



AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

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Bulletin

JUNE, 1962 — NO. 165

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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.



AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



JUNE, 1962 — NO. 165

President's Message

After a prolonged winter, spring has finally arrived.

Peonies here have lain dormant until after Easter Sunday, then with real warm weather and a good rain, they grew 12 inches in about eight days. We will have to wait and see if fast growth is a disadvantage to good bloom.

Speaking of good bloom, I sincerely hope all you fine peony growers, wherever you may be, will bring your finest bloom to our National Show in Minneapolis on the 18th and 19th of June. Whether you have two plants or five hundred, you may have the finest bloom in the show.

I want to impress on all our members, especially our growers, that this is going to be a very interesting and important meeting. I personally would like all to attend.

For you members, who have never attended a National Show, please come. You will see hundreds of fine blooms, singles, Japs., semi-doubles, doubles, hybrids and tree peonies, in all their fine forms and colors.

You will also meet your fellow members and officers, see and talk peonies to your heart's content. When you attend the show, which will be held in the Northwestern National Bank, you will see one of

the finest, spacious bank building interiors in this country.

The show schedule and other information is listed elsewhere in this Bulletin.

Hoping to meet you all in Minneapolis,

Clarence O. Lienau.

May 10, 1962.

DEPT. OF REGISTRATION

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

By **Frank E. Moots**, 1127 West Broadway, Newton, Kansas, originator, owner and grower:

FRANK KEITH (Moots, 1962). S to SD. M. Dark red. Hybrid. Seedling No. not given. Parentage: Matilda Lewis x lobata Sunbeam. Dark, brilliant red with unusually good substance, tall single to semi-double, midseason, strong grower, free bloomer, excellent foliage, heavy stems, holds color well.

LOIS ARLEEN (Moots, 1962). SD to D. M. Deep pink. Hybrid. Seedling No. not given. Parentage: Rose Shaylor x lobata Sunbeam. Brilliant deep pink, semi-double to double, tall, midseason, good grower, free bloomer, excellent foliage, heavy stems, holds color well.

Fighting Peony Diseases

Edward Auten, Jr., Princeville, Ill.

Mr. Peyton has asked me to write about my experiences fighting peony diseases, mentioning many years ago, I had succeeded freeing roots of Solange from that destructive disease which we call Lemoine's disease. This infects the vital juices in the plant, and seems to be immune to sprays, and for all I know, to chemical dosage. But I took some roots that showed the infection plainly, as did all stock then known. Many other Lemoine varieties were infested the same way. Lemoine was reported to have had limited space for his extensive plant breeding and therefore was forced to use ground over and over for successive crops. All I did was to cut the clumps into small pieces, and, if I remember rightly, planted only small portions of the underground crown material with no roots attached. This was about 1920. I planted a lot of them in new ground, and when dug, about three years later, some of the plants showed no evidence of Lemoine's disease. At a national show I told Mr. Wassenburg about it, and he said I would eventually find the infection showing up. But I never did. I sold many healthy roots, and never had a complaint. I have never tried this on other diseased kinds.

Very early in my peony experiences I acquired a violent dislike for nematode infested roots. Many that I bought were badly infested. I sent an order to a prominent nursery for 14 kinds, stating that I already had the same kinds, but all were infested, and to please send me only nematode free roots. The 14 came, and 9 of them were badly infested. About that time, with the most desired peonies selling at \$20 or more, I combined the two unrelated factors and decided

to raise my own peonies from seed. But I must admit I also had a bit of the creative urge, which eventually led me into more than 40 years of extensive, unscientific (by modern standards) plant breeding.

My first seed was planted in my yard, next to some very old plants. To my dismay the young seedlings had nematodes. I destroyed all but one. It had a large fine smooth root, and I could not bear to destroy it. So I cut it into small pieces, pulling off the infested rootlets and planted them in new ground. Some of them came free of infestation. This turned out to be a fine, large, full double white, which I named Old Hundredth. At that time I think many men had the idea that I was a peony-nobody and could not possibly originate a good peony. I sent a nice root of it to one of the experts and he thought so little of it, he planted it under a tree where it was so shaded it did nothing.

Nematodes in peony roots, according to reports, can be killed by cooking infested roots in water at 118 degree F. for 20 minutes. Extreme care must be taken to keep the water from getting hotter than 118 degrees. I tried this but didn't have much success with it and soon quit. I have been told since that it was very important to put the cooked roots, immediately after treatment, into cold water. I may have erred in stirring the water all the time during the 20 minutes. I believe that the roots might possibly stand the treatment best, early in the fall, before eyes are large, and before white rootlets put out. But my rule now is, on the rare occasions when an infested plant shows up, to burn it, and forget the loss. That is easier than trying to cook the bugs without killing the roots, and much better business than pulling off infected rootlets and selling the

roots, which may not show it, and usually also carry infestation.

Root decay can be caused by insufficient soil drainage, mulches which hold too much moisture, and from giving poor air circulation about them by too close planting. This last factor increases the damage from poor drainage. There is great variation among different kinds in their resistance to root decay. Red kinds seem to be the most susceptible, but there is wide variation among reds, also. In the new hybrids, where an *officinalis* (red) x *lactiflora* (red) is made, it is only natural that some resulting hybrids should be extremely susceptible to root decay. On the other hand, some hybrids, many of them, have a high degree of resistance and great root vigor.

Blight that descends on stems and gets established underground will cause root decay, besides damaging leaves, stems and buds. Hand picking diseased parts and burning them, will often head off an infection at the start. But preventive measures are necessary for control. Spraying is effective, if done before infection has arrived. Bordeaux mixture was standard long ago and is still good, but it and fermete, which we used next, both clogged the sprayer and made trouble. We then changed to captan, and it seems to work perfectly. There may be other preparations that are just as good. Elgetol has been recommended for dormant spray on the ground during the winter season, but if infection has worked down below ground, it cannot do a perfect job.

Crowding of plant is just a standing invitation to blight to take over. But many people insist on putting peonies in beds, closely set with many kinds of perennials, set too close together. A peony, depending on the ultimate size of the variety, should have at least

five square feet of space to itself, the larger ones up to 12 or even 16 square feet. In a single row, with no other plants close, they can be spaced from two to four feet apart. The first spraying should come when plants are not over five inches tall. As the hybrids emerge earlier than the *lactiflora* kinds it is much better to spray them before the later kinds emerge. If blight does get underground, one can carefully scrape away dirt as far as the infection goes, cut it out, and spray the opening with the fungicide, then replace dirt. If this does not work and infection persists from one year to next, best to dig up the plant in the fall, divide it, cut out all decay, and soak the divisions just before planting, for 10 minutes in formaldehyde solution, 38%, one pint to 40 gallons of water. Burning of all tops early in the fall is best, though in northern states, it may be advisable to leave the tops on until spring, for winter protection. In a small garden, even up north, the best way is to burn the tops in the fall and cover with other materials against the cold.

A second spray, maybe a week to five days before blooming, supplementing the earlier spray, is usually all that is necessary. But spraying can be done through the summer if needed, and one can console himself with the thought that he is no worse off than the good rose grower, who sprays weekly through most of the summer, and besides, he doesn't have to fight thorns the way the rose man does. I have never been bothered with rose beetles, Japanese beetles, or aphids. Thrips sometimes appear, but never enough to cause trouble. I never had enough of "leaf curl" to be bothered with it. I do not know the cause, nor whether it can be cured.

TREE PEONIES

Leo J. Armatys, Central City, Nebraska

A prime purpose of this section is to light one little candle for gardeners who haven't yet been exposed to tree peonies—*P. suffruticosa*, *lutea*, *delavayi*, *potanini* and their hybrids. This sub-woody shrub cannot be ignored by any gardener living within its growing range. That range includes most sections of the country except for those lacking sufficient cold weather to provide the necessary period of dormancy. We exclude from our definition of "gardener" those frantic folk who insist on masses of bloom promptly after planting.

Tree Peony of the Month;

The June issue goes to press just as the curtain rises on Moutan's blooming season. For peonies, this is the end of one fiscal year and the beginning of another. The new year will not pass without revealing more of Moutan's secrets to an expanding and appreciative group of gardeners.

In my own garden, several choice plants will bloom for the first time, including Kinkaden with two fat buds, and Amber Moon with six. Others, which first bloomed a year or two ago, will show true size, shape and color this year. Still others, older, sedately acclimated, having survived what William Gratwick so aptly terms the era of indecision, will stage their annual extravaganza without missing a step.

In other words, too much is going on to justify designation of a "tree peony of the month" in this issue. Happy New Year!

Growing Hints:

It is our opinion that most failures with tree peonies can be traced to poor drainage or, rather, to a lack of good drainage. Try terracing. It is a simple matter, if one end of your garden is slightly sloping. Each tier should be about 8 inches high, 3 feet in depth. Four layers of brick, laid flat without mortar, will keep the terraces where they belong. A double terrace is the practical limit here in the great plains area. Else-

where, some could be built to rival those of the Imperial Gardens of China.

Companion Plants:

The tree peony is companion to no plant, but a host of plants complement or supplement Moutan in the garden. These observations apply to our own area, where extremes of temperature are a limiting factor. They represent one man's opinion.

First of all, flowering crab-apples. Their roots don't bother peonies quite so much as some. Strathmore, dark leaved pyramidal, reminiscent of the Lombardy Poplar, makes a fine, tall border hedge. The white Katherine and pink Dorothea, doubles, can take the place of Japanese cherries. The pendulous Red Jade is my favorite. It should be planted in the open. Mine is in the center of a wattle seat, 12 ft. from the nearest tree peony.

Lilacs provide showy and utilitarian backgrounds. My favorites are Firmament and lower growing Lucie Baltet. Mid-Century hybrid lilies can be planted in front of them to form a weed-free ground cover.

Iris and daylilies belong in the same garden with tree peonies, but at a respectful distance. All types of iris provide foliage contrast. With thousands of daylilies in commerce, no one list is "best". Neither is any list complete unless it includes Frances Fay, Nina Reb-

man, the red Summer Interlude, the brighter red Courage, yellows Cibola and Green Valley, and, at least in this area, Sienna, North Star, and many of the Sass varieties.

Shrub roses of all types, up to and including the Moyesii hybrids, are at ease with tree peonies, but here too we don't believe in mixing them.

The Unusual:

One of my earliest acquisitions was SOUVENIR DE MAXIME CORNU, a strong plant with big double yellow blossoms tinged light red. If the new growth on its stems could hold these flowers erect, it would be one of the best of all. Even so, it deserves garden space. One hot July afternoon, in the midst of a Nebraska-style heat wave, I was shocked to see this plant lying prostrate, woody stems and all! Surely, it was dead. I soaked the ground thoroughly. Within hours it had revived, and has been going strong ever since. I know now, of course, that this tree peony was just setting in motion its unique hibernation mechanism that has helped insure its survival since earliest recorded history. It was preparing to go underground until nature provided more favorable conditions to trigger renewed growth, or until its owner had sense enough to supply basic requirements.

Some Perfect Pairs:

The Saunders *lutea* hybrids AGE OF GOLD and THUNDERBOLT have much in common despite the fact that the former has buff-yellow flowers while THUNDERBOLT is a flamboyant blackish crimson single. Both develop quickly into specimen plants. AGE OF GOLD, planted in the fall of 1958 as a 2-year graft, had 20 many-petaled rosette blooms last spring and will have more than 2 dozen this spring. THUNDERBOLT is almost as floriferous; both are

late bloomers, extending into the second week of June.

Bigger and bolder are the Saunders SILVER SAILS and CHARIOTEER. Both are single and both have heavy stems. SILVER SAILS has good sized goblet blooms, light yellow the first year or so, then the blossoms take on a true silvery sheen that is unique in nature. CHARIOTEER, less floriferous and requiring a bit more sun and T.L.C., has large, flat, somber blossoms of darkest crimson—a perfect foil for the lighter, gayer colors.

Information Please:

Any reader having both tree and herbaceous peonies in his garden—please send me a short description of a *lactiflora* which you believe to be your best “garden type” peony.

Coming Soon:

The perfect bouquet—or—Moutan's answer to the Rose Bowl.

Thumb-nail sketches of several tree peonies.

The specialists—who they are, where they are, and why you should buy from them.

And more—about tree peonies!

Editorially Speaking:

General nurserymen miss few bets, so many of them now offer a few tree peonies. We are pleased. Any form of publicity is good. Some of the larger nurseries in this category are improving their presentation. One now offers 3 year grafts, although most still list 1 and 2 year plants. Another lists a few by name rather than by color; and still another includes a beautiful photo of the variety VIRGINIA I. PIERCE, although it is not included in their offerings.

There is room for improvement. For one thing, I don't like to see tree peonies offered for spring planting. Most harmful are the ads picturing a “tree peony” with a thick, single trunk, with a solid umbrella of double flowers that

hide the foliage, and with headlines giving the impression that you plant them, jump back, and watch 100 or more blossoms unfold.

The small band of specialists, those who grow and sell tree peonies, approach the other extreme. They will tell you about a plant's

faults as well as its virtues. When they say a variety has large flowers, you know they are enormous; if they say it has bright red blooms, prepare to shade your eyes; if they pronounce one a fine garden plant, put it on your list. May their tribe increase!



Tree Peonies at the Spring Flower Show of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Mar. 17-25, 1962

A note from Mrs. Arno H. Nehrling tells us that Mr. Marinus Vander Pol of Fairhaven, Massachusetts, staged two exhibits of Tree Peonies at the above show, which was held in Wonderland Park, Revere, Massachusetts, one on each side of one of the entrances. Mr. Vander Pol sends us the following list of the varieties shown and some remarks on how they were forced for this show:

"This year some 22 tree peony plants were forced for the Boston Spring Flower Show, opening March 17th at Wonderland.

The following varieties were

successfully brought into bloom: ALICE HARDING, double yellow, hybrid.

ARGOSY, single yellow, hybrid.

HAKU-TSURU (White Crane), white double. (Wm. Gratwick).

HATSU-HINODE (Rising Sun of the New Year), semi-double scarlet pink.

HOWZAN (Treasure Island), pink, double.

SHUJAKUMON (Gate of the Scarlet Sparrow), rosy pink, double. (Wm. Gratwick).

SOUVENIR DE MAXIME CORNU, Yellow and carmine, double, hybrid.

TAMA-FUYO (Jeweled Lotus), blush pink, double.

WHITE QUEEN, semi-double (Wm. Gratwick).

YAE-ZAKURA (Very Double Cherry), soft cherry pink, double. There were several other varieties also.

(Note: The translations and descriptions were added by the Editor. We presume the plants marked Wm. Gratwick came from him.)

Alice Harding and Souvenir de Maxime Cornu were exceptionally good this year, good full sized blooms on five year plants, eight to ten flowers per plant.

White Queen, and Shujakumon are new varieties in the forcing field. They do very well, producing 10 to 12 inch blooms. All the other varieties were average at best.

Lifting plants in September has proven to be too early. Tree peonies should not be lifted before a good frost, if they are to be used for forcing. The best results have been obtained with plants lifted December 1st. The only difficulty is that one does not know how late is too late. One year we waited too long and were caught in a real snow fall. The above plants were brought inside January 1st at 55 degrees, the first showing color March 2. Those showing color were placed in a 35 degree temperature, coming along just slowly to meet the show date.

This year we featured a Scotch Broom Garden. A number of varieties were used in colors from deep red through the multi-colored pinks; yellows through creams to white. This exhibit won first prize and rated tops in color harmony and condition of plants.

Cytisus or Scotch Broom, is rarely featured in Spring Flower Shows, it therefore received considerable attention in Boston."

We are indebted to Mrs. Nehrling and the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for the picture of part of Mr. Vander Pol's tree

peony exhibit. The labels on the plants are too small to read except that the third plant from the left is Yae-zakura, the eighth, White Queen and the 9th, Argosy. Possibly some of our readers can make out some of the others.

Mr. Vander Pol also sent us a clipping which showed a picture of a Scotch lassie, Rosemary Patti of Boston, sitting beside one of the broom specimens.

When your Editor was a college student hundreds of plants of Scotch broom were found wild near both Hampden Sydney College, Virginia, and the University of Virginia, having escaped from cultivation. They probably still are found in those neighborhoods.

TREE PAEONIES IN ENGLAND

In the March, 1962, Bulletin a note in Mr. Smirnow's Tree Peony Topics called attention to the fact that they do not have as much success in growing tree peonies in England as here.

From the article reproduced here, by Oliver Dawson and which appeared originally in the Gardeners Chronicle Gardening Illustrated for February 3, 1962, and which was sent us by Mrs. Hutmire of Takoma Park, Maryland, it would seem that some do grow them quite well, though they do have some troubles.

The varieties recommended seem to be mostly those we call European doubles and with which as a general thing we have little success in blooming, though a few do well here. The two Japanese varieties mentioned are called singles and doubtless are, though as listed in one American list they are said to be double or semi-double.

From notes in several issues of the Royal Horticultural Journal and also in letters from others in England it seems that the wild

white form of *suffruticosa* and the so-called improved variety of *lutea*, *ludlowii*, do exceedingly well there, in fact it would seem that the variety *ludlowii* is a failure here, though it grows like a weed in a number of gardens in England.

That some difficulty is experienced in growing tree peonies in England is evidenced by letters received by Mr. Smirnow from a nurseryman, G. B. Rawinsky, Primrose Hill Nursery, Haslemere, Surrey, England, in which Mr. Rawinsky asks for advice in dealing with a disease which he calls Sudden Death. Whether this is the same as the one that sometimes seems to attack plants in this country also, I do not know, yet I do know that tree peonies often just vanish and we see them no more, but fortunately this does not happen often enough to discourage those who wish to grow them. Many other kinds of flowers do the same.

We print here some extracts from Mr. Rawinsky's letters. If any of our readers have any remarks to make that will benefit those who suffer from this malady, please write us your recommendations.

10th October, 1960

Dear Mr. Smirnow:

I recently came across a copy of the Flower Grower in which I see you are advertising your new catalogue of Tree Paeonies. Would you please put my name down for one and send it off as soon as you can.

You may be interested to hear that Dr. David Gurin of New York, who is a customer of mine for Orchids has told me in the past that you helped him a great deal in amassing his large collection of Tree Paeonies, named varieties, which I believe, is one of the biggest in the States. I have long

wanted to obtain your lists and see how you handle this line in U.S.A. for we have the biggest range of them in this Country, and are finding considerable success with them, and were it not for one factor we would go ahead with an exploitation in a really big way.

Perhaps you can help us with this one difficulty from your experience of these plants. This is a factor of the disease called Sudden Death in common parlance or technically speaking *Leptosphaeria Coniothyrium*. You will probably know this fungus but I doubt whether it is so prevalent in the U.S.A. as it is apparently, in this Country. For our losses have been fairly considerable with it over the years.

We have not been able to import Tree Paeonies into this Country for more than four years now owing to difficulties with import licenses. Now this position is much easier we can get what we want but I am deterred from expanding the offerings of this line in view of the fact of the losses that inevitably result from a certain percentage of those planted each year. The plants come over from Japan in excellent order but a number succumb to this Sudden Death disease each year. No one can help us with any cure or prevention, can you?. Does it occur with you and is it widespread? Have you found any means of checking it? People say that if you cut off the dead portion of the growth then your plant will recover by sending forth new sprouts from buds lower down on the scion, but of course, on very young plants one often has to cut them right down to the union of the scion and the stock in which case there is nothing left to sprout from. We are having to replace a number of plants each year and this proportion is rising annually

☞ 10 ☞

for reasons we cannot understand. Frankly as one grower and merchant to another, can you help us in this predicament for we fear it is endangering the popularity of these plants in this Country, where they are still relatively new to the public. Any help you can give me on this matter will be really sincerely appreciated.

Do you have *Paeonia lutea ludlowii*. We have a fair stock of this very good species which we find the sturdiest and most rapid grower of all Tree Paeonies. Strangely, it doesn't seem to get Sudden Death disease at all, and I fancy I am going to try some breeding with it in the future with Suffruticosa varieties to try to breed in the resistance or whatever it is that makes it immune.

16th November, 1960

Dear Mr Smirnow,

I am very interested to note your comments on Sudden Death disease. We are comparative youngsters in their cultivation having first started growing them here about five years ago. We have never had enough stock left over at the end of the season in the past to enable us to study their different habits. I have no doubt that some varieties are more resistant than others but so far have not noticed any marked differences in susceptibility. I have no doubt that selection would normally be an excellent means of avoiding such troubles. Unfortunately, I am not too hopeful that any varieties will be really resistant in view of our experiences.

You ask about the *Lutea* Hybrids and I confirm that these are remarkably free from this disease. Here, of course, I am referring to such things as Cornu, Esperance and Chromatella. I have only grown 4 or 5 kinds so far. I am pretty positive that this is owing to the fact of their *lutea* blood.

You may be interested to hear that *Lutea Ludlowii* which we consider to be one of the finest of all Tree Paeonies has never shown a sign of this disease, though we have handled plants and grown them through two or more seasons in some cases in fair numbers over the past few years. With its extreme vigour (it is by far the fastest grower of any) handsome foliage and apparent disease resistance I consider it offers the best line in future developments in Tree Paeonies by way of hybridisation.

TREE PAEONIES

By Oliver Dawson

Once you grow tree paeonies, you are under their spell for ever. The late Constance Spry once wrote that she would cheerfully go bankrupt for these outstanding plants and yet they are still not widely enough cultivated. Possibly the reason for this is that, like camellias on their first introduction to this country, they have earned a reputation for tenderness.

This, however, is tantamount to libel, although many garden writers still refer to them as not being completely hardy. In fact, they will tolerate sub-zero temperatures of as much as 40 degrees and are frequently called upon to do so in their native China. They are quite happy in almost all normal garden soil conditions, whether lime or acid, and perhaps their only fault lies in their precocity. From January onwards, when the new buds start swelling, the first spell of mild weather will find them bursting into leaf. If such mild periods are followed by a cold snap, as was the case in the spring of 1961, the young growths may suffer frost damage, but the plants themselves will soon recover, and damage can, to a large ex-

tent, be prevented by setting the plants in positions which do not get the sun too early. Alternatively, they may be protected during frosty spells by a light covering of bracken hessian, or even sheets of newspaper. In March last year *The Times*, with its generously proportioned pages, did an excellent job of work in protecting my plants against the exceptionally severe night frosts.

Tree paeonies offered by nurserymen to-day are varieties of *P. suffruticosa*, *P. lutea* and crosses of the two. Also known as the Moutan paeony, *P. suffruticosa* is the more commonly grown of these; its blue-green, deeply cut foliage alone would make it well worth a place in any garden. The flowers, however, like outsize versions of those of the herbaceous varieties, which literally smother the plants in April and May, earn them that overworked adjective "fabulous."

The first tree paeonies were brought to this country from China in the latter part of the 18th century, but it was not until 100 years later that they first found their way into commerce. As might be expected, Kelways are said to have been among the first to offer them and included them in their catalogues as far back as the 1880s.

Tree paeonies, in general, live to a ripe old age, and there are plenty of well-authenticated cases of plants more than 50 years old still going strong. At maturity, most varieties of *P. suffruticosa* attain a height of from 5 to 6 ft.; after planting, they usually take three years to settle down before they commence to flower freely. Once established, their requirements are modest in the extreme, and contrary to what is generally advised, they do not need manure; they can in fact deteriorate if it is

applied at all freely. My plants are given a generous dressing of well-rotted leaves when they finish flowering and this mulch is kept topped-up during the summer months. The residue is forked in lightly round the plants in autumn. During the first few years, they will respond well to occasional dressings of bonemeal.

RECOMMENDED VARIETIES

The varieties of *P. suffruticosa* include singles, semi-doubles and doubles. One of the showiest of the doubles is *P. suffruticosa fragrans maxima-plena*, rather cumbersome in name but one well worth growing both for the large salmon-pink flowers and for the distinctive paeony fragrance. Another good fully double variety is 'Bijou de Chusan,' a pure white when it first opens, becoming delicately suffused with pink as the flowers develop. 'Souvenir d'Etienne Mechin' is another double, deep rose in color. Among semi-doubles, 'Duchess of Kent,' bright rose; 'King George V,' a striking scarlet flecked with white; and 'Cardinal Vaughan,' deep purple-red, are all well worth a place. Singles, perhaps the most delightful of all, are represented by 'Hakugan,' a pure white, and 'Nishiki Shima,' a large-flowered, shell-pink variety.

In addition to the excellent and vigorous *P. lutea ludlowii*, with its erect buttercup-yellow flowers and attractive pale green foliage, *P. lutea*, crossed with *P. suffruticosa* varieties, has been responsible for some outstanding hybrids. 'Chromatella' is a sulphur-yellow double hybrid; 'Madame Louis Henry'; a large carmine single; and 'Souvenir de Maxime Cornu' is a clear golden-yellow edged with carmine, strongly scented.

All of these respond to treatment similar to that given the Moutans, and, like them, do equa-

ly well in most kinds of soil. Although expensive to buy at present, they merit inclusion in every collection of tree paeonies. In any case, they are a long-term investment that is not surpassed by any other similar garden plant.

NEW HYBRID FROM IRELAND

In the Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society, Vol. 87, Part Two, for February, 1962, we find on Page 57 the note: THE REGINALD CORY MEMORIAL CUP, awarded to the raiser of a hardy hybrid that is the result of an intentional cross, has been awarded to The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Rosse.

In the April Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society, 1962, we find the following additional information about this paeony.

"Paeonia 'Anne Rosse' A. M.

April 25, 1961, as a hardy flowering shrub. A selected seedling from a cross between *P. lutea ludlowii* and *P. delavayi* with large 4-inch Lemon Yellow (H.C.C. 4-4/1) flowers, faintly streaked with red on the reverse of the perianth segments. The leaves, on the specimen shown, were up to 11 inches long and consisted generally of five leaflets, with irregularly triangular lobes. Seedlings from this particular cross may vary considerably in the shape, size and colour of the flowers and some seedlings may have small, dull purplish blooms of little merit. Exhibited by the Earl of Rosse M. B. E., Birr Castle, Ireland."

This is the first successful cross of *P. lutea ludlowii* with any other species or variety, that has been reported to us.

TREE PEONY TOPICS

Louis Smirnow, Brookville, N.Y.

In addition to listing "look-alikes", we should list varieties that are known to be the same under different names. We should remember that varieties from one province in Japan may be named a certain way, while the same variety from another province is named something else.

Arashi-yame, same as Razan
Hana-kisoi, same as Hana-kurabe
Suisho-haku, same as Sausho-tsuru
Koku-tsuru, same as Suma-no-ichi
Kokuk-no-tsukasa, same as Koku-tsuru and Suma-no-ichi

Beware of tree peony varieties offered as "Winter Blooming". I have never seen a tree peony bloom during the Fall or Winter, not even in greenhouses, unless especially forced. These are being offered by almost every nursery in Japan.

I think it is a mistake to list sources of purchasing tree peonies in Japan. Those of us who have purchased from Japan for years, can attest to the difficulties and the disappointments. For ten years, I spent a great deal of money looking for a yellow double herbaceous peony. I knew it existed in Japan before the war and employed several agents to find it. During years of search, at least five nurseries or jobbers shipped varieties purporting to be this true yellow double but the plants received were not true to color. Finally, an American friend found the true variety, now called Oriental Gold.

There are several sources for tree peonies in this country and you would do well to buy from those who will guarantee varieties to be true to name.

I have just returned from a trip through California, Oregon and Washington, where I visited several nurseries and parks growing

tree peonies. It was quite disappointing to see so many seedlings. The number of named varieties were few indeed. In one spot, I saw two hundred two year named plants, several in bud; good healthy plants. I have always advocated the purchase of two to three year old plants which have been grown in this country at least one year. They will have become established quickly and a year or two later, will overtake much older plants - besides they cost so much less.

It might be well to list in these articles, unusual, outstanding varieties and in each issue, I shall list two or three, which to me, are deserving of special mention.

Yachiyo-tsubaki (Long Hedge of Camellias) is easily recognized by coral stems, bronze sparkling foliage and magnificent coral pink blooms. For its color of flower and brilliance of plant, it should be in every collection.

Tama-fuyo (Jewelled Lotus) is a superb delicate pink, free flowering and unusually vigorous. Its color does not fade in the sun. It is the first tree peony to bloom and is about a week earlier than the average variety. It is truly the best for a beginner.

Suffruticosa, Rock's variety, is a species of most unusual type. It is a low growing plant bearing small, beautiful single to semi-double blossoms of white and pink. The white is more commonplace, the pink is more difficult to obtain. This species is scarce and therefore expensive.

WISTER'S PEONY BOOK

The Peony Book by Dr. John C. Wister to be published by the American Horticultural Society, has been delayed for a revision of the Tree Peony Section. It will be issued as soon as possible.

57th Annual Exhibition

AND THE

59th Annual Meeting

OF THE

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

Sponsored By The
Minnesota Peony and Iris Society
with the co-operation
of the
**Minnesota State Horticultural
Society**

— :: —

NORTHWESTERN NATL. BANK
Seventh St. and Marquette Ave.
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Celebrating Its 90th Anniversary

— :: —

**HEADQUARTERS:
HOTEL RADISSON**

— :: —

Monday, June 18, 1962
Noon to 9:00 P.M.

Tuesday, June 19, 1962
9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

RULES

A. All exhibits must be in place by noon of the opening day.

B. All peony blooms, staged for competition, must have been cut from plants owned by the exhibitor, except those used in arrangements.

C. Entry tags, with class number visible, and the exhibitor's name concealed, will be furnished the exhibitor on arriving at the show room.

D. Each exhibitor is limited to two entries in each specimen class, but each entry must be of a different variety. Only one entry may be made by any one exhibitor in a collection class.

E. All varieties must be correctly named except those in baskets and vases for artistic effect. Wooden labels must be used and preferably with the name of the variety written on both sides of the label.

F. Double varieties must be shown, unless otherwise indicated.

G. The American Peony Society's Manual will govern type of bloom.

H. Printed elsewhere in this program, is a color classification of most of the varieties usually shown. This must be followed.

I. All containers, except those used in the arrangement classes, will be furnished by the exhibition committee. Pails will be furnished to condition blooms.

J. Twenty five dollars in cash, divided as follows: 1st \$12.00; 2nd \$8.00, 3rd \$5.00, to be awarded as sweepstakes to winners in each of the exhibitor's classes, Open, Advanced Amateur and Novice Amateur, according to the scales of points which are printed under each class. A peony root will be given to each exhibitor in the Novice Amateur classes who did not win any awards. Exhibitors may accumulate points only in

their respective class, Open, Advanced Amateur or Novice Amateur. They may make entries in more than one class, but can only accumulate points in their own class.

K. Prizes will not be given to unworthy exhibits. When there is only one entry in a class the judges may award it first, second, third or nothing at their discretion. Their decision must be accepted as final. Exhibitors are cautioned to show the exact number of blooms called for, in each class.

L. Any exhibitor having exhibited in a peony show five years, automatically becomes an Advanced Amateur.

M. The bank will be open Sunday afternoon and evening for exhibitors to prepare their exhibits. All entries must be in place by noon on Monday.

N. The show will not be dismantled until ten minutes after closing time so as to give all visitors time to leave. All visitors must leave the floor and no flowers will be given away inside the show room.

No catalogs or prize lists may be distributed at the show.

... PROGRAM ...

Sunday, June 17, 1962

The exhibition room will be open for exhibitors who wish to place their blooms in water and prepare their exhibits from Sunday afternoon until noon on Monday. Use the Marquette Avenue entrance, which is about the middle of the block, Take the elevator to the exhibition room, second floor.

Monday, June 18, 1962

Midnight until noon: open for placing exhibits. All exhibits for competition must be in place by noon.

Noon: Judging will begin promptly.

Exhibitors must stage their own blooms except that an out-of-town exhibitor, who cannot be present, should notify the show chairman, Glenn H. Greaves, 2200 Doswell Avenue, St. Paul 8, Minnesota, furnishing full information, and a committee will stage his blooms to the best advantage.

The show will be open to the public as soon as the judging is completed. However since the show is staged in the lobby of the bank, the public cannot be excluded at any time.

Afternoon: First directors' meeting. Exact time and place to be announced.

Afternoon: An Arrangement demonstration. Hour and place to be announced.

7 P. M. Banquet to be followed by the Annual Meeting in the Headquarters hotel.

9 P. M. Show closes for the night.

Tuesday, June 19, 1962

9 A. M. Show opens to the public. Second directors' meeting.

4 P. M. Show closes.

SCHEDULE

NOTES: Only lactiflora (albi-flora) varieties may be entered unless otherwise specified.

Each bloom in a collection must be in a separate container.

THE GRAND CHAMPION (Best Bloom in the Show) will be chosen by the judges appointed for that purpose, from all blooms entered in competition. All judges and exhibitors are urged to see that any bloom they consider worthy of the honor, is considered.

THE CHAMPION blooms will be chosen from the sections of Class 100A and from the winning entry in Class 100B.

THE COURT OF HONOR

GRAND CHAMPION: (Best Bloom in the Show). From all classes.

CHAMPIONS. Best double-white and flesh. From classes 100 A-1, 100 A-2, and 100 B.

Best double-light pink. From classes 100 A-3, 100 B.

Best double-dark pink. From classes 100 A-4, 100 B.

Best double-red. From classes 100 A-5, 100 B.

Best semi-double, any color. from class 100 A-6.

Best Japanese, any color. From class 100 A-7.

Best single, any color. From class 100 A-8.

Best herbaceous hybrid, any type, any color. From class 100 A-9.

Best tree peony, any type, any color. From class 100 A-10.

Best arrangement. From all arrangement classes.

Winner of the Myron B. Bigger Plaque. From class 403.

Winner of the award in honor of Miss Silvia Saunders. From class 123.

Winner of the award in honor of the 90th Anniversary of the Northwestern National Bank. From class 404.

Any other bloom winning a medal award.

OPEN CLASSES

Open to all who grow peonies whether for pleasure or profit.

100 A. All blooms to be considered for CHAMPION AWARDS must be entered in the following sections of this class. No other blooms will be considered except those in the winning entry in class 100 B.

100 A-1 and 100 A-2. One bloom double, white or flesh.

100 A-3. One bloom, double, light pink.

100 A-4. One bloom, double, dark pink.

100 A-5. One bloom, double, red.

100 A-6. One bloom, semi-double, any color.

100 A-7. One bloom, Japanese, any color.

100 A-8. One bloom, single, any color.

100 A-9. One bloom, herbaceous hybrid, any type, any color.

100 A-10. One bloom, tree peony, any type, any color.

100 B. COLLECTION of five different varieties, double, any colors, one bloom each. First: Silver Medal of the American Peony Society. All blooms in the winning entry are eligible for CHAMPIONSHIP awards.

101. COLLECTION of twenty five different varieties, one bloom each. Not more than ten blooms may be Japanese and/or single types. First: GOLD MEDAL of the American Peony Society.

35-25-15

102. COLLECTION of ten varieties, double, three blooms each, any colors.

25-20-15

103. Five blooms, one variety, white or flesh.

10-7-5

104. Five blooms, one variety, double, light pink.

10-7-5

105. Five blooms, one variety, double, dark pink.

10-7-5

106. Five blooms, one variety, double, red

10-7-5

107. VISITORS' CLASS. COLLECTION of five varieties, one bloom each, any type, any color, hybrids permitted. Not open to exhibitors from the State of Minnesota. Special awards.

15-10-5

108. One bloom, semi-double, white or flesh.

5-3-1

109. One bloom, semi-double, pink.

5-3-1

110. One bloom. semi-double, red.

5-3-1

111. COLLECTION of five varieties, semi-double, one bloom each, any colors.

15-10-5

112. Three blooms, one variety, Japanese, white or flesh.

7-5-3

113. Three blooms, one variety, Japanese, pink.

7-5-3

114. Three blooms, one variety, Japanese, red.

7-5-3

115. COLLECTION of five varieties, Japanese, one bloom each.

15-10-5

116. Three blooms, one variety, single, white or flesh.

7-5-3

117. Three blooms, one variety, single, pink.

7-5-3

118. Three blooms, one variety, single, red.

7-5-3

119. COLLECTION of five varieties, single, one bloom each.

15-10-5

120. Three blooms, one variety, herbaceous hybrid, any type. white, flesh, or yellow.

7-5-3

121. Three blooms, one variety, herbaceous hybrid, any type, pink.

7-5-3

122. Three blooms, one variety, herbaceous hybrid, any type. red.

7-5-3

123. COLLECTION of five varieties, herbaceous hybrids, one bloom each, any types, any colors. First: Award in honor of Miss Silvia Saunders.

15-10-5

124. COLLECTION of five varieties, tree peonies, one bloom each. any types, any colors.

15-10-5

125. HANDLE BASKET, greatest diameter of container not to

exceed twenty inches. Main feature to be peonies.

10-7-5

126. LARGE VASE of peonies, artistically arranged, with or without other flowers or foliage.

10-7-5

ADVANCED AMATEUR CLASSES

For Champion Awards enter Classes 100-A and 100-B.

100 A. All sections. See Open Classes.

100 B. See Open Classes.

Open to all amateurs.

201. COLLECTION of fifteen varieties, one bloom each, any colors. Not more than six varieties may be Japanese and/or single types. First: SILVER MEDAL of the American Peony Society.

25-20-10

202. COLLECTION of seven varieties, double, three blooms each.

25-20-10

203 and 204. Three blooms, one variety, double white, or double flesh.

7-5-3

205. Three blooms, one variety, double, light pink.

7-5-3

206. Three blooms, one variety, double, dark pink.

7-5-3

207. Three blooms, one variety, double, red.

7-5-3

208. Three blooms, one variety, semi-double, any color.

7-5-3

209. Three blooms, one variety, Japanese, any color.

7-5-3

210. Three blooms, one variety, single, any color.

7-5-3

211. Three blooms one variety, any color.

herbaceous hybrid, double or semi-double, any color.

7-5-3

212. Three blooms, one variety, herbaceous hybrid, Japanese or single, any color.

7-5-3

213. COLLECTION of five varieties herbaceous hybrids, any types, any colors, one bloom each.

15-10-5

214. Three blooms, one variety, tree peony, any type, any color.

7-5-3

215. BASKET, main feature to be peonies.

9-6-3

216. SMALL VASE of peonies, with or without other flowers and foliage

9-6-3

217. LARGE VASE of peonies, with or without other flowers and foliage.

9-6-3

NOVICE AMATEUR CLASSES

For Champion Awards enter Classes 100-A and 100-B.

100 A. All sections. See Open Classes.

100 B. See Open Classes.

Open only to Novice Amateurs.

301. COLLECTION of five varieties, one bloom each, any color. Not more than three varieties may be Japanese and/or single types. First: BRONZE MEDAL of the American Peony Society.

25-20-10

302. One bloom, double, white or flesh.

5-3-1

303. One bloom, double, light pink.

5-3-1

304. One bloom, double, dark pink.

5-3-1

305. One bloom, double, red.

5-3-1

306. One bloom, semi-double, any color.

5-3-1

18

307. One bloom, Japanese, any color.

5-3-1

308. One bloom, single, any color.

5-3-1

309. One bloom, herbaceous hybrid, any type, any color.

5-3-1

310. COLLECTION of three varieties, one bloom each, Limited to those who have never won a peony prize in a State Show.

9-6-3

311. COLLECTION of five varieties, one bloom each. Limited to exhibitors who have never shown peonies before. First: \$10.00; Second: \$5.00; Third: \$3.00.

15-10-5

312. BASKET. Main feature to be peonies.

9-6-3

313. VASE of peonies with or without other flowers and foliage.

SEEDLINGS AND NEW VARIETIES

Any variety that has not been offered for sale to the public shall be classed as a SEEDLING. It may be either numbered or named.

Any variety that has been named and offered for sale to the public and is of recent origin shall be recognized as a NEW VARIETY.

401. SEEDLINGS that have been divided and propagated. Each exhibitor is limited to five entries. Three blooms of each variety must be shown.

402. NEW VARIETIES. Each exhibitor is limited to five varieties. Three blooms of each variety must be shown. Certificates of HONORABLE MENTION, FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATES, BRONZE, SILVER OR GOLD MEDALS may be awarded in each of the above classes.

403. MYRON D. BIGGER PLA-

QUE to the originator of the best and most distinctive new peony shown and entered in this class. The number of entries by any one exhibitor is limited to five. Three blooms or more must be shown of each variety. Any type, species or hybrid, herbaceous or tree, may be shown. Any variety shown must have distinctiveness as compared to existing varieties. It must not have been offered for sale for more than three years prior to this show. No variety that has won the award before may be entered. The winning variety must be named and the name approved and registered by the American Peony Society before the award will be confirmed. A photograph in black and white of the winning variety must be furnished by the exhibitor free of charge, for reproduction, to become the property of Mr. Bigger. Size preferably 4" x 5".

404. The NORTHWESTERN NATIONAL BANK AWARD to the best unnamed seedling shown. The Bank reserves the privilege of naming the winning variety. The number of entries by any one exhibitor is limited to five. One or more blooms of each variety may be shown.

SPECIAL AWARDS AND MEDALS

The following medals and awards may be awarded, at the discretion of the judges appointed for the purpose:

THE JAMES BOYD MEMORIAL MEDAL, donated by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, will be awarded the exhibitor having the outstanding exhibit, collection or display.

THE NORTHWESTERN NATIONAL BANK SILVER TROPHY will be awarded the exhibitor showing the GRAND CHAMPION of the Show.

THE NORTHWESTERN BANK AWARD for the best new seedling shown in class 404, which see.

THE MYRON D. BIGGER PLAQUE for the best and most distinctive new variety shown in class 403, which see.

THE B. H. FARR MEMORIAL MEDAL in bronze for the best double or semi-double lactiflora (albiflora) variety shown.

THE MINNESOTA PEONY AND IRIS SOCIETY AWARD in honor of Miss Silvia Saunders to the best exhibit in class 123, which see.

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY MEDALS

THE GOLD MEDAL to the winning exhibit in class 101.

THE SILVER MEDAL to the winning exhibits in class 100 B and class 201.

THE BRONZE MEDAL to the winning exhibit in class 301 and to the best single lactiflora variety shown in class 100 A-8.

Best Japanese lactiflora variety shown in class 100 A-7

Best herbaceous hybrid shown in class 100 A-9

Catalogs or price lists will not be distributed at the show but may be obtained by writing any of the growers listed below:

Bachman's Inc. 6010 S. Lyndale, Minneapolis 9, Minn.

Brand Peony Farms, Faribault, Minn.

Gowen Gardens, Excelsior, Minn.

E. H. Lins, Cologne, Minn.

Stover Gardens, 7014 4th Ave. Minneapolis 3, Minn.

A. P. Gibson, Cannon Falls, Minn.

Landey's Nursery, 6501 Penn Ave. S. Minneapolis 23, Minn.

AN ENERGETIC WOMAN

In late March we had a letter from our good member, Mrs. Herman E. Emig of Columbus, Ohio, in which she tells of some of her activities. Her address: 2551 Sherwood Road.

In spite of having trouble because of a lack of calcium, she made three talks between March 5th and 8th, illustrating them all with color slides made in her garden, which, we understand, is open to the public during blooming season.

On March 5th, she spoke to the Lakeview Garden Club at 7:30 p. m. in the Thornville Library, in Thornville, Ohio, on "Down My Garden Path with the Camera." Her second talk was to the members of the Towne and Country Garden Club in Dayton where she discussed "The Art of Designing a Garden". The meeting was held in the Dayton Women's Club at 11 a.m. March 7th, and was followed by a luncheon.

"What Makes a Beautiful Garden" was the subject of the third meeting which was held with the members of the Faculty Club of the Sidney High Schools in the social rooms of the First National Bank of Sidney, Ohio, at 8 p.m., on March 8th.

On April 10th, she spoke to the garden conclave of the Richland County Garden Clubs at Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio. Her subject was "The Art of Making a Garden" and she showed lots of ways to use peonies in the landscape. May her tribe increase.

For the first time in thirty three years the annual rose and peony show of the Takoma Park, (Maryland) Horticultural Club had to be cancelled due to the lack of a suitable place in which to hold it. They hope for better luck next year.

THE MOST POPULAR PEONIES — 1962

67 Lists — 111 Varieties

The number in front of each variety denotes the number of lists in which it appears.

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 45. Kansas, D.R. | 9. Mattie Lafuze, D. F. |
| 40. Red Charm, D.R. Hybrid. | 8. Baroness Schroeder, D. F. |
| 38. Nick Shaylor, D.LP. | 8. Ensign Moriarty, D. DP. |
| 31. Mons. Jules Elie, D. DP. | 8. Frances Mains, D. LP. |
| 30. Le Cygne, D.W. | 8. La Lorraine, D. F. |
| 29. Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
D. LP. | 8. Mandaleen, D. LP. |
| 28. Philippe Rivoire, D.R. | 8. President Lincoln, S. R. |
| 27. Elsa Sass, D.W. | 8. Reine Hortense, D. LP. |
| 26. Myrtle Gentry, D. LP. | 7. Alma Hansen, D. F. |
| 25. Kelway's Glorious, D. W. | 7. Bonanza, D. R. |
| 24. Moonstone, D. LP. | 7. Dorothy J., D. F. |
| 22. Krinkled White, S. F. | 7. Dr. J. H. Neeley, D. W. |
| 21. Sarah Bernhardt, D. DP. | 7. Florence Ellis, D. LP. |
| 20. Blanche King, D. DP. | 7. Florence Nicholls, D. F. |
| 19. Festiva Maxima, D. W. | 7. Mary E. Nicholls, D. W. |
| 19. Hansina Brand, D. LP. | 7. Mrs. Wilder Bancroft, J. R. |
| 18. Doris Cooper, D. LP. | 7. Nippon Beauty, J. R. |
| 17. Therese, D. LP. | 7. Sir John Franklin, D. R. |
| 16. Martha Bulloch, D. DP. | 7. Tempest, D. R. |
| 15. Isani Gidui, J. W. | 6. Big Ben, D. R. |
| 15. Ruth Elizabeth, D. R. | 6. Charm, J. R. |
| 14. Mrs. Livingston Farrand,
D. DP. | 6. Frances Willard, D. W. |
| 14. Nancy Nicholls, D. F. | 6. Janice, S. LP. Hybrid. |
| 14. Victory, D.W. | 6. Paul Bunyan, D. LP. |
| 13. Alice Harding, D. F. | 5. Alesia, D. W. |
| 13. Dolorodell, D. LP. | 5. Arcturus, S. R. |
| 12. Gardenia, D. F. | 5. Felix Crouse, D. R. |
| 12. Seashell, S. LP. | 5. Golden Glow, S. R. Hybrid. |
| 12. Solange, D. F. | 5. Highlight, D. R. |
| 12. Westerner, J. LP. | 5. Karl Rosenfield, D. R. |
| 11. Ann Cousins, D. W. | 5. Longfellow, D. R. |
| 11. Minnie Shaylor, SD.F. | 5. Marilla Beauty, D. F. |
| 11. Minuet, D. LP. | 5. Mildred May, SD. W. |
| 11. Walter Faxon, D. DP. | 5. Mrs. J. V. Edlund, D. W. |
| 10. Chocolate Soldier, SD.R.
Hybrid | 5. Nippon Brilliant, J. R. |
| 10. Lotus Queen, J. W. | 5. Ramona Lins, D. F. |
| 10. Miss America, SD. W. | 4. Annisquam, D. LP. |
| 10. Pico, S. W. | 4. Burma, D. R. |
| 9. Ama-no-sode, J. P. | 4. Burma Ruby, S. R. Hybrid. |
| 9. Auten's Pride, D. LP. | 4. Carina, SD. R. Hybrid. |
| 9. Mary Brand, D. R. | 4. Casablanca, D. W. |
| | 4. Cherry Hill, D. R. |
| | 4. Claire de Lune, S. LY. Hybrid. |
| | 4. Dandy Dan, SD. R. Hybrid. |
| | 4. Dawn Pink, S. DP. |
| | 4. Diana Parks, D. R. Hybrid. |
| | 4. Edulis Superba, D. DP. |

4. Ethel Mars, D. W.
4. Felix Supreme, D. R.
4. Flame, S. R. Hybrid.
4. Gay Paree, A. P.
4. George W. Peyton, D. F.
4. Helen Matthews, SD. R. Hybrid.
4. Heritage, D. R. Hybrid.
4. John Harvard, SD. R. Hybrid.
4. Judy Becker, D. R.
4. Largo, J. DP.
4. Laura Magnuson, SD. P. Hybrid.
4. Le Jour, S. W.
4. Lillian Wild, D. F.
4. Margaret Lough, SD. W.
4. Marietta Sisson, D. LP.
4. Matilda Lewis, D. R.
4. Mother's Choice, D. W.
4. Mrs. A. M. Brand, D. W.
4. Plainsman, J. W.
4. Red Red Rose, SD. R. Hybrid.
4. Richard Carvel, D. R.
4. Souvenir de Maxime Cornu, D. Y. Tree.
4. Yellow King, J. LP.

The "One Best" Peony

66 Lists — 37 Varieties

6. Le Cygne, D. W.
5. Elsa Sass, D. W.
5. Kansas, D. R.
5. Red Charm, D. R. Hybrid.
4. Monsieur Jules Elie, D. DP.
3. Moonstone, D. LP.
2. Festiva Maxima, D. W.
2. Hansina Brand, D. LP.
2. Kelway's Glorious, D. W.
2. Krinkled White, S. W.
2. Myrtle Gentry, D. LP.
2. Nick Shaylor, D. LP.
2. Victory, D. W.
1. Ann Cousins, D. W.
1. Autumn Joy, D. W.
1. Betsy Jean Miller, D. LP.
1. Bonanza, D. R.
1. Dorothy J., D. F.
1. Ensign Moriarty, D. DP.
1. Glasscock No. 1 G 49. SD. R. Hybrid.
1. Hana-kisoi, SD. P. Tree.
1. Helen Matthews, SD. R. Hybrid.

1. Isani Gidui, J. W.
1. Janice, S. LP. Hybrid.
1. Joe Hanratty, D. DP.
1. John Harvard, SD. R. Hybrid.
1. Marilla Beauty, D. W.
1. Mary B. Vories, D. F.
1. Mattie Lafuze, D. F.
1. Mrs. Livingston Farrand, D. DP.
1. Mrs. Wilder Bancroft, J. R.
1. Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, D. LP.
1. Paul Bunyan, D. DP.
1. Solange, D. F.
1. Suisho-haku, SD. W. Tree.
1. Therese, D. LP.
1. W. L. Gumm, D. W.

My Favorite Peony

31 Lists — 24 Varieties

3. Kansas, D. R.
3. Le Cygne, D. W.
2. Carina, SD. R. Hybrid
2. Kelway's Glorious, D. W.
2. Mons. Jules Elie, D. DP.
1. Beryl Crockett, D. W.
1. Bright Knight, S. R. Hybrid.
1. Chocolate Soldier, SD. R. Hybrid
1. Doris Cooper, D. LP.
1. Elsa Sass, D. W.
1. Flora, S. W. Tree.
1. Glasscock 1 G 49. SD. R. Hybrid.
1. Helen Matthews, SD. R. Hybrid.
1. John Harvard, SD. R. Hybrid.
1. Lillian Wild, D. F.
1. Mattie Lafuze, D. F.
1. Nick Shaylor, D. LP.
1. Paul Bunyan, D. DP.
1. Primevere, A. W.
1. Red Bird, D. R.
1. Seashell, S. LP.
1. Shaylor's Sunburst, J.W.
1. The Mighty Mo, SD. R.
1. Walter Faxon, D. DP.

The Exhibition Peonies

4. Mrs. J. V. Edlund, D. W.
- Replies: 45. Varieties: 26
5. Ann Cousins, D. W.
4. Le Cygne, D. W.

4. Dolorodell, D. LP.
3. Mrs. Livingston Farrand, D. DP.
2. Clara Lindgren, D. W.
2. Lillian Wild, D. F.
2. Hansina Brand, D. LP.
2. Red Charm, D. R. Hybrid.
1. A. B. Franklin, D. F.
1. Alesia, D. W.
1. Argentine, D. W.
1. Auten's Pride, D. LP.
1. Blanche King, D. DP.
1. Doris Cooper, D. LP.
1. Dresden Pink, D. LP.
1. Elsa Sass, D. W.
1. Ensign Moriarty, D. DP.
1. James Pillow, D. LP.
1. Loren Franklin, D. DP.
1. Miss America, SD. W.
1. Mons. Jules Elie, D. DP..
1. Mother's Choice, D. W.
1. Paul Bunyan, D. DP.
1. Shawnee Chief, D. R.
1. Solange, D. F.

Cut Flower Varieties

Replies: 50. Varieties: 32.

7. Mons. Jules Elie, D. DP.
4. Festiva Maxima, D. W.
4. Reine Hortense, D. LP.
3. Karl Rosenfield, D. R.
3. Shawnee Chief, D. R.
2. Edulis Superba, D. DP.
2. Sarah Bernhardt, D. DP.
1. Doris Cooper, D. LP.
1. Felix Crousse, D. R.
1. Frances Mains, D. LP.
1. Hansina Brand, D. LP.
1. Inspecteur Lavergne, D. R.
1. J. C. Legg, A. W.
1. Judge Berry, D. LP.
1. Kelway's Glorious, D. W.
1. Lady Kate, D. DP.
1. La Lorraine, D. F.
1. Lillian Wild, D. F.
1. Major A. M. Krekler, D. W.
1. Mary Brand, D. R.
1. Mme. de Verneville, D. W.
1. Mrs. A. M. Brand, D. W.
1. Martha Bulloch, D. DP.
1. Myrtle Gentry, D. LP.
1. Pfeiffer's Red Triumph, D. R.
1. Red Charm, D. R. Hybrid.
1. Richard Carvel, D. R.

1. Rosanna Shrader, D. LP.
1. Ruth Clay, D. R.
1. Sarah Bernhardt, D. DP.

Sixty seven questionnaires were returned, all of which were completely filled out except six, which had less than 25 listed. Only one failed to list the "One Best". Twenty two states were represented and two were returned from Canada. There were 42 amateurs and 25 commercial growers. Nine directors replied. Replies came from the deep South to the far North and from the Atlantic to the Pacific. One hundred eleven varieties are listed being all that received 4 or more votes. There were 33 additional varieties listed in three lists, 78 in two and 248 in only one list, making a total of 470 different varieties that were considered worthy of being counted among the 25 best.

In the supplemental lists 136 other varieties were named as being considered among the 100 best. Many did not fill out these lists. If they had, we would probably have had close to a thousand varieties as being worthy of inclusion in the best 100.

Included in the Most Popular List are 72 doubles of which 16 are white, 13 flesh, 16 light pink, 9 deep pink and 18 red. Four semi-doubles were listed; 3 white and one flesh. Of the 11 Japs, 3 were white, 4 pink and 4 red. Three white, 2 pink and 2 red made up the 7 singles. Only one anemone was included; the pink and white Gay Paree. There were 2 pinks, 12 reds and one yellow in the hybrids, 15 in all. Only one tree peony made the grade, the yellow and red double Souvenir de Maxime Cornu.

While the hybrids vary in form from one year to another, and even in the same year and on the same plant, there may be flow-

ers, full double, semi-double and single, sometimes Japanese, three of the reds usually come full double, and 3 single red and one yellow make up the four singles listed. The 8 semi-doubles to doubles are six red and two pink. In all there were 39 white or flesh, 34 pink, 36 red and 2 yellow; 76 full doubles, 12 semi-doubles, 11 Japs, 11 singles and one anemone which is usually listed as a Jap.

The "One Best" list contains 12 white or flesh, 13 pink and 2 red doubles, 27 in all; one white and one red Jap, one white single, four red and one pink hybrid, one white and one light pink tree peony. Eight varieties were included that did not get enough votes to make the Most Popular List.

The list of "My Favorite" peonies, has 13 doubles, 1 semi-double, one Jap. one single, one anemone, six hybrids and 1 tree peony. In all there were nine white or blush, six pink and 9 red varieties.

Sixty lists had hybrids included, 80 varieties of which were considered worthy of being included among the 25 best and 36 additional were mentioned as worthy of a place in the best 100 varieties.

Tree peonies were listed in ten lists and 38 varieties were included in the lists of 25 Best and five more in the 100 Best.

New Members

Mrs. Annie Brown, Box 4091, Blue Mt., Alabama.

Ben J. Buczek, 312 Yale Street, St. Joseph, Missouri.

Anthony J. DeBlasi, 81-18 261st. Street, Floral Park, New York.

Mrs. Fred H. Foucar, Conscience Circle, Strongs Neck, Setauket, New York.

Wayne H. Payne, Box 247, Richardson, Texas.

A NEW PEST

In a letter from one of our members in Wisconsin, she tells us this sad story. Have any of our other members had the same trouble? If so, have they found any cure?

"In our immediate vicinity, raising peonies and producing good blooms is next to impossible. Back in 1948, while my husband was still living and we were on our farm 20 miles south of Stevens Point, we first saw a beetle which baffled us. We sent some to the Agricultural Department of the University of Wisconsin at Madison and they said to use DDT or chlordane, which we did, with no results.

"The beetles are larger than a rose chafer, some grey, some brownish and some have a metallic cast, something like copper. As soon as a bud starts to open, they crawl in and eat the blooms. They suddenly appear between June 15th and June 20th, in great numbers.

"This area has raised cucumbers for the salting stations for the past 15 or 20 years and I wonder if the beetle came along with Mexicans when they came to pick cucumbers.

"My final solution is to pick all the buds when they are loose enough to open inside. Consequently many people have dug their peonies and no longer have them. Such a loss!"

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Jane C. Gustin
218 S. Illinois Ave.
Stevens Point, Wisconsin

The Eighteenth Annual Show of the Peony Unit of the Oklahoma City Council of Garden Clubs was held on May 12-13.

The twentieth anniversary of this Unit was celebrated on February 11, 1962.

Oklahoma City is building a large garden center in which flower shows, conventions and other like meetings can be held.

OBITUARIES

ELMER A. CLAAR

It was with a feeling of genuine regret, that we read of the passing of Mr. Claar on April 3, 1962 in Hawaii. Two of our good members sent us the following clipping, which appeared in both the Chicago Tribune and News.

Memorial services are planned for Elmer A. Claar, 70, of 617 Thornwood Lane, Northfield, a nationally known horticulturist, who died Tuesday in Hawaii while on a vacation.

Mr. Claar was a leading grower of fine peonies, irises, and day lilies, and each year opened his expansive gardens in Northfield to the public in connection with programs sponsored by the Chicago Horticultural society.

Noted Flower Breeder

He was widely known as a hybridizer of daylilies, and was a specialist on the growing of tree peonies, seldom seen in this area. Many of the daylilies and irises he introduced are now in commercial production.

Mr. Claar was a graduate of the University of Illinois and Northwestern university law school, and taught at Northwestern, where he introduced a course in real estate principles and practices. He was a former practicing attorney and former manager of the Lake View Realty exchange.

In 1927 he organized his own firm, Elmer A. Claar & Co., which specialized in cooperative apartments. Until his retirement in 1956 he was director of the 1400 Lake Shore Drive corporation.

Former Society Director

Mr. Claar was a former director of the American Hemerocallis (daylily) society and of the men's Garden Club of America. He was a former president of the Chicago Horticultural society.

His garden contained as many as 125 varieties of tree peonies, many of which he imported from China, 450 varieties of herbaceous peonies, 750 varieties of daylilies, and hundreds of other flowering plants. The peony collection was one of the largest in the world, and included more than 200 hybrid seedlings not yet named.

A seedling from his iris collection was introduced several years ago as the Catherine Claar, named for the widow of Mr. Claar's son, E. Alan, who died Dec. 23, 1958, at the age of 32. One of 20 daylily varieties Mr. Claar developed was named the Evelyn Claar for his wife.

Mr. Claar leaves his widow, a daughter, Dr. Nancy Treadwell, an obstetrician and gynecologist and five grandchildren.

Mr. Claar was born in Altoona, Pennsylvania, but he lived most of his life in the suburbs of Chicago. When on a visit to the Christman's about twenty years ago, it was the writer's good fortune to be taken on a visit to the Claars, then living in Wilmette, Illinois. Since then we have had the pleasure of meeting him and his good wife on several occasions. His color slide collection of pictures, taken by himself of the daily life of the birds on his place, was truly a fine example of what we can learn of our feathered friends, if we are as observant of them as Mr. Claar was. His collection, also, had many excellent slides of peonies and other flowers in his own garden and those of some of his friends.

Many years ago he sent the writer a beautiful collection of about a dozen of the best hemerocallis of that day, which are still going strong in our garden.

Mr. Claar has been a member

of the American Peony Society for many years and has been a contributor to its columns several times. He originated and named several varieties of herbaceous hybrids and one tree peony, which he registered. Full descriptions of these will be found in the March, 1955, Bulletin No. 140. The tree peony is named BUDDY and is a large semi-double flesh pink. The hybrids are: GRACE WILLE a coral pink single; LEE YOUNGBERG, bright rose pink single and PHILIP G. CORLISS, shining scarlet red single. All are from lobata and lactiflora. We note he has many other seedlings, none of which have been registered so far.

When our annual exhibition was held in Chicago in 1955, Mr. Claar entered a number of classes in herbaceous hybrids and tree peonies and won several high awards. His specimen of tree peony Golden Bowl was judged the best tree peony bloom shown out of the largest number of tree peonies ever shown in any of our national exhibitions. Unless we are mistaken and our memory has played us false, there were several hundred blooms of tree peonies shown by Miss Saunders and Mr. Claar.

It will be noted that he did not confine his interest in flowers to one flower, but was noted as a grower of hemerocallis and iris as well as peonies. However we have no record of his achievements, in these except as noted above and also we learn from an article in our December Bulletin 1955, No. 139, that three of his hemerocallis originations were honored, an award of merit having been given 'The Doctor' and honorable mention to 'Bess Ross' and 'Tootie'. Also that he had named three others previously, 'Nashville', 'Allan' and 'Warren Threadwell'.

It is also noted that he won an

award of merit from the Royal Horticultural Society in 1960.

In his passing the floral world has lost a great and distinguished devotee. Our sincerest sympathy is extended his family and friends.

L. W. LINDGREN

1891 - 1962

Leonard Walter Lindgren was born on August 15th, 1891, the only child of John H. and Johanna Lindgren of St. Paul. He was a graduate of the Mechanic Arts High School and attended the University of Minnesota for four years. That summer he applied for temporary work with the Bridge Department of the Northern Pacific Railway and when it came time for him to go back for his final year at the University, he was asked to stay with the railway, which he did and remained with them for forty four years. On his retirement, April 30, 1957, he was presented with a scroll bearing the signatures of 63 of his fellow employees. See Bulletin No. 147, December, 1957. At that time he was assistant bridge engineer.

June 17, 1916, he married Miss Clara Hasslen of St. Paul, who survives him. They had two children, Lois, now Mrs. Gale E. Nordstrom of Racine, Wisconsin, and a son Howard W. who lives next door. There are nine grandchildren surviving also. He died April 9, 1962. He was a member of the Lutheran Church and active in its work for over fifty years.

Soon after his marriage, he and his wife were out walking one Sunday afternoon and they came across a small nursery, in which the peonies were in full bloom. Thus began his connection with peonies. His first purchases were Festiva Maxima and Solange.

Mr. Lingren became interested in peonies in 1916 and since then

growing the best obtainable in his back yard garden, has been his main hobby. He also has excellent collections of roses, iris and other flowers, among which are a number of plants of that most beautiful of all native orchids, *cypripedium reginae* and a few of *cypripedium pubescens* the yellow one.

He has been a member of the Minnesota Peony and Iris Society for forty years or more and has probably been its most consistent exhibitor.

He became a member of the American Peony Society in 1923.

In 1937, he was elected a director and has been one ever since. He was vice-president from 1940 to 1942 and again from 1944 to 1946. He occupied the president's chair from 1942 to 1944, and was treasurer from 1949 until his resignation last November, because of ill health.

He has been a member of the Seedling Committee since 1938 and of the Show Committee for many years. He has also served on the committees appointed to revise the by-laws and compiled the Color Classification now in use. He has also contributed occasionally to the Bulletin and has written most valuable articles on how to handle exhibition blooms.

During the 47 years he has grown peonies, practically every variety of note has been an occupant of his garden. Since the garden is not large, he has been obliged to replace many of the older ones with the more modern ones. He early added herbaceous hybrids to his collection and within the last ten years has also grown several tree peonies with good success. He always covered his garden before hard freezing and as a consequence has never suffered severe losses.

The first record we have of his

exhibiting was in 1923 at the annual exhibition of the American Peony Society in the Twin Cities. Since then he has probably exhibited every year either in the shows of the local society or in those of the A. P. S. sometimes in both. He has always exhibited in the annual exhibitions of the A. P. S. if they were held after his flowers had begun to bloom.

He soon became an expert in handling his blooms for exhibition, having worked out his own method of bagging, cutting and storing. This has been published a number of times in the schedules of the shows. That they work is evidenced by his many awards. He seemed to know, almost by intuition, exactly when to cut his flowers so they would reach the peak of perfection when the judges came around.

To even attempt to chronicle his many honors would require many hours of research as few years have passed that he did not win many of the highest bestowed by the judges.

However, it may not be amiss to list here a few of those he seemed to value most. When the National Exhibition was held in Boston in 1939, his bloom of Mrs. J. V. Edlund won Best Flower in the Show, though it had been transported well over 1500 miles and was in competition with blooms shown by such great showmen as Harry F. Little and Cherry Hill Nurseries.

Beginning in 1942, with a bloom sent by the originator from Portland, Oregon, he won, in less than ten years, every honor that could be awarded for the variety Doris Cooper. He was especially pleased when at the first showing of blooms of the variety from his own garden, it was declared Best Flower in the Show at Milwaukee in 1944. This was the first time in

the history of the Society that an unnamed seedling ever won this award. At this same show his exhibit of 25 varieties was declared the Most Distinguished Exhibit in the Show. This Exhibit contained magnificent specimens of Blanche King, Dorothy J., Mary E. Nicholls, Mrs. Livingston Farrand and Oliver F. Brand. This last variety has never been shown since in all its splendor. The plant died the next winter in spite of all the care taken of it, as it did in almost every garden in which it was planted. It has now staged a comeback and may soon be again available.

Doris Cooper owes its present high position to Mr. Lindgren, as he was the one who showed it consistently and saved it from the oblivion so many new ones achieve. It has been Mr. Lindgren's favorite for many years and he had more plants of it in his garden than of any other variety.

In 1959, at the Minneapolis show, his bloom of Frances Mains won Grand Champion. This bloom was one of the most perfect the writer ever saw in any show.

Mr. Lindgren has been instrumental in bringing to the notice of the public many new peonies. He was the first to show Claire de Lune, that beautiful light yellow single, originated by Dr. Earle B. White now of Daytona Beach, Florida.

Last June his bloom of Dawn Pink was judged CHAMPION single in the Minneapolis show.

He never raised many seedlings and we know of only one he ever kept. It was first shown in 1960 at Minneapolis and again there last year. At its first showing, it was awarded an Honorable Mention and last year won the first Myron D. Bigger Plaque ever awarded. This variety is a seed-

ling of Le Cygne and, if it lives up to its present excellent showing, it may become as famous as its parent. It has been named Clara Lindgren for Mr. Lindgren's wife. We think this honor gave him more pleasure than any other he ever won. Lets us hope the variety will be released for propagation and not lost to the Peony World.

At present it is planned to stage an exhibit of blooms from his garden at the Minneapolis show in June as a memorial to one of the greatest showmen of them all.

The writer's acquaintance with the Lindgrens began many years ago at one of the shows. Since 1942, when he was for the first time an invited guest in his home, few years have passed that he has not spent a day or two under that hospitable roof.

These visits have always been looked forward to with great pleasure. It has been a great privilege to enjoy the peace and quiet of that home and to have the friendship of such people as Mr. and Mrs. Lindgren.

Mr. Lindgren was a man of sterling qualities, an expert in his chosen profession, a dutiful son, a loving father, a model husband, a genial and considerate host and a friend in every sense of the word. For nearly a half century of his life he was blessed with the companionship of a gentle, efficient and lovely wife.

We are sure that we speak for all who have known the Lindgrens when we say that their friendship has been a blessing to all of us. In his passing the Society has lost one of its staunchest members, a loyal and efficient officer and one of its greatest showmen and his friends - one who can never be replaced in their affections. May God bless and comfort his family in their bereavement.

The following letter explains itself:

St. Paul, Minnesota, April 26, 1962
Dear Mr. Peyton:

Will you please convey to the members of the American Peony Society, our thanks for the beautiful flower arrangement and also for the many cards received from Peony Society friends in memory of Mr. Lindgren.

Sincerely

(Mrs. L. W.) Clara Lindgren
and family

The Duluth Peony and Iris Society has sent us the following resolution for publication:

"The Duluth Peony and Iris Society regrets the passing of Mr. Walter Lindgren and his death will be a great loss to the American Peony Society.

His years of service to the Society, as an officer and director have been of great value to the Society and affiliated groups.

Although only a few from our organization knew him personally, all admired him for his love of the peony.

Signed:

Sincerely

Mrs. Gregory O'Brien, Secretary,
The Duluth Peony and Iris Society
2704 East First Street,
Duluth 12, Minnesota.
April 21, 1962

Rapid Ann Tour and Show

On May 19th the Rapid Ann Garden Club, Rapidan, Virginia, held a flower show and tour of houses and gardens. Due to the vagaries of the weather only the extra early peonies could be shown. There were good specimens of Le Jour, Seashell and Red Charm shown. Your secretary could show only fifteen varieties. Usually at this date a hundred or more are in bloom.

Internationale Gartenbau-Ausstellung 1963 (I G A 63)

Gesamtelung (Headquarters)

To our friends
in all the world!

Dear Sirs,

In the night from February 16th to February 17th, 1962, a large part of Hamburg was struck by a tidal wave. This wave flooded wide parts of our town, destroyed many houses, claimed the lives of nearly 300 people, and caused great distress.

As the water has not yet receded in all parts a survey of the damages caused cannot yet be given.

We should like to take this opportunity to thank the friends of the IGA 63 for sympathy shown in the days past.

We are pleased to inform you that the exhibition grounds were not touched by the tidal wave and that we are making every effort to continue the preparatory work for this large exhibition which in the end shall contribute to peace in the world.

We shall be able to keep the dates of which we informed you and we hope that the amicable contact established will be intensified.

Faithfully yours,
Nowara.

March 13th, 1962

Answers to be addressed to
Diplomgartner Georg Nowara,
Planten un Blomen,
Hambury 36, Germany.

WORLD EXHIBITION OF HORTICULTURE

International Horticultural
Exhibition Hamburg 1963

Exhibition Area

760,000 square meters (about 188
acres) open air grounds
20,000 square meters (about 5
acres) in halls

60,000 square meters (about 15 acres) area for international horticultural science and technic.

Exhibition Themes and Products

Garden planning and landscaping
Out-door living in all parts of the world

Trees, shrubs, roses

Perennials and grasses—Iris show

Annuals and group plants

Tropical and subtropical plants

Cut flowers and pot flowers

Vegetables and fruit

High class flower arrangements

Processing - preserving - marketing

Machines - equipment - working stock

Lay-out

Coordinating landscape gardeners:

Karl Plomin, Hamburg

Heinrich Radaschall, Bonn

Gunter Schulze, Hamburg

Architects of the

"Gardens of the Nations"

Austria: Modlhammer, Prof. Viktor, Vienna

Belgium: Latinne, Rene; Berchem-Anvers

Brazil: Marx, Roberto Burle; Rio de Janeiro

Denmark: Boye, Georg; Copenhagen. Langkilde, Eywin; Copenhagen

Finland: Savonlahti, Onni; Tapiola

France: Bonnet, Augustin; Nantes. Bourne, Michel and Ingrid; Saint-Marcellin

Great Britain: Crowe, Sylvia; London

Holland: Vroom, Dr. Meto J.; Amsterdam

Israel: Miller, Zwi; Haifa

Italy: Porcinai, Prof. Pietro; Florence

Japan: Kaneko, Kuro; Tokyo

Morocco: Verdugo, Claude; Rabat

Norway: Grindaker, Morten, and Gabrielsen, Egil; Oslo

Portugal: Cabral, Prof. Francisco Caldeira; Lisbon

Spain: Marti, Luis I.; Madrid

Sweden: Blomkvist, Jange; Vasteras. Friberg, Per, Malmo; Jacobson, Edvard; Karlstad.

Martinsson, Gunnar; Bromma

Switzerland: Cramer, Ernst; Zurich. Vogel, Franz; Berne

USA: Rose, James C; New York

Germany: Birkigt, Hermann; Dusseldorf. Heise, Herbert; Orfenbach/M. Kading, Claus-Peter; Hamburg. Kuhn, Gottfried; Cologne. Orf, Karl-August; Hamburg-Bremen. Rose, Hans Martin and Helga; Essen. Winkler, Joachim; Oldenburg i. O.

Duration of the Exhibition

April 26 to October 13, 1963

Participation in the IGA 63

More than fifty nations from all continents

Special hall displays of horticultural products from all parts of the world

1st show (inaugural show) April 26 to May 1, 1963

2nd show June 14 to June 16, 1963

3rd show July 19 to July 21, 1963

4th show Aug. 1 to Aug. 4, 1963

5th show Aug. 22 to Aug. 25, 1963

6th show (final show) Oct. 10 to October 13, 1963

Congresses

Day of International Horticulture
Congress of AIPH

International Congress of Landscape Gardeners

World Congress of Fleurop Interflora, Inc.

Travel

Special individual and conducted tours at favourable prices by plane - ship - railway and bus to the IGA 63

Organization

The Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg in conjunction with the Central Association of German Vegetable and Fruit Growers and Horticulturists, Bonn.

Address
Internationale Gartenbau-
Ausstellung
Hamburg 1963 (IGA 63)
Hamburg 36, Planten un Blomen
IGA 63 in Hamburg:

Meeting point of the best gardeners, exhibition of the best horticultural products from all over the world. *Come and see for yourself!*

What's Wrong?

Here is an extract from a letter received from Mr. C. Allen Harper of Kansas City, Missouri, which speaks for itself.

"Among others, I, too, am concerned about the apparent decline in interest in the Peony. However, I do not agree that this is necessarily a trend in public preference, except as we have permitted it to become so, because of apathy in promotion.

"I know, from my own experience in my garden, that because I have minimized the commercial aspect, owing to other business interests, fewer people visit the garden; but those who do, are as enthusiastic as ever, and their interest in the new hybrids and other late introductions, indicates to me that aggressive promotion would restore the Peony to its rightful place in the Flower World.

"Basically I see two deterrents to the healthy advancement of the Peony. First, probably through too great an emphasis in the past, on the commercial aspects of peony growing, we failed, in the depression and post depression days, to interest any young people in the Peony movement. As a result, most of our active members, today, are older than, perhaps, in any other specialty society. While age in itself is no barrier to enthusiasm, we are, year by year, losing people who made the Society tick, and

who, in their robust years, promoted the Peony more vigorously. In other words, let's get some new, young members.

"Second, I think too much emphasis has been placed on the Peony as a commercial cut flower. In this area particularly, peonies are looked on as the flower to buy to decorate graves with on Memorial Day. Period. Until we begin to promote, more vigorously, the Peony as a fine garden plant, with admirable foliage, with long life to avoid incessant replanting, with bloom over a long season, if varieties are selected for this characteristic, with an abundance of bloom for cutting on numerous occasions, with variety of form, substance, color and size sufficient to blend in almost any floral arrangement, we are going to have to be content with Festiva Maxima, Edulis Superba, Mons. Jules Elie, Felix Crousse at 69 cents a dozen at the shopping center supermarket.

"Incidentally, I have had some experience with selling cut peonies both through the wholesale florists and directly to selected retail florists, and I know that better quality blooms will still command a premium, so the cut flower market is not completely lost to the grower who wants to upgrade his varieties.

"Our National Conventions seem gradually to be degenerating. In other societies, it is unthinkable that they are not scheduled three to five years ahead, with cities vying for the privilege. Why not take a good look at the format of these other meetings? Most of them succeed, because they bring the people OUTDOORS to see peonies (iris, hems, roses, etc.) as they are grown in the garden and shows are just an incidental finalization of convention activities.

"Why couldn't we schedule a Peony Convention three years

ahead and have seedlings and new introductions sent to selected gardens for growing and display to convention visitors? Then a Peony enthusiast might see 500 or more varieties *as they grow*, without having to depend on catalog information (which generally varies from overly enthusiastic to too condensed to be of any value), or extensive traveling to several commercial plantings.

"Just a few observations from an errant member. Hope they provide some food for thought."

C. Allen Harper.

PEONY PROGRESS

That our good friend, Dr. John C. Wister, speaks a good word for peonies when the opportunity offers, is evidenced by a quotation from an article written by him, which appeared in the October, 1961, Bulletin of the American Rhododendron Society which was sent us by Mrs. Hutmire who also never fails to boost the peony when she has the chance. The quotation reads as follows:

"As a preface to some remarks on this general subject (Using species rhododendrons to prolong the season of bloom) I should like to call attention to the remarkable work of the Iris Society, the Peony Society, and the Hemerocallis Society. In the past decade, particularly, they have encouraged Iris, Peony and Hemerocallis breeders to produce flowers not merely of larger size, finer form, better substance and greater range of color, but of much longer season of bloom.

"Like American Rhododendron Society, these three societies are composed of amateurs, commercial growers, breeders and plant scientists; they have volunteer (unpaid) officers and committee members; they hold yearly conventions and

shows. What they have accomplished can be a guide, and should be an inspiration to us.

"The varieties of these flowers that are seen by the greatest number of members are those that bloom when the national conventions and shows of these societies are held. For years, therefore, these were the varieties most in demand and the most profitable for breeders to produce and for nurserymen to propagate and sell. And for years the greatest improvement . . . in peonies was in the double Chinese varieties that bloom in Mid-June.

" . . . In Peonies there has been the extraordinary development of early hybrids that bloom from two to four weeks before the Chinese Peony.

"Dr. Earle B. White, a Washington member of the American Peony Society, made over five hundred crosses of pollen of *Paeonia Mlokoewitschi* on varieties of Chinese Peonies before he got a single seed on the variety Mons. Jules Elie. That seed produced the famous yellow peony 'Claire de Lune'."

The Dormant Clean-Up

L. E. Nichols,
Chillicothe, Missouri

When we built our new home, I had to neglect our peony fields for two seasons. The 8,000 plants were in critical condition. It looked almost hopeless to me. Finally I was ready to renew my battle for a dream peony farm-but how? It was in November and I had always waited until April to clean around the plants after they came up. However at that time the wild oats and other weeds were about half knee-high.

Lacking knowledge, I was in a dilemma. In current Bible reading I found in James 1 the answer:

☞ 32 ☞

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." I met the conditions that follow that verse and the method I now use is the result. The method, the reasons and the results follow.

Do not begin the dormant clean-up before November, as weeds and grass seed will begin to grow in the fresh worked ground, if you do. Take a heavy hoe or blade about three inches wide, if the ground is frozen and peel around each bush a space as large as the top of a No. 3 tub. Dig rather deep close to the plant to trace any underground runners of hardy grass or weeds that have entered into the clumps. Now carefully bare the newly formed peony buds and recover them about two inches deep and shovel back clean dirt, or turn the sod upside down around the plant. When spring comes, the

peonies have no competition and spring forth like a shot out of a gun and a sublime peony field is the result.

My effort has always been to have such a nice peony field that I would not be ashamed, having in mind the Honor Guest, for the Lord God walked and talked in his garden in the cool of the day, which had been tendered to Adam to dress it and keep it. To me this method spelled salvation to my peony effort and I am deeply grateful for the know-how which was not in me.

Grand Forks Show

So far no definite information has been received regarding the usual peony shows in Grand Forks, North Dakota; Superior, Wisconsin and Duluth, Minnesota; but we hope they will be held as they have been for many years now.

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LADY JANE, rich red anemone bomb, early, tall, stiff stems \$3.00
MOON DANCE, pink Jap., yellow center, large \$3.00
SIREN, very dark red semi-double, stiff stems, late \$3.00
*PETER PIPER, hybrid, dark red, large, full, early, stiff stems, moderate rate increase \$5.00
*SIMPLE SIMON, hybrid, magnificent dark red bomb, small bloom and plant, very slow increase \$5.00

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(*) Stocks of HOWDY, PETER PIPER, and SIMPLE SIMON are so small, they may be ordered only by adding their prices to a \$20.00 or more selection of other kinds from this list.

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EDWARD AUTEN, JR.
PRINCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

The 1962 Peony Season

From all accounts, this season has been one of many extremes. In some sections the winter was exceptionally severe and in other record late snowfalls delayed the blooming season.

In Illinois, Mr. Auten reports his season as being a week early, while in Virginia it was a week late in starting. In Independence, Missouri Mrs. Riley reported peonies in bloom before ours in Va.

However, exceptionally hot wea-

ther, with over 90 degree temperatures in places, forced the plants into rapid growth, resulting in blooms lacking much in substance and keeping qualities.

Chelsea Show

Miss Silvia Saunders of Clinton, New York flew to London, England, taking with her an exhibit of her father's originations of hybrid peonies from the Winterthur Gardens of Mr. Henry I. duPont for the Chelsea Show.

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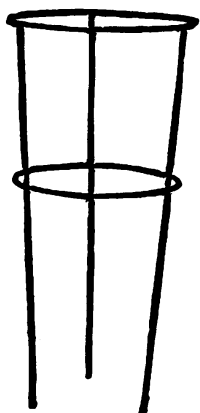
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