary of the Lindgren's marriage.

About eleven the next morning we left for home taking the most direct route across the State of Wisconsin reaching Arlington Heights, Illinois, just before dark.

After a good dinner at Dick's Coral and a restful sleep at a nearby Motel we paid a nine o'clock visit to Mrs. Christman whom we found much her old cheerful self, though occasionally being bothered with some of the many aches and pains we all go through with from time to time.

We took the Lake Shore Drive from there and made no stops except for traffic lights and lunch until we reached Tuckdawa Garden, even by-passing the big town of Chicago, without a pause, at forty five miles an hour.

After an all too short visit with the Jones and a short chat with Dorothy J. over the phone, we were again on our way. The evening and night were spent at Lake Tippecanoe where the Rohes again entertained us. The evening hours were whiled away with Miriam, Barbara and Jimmie trying to teach me the intricacies of canasta without too much success, i

am afraid as it had been many years since I had even tried to deal the cards.

Leaving about nine the next morning, we went North to the Indiana Turnpike, stopping in Goshen to see Mrs. Ernest Stahly whom we did not find at home, much to my disappointment. Just to say we had been in Michigan we went a few miles out of our way to go over the border into that State where we went East about twenty miles and then entered the Indiana Turnpike near the Gene Stratton Porter service area.

From there it was a long days journey over the Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania Turnpikes to dinner just outside Pittsburgh and a night at Somerset, Pennsylvania, which is high up in the Alleghanies. There the peonies were still in bloom, though it was the end of June and only about two hundred miles from home where they had passed a month before. It was so cold that the heat was on in the the Tourists' Home where we spent the night.

The miles home were quickly reeled off with only a shopping stop in Culpeper 15 miles from home and at the Rapidan postoffice for mail. Reaching Windy Hill about one P. M. found all in order, thanks to Mrs. Strong, who had looked after our mail while away. The painting job on the house had not made as much progress as we had hoped due to the many rains, while we were absent, delaying the work which had made a small start before we left. At home I settled down to work and Jimmie found an invitation to his aunt's some forty miles away, to meet some of his kin from England and he took off after lunch and came back just in time to go on to Arlington and to work again.

Here ended our trek of over 3,200 miles through parts of fifteen states, the District of Columbia and the Province of Ontario, Canada. We passed through the beautiful Piedmont Region of Virginia, many miles of suburbs of large cities, hundreds of miles of corn, wheat, barley, oats, hay of all kinds, apple, peach, cherry orchards, immense vineyards and berry plantings, and thousands of acres of woodland in the mountains of Pennsylvania, New York, Iowa, West Virginia, and Virginia. Maybe some of these should not be dignified by the name "mountains" but rather "foot hills." We also saw the almost deserted hard coal mines in Pennsylvania and some of the bituminous mines in Western Pennsylvania. We glimpsed the enormous steel mills around Chicago and Pittsburgh and the factories in Akron and Youngstown, Ohio, as well as the flouring mills in Minneapolis. Everywhere the country was marvellously beautiful and green due to the abundant rains.

In short the trip was one of such beauty I shall long remember it and be grateful to a generous Providence that I was permitted once more to greet so many of my old friends, some of whom I know I shall never see again and to make some new ones whom I hope that I will be permitted to meet again, my only regret being that we did not have time to see all I had hoped to see. However taken all in all it was a trip of almost unalloyed joy. It could not have been done without Jimmie and his Ford. It was also a joy to me to see the cordial reception given him by all my friends who had never met him before. Here endeth the story. May I live to tell another next year.

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PEONY PERSONS



Myron D. Bigger

(Kent Lyle Photographs, Topeka, Kan.)

Born June 13, 1902 (Friday the 13th), in North Topeka, Kansas. My parents, without asking me, moved me to a dairy farm two miles southeast of Topeka in 1905 and there I grow up among the alfalfa blooms and all of the wild flowers. I knew where all the dog tooth violets, kitten britches, violets, wild blue phlox, pawpaw trees, horse chestnuts, and all the rest of the wild flowers were. That is the way I learned to love flowers. I liked the flowers better than I did the cattle.

In 1918 I planted my first four peony roots. Don't ask me what varieties they were because I do not remember. Then in 1924, my



Annie Bigger
(Kent Lyle Photographs, Topeka, Kan.)

mother, Anne Bigger, bought me four named varieties from Dr. C. F. Menninger. They were Mons, Jules Elie, Marechal Vaillant, Festiva Maxima, and Augustin d'Hour. I still grow just a few Festiva Maxima, a lot of Mons. Jules Elie, but none of the other two.

Then in 1925 I planted my first peony seed. From this planting I got Shawnee Chief. In 1926 I joined the American Peony Society and before the year was out I became a life member. So here I am yet.

The largest planting of seed that I ever made was in 1931. That bed was very productive. From it came Kansas, Westerner, Anne Bigger, Carrara, Plainsman, Jayhawker, Miss Dainty, Pink Wonder, Snow Mountain, Deer Creek, Aerie, Kaw Valley, and Sparkling Star.

My first Peony Show was in 1927 in Peoria, Ill. That did it. I have not been able to get loose since.

Oh, yes, my wife is Annie Bigger and she loves peonies also.

Lens Helps Push His Peonies

By GORDON P. MARTIN

The Topeka State Journal

Friday, March 4, 1955

There are a lot of guys who take pictures for a hobby, but few of them are able to tie up their photographic enthusiasm with their business.

This, however, is no chore for Myron Bigger who takes pictures of the things he produces for both fun and profit.

Bigger, as Topeka flower lovers know, is a peony grower of considerable accomplishment. He's got enough medals that if they were stacked up in front of him on a table, he'd look like a poker player who had bucked into four kings and drew the fourth ace.

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Thus, when Myron's lush blooms reveal their beauty in May, he takes many color pictures, and black-and-whites, too. The color slides are useful when he makes talks to flower growing groups, and the black-and-whites are used in circularizing the peony trade.

* * *

MYRON BIGGER's first camera was a Kodak with a 7.7 lens which his folks gave him when he graduated from Highland Park high school. He was just another snapshotter then, and it wasn't until the advent of color film that he paid \$28 for a 35 mm. camera and began his extensive collection of color slides, most of them of the plants in his three fields which aggregate about 10 acres east of the Philip Billard municipal airport.

Bigger started growing peonies in 1918, even as you and I. He planted four in his yard, and not until 1925 did he get interested in bigger production. His father, J. W. Bigger, who is 88 now and still saws and splits wood on his three-acre tract near Dawson school, reminded him that the Biggers were a dairying family, not peony growers. But Myron used all his spare time producing more and more peony roots, and his labors eventually paid off. By 1942, he was strictly in the peony business.

* * *

ANY DAY, now, Myron will be getting into his peony fields with his hoe to ready his plants for May production. When the blooms come, he'll have a camera along with the hoe to record the reward for long hours of labor.

It takes years of waiting, too. Myron says the bees do the pollinizing for him "because they got more time than I have" to bring about new varieties of peonies. The seedlings which Bigger put out in September and October of 1953, for

example, will make a showing for the first time this spring, but it may be 1960 before the blooms are there in size and numbers.

"It takes from 10 to 12 years to get a variety to the marketing stage," Myron says.

* * *

TO KEEP the varieties from cross-breeding, Myron tells me, you split the roots of the desired variety by a process known as vegetative multiplication.

This, of course, Bigger has often done with his red "Kansas," a variety that was introduced in 1942 and has won national prizes as a top red peony ever since. Myron sold a few roots for \$15 each at first, then 50 roots for \$500. The current retail price of Kansas is \$5 a root.

This peony has won a lot of medals and national recognition for Bigger, and others too. Last year, in major shows, it won five firsts and a sweepstakes prize, shown by peony lovers who entered Kansas in competition. Bigger's pink "Westerner" is another of his best efforts.

* *

Now Bigger doesn't confine his picture shooting to his peony fields. He takes other stuff too, and the other day was telling me about a picture of the Topeka high school tower of which he was especially fond.

One thing Bigger hasn't done, as a photographer. He has not succumbed to the lure of the dark-room to make his own prints. All of his pictures are finished in a commercial lab.

But like most camera addicts, he keeps moving up the scale. He spent \$100 for a new 35 mm. camera two years ago, and it has seen extensive use in his peony fields which again this spring will probably produce 3,000 dozen blooms.

Then, only recently, he got still further into the camera business, the circumstances of which I know firsthand.

I was looking at a reflex—it was a Rolleicord—at a camera counter and Bigger was there too. He and the salesman gave me long and heartfelt sales talks about this wonderful camera, all the marvelous things it would do, how a man interested in photography shouldn't be without it.

Regretfully, I said no.

But next day, I met Bigger going happily down the street with that same camera. He must have convinced himself when he was trying to convince me.

1959 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Our members are reminded that those who have not remitted their dues for 1959 (a number have) should remit them promptly after January 1 or before. Those who are in arrears, and some are, should include these back dues.

NEW MEMBERS

Inquiries about the Society have been more plentiful than for a number of years and a good proportion of the inquiries become members. Among these we are glad to give a most hearty welcome to Mrs. Mary L. Prentiss of Edmonton, Canada. She is coming back into the fold after an absence of about twenty years. She is still an enthusiastic peony fan. Many of our older members were well acquainted with her and she numbered among her friends the late Mr. C. M. Clarke of Teepee Creek which is near her. Many of us will recall the excellent articles that occasionally came from the pen of Mr. Clarke. Dr. Brander of Edmonton, also one of our former members, is her near neighbor.

NEW MEMBERS

M. Jean Cayeux, c/o Rene Cayeux & Cie, 124 Rue Camille-Grault, Vitry-sur-Seine (Seine), France.

Leonard Bachus, 91 South River Street, Plains, Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Myron D. Bigger, 1147 Oakland Avenue, Topeka, Kansas.

Midge Cox, 27 West 55th Street, New York 19, New York.

Sidney Eisner 10800 Devine, Detroit 13, Michigan.

Dorothy A. Freeman, 51 Hancock Street, Salem, Massachusetts.

Mrs. J. A. Hanratty, Saga Hill, Lake Minnetonka, Route 1, Mound, Minnesota.

Mrs. Edith Haw, Iowna Iris Garden, 309 North Washington, Ottumwa, Iowa.

Bernard E. and Emma C. Hobbs, Route 1, Box 27 B. Noblesville, Indiana.

Arnold W. Messmahl, Cozzens Lane, Route 4, Box 528, North Brunswick, New Jersey.

Richard W. Moller, Route 3, Box 27B, Goshen, Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Arno H. Nehrling, 3 Carey Road, Needham Heights, Massachusetts.

Lawrence R. Parker, Parker's Peony Farm, Highbridge, Fayetteville, New York.

Mrs. Mary L. Prentiss, 10906 University Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Rosedale Nurseries, Inc., Saw Mill River Parkway, Hawthorne, New York.

Mrs. Carl A. Schaad, 5436 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago 15, Illinois.

Dr. J. F. Standard, Jr., Box 355, Elkton, Kentucky.

Mr. and Mrs. William W. Waterman, Merrymount Farm, Gordonsville, Virginia.

Yreka Garden Club, c/o Mrs. Ralph King, 716 Yama Street, Yreka, California.

The Peony — A Medieval Plant

405 Runnymede Ave.
Jenkintown, Pa.
October 5, 1958

Dear Mr. Peyton,

Some time ago a request appeared in the Bulletin for information as to the medicinal properties of the peony. The Manual refers to Chinese, Japanese and English peoples making some medicinal use of the peony plant. It aroused my curiosity and I was able to collect some additional information on the subject, which I submit herewith. Much of it will probably be of little interest to the majority of the members of our society. I enjoyed looking it up, however, and you may care to edit and use some portions of it. The spelling in the portion of Henry Leyte's translation of Dodoens book is atrocious but authentic.

I hope this letter finds you enjoying good health and getting a lot of pleasure from your work as Secretary and Editor of our Peony Society.

Yours sincerely,
Harry G. Jackson

USE OF THE PEONY PLANT FOR MEDICINAL PURPOSES

History — China

"The remote history of the Chinese peony goes back into China where, in a general sense, it is traceable for more than a thousand years. Beginning as a wild species *P. albiflora*, it gradually spread throughout northern China where it was cultivated for medicinal use—even for food—and also for garden ornament; and the evidence leaves us in no doubt that it was grown on a very large scale. There is a record in 1596 of at least thirty improved varieties then in existence, while a document that goes back in the eleventh century states

that the herbaceous peony was at that time very widely grown in China, and that it existed in white, pink, and red varieties." From *Peony Breeding* by Professor A. P. Saunders, Manual of the American Peony Society.

"The Chinese distinguished the common (herbaceous) peony or *Sho Yo* from the "improved" or *moutan*, tree peony, the former being preferred for the medicinal property of its roots and the latter for its ornamental value. Indeed, Chinese writings have led, modern scholars to assume that some of the ancient Chinese believed they had actually by their gardening skill produced the tree peony from the herbaceous peony. The tree peony was called by them "The King of Flowers" and the herbaceous peony "The King's Ministers." The name *moutan* means "male scarlet flower," in consequence of the scarlet sort being considered the finest of all, the word male referring to the propagation by division instead of by seed. Various Chinese authors from Hung King (636) to Le She Chin (1596) speak of the natural distribution of the tree peony, each attributing real or fancied advantages to plants from certain provinces, first in relation to the medicinal value of the roots and second to relation in size, range of color, and beauty of flowers. They prefer the roots collected in wild places, stating that those grown in gardens and heavily fed to produce large flowers lose their medicinal value. The book "Origin of Matters and Objects" says that the distribution of the plants as ornaments in gardens began during the reign of Emperor Yang (605-616), and this has led later writers to infer that before this they were grown for their medicinal proper-

ties only." Dr. John C. Wister of Swarthmore College, writing of Moutan Tree Peony, Manual of the American Peony Society.

The distinction between the so called male and female peony as explained by Dr. Wister in the foregoing paragraph, probably is true of the distinction made by Rembert Dodoens in a later passage.

History — Japan

"From the days of the Mikado Seimo (724) the peony enjoyed great esteem. Some Japanese authors refer to its medicinal value and agree with the Chinese doctors that the wild plants are superior to those grown in gardens." Dr. John C. Wister, *The Moutan Tree Peony*, Manual of the American Peony Society.

The distinction between the so-called male and female peony as explained by Dr. Wister in the foregoing paragraph probably is true of the distinction made by Rembert Dodoens in a later passage.

History — Europe

"From the days of the Mikado Seimo (724) the peony enjoyed great esteem. Some Japanese authors refer to its medicinal value and agree with the Chinese doctors that the wild plants are superior to those grown in gardens." Dr. John C. Wister, *The Moutan Tree Peony*, Manual of the American Peony Society.

The use of the peony for medicinal purposes in Europe can be traced back to the first century of the Christian era. In the year 1554 Rembert Dodoens, an eminent Flemish physician, published his "*Cruydtbaeck*", a herbal, which was translated into English under the title "*A Niewe Herball or Historie of Plantes*" by Henry Leyte in 1578 and dedicated to Queen Elizabeth I. It was the standard work on medicinal plants during the latter part of the 16th century and the source

of material for later English authors. In the chapter on the use of the peony, Dodoens refers to Dioscorides, a first century Greek physician, author of "*Materia Medica*", a celebrated medical work in five volumes. Again he gives as his authority Galen, 130 to 200 A.D., a Greek physician of Pergamos, second only to Hippocrates, and whose authority in medical matters remained supreme until the middle of the 16th century.

A portion of Leyte's work in the quaint old English of the original translation follows:

"The thirde Booke of the Historie of Plantes, intreating of Medicinal rootes, and herbs, that purge the body, also of noysome weedes, and dangerous Plantes, Their sundrie fashions, Names, and Natures, their vertuous Operations and dangers.

Of Peonie. Chap XVI The Kyndes

There be two sortes of Peonie, as Dioscorides and the Auncientes write, that is to say, the male and female.

The Description

I. Male Peonie hath thicke redde stalkes of a Cubite long: the leaves be great and large, made of divers leaves growing or joynd together, not much onlyke the Walnut tree leafe in fashion and greatnesse; at the hyghest of the stalke there groweth fayre large red flowers, verywell lyke red roses, having also in the middes yellow threddes or heares. After the falling away of the leaves, there groweth up great coddess or huskes three or four togyther, the whiche do open when they be ripe, in the opening whereof there is to be seene, a faire red coloured lining, and a polished blacke shining seede, full of white substance. The rootes be white, long, small, and well smelling.

2. The female Peonie at his first

springing, hath also his stalkes redde and thicke: the leaves be also large and great, but divided into more partes, almost like the leaves of Angelica, lovage, or Marche. The flowers in like manner be great and red, but yet lesser and paler than the flowers of the male kinde. The coddess and seede are like the other. In these rootes are divers knobbes or gnottes as great as Acornes.

3. Yet have you another kinde of Peonie, the which is like the second kind, but his flowers and leaves are much smaller, and the stalkes shorter, the which some call Mayden or Virgin Peonie: although it beareth red flowers and seede lyke the other.

The Place

The kindes of Peonies are founde playned in the gardens of this Countrie.

The Tyme

Peonie flowreth at the beginning of May, and delivereth his seede in June.

The Names

Peonie is called in Latine Pæonia: Of come Dulcisida, and Idæus Dactylus, of Apuleius, Aglaophoris, Herba Casta: in shoppes Pionia: in high Douche Peonien blum, Peonie rosen, Eichtwurtz, Runigzblum, Pfingstrosen: in base Almaine Pioene, and Pioenbloemen, and in some places of Flaunders Mastbloemen.

The Cause of the Name

Peonie tooke his name first of that good old man Pæon*, a very ancient Physition, who first taught the knowledge of this herbe.

* "Pæon, the healing" is according to Homer the designation of the physician of the Olympian gods, who heals, for example, the wounded Ares and Hades, (Il. v. 401, 899) A Dictionary of Greek and Roman Biography and Mythology, W. L. Smith.

The Vertues

The roote of the Peonie dried,

and the quantitie of a Beane of the same dronken with Meade called Hydromel, bringeth downe womes flowers, scoureth the mother of women brought abed, and appeaseth the griping paynes, and torments of the belly.

The same openeth the stopping of the liver, and the kidneyes, and sod with red wine stoppeth the belly.

The roote of the male Peonie hanged about the necke healeth, the falling sicknesse (As Galen and many other have proved) especially in young children.

Ten or twelve of the red seedes, dronken with thicke and rough red wine, doth stop the red issues of women.

Fiftene or sixtene of the black cornes or seedes dronke in wine or Meade, helpeth the strangling and paynes of the Matrix or Mother, and is a speciall goode remedie for them that are troubled with the night Mare (which is a disease wherein men seeme to be oppressed in the night as with some great burthe and sometimes to be overcome with their enimies) and it is good against melancholique dreames."

Professor A. P. Saunders; *Manual of the American Peony Society*, refers to the claim in Hill's *British Herbal* of 1756, that the Peony "(P. Officinalis, no doubt) will alone cure that disagreeable disorder, the night-mare."

The Peony is not mentioned in "American Medicinal Plants" by C. F. Millspaugh, M.D., 1887, nor in "Herbal Simples" by W. T. Fernie, 1897.

However, the Peony is not yet out of the medical picture. The *Naturopathic Pharmacopeia* by Dr. Paul Wendel, 1950, refers to the properties and uses of the Peony as follows: "It has been credited by some with anti-spasmodic pow-

ers, while others refer to it as purgative and emetic. An infusion of value is made by adding an ounce of the root, in coarse powder to a pint of boiling liquid, composed of one part of good gin and two parts of water. Dose—A teaspoon of the root to a cup of boiling water. Drink cold one or two cupsful a day, a large mouthful at a time.

***Reine Elizabeth* An Abundant Bloomer**

This Fall, when reviewing A.P.S. Bulletins back to No. 99 for information pertaining to the culture and propagation of Tree Peonies, I ran across two or three references to *Reine Elizabeth* being a shy bloomer. One of these will be found on page 44 of Bulletin No. 122. Despite the terrific punishment to which my plants of this variety have been put, as hereinafter related, my experience has been the reverse.

Attributable to changes in domicile plus one location in my present garden, which proved to be unsuitable, the plants were moved four times in 6 years. Commencing with the Fall of 1950 they were lifted and potted in readiness for a 200 mile move. They were left in the pots until the Fall of 1952 when they were set out in an open field. The soil was a black sandy loam where subterranean water was present within 18 inches or less of the surface. Here they were left until the Fall of 1955 when I brought them to our present domicile. The original spot chosen in this latest location proved detrimental due to too much shade and root interference from surrounding trees. This brought about another move in the Fall of 1956 to a section of the same garden where they now are and showing every sign of being quite contented. Surely

my severest critic would agree this was rough treatment.

In moving them to their present spot I had red sand, two feet deep, to contend with. To overcome this obstacle I removed sufficient sand to make a hole 2 feet in diameter and replaced the sand with what I would classify as a medium clay loam.

Last year (1957), as was naturally to be expected, the blooms certainly were not anything to "write home about" but they were fairly numerous. However, 1958 has been a different story. One plant produced a total of 18 blooms from 9 canes. Four or five of these were 7 inches in diameter with great depth. Another six or so were around 6 inches in diameter while others were slightly smaller but satisfactory nevertheless. The remaining plants were not quite so floriferous but likewise satisfactory.

During my close to 40 years of growing Peonies, although on a very limited basis, and strictly for the pleasure derived therefrom, I have not developed any "secret formula." I have held steadfastly to the use of bone meal—almost to the total exclusion of other fertilizers. When setting out an herbaceous division or a tree peony graft I place from a half to three-quarters of a cup of bone meal under each plant, being careful to protect the plant from direct contact with the fertilizer by means of 2 inches or so of soil. Each succeeding Spring and Fall I make it a point to see that each plant gets a like application. In addition, sharp drainage has always been an absolute "must" and all through the growing season an abundance of water is applied. As to soil, I do not advocate the use of that which has a lighter body than a medium clay loam. Admittedly, I have seen

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Interesting Notes From Marinus Vander Pol

A recent letter from Mr. Marinus Vander Pol of Fairhaven, Massachusetts, gives us interesting news.

He visited Japan last summer and had interviews with many Japanese authorities with a view to improving conditions involving tree peonies. He will return again this summer.

He tells us in part: "I can report considerable progress with the Japanese, packing has improved, inspection at the growing field is now undertaken, cultural advice will be available to raise the quality of the plant materials and some standards can be expected on Tree Peonies for export in another season. We are now preparing the way for standardized Tree Peony names for the Country as a whole, thus straightening out the regional differences that exist. Next step will be the searching out of the Historic data and correct descriptions.

I have already talked with Prof. Hitoshi Kihara, Director of Na-

both herbaceous and tree peonies thriving reasonably well in lighter soils but where good color, size, substance, form, foliage and stout stems are sought, look to the heavier soils to produce them.

In conclusion I wish to emphasize that I am not making claim to the one and only way to make tree peonies bloom or 18 blooms on one plant being a record, but as long as I can encourage *Reine Elizabeth* to produce 18 blooms per plant—some of them 7 inches—I shall continue feeling blessed with more good fortune than I deserve.

Ralph H. Giff

Sarnia, Ontario, Canada

tional Institute of Genetics, The Wizard on Rust Wheat in the Orient, about the Genetics of the Tree Peony, only to learn that we do have expert Genetics at the Arnold Arboretum in Boston. If this is correct, we should be able to do some work here and soon."

Mr. Vander Pol also tells us that the Vander Pol Nurseries will again put on an Oriental Garden featuring Tree Peonies at the coming Spring Show of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society next March and that it will be the most exotic exhibit they have ever attempted. The exhibit will include a number of Mr. William Gratwick's plants.

He also enclosed a copy of a letter he had received from Prof. K. Hagiya, who is in charge of the Horticultural activities at the University of Niigata. He has been successful in setting up an inspection program in the Tree Peony belt in the Niigata area, one of the three main producing areas of tree peonies in Japan.

He has also done some research work and also some crossing of the several tree peony species, the first of which may bloom next spring. He visited China in 1957 and brought back some varieties to Japan. They may bloom this spring.

A newspaper clipping from a New Bedford paper was enclosed which will explain itself as it is published in this Bulletin.

New Bedford, Massachusetts
November 14, 1958

City Gets Gift From Japan

Tree Peonies Sent
By Niigata Mayor

Mayor Lawler today received a gift of 50 Japanese tree peonies.

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for the City of New Bedford from the City of Niigata, Japan, which he describes as "a sister fishing port," and immediately made plans for sending a return gift to the Japanese community.

Nine of the tree peonies, each worth about \$12 in this country, are to be planted in a bed in front of the Whaleman's Statue on the lawn of the New Bedford Free Public Library in appropriate ceremonies at 10 a.m. Tuesday, the mayor announced.

Remaining 41 trees in the gift will be planted in beds at Buttonwood Park under the supervision of Parks Superintendent Edward W. Barrett.

Exchange Arranged

The mayor said arrangements for an exchange of gifts between the two cities were made through Marinus Vander Pol, Fairhaven nurseryman, when he visited Niigata on a tour of Japan last August. Mr. Vander Pol is having 15,000 of the Japanese tree peonies shipped to his nursery.

Mr. Vander Pol is planning to visit Japan again next July and will take with him the city's return gift to Mayor Horikawa of Niigata, Mayor Lawler said.

"We'll send back a key to the city, some books and pictures about New Bedford and its fishing history and some sort of flowers, shrubbery or trees that can be planted in Niigata as a gift from the City of New Bedford," Lawler said.

Mr. Vander Pol explained the 50 tree peonies sent to the city are all 2-year-old blooming trees. He said they are in a variety of colors, including maroons, whites, reds, yellows and lavenders.

"They bloom from May 10 to June 1 and have been known to grow 10 feet in height with a 40-

foot spread," Mr. VanderPol reported.

To Erect Sign

Mr. Barrett said he would have employes of the Park Department prepare a bed approximately 27 feet long and 5 feet wide on the library lawn for the nine trees that are to be planted there.

"And we'll have a sign erected showing they're a gift to the City of New Bedford from the City of Niigata," the mayor added.

The City of Niigata is a fishing port located on the west coast of Honshu, the main island of Japan. It is almost identical in size and population with New Bedford, Mr. Vander Pol said.

Brooklyn Botanic Garden Publications

The Autumn issue of *Plants and Gardens* will be a *Pruning Handbook* of 80 pages, written by 20 experts. It is well illustrated and a complete guide to pruning all kinds of plants. They also issue other *Handbooks*, two of the most recent being the *Handbook on Herbs and Gardening in Containers*. Price one dollar (\$1.00) each. Order from Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn 25, N. Y.

It is interesting to observe that more than 40,000 species and cultivars have been recorded as having been introduced or reintroduced into cultivation in the United States since 1940. At present over 475 horticultural periodicals are published yearly in the United States. The number of garden clubs, plant and horticultural societies is now in excess of 13,500, increasing each year to satisfy the needs and interests of the amateur plant lover.

Fourteenth Annual Peony Show Peony Unit of Oklahoma

in co-operation with the
LUCKY DAY, JUNE DAY & CENTENNIAL PEONY UNITS
Municipal Gymnasium, N.W. 7th and North Shartel
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA. — MAY 17-18, 1958

THEME: "Around The World With Peonies"
(Amateur Exhibitors Only)

Court Of Honor and Traveling Trophy Awards

All traveling trophies are held for one year by the winner. Any one winning a trophy three successive years becomes its permanent owner.

The Peony Unit Trophy for the outstanding Horticulture Specimen in the Junior Section: U. S. Grant Junior High School; teacher, Mrs. M. M. Pearson; sponsor, Mrs. L. W. Kamin.

AWARDS

The Peony Unit Trophy for the best specimen bloom in the show—E. W. Sisney with Florence Bond, Queen of the Show (Grand Champion).

The Opal M. Hamilton Trophy for the best Japanese—Mrs. G. A. Bawden with Nippon Beauty.

The Lucky Day Peony Unit Trophy for the best single—Mrs. L. W. Kamin with Seashell.

The Peony Unit Trophy for the best arrangement—Mrs. L. J. Weissenberger with her arrangement, "With the Japanese" Class 194.

The June Day Trophy for the best June Day shown—no entries.

The Mrs. G. A. Bawden Trophy for the best Tree Peony—no entries.

The Mrs. Bozo Jones Trophy for the best bomb type—Mrs. J. E. Hamilton with Lady of the Snows.

The Mrs. W. R. Boyington Tro-

phy for the best hybrid—E. W. Sisney with Chocolate Soldier.

Mrs. W. H. Allen Trophy for the best anemone type—no award. Not enough entries to constitute a class.

The Rose Kamin Trophy for the best seedling—none entered.

The Tri-Color Award—blue, red and yellow—to the highest scoring blue ribbon winner in classes 194-197 (arrangements): Mrs. L. J. Weissenberger.

The Award of Distinction: brown with gold lettering—to the highest scoring blue ribbon winner in class 198 "With the Americans"—winner must score 95—Mrs. Luke Rogers.

The Award of Merit: orange ribbon—to the exhibit judged the finest in horticulture. Winner must score 95—E. W. Sisney.

Special Award: green ribbon—given in recognition of superiority in Class 199 "With the French"—Mrs. Edie Cooper.

Sweepstakes Award: Peony roots to the exhibitor winning most blue ribbons. In case of a tie red and yellow ribbons to be considered: Divisions I and II. E. W. Sisney, Mrs. Connie Chase, Mrs. Opal M. Hamilton and Mrs. Gertrude Allen.

The Junior Achievement Award: Combination red, white and blue ribbon for the outstanding Junior exhibit: U. S. Grant Jr. High School. (Entered as a unit.)

Winners in Horticultural Classes

Collection of five different varieties; E. W. Sisney with Bright Knight, Chocolate Soldier, Golden Glow, Kansas, Tamate Boku.

Collection of three different varieties: E. W. Sisney with Florence Bond, Kansas, Priam.

Blue Ribbon Winners, Three Of A Kind

Double, white; Mrs. Opal M. Hamilton with Kelway's Glorious. Pink: Mrs. Opal M. Hamilton with Walter Faxon.

Semi-Double, white or blush; Mrs. Gertrude Allen with Minnie Shaylor. Red; Mrs. Connie Chase with The Mighty Mo.

Japanese, pink: E. W. Sisney with Ama-no-sode.

Single, white: Mrs. Opal M. Hamilton with Krinkled White.

Only the winning varieties were named in the following:

Blue Ribbon Winners, Specimens

Double, white: Florence Bond (Queen). Pink: Sarah Bernhardt (best light pink), Walter Faxon (best dark pink), Better Times, Martha Bulloch, Mons. Jules Elie. Red: Kansas (best), Priam.

Semi-Double, white or blush: Minnie Shaylor. Pink: Prairie Belle. Red: Albuquerque, The Mighty Mo.

Bomb-red: Felix Crousse (best), Red Charm (Hybrid).

Anemone, white and yellow: Golden Dawn. Red: Red Bird (best).

Japanese, white or blush: Leto (best), Plainsman. Pink: Westerner (best), Ama-no-sode, Kate Barry, Tokio. Red: Sword Dance (best), Nippon Beauty, Red Emperor.

Single, white: Krinkled White. Pink: Seashell. (Both outstanding in all entries) Red: Kickapoo, Man o'War, President Lincoln.

Miniature (blooms less than five inches in diameter): Creve Coeur (Red Jap)

Hybrids, red: Chocolate Soldier (best), Bright Knight, Golden Glow.

Red Ribbon Winners, Specimens

Double, white or blush: Alice Harding, Festiva Maxima, Kelway's Glorious, Youth. Pink: Martha Bulloch, Sarah Bernhardt, Walter Faxon. Red: Highlight, Kansas.

Japanese, white: Isani Gidui. Pink: Nippon Gold. Red: Fire Chief, Mikado, Nippon Beauty, The Baron.

Single, white: Watchman. Pink: Lucky Day.

REMARKS

The tables for the exhibits were arranged around the Honor Table which was decorated by an inflated balloon which had a world globe painted on it and which was decorated by paintings of Sputniks and similar objects. This made a most attractive show illustrating the theme "Around the World with Peonies".

The six arrangement classes further illustrated the theme and were as follows:

194. "With the Japanese"—line using restraint, for a console.

195. "With the Greeks"—simple arrangement using wood, for the mantle.

196. "With the Dutch and Flemish"—massive in a metal container for the breakfast table.

197. "With the English"—triangular, using heavy crystal or milk glass container for a hall table

198. "With the Americans"—massive line. Pink peonies. Artificial material and accessories may be used. For a tea table.

199. "With the French"—Picture frame. By invitation only. Background furnished by exhibitor.

There were 140 entries made by

The Fifty Sixth Annual Meeting

The Fifty Fourth Annual Exhibition

Just as we go to press, a letter has been received from Mrs. Donald L. Anderson, Secretary of the North Dakota Peony Society, which reads as follows:

Mr. George W. Peyton, Secretary, American Peony Society, Box No. 1, Rapidan, Virginia.

Dear Mr. Peyton:

The North Dakota Peony Society will be very pleased and honored to have the 1959 National Peony Show in Grand Forks.

At a recent meeting of the Society, the dates were tentatively set at June 29 and 30-that will be a Monday and Tuesday, allowing Sunday for travel and preparation. A steering committee was named and definite plans are beginning to be made, so everything should be all lined up in time for publication in your March Bulletin.

Please let me know when you desire further information, and if we have any questions as show

members of the Senior Clubs, 11 from Junior Club members and 76 from those not members, making a total of 227 entries in the Horticulture class, with 33 members entering.

The Awards banquet was held in the Patrician Room of O'Mealey's Cafeteria, 3132 North May Avenue, at 7 p.m., May 17, and was sponsored by the Lucky Day Peony Unit.

All the above information was furnished us by Mrs. W. H. Allen, corresponding secretary of the Oklahoma City Council of Garden Clubs, 809 S.W. 35th, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, under date of September 15, 1958

time draws nearer, you'll be hearing from us. In the mean time - a very Merry Christmas from snowy North Dakota.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Donald L. Anderson, Secretary, North Dakota Peony Society, 410 - 23rd Avenue, South, Grand Forks, North Dakota. November 30, 1958.

Unless unforeseen difficulties arise to prevent, we think you may look forward to our Annual Meeting and Exhibition being held in Grand Forks. This will be furthest North and West we have ever had the Annual Meeting.

Full information will be given in our March Bulletin. This North Dakota Peony Society has the reputation of staging beautiful shows and we shall all look forward to next June, with every expectation of having a grand time.

PEONY ARRANGER'S FANCIES

A deep "ashes of roses" rose type red double bloomed the first time for me this year. A large flower with a decided rose fragrance. I cannot identify it. Possibly it was substituted for something I thought I planted. Indoors I fancy it is a shade just half way between Philippe Rivoire and Lavender Pink. One might call their colors perfect thirds in an octave. With them I use a medium pink such as Sarah Bernhardt, the pale pink Minuet and a blush white. In a turquoise blue hob-nail carafe set in rooms that are rose beige and Dubonnet with turquoise and gold for accents, the effect is joyously satisfying.

Mabel L. Franklin
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Department of Registration

The following cultivars (varieties) are presented for registration by the originators, introducers or owners, the names having been approved by the Nomenclature Committee:

By W. S. BOCKSTOCE, 2803 Bergman Street, Pittsburgh 4, Pennsylvania, originator and owner:

EDGAR JESSEP (Bockstoce, 1958) D. E. Brilliant red. Hybrid *officinalis* x *albiflora*, No definite parentage or seedling No. given. Brilliant red double, medium height, rose center. Early.

By MRS. HENRY D. STRUBBE, 1065 Cathedral Avenue, Franklin Square, Long Island, New York, owner; originator Dr. J. S. Webb, 307 West Wait Avenue, Ithaca, New York:

EDITH R. STONE (Webb, 1958.) SD. H. Pale pink. No Seedling No. or definite parentage given. Large, light pink semi-double with yellow stamens showing. Tall, stiff stems. Color fades almost white with age. Abundant bloomer. It is named for Mrs. Strubbe's mother, who lives at 700 Stewart Avenue, Ithaca, New York.

By MRS. J. A. (LEONE) HANRATTY, Saga Hill, Lake Minnetonka, Route 1, Mound, Minnesota, owner; originator Edward J. Gardner, Gardner's Nurseries, Horicon, Wisconsin, who is now dead.

Owing to the death of Mr. Gardner and the loss of his records no definite parentage can be given, though the seedling numbers are known. No definite dates of introduction are given.

JOE HANRATTY (Gardner before 1951). D.L.M. Deep pink. Seedling No. 130. Midseason to late bloomer, double deep pink, strong, tall stems that hold the large flat

blossoms erect. Showy and prolific bloomer.

JOHN GARDNER (Gardner before 1951) J. LM. Bright red. Seedling No. 15. Late midseason Jap. Bright red guards fading to rosy red. Stamnodes bright red with golden edges. Heavy bloomer, good landscape variety, medium height.

ROBERT (Gardner before 1951) D. LM. Deep pink. Seedling No. 604. Immense deep pink double blooming in late midseason. Tall and spectacular.

THERESA GARDNER (Gardner before 1951). D. L. White. Seedling No. 111. Double late white opening flowers tinted pale gold and blush which fade to pure white, sometimes flecked red. Though extremely late, it never fails to open. Good cut flower.

FELICIA (Gardner before 1951) S. M. Deep pink. Seedling No. 201. Extra large deep pink single blooming in midseason. Stands up well. Medium height. Excellent garden and landscape variety

LEONE GARDNER (Gardner before 1951). D. M. Red. Seedling No. 397. Large midseason double red with strong, rigid stems. The color glows in the twilight when other reds disappear. Close to a true red.

JACQUELINE HANRATTY (Gardner before 1951). D. E. Red. Seedling No. 465. Large double red, resembling Karl Rosenfield. Opens well and is a true red. Strong, rigid stems.

PATRICIA HANRATTY (Gardner before 1951). J. M. Rose red. Seedling No 39/10 Large Jap with rose red guards and rose colored stamnodes edged lemon. Blooms saucer shaped, stems strong. Blooms midseason.

By GILBERT H. WILD & SON, of Sarcoxie, Missouri, owners and distributors, and Col. J. C. Nicholls, Ithaca, New York, and Allen Wild, Sarcoxie, Missouri (Pink Radiance), originators.

AGLOW (Nicholls - Wild & Son, 1959) N 986. L. D. White. M.H. A delightful creamy white peony with a breath of shell pink over the center. The broad, waxy substantiated petals are rolled outward, giving the appearance of a huge white rose. Strong, stiff stems; clean foliage. Aglow resembles Nick Shaylor, but is much larger. Col. J. C. Nicholls rated N 986 as one of his best peonies.

ALLINE ROGERS (Nicholls-Wild & Son, 1959) N 1120. E.M. D. Pink. A beautiful rose type, salmon pink peony named for the charming wife of Guy Rogers, Wichita Falls, Tex. Alline Rogers is a delicate Doris Cooper pink having several splashes of strong red on the edges of the petals near the center. The texture has the appearance of fine crisp nylon. The flowers are held on a medium strong stem with dark green foliage. Another one rated "A" by Col. J. C. Nicholls.

ANNE HARGROVE (Nicholls-Wild & Son, 1959) N 317. E. D. Pink. T. Anne Hargrove is best described in color as China Pink with occasional markings. The large flowers are borne on tall, strong stems. The pollen bearing peony is from the cross of Mme. Calot x Nicholls No. 272, a pink semi-double from Lady Alexandra Duff. Truly a garden gem for your peony collection.

E. G. KENDALL (Nicholls-Wild & Son, 1959) N 352. M. D. Pink. A dressy orchid pink

bomb type peony, fully doubled. The two rows of outer petals are smooth and evenly spaced. The petalodes are erect and of the same firm texture as the outer petals. Both petals and petalodes shade to deeper pink at the base. The sepals are green. Excellent stems and foliage. A nice peony, well liked by Col. J. C. Nicholls and visitors in Sarcoxie. E. G. Kendall was named for a fine gentleman from Oklahoma.

FAIRY DREAM (Nicholls-Wild & Son, 1959) N 1337. L. D. White. A beauty! A decided rose type flower, full and deep with large petals that seem to be cut with pinking shears. An off white, tapering to faint pink. The large guard petals are slightly rolled back. The total appearance is a huge lacy rose. Good stems and foliage.

PINK RADIANCE (Allen Wild, 1959) Wild 52-20. M. D. Pink. A flower of pleasing light pink shading to deeper pink at center of bomb giving it a lavender glow. The base of bomb petals are of light yellow causing the flower to glisten as yellow shines through. The double row of collar petals are the same shade as the crinkled outer edges of the bomb. Collar petals are flaring. Stems are stiff and foliage good. A good peony.

TOP FLIGHT (Nicholls-Wild & Son, 1959) N 407. L.M. D. Blush. T. F. One of the most unusual and beautiful peonies that we have grown! The huge, attractive buds, with heavy red markings open into extremely large flowers that are light and are fragrant. The immense, pink with a yellow underglow well textured, shapely blooms



The
American Peony Society

are convex—all the petals recurve which is the opposite form of most peonies. Top Flight is tall, and has strong, stiff stems and clean foliage. A refreshingly different garden subject, and we believe a collector's item.

WILLA GILL (Nicholls-Wild & Son, 1959) N 1340. M. to M.L. D. Cream. A flesh creamy white symmetrical flower with crinkled and slightly cut edges. The outer petals roll out somewhat as the flower opens. The petals are broad and firm textured. A clean flower. Good stems. A beautiful, satisfying and vigorous addition to any garden. We were happy to have the kind permission to name this peony after the most gracious and charming Mrs. John Gill, Wichita Falls, Texas.

WALLY Z (Nicholls-Wild & Son, 1959) N. 1381. EM. D. Light pink with petals edging to silver. Guard petals are touched with red. Petals are large, with cut on rough edges, pleated to the center, giving the flower a full appearance. Flowers are borne on stiff stems with ample dark green foliage.

Obituaries

JOHN VAN LEEUWEN

A letter from Mr. L. van Leeuwen, Jr. of Sassenheim, Holland, dated Dec. 11, 1958 tells us of the death of his brother, Mr. John van Leeuwen, last year.

For many years (nearly 40) Mr. John van Leeuwen has been a member of this Society.

He was well known to many of our members and for many years was a constant attendant of our

annual meetings. His father was a prominent peony grower in Holland and his sons were connected with his firm until the business was discontinued about 25 years ago. Since then, until his retirement a few years ago. Mr. van Leeuwen came yearly to this country as a bulb salesman, and for a while lived in New York City.

He was well known as a cultured, Christian gentleman and was a valued friend of many of us.

A beautiful white Jap. is named for him. It has never been grown as widely as it deserves to be. Those who do have it consider it among the best of all white Japs. Only a few offer it in this country. In addition to being a flower of almost perfect formation, it is a later bloomer than most Japs.

On behalf of the Society we extend his family our sincerest sympathy.

MRS. ERNEST F. KELSEY

A letter just received from Miss Laura Kelsey of Buffalo, New York, tells of the death of her mother, Mrs. Grace Gedge Kelsey, the widow of the late Ernest F. Kelsey of East Aurora, New York, who originated many of our finest peonies.

Mrs. Kelsey had been an invalid for several years and was 87 years old.

Those of us who were privileged to know her will remember her as a lady of unusual culture and intelligence, a hospitable and gracious hostess and an outstanding Christian.

On behalf of the Society we extend our sincerest sympathy to her family.



The Most Popular Peonies — 1958

After five different appeals to to our membership, we have received 108 questionnaires, in which one or more of the questions asked have been answered and a few have written giving their reasons for not answering.

From these 108 we have compiled the lists which are published here. This year we have printed them alphabetically as it should be easier to locate any given variety than if they were published according to rating. Those who wish to know the rating of any variety in a particular category, can easily find it, as the number of votes each variety received is printed after the name. 70 lists had one or more hybrids in them and 31 had tree peonies listed. A total of 566 varieties were considered worthy of a place among the best twenty-five. About 800 were listed in the color lists.

MY FAVORITE

105 Answers. 69 Varieties.

Alesia, 1.
Alice Harding, 1.
Ama-no-sode, 1.
Amberglow, 1.
Ann Cousins, 1.
Blanche King, 1.
Bu-te, 1.
Chocolate Soldier, 1.
Clemenceau, 1.
Corinne Wersan, 1.
Doris Cooper, 1.
Do Tell, 1.
Dr. J. H. Neeley, 1.
Elsa Sass, 6
Evening Star, 1.
Exquisite, 1.
Felix Supreme, 1.
Festiva Maxima, 2.
Florence Bond, 1.
Florence Nicholls, 1.

Frances Mains, 1.
Gardenia, 3.
Gessekai, 1.
Greer Garson, 1.
Hansina Brand, 3.
Hazel Kinney, 1.
Isani Gidui, 1.
June Rose, 1.
Kansas, 5.
Karl Rosenfield, 1.
Kelway's Glorious, 3.
Kickapoo, 1.
Krinkled White, 1.
Le Cygne, 4.
Loren Franklin, 1.
Louis van Houtte, 1.
Majestic, 1.
Margaret Lough, 1.
Marilla Beauty, 1.
Mary B. Vories, 1.
Matilda Lewis, 1.
Mattie Lafuze, 1.
Minuet, 2.
Moonstone, 1.
Myrtle Gentry, 2.
Mons. Jules Elie, 3.
Mons. Martin Cahuzac, 1.
Mme. de Verneville, 1.
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, 5.
Mrs. J. V. Edlund, 1.
Mrs. Livingston Farrand, 1.
Nancy Nicholls, 1.
Nick Shaylor, 5.
Pico, 1.
Red Charm, 4.
Richard Carvel, 1.
Rosabel, 1.
Rose Marie, 1.
Sarah Bernhardt, 1.
Seashell, 1.
Solange, 2.
Souvenir de Maxime Cornu, 1.
Tempest, 1.
Therese, 1.
Tourangelle, 2.
Tsuki-sekai, 1.
Victory, 1.
Westerner, 1.
Wings of the Morning, 1.

❧❧❧❧❧❧

MOST BEAUTIFULLY COLORED

98 Answers. 56 Varieties.

Ama-no-sode, 1.
Angelo Cobb Freborn, 1.
Ann Cousins, 1.
Argosy, 1.
Charm, 1.
Chocolate Soldier, 1.
Corinne Wersan, 1.
Ella Christiansen, 1.
Elsa Sass, 1.
Felix Supreme, 1.
Festiva Maxima, 1.
Gay Paree, 1.
George W. Peyton, 1.
Grace Batson, 1.
Greens Farms, 1.
Hansina Brand, 1.
Helen Matthews, 1.
Hermione, 1.
Hinode-sekai, 1.
John Harvard, 1.
June Rose, 1.
Kansas, 3.
Kinshi, 1.
La Fee, 1.
Laura Magnuson, 1.
Louise M., 1.
Louis van Houtte, 1.
Martha Bulloch, 1.
Mary Brand, 1.
May Delight, 1.
Mons. Jules Elie, 1.
Moonstone, 4.
Miss Dainty, 1.
Mme. Stuart Low, 1.
Mrs. A. M. Brand, 1.
Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, 5.
Mrs. Harry F. Little, 1.
Mrs. Livingston Farrand, 18.
Mrs. W. L. Gumm, 1.
Myrtle Gentry, 3.
Nancy Nicholls, 1.
Nick Shaylor, 1.
Philippe Rivoire, 2.
Queen Rose, 1.
Ramona Lins, 1.
Red Charm, 1.
Red Red Rose, 1.
Reine Hortense, 1.
Rose Marie, 1.

Rosy Cheek, 1.
Solange, 8.
Souvenir de Louis Bigot, 1.
Therese, 2.
Tondeleyo, 1.
Tourangelles, 2.
Walter Faxon, 5.

MOST CHARMING

95 Answers. 64 Varieties

Ama-no-sode, 1.
Aureolin, 1.
Ave Maria, 1.
Blush, 1.
Burma, 1.
Camellia, 1.
Claire de Lune, 1.
Clemenceau, 1.
Couronne d'Or, 1.
Do Tell, 1.
Ella Christiansen, 1.
Elsa Sass, 5.
Eva, 1.
Evening Star, 1.
Fairbanks, 1.
Fairy Pink, 1.
Flora, 1.
Gay Paree, 1.
Hansina Brand, 1.
Helen, 1.
Isani Gidui, 3.
Jessie Gist, 1.
John Harvard, 1.
Kansas, 1.
Kelway's Glorious, 1.
Kelway's Wild Rose, 1.
Krinkled White, 1.
Lady Alexandra Duff, 1.
La Rosiere, 1.
Le Cygne, 2.
Louis van Houtte, 1.
Lovely Rose, 1.
Margaret Lough, 1.
Marilla Beauty, 2.
Mercy, 1.
Minnie Shaylor, 3.
Moonstone, 2.
Mother's Choice, 1.
Miss America, 2.
Mme. de Verneville, 1.
Mme. Emile Debatene, 1.
Mrs. Deane Funk, 1.

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Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, 5.
 Mrs. Livingston Farrand, 1.
 Nippon Gold, 2.
 Philippe Rivoire, 2.
 Phyllis Kelway, 2.
 Picotee, 1.
 Pleiades, 1.
 Primevere, 1.
 Ramona Lins, 1.
 Rare China, 1.
 Red Bird, 1.
 Red Charm, 3.
 Rosalie, 1.
 Sarah Bernhardt, 2.
 Seashell, 4.
 Silvia Saunders, 3.
 Solange, 3.
 The Mighty Mo. 1.
 Veritas, 2.
 Victory, 2.
 Westerner, 1.
 Glasscock No. 4-12-13. Double
 white hybrid, 1.

THE MOST MAGNIFICENT EXHIBITION

84 Answers. 40 Varieties.

Alesia, 3.
 Ann Cousins, 4.
 Black Pirate, 1.
 Blanche King, 1.
 Diadem (Andrews), 1.
 Dolorodell, 1.
 Doris Cooper, 1.
 Dr. F. G. Brethour, 1.
 Edulis Superba, 1.
 Ella Christiansen, 1.
 Elsa Sass, 3.
 Ensign Moriarty, 1.
 Eugene Bigot, 1.
 Frances Mains, 1.
 Gessekai, 1.
 Grace Batson, 1.
 Hansina Brand, 6.
 Jacob Styer, 2.
 Kansas, 7.
 Kelway's Glorious, 1.
 La Lorraine, 2.
 Le Cygne, 6.
 Louis van Houtte, 1.
 Mary E. Nicholls, 1.
 Moonstone, 2.

Mother's Choice, 1.
 Myrtle Gentry, 2.
 Mons. Jules Elie, 3.
 Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, 8.
 Mrs. J. V. Edlund, 1.
 Nick Shaylor, 6.
 Pico, 1.
 Polar Star, 1.
 Red Charm, 1.
 Sarah Bernhardt, 2.
 Solange, 2.
 Spring Beauty, 1.
 The Fawn, 1.
 Walter Faxon, 1.
 Westerner, 1.

THE BEST GARDEN VARIETY

45 Answers. 34 Varieties.

Baroness Schroeder, 1.
 Beth Ann, 1.
 Charm, 1.
 Couronne d'Or, 1.
 Crimson Bomb, 1.
 Ecstasy, (Jap). 1.
 Elsa Sass, 1.
 Florence Nicholls, 1.
 Garden Princess, 1.
 June Rose, 1.
 Kansas, 2.
 Karl Rosenfield, 1.
 Kelway's Glorious, 1.
 Largo, 1.
 Le Cygne, 1.
 Lottie Dawson Rea, 1.
 Louis van Houtte, 1.
 Mabel L. Gore, 1.
 Marietta Sisson, 1.
 Minuet, 1.
 Mme. de Verneville, 2.
 Mons. Jules Elie, 9.
 Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, 1.
 Mrs. Wilder Bancroft, 1.
 Myrtle Gentry, 1.
 Octavie Demay, 1.
 Officinalis rubra plena, 1.
 Philippe Rivoire, 1.
 Rashoomon, 1.
 Roselette, 2.
 Rosine, 1.
 Sarah Bernhardt, 1.
 Souvenir de Maxime Cornu, 1.
 W. L. Gumm, 1.

The One Hundred Most Popular Peonies

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| A. B. Franklin, D. B. 8. | Le Cygne, D. W. 32. |
| Alesia, D. W. 14. | Longfellow, D. R., 13. |
| Alexander Woolcott, H. SD. R. 6. | Loren Franklin, D. DP. 7. |
| Alice Harding, D. B. 16. | Lotus Queen, J. W. 9. |
| Ama-no-sode, J. P. 9. | Lowell Thomas, D. R. 7. |
| Ann Cousins, D. W. 8. | Mandaleen, D. LP. 5. |
| Arcturus, S. R. 7. | Marilla Beauty, D. W. 7. |
| Auguste Dessert, SD. P. 5. | Martha Bulloch, D. DP. 20. |
| Auten's Pride, D. LP. 9. | Mary Brand, D. R. 19. |
| Ave Maria, SD. LP. 5. | Mary E. Nicholls, D. W. 5. |
| Baroness Schroeder, D. B. 10. | Matilda Lewis, D. R. 8. |
| Blanche King, D. DP. 25. | Mattie Lafuze, D. B. 11. |
| Bonanza, D. R. 7. | Minnie Shaylor SD. B. 7. |
| Charm, J. R. 10. | Minuet, D. LP. 21. |
| Chocolate Soldier, H. SD. R. 13. | Miss America, SD. W. 7. |
| Dignity, J. R. 5. | Mons. Jules Elie, D. DP. 49. |
| Dolorodell, D. LP. 10. | Mons. Martin Cahuzac, D. W. 9. |
| Doris Cooper, D. LP. 10. | Moonstone, D. LP. 19. |
| Dorothy J., D. B. 9. | Mrs. A. M. Brand, D. W. 5. |
| Dr. J. H. Neeley, D. W. 7. | Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, D. LP. 46. |
| Edulis Superba, D. DP. 7. | Mrs. Harry F. Little, D. B. 5. |
| Ella Christiansen, D. LP. 13. | Mrs. J. H. Neeley, D. B. 5. |
| Elsa Sass, D. W. 36. | Mrs. J. V. Edlund, D. W. 15. |
| Felix Crousse, D. R. 13. | Mrs. Livingston Farrand, D. LP. 17. |
| Festiva Maxima, D. W. 35. | Mrs. Wilder Bancroft, J. R. 5. |
| Florence Nicholls, D. B. 9. | Myrtle Gentry, D. LP. 37. |
| Frances Willard, D. W. 9. | Nancy Nicholls, D. B. 14. |
| Gardenia, D. B. 8. | Nick Shaylor, D. LP. 49. |
| Gay Paree, AJ, P. 5. | Nippon Beauty, J. R. 7. |
| George W. Peyton, D. B. 7. | Nippon Brilliant, J. R. 12. |
| Hansina Brand, D. LP. 24. | Nippon Gold, AJ. P. 5. |
| Hans P. Sass, D. B. 9. | Philippe Rivoire, D. R. 43. |
| Hari-ai-nin, J. R. 6. | Pico, S. W. 14. |
| Helen, S. P. 5. | Primevere, D. W&Y. 8. |
| Helen Hayes, D. DP. 6. | Red Charm, H. D. R. 35. |
| Hermione, D. DP. 7. | Reine Hortense, D. LP. 9. |
| Imperial Red, S. R. 5. | Richard Carvel, D. R. 10. |
| Isani Gidui, J. W. 18. | Ruth Elizabeth, D. R. 12. |
| Jean Cooperman, D. R. 5. | Sarah Bernhardt, D. DP., 12. |
| John Harvard, H. SD. R. 8. | Seashell, S. P. 22. |
| John L. Crenshaw, D. R. 6. | Solange, D. B. 23. |
| Kansas, D. R. 45. | Souvenir de Louis Bigot, D. DP. 9. |
| Karl Rosenfield, D. R. 22. | Tamate Boku, J. P. 7. |
| Kelway's Glorious, D. W. 45. | Tempest, D. R. 15. |
| Krinkled White, S. B. 21. | Therese, D. LP. 25. |
| Lady Alexandra Duff, SD. B. 10. | Tondeleyo, D. DP. 7. |
| La Lorraine, D. B. 12. | Tourangelle, D. B. 10. |
| Largo, J. P. 5. | Victory, D. W. 24. |
| Laura Magnuson, H. SD. P. 7. | Victory Chateau Thierry, D. SD.
LP. 6. |
| | Walter Faxon, D. MP. 19. |
| | Westerner, J. P. 11. |

"THE ONE BEST"

94 Answers. 49 Varieties.

Alma Hansen, 1.
Ama-no-sode, 1.
Amberglow, 1.
Ann Cousins, 1.
Chocolate Soldier, 1.
Couronne d'Or, 1.
Doris Cooper, 1.
Dorothy J., 2.
Duluth, 1.
Elsa Sass, 8.
Felix Supreme, 1.
Festiva Maxima, 3.
Gardenia, 1.
Gessekai, 2.
Hansina Brand, 5.
Henry Sass, 1.
Joseph Christie, 1.
Judy Becker, 1.
Kansas, 6.
Karl Rosenfield, 1.
Kelway's Glorious, 10.
Kickapoo, 1.
Krinkled White, 1.
Le Cygne, 4.
Louis van Houtte, 1.
Majestic, 1.
Mary B. Vories, 1.
Moonstone, 1.
Myrtle Gentry, 2.
Mons. Jules Elie, 4.
Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, 4.
Mrs. Livingston Farrand, 1.
Nancy Nicholls, 1.
Nick Shaylor, 3.
Paul Bunyan, 1.
Philippe Rivoire, 1.
Pico, 1.
Queen Rose, 1.
Red Charm, 4.
Rose Marie, 1.
Ruth Elizabeth, 1.
Seashell, 1.
Sistie, 1.
Solange, 2.
Souvenir de Maxime Cornu, 1.
Tama-fuyo, 1.
Tourangelle, 1.
Tsuki-sekai, 1.
Victory, 1.

THE 10 MOST POPULAR IN EACH COLOR

DOUBLES

White

Alesia, 18.
Ann Cousins, 12.
Dr. J. H. Neeley, 13.
Elsa Sass, 41.
Festiva Maxima, 41.
Frances Willard, 13.
Kelway's Glorious, 55.
Le Cygne, 38.
Mrs. J. V. Edlund, 18.
Victory, 28.

Blush

A. B. Franklin, 13.
Alice Harding, 22.
Baroness Schroeder, 17.
George W. Peyton, 14.
La Lorraine, 20.
Mattie Lafuze, 16.
Moonstone, 23.
Nancy Nicholls, 17.
Solange, 29.
Tourangelle, 14.

Light Pink

Auten's Pride, 16.
Doris Cooper, 13.
Ella Christiansen, 17.
Hansina Brand, 28.
Minuet, 30.
Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, 47.
Myrtle Gentry, 45.
Nick Shaylor, 51.
Reine Hortense, 15.
Therese, 32.

Dark Pink

Blanche King, 29.
Helen Hayes, 12.
Loren Franklin, 10.
Martha Bulloch, 25.
Mons. Jules Elie, 61.
Mrs. Livingston Farrand, 23.
Sarah Bernhardt, 39.
Souvenir de Louis Bigot, 12.
Walter Faxon, 25.
Edulis Superba, 10.

Red

Felix Crousse, 18.
Kansas, 51.
Karl Rosenfield, 29.

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Longfellow, 17.
Mary Brand, 26.
Mons. Martin Cahuzac, 14.
Philippe Rivoire, 51.
Richard Carvel, 14.
Ruth Elizabeth, 16.
Tempest, 22.

SEMI-DOUBLES

WHITE or Blush

A. G. Perry, 7.
Margaret Lough, 8.
Marie Jacquin, 2.
Mildred May, 8.
Minnie Shaylor, 15.
Miss America, 17.
Nanette, 3.
Rare China, 7.
Susan B. White, 7.
White Rose, 3.

Pink

Aerie, 4.
Auguste Dessert, 7.
Ave Maria, 6.
Banner Bright, 2.
Lady Alexandra Duff, 15.
Mrs. Deane Funk, 2.
Prairie Belle, 2.
Phyllis Kelway, 10.
Silvia Saunders, 14.
Spring Beauty, 5.

Red

Albuquerque, 1.
Blazing Star, 1.
Chippewa, 7.
Maestro, 1.
Mr. L. van Leeuwen, 1.
Red Goddess, 10.
Rosalie, 7.
Sinbad, 1.
The Mighty Mo, 9.
William F. Turner, 1.

JAPANESE

White or Blush

Bu-te, 3.
Carrara, 2.
Isani Gidui, 35.
Lotus Queen, 16.
Midway Island, 3.
Moon of Nippon, 5.
Plainsman, 4.

Shaylor's Sunburst, 7.
Toro-no-maki, 10.

Pink

Akashigata, 5.
Ama-no-sode, 11.
Doreen, 3.
Goddess, 5.
Largo, 8.
Sky Pilot, 4.
Tamate Boku, 12.
Vanity, 4.
Westerner, 21.
Yellow King, 4.

Red

Break o'Day, 4.
Charm, 11.
Dignity, 7.
Hari-ai-nin, 13.
Midnight Sun, 5.
Mikado, 9.
Mrs. Wilder Bancroft, 12.
Nippon Beauty, 15.
Nippon Brilliant, 21.
Rashoomon, 8.

SINGLE

White or Blush

Albiflora, The Bride, 1.
Exquisite, 5.
Dancing Nymph, 4.
Dunlora, 2.
Krinkled White, 41.
Le Jour, 11.
Pico, 26.
Rebecca, 1.
Virginia Dare, 1.
Watchman, 2.

Pink

Angelus, 7.
Helen, 13.
Dawn Pink, 4.
Elfin Pink, 2.
Fortune Teller, 2.
Josette, 4.
L'Etincelante, 6.
Mischief, 8.
Pride of Langport, 6.
Seashell, 36.
Sparkling Star, 2.

Red

Arcturus, 21.
Polar Star, 5.

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Kaskaskia, 3.
 Flander's Fields, 4.
 Imperial Red, 11.
 Kewanee, 2.
 Kickapoo, 8.
 Man o'War, 5.
 President Lincoln, 16.
 Vera, 2.

THE TWENTY MOST POPULAR ANEMONE

Many of our correspondents inquire about anemone type peonies. As few catalogs list any under this type and also as many writers on Peonies in our garden magazines seem to have little idea of what an anemone peony really is and list under the heading some that could not possibly be placed under this heading we are listing here those that most likely could be properly classed as anemone. You will rarely find any of them so listed in price lists. so, to enable our readers to find them each one has either J for Japanese or D for double placed after it.

An anemone peony is one that has several rows guard petals which are usually white or pink, with a center of petalodes (small narrow petals) of yellow or the same color as the guards, though sometimes of a different shade The carpels are usually normal.

Ada Priscilla, one of the finest of all, did not appear in any list.

Many of these are often called "yellow" peonies, in error, as the yellow fades white. The color of the guards is given first.

Aureolin, J. W-Y, 1.
 Carolina Moon. W-Y, 3.
 Cathedral, J. P-Y-W, 2.
 Do Tell, J. Orchid pink, 2.
 Fancy Nancy, J. Cerise pink, 1.
 Fanny Crosby, D. P-Y. 1.
 Gay Paree, J. P-W, 7.
 J. C. Legg, D. W-Y. 2.
 Laura Dessert, D. W-Y. 4.
 to, J. W-Y, 2.

Luella Shaylor, D. or J. W-Y. 1.
 Mad. Butterfly, J. P, 2.
 Mme. Chiang-kai-shek, D. W-Y. 1.
 Mrs. Mac, J. P, 2.
 Nippon Gold, J. P-Y, 10
 Philomele, J. P-Y, 2.
 Prairie Afire, J. P-R. 7.
 Primevere, D. W-Y, 8.
 Silver Plume, J. P, 1
 Torpilleur, 1.

FIFTY POPULAR HYBRIDS

Note: In this list all the whites and pinks that received two or more votes, the reds that had four or more, all the yellows and three of unusual coloring, though they received only one vote each are listed. We have also included two species. Mlokoewitschi and Officinalis rubra plena, each of which received three votes.

White

Campagna, S. 4.
 Chalice, S. 6.
 Requiem, S. 2.
 Starlight, S. 2.
 White Innocence, S. 2.

Yellow

Claire de Lune, S. 3.
 Daystar, S. 1.
 Mlokoewitschi S. 3.
 Moonrise, S. 1.
 Sunlight, S. 1.
 Rushlight, S. 1.

Other Colors

Camellia, white flush peach, SD. 1.
 Green Ivory, light green, S. 1.

Pink

Dainty Lass, J. 5.
 Elizabeth Foster, S. 2.
 Eros, S. 2.
 Eventide, S. 2.
 Janice, S. 2.
 Laura Magnuson, SD. 13.
 Lotus Bloom, SD. 2.
 Lovely Rose, SD. 5.
 Ludovica, SD. 4.
 May Dawn, S. 2.
 Mercy, S. 2.
 Nathalie, SD. 6.

Roselette, S. 4.
 Salmon Glow, S. 5.
 Smouthi, S. 2.
 Sophie, S. 2.
 Victoria Lincoln, D. 3.
 Zori, S. 2.

Red

Alexander Woolcott, SD, 11.
 Chocolate Soldier, SD. 23.
 Gay Cavalier, S. 4.
 John Harvard, S. 11.
 Officinalis rubra plena, D. 3.
 Robert W. Auten, D. 4.
 Walter Mains, J. 4.
 Bright Knight, S. 5.
 Crusader, D. 6.
 Golden Glow, S. 11.
 Laddie, S. 5.
 Red Red Rose, SD. 6.
 Red Charm, D. 41.
 Carina, SD. 5.
 Flame, S. 4.
 Illini Belle, SD. 5.
 Mahogany, S. 4.
 Rose Marie, D. 7.
 Veritas, SD. 5.

MOST POPULAR TREE PEONIES

The entire list of tree peonies mentioned in the Questionnaires is being published. 31 listed one or more tree peonies, but only a few had large lists. Many of our members who grow large numbers of them failed to send in any lists at all, so the results are not as good as they should have been. Many of those listed as double (D) are probably semi-double.

White

Coronal. Rosy tints. S. 1.
 Flora, S. 2.
 Fuso-no-tsukasa, D. 1.
 Gabisan, D. 1.
 Genkimon, D. 1.
 Gessekai, D. 14.
 Haku-banriu, D. 2.
 Godaishu, D. 4.
 Kamikaze, D. 1.
 Renkaku, D. 1.
 Suisho-haku, SD. 1.

Tama-sudare, D. 3.
 Tsuki-sekai, D. 1.
 Okina-jishi, D. 1.
 Yaso-no-mine, D. 3.
 Yaso-okina, D. 2.

Pink

Akashigata, D. 1.
 Higurashi, D. 1.
 Howzan, D. 2.
 Momo-yama, D. 1.
 Sakura-gasane, D. 1.
 Sakura-jishi, D. 1.
 Shin-tenchi, SD. 1.
 Suigan, D. 3.
 Tama-fuyo, D. 5.
 Yachiyo-tsubaki, D. 3.
 Yae-zakura, D. 1.
 Yomo-zakura, SD. 2.

Cherry

Beni-chidori, SD. 1.
 Hana-kisoi, D. 9.

Rose Red

Hinode-sekai, D. 3.
 Hodai, D. 3.
 Mme. Stuart Low, D. 1.
 Reine Elizabeth, D. 3.
 Shin-kagura, D. 1.
 Ukaregi-ohi, SD. 3.

Scarlet

Impumon, D. 2.
 Kin-pukurin, SD. 1.
 Nishiki-no-tsuya, D. 1.
 Nissho, D. 1.
 Robert Fortune, D. 1.
 Taiyo, SD. 3.
 Tama-fidori, SD. 1.

Red (Crimson)

Charioteer, S. 1.
 Kokamon, D. 1.
 Satin Rouge, D. 2.
 Shugyo-kuden, SD. 1.
 Teikwan, D. 1.

Black Red

Black Douglas, SD. 2.
 Black Panther, SD. 1.
 Black Pirate, S. 2.
 Kuro-botan, SD. 2.
 Ubatama, D. 4.

Purple

Hana-daijin, D. 1.
 Hatsu-garashu, D. 1.

Hora-kumon, D. 1.
Rimpo, SD. 1.
Souvenir de Ducher, D. 1.

Yellow

Age of Gold, D. 1.
Alice Harding, D. 2.
Amber Moon, S. 2.
Argosy, S. 2.
Canary, S. 1.
Chromatella, D. 2.
Golden Vanity, S. 1.
Goldfinch, SD. 1.
Harvest, SD. 1.
High Noon, SD. 1.
Kinshi, SD. 1.
La Lorraine, D. 1.
Roman Gold, S. 2.
Silver Sails, S. 2.
Wings of the Morning, S. 1.

Yellow with Reddish Markings

Banquet, SD. 1.
Chinese Dragon, S. 1.
Conquest, SD. 1.
Pastoral, S. 1.
Souvenir de Maxime Cornu, D. 10.

Other Colors

Aurore, terra cotta, S. 1.
Kamada-fuji, wisteria, D. 6.
Princess, mauve and gold, SD. 1.
Savage Splendor, ivory, purple
and red S. 1.

Color Not Known.

Not listed in any list we have.
J. D. Oberlin, 1.
Mirror of the Pleiades, 1.

INDIVIDUAL BESTS EACH TYPE

THE BEST SEMI-DOUBLE

Only varieties that have prominent
stamens are classed as semi-doubles.
Cherry Hill, Tempest and Victory Cha-
teau Thierry are usually listed as
doubles, but a few listed them as semi-
doubles and they are included.

Westerner, a Japanese, and Mme.
Chiang Kai-shek, an anemone type, were
also listed once each as SD.

69 Answers. 27 Varieties.

Aerie, 3.
A. G. Perry, 2.
Auguste Dessert, 2.
Ave Maria, 2.

Banner Bright, 1.
Cherry Hill, 2.
Coral Isle, 1.
Ernest F. Kelsey, 1.
John Harvard, 1.
Hiawatha, 1.
Illini Belle, 1.
Lady Alexandra Duff, 5.
Margaret Lough, 4.
Mildred May, 3.
Minnie Shaylor, 11.
Miss America, 6.
Nanette, 1.
Phyllis Kelway, 4.
Rare China, 3.
Red Goddess, 2.
Rosalie, 1.
Silvia Saunders, 3.
Spring Beauty, 1.
Tempest, 1.
The Mighty Mo, 3.
Victory Chateau Thierry, 3.
Zuzu, 1.

THE BEST JAPANESE

88 Answers. 36 Varieties

Akashigata, 2.
Ama-no-sode, 8.
Bu-te, 1.
Cathedral, 1.
Charm, 6.
Dignity, 2.
Donna Jean, 1.
Dragon's Nest, 1.
Ecstasy, 1.
Fancy Nancy, 1.
Hari-ai-nin, 2.
Isani Gidui, 13.
Largo, 5.
Little Gem, 1.
Lotus Queen, 2.
Mikado, 1.
Moon of Nippon, 1.
Mrs. Wilder Bancroft, 4.
Neon, 1.
Nippon Beauty, 3.
Nippon Brilliant, 5.
Plainsman, 1.
Polar Star, 1.
Prairie Afire, 1.
Rashomon, 1.
Red Star, 1.

Rosa Valley, 1.
Shaylor's Dream, 1.
Sky Pilot, 2.
Someganoko, 1.
Tamate Boku, 3.
Toro-no-maki, 1.
Torpilleur, 1.
Sword Dance, 1.
Westerner, 9.
Yellow King, 1.

THE BEST SINGLE

87 Answers. 25 Varieties

Arcturus, 4.
Argosy, 1.
Charm, 1.
Dawn Pink, 2.
Eventide, 1.
Exquisite, 1.
Golden Glow, 1.
Harriet Olney, 1.
Helen, 3.
Imperial Red, 3.
Jewel, 1.
John Harvard, 1.
Josette, 1.
Kewanee, 1.
Kickapoo, 1.
Krinkled White, 15.
Le Jour, 3.
L'Etincelante, 1.
Mischief, 1.
Pico, 10.
President Lincoln, 4.
Seashell, 26.
Sparkling Star, 2.
Virginia Dare, 1.
White Seedling of Dr. Watson, 1.

THE BEST HYBRID

67 Answers. 27 Varieties

Alexander Woolcott, 2.
Angelo Cobb Freeborn, 1.
Bright Knight, 1.
Carina, 1.
Chocolate Soldier, 6.
Circlet, 1.
Claire de Lune, 1.
Ellen Cowley, 1.
Eros, 1.
Golden Glow, 2.
Helen Matthews, 1.

Janice, 1.
John Harvard, 4.
Laura Magnuson, 2.
Moonrise, 1.
Old Main, 1.
Queen Rose, 1.
Red Charm, 30.
Red Ensign, 1.
Red Red Rose, 1.
Reliance, 1.
Rose Marie, 1.
Salmon Beauty, 1.
Skylark, 1.
Sophie, 1.
Veritas, 1.
Walter Mains, 1.

THE BEST TREE PEONY

28 Answers. 16 Varieties

Black Pirate, 1.
Gessekai, 8.
Godaishu, 2.
Kamada-fuji, 1.
Mme. Stuart Low, 1.
Nishiki-no-tsuya, 1.
Reine Elizabeth, 1.
Renkaku, 1.
Shintenchu, 1.
Souvenir de Maxime Cornu, 3.
Tamafuyo, 3.
Tsuki-sekai, 1.
Ukaregi-ohi, 1.
Yachyo-tsubaki, 1.
Yaso-no-mine, 1.
Yaso-okino, 1.

Extra copies of the foregoing lists are available from the Secretary at ten cents each.

THE NEW HANDBOOK

Preparation of this book is being carried forward as rapidly as possible. Prepublication sales have not been as good as we had expected. We hope every member will purchase as many of them as he can use. The price is small 25c each and \$15.00 per hundred. Please spread the news among your peony friends.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

This Bulletin is now (Dec. 12). all in type, except these notes. It will be printed and mailed as soon as it can be done.

Winter seems to have come to most of the country with unusually low temperatures, though killing frosts were later than usual. As this is being written, many sections are snowbound, even South Carolina has a record fall of over five inches, which is something almost unheard of in that State. Here at Rapidan, Virginia, we have had only a small fall of some two inches about a week or ten days ago, which rapidly vanished. However, Richmond is now having a possible ten inch fall before morning, which is a record for this early and the whole section is effectively tied up, because of icy covering of the snow. Southern California and Florida seem to be the only places enjoying balmy weather.

NEW PEONY BOOKS

As we have noted before, the American Horticultural Society is planning a book on Herbaceous Peonies to be published as a regular issue of their magazine, the National Horticultural Magazine, which will be similar to the issue devoted to Tree Peonies, which was published in January, 1955 and which was distributed free to all of our members.

Dr. John C. Wister will be the editor and will be assisted by several others including Mr. William H. Krekler whom you all know.

The date of publication has not yet been announced.

Another book is being planned for amateurs which will be edited by Mr. Arno H. Nehrling and his wife of Boston. This book will have quite a large space devoted

to arrangements, which should be of great interest to our members, especially our members of the fair sex. The editors of this book are quite anxious to get good pictures of arrangements of peonies. If any of our members have such, they will be grateful to have copies that are clear and suitable for reproduction.

The United States Department of Agriculture is planning a small book on Peony Culture especially for the amateur and beginners. It will be edited by Miss Mimi Simms, of the Popular Publications Branch of the Agricultural Research Service, Information Division.

Dr. G. H. M. Lawrence, Director of the L. H. Bailey Hortorium New York State College of Agriculture, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, is revising the peony articles for a new edition of the well known book by the late Dr. Liberty Hyde Bailey, Hortus.

When all of these are published we shall have quite a variety of literature which should fill all demands, not forgetting our own Handbook.

FIFTH DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING

Dear Mr. Peyton:

The Fifth District held their annual meeting and dinner on Sunday, November 16, 1958 at Smart's Town and Country House near Antioch, Illinois.

A heavy fog cut down the attendance but those who came enjoyed a fine dinner amid pleasant company and surroundings. Discussions touched on the possibility of holding a regional show next June providing one would not conflict with the national. Most of the members were in favor and the matter has been tabled for

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further consideration early next year.

Officers elected were Theo. R. Mysyk, prseident, and Mrs. Irene Mysyk, secretary-treasurer.

A peony auction was held with Mr. Marvin Karrels of Milwaukee acting as auctioneer. Some wonderful roots were contributed by Messrs. Orville W. Fay, Dr. D. San old Hyde, Brother Charles Reckamy S. V. D. of Mission Gardens, Marvin Karrels, and Roy G. Gayle. Varieties distributed included the rare yellow double Oriental Gold, Ann Cousins, Felix Supreme, hybrids, Alexander Woolcott, Butterbowl, Sophie, and Dainty Lass, and tree peonies Kamada Fuji and Tama Fuyo.

Cash balance as reported by the treasurer was \$472.78.

Net proceeds from the auction after payment of current expenses 113.75

A contribution by Mrs. Adolph Ryba 7.00

Cash balance in the treasury as of date \$593.53

Theo R. Mysyk, President, 5th Dist.

The Fifth District is considering reviving their show and it is pretty certain that the usual ones will be held in Oklahoma City, Takoma Park, Md., Boston, Massachusetts, Minneapolis and Duluth Minnesota, Superior, Wiscinsin, and Ottawa, Canada.

RECENT PEONY ARTICLES

Flower and Garden Magazine carried an article on "Why Peonies Don't Bloom" in the October issue from the pen of Daniel J. Foley and Peggie Schultz had an account of the National Show in Minneapolis in her Department Garden Club Talk.

Ethel G. Mullison writes in the September Flower Grower that "Peonies Have Refinement, Deli-

cacy and Great Charm". This article is mainly a guide for planting peonies in all sections of the country. The author is from Michigan.

August Popular Gardening had an article headed "Which Peonies ^{win?}" written by Herschel W. Weber and the October issue had the usual report on the prize winners at the shows this year.

The Minnesota Horticulturist had an excellent appeal to gardeners to plant peonies by C. Gustav Hard entitled "Peonies Pay Off". It was in the September issue.

As noted before, the September American Rose Magazine in one of its series of articles on Favorite Background Plants for Roses recommended as one of these favorite plants Tree Peonies, ably presented by Dr. John C. Wister.

In the Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society (England) for November there appeared a full page color picture of a new tree peony originated by Sir Frederick Stern, Highdown. Goring-by-Sea, with an accompanying note which says "Paeonia suffructicosa 'Sybil Stern' was raised from seeds collected by a friend in various gardens in the south of France. The peonies flowered for the first time in 1957 and the flowers came all different colors, white, royal purple, deep pink, and so on. One was outstanding, a real rich scarlet, which we named 'Sybil Stern'. This plant was moved from the nursery-bed in the first week of October last, a safe time to move tree-peonies, into the garden where it grew well and had many flowers this year. I have raised a number of tree-peonies but have never had one with such a brilliant colour. —F. C. Stern.

The flower is a semi-double with about three or four rows of guard petals of a brilliant scarlet

and a center of yellow stamens with red tipped carpels. We wish we could publish this picture as it is a beautiful flower. A reproduction in black and white would serve no useful purpose. Its colors should be seen to be appreciated as it should be. Possibly at some future date, this peony will be available to our members.

There were possibly a number of other articles on the Peony published in other magazines. We do not see many of the over 400 magazines on gardening published in this country.

It may be interesting to our members to note the varieties recommended in some of the articles.

Mr. Weber gives the list as follows: Krinkled White, Angelus, Man o'War, Isani Gidui, Yellow King, Charm, Aureolin, Prairie Afire, Garden Princess, Elizabeth Huntington, Philippe Rivoire, Mons. Jules Elie, all of which have been listed by one or more of our members as being worthy of a place among the "Best Twenty Five".

Ethel Mullison says her favorites are: Festiva Maxima, Therese, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mons. Jules Elie, Louis Joliet, Golden Dawn, Mildred May, Reine Hortense, Mme. Emile Debatene, Felix Crousse, Elsa Sass, Hansina Brand, Blanche King, Mr. L. Van Leeuwen, Ama-no-sode, Isani Gidui, Mikado, Nippon Gold, Mischief, Krinkled White, Kickapoo, and adds that her favorite hybrid is Chocolate Soldier.

Those listed by Mr. Hard are: Pride of Langport, Krinkled White, Man o'War, Hakodate, Golden Dawn, Laura Dessert, Prairie Afire, Red Bird, Mrs. J. V. Edlund, Le Cygne, Kelway's Glorious, Avalanche, Elsa Sass, Festiva Maxima, La Lorraine, Alice Harding, A. B. Franklin,

Hansina Brand, Myrtle Gentry, Minuet, Sarah Bernhardt, Nick Shaylor, Blanche King, Marie Crousse, Souvenir de Louis Bigot., Martha Bulloch, Philippe Rivoire, Mary Brand, Victoire de la Marne and Karl Rosenfield.

Practically all of these listed above are excellent and most of them will do well everywhere. It may be noted that the only variety mentioned in all the lists is Krinkled White. Nine were in two lists and 42 in only one. Fifty-two varieties were listed in all. Chocolate Solider was the only hybrid mentioned.

Amer. Horticultural Council Liberty Hyde Bailey Award

Colonial Williamsburg, Va.—On Friday evening, October 24 at a gala banquet concluding the 13th Annual Horticultural Congress at Colonial Williamsburg, Va., the American Horticultural Council bestowed the Liberty Hyde Bailey Medal upon Dr. John C. Wister of Swarthmore, Pa. This new award was established by the President of the Council. Dr Albert J. Irving of New York.

Dr. John Wister was honored in this manner for his contributions in the fields of teaching, lecturing, writing, editing and landscape art during long years of horticultural leadership and for his exemplary spirit of service to the horticultural world.

The medal was designed by an outstanding artist Edmond Amateis of Brewster, N.Y. Two of his important works include 17 heads of the participants in the fight against polio (a memorial) for the Warm Springs, Ga. Foundation and the medal of the Society of Medalists. Mr. Amateis is also a horticulturist principally in the breeding of rhododendron.

13th Annual Horticultural Congress

Held At Colonial Williamsburg

The 13th Annual American Horticultural Congress held at Colonial Williamsburg, October 22-25, was one of the most successful in the history of the Council. Over 150 delegates gathered to participate from all parts of the country and Canada.

The Garden Writers Association of America opened the Congress with a special breakfast on the morning of October 23. Mrs. Jesse F. Hakes, Glenwood, Md., Congress Chairman then welcomed the group to the Opening Session.

Two films were shown, courtesy of the American Association of Nurserymen, entitled *Basic Techniques of Home Landscaping and Landscape for Living*, Dr. Albert J. Irving, President of the American Horticultural Council, presided at the Plenary Session where reports were given by Officers and Chairmen of Commissions and Committees.

The October 23 luncheon was presided over by Dr. Henry T. Skinner, Director of the U.S. National Arboretum. The featured speaker was Ivor Noel-Hume, Chief Archaeologist of Colonial Williamsburg, whose subject was "The Secret Earth of Williamsburg". A tour of the Restored Gardens of Williamsburg followed conducted by Alden Hopkins, Resident Landscape Architect.

A late afternoon tea was sponsored by Colonial Williamsburg. At dinner Harold Epstein, President of the American Rock Garden Society, introduced a most interesting husband-and-wife team, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond D. Wood.

Their magnificent slides on the Arctic illustrated a talk on "Flowers of the Midnight Sun."

Friday morning, October 24, also began with a Garden Writers Association of America breakfast as well as a continuation of Committee and Commission reports. John H. Walker, Executive Secretary of the Society of American Florists ably presided over reports of member organizations of which there are now 115 in the American Horticultural Council. During this same session, presided over by Dr. George H. M. Lawrence of the Bailey Hortorium, Dr. Russell, J. Seibert, Director of Longwood Gardens, delivered a report on 1958 International Horticultural Relations including his paper at the recent International Horticultural Congress in Nice, France. In the absence of Dr. Harold B. Tukey of Michigan State College, R. Milton Carleton of Vaughan Seed Co. discussed the possibilities of a U. S. invitation for the International Horticultural Congress in 1966. As a prelude to this event Gustave Springer, as representative of the International Flower Show in Rotterdam, Holland, of 1960, outlined steps that could be taken to obtain Federal Funds for these several international representations. President Irving appointed a Committee to cooperate with Mr. Springer so that AHC will become the coordinating agency for American participation in the Rotterdam Show.

Dr. Richard P. White, Execu-

tive Vice-President of the American Association of Nurserymen, presided at the October 24 luncheon. For the first time coffee from Hawaii was served, a delicious brew. The Hon. Phillip Alampi, Secretary of Agriculture for the State of New Jersey, Reported for the Resolutions Committee. One important resolution was the deep concern over the failure of U.S.D.A. to assign funds for a building with equipment for the U.S. National Arboretum.

Immediately after luncheon Frank L. Teuton, Research Information Officer for U.S.D.A. presented a fascinating review of "Research on Parade" including a style show of new materials. The afternoon session "What's New in Horticulture" presided over by the Hon. Phillip J. Alampi included the following speakers: Ralph S. Peer, President of the American Camellia Society, on camellias, John H. Walker, Executive Secretary of the Society of American Florists, on Floriculture, William F. Kosar, U. S. National Arboretum, on "Hollies", Richard Thomson of the American Rose Society, on roses and Frederick Huette of the Norfolk Parks Department, on trees.

A fitting climax to the festivities was the Annual Banquet when special citations were presented personally to David Burpee, Burpee Seed Co., Philadelphia, Pa., Mrs. Helen S. Hull of Boonton, N. J., Prof. Victor Ries of Columbus, Ohio and Arno H. Nehrling, Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Boston, Mass. Thomas Dolliver Church of San Francisco, Calif. was unable to be present.

For the first time a new medal award established by President

Albert J. Irving of New York, was given by the American Horticultural Council. The very worthy recipient of the Liberty Hyde Bailey Medal was Dr. John C. Wister of the Arthur Hoyt Scott Foundation, Swarthmore, Pa. Another new award was approved at the Congress, the establishment of a F. A. Bartlett Award by Dr. Bartlett, tree expert, to be given for appreciation or knowledge of ornamental trees.

The banquet speaker, the Hon. Parke C. Brinkley, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture and Immigration, Commonwealth of Virginia, spoke on Virginia, the Birthplace of Ornamentals.

In line with the international concept of AHC, Margaret Herbst of New York, presented President Albert J. Irving with a special certificate of greeting to the 13th Congress from the Office National des Debouches Agricole Horticoles of Brussels, Belgium.

Outstanding exhibits were arranged by the Potomac Rose Society, National Chrysanthemum Society, American Violet Society, American Horticultural Society, the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboretums. Most beautiful flower arrangements were on display daily by the Green Spring, Warrenton, Winchester-Clarke, Capitol Landing, Albemarle and Williamsburg Garden Clubs.

The Congress Committee consisted of Mrs. Jesse F. Hakes, Chairman, assisted by Frederick Huette, Alden Hopkins, Thomas F. Wheeldon, Henry T. Skinner, R. P. White and John H. Walker

The 14th Congress will take place in Rochester, N. Y., the 15th at the Los Angeles Arboretum, Arcadia, California.

Annual Garden Symposium Williamsburg Mar. 4-6, 11-13

Williamsburg, Va.—“Old World Plants in New World Settings” will be the topic of the 13th annual Williamsburg Garden Symposium to be held here March 4-6 and March 11-13.

The country's outstanding horticulturists and landscape architects will give illustrated talks on old favorites among garden plants as well as new hybrids and the latest developments in design and cultivation. There will be special conducted tours of the more than 80 acres of restored colonial gardens in the 18th-century Virginia capital and evening demonstrations of flower arranging.

During each three-day session there will be a gardeners' banquet honoring two colonial Virginia botanists who greatly influenced the plant materials used in America's gardens - John Clayton and John Custis.

Both these colonial men of the soil carried on a lively exchange of plant materials with botanists and horticulturists in Britain and on the continent, adding greatly to the variety of plant materials in America's gardens. Such plant exploration is still being carried on and the Williamsburg Garden Symposium will have a distinguished English horticulturist address the banquet audiences on the latest exciting developments.

David F. Sander, director of Sanders Ltd., Nurserymen to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, will speak March 5 on “The Golden Era of Plant Exploration.” At the March 12 banquet, he will discuss the “Ancient Flowers Uncovered by German Bombings in London.”

International Society For Horticultural Science Proposed

At the recent International Horticultural Congress held at Nice, France, the idea was presented to convert the International Horticultural Congress to an International Society for Horticultural Science. It is expected that the American Horticultural Council will play a leading role in this new development.

The International Society for Horticultural Science intends to unite all people interested in the advancement of horticulture, particularly research workers, extension officers, other governmental officials in charge of horticultural affairs, university professors and teachers at horticultural schools, personnel of professional organizations, practical growers and amateurs. Its primary purpose would be to promote a better and more regular international exchange of views and experiences which would lead to faster progress in scientific and practical phases of horticulture.

The Society shall also carry on the organization of Horticultural Congresses in order to bring together the leading personalities of international horticulture. The Society Commissions are, on the other hand, intended to bring together small groups of experts with specialized interests.

The new group will be governed by a Council whose members are to be designated by governments or national horticultural organizations. Membership will consist of affiliated horticultural organizations and individual members. A permanent headquarters has been offered by the Netherlands Government.

Horticulture in America

Horticulture has long been an important factor in American life. Although we are a young country, our plantsmen have been organized since before its founding. There were many local groups of organized plantsmen in the days of Benjamin Franklin. Our two largest state horticultural societies - those of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts - are more than 125 years old and their combined membership today exceed 25,000.

A century ago there were more than a dozen national and regional horticultural organizations in America. Today the number is in the hundreds. In recent times there has been a great expansion of American interest in growing, knowing and enjoying plants. Certainly the proportion of North Americans now actively interested in this subject is greater than at anytime in our history. This interest continues to multiply each

year. At present, at least one-third of our population is seriously engaged in "home gardening". As one index of the growth of this interest, note its impact on our national economy. (1)

From Marketing Research Division of the United States Department of Agriculture, the following comparisons on "Horticultural Specialties", which include ornamental horticulture and ornamental floriculture present the following figures:

Year	Number of Commercial Growers	Sales in Dollars
1930	30,000	146,000,000
1940	32,000	130,000,000
1945	35,000	231,000,000
1950	45,000	392,000,000
1954	Not available	454,000,000

According to the Marketing Research Division of the United States Department of Agriculture, statistics show that since 1940, sales of nursery products have increased four times.

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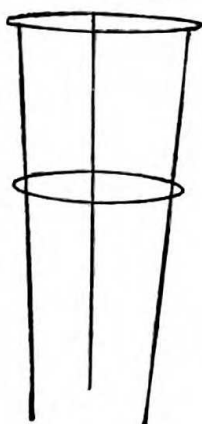
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