



# AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

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## Bulletin

DECEMBER, 1962 — NO. 167

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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



DECEMBER, 1962 — NO. 167

## *President's Message*

It has been my good fortune to receive letters from several good friends of the American Peony Society—some who are well known nationally because of their horticultural activities and others who are active in Peony circles. All of them recognize the need for various forms of activity to create additional interest in the Peony and to enlarge our membership. Some suggestions have been made to correct what appears to be wrong with the activities of our Society — at least from the viewpoint of the individual writer.

Let us not nourish the illusion that the task which lies ahead can be done by mere discussion. The very kernel of the problem is to have our Board of Directors and Officers embark on a program to create more interest in the Peony. We should invite young men and women to participate in all our activities. In addition, we ask all readers of our Bulletin to send in articles touching upon any activity concerning the Peony. Let us have your lists of favorite peonies, your experiences in the garden, your visits to places where you saw peonies, your suggestions of any kind which you feel would be of interest.

Our last issue of the Bulletin was one of the best we ever had, thanks

to the various contributions and of course, to our fine Secretary—he of the indomitable spirit. Your contributions will assure us of interesting bulletins constantly.

Too many of our companies in business today are filling their management ranks with executives, skilled in problem solving, when they should be seeking problem formulators — someone who sees what the company really needs and is more dedicated to that vision than to forever attempting to repeat some past success. Our Society can be benefitted only by increased activities on the part of new and old members.

Several of those who wrote, complain about the space devoted to the Show reports. These, in my opinion, serve a good purpose and as one writer told me, if it was not for these reports, our Bulletins in several issues would have been thin indeed. What is needed, as stated previously, are more contributions from our members.

Another thought advanced was to lower the dues for new members. Let's have your thoughts too.

We hope to have our National Show somewhere in the Mid-west. It should be held in the area where most of our members live and our records indicate most members come from the Mid-west area. Ohio,

3 3 3

Illinois or Indiana preferred. While on the subject of the National Show, make it a point to attend our 1963 Show. We expect to arrange it so that our members will have an opportunity to become better acquainted. We will set up a booth for questions and answers and encourage visitors to become members.

The most essential discipline for progress is the vision of opportunity and resolve to realize its potential that comes from the desire to create. To achieve this is the real challenge to our progress.

If you agree with me that the Peony is the greatest flower of all, don't you also agree that it is worthy of your effort and mine, to increase the membership of the American Peony Society and to create greater interest among plant lovers everywhere?

—Louis Smirnow.

#### DEPT. OF REGISTRATION

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

By **W. S. Bockstoe**, 2803 Bergman Street, Pittsburgh 4, Pennsylvania, originator and grower.

**EMMELINE SELLERS** (Bockstoe, 1962). D. E. Bright red. Parentage: Hybrid, *lactiflora* x *officinalis*. No seedling number given. This rose-centered double is a bright red in color and has heavy stems and a large flower.

**HAZEL DOLENCE** (Bockstoe, 1962). D. E. Dark pink. Parentage: Hybrid, *lactiflora* x *officinalis*. No seedling number given. Good stems and dark pink in color with an average sized bloom, full double and with a rose center.

By **A. L. Murawska**, originator and **A. L. Murawska and Sons**, growers, 8740 Ridge Street, River Grove, Illinois.

**LOIS QUISENBERRY** (Muraw-

ska, 1962). D. E. Dark pink. Parentage: Mons. Jules Elie x dark pink seedling of Mons. Jules Elie. With a large globular flower carried on strong, stiff stems, rather dwarf in height, this makes a fine garden plant as well as a good show flower. Its flower is darker than its parent and has an orange shading throughout the entire flower. It is slightly fragrant. It bears the maiden name of that gracious lady, well-known to many of our members, Mrs. Roy G. Gayle of Rockford, Illinois. Quisenberry is pronounced Cushionberry.

**LOVELY LOUISE** (Murawska, 1962). D. M. Light pink. Parentage: Marie Crousse x Mrs. Livingston Farrand. No seedling number given. Its wiry stems of medium height hold aloft in wind, sun and rain its large double blooms of iridescent pink, lighter than its parents, and with the shadings of a rainbow. It is a good grower and has good foliage. It is named for the late Mrs. A. L. Murawska.

By **Gilbert H. Wild & Son., Inc.**, Sarcoxie, Missouri, originators, owners and growers.

**RUTH COBBS** (Wild, 1963), D. LM. Dark pink. Seedling No. not given. Parentage not given. Huge deep pink double, blooming in late midseason. The flowers are built up about three inches, slightly flat on top and most beautiful. A few stamens are hidden among the evenly spaced petals which are edged silver, deepening towards the base. Stiff stems, good green foliage.

**SWAMP ANGEL** (Wild, 1963). J. M. Red, Seedling No. not given. Parentage not given. Large dark red Jap, garnet lake in color, entire flower being one shade. Petalodes sharply cut, center full. A beautiful flower, measuring eight inches in diameter, which holds up well. Stems stiff and strong, foliage clean.

# The Peony As A Status Symbol

Mrs. Virginia P. Conklin  
Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania

Abe and Susy are doing all right. They own a new split-level in Levittown. They drive a new car every year. They vacation in the South every winter. They dine, on occasion, at The Four Seasons Restaurant in New York and they grow peony Souvenir de Maxime Cornu in the very best spot beside the patio. Polish ghetto and Italian slum are a long way back - all of two generations - and they are not quite sure why the peony is so important to their present status - but important it is. The time may come when Max Cornu will be in mass production - when anybody - even if he's nobody - can have Max; but it hasn't come yet. And there is that nice story about the Jesuit missionary who sent the wild, yellow peony, hardly larger than a big buttercup to Paris; how the hybridizers crossed it with the double European tree and got Max, after the Professor had said nothing good would ever come of the cross; and now the Professor turns in his grave every year when Max blooms. In short, it is a conversation piece that can hold its own with Tom Tiddler's roses and Hank Haney's orchids.

The time may come when Max may be grown *en masse* in South America or Australia and flown north to hit the Christmas market in these United States, but it has not come yet. Orchids are on the way to every supermarket and, while they are just as lovely as they ever were, their value as a status symbol slips a notch with every shipment. Why can't peony growers accept these facts and make the most of them?

Growing peonies can lead to various forms of status. Propagate

them by the acre and count the cars that drive for miles to see them in bloom. The cars may outnumber the bees! Your home town may be known all around the world for your flowers. Grow and show—and collect your trophies and you can smile right back at the man who plays golf and shoots birds and hooks fish. Hybridize and introduce exotic, new varieties and you will find yourself courted by the best social circles.

What with mass production taking over wider and wider fields of human endeavor, we are going to see people getting hungrier and hungrier for the rare, the different, the individual and there will be rewards for the person who can produce them. In an age of standardization it is more fun all the time to have something everybody else doesn't have. It sets you apart. Your individuality may be resented in some quarters, but that will make it all the more worth having. It will be a sad day when the only prize is given for mediocrity.

To be a perfect status symbol, the peony must be grown successfully, not to say flamboyantly. We want plants tailor-made for every possible soil and climate, every type of garden, formal, informal, rock, Japanese, what have you. They should be placed to the best advantage for display, on the plant, in the open. We want ideal varieties for cutting, not only for massive decoration but for intimate arrangements. Some should give a grand burst of bloom all at once and then make way for what comes later in the garden. Others should bloom for as long a season as possible. There is a place for plants with variegated foliage (provided they do not suggest disease), and for plants that show

bright pink or blue seeds in the autumn. There will be a demand for big tree peonies that can hold their own with the rhododendrons, for instance, and for tiny ones that can fill a niche in a terrace with delight. Always, and forever, we need plants that are disease resistant, practically foolproof, and able to stand up to the weather with its wind and rain and scorching sun. (There are going to be more and more roof gardens as our cities go up and up). They should have good roots. When it comes to dividing them, we can defeat our own purpose if they divide much more easily than they do now. There is no status in owning what everyone else has already.

And success in the promotion of the peony, in the end, will be determined by the number of people growing them, with dedication, from seed. When we are warned to buy nothing but named varie-

ties, I am reminded of the old controversy over which came first the chicken or the egg. Except for occasional sports, every named variety was originally a seedling. Buy the best peonies you can afford, by all means, and use them judiciously as parents as far as their capacity and your strength and land permit. There will always be room at the top for outstanding new clones. Even if the majority don't turn out to be the biggest and fanciest you ever saw, they are each and every one of them exclusives. They are your very own. Nobody has anything precisely like them. And (never having known what any other part of the world is like, poor things?, lucky devils?) they are ideally adapted to your growing conditions.

You can really hug the status that comes when you announce to admiring visitors, "A little thing, but it's my own!"

## *Tree Peonies Rooted from Leaf-bud Cuttings*

L. T. Blaney, Associate Professor  
of Horticulture, Oregon State  
University, Corvallis Oregon

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article originally appeared in the September, 1958, issue of the Oregon Ornamental & Nursery Digest, published by the Oregon State University and sent us by the author in reply to a recent query.

Tree Peonies are generally propagated by grafting scions of named varieties on roots of the herbaceous peony. Unnamed varieties may be readily obtained from seed. Propagation by cuttage is considered extremely difficult or impossible by nurserymen.

The January, 1955, issue of the National Horticultural Magazine reported on a method of propagat-

ing tree peonies from leaf-bud cuttings, described in a French horticultural magazine over ninety five years ago. On the basis of this report, the limited tests reported below were carried out. More extensive tests were not undertaken because of the limited amount of propagating material available. Results suggest that further trials, on a larger scale, are warranted.

On July 8, 1956, buds of the current season's growth were cut off by making shallow cuts into the stem behind the buds. The leaf stalk was left on and half the leaf was removed. The cut surface of the leaf-bud was dipped in Hormodin No. 3 powder. The cuttings were stuck in sharp sand in a propagating bench with bottom heat, under mist.

**TABLE I.**  
Rooting Response of leaf-bud cuttings of four varieties of Tree Peony.  
Cuttings taken 8 July, 1956.

Variety	Type	Number taken 7-8-56	Number rooted 9-10-56	Number surviving 8-1-58
Satin Rouge	Lutea Hybrid	5	5	2
Silver Sails	Lutea Hybrid	5	4	0
Shintench	Japanese	10	0	0
Yachiyo-tsubaki	Japanese	5	0	0

Rooted cuttings were planted individually in No. 10 vegetable tins on 10 September, 1956, and were carried in the greenhouse until early November, then placed outdoors in a covered, unheated frame. No shoot growth was made during this period. In mid-January plants were returned to the greenhouse at 60 degree F. night temperature. Within ten days to two weeks, shoots appeared on three of the Satin Rouge plants. One of them was weak and soon died. Two of the Satin Rouge and all four of the Silver Sails plants died without any shoots emerging.

The two surviving Satin Rouge plants were placed in the field in the spring of 1957 and are still growing and healthy as of August, 1958.

It would appear that leaf-bud cuttings of certain varieties of tree peony are easily rooted, while other varieties are more difficult. Both Satin Rouge and Silver Sails are Lutea Hybrids (*Paeonia suffruticosa* x *P. lutea*); Shintench and Yachiyo-tsubaki are Japanese varieties (*P. suffruticosa*). Perhaps the different varieties of tree peony will fall into several groups regarding their requirements for rooting. The problem of growing on the rooted cuttings merits further attention. Tests are currently underway on propagation of tree peonies from leaf-bud cuttings, but are limited by the small number of available stock plants used

for propagation material.

NOTE: From a letter dated October 23, 1962, from the author of the above article we learn; "The two *lutea* hybrids rooted readily. I have heard that the Japanese varieties are more difficult. The big problem appears to be the obtaining of shoot growth from the rooted cutting. I now have a graduate student who has some tests underway, which he started this summer past. He rooted cuttings again.

"One of the Satin Rouge plants is alive and growing beautifully. Last spring it bore a beautiful crop of flowers. It is a nice compact plant, about two feet tall with about five main stems arising from the soil.

"I certainly hope others have success with cutting propagation. We have much trouble with the grafted plants." End of quote.

A few weeks ago, a letter came from our Australian member, Mr. W. J. Simpson, stating that he had recently seen an article in the Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society of England, in which it was stated that tree peonies had been successfully grown from leaf-bud cuttings at the University of Oregon and that he would be interested knowing more about this. So the University was immediately contacted with the above results.

It may be noted that the issue of the magazine, from which the above article was taken, is now out of print and not available. Also the issue of the National Hor-



ticultural Magazine is also now only available in limited quantity at five dollars each, from the American Horticultural Society, 1600 Bladensburg Road, N. E., Washington 2, D. C. However a revised version of this issue will be printed in the coming book, *The Peonies*, which should now be on the market as noted elsewhere.

It is to be noted that the late Edward J. Gardner of Horicon, Wisconsin, was successful in rooting cuttings of tree peonies and planned to undertake this method of propagation on a large scale, when death intervened and so the venture was never carried out.

Possibly some of our propagators of tree peonies of today, may have been successful in using this method. If so, we should welcome their remarks.

### TREE PEONY TOPICS

Louis Smirnow, Brookville, N.Y.

Quite often people have asked about the height of various tree peonies. Some tree peonies are low growers, others of medium height and some are tall. Without listing them all, we submit a few of various heights:

#### Low Growers, 18"-24" Tall

Sakura-gasane; salmon pink double; Saigyo-zakura, light pink, full double; La Lorraine, lutea hybrid, soft yellow double; Osiris, European dark red double; Uba-tama, maroon, averages 21"-24".

#### Medium Heights, 27"-33" Tall

Hatsu-hinode, semi-double, brilliant pink; Kamada-fuji, wisteria color double; Suigan, brilliant pink double; Gabisan, beautiful white double; Alice Harding, lutea hybrid, rich yellow double.

#### Tall: 36"-48" Tall

Hana-kisoi, cherry pink, enormous double; Kami-kaze, a new white Jap double; Hana-daijin, rich purple double; Chromatella,

sulphur yellow lutea hybrid, double; Taiyo, rich red double.

### Unusual Colors

For unusual colors in the blooms of tree peonies, not seen in any other types of peonies, we suggest the following:

Kamada-fuji, wisteria purple, almost violet; Kokuko-no-tsukasa, shining maroon petals; Rimpo, lustrous, unusual shade of purple; Yachiyo-tsubaki, coral shade of pink; Akashi-gata, delicate peach pink; Dohun, rare coppery pink; Aurore (lutea hybrid), brown petals of a coppery terra-cotta; Princess (lutea hybrid), mauve suffused gold.

### Remarks

Be sure that the graft, at the union of the scion and the understock, is planted 2"-4" below the ground.

Tree peonies, planted near lilacs, make a magnificent display when both bloom.

No peony lover can afford to be without a tree peony. Try a plant or two.

### TREE PEONY PHILOSOPHY

*By Anthony J. De Blasi*  
Floral Park, N. Y.

The tree peony has a philosophic association in the Orient. It is not difficult to see why.

My acquaintance with the tree peony dates to a chance encounter many years ago, during a walk through the Japanese grounds of a local botanic garden. I was then a boy of about twelve and this was the closest thing to a vision or visitation from a spirit world that my impressionable mind had yet received.

The sight of the huge flower buds, the enormous white blossoms of such exquisite petal formation and silky texture, hovering above a tall, graceful plant of unusual gray-green leaves, had a profound



and lasting effect on me. Among the many thoughts that crowded my mind at this sudden confrontation with an object of such outstanding beauty, was the wonder at how such a tremendously large flower could appear to float in air, in seeming defiance of gravity, and with such serene and confident poise? This one quality alone was sufficient to forge a link in my youthful mind between the tree peony and the supernatural.

Today I still wonder and marvel at the miracle—not alone of the poise, but of the chiselled perfection of leaf, stem, and blossom—of the intoxicating colors and sparkling sheen of the petals—of the buds gushing into leafy fountains in the spring.

The tree peony is peculiarly deft at tracing the cyclic changes in nature and appears—more than any other plant I know—to palpably symbolize the life forces. An image of the surrounding barrenness, its bleak, woody stems in winter are formless and lifeless, but for the buds that hold the continuity of life in their tight little capsules. The swelling of the buds in early spring and the explosive energy of the new growth filling the void around the stems with living form, is a forceful demonstration of the essence of spring—of the shedding of the mask of death and wintry desolation and the donning of the face of ever-returning youth and life and hope. It is no wonder that the tree peony has been venerated in Japan and China (its land of origin), and I rather suspect that its performance was an ingredient in the stream of Buddhist philosophy and Chinese and Japanese art. Even its leaves point to a profound riddle of life: the relationship between sameness and unlikeness—mystic key to all life forms. It is uncanny how each leaflet being

discreetly different from every other leaflet on the stalk, yet all leaflets are unmistakable members of *one, specific variety!* And their determined arrangement of groups of three within groups of three, in spite of individual irregularities all along the way, is as much a source of fascination today as it was in ancient times.

Indeed, the lines of many of the Japanese tree peonies, in leaf, are astonishingly similar to the lines in Japanese art. As an observer of Japanese art, my wonder at this similarity bordered on the fringe of sorcery, until I realized that I was thinking in reverse. The tree peony was studied by the early Japanese and Chinese artists which resulted in a vital stylistic element of their art.

Even so, there are times when I subconsciously swear that a tree peony was created by a Japanese artist!

In its cycle of behavior, the tree peony's crowning moment is the displaying of its flowers. Try as we may, a tree peony blossom cannot be described — just as no amount of talk about a painting can *show* us the painting; only our eyes can do that. The tree peony blossom appears to be a culmination of tremendous natural energy and divine imagination, and if we study one closely, it seems impossible that it could ever reoccur. It speaks entirely of the supreme moment—of the Here and Now—disobeying all of life's rules, defying gravity, laughing with derision at the forces of destruction. To the contemplative mind, the tree peony blossom is a peek into heaven. Orientals regard it as a celebration of the powers of creation over those of destruction.

Such glory must, of necessity, be short-lived. And so it is. A week at most, and the blossoms fade. The

reaction of the plant to such a rapid build-up and monumental exhibition is one of relative inactivity. During the summer, little further happens, visually, except the maturing of the leaves. Though outwardly nothing happens, one senses that much is going on below the ground to restore the energy that was spent in the spring and perhaps set the stage for even greater achievements the next year. Our suspicions are confirmed when, during the fall months, we see the buds begin to swell in the leaf axils—promise of another explosion and wild flight toward heaven—*perhaps closer this time!*

There are insights here, I believe, for us mortals. The tree peony is an optimist. It is also impervious to the accidents of life, since it has incorporated them into the very structure of its leaves, bringing these accidents into vital relation with a greater harmony. In a world pervaded by fears of destruction and evidences of futility, there is a need to take heart, to relate ourselves to timeless, fundamental realities and to set ourselves back on the track of life. The tree peony helps us do so. It is a living symbol of that which we can do if we will: focus our attention on our dreams and, with patience and a cheerful fortitude against life's setbacks, move toward those dreams.

### TREE PEONIES

Leo J. Armatys, Central City,  
Nebr.

The slumbering giant is stirring. *P. suffruticosa* and its ubiquitous hybrids are materializing in gardens whose owners once thought of Moutan as a romanticized Oriental myth. Publishers show signs of heeding the grass roots quest for information about this magnificent shrub. The election of Louis Smirnow as president of our so-

ciety has come at a most opportune time.

### Thumb Nail Sketches

**AMBER MOON:** Tailored chamois. This is a garden plant deluxe, and definitely among the top ten luteas.

**ALICE HARDING:** Real lemon. Grows in slow motion. Well worth waiting for if you don't mind blossoms partially hidden by foliage.

**KAMADA-FUJI:** Unique and striking color—smokey or bluish lavender. The only true color picture I've seen of this variety is in a flyer from Yamato-Noen Co., Ltd., a Japanese grower. The plant starts slowly, increasing in vigor with age.

**HATSU-HINODE:** Cherry marble ice cream blossoms on a buxom bush. Its clustered carpels are green with pink tips.

**HOWZAN:** A deeper-toned **HATSU-HINODE**. Thinly scrambled stamens. Pink tipped carpels are pale green.

**CANARY:** Its rank among the brilliant yellow lutea hybrids approaches that of **KINKADEN** among the Japanese reds.

### The Unusual

One of the early peony enthusiasts, a Chinese gentleman, had a collection of more than 60,000 plants. This garden flourished almost 900 years ago—some 200 years before Marco Polo visited China.

### Information Please

If any reader is growing the Japanese varieties **HANAMI-GACHI** or **MEIKOHO**, please let me hear from you.

### Misnomer

There is no such variety as **UKAREGI-OHI**, tho it has received occasional votes in the annual "best" lists. The late R. L. Oberlin who first listed this plant apparently miscopied **UKAREJISHI** from a Japanese invoice. Purchased under either name,

UKARE-JISHI is one of the better bright light red semi-doubles.

#### **Anchor Plants**

The lutea hybrid AURORE is one of the best for use as an end or anchor plant in a grouping of tree peonies. As hardy as any plant I've grown, it forms a dense, heavy stemmed, wide spread clump, nicely rounded and of medium height. While its blooms are seldom if ever seen at the big shows, they are borne in profusion—small, pale terra-cotta with brightly colored centers.

Other luteas make fine anchor plants, particularly the multi-stemmed ones with foliage to the ground and with small to medium size blossoms. Among Japanese varieties qualifying are SHUGYO-KUDEN, HATSU-HINODE and AKASHI-GATA.

#### **Miscellaneous**

Three years ago I ordered several "new" Chinese tree peonies, including RYOKKACHO and BUNDEN, from a jobber. Somehow, the Japanese ECHIGO-JISHI was sent in place of BUNDEN. It has turned out to be a welcome addition. A strong but compact grower, its double blossoms are orchid-pink, lighter at the tips, with clustered carpels coated deep orchid and surrounded by thin stamens tipped bright yellow. Its petals are narrow, except for a row or two of heavy guard petals.

The Chinese tree peonies have not yet bloomed, so I'm not sure whether they will differ from the so-called European varieties.

#### **New Viewing Angle**

I'm intrigued by centuries-old accounts of Chinese mandarins viewing great banks of tree peonies from vantage points on a balcony. A poor man's substitute started taking shape this fall in an elm at the edge of my garden. Ap-

parently doomed by a city drainage project, spirited action by neighborhood youngsters first gained a reprieve for the tree and finally a full pardon. Next spring we can perch in a platform-style tree house in the big elm.

#### **Coming Soon**

The strongest growers.

Moutan's life span, and how to control it.

A true dwarf.

Addendum to the list of companion plants.

And more—about tree peonies!

#### **Editorially Speaking**

There are some who insist that the tree peony is a member of the Buttercup Family, Ranunculaceae. I prefer the conclusions of those botanists who assign Moutan to its own Family Paeoniaceae.

We can but speculate about the remote ancestors of the tree peony. Their rudimentary leaves likely broke surface during the Mesozoic Era. If Moutan evolved from a fern-like, seed-forming plant, it passed a momentous milestone late in the Cretaceous Age. While a multitude of soft-stemmed trees and shrubs were accompanying the Dinosaurs on their swift journey to oblivion, the tree peony was developing a root system that was to ensure its survival in epochs to come.

With the arrival of man, Moutan's destiny became apparent. The steady rise of the tree peony during the past few thousand years to a position of pre-eminence among garden plants is more a matter of recognition than a speeding up of evolutionary processes.

Spectacular results achieved by 20th Century hybridists emphasize the fact that the culminating point in Moutan's evolution may be as far in the future as its beginnings are in the past.

## PEONIES AND WEATHER

W. A. Alexander

The success of agricultural and horticultural projects is to a great extent dependent on weather. Droughts, floods, storms, frosts and freezes, burning winds and prolonged periods of cloudiness are weather conditions that sometimes bring ruin or partial failure. Peonies, blooming as they do in late spring and early summer, would seem to be an especially vulnerable crop. A late, cold spring delays their blooming so that they may encounter very hot summer weather in opening; violent thunderstorms often play havoc; excessively wet weather may flood them or extreme drought limit their development. Many unfavorable conditions or combinations of conditions due to the vagaries of weather often cause much less than ideal seasons. Yet in the twenty-five years or more that I have been interested in peonies, I have never seen a season when they were a failure, even came close to being a failure.

Sometimes the early ones are hit pretty hard and amount to little; more often hot weather strikes before some of the late ones open and they have a hard time; and most frequently, wind and rain strike when they are at the height of bloom and cut short their time of glory. But there are always peonies, early, midseason or late, sometimes all three. Sometimes certain varieties fail or are very disappointing; but that same year some variety most notable for its uncertainty will be gorgeous. Over the years I have tried to correlate weather with peony behavior, but with little success other than the obvious things such as temperature and blooming time. However, of one thing I am certain: growing conditions

during the previous season determine in large degree the amount of bloom and probably have much to do with the quality. If good growing conditions obtain during the time when next years buds are forming (favorable moisture and temperature) there will be more buds strong enough to make good stems and produce flowers. If conditions are unfavorable, many buds will lie dormant another year, or if they grow, have insufficient strength to develop a flower, and the bud dies, a condition often erroneously attributed to botrytis. I am unable to produce evidence to support my contention, but I believe that conditions during the latter part of the growing season have much to do with the size and quality of flower. If I am correct in that, it is a good argument for leaving the tops uncut until late, perhaps until frost.

The quantity and quality of bloom we get in a given season, then, are determined in part at least by growing conditions of the previous season. This makes it easier to understand what happened this last blooming season. I think in terms of my own garden-conditions could have been much different twenty miles away - but there were similarities in many respects over much of the peony growing area of the country. The unusual weather conditions and their effects on the peony bloom were pretty well detailed in the last issue of the Bulletin. One thing impressed me as significant: most growers reported fairly good bloom, some unusually good. Some said blooms were small, offcolor or certain varieties were poor. But none reported complete failure. Here at Joycelyn Gardens, in northwestern Ohio, we had all the unfavorable weather in the book except flood. If the peonies had been a complete failure, I would

not have been greatly surprised. Beginning with the fall season, they went into the winter very dry. The water table was very low, and evergreens which were not watered during the winter, suffered. Then came light rains early in the winter saturating the top two or three inches of soil which froze immediately and remained frozen most of the winter. This prevented subsequent precipitation from soaking in. Following rains or melting snow there would be puddles everywhere; sometimes the whole garden would resemble a skating pond. Fortunately the winter precipitation was rather light.

The spring was late and dry with the drought lasting into May. Peonies were very late in making their appearance, and the wonder was that they were able to get through the ground at all. They had to raise slabs of soil the size of ones hand and an inch thick. The indications were that, if we got enough rain for them to bloom at all, it would be the latest season ever. Then came those August days in May—five successive days with temperatures of ninety and over, and others way above average for the month. Still no rain. Trees, species and early hybrids did not have time to catch up and bloomed a few days later than normal. But it was soon evident that the lactifloras and later hybrids were growing at a rate we associate only with tropical vegetation; they not only caught up but began blooming far ahead of normal time, some varieties as much as two weeks. As reported by growers everywhere, the flowers were soft and did not hold up well, especially in storage. I took several dozen to the Minneapolis show that had been in storage from two to three weeks. Not one came out fit to exhibit.

The amazing thing was that we had bloom, lots of it, and of fairly good quality (except for storage). In fact, some of the bad actors such as *Le Cygne* and *George W. Peyton*, were better than usual; *Le Cygne* was small but opened well and was nice, which occurs so infrequently that it is noteworthy. The plants had the vigor and strength to give a good crop of bloom despite the winter ice cover, winter and spring drought, a very late start, difficulty in breaking through the hard-baked soil, and record breaking high temperatures in May which forced them into unnaturally rapid development. That reserve strength can be attributed, I am sure, to the excellent growing season of 1961. Soil moisture and temperatures were favorable for most plants, certainly for peonies. True, it began to be pretty dry by the end of the summer, but crops were made before the drought became serious. The plants formed many buds which were packed full of nutrient strength enabling them to overcome the unusual handicaps. Other things worthy of mention which contributed to the success of the season were that during the preceding twelve months the plants were never subjected to the debilitating effects of flooding, and May weather in '61 was unfavorable to the development of botrytis.

Several peculiarities were evident, no doubt related to the topsyturvy weather. Some varieties bloomed out of turn. For example, *Tempest*, an early mid-season variety, came with the later ones. Color was off in certain varieties. Some of the medium and dark pinks, notably *Marietta Sisson*, *Mons. Jules Elie* and *Mrs. F. D. R.* came so light as to be scarcely re-

cognizable. But it was in the Japs and singles that the most peculiar developments occurred. The staminal nodes of several Japs were so much wider and heavier that they were definitely anemone form, making them unrecognizable. The same tendency toward doubling was evident in at least one single, Sea Shell. Side buds developed semi-double. That seemed to me most peculiar. Side buds of double varieties often develop semi-double. But in Sea Shell the terminal was the normal single and laterals definitely semi-double with several rows of petals. Another odd thing showed in several hybrids. Shoots came through the ground with large flower buds nearly the size of golf balls right at the surface and never grew more than two or three inches. One or two bloomed although scarcely out of the ground. Several died, just dried up. Crooked stems are no rarity when the weather turns very hot and humid when stems are about half grown. This year it was the worst ever. Some varieties in which I had never observed it before had very crooked stems, more of it in hybrids than lactiflora. Mention has been made of some unreliable kinds doing fairly well. But some others that are usually to be counted on for quality flowers were not so good. Some of the late bloomers that often have trouble opening, got out in good shape. There were surprises all along the line - results for which definite causes could not be assigned.

What kind of peony season can we expect in '63? I venture only one prediction: that there will be peonies. Whether there will be few or many, good or poor, an early or late season, there is no telling; we will just have to wait it out. However, there is one thing that augurs well. The growing conditions

last summer were most favorable for peonies and about everything else except deep rooting trees. While there has been a deficiency of precipitation for 14 months, the rains we did have during the summer soaked in; there was no run-off. The top twelve inches of soil had a fair supply of moisture most of the summer. That, coupled with relatively cool temperatures after May, provided excellent growing conditions. There are plenty of corn yields in excess of 100 bu. per acre. The crop research man with the local tomato factory (Heintz) told me one of their experimental plots produced 35 t. per acre with only one picking. Peony foliage remained in good condition late; even some hybrids were still green at time of first frost. At digging time, eyes were big and plump. This means stored up vim and vigor which can overcome a lot of rough going just as it did this year. You have to be an optimist to grow peonies. So let's look to next year with optimism. We have some good sound reasons for doing so.

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### **The International Horticultural Exhibition, IGA 63**

**Hamburg, West Germany**

**April 26 - October, 1963**

Attention is again called to this exhibition which will open April 26, 1963. Much information has been published about it in several of our Bulletins which see for more detailed information.

Many tours will be offered by the various transportation agencies, Horticultural Societies and others at remarkably reasonable rates.

It is stated that some 400,000 new perennial plants and 10,000 shrubs will be planted this fall, in addition to the many that have already been planted.

## The Medal Winners

Our director, Mr. Tinnappel, has suggested that it would probably be of interest to our readers if we listed the varieties that have been awarded the Gold Medal of this Society since these medals were authorized.

This list, up to and including 1951, was published in the December 1951 Bulletin, No. 123. However, since probably a great many do not now have this Bulletin, it is republished here and brought up to date (1962). We have also included the varieties that have been awarded the Silver Medal also. Only results of the National Shows are given. Many of the varieties have won high honors in other shows.

In order to properly evaluate the lists presented, it should be noted that all ratings were abolished in 1954 and, as no ratings have been compiled since 1939, seven varieties were never rated. Of course the first peony awarded the Silver Medal was also never rated, as it was never named nor introduced. All of the Gold Medal recipients, that were rated, were in the nine-plus category.

There have been six Most Popular Peony lists compiled. All of the Gold Medal winners except one have appeared in four or more of these lists and nine in all of them. Probably all but two will be in the Approved Peonies list still not finished. Lists of the "One Best" and "My Favorite" peonies were not included in the first list of Most Popular Peonies so only five lists of each of these were compiled.

The American Home Magazine Achievement Medal was first awarded in 1928 and the last in 1960. No variety that had been in commerce for more than three years was eligible for this award, nor could any variety receive it more than once. The Bertrand H.

Farr Memorial Medal was first awarded in 1929. Until 1946 it was given the Best Flower in the Show. Since then it had been limited to the best double *lactiflora* variety. There is no limit to the number of times it may be awarded to any one variety. Only seven of the Gold Medal winners have been awarded this medal and one of the Silver Medal winners. Three have won it more than once. Eight of the Gold medalists have been judged Grand Champion; three more than once.

Thirteen originators are represented. Brand has two in each list, Franklin two in the Gold Medal list and one in the Silver. Nicholls has one in each and Glasscock two in the Gold Medal list. All others have only one to their credit, seven in the Gold Medal and two in the Silver Medal list. The State of Minnesota has been the home of more medal winners than any other.

A table is here presented which gives the various honors that have been conferred on the Gold and Silver Medal winners. The year in which the medal was awarded is given in the first column. The second column contains the name of the variety and its originator and the year of introduction. Its rating under the old system is given for those that were rated, in the third column.

The number of years in which the variety was listed: Most Popular Peonies-MPP-4th; The One Best-1B-5th; My Favorite-Fav.-6th. The year it won the American Home Achievement Medal is stated in the 7th column and the number of times it has won the Bertrand H. Farr Memorial Medal-BHF-in the 8th and in the ninth the number of times it has been declared the Best Flower in the Show (Grand Champion)-GC.



## THE GOLD MEDAL WINNERS. 14 Varieties.

Year	Variety	Old						
		Rating	MPP	1 B	Fav	AHA	BHF	GC
1923	Mrs. A. M. Brand (Brand 1925)	9.04	5				1	1
1933	A. B. Franklin (Franklin 1928)	9.27	4			1933	1	1
1933	Mrs. J. V. Edlund (Edlund 1929)	9.51	6	3	3	1933	3	3
1934	Harry F. Little (Nicholls 1933)	9.42				1934	1	1
1941	Nick Shaylor (Allison 1931)	9.35	6	5	5			
1943	Elsa Sass (H. P. Sass, 1930)	9.46	6	5	5			
1946	Hansina Brand (Brand 1925)	9.04	6	5	4		4	4
1946	Golden Glow (Glasscock 1935)	9.15	4					
1948	Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt							
	(Franklin 1933)	9.40	6	5	4			
1949	Doris Cooper (Cooper 1946)		6	2	3	1946	2	2
1956	Miss America (Mann-van Steen 1936)		5		1			
1956	Red Charm (Glasscock 1944)		6	5	4			1
1957	Kansas (Bigger 1940)		6	5	4	1942	1	1
1959	Moonstone (Murawska 1943)		6	5	4			

## THE SILVER MEDAL WINNERS. 7 Varieties

1915	Saunders No. 362 ( <i>Never named nor introduced</i> )							
1923	Myrtle Gentry (Brand 1925)	9.06	6	5	4			
1929	Challenger (Saunders 1929)	9.22				1929		
1934	Diadem (Franklin 1931)	8.90						
1936	Mrs. Livingston Farrand							
	(Nicholls 1935)	9.36	6	3	3	1936		
1940	Ruth Elizabeth (Brand 1936)		6	2	1			
1940	Dorothy J. (Jones 1937)		6	4		1940	1	

## THE BRONZE MEDALS

Beginning with 1947 the Society's bronze medals have usually been awarded the best Japanese, best single and best herbaceous hybrid. Occasionally one or more of these medals failed to be awarded. We list below the awards to date, 1947-1962:

### *Best Japanese in the Show*

1947. Westerner (Bigger 1942); light pink.

1948. Tamate Boku (Japan); dark pink.

1949. Moon of Nippon (R. W. Auten 1936); white.

1950. Nippon Gold (Auten 1929); anemone, dark pink and yellow.

1951. Not chosen. See note below.

1952. Westerner (Bigger 1942); light pink.

1953. Westerner (Bigger 1942); light pink.

1954. Hari-ai-nin (Babcock 1929); red.

1955. Soshi (Millet); crimson.

1956. Akashigata (Japan); rose.

1957. No show.

1958. Polar Star (H. P. Sass 1932); white, red stigmas.

1959. Puritan Maid (See note below); white.

1960. Carrara (Bigger 1952); all white.

1961. Gay Paree (Auten 1933); anemone, pink with petalodes pale yellow fading white.

1962. Gay Paree (Auten 1933). See 1961, above.

NOTES: 1951. Three best Japs were chosen in this show, but no medal was awarded. The three were Lotus Queen (Murawska 1947), white; Rashoomon (Japan), rose-red; Dignity (Murawska 1943), red.

1959. The award was made to a variety labelled 'Puritan Maid'. Since there is no record of such a variety, (the true 'Puritan Maid' is a white single, Auten 1933) some error was made, probably in labelling. The variety shown was white.

It may be noted that Gay Paree has been chosen twice as Best Jap in 1961 and 1962, and that Westerner has won the award three times, in 1947, 1952 and 1953.

*Best Single in the Show*

1947. President Lincoln (Brand 1928), red.

1948. Krinkled White (Brand 1928), flesh.

1949. Krinkled White (Brand 1928), flesh.

1950. President Lincoln (Brand 1928), red.

1951. See note below.

1952. Pico (Freeborn 1934), white.

1953. Pico (Freeborn 1934), white.

1954. Seashell (H. P. Sass 1937), light pink.

1955. Seashell (H. P. Sass 1937), light pink.

1956. Exquisite (See note below), white.

1957. No show.

1958. Krinkled White (Brand 1928), flesh.

1959. Seashell (H. P. Sass 1937), light pink.

1960. Pico (Freeborn 1934), white.

1961. Dawn Pink (H. P. Sass 1946), dark pink.

1962. Krinkled White (Brand 1928), flesh.

NOTES. 1951. Three Best Singles were chosen this year as follows: Pico (Freeborn 1934), white; Seashell (H. P. Sass 1937), light pink; and Imperial Red (H. P. Sass, 1932), red. No medal was awarded.

1956. Exquisite. There are three varieties bearing this name. The correct one is a pink double from Kelway. The white Jap (also listed as Exquisite First) and the white single are probably varieties imported from Kelway and labelled Exquisite in error.

*Best Herbaceous Hybrid in the Show*

1947. Ludovica (Saunders 1941), SD; clear rose pink.

1948. Legionnaire (Glasscock 1928), S., bright red.

1949. Red Charm (Glasscock 1944), D., rich red.

1950. Chocolate Soldier (Auten 1939), S-J-SD, black red.

1951. Red Charm. See 1949.

1952. Red Charm. See 1949.

1953. May Delight (Glasscock 1941), S, coral pink.

1954. Red Charm. See 1949.

1955. Black Monarch (Glasscock 1939), D., black red.

1956. Red Charm. See 1949.

1957. No show.

1958. Carina (Saunders 1944), SD., shining scarlet.

1959. Red Charm. See 1949.

1960. Red Charm. See 1949.

1961. Red Charm. See 1949.

1962. Lovely Rose (Saunders 1942), SD., creamy rose pink.

NOTE that to date (1962), this medal has been awarded 15 times and that Red Charm won the award eight times. No other variety has won it more than once. In all eight varieties have won it.

*The Bertrand H. Farr Memorial Medal*

First awarded at the Washington Show in 1929, this medal was established by the Society in memory of Mr. Farr, who was one of the most devoted of its members until his death in 1924. It was awarded to the Best Flower in the Show from 1929 to 1946. Since then it has been given to the Best Double (lactiflora or albiflora) in the Show. It is cast in bronze.

1929. Tourangelle (Dessert 1910), LP.

1930. Solange (Lemoine 1907), F.

1931. Solange (Lemoine 1907), F.

1932. Solange (Lemoine 1907), F.

1933. Hansina Brand (Brand 1925), LP.

1934. Hansina Brand (Brand 1925), LP.  
 1935. Avalanche (Crousse 1886), F.  
 1936. Mrs. J. V. Edlund (Edlund 1929), W.  
 1937. Mrs. J. V. Edlund (Edlund 1929), W.  
 1938. Harry F. Little (Nicholls 1933), W.  
 1939. Mrs. J. V. Edlund (Edlund 1929), W.  
 1940. Martha Bulloch (Brand 1907), DP.  
 1941. Blanche King (Brand 1922), DP.  
 1942. Mrs. R. M. Bacheller (Vo-ries 1930), LP.  
 1943. Mrs. A. M. Brand (Brand 1925), W.  
 1944. Doris Cooper (Cooper 1946), LP. Shown as Cooper No. 35.  
 1945. No show.  
 1946. Hansina Brand (Brand 1925), LP. (Two awards this year).  
 1946. Illini Belle (Glasscock 1941), Hybrid, SD. Dark red.  
 1947. Blanche King (Brand 1922), DP.  
 1948. Yukon (Auten 1937), W.  
 1949. A. B. Franklin (Franklin 1928), F.  
 1950. Kansas (Bigger 1940), R.  
 1951. Dorothy J. (Jones 1937), F.  
 1952. Nancy Nicholls (Nicholls 1941), F.  
 1953. Marietta Sisson (H. P. Sass 1933), LP.  
 1954. Ann Cousins (Cousins 1946), W.  
 1955. James Pillow (Pillow 1936), LP.  
 1956. Le Cygne (Lemoine 1907), W.  
 1957. No show.  
 1958. Doris Cooper (Cooper 1946), LP.  
 1959. Hansina Brand (Brand 1925), LP.  
 1960. Le Cygne (Lemoine 1907), W.

1961. Frances Mains (Mains 1955), LP.

1962. Ensign Moriarty (Lins 1945), DP.

NOTE: Since its establishment, this medal has been awarded 33 times and to 23 varieties; Blanche King, Doris Cooper and Le Cygne twice; Mrs. J. V. Edlund and Solange, three times, and Hansina Brand four, the other seventeen once.

### The American Home Achievement Medal

About fifty years ago there was established in New York City a magazine, The Garden Magazine, which was one of the best ever published. For lack of patronage its name was changed first to the Garden and Home Magazine and a new department added on home decoration and similar matters. However, since its subscription price was still rather high for the public, in 1928-29 its name was again changed to the American Home and its subscription price reduced to, I think, one dollar a year. Under this name and at the much reduced price, the magazine became a financial success and it is still published, though its subscription price has been tripled. Just before its last name change it began to offer to the various flower societies their Achievement Medal for the best and most distinctive new variety shown under certain conditions established by the Magazine. This medal was discontinued after 1960 to be offered to the best new variety, but it is still awarded to some person prominent in horticultural circles, picked by the presidents of the various special flower societies. Since 1928 it has been awarded to 28 varieties shown in the National Show and to thirteen shown in the Minnesota Peony and Iris Society show in

Minneapolis. Due to the conditions under which it was awarded many of our finest varieties never won the award as the time limit expired before they could be shown. Occasionally no variety shown was deemed worthy of the award.

Of those that received the award one was a tree peony, single yellow; four were herbaceous hybrids, a single yellow, a single red, a semi-double cherry red, a double salmon pink. Thirty-six were lactifloras; 12 white doubles; 5 flesh, 7 light pink, 2 dark pink and six red, a total of 32 doubles. One was a red semi-double and three pink Japs, no singles. Only one has never been offered for sale, but that one will doubtless be offered in the future. One has been discarded and three others are not often seen in lists. The entire list is given here.

#### National Shows

- 1928. Argosy (Saunders 1928), Free, S. Y.
- 1929. Challenger (Saunders 1929), Hybrid, S. R.
- 1930. No award.
- 1931. Nippon Princess (Auten 1931), J. P.
- 1932. Oliver F. Brand (Brand 1928), D. LP.
- 1933. A. B. Franklin (Franklin 1928), D. F.
- 1933. Mrs. J. V. Edlund (Edlund 1929), D. W.
- 1934. Harry F. Little (Nicholls 1933), D. W.
- 1935. Onondaga (Little 1935), D. R.
- 1936. Mrs. Livingston Farrand (Nicholls 1935), D. DP.
- 1937. Rose Valley (Scott 1925), J. P.
- 1938. Westhill (Little 1938), D., LP.
- 1939. Snow White (Little 1939), D. W.
- 1940. Dorothy J. (Jones 1937), D. F.
- 1941. No award.

- 1942. Kansas (Bigger 1940), D. R.
- 1943. Dolorodell (Lins 1942), D., LP.
- 1944. No award.
- 1945. No show.
- 1946. Doris Cooper (Cooper 1946), D. LP.
- 1947. Westerner (Bigger 1942), J. LP.
- 1948. Ann Cousins (Cousins 1946), D. W.
- 1949. No award.
- 1950. The Mighty Mo (G. H. Wild & Son 1950), SD. R.
- 1951. Jacob Styer (Styer 1948), D. W.
- 1952. Marie Elizabeth (Guille 1949), D. R.
- 1953. Florence Ellis (Nicholls 1948), D. LP.
- 1954. Claire de Lune (White 1954), Hybrid, S. Y.
- 1955. Frances Mains (Mains 1955), D. LP.
- 1956. Charles Mains (Mains 1956), Hybrid; D. P.
- 1957. No show.
- 1958. Rosemarie Lins (Lins 1958), D. F.
- 1959. Amalia Olson (Olson 1959), D. W.
- 1960. J. W. Bigger (Bigger 1960), D. W.

#### Minnesota Peony and Iris Society Shows

- 1941. Valencia (Lins 1941), D. R.
- 1942. King Midas (Lins 1942), D. R.
- 1943. No award. See National Show.
- 1944. No award.
- 1945. Victory (Thompson, 1944), D. W.
- 1946. No entry.
- 1947. Bonanza (Franklin 1947), D. R.
- 1948. King Boreas (Wilkus 1948), D. W.
- 1949. Mary L. (Lins 1949), D. W.
- 1950. Alma Hansen (Cooper

1946), D. F. (Then named Pink o'Dawn).

1951. No award reported.

1952. Marcella (Lins 1952), D. W.

1953. Majestic Rose (Franklin 1953), D. DP.

1954. No award. See National Show.

1955. Paul Bunyan (Lins 1955), D. DP.

1956. Mercedes (Lins 1956), D. F.

1957. Mary M. Fischer (Fischer 1957), D. LP.

1958. No award. See National Show.

1959. No award.

1960. Joyce Ellen (Moots 1960), Hybrid; SD. Cherry red.

\* \* \*

#### REMARKS ON VARIETIES

It is noteworthy that Mrs. A. M. Brand and Myrtle Gentry were awarded medals two years before they were introduced. Harry F. Little, Challenger and Mrs. Livingston Farrand were so honored the same year they were first sold. It may be noted that the Silver Medal has always been awarded at the first National Show after their introduction while, with the sole exception of Doris Cooper, it has been from ten to over twenty years after their first bow to the public that any variety has been honored by the award of a gold medal since 1934.

Only two hybrids, so far, are in the Gold Medal and one in the Silver Medal list. All are reds, two are single and one full double. All the *lactiflora* varieties are full double except Miss America which is semi-double.

Leaving out Saunders No. 362 and using the Color Classification printed in the schedule of the 1962 National Show, the Gold Medal list contains five whites, three of which are often tinted pink; one flesh; four light pinks; and four reds.

The Silver Medal list is composed of one flesh; two light pinks; two dark pinks and one red.

#### FIFTH DISTRICT MEETING

Mrs. Roy Gayle sends us the following account of this meeting, which was held on Sunday, December 9, 1962, at 12:30 p.m. in the Sweden House, Rockford, Illinois. There were 23 present.

There was a spirited discussion on peonies as usual. (Probably about the proposed list of Approved Peonies which Mr. Karrels was scheduled to present to the meeting.)

A committee was appointed to investigate the possibility of having a District Show next June.

Mr. Theo. K. Mysyk was re-elected president and Mrs. Elizabeth Shumway, secretary.

Mrs. Gayle did not say whether the advertised entertainment to be given by Marvin C. Karrels, singing Swedish folk songs, accompanied by Art Murawska on the piccolo, materialized, though they were present at the meeting.

#### Additions To The Kingwood Center Planting

Mr. Andrew R. Knauer, Horticulturist, has advised that the following varieties have been added to the planting at Kingwood Center, this last fall:

From Mr. W. A. Alexander and Mr. Walter Mains: Chief Logan, Frances Mains, Constance Moore, Buckeye Belle, Walter Mains, Firebelle and Margaret Clark.

From Mr. Louis Smirnow: Oriental Gold and Fan Tan.

From Mr. George Tollefson and Mr. Christian Olson: Amalia Olson.

From Mr. William H. Krekler: Dad.

## CENTRAL CITY TREE HOUSE IS PROBLEM

By Jack Bailey

"I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree.  
A tree whose hungry mouth is  
prest  
Against the earth's sweet flowing  
breast;  
A tree that looks at God all day  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray."

Those are words from the immortal poem by Joyce Kilmer, later made famous in song.

But to a child a tree has a different meaning. It is a place where he can play or rest in its shade on a hot summer day.

It is a place where houses are sometimes built where a child may go and dream about the day he will become a fireman, an engineer, or perhaps a spaceman soaring to the moon. And to him there is nothing lovier than a tree house in a towering elm beside the road where he can go and look down on the world below him and dream that he is master of all he surveys.

That is why Mayor Leslie Lindahl and Councilmen Clarence Larson and Warren Wegner of Central City, received a petition Wednesday, signed in childish fashion by 40 youngsters, 13 years or younger, with the pleading caption "Please don't cut down our tree house by the ditch."

Many of the signatures of the smaller youngsters revealed that it took a mighty effort to get the letters on paper. They were uneven in size and quite often did not follow the lines, but they were there and that's what counted.

### Some of the Names

There were names like Wendy Warner, Debra Hord, Ann Heeney, Anthonette Armatys, Randy Stephenson, Leslie Solt, Jeff McCullough, John Mountain, Jo Anne Larsen, Karen Larson and one just

signed Tommy and another Joan. To these two the last name really didn't seem important. And there was another signature just containing an X because the little girl or boy hadn't learned the technique of writing yet. There were 40 names in all, most of whom lived within a block of the tree house.

The children keep saying "If Carole Kennedy can have a tree house why can't we?"

It all started after the children learned the Central City council had decided to widen a street and enlarge a ditch which runs east and west through the city to take care of a drainage problem.

Only a three-block area was involved in the project which was to cost less than \$2,000 but it meant taking out several large trees. It included one giant elm on city property adjoining the Leo Armatys home at 2115 16th Avenue. A couple of months ago, before it was known the project was planned, Leo started building a tree house in this elm to give the neighborhood children a new place to play.

When a few of the children heard last week of the council's plans they got busy getting signatures of the children in the immediate area who'd been in the tree house or helped in building it, Anthonette Armatys then twisted her dad's arm and had him make photo copies of it. These were mailed to the mayor and two councilmen.

Ironically enough were the signatures of two of the grandchildren of one of the councilmen.

The city dads had no idea the small project would create such a furor among the young fry.

—Grand Island, Neb. Daily  
Independence, Oct. 19, 1962

(A later letter from Mr. Armatys tells us that the City Fathers decided to spare the tree.)

**Leo J. Armatys, the Tree House Builder, Walter Armatys, Stacy Hord, and Pepe, Stacy's Poodle.**



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## THE PEONIES

We have just (Dec. 11) received from the publisher a copy of this book, which is edited by Dr. John C. Wister, Director of the Arthur Hoyt Scott Horticultural Foundation, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania. It is being distributed by its publishers, The American Horticultural Society, 1600 Bladensburg Road, N.E., Washington 2, D. C. Its price is \$3.50 for the paper bound edition and \$5.50 for the cloth bound one. It should be ordered direct from them.

Its size is 6 5/8" x 8 3/4" overall and the printed page is 5 1/4" x 7 1/2". It has 220 pages, divided into two sections. Section I is devoted to the Herbaceous Peonies and has 144 pages. The Tree Peony section, No. II, has 76 pages and is a revised edition of the Tree Peony Monograph, published in January, 1955, as a regular issue of the National Horticultural Magazine.

The Herbaceous Peony Section has an Introduction by Dr. Wister, seven chapters and an Appendix. Chapter 1, the Botanical Classification and Description of the Species, 20 pages, is by Dr. Wister and his wife, Gertrude S. Wister.

Chapter 2 contains the Histories of the Herbaceous Peonies, 40 pages. The Early History of Peony Growing is by Dr. and Mrs. Wister and so is the early History of the American Peony Society. Mr. William H. Krekler and Dr. Wister wrote the Early Development of Hybrid Peonies and The Work of Professor A. P. Saunders, 42 pages, is from his daughter's pen (Miss Silvia Saunders).

Chapter 3 contains Descriptions of the Chinese Peonies, 200 varieties, 28 pages by Mr. Krekler and chapter 4 has Descriptions of the Hybrid Peonies, 121 varieties, 10

pages, by Miss Saunders and Mr. Krekler.

Mr. Krekler wrote chapter 5, Peony Culture, Uses and Propagation, 12 pages, and chapter 6 is from the pen of Mr. Harold E. Wolfe and deals with Peony Breeding, Genetics and Techniques, 16 pages.

Chapter 7 on Diseases and Pests of the Peonies is written by Dr. P. P. Pirone of the New York Botanical Gardens, who is an authority on the subject.

The Appendix is divided into three sections. Section a is a most comprehensive Bibliography by Dr. and Mrs. Wister; Section b, also compiled by them, is a List of Breeders, Growers, Nurseries, etc. Section c is a List of Recommended Varieties, 743 of them, taken from lists sent in by Mr. Krekler, Myron D. Bigger, Marvin C. Karel and George W. Peyton.

Accompanying the text are nine drawings, done by Eleanor A. Medford, depicting the four types of peonies, double, semi-double, Japanese and single; how to plant; an undivided clump; a standard division; a seed pod and a cross section of a flower. All of these are full page except the seed pod.

There are 23 1/2 pages of peonies, all full page except one. Miss Silvia Saunders is credited with the following:

Dr. Saunders and his hybrid White Innocence, (see Bulletin No. 132, March, 1954), mlokosewitschi, macrophylla, triternata, Chalice and Dr. Saunders, beresowski, woodwardi and Dr. Saunders pollinating a bloom (1/2 page). Sixteen full page illustrations are credited to G. Hampfler, Longwood Gardens and show Ellen Cowley (plant); Silver Swan (plant); Moonrise; Eclipse; Burgundy; Lady Gay; Carolina Moon (plant); Carolina Moon (flower); Flow'et of Eden;

Grace Kelsey; Mount Palomar; Sea shell; White Perfection (plant); John Harvard; Laddie, plant and bloom.

Would that we could get pictures of such superlative excellence to grace the pages of our Bulletin! We would especially call to the attention of our readers the pictures of Grace Kelsey, Moonrise and Sea-shell which show what a photographer, who takes the pains necessary to get a good picture, can do with a light colored peony.

NOTE: The flower pictured on page 18 is *not* 'macrophylla' as captioned, but 'microcarpa' which is listed on page 27 as a synonym of 'humilis.'

#### SECTION II. THE TREE PEONIES

This section was written by Dr. Wister and Mr. Wolfe and is a revision of the *Tree Peony Monograph* as stated elsewhere. It contains an Introduction, chapters on the Botanical Classification and Description of the Species, Histories of the Chinese, Japanese and Delavay Types and Groups, Tree Peony Culture, Propagation and Diseases and Pests. The Appendix is devoted to Bibliography and Reference, Lists of Explorers, Botanists, Introducers, Originators, Nurserymen, Dealers Who Worked With or Wrote About Tree Peonies, Tree Peony Nurseries, Propagators, Growers, Importers and Dealers, Collections in Public and Amateur Gardens and a List of 619 varieties.

At the end of the book there is an Index of 985 peonies, which embraces all kinds and types.

The illustrations are all reproductions of those in the *Tree Peony Monograph* and are mainly credited to Mrs. Wister. They are of varying sizes, only one or two being full page. All illustrations are black and white except the one on the first cover page of the paper backed edition which is a repro-

duction of the one on the cover of the *Tree Peony Monograph* and is of the tree peony *Hinode-sekai*, I believe.

\* \* \*

#### REMARKS

While necessarily this book contains much matter that is found in all books devoted to the Peony, yet it also contains a great deal of information we find nowhere else. It is a book that all who love the Peony should have in their library.

#### Recent Donations to the National Arboretum

Mr. William T. Gotelli, formerly of 66 Crest Drive, South Orange, New Jersey, has donated his collection of conifers, which contains many rare specimens to the National Arboretum in Washington. It is being planted in a special location which will keep the collection intact.

Mr. Gotelli, we understand, has moved to an apartment, and given up active work.

Last year he made a large donation of valuable tree peonies to the Arboretum, which are planted just to the rear of the herbaceous planting, which is quite near the entrance and fronts on Route 50, which is one of the best locations in the Arboretum and in full view of all who travel that much used highway from Washington to Baltimore, Wilmington, Philadelphia, and New York, as well as to many other places north and east of Washington.

A root of *Amalia Olson* has just been given them by Messrs. Christian Olson and George E. Tollefson and Mr. Louis Smirnow has indicated he wishes to contribute some tree peony plants.

It is planned to extend the permanent peony planting to about twice its present size in the near future.

### NEW MEMBERS

Henry Gund, 5414 Lee Street,  
Downer's Grove, Illinois.

Mrs. Dick (Martha) Hall, Route  
3, Perryton, Texas.

Cecil L. Holt, 6336 South Ben-  
ton, Kansas City 32, Missouri.

Hershel Hypes, Mad River Nur-  
sery, 1344 Perry Street, Spring-  
field, Ohio.

Mrs. John N. Jacobsen, Jr., 209  
East Sixth Street, Hereford, Texas.

G. Kooy, Biezen 118, Boskoop  
Z-4, Holland.

Mrs. Ralph Libey, Route 1, Hud-  
son, Indiana.

Earl G. Maxwell, 1240 North  
40th Street, Lincoln 3, Nebraska.

Mrs. Wade A. Montgomery, 5500  
Sardis Road, Charlotte 7, N. C.

William E. Murawska, 8740  
Ridge St., River Grove, Ill.

G. E. O'Donnell, 400 West Cleve-  
land, Lafayette, Colorado.

Royal T. Reinsch, 2235 Main  
Street, Glastonbury, Connecticut.

Martin Server, 2493 Philo Ave-  
nue, Muskegon, Michigan.

A. F. Shira, Route 3, Winona,  
Minnesota.

Mrs. Elizabeth F. Shumway,  
2021 Clinton St., Rockford, Ill.

Raleigh R. Stotz, 2502 Fletcher  
Drive, N. E., Grand Rapids 6,  
Michigan.

Leslie J. Wiley, Quarry Road,  
Cobleskill, New York.

Mrs. Peter Williamson, Box 30,  
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec,  
Canada.

### A CORRECTION

A letter from Mr. Adrian P. Gibson gives us a piece of information for which we sought in vain before the September, 1962, Bulletin was published. If our readers will refer to page 20 of that Bulletin, Class 302, they will find the winner of second place was given as Miss Arvis Rose and this name is given on page 24 at the top of

the page with no address. The name should be Mr. Orvis Ross, 709 Sixth Street, S.E., Rochester, Minnesota.

### PEONY NOTES

In a letter from Mr. Roy G. Gayle, recently received, he has this to say: ". . . I have one thought in mind, however, that is bothering me. It is quite evident that the Society is not advancing as far as the National Shows are concerned. I have always felt that this would be the ultimate result and my hope was placed in the building of various Districts.

"The so-called 'Fifth District' is, from the membership and financial angle, in condition to put on a strong show, but District shows would conflict with the National and the grower members who exhibit, do not feel disposed to take the time that is necessary to exhibit in two shows in one year.

"The kernel of the pronounced decline is, in my opinion, due to location of National Shows. Fringe locations are not strategical as they are too far removed from the center of the great majority of the membership. Indiana or Ohio are ideally situated (northern part) if sponsored properly by a city with active Garden Clubs. Few cities have proper exhibition space with air-conditioning, etc.

"Dates too early and too late are detrimental. Only a few commercial growers have storage facilities and therefore shows held about the middle of June would register with the great majority of growers and thus increase the exhibiting and attendance at the National Meetings."

Mr. Gayle also tells us that the creation of an arboretum on an eight-acre wooded tract, which he

has offered for the purpose, at Rockford is being considered. The plan includes the building of a club house which would serve to center the district gladiolus, iris, peony, rose, lily, etc. shows in the air-conditioned auditorium and hold banquets there also. Close to the site are several motels for accommodations which is an ideal set-up. The land is donated primarily for its educational value for students in botany in the local schools. Let us hope these aims will be carried out.

\* \* \*

Mr. Gerald E. Smith, Extension Horticulturist - Floriculture and Nursery, College of Agriculture, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, presented a TV program on the culture of peonies on October 24th.

He stated: "We would like to encourage more gardeners in the northern portion of Georgia to plant peonies and I believe this program would stimulate a great deal of interest."

In order to be of as much help as we could, we sent him a copy of our Handbook and of the list of Most Popular Peonies - 1962. Also we sent a select list of color slides of peonies which we thought would grow well in Georgia, of which he used as much as he could.

---

**European Horticultural Tour  
Sponsored by the  
American Horticultural Society  
April 24 - May 24, 1963**

This tour will start from New York on April 24, arriving in Hamburg on the next day. Two days will be spent there for the opening of the Exhibition, to be followed by a tour of the Holland bulb fields and will then go to England on April 30.

A visit to the Fortnightly Show at the Royal Horticultural Soci-

ty's Hall in Vincent Square, London and to Kew Gardens will occupy three days, to be followed by a Deluxe Motorcoach tour of private and botanic gardens and other points of interest to horticulturists to last until May 18.

From May 19 to May 24 will be devoted to the Chelsea Show and visits to gardens in and around London.

On May 24 a jet liner will take the tourists back to New York. Contact the American Horticultural Society for full details, 1600 Bladensburg Road, N.E., Washington 2, D.C.

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**1963 Annual Meeting & Exhibition**

No definite place has been selected, as we go to press, for this meeting. However, several places are being considered and we hope that we can announce the place in the March Bulletin.

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**MRS. CHARLES KLEHM**

(This notice of Mrs. Klehm's death was sent us by Mr. Edward J. Benes of Chicago. The sincere sympathy of our members is extended to Mrs. Klehm's family.)

Services for Mrs. Emma Klehm, 82, of 505 W. Eastman St., Arlington Heights, who died Monday in Lutheran General hospital, Park Ridge, will be held at 2 p.m. tomorrow in St. Peter Lutheran church, 111 W. Olive St., Arlington Heights. She was the widow of Charles Klehm, founder of Charles Klehm & Son nursery, State and Algonquin roads, near Arlington Heights. Surviving are six daughters, Mrs. Elma Schauble, Mrs. Helen Knaack, Mrs. Faye Feddeler, Mrs. Louise Wolgast, Mrs. Emma Timmerman, and Mrs. Margaret Walters; a son, Carl; 12 grandchildren, and 27 great-grandchildren.—*Chicago Daily Tribune*, of Wednesday, November 7, 1962.

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## HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

### 3 Most Important Perennials Should Be Planted in the Fall

George Tollefson, 366 Elmwood Ave., Fargo, who is guest columnist today for vacationing Dorothy Collins, is a veteran flower grower. He has furnished help and inspiration over the years to countless beginning and advanced gardeners in the area and has won many championships, particularly in iris and peonies, at flower shows. He is past president of the North Dakota Peony Society.

#### By GEORGE TOLLEFSON

It is hard to realize that the summer of 1962 is on the wane. Harvest time on the farms is in full swing, and in a few short weeks the Moon of the Falling Leaves will bring a colorful and enchanting end to the season of gardens and flowers.

Looking back, it is fair to say that in the main the promises of spring have been fairly well fulfilled. Oh, there have been some pretty wet areas, some trillions of mosquitoes, and weeds in such quantities as would make the largest mechanical computers run out of numbers.

But all things considered, it has been a pretty good season. A look at the height and size of the perennials in our borders is quite convincing evidence of that.

From our vantage point at the leaning end of the hoe handle, we have watched the Parade of the Perennials, from the mertensias and tulips that led the march like charming majorettes; to the iris waving their multicolored banners beside the elegance of the French liliacs; to the magnificence and grandeur of the royalty of all perennials in this area — the peonies; to the bugle corps of the lilies proudly sure of their popu-

larity, to the charm and fragrance of the roses whose numbers have increased so fantastically in recent years; to the hemerocallis now flaunting their golden glamour, renewed each morning.

Interpersed here and there have been such lesser personalities of the perennial world as the bleeding hearts, the dictamnus, the coral bells, the daisies, the carnations and the pinks, the balloon flowers, the monarda, the lythrum, the delphiniums, the phlox, the clematis, the heliopsis and even the forget-me-nots.

\* \* \*

A perfect perennial is one that is perfectly hardy, blooms beautifully, remains attractive all through the season, and then can be cut down before becoming a snow trap during the winter. For us here in the Great Plains area, that spells peonies.

Since a peony once planted and established is good for 20 years or more, it becomes very important to be exceptionally choosy and selective in what you plant. No matter how much you may coddle and tend a scrub or mongrel, you can never make a prize-winning purebred out of it.

It has been our observation at many flower shows that the person who wins the highest honors is given credit for being an expert gardener when actually, he has not given his plants any better culture and care than the next one. He was simply more careful and selective in obtaining good varieties.

The average gardener is usually at a loss to know where to obtain these more desirable varieties. While our local nursery salespeople do a fine job in most lines, they are not specialists in such plant stock as peonies. We have had excellent roots from such specialty nurseries as Mis-

sion Gardens, Techny, Ill., Hillside Gardens, Cannon Falls, Minn., Biggers Nurseries, Topeka, Kan., and River Grove Nurseries, River Grove, Ill.

Three to five eye divisions are standard size roots and except for new introductions, can be had at one to five dollars each. This is not much of an investment when you figure that they will last 20 to 50 years.

In the standard herbaceous peonies, we like the following varieties: white and blush, Elsa Sass, Le Cygne, Marilla Beauty, Mothers Choice, Nancy Nicholls, and of course, the whitest of all peonies, our own Amalia Olson.

In the light pinks, we like Doris Cooper, Hansina Brand, Moonstone, Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, Myrtle Gentry and Nick Shaylor.

For dark pinks, there are such beauties as Mons. Jules Elie, Helen Hayes, Martha Bulloch, Sarah Bernhardt and Tondeleyo.

Good red peonies are rather rare, with Kansas leading the list and reds such as Ruth Elizabeth Philippe Rivoire, Karl Rosenfeld, Matilda Lewis and Felix Supreme filling in.

\* \* \*

While efforts to produce new colors in the double chinensis peonies have not proved successful, that is not the case with the new hybrids. Here are exciting new colors from the flaming orange-scarlet of Golden Glow, the salmon pink of Laura Magnuson, the fiery glow of Crusader, the black red of Chocolate Soldier, to the rich red of Red Charm.

If you saw the champion bloom at the Fargo Garden Society spring flower show, then you saw Red Charm at its best. This variety has been selling at ten dollars and up, but a new price list from a leading peony nursery lists it at five dollars. At that

price, how can you lose?

Should you have only some non-descript varieties in your border, this would be a good time to replace them. There is good soil moisture this year and properly planted, they should get off to a good start.

Select a well-drained location in full sun, if possible. Dig a hole 15 inches deep, fill it with rich soil or compost, place the root so that the tips of the eyes or shoots are 1½ inches below the level of the ground. Water thoroughly and provide some hay cover for the first winter.

In two or three years, you will be rewarded with blooms that will arouse emotions of admiration and awe at the exquisite beauty and perfection which you have had a part in producing in your own garden.

Other perennials that lend themselves to fall planting are the perennial phlox and the daylilies. We rely on these for color in the border during the month of August. We especially like the white phlox for landscape effect and such richly colored daylilies as Pleasant Hours, Sceptre, Ophir, Painted Lady, Howdy and Evelyn Claar.

## **MRS. SLAGLE REAPS JOY IN PROVIDING CHURCH FLOWERS**

**By Helen Black**

**Bulletin Women's Editor**

The flowers in the sanctuary of Wesley Memorial Methodist Church on Sunday morning have a special meaning for the members of the Church. They not only glorify the altar of God, which is the primary purpose of their being there, but they reflect the dedication, devotion and painstaking love of the hands that put them there . . . those of Mrs. Lewis Slagle of Rich Acres.

Mrs. Slagle not only arranges

the flowers but she plants, cultivates and cares for them with tender hands before they are ready to beautify the Church.

She has furnished the arrangements for the altar at Wesley Memorial Church every Sunday since February 1959 with the exception of a few Sundays, such as today, when memorial flowers are being given or when she and her husband take an infrequent but necessary visit to relatives in other states. When she is away Mrs. G. D. Oakley does the arrangements for her. Mrs. Oakley arranged the flowers for the Church for a number of years before Mrs. Slagle accepted the responsibility.

\* \* \*

In 1959, the Rev. William E. Barber of Manassas, then pastor of the Wesley Church, asked Mrs. Slagle to be responsible for the flowers every Sunday "I knew it would be a difficult task", she said, "since she had only made one arrangement for the Church sanctuary. Once I had agreed to try however, there seemed nothing to do but keep on keeping on," she recalled.

"It would have been much easier to say 'I can't do it,' but I remembered a brief prayer written by George Herbert (1593-1633): 'Thou hast given so much to us, Dear Lord, give one thing more — a grateful heart', I feel privileged to grow and arrange the flowers for my church."

One of the first things she did was to buy a copy of "Methodist Altars", which, in addition to her pastors, has helped her more than anything else to understand the meaning and purpose of flowers in the Church.

During the pastorate of the Rev. William N. Raney, he often told Mrs. Slagle: "The flowers are a part of the worship serv-

ice", and from time to time he referred her to Leviticus 23:40: "And ye shall take you on the first day, the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees and the boughs of thick trees and willows of the brook; and ye shall rejoice before the Lord your God".

The Rev. Henry S. Chenault, who came as pastor of the Church in June, has also given Mrs. Slagle support and encouragement in her flower arranging. He has made the Church members aware of the contribution to the worship service that Mr. and Mrs. Slagle make through their flowers.

Mrs. Slagle says that she would not be able to fulfill her task of providing the floral gifts, if it were not for her husband, who helps her in selecting and buying bulbs, in the gardening and in delivering the flowers to the Church. And they always arrive at Church with not a single bloom out of place, she says.

After the flowers have served their purpose at Church, Mr. Slagle takes many of the bouquets to the medical department at the du Pont plant on Monday mornings. Some of the altar flowers are sent to shut-ins or the sick, and where there has been a death in a family.

The productive seasons bring a rainbow of color to the five acres of grounds on which the Slagles live. Many passersby admire the beautiful blossoms, and have made her gifts of plants and bulbs.

Mrs. Slagle says that she has never been happier than since she began growing flowers and giving them to her Church. She enjoys the many mysteries of gardening, the communing with God, and the rewarding friendships she has gained through this gift of herself to her Church.

—Martinsville (Va.) Bulletin,  
Sept. 23, 1962

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## PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

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**HANDBOOK OF THE PEONY.** 36-page booklet of concise articles on why, when to plant, care, propagation, culture of peonies of all kinds including tree peonies, 8 pages, 3 line drawings, 8 black and white illustrations. Short lists of varieties and sources supply included. Price 25c ea. 20c ea. in quan. 50 or more to one address.

**BACK BULLETINS.** Issues in plentiful supply 50c ea. Four for \$1.00 our selection. Other issues \$1.00 ea. when available. Send list wanted for quotation.

**MOST POPULAR PEONIES—1962.** Small leaflet listing most popular peonies of all types. Price: 10c each.

**PEONIES OUTDOORS AND IN.** Arno and Irene Nehrling. Hearthside Press Inc. New York. About 300 pages, 100 black and white illustrations, 11 color plates. Contents similar to Handbook with addition of section on Peonies Indoors, arrangements and how to stage a show. About 40 pages devoted to Tree Peony. Price to members American Peony Society: \$4.95 each. To non-members \$5.95.

**COLOR SLIDE COLLECTION** (35 mm. slides), about 200 slides all types, including hybrid and tree peonies. Rent \$5.00. Return postage must be paid by renter. Insurance for \$50.00. Renter supplies projector.

**THE PEONIES.** Edited by Dr. John C. Wister and published by American Horticultural Society, 1600 Bladensburg Rd., NE, Washington 2, D.C.; over 200 pages, many illustrations. Treats both Tree and herbaceous peonies. Write publisher for full info.

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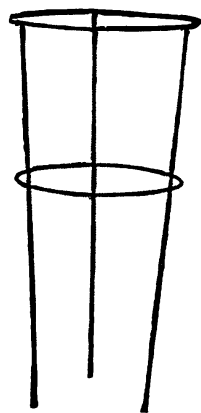
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