



AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY



Bulletin

DECEMBER, 1960 — NO. 159

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George W. Peyton, Editor — Rapidan, Virginia

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

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OBJECTIVES

The Articles of Incorporation state: Sec. 2. That the particular objects for which the corporation is to be formed are as follows: To increase the general interest in the cultivation and use of the peony; to improve the standard of excellence of the flower; to improve the methods of its cultivation and 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.



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President's Message

Now that all of the new peony roots have been planted and the rest of our peony plants are going into hibernation for the winter season, we can look back to our memories of one of the finest blooming seasons ever.

The peony LeCygne is a good barometer here. When it comes good all other varieties do likewise. This variety was in perfection here this last season.

By reading and looking at the pictures in our last Bulletin (September) all our fine members, that for some reason or other, could not attend this wonderful show and meeting will see that they

missed a good show.

By planning ahead now possibly more members will be able to attend our annual National Show and meeting, which is usually held in the middle of June. (Location for next year is not known.)

I am sure that all you peony fans will enjoy seeing the different varieties of peonies, meeting your officers and fellow members, not to mention seeing different parts of our wonderful country.

"Merry Christmas and a Happy, Prosperous New Year."

Sincerely
Clarence O. Lienan

Misleading Advertisements

A letter from Mr. Louis Smirnow quotes the following from a letter received by him from a tree peony grower in England;

"I have seen several adverts of Tree Peonies in this magazine, one takes up a whole page. It is the September, 1960, issue, to which I am referring. The firm in question seems to have no hesitation in making an outright guarantee of success with these plants and frankly, I don't like its wording of the advertisement very much, for it seems far too cocksure and more than a little misleading, in

that it seems to give the impression that every plant will give at least two hundred flowers! This kind of advertising doesn't go down well in this country you know and of course I haven't bothered to write that firm with a view to the remarks I have made above. I fancy they are out to get only the last penny they can for these plants. The prices are very high too, compared to those we have to charge in this country".

It seems to us that this is a matter to be referred to the appropriate committee of the American Horticultural Society for action.

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Peonies In The Washington (D. C.) Area

The interest in peonies in the Washington area must have begun possibly fifty years or more ago. Of the exact date, we have no record, but on referring to our membership list of 1921 we find listed one man, Mr. E. P. Schwartz, who at that time must have accumulated quite a large collection of varieties for he had a commercial planting at Gaithersburg, Maryland, just outside Washington which he managed until his death about 1925 and which was carried on by his wife for many years until her death, when a daughter had charge of it for several years. What has now become of it, I do not know, but probably it has suffered the fate of so many of our older plantings, succumbed to progress and destroyed to make room for residences.

Mr. Schwartz was not the only one in that area interested in peonies for the American Horticultural Society held a peony show each year for sometime, the last one being in 1930. Its place was taken by the Takoma Park Horticultural Club, which this year held its 32nd. Annual Peony Show.

The writer's connection with the Washington shows began in May, 1924, when he received an urgent appeal from Mr. David Lumsden, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and an officer of the American Horticultural Society, asking that he bring as large an exhibit of peonies to their show as possible, as they had expected a large display of them, but that not a single peony would be open around Washington at the time set for the show. So, with the encouragement of Mr. Bertrand H. Farr, who visited my garden just a day or two before the

show, I took a trunk full of flowers and these were the only peonies in the show. At that show, I met many who afterwards became my good friends and some of them are still, among them Dr. John C. Wister, who was one of the judges. Unfortunately one of our greater peony men, Dr. Earle B. White, has been obliged to move to Florida from Washington, where he helped make the show years ago.

For many years we had no contact with the Takoma Park Horticultural Society, but a few years ago Mr. Leland H. Cole came to see me and since then we have had yearly reports of their shows.

Within the last year or two, several good peony people have moved into the neighborhood to make it their permanent home. Among them are Mr. M. Frederick Stuntz, formerly of Buffalo, New York and one of the great *hemerocallis* men as well as a peony man. He has made a planting of fine peonies.

Mrs. Earl K. Rhodes, whose husband was in the Coast Guard until he retired, has also lately made an excellent planting and her daughter, Mrs. Edward Hutmire, has come to join her. Her husband was connected with the Navy for five years. We have recently received two interesting letters from Mrs. Hutmire, which we give here in part: "We have grown peonies as long as I can remember, but until the last few years moved around too much to grow them as we would like.—Its frustrating to just get a plant established and have to leave it behind! But now we have half an acre to devote to three children, peonies, daylilies, iris and many other plants—also rabbits of which we have a real infestation!

Your flowers at the Takoma Show were lovely—Katherine van Steen, and Retta were about the best, I thought, though all were nice, some opening out for the second day.

(See report of Takoma Show for some parts omitted here). The second day Frances Willard was past and Doris Cooper was at its best and many people wondered why it wasn't the tricolor winner. It hadn't opened completely at judging, however.

The early doubles were not good this year; even *Edulis Superba* was shapeless and small, but the midseason and late varieties were lovely. My most vivid memories are of 2 brilliant flowers on *Carina* and of a huge plant of *President Lincoln* which is planted at the top of a retaining wall. The enormous blooms were at eye level and really spectacular. Mr. Murawska's new white *Jap*, *Dean-na*, was lovely on a two year plant. It opened the day after the show—darn it! That makes it later than Doris Cooper, which is something for a *Jap*.

Also his new *Hawaii* was unique, shades of silvery rose and pink in the guards and cream, fading to white, for the center. It had the most symmetrical center I have ever seen, a regular ball cut in half. On a first year plant it was only 18" tall, but had 4-5 inch blooms. What will it be like when it is established!

Ensign Moriarty had the largest blooms I have ever seen, this year. It must have the strongest stems in peonydom, as, after a heavy rain, the blooms, though ragged, were still rigidly upright—wish some others could do this.

I think *Minnie Shaylor* is the best garden peony I have seen. A seven year old plant was 3½ feet high and 4 feet across and simply covered with lovely flowers on

good strong stems. It makes a fine bouquet for the house, too.

Claire de Lune bloomed a lovely pale yellow for two years, then came creamy white this year. I hope it goes back to yellow again next year.

The early browning of the hybrid foliage, makes a problem. I am trying two solutions—one, to grow chrysanthemums in the vegetable garden and move them at blooming time and the other to set fallblooming crocus around the peonies to bloom as the stems die.

Crocus speciosus and *speciosus albus* do very well with summer shade and winter and early spring sun, as the leaves come up in October and stay green all winter and early spring. They are very lovely in early and late October, the white being later than the type species.

I like to get more than one season of bloom from each area of garden and like early bulbs and lilies between the peonies too."

A second letter from Mrs. Hutmire says in part: "Mr. Fred Stuntz of Colesville has a nice peony garden here. He grows iris and daylilies very extensively, and must have more than a hundred peonies. — I understand he fell down his basement stairs a week ago and got a bad concussion, but is recovering now. He is a wonderful person and I hope he will be out in his garden soon again.

"Somehow Washington has acquired the reputation of a tropical city. The next person who tells me "you can't grow peonies here, we're too far south," will get dragged by the ear to see the plants at blooming time. The usual advice to adventurous gardeners seems to be - "Well, *Festiva Maxima* and *Edulis Superba* will usually bloom." Although I have several plants of these old faithfuls, there are so many others that do

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well for me that I can't believe we are so far below the Mason-Dixon Line as people seem to think.

This spring several iris-loving friends came to see our iris and stayed to see the peonies and jot down a few they liked. Next year the Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society tour will visit and lunch in our yard. This should expose quite a few people to at least the hybrids and early albifloras. I always tell my iris and daylily friends that peonies make ideal companions to their favorites. The foliage is such a welcome relief from the straight leaves of the other two. Also I love the soft pinks of the peonies with the lovely blues of the iris.

We planted Prairie Moon a few weeks ago and I'm looking forward to comparing the two (Claire de Lune and Prairie Moon). I have a two year old plant of Paul Bunyan that you mentioned. It has made a fine strong plant, but hasn't yet bloomed. It should give us some flowers next year. I'm glad to hear that it is a good flower.

Mr. Krekler is listing Retta this year and I ordered it a while ago, but haven't received it. The color was exquisite as well as the form in the one in your exhibit at the show. Another peony I ordered is Mandaleen. In the Arboretum's exhibit, it was just perfect! Tondeleyo, of which I have a small yet-to-bloom plant was striking in the same exhibit".

Way back in the Twenties we had a good peony man in the Department of Agriculture in Washington who grew many peonies and who contributed to the Bulletin occasionally. He was Mr. L. W. Kephart. He dropped out of sight and we often wondered what had become of him. It seems that his duties in connection with the Department of Agriculture and

later with the World Bank took him to so many parts of this old globe, that he had to give up his peony planting. He is now retired and has joined the Society again and will make a new start with peonies this fall.

With all these peony people moving into the Washington area to reinforce the Old Guard who have so faithfully stood by us over the years, Washington may once more become a center of peony growers and we are sure the new planting at the National Arboretum will be a great inspiration to all who see it.

Those who say that Washington is too far south to grow good peonies just have another "think" coming. As a matter of fact nearly all peonies do well there and also much farther south. Of the five hundred best peonies I doubt if there are half a dozen which fail to open well. A few, like Solange and Le Cygne sometimes will not, but they are beautiful when they do have a season to their liking. I think the finest bloom of Le Cygne I ever saw was exhibited in a show at Leesburg, Virginia, many years ago. Leesburg is just west of Washington and there are some there who are growing fine peonies yet.

May your tribe increase as I am sure it will.

15th Horticultural Congress

This was held in Pasadena, California, from November 9-12 and was attended by over 100 delegates.

The theme was "The Pacific Coast's Contributions to Horticulture". Three major talks were presented and there were tours to a number of nearby gardens and arboretums.

The 16th Congress will be held at Northhampton, Massachusetts, October 25-27, 1961.

32nd Annual Peony Show, Takoma Park Hortcul. Club

Here is some additional information sent us by one of our new members, Mrs. Edward W. Hutmire, who has just moved to Takoma Park and who together with her mother, Mrs. Earl K. Rhodes, is an ardent peony lover.

Best Flower in the Show: Frances Willard, Mrs. Earl K. Rhodes.

Best double white: Frances Willard - Mrs. Rhodes.

Best light pink: Doris Cooper (also next to best in the show) - Mrs. Rhodes.

Best dark pink: A hybrid bomb-name and exhibitor forgotten.

Best red double: Philippe Rivoire, exhibitors name not given.

Best collection of five varieties was won by Mrs. Rhodes with Bonanza, Florence Ellis, Nick Shaylor, Pink Wonder and Reine Hortense.

The winning Japs and singles were not labelled.

Mrs. Hutmire also remarks that she thought that Katherine van Steen and Retta were about the best in the collection staged by Mr. Leland Cole for the Windy Hill garden, though all were nice. Mrs. Hutmire also says that a flower of Mandaleen shown in the dozen or so cut from the planting in the National Arboretum by Mr. Cole was just about perfect and that a bloom of Tondeleyo was striking. (We thank Mrs. Hutmire for this information.)

Two New Auten Varieties

Mr. Edward Auten, Jr., of Princeville, Illinois, is introducing two new varieties. One is an anemone type red double, nearly a bomb. It is THUNDERBIRD.

The second is called SOONER BEAUTY and is a red Jap. We presume both are lactiflora and not hybrids.

Our Next Annual Meeting

At our annual meeting in Van Wert, Ohio, last June an invitation was presented by Mr. Roy Gayle from the Men's Garden Club of Rockford, Illinois, to the Society to hold its annual meeting and exhibition in that city in 1962 or 1963 (at the time the year was uncertain) in connection with the annual meeting of the Men's Garden Clubs of America. We were also told that the Fifth District had already approved this meeting. The invitation was accepted.

A letter has just been received from Mr. Gayle saying that at the meeting of the Fifth District at Antioch on November 6th., he had announced to them that the invitation of the Men's Garden Clubs had been withdrawn as it had been decided that the meeting had been set at an inappropriate time, as they try to hold their meetings when the gardens are in full bloom.

Whether the Fifth District will go ahead with this meeting without the aid of the Men's Garden Clubs, was not stated. We shall await a notice of their action in the matter.

As the Horticultural Society of New York makes out its yearly program more than a year in advance, it was impossible for them to sponsor the 1961 meeting in New York, so that date is not yet filled. As soon as we hear from the Fifth District about the 1962 or 1963 meeting we shall take the matter up with the Horticultural Society of New York.

The Peony Unit of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, is also interested in sponsoring our annual meeting and exhibition in the near future, possibly in 1962, as we think New York is counting on 1963. However as yet there is nothing definite about either.

Educational Exhibit

Van Wert, O.

Dear Mr. Lienau:

I received your letter of July 25, regarding our educational exhibit at the Peony Festival. We were very much thrilled with this wonderful show which took place in June in Van Wert, Ohio. We believe this show still remains a memorable one to many flower lovers.

I can still remember the many truck loads of peonies that arrived the night before the flower show. Some of these were locally grown and many were from other cities and states. But the thing which made it successful was the effort everyone put into it, to make it one of the most outstanding shows of the year. I have heard many excellent comments on this flower show. The beauty of the flower arrangements, along with the many beautiful specimens of peony blooms and other flowers, plus the educational display on peonies made it very effective.

When people come many miles from home and see these marvelous blooms of peonies, the first thing they want to know is, how can we grow flowers like these. Our educational display was on hand to help those people who knew nothing about the planting and care of the Peony. Our display showed exactly how they should be planted, what diseases were most common among them and the treatment of each.

This is the way we set up our display. At one end of the display we drew a diagram on a poster board how to plant a peony root, labeling all parts of the root, the depth at which it should be planted, and also showing where to place the fertilizer or rotted manure. This was mounted to a round

container. At the other end of our display was a list of the most popular peonies. This was also mounted to a round container of same height. However the center of attraction, or the center of interest was the actual planting of a peony root in soil. This was accomplished by splitting a round container through the center and placing a glass in front. This was done by making a wood frame for the glass to rest in and fastened to the sides of the container. Peony roots were placed in cold storage in the fall, so they would be available when our peony show rolled around. All parts of the peony root were listed on the front of the glass. Also the depth of planting etc. was marked by using thin lines of paper glued to the glass.

Before placing the root in position we placed it in a plastic bag. When we placed the root in the container we left enough room on each side to surround it with perlite. We used a heavy card board to hold the ground away from the perlite. This helped to bring out the lines of the peony root and gave us the effect we wanted.

At one end of the center of interest we placed a one year old plant in bloom, and at the other end we placed a two year old plant in bloom. These were dug the day before the festival and placed in containers. On the front of one of these containers were listed the reasons why people should grow peonies. On the other container the diseases and their control were listed. There were also several peony roots placed on the table in front of these containers, showing the parts of a peony root.

Peony planting time will soon be here again. Let's add some of these lovely plants to our gardens.

Aug. 13, 1960

Karl D. Giessler

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TREE PAEONIES

F. C. Stern, O.B.E., M.C., F.L.S., V.M.H.

(Lecture given on June 14, 1960, Sir Eric Savill, KC.V.O., C.B.E., M.C.,
M.A., V.M.H., in the Chair)

Tree paeonies are all indigenous in a wild state to South-East Asia; the most important species from the point of view of their flowers are *Paeonia suffruticosa* and *P. lutea* var. *ludlowii*, and possibly *P. lutea* itself, for its value for crossing with other tree paeonies. All the tree species are useful and attractive plants, but cannot compare for beauty with those mentioned above. *P. delavayi* has dark red open flowers about 3 to 4 inches across, and grows into a large bush about 6 feet high; there are a number of forms of this species, all varying in the size and the shade of colour of their dark red flowers. This plant is useful in the garden as it will do well under deciduous trees.

A smaller tree species, *P. potanini* and its varieties, are low growing, about 2 feet high with smaller flowers about 2 to 2½ inches across; there are several forms, some with yellow flowers, some with red and some white. These plants sucker freely, growing in sun or shade, and are suitable as undershrubs in the woodland garden.

The most beautiful of all the tree paeony species is *P. suffruticosa*, and its different forms, often known as the "Moutan" paeonies. "Moutan" is said to be derived from the Chinese "Mow-tan", translated 'Male Scarlet Flower'. It is the national flower of China; the red form was considered by the Chinese to be the finest. The Chinese grew these paeonies in their gardens for literally hundreds of years. Johann Hoffman (1) quotes from the Chi-

nese literature that "Moutans" were well known and loved by the Chinese already in the eighth century. Although these plants were well known in China and Japan since the earliest times, they were unknown in Europe or America till about 1787. E. H. Wilson in his *Monograph of Azaleas* of 1921 (7) says that Chinese Buddhist monks introduced many plants from China and Korea to Japan as early as the eighth century and among them plants of tree paeonies.

In 1656 an Embassy of the Dutch East India Company was received by the emperor at Peking. On their return Nievhof, in 1656 (2), described this journey and the plants they had seen, including the paeonies to which he gave great praise. But nothing seems to have been done about introducing these plants till a hundred years later. Sir Joseph Banks is said to have read Nievhof's report and also seen drawings of these plants by Chinese artists. He engaged a Dr. Duncan, attached to the British East India Company, to procure a plant. It came back to England about 1787 when it was planted at Kew and another in 1787 was planted in Sir Joseph's garden, later to be named *P. moutan* var. *banksia*, with double pink flowers; in 1825 it was said to be about 8 feet high and 10 feet in diameter. In 1802 (or perhaps in 1794?) Sir Abraham Hume imported a plant to his garden at Wormley Bury in Hertfordshire, which in 1826 was recorded as being 7 feet high and 14 feet in circumference. This garden

in recent years belonged to the late Major Pam. This plant was named *P. moutan* var. *papaveracea* and illustrated in the *Botanical Magazine*, t. 2175 of 1820; it had white flowers with deep red markings at the base of the petals. I saw the remains of this plant still growing at Wormley Bury, with one flower, a few years ago.

Although tree paeonies were grown in gardens throughout China, Korea and Japan for a great number of years, the location of the wild plants was not known till about 1890 when Scallan and Giraldis (3) discovered the true wild plants in the province of Shensi in China; they did not collect any living plants or seeds. In 1910 Purdom found wild tree paeonies also in the province of Shensi. He sent a dried specimen to the Arnold Arboretum at Boston, U.S.A., and seed to Professor Sargent and to Messrs. James Veitch in England. The young plants at Boston were eaten by rats; only one was raised by Messrs. Veitch which was sent to Professor Sargent. In April 1914 Reginald Farrer (4) found the tree paeonies in the province of Kansu in China, and he gives a glorious description of the plants in his book *On the Eaves of the World*, but he collected no seed or dried specimens.

The wild plant was not in cultivation till Dr. J. F. Rock sent seed back to the Arnold Arboretum in 1926. The Arboretum distributed the seed and one plant was sent to us in 1936. When it flowered, it seemed to tally exactly with the wild plants described by Farrer. (R.H.S. Journal, 84, Fig. 104, 1959.) Dr. Rock wrote from China that the seed sent back by him was collected from plants in the garden of a Lamasery at Choni, in South-West Kansu, and

the Lamas told him that the plants came from the mountains of that district. This plant is now about 8 feet high and 12 feet in diameter.

Sir Joseph Banks' plant mentioned above was described in his *Botanist's Repository* of 1804 (5), under the name of *P. suffruticosa*, which is now considered the correct name of the wild tree paeony of China.

A few garden "Moutan" paeonies were imported from China at the beginning of the nineteenth century, but few survived the journey. About this time seed seems to have been brought from China and Japan, for seedlings began to appear in French and American gardens. Siebold (6) in 1844 brought back some especially fine plants to Germany from Japan. In February 1843 Robert Fortune was sent out to China by the Horticultural Society (as the R.H.S. was then known) at a salary of £100 a year plus expenses. He was able in 1846 to bring back living plants of some of the best tree paeonies; these gradually came into cultivation in Europe and America. Some of the nurserymen in England later on began to catalogue these paeonies. Messrs. Kelway are reported to have offered them in their catalogue of 1889. All these plants are reported as having single or double flowers, pink, white or purple.

It was not until about 1902 that a new phase in hybridizing the paeonies took place. Before this there was no hybridizing, as far as is known, between the species of tree paeonies. In 1882 Abbe Delavay. One of the French missionaries, discovered *P. lutea*, the yellow-flowered tree paeony species, in Yunnan and sent seed to France. This species flowered

for the first time in England in the Temperate House at Kew in 1900. Soon after 1902 Messrs. Lemoine of Nancy, father and son, who were already famous for their hybridizing of philadelphus and lilacs, began to use *P. lutea* to cross with the "Moutan" garden tree paeonies. They produced some striking new hybrids with yellow flowers, such as 'L'Esperance' and 'Alice Harding' with double flowers of deep yellow; these double flowers are not too heavy and are held well above the foliage. In some of the double-flowered forms, the flowers are so heavy that the stems cannot hold them up, especially after rain. An old hybrid 'Comtesse de Tudor', bred in France by Charles Gombault in 1889, has large very double flowers, rose-du-Barri pink, about 9 inches across; it is not a good garden plant as these fine flowers fall over, but in a vase they are magnificent. It is still in cultivation in English gardens.

In 1917 Professor A. P. Saunders, Professor of Chemistry at Hamilton College, Clinton, New York, began crossing paeony species in his garden. Saunders is responsible for some of the finest crosses of both herbaceous and tree paeonies. His 'Argosy' is the best of the single yellows and his 'Black Pirate' has magnificent deep mahogany-red flowers (R.H. S. Journal, 84, Fig. 118, 1959); he has produced many other excellent hybrids.

In 1936 Ludlow and Sherriff collected seed of a variety of *P. lutea* in South-West Tibet at about 10,000 feet. Seed was sent to us under the name of *P. lutea*. Several plants were raised and because we did not think much of *P. lutea* as the flowers are usually held under the leaves, we thought we would try a tree paeony on the

chalk rubble on the side of the chalk cliff. To our astonishment these plants became taller and taller and eventually large deep butter-yellow flowers appeared well up above the foliage, about 5 inches in diameter. This first-class paeony species was named after one of the collectors, *P. lutea* var. *ludlowii* (10) (Fig. 85). It is the earliest of the larger tree paeonies to flower in May, is perfectly hardy and seems happy in any soil. I have not heard of any hybrids made between this paeony and garden tree paeonies. We have tried and have not yet been successful.

Some young plants without names were brought to us many years ago from Japan. They grew well on the chalk soil; some had white flowers and some good pink ones. One with an extra fine pink flower with a sheen on the petals was named 'Silver Pink'. From seed of this plant in open pollination we raised some lovely plants; one named 'Mrs. George Warre' had rose-pink flowers about 10 inches across, and another with large light-pink semi-double flowers was named 'Cassandra'. It is fascinating to raise seed of the tree paeonies, but alas the seedlings take five or six years to flower! A friend sent us seed from some of the best plants growing in the gardens in the south of France; they came all colours of white, purple, and pink, but one turned out to have real rich scarlet flowers, an unusual colour and is now named 'Sybil Stern' (R.H. S. Journal, 83, Fig. 142, 1958).

The cultivation of tree paeonies is not difficult as long as they have well-drained soil. They require a good loam with or without lime. They dislike animal manure. When we started to grow these plants we thought they

ought to be well fed. They did not like the old cow manure and some died. It was interesting to read lately in Paxton's *Magazine of Botany*, XVI (1) of 1849, in a translation of Hoffman's articles on tree paeonies from old Chinese and Japanese writings, that "the use of animal matter as manure has proved to be injurious". We have never given the plants any animals manure nor any old mushroom manure for the last twenty years or so, but just very old leaves in autumn.

All tree paeonies are perfectly hardy plants and will stand any amount of frost as long as the young growths have not started. The real danger with tree paeonies is that they are apt to get the young growth injured in a mild winter and spring. This new growth, which holds the flowers, comes very early in the year and may get injured by a late frost or even a cold east wind. In order to circumvent this, we have tried to make the plants delay their early growth by planting them in half shade among deciduous shrubs and small trees, and also on the north side of evergreen shrubs away from the morning sun and protected from the east wind.

The crossing of tree paeonies is not easy. The flowers have a mass of anthers which have to be removed before the flower opens. It is a tiresome job and one is apt to get lumbago doing it in an east wind. The pollen of the male parent has to be dry and fresh and in May the pollen on the anthers is very often damp. We find the best plan is to cut the flowers of the male parent just before they open and put them in water in a warm room so as to get the pollen as fresh and dry as possible. In raising seed, it is most successful to sow the seed as soon

as the capsule begins to open. In this way the germination of the seed is much quicker and more even. This is true of all paeony seed. It is very interesting to read in the translations of Hoffman from the original Chinese works of 1596 that, "Seeds should be sown immediately after they are ripe as soon as the seed vessel commences to open and show its seed within".

The best time to move tree paeonies in the south of England is the first week in October. They dislike moving and often die back after moving but soon recover.

NOTE: The above article was published in the *Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society*, July, 1960, and is reprinted here by permission of its author and publishers.—Editor.

Also, Sir John Heathcote Amory. Bt. tells us in *A Garden in a Wood*, *RHS Journal* 85, 10/60, that both tree and herbaceous paeonies do well in the more open parts of a wood, *P. obovata alba* especially.

* * *

A note in the *Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society* for September, 1960, tells us that *Paeonia lutea* var. *ludlowii* at Highdown (Sir Frederick Stern's estate) has established itself on the cliffs of the chalk quarry and is completely at home, rearing masses of children with seeming ease. Also it tells us that *Paeonia delavayi* and *Paeonia lutea* behave similarly in other gardens.

The above note appeared in an article by Lanning Roper entitled "Mass Plantings In Nature and In Gardens." in which is mentioned many other such occurrences, the masses of our native dogwood being especially noted. It is a most interesting article and one which any of us can read with pleasure.

The Secretary's Trek, 1960 – Second Lap

NOTE: See the March Bulletin for the first lap and the September Bulletin for the intermediate section.

Those of you, who read these accounts of my journeys to peony events, may remember that my first trip, this year, ended on March 17 with my arrival home from the Spring Show in Indianapolis and a trip to Van Wert, Ohio, the last quarter mile being through a newly fallen snow of about 18 inches in depth.

Since then three bulletins have been prepared and published (the fourth is now well on the way to publication), the 1960 peony season has come and gone; the shows are matters of history; and most of the peonies have been laid to rest for the winter.

My real trip started on the evening of June 7 when I boarded the George Washington, at Orange, for Cincinnati, arriving there early on Wednesday the eighth and, after a good breakfast in the station restaurant, going on to Lima, Ohio, on the Cincinnati of the B.&O. which had taken on again its former beauty. My trip was made more pleasant by the company of two officials of the C. & O. who visited me in my roomette until bedtime and it was certainly made more lively by the presence of many small children going to picnics in the country from Cincinnati and others, later on, going to another picnic site.

On arrival at Lima, I found that the train for Van Wert on the Pennsylvania, which normally leaves about half an hour before the train I was on arrives, had been on time for a change and gone, so, as there was no other until late in the afternoon, I hunted the bus station and found

that one left in about an hour, so I went to a neat appearing restaurant, nearby, and had a good lunch and then on to Van Wert on the bus which landed me in front of my hotel, the Marsh, at about three P. M. When I entered the lobby I was greeted by name by the attractive lady who was manning the desk. Almost immediately, after I was shown to my room, the phone rang and the welcoming voice of Mrs. C. Dan Pennell, the efficient publicity chairman, came over the wire asking me to be ready to go to Fort Wayne with her and the Queen of the Festival at 4:45 for a television appearance of the Queen, station WKJG.

After a freshening-up I descended to the lobby and there appeared on the scene a vision of loveliness, who told me she was also going to Fort Wayne with Mrs. Pennell. So I met Her Majesty, Queen Jubilee XVI. While we waited for Mrs. Pennell, we watched the Junior Peony Parade which formed directly in front of the hotel.

As soon as the parade was clear of the street, Mrs. Pennell appeared and we were on our way to Fort Wayne, where Miss DeMoss, the Queen, made a brief television appearance and we were on our way back to Van Wert.

Arriving there, I spent a short time at the Showroom in the Armory and then had my supper at the same restaurant where I had had lunch on my former visit to Van Wert in March and, at which, many of us had meals while in Van Wert this time. Then it was bed time.

Next morning, which was the day of preparation for the show, was spent in preparing the judges books and getting some other

matters attended to. Soon after lunch, Frank and Clema Moots, Louis and Anna Smirnow, and Myron and Annie Bigger arrived at the hotel and at 1:30 I had an appointment with Mr. Hippensteele, the Editor of the Van Wert Times-Bulletin. A pleasant time was spent with him and then it was off to Lima with Mr. Dan Miller, the Publicity man of the Times-Bulletin, and the two maids of honor, Miss Janice Tickle and Miss Sharon Hamrick, for another television appearance on Station WIMA. We were also accompanied on this trip by a friend of Miss Tickle's and a chaperone, Mrs. John F. Maney.

This same good lady was always on hand to look after her charges, the Queen and her Court, and she did it with efficiency and graciousness and was always ready when needed. Arriving at Lima sometime before the time for our appearance, we were shown through the studio and saw for the first time (for me at least) the inside workings of a television show. All of us were introduced to the television audience by the newscaster of the afternoon.

After this was over we came back to Van Wert, where by this time, many had arrived for the show. Dinner being soon over, most of us went to the show room for the evening, where we found the flowers being prepared for the show next morning, in great quantities and all last minute details being most efficiently taken care of by Mrs. Howard Wilkinson, chairman, and the other members of her Staging Committee. Unfortunately those of us, who should have given her advance notice of some of the most important things to be done, had failed to do so. Consequently, when that crowd of exhibitors besieged her with demands for buckets, more tables,

milk bottles and side flaps for the tent in which the exhibits were being prepared, she was put to far more trouble than she would have been, if she had been properly briefed beforehand. But, being the efficient person that she is, she always solved the problem to the satisfaction of all, and, besides, with great good nature.

As the clerks in charge of entries were on hand, much of their work was done at this night session and so much crowding at the entrance tables the next morning was avoided.

Activity in this tent was continued far into the night as some exhibits did not arrive until after midnight. And it started again early Friday morning. When time for the judging arrived, there were still some exhibits to be placed, so it was somewhat delayed, but all was over well before opening time, which had been set at 4 P. M.

Having been occupied by my usual duties, I did not remember that I had had no lunch, until it was almost time for the opening, but due to the efficiency of our new President, he procured a taxi, which was almost an impossibility at that time and we hurried to our favorite restaurant, where I was quickly served with a sandwich and milk which I ate in the time it took our taxi to crawl around the block through the dense traffic around the exhibition hall and on Main Street and come back for us at the restaurant. We arrived at the hall just in time to get to our appointed places when the opening exercises began an account of which is given elsewhere.

Soon after these exercises our first directors' meeting was held, then a rapid preparation for the banquet scheduled for 6:30 at the American Legion Hall, nearly a mile away. Following the banquet.

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was the Annual Meeting, which lasted until after eleven and then bed until the morning, which would be a day of continued activity with the second directors' meeting first, and then luncheon and the afternoon parade, with the coronation of the Queen which had to be rushed to get it done before the threatening rain descended. This rain, the first in several days, greatly limited the scheduled evening activities.

More detailed accounts of the above are published elsewhere. As necessity demanded that certain classes be rechecked before the show closed, which was scheduled for 7 P. M. but was actually delayed until after nine, accompanied by our genial Canadian director, Mr. Charles H. Stewart of Ottawa, I went to the exhibition hall and we soon had these matters attended to, then it was back to the hotel to figure out the sweepstakes winners for Mrs. Pennell to have broadcasted at ten P. M. Due to the help of Mr. Stewart that was done in plenty of time and the rest of the evening was spent in the lobby of the hotel in discussing the events of the day.

By this time some of our members had already left for home and others left at varying times during the night, leaving only those who were going to Dayton for the picnic luncheon, to which all members of the Society had been invited by those hospitable people, the Denlingers.

Early Sunday morning, we began gathering in the lobby for the take off, which had first been scheduled for 7:30 or 8:00, but which was postponed until nearly ten as that allowed plenty of time for arrival at one that afternoon, the distance being only ninety miles over excellent roads.

After a farewell meal at our

favorite eating place across the street from the hotel, we left Van Wert with memories that will long persist of a show efficiently publicised, well managed, beautifully staged and overflowing with an abundance of flowers of excellent quality. The opportunity given some of us to actively participate in a festival second to none in the country, and to all others of viewing it will mark a high light of experience for many of us.

The most enduring memories of all will be those of a small town, as towns go, in Ohio, whose entire population gave us such an enthusiastic welcome and provided for us entertainment of the best and showed us such gracious hospitality. The only regret some of us feel is that our good friends, Mr. Lee R. Bonnewitz, and Mr. Charles F. Wassenberg, did not live to see the fulfillment of their fondest dream.

The cavalcade arrived at Dennie's soon after noon. There we partook of a bountiful picnic dinner, after which the afternoon was spent in discussing the topics usual when such a gang gets together.

During the late afternoon, the various members of the party left for their homes except the Biggers and myself who remained for a longer stay.

On Monday morning the Biggers left for a visit to friends in Kentucky, and, as Clara had to go to work and Dennie had to look after his real estate business, which had been left to itself for several days, I spent the time writing up the Van Wert Show. This was finished by noon on Tuesday and I left at 4 P. M. for overnight visits to my good friends, the Knapps and the Obers, in Indianapolis.

While there I had short telephone conversations with a number of the friends I had met at the Spring Show.

Thursday morning, I boarded the James Whitcomb Riley for Chicago, where I was scheduled to arrive at 1:30 and leave at 2 P. M. for St. Paul. However, when the train came in from Cincinnati, it was somewhat late and did not leave until nearly eleven o'clock. So we did not get to Central Station Chicago, until nearly 2, and, as it was impossible to get to Union Station, a mile or more across the city, by leaving time of my train for St. Paul, I had to take a later one, which left about two hours later.

While waiting for the departure of this train, the Afternoon Zephyr of the Burlington, I had a combined lunch and dinner in the Fred Harvey Station restaurant. The late afternoon and evening was spent in the dome and passed pleasantly as my seat mate was a nice young man, an employee of the Great Northern Railway in St. Paul.

Walter Lindgren met me at the top of the escalator in the station in St. Paul and we arrived at his home at about midnight, where Mrs. Lindgren was awaiting us with the usual good midnight snack. We talked until well on into the night. Next morning Walter had flowers to cut for the show and about noon Mr. Greaves called for Walter and myself to go to Stillwater, where we had lunch at the Lowell Inn. This is one of the famous eating places in Minnesota. It is a colonial house built on the order of Mount Vernon in Virginia, which all of you should know, was the home of George Washington, who is not the present President of the United States, as so many children seem to

think, but was the first. This is a beautiful building, inside as well as out. It is furnished mainly in the style of the period it represents, and there is a new room, just opened, called the Swiss Room whose walls are covered with hand carved dark wood and much of its furnishings brought from Switzerland. The men's room is papered with a thousand or more labels from liquor bottles, all different. I do not know with what the women's room is papered.

When we entered the lobby, we found it filled to overflowing with women, mostly of middle age, and we had our lunch in a dining room, in which all the tables were occupied by these women, except we three men seated at one, way over to one side of the room. Strange (?) to say, no one noticed our small company, though the waitress did, and we were quickly and efficiently served with a delicious lunch, broiled, freshly caught brook trout being the main dish I chose. The waitress denied having caught them herself. She said they came from across the St. Croix in Wisconsin. Whatever their origin, they were all one could desire.

We drove back to St. Paul by a different route, this time by White Bear Lake, on an island in which, the late Judge C. W. Bunn had his famous peony garden and which has now been abandoned, I believe. Such is the fate of too many fine peony plantings.

We stopped to see Mr. Greaves' garden and especially to see his bed of about forty or more cypripedium reginae (spectabile) which was in full bloom, many plants having two blooms to a stem and at least one had three. This pink and white lady's slipper is the finest of all our native cypripediums and one of the easiest to grow. There was also a plant

of the large yellow cypripedium pubescens in bloom, This is said to be easiest to grow.

As we know, Mr. Greaves had to get rid of his peony planting on account of encroaching city developments and now he has only a few of each type, less than two dozen all told I think. He formerly had one of the finest collections in this country. I strongly suspect that he will soon find a way to have one again.

The next day, after an early lunch, the Lindgrens and I left for nearby Wisconsin to visit Dr. Casper I. Nelson at his rather secluded retreat near River Falls, where he and his wife have a beautiful garden (Kinickinick), filled with plants of all kinds and a house full of African Violets, which are the special hobby of Mrs. Nelson, she having about 250 kinds.

Dr. Nelson was formerly connected with the Agricultural Department of the State University of North Dakota, near Fargo. He was a friend of the late Dr. H. C. Cooper and has about all of his seedlings. He also has some stock of Amalia Olson, the pure white double that won the American Home Achievement Medal last year at Grand Forks, but which, this year did not turn out to be always pure white, as the blooms in Dr. Nelson's garden were distinctly tinted pink, due to the weather conditions this season.

As we had the side road, on which Dr. Nelson lives, listed as I I I instead of J J J. we got lost for about half an hour, before a good farm woman put us straight. We finally arrived and spent a delightful afternoon. As this day was a beautiful one we thoroughly enjoyed our drive also.

The next day was Sunday, the day before the show, so Walter went to the storage plant and col-

lected his blooms, which we took into the bank that evening. On arrival at the bank, we found Mr. Maffett on hand to welcome the flowers, but wondering how many there would be, as when we arrived only Mrs. Hanratty and Mrs. Wysocky had appeared on the scene. But this was not to last, as soon E. H. Lins, Rose Marie and Butch brought in a truck load of a thousand or so, followed by Bob Tischler from Brand's with another one loaded to overflowing. Rudy Schneider added to the lot as did Martin Eliason from all the way across the State, so, before the evening was over, Mr. Maffett knew he would have a show and a fine one, in spite of its early date and lack of the late full doubles, many of which did not open until well after the close of the show.

Monday morning saw us again at the show room, which was as usual, the spacious banking room of the Northwestern National Bank.

Here I was greeted by my many friends among the bank's staff, especially by the five fine women, who look after the two information centers and a number of the members of the Security Service, who as usual, soon had my reserved arm chair in place which is my haven of refuge when a tired body demands some rest.

There was little or no delay in placing the exhibits and so judging was well on time. After this was over, quite a large number of friends went to the excellent lunch room of Donaldson's Department Store, where we had our noon meal on both days of the show.

Meanwhile my good friend, Bill Boyle, had arrived with his chief clerk, grandson Steve, and his note book, and was busy writing up the show, which he has done for me for a number of years, thus saving

me much work. For this I am truly thankful and appreciative.

After the checking job had been finished we had time for a good long gab fest, which was fortunate as I did not get a chance to go to see him at his home in West St. Paul. I am also glad I had the opportunity to greet his fine daughter, Elizabeth, if only for a few minutes.

We left the show soon after five o'clock, but returned the next day at about ten o'clock and staid until it closed at 4:30 P. M. The morning was spent in comparing the judges books with Mr. Boyle's record and correcting some differences, which are usually caused by misplaced ribbons. I was glad to meet again Mr. Gesme, a vice-president in the Trust Department of the Bank, who had been a visitor in Orange last winter. As closing time was near I paid a last visit to my many friends and hoped that another year we would meet again.

Wednesday morning dawned beautifully clear, so Walter and myself left soon after breakfast for Faribault for a day with the Tischlers. There we saw the close of their show in which there were still many fine flowers. We went through the exhibition garden which is now quite complete. Then we visited several fields where we saw many fine plants and also the damage that had been done the winter of 1958-59, which was extensive. We had lunch with the Tischlers at the hotel. We also had the pleasure of seeing both Miss Gentry and Mrs. Hazel Brand. The drive from St. Paul to Faribault is through some of the most productive farming land in the world and it seemed especially beautiful this year.

Early Thursday morning, just about daybreak, I was awakened

by a thunder storm which foreboded a rainy day for my trip to Duluth. However I went, taking the morning local over the Great Northern. We ran through many small rain storms and occasionally the sun would break through the clouds for a minute or two. After quite a delay on the bridge across the end of Lake Superior, we arrived in Duluth a little late. Mr. John van Zandt met me and we went at once to his home for lunch. It was raining cold (52) and the wind blowing hard. So we could not visit his or any other garden.

Mr. van Zandt's home is a large colonial mansion, beautifully furnished and set in a large yard. There I met for the first time, his handsome wife, Barbara, his father, who is a rabid peony fan also, and his two most attractive daughters. After lunch, John and his father, with daughter Carol as our chauffeur, drove me to the Wipson's home, which is only a few blocks away and John continued on down town for an important business engagement and his father to the annual iris show, which was being held in the lobby of the Northern City National Bank. The afternoon was pleasantly spent with the Wipsons and I was glad to find that Mrs. Wipson could get about the house quite well, but she still has returns of her arthritis and a disc still slips out of place occasionally. I had intended to visit the iris show on my way to the train, but a phone call to the bank, disclosed that the show had been closed, so I did not get a chance to see several of my friends from my former visit to Duluth, a number of years ago. When train time came, Walter Wipson drove me down and I reached St. Paul about 8 p.m.

Friday morning, I left my good

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hosts on the final lap of the journey home, on the Morning Zephyr. Most of the journey was spent in the dome with a fine young man of the Lutheran Church, who was going to Valparaiso, Indiana, for a summer of work among the young people of that area.

As my real destination this day was to be Peru, Indiana, and as I had not notified my hosts to be, the R. H. Jones family, of my time of arrival, I planned to phone them on reaching Chicago. My train for Peru, via Plymouth, left at 4:15 P.M. The Zephyr was due at 3:45 but it was late and did not get there until 3:55. This left me twenty minutes to phone Peru, get a ticket and reservation and board the train. My first job was to phone, so I gave the girl in charge the address of Mr. Jones. On consultation with Information she reported that there was no such person as Russell H. Jones in Peru. As this had happened to me before, I told her that there certainly was, and that he had lived there nearly a hundred years so she pointed out a booth and said tell Information. Meanwhile Information had located the phone and was ready to call, so the ringing began with no answer. So I said "Give it up as a bad job" and I made a rush for the train with no ticket or reservation. Arriving at the gate and finding the train still there, I told the gateman my troubles who said "get in that rear car and walk through to the coach and they will take care of you." As it was not as cool as it might have been, in Chicago, a frequent happening in summer in that town, I was streaming with perspiration and about to drop in my tracks, as I had two heavy bags to drag along. However, I made it and soon was taken in charge by the porter, who was

everything a porter should be, and relieved of the burden of my baggage and installed in a comfortable seat in the coach.

Before leaving St. Paul, I had phoned the bus terminal and been told that the first bus out of Plymouth, where I had to catch a bus for Peru, as there was no direct train connection for Peru, left at 10:10 P. M. On arrival in Plymouth at 5:40 P. M. I hurried over to the bus station, just a short block away, and was told that the next bus for Peru would leave at 10:10 as I had been told in St. Paul. But as I was somewhat familiar with the way buses operate in that part of the world, I then asked how about Logansport, which is only 16 miles from Peru and was told one left at 6 p.m. just a few minutes to wait. Though the ticket agent insisted that I would make no better connection for Peru in Logansport than if I waited in Plymouth, I had a hunch he was wrong, so on arrival at Logansport, the operator told me that the Fort Wayne bus left at 7:30 just fifteen minutes from then and it went by Peru. So I finally reached Peru at a few minutes after eight o'clock, some four hours earlier than if I had taken the advice of the ticket agent in Plymouth.

A phone call to Tuckdawa was answered this time and Friend Russell was on hand in a few minutes and I was at my destination for a weekend of pleasure and rest. Those of us who know the habits of Friend Jones, soon find out that a weed in the peony patch is the worst enemy that can be found, war with Russia being a small thing in comparison, and he is waging war on them, every moment he can find to do so, though occasionally I have to point out an omission, This occupation was the reason for not answering the early

afternoon call from Chicago.

Saturday was a day of rest, except for a short trip into town to mail some letters and to add to the larder. Also after about a dozen tries the ticket office in Indianapolis was reached and my request for a reservation from Cincinnati home was placed.

Sunday afternoon was spent in a hundred mile drive through the beautiful Indiana countryside, taking in the lake drive around Lake Manitou, where I was shown the cottage in which the Jones had lived earlier in his career and where he still owns two or three lots across the road from his former home, which has been sold to a retired dentist from Logansport, Dr. Davis, whom I strongly suspect some fifteen years ago relieved my suffering from a broken tooth, when I happened to pass through Logansport. That evening we had dinner at an excellent restaurant in Peru, "broasted" chicken being the "piece de resistance". Having never heard of it, I was interested to find that it resembles fried chicken, but is electronically cooked in about six minutes. It was good. That evening we looked at television far longer than we had intended.

Monday morning, as soon as breakfast was over and the necessary day's chores attended to, we left for Indianapolis for a short visit with the Knapps until it was time to leave on my final lap home. A phone call was my farewell to Mrs. Ober as she had an important business engagement and could not come in.

Soon after reaching the Knapps, Dorothy had told me that the agent at Union Station in Indianapolis had phoned her, on Sunday, saying that my reservation for home from Cincinnati would be cancelled immediately unless picked

up without delay. She had finally persuaded him to hold it but he said one o'clock on Monday would be the latest it could be held. Since my train did not leave until 2:55 that did not suit me at all, and besides, I was pretty sure that agent did not know what he was talking about as I had specifically stated, when asking for the reservation, that it would not be called for until train time. A call to the station confirmed my opinion and I was most courteously told that my reservation would be held until I picked it up at train time.

Dorothy drove me in just in time to get ticket and reservation and board the train which had been called just as we reached the gate. Bidding good bye to Dorothy, I went up to the train. There I found that the air conditioning unit on the car we were supposed to use to Cincinnati, had failed and so we were directed to the rear of the train where a coach had been placed for our use. This car was quickly filled by a group of youngsters from Chicago and other places along the route, who were bound for a few weeks of summer camp near Hendersonville, North Carolina. They were to occupy a special car from Cincinnati and would be joined at the camp by parties from all over the country, making a total of about four hundred for the first part of the summer.

Though the morning had been clear, clouds had begun to gather as we left the Knapps and just before we left Indianapolis, it began to rain and it came down in torrents until we were far away. Showers persisted until long after I had retired for the night, which was well into West Virginia.

We reached Cincinnati on time and as my train did not leave for

an hour, I dined in the station restaurant where I have always had good meals,

We left Cincinnati on time and after a lonely evening in my roomette and a good night's sleep, we reached Orange on time. Waiting with his new taxi was an old friend, a colored man, Horace Scott, who had often been my help in former years. We left at once for Windy Hill. My daughter-in-law, who is living at Windy Hill for the present had started to meet me, so I transferred vehicles and came the final mile with her.

While this ended my peony trek, it did not end my travels as the aforesaid daughter-in-law and I went to Lynchburg, distant a hundred miles, the next day, Wednesday, to visit her daughter and my granddaughter who is in school there. We found her well and happy. While in Lynchburg I tried to contact my good friends the Wm. Goode Robinsons, but without success.

Here endeth the tale of the second and final lap of my peony trek. It was one of unalloyed joy, with weather conditions never seriously interfering. It was a great pleasure to visit and see so many of my old friends and to meet a far greater number than is usual of those whom I hope will be counted among my best friends in the future. There were some disappointments, especially as circumstances did not allow my contacting any of my good friends in the Chicago area, even by phone, whom I did not see at Van Wert.

With my heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation for the consideration, courtesy and hospitality shown me by all in whose homes it was my privilege to be a guest and to all others who gave me such cordial welcome, it is now farewell until another year (d.v.).

A New

Yellow Herbaceous Peony

A letter from a Pennsylvania lady tells us of a yellow herbaceous peony that has appeared in her garden. She says she received some seed about fifteen years ago from some one who had an article on Perennial Phlox in one of the garden magazines.

She describes the plant as having foliage of a beautiful blue or gray green color and it is not pink in the spring. It blooms about the time her later tulips bloom. The flowers are about four inches in diameter and single. Its color is several shades deeper than that of Claire de Lune, a buttercup yellow. She knows nothing about the parentage of the plant, as it came from a seed, one of seven, sent her by this writer. She is dividing the plant this fall and will await developments. Let us hope she has something new and worthwhile. Judging by the color picture she sent us, the variety is definitely different.

Another New One

A lady living near Boston writes us that she dug and divided some old clumps of peonies last fall and that this year a new variety appeared. She thinks it came from one of the divisions of a pink peony, but it is a bright red and its form is different from any peony she ever had in her garden, a full round ball. It also blooms slightly later than the variety from which she thinks it came. She says she has never seen any peony like it anywhere. She will watch its behavior in the years to come with much interest.

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OBITUARIES



Rudolph C. Schneider (1889-1960)

Suddenly on October 12, 1960, about six P. M. Mr. Schneider died of a heart attack at his home, 708 Osceola Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota. He was 71 years old. He had been a life long resident of St. Paul.

Until his retirement on April 1, 1957, he had been an employee of the Post Office Department for 47 years. During most of those years he had carried the mail on East Fifth Street from Wabasha to Robert Street. He was a veteran of World War I. He is buried in Oakland Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife Al-

wine E.; two daughters, Mrs. William N. Johnson (Alice); Mrs. Allen L. Ferrin, (Elizabeth) of Salem, Oregon; a son, Richard R.; nine grandchildren and two sisters, Mrs. Louise Mishek and Mrs. G. A. Peterson, all of St. Paul except Mrs. Ferrin.

Ever since 1926, he had been a member of the American Peony Society and was also a member of the Minnesota Peony and Iris Society, Minnesota State Horticultural Society and a life member of the Wisconsin Horticultural Society.

He spent his leisure hours in

growing peonies and also was a great fisherman, owning a summer cottage at Forest Lake, Minnesota. Another hobby was stamp collecting. During the last eight years, he has often visited his daughter and her family in Oregon and made many side trips to Mount Hood, Mount Ranier, Crater Lake, Bonneville Dam and other places of interest and had a large collection of color slides taken on these trips, which he showed, with a great deal of pleasure, to his many friends, especially those of Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks.

For over forty years he has grown peonies and has been one of the main exhibitors in the annual shows of the Minnesota Peony and Iris Society, in which he won many prizes and honors. It is probably pretty certain that he has missed few of these shows since the Society was founded. He served many years in official capacities in this Society, having been its secretary for a number of years, and, at the time of his death, was its Second Vice-President.

His peony planting was near Mendota, where he grew about fifteen hundred plants of over a hundred varieties. He sold roots to a local clientele.

He originated a number of varieties of which the one named for his daughter, Alice, was probably the best. We give below a list with short descriptions, of the ones we knew.

Ever since the writer's first visit to the Minneapolis shows in 1942, it has been his privilege to know Mr. Schneider and to number him as one of his best friends.

On the morning of his death he had worked in his peony field, and coming home for lunch, he had listened to the World Series

that afternoon. After supper he had taken his seat in his easy chair to view television, and passed away as quietly as he had lived. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him and his loss to the peony growers around the Twin Cities is incalculable. Both personally and on behalf of the American Peony Society, we extend to his family and friends our heartfelt sympathy in their loss, for truly a grand man has gone to his reward.

Note: The above facts were taken from a newspaper clipping sent us and a letter from his wife. We are glad we can present here a picture of Mr. Schneider at work, as he usually was. —Editor.

ORIGINATIONS OF RUDOLPH C. SCHNEIDER

The exact dates of introduction of these are not known, but all were probably introduced since 1933.

A. E. ROWE. Double, dark pink, Midseason.

ALICE SCHNEIDER. Double. Large white with blush tints. Probably his best known variety.

ASHLAND. Japanese. Midseason. Rosy pink guards, red stamens tipped white. Stigma pink. A flower of contrasting colors.

CARBONDALE. Double, deep rose pink. Midseason. Medium size.

GOLDEN TIP. Japanese. Midseason. Rose pink guards, stamens long, yellow at base, color of guards tipped golden yellow. Stigma red. Disc blush.

OSCEOLA. Japanese. Midseason. Blush pink guards, stamens long light yellow suffused pink. Stigmas red. Disc rose pink.

POND LILY. Single, Early. Blush or white.

RED TOP. Double, Midseason. Medium sized light red.



George E. Winchell
1885-1960

Mr. Winchell was born on March 18, 1885, at Orbiston, Ohio. He passed away at his home in Oskaloosa, Iowa, on August 16, 1960, after an illness of only three days.

He went to school in Nelsonville, Ohio, and also in Oskaloosa, Iowa, as his family moved there when he was young. He worked at different jobs; but most of the time, in later years, he was employed by the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railway Company. He retired from railway work in 1951 and for the last five years, he has worked for the Pella Rollscreen Company at Pella, Iowa.

On June 15, 1911, he was married to Miss Ella Ankeney at Oskaloosa, by whom he is survived. He is also survived by his two daughters, Mrs. Shirley Ann Gibbons of Des Moines, and Mrs. Eleanor Joan Langstraat of Oskaloosa. There are three grandchildren, Keith and Cindy Gibbons and Sherry Langstraat, and one sister, Miss Callie Winchell

of Columbus, Ohio. His family were Methodists.

He loved flowers, even from boyhood, and has always been possessed of a "Green Thumb". He has originated several excellent peonies, a list of which we present below. It will be noticed that his favorites were reds. He has been a member of the American Peony Society for a number of years and has exhibited in several of our exhibitions.

The writer's first acquaintance with him was through correspondence, many years ago, when he sent several of his originations to be tried out. Afterwards we had the pleasure of meeting him and several members of his family, at one of our shows held in Milwaukee and it has been a pleasure to renew this personal acquaintance several times since, the last time being at the 1958 show in Minneapolis at which he showed us his fine new origination White Cap, an anemone type Jap with vivid deep pink guards that give an almost red effect and a pale yellow center that quickly fades to white, making a fine show in the garden.

Our deepest sympathy is extended his family in their great loss.

NOTE: We are indebted to his good wife for the above facts of his life. Editor.

ORIGINATIONS OF GEORGE E. WINCHELL

BARBARA UTTERBACK, 1948. Seedling No. 91 A. Double, red. Midseason.

EDNA. 1941. Seedling No. 3 C. Double, Midseason, Light pink, strong stems, Fragrant.

ELEANOR. 1946. No Seedling no. Double. Bomb type, Deep old rose. Fragrant. Midseason, Probably his best known.

ELLA WINCHELL, 1941. Seed-

ling No. 32 A. Double. Midseason. Large outstanding different shade of red.

KINNEY. 1941. Seedling No. K. 29. Double. Midseason. Fine red. Strong stems.

RED ELIE. 1948. Double. Red. Form of Mons. Jules Elie, Midseason.

ROY ROBINSON. 1941. Seedling No. 7 A. Double. Midseason. Color between red and pink. Good stems.

SHIRLEY ANN. 1941. Seedling No. 12 A. Double. Late midseason. Good red, Strong stems.

WHITE CAP. 1956. Anemone Jap. Seedling No. J 3 CJ. Midseason. Guards dark pink, almost red. Petalodes cream fading white.

New Members

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Isadore Brenneise, Star Route, Malta, Montana.

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Dr. Albert J. Logan, 106 Trick Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Dr. D. L. Reath, Box 251, Vulcan, Michigan.

Burnley M. Tabakin, 7012 Hunter's Court, Norfolk 13, Virginia.

Department of Registration

The following cultivars (varieties), whose names have been approved by the Nomenclature Committee, are presented for registration.

By R. H. Jones. Tuckdawa Garden, Route 2, Peru, Indiana, originator and owner;

HOOSIER ANN. (Jones, 1960.) D. M. LP. Seedling No. 116. Parentage (lactiflora) not known. Medium sized, globular double, light lilac pink petals, strong stems of medium height, foliage large, light green, late. Fragrant. Honorable Mention at Van Wert, Ohio, June, 1960.

SALUTATION. (Jones, 1960.) J. M. DP. Seedling No. 85, Parentage not known (lactiflora). Guards medium sized, deep pink; staminodes, narrow, fully transformed, yellow; carpels: green tipped color of guards; stem strong, medium height; disc not prominent; foliage dark green; midseason. Honorable Mention at Van Wert, Ohio, June, 1960.

By E. H. Lins, Cologne, Minnesota, originator and owner:

SUMMER CHARM (Lins, 1961.) D. L. LP. Seedling No. not given. Parentage not known. Full double, light salmony creamy pink. Stems good. Blooms late.

WHEW! After peonies are planted, here are a few things that might keep them from blooming — too deep planting; too shady area; poor drainage; plants need dividing; disease of the roots; botrytis disease; lack of fertilizer or of proper moisture; injury of buds by late frost. Instead of worrying all winter, why not check these things before planting? You can't help the weather, but you can control most other difficulties.

—Kansas City Star, Oct. 16, 1960

Peony Notes

In the August, 1960, issue of *Horticulture*, there appeared several items of interest to our readers.

First: On page 409, in an article with the title "PERENNIALS and BIENNIALS are basic garden plants, by Mr. Peter Tew, of St. Louis, Missouri, he states "In making a list of perennials, peonies should be at the top. They are satisfying throughout the growing year and will remain permanent residents, never failing to produce a wealth of blooms. Among the newer varieties are *Le Cygne*, *Baroness Schroeder*, and *Festiva Maxima*, all white, the last flecked with red, *Martha Bullock*, *Walter Faxon* and *Therese* are delicate pinks while *Longfellow* and *Burma* are strikingly brilliant reds.

Some Japanese types have unusual colors, such as *Minnekada* with a lavender collar and a flame red center. *Lilac Time* is a rich lavender lilac. When planting peonies, remember not to set the roots deep. The eye or pink growing tip should not have more than 1½ inches of soil over it."

With the above statements we cannot find much fault, except that only one of the doubles, *Burma*, is less than fifty years old while *Festiva Maxima* was introduced more than a hundred years ago. Nor would we say that *Martha Bulloch* (which is not spelled correctly, see list above) is an especially delicate pink. The two *Japs* mentioned are among the newest we have. Leaving out the question of age we thoroughly agree with Mr. Tew that all varieties mentioned are of exceptionally good quality and we appreciate the publicity given the Peony by Mr. Tew.

Second: On page 414 under the heading "Now Is The Time", in the paragraph headed "Divide Perennials" the following advice is given. This is the month to give attention to perennials that may need dividing. Garden phlox, peonies and such that have been growing in one place for three or more years will be benefitted by dividing and resetting." With this statement or advice, so far as it applies to peonies, we thoroughly disagree. While division of peony roots after three years of growth is nearly always done by growers, for purposes of propagation and selling, and does not impair the vigor of the plant, yet the gardener would never have a really mature plant or one that truly represented what the variety could do, as certainly the finest blooms are rarely produced on a three years old plant and also peonies are planted for a life time and not for just three years. As all of us know, peonies will often live and bear flowers of exhibition quality for a hundred years, if treated properly. While few of us ever reach such an age, yet we can plant and enjoy peonies for a long lifetime without disturbing them, unless absolutely necessary for some reason.

Third: On page 430, in the list of varieties shown by Dr. Hyde in his exhibit which won the James Boyd Memorial Medal at the Van Wert show last June 9-10, no less than ten of the twenty five have some error in the spelling. We may have something to say about this later on.

As soon as a copy of this issue of *Horticulture* was received by the writer, he wrote a letter to the Director of Publications of *Horticulture* calling his attention to the above facts. A portion of his reply is as follows: "I am glad

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you called our attention to the story on peonies which appeared in the August issue of *Horticulture*. — Our editor, agrees with us that it never should have been published in its present form. As a rule, we edit all our stories carefully but, in this case, we had a cancellation of an advertising page and this story seemed to be just right length to fill this vacant page. This should be a lesson for us. We will make it a point never to let this happen again. — Our editor offers his sincere apologies to you and all other peony lovers.

"The other story on Page 414 on Garden phlox, peonies and so forth should also have been given closer scrutiny by our editorial department. We all know that peonies should not be dug and divided unless it is necessary. We will try and be more careful in the future."

"That interesting letter you wrote Carlton Lees about the spelling of peony varieties came to my desk this morning. I am glad to get this information for my own records . . . spelling is an important matter."

So much for the correspondence about these matters. Here is the sequel that appeared on page 568 of the November issue of *Horticulture* in the department, *Now Is The Time*. Gremlins sometime invade the editorial office and produce strange copy that has little relationship to truth. Such was the case when we wrote about peonies in recent "*Now Is The Time*" columns. First we listed several varieties of peonies as new when actually they are among the older ones even though still highly regarded. More recently, in the September issue, we inadvertently recommended lifting and dividing peonies every three or four years. How that recommendation ever

got into the copy is still a mystery. As an old peony grower we are aware that the finest blooms appear on plants that have grown in the same location for more than ten years, so kindly ignore our instruction in "*Now Is The Time*" for September and leave your peony plants alone, especially if they are healthy and florescent."

The editor of *Horticulture* is in error when he says "September", it should have been "August".

Precious Peonies

Topeka State-Journal, Sept. 24, 1960.

Mrs. Whisperer, planning a peony bed for 1961, went into deep study the other evening over a Myron Bigger list. "Truly he has better and bigger bulbs," she asserted on behalf of the 1147 Oakland Avenue grower, famed for his peonies, iris and hibiscus.

After about a half hour we noticed her twirling a pencil.

"Methinks you are puzzled financially," we ventured. "The sharp point has disappeared from that favorite pencil of mine."

She didn't answer—but handed us Mr. Bigger's listing.

How would you like a J. W. Bigger, grandchild of Primevere? Pure white, 42-inch stem, symmetrical petals. The price? Only \$25 each.

If you feel that is a little steep for your modest garden, try a Hifalutin, full rose type—only \$20. Then there's another grandchild of Primevere—Spellbinder. Only \$20.

Quite a variety at \$10 each. And if you're real peasants like the Whisperers you can procure some beauties at \$1.50.

"Each what—each dozen?" we asked Mrs. W.

"Don't be silly," she replied. "Myron Bigger doesn't sell weeds."

Misspelling of Peony Names

When we look through the catalogs of peonies that we have and visit the shows, we are rather amazed at the number of varieties that are not spelled correctly. Maybe you think spelling a name is not important, but it is. This is especially true when the name is that of a person. No one likes to see his name misspelled. Also many think that the one who is continually misspelling the names of the wares he sells, is rather ignorant of what he is offering.

We shall list here a few of the varieties that are most often wrongly spelled. We cannot list the ways all of them are misspelled as there is not room for that. As given here all are correctly spelled according to the best authorities.

Probably the name most often spelled incorrectly is Philippe Rivoire. We are sure that we have seen it spelled in fifteen or more different ways. Martha Bulloch is also frequently spelled with a final "k" instead of "h".

Many still insist on spelling Mrs. Livingston Farrand with an "e" sometimes added to the first name, sometimes used instead of "a" in the last name and sometimes misspelling both names. The French variety Mme. Emile Debatene suffers considerably at the hands of our catalog makers. Lady Alexandra Duff has the masculine form of the first name used often instead of the feminine.

There is also a lot of mixing of the feminine Frances with the masculine Francis. Please note that the correct names are Frances Mains and Frances Willard as these are named for women and not men.

Some peonies are named for people that spell their names differently from the commonly ac-

cepted way, so we must always look out for Carolyn Mae Nelson. But it is Caroline Stone. We also have to look sharp for the following, Catherine Copeland, Catherine Craín, Catherine Parry, Catherine S. Fox, and some others. But we have Katherine Havemeyer, Katherine van Steen, Kathryn Curran, Kathryn E. Manuel, so look out for these.

Cathie Ann is also often not correctly spelled. So are Ensign Moriarty, Dolorodell, Tondeleyo, Hermione, Onondaga, Trumpeter, Flanders Fields, Ave Maria, Umbellata Rosea. Here are two that few get absolutely correct. *Tenuifolia flore pleno*, *Officinalis rubra plena*.

Many French names are often not spelled correctly. This is especially true of those names that have the words "de" and "le" or "la" in them. These words and their abbreviations "d'" and "l'" should never begin with a capital letter unless used at the beginning of the word. It is Victoire de la Marne, Duchesse de Nemours, Mme. de Verneville, but De Candolle, Le Cygne, La France, L'Étincelante and many other similar names.

When we spell Japanese names, there is much variation in the spelling. For instance we find Ama-no-sode. Amanosode, Ama-No-Sode, Ama No Sode. We advise the use of Ama-no-sode. Similarly we have Hari-ai-nin, Toro-nomaki. But Isani Gidui and Tamate Boku seem to be the accepted spelling of these two. When we come to the spelling of the many Japanese names of tree peonies we really run into trouble. We find much variation in the use of the hyphen and capitals even in the same treatise. Undoubtedly some uniform method should be used. We think any one will be safe if

these names are spelled as is Amano-sode, that is with the hyphen or hyphens and small letters for all parts except the beginning. If we do this we would have Hanakisoi not Hana Kisoi, Tama-fuyo, not Tama Fuyo and so on through the large list of these peonies. If any one who really knows what he is talking about sees this, we hope he will write us what is really the correct way to spell these names.

Here we shall only say "Be sure you are correct and go ahead" if you can.

The Flower and Patio Show

Indianapolis, Indiana,
March 12 through March 19, 1961

This show, sponsored by the Indianapolis Star, will be held in the Manufacturers Building, State Fair Grounds,

It will feature over 40,000 square feet of "Gardens of the World". Practically everything for *gracious* INDOOR-OUTDOOR LIVING will be shown in greater quantities than before.

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Those interested should apply to Ed. Schoenberger, Managing Director, P. O. Box 20189, Indianapolis 20, Indiana, for full information.

Two New Handbooks

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden has recently issued two new handbooks which are of especial interest.

THE BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF PLANT PESTS is one that is of great interest to our members as it gives information up-to-date of methods of controlling pests through feeding. Such methods may be a solution to the ever in-

creasing dangers from nematodes and such pests which, yearly, do so much damage to peonies as well as other plants.

The second one is "GARDENS OF WESTERN EUROPE" and this will be a great help to those who contemplate a trip to Europe.

They are available by mail for one dollar each from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn 25, N.Y.

Cultivated Palms

The American Horticultural Society has just issued a special issue devoted to the above subject.

The issue contains 190 or more pages. The data was assembled over a period of about two years, by the late Dr. R. Bruce Ledin, who died before it could be published.

Included are about 80 full pages of black and white Palm Portraits which are beautifully executed. There is an introduction of 44 pages which treats fully of the botany and classification of the palms in cultivation and two other sections, one of about 20 pages devoted to their culture and one of 30 pages to their uses.

Those interested in obtaining it should write the American Horticultural Society, Inc., 1600 Bladensburg Road, N. E., Washington 2, D. C.

International Horticult. Expos. Hamburg, West Germany

April 26, 1963 to October, 1963

We have just been informed of this coming exposition. A large area has been set aside in the heart of Hamburg, where outdoor plantings will be made and also there are large show rooms for displays of cut flowers and indoor grown plants. Our Society and its members are invited to display.

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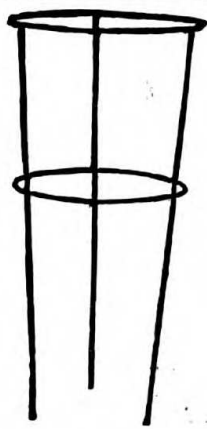
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