

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

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Northbrook, Ill.

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Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of September, 1934.

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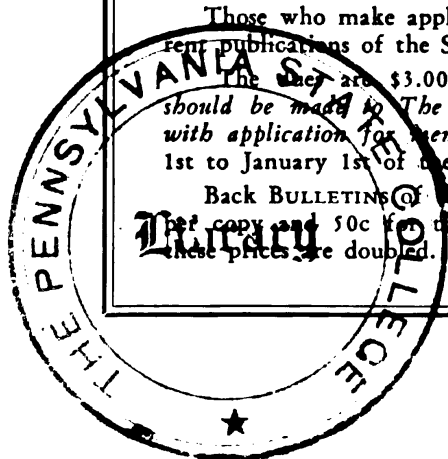
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Membership in the Society is open to both professional and amateur growers. Nomination is not necessary for those desiring admission, but a list of applicants for membership is presented to the Society at its annual meeting and the names are there voted upon.

Those who make application for membership at any time receive the current publications of the Society as they are issued.

The dues are \$3.00 a year, and all checks covering membership dues should be made to The American Peony Society and sent to the Secretary with application for membership. Dues in future are to run from January 1st to January 1st of the following year.

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AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin



MARCH, 1935

Peonies in Southern Iowa

J. A. BONGERS, Ottumwa, Iowa

THE past peony season in southern Iowa was sufficiently trying to test the patience of any man. Repeated freezes in April caused a few varieties to fail altogether, and on some of the cut-flower varieties the crop was reduced by half. Just before Decoration Day the heat was intense and many of the blooms were rushed; but, having had ample moisture beforehand, the blooms were very good, notwithstanding the intense heat. The heat continued throughout the summer and with no moisture from June 1 until the last week in August, crops were a failure and Iowa presented a scene, the like of which was not remembered by the oldest inhabitant. Having had such weather it may seem remarkable that anyone in this section could report a favorable peony season. Nevertheless we had such a season, and the many wonderful blooms shown in my garden remain a happy memory. With no rain or windstorms to mar their beauty, they stood in stately array and no variety failed to open.

After a winter's waiting and planning, it was a happy day when *Tenufolia Latifolia* opened, to be followed in a few days by *Flora Plena*. *Anemoneflora* and *Splendida* opened on the same day as did *Flora Plena*, and two days later the dazzling *Legionnaire* showed its color. A brilliant, blazing red, a giant in the sun, no flower in my garden surpassed it for color. In the offing *Shirley Walker* and *Helen* were ready to show their robes of white and pink respectively, and they had no sooner done so than *Richard Carvel*, *Edulis Superba*, *Cherry Hill* and *Jules Elie* flashed their colors, and after that the race was on in earnest.

Standing by were the aristocrats, waiting to show a peony lover what a good peony should be like, after the excitement and novelty of the first blooms had worn off, and be it said in their favor none failed. Among these *Le Cygne* was the first to bloom, and it led the field. A five-year plant with twenty, six to seven-and-a-half-inch blooms out at once is unforgettable. For faultless form, purity of color and regal bearing, it is unsurpassed. *Kelway's Glorious* was in fine bloom beside *Le Cygne*, and I felt sorry for the *Kelway's Glorious*, as it was unnoticed by the many, who could see nothing but the splendor of *Le Cygne*. *Frances Willard*, tried and true, was in show form, and is most satisfying in every way. I could not dispense with it. The same may be said of *Marie Lemoine*. The great cup-shaped blooms possess the sweetest fragrance of any peony, and there are many varieties I would dispose of before I would part with *Marie Lemoine*.

On more mature plants *Mrs. James Kelway* looked choice and different from *Kelway's Glorious*. Heretofore they have been quite similar, but this year *Mrs. James Kelway* was more cup-shaped in form, bloomed a week later in the same setting and under similar conditions. The outside of the guard petals retain the red markings as in *Kelway's Glorious*, but there are no indications of red within the flower. Altogether the blooms seemed more regular and finished than in *Glorious*. On new plants *Elsa Sass* held much promise. Seeing it in my garden and having seen it at a national show I believe the great creamy-white blooms will rank with a very few of the best whites we have. *Mrs. Frank Beach* was beautiful indeed, and reminds one of *Jubilee*. Though it is not a tall grower, the stems are strong enough to hold the large blooms erect and a four-year plant leaves little to be desired. *Nanette*, with great, large petals rolled back at the edges and with a row of golden stamens, enclosing a rosebud center of small petals was daintiness itself. Its form and beauty are outstanding.

Luxor, a new pure white *Jules Elie* type, was very interesting. While the blooms on a new plant were ragged, I saw the original plant blooming on its native heath and the blooms resembled *Jules Elie* more nearly than any other peony I had ever seen. Since it blooms with *Jules Elie* and should it prove good in storage, it should make a remarkable cut-flower variety, and be an addition to the showroom. *Dr. J. H. Neeley* made fine growth, but I nipped the buds. It comes highly recommended, so I concluded to give it a chance. Two *Sass* seedlings are deserving of mention, *Mr. H. P. Sass*' 9-26 did itself proud on a new

plant and notwithstanding Mr. Sass' other fine whites No. 9-26 possesses much merit. Mr. Jacob Sass' No. 33-1 has all the requisites of a fine peony. The large pink buds open a glistening white, with no red markings. The petals are large and possess much substance. The plant is tall and the stems are strong. The blooms are full double and a few golden stamens, well hidden, radiate more warmth and color than in any peony I know. The older varieties, such as *Mad. De Verneville*, *Duchesse De Nemours*, *James Kelway*, *Mme. Emile Lemoine*, *Mme. Calot*, *Mt. Blanc* and *Baroness Schroeder* were beautiful in their respective forms and the only two whites that failed were *Daphne* and *Mrs. Edward Harding*, and that was due to the frost.

Beholding the regal *Le Cygne*, one sees the acme of perfection in a peony, but when one sees *Solange* in show form, one wonders just a little in making a comparison. Its coloring may not be described, and one is inclined to silence out of respect for a masterpiece. Such was *Solange*. Imagine my surprise and pleasure when I placed fine large blooms of an American introduction, heralded as a second *Solange*, beside blooms of *Solange*, and found them so nearly alike they could not be told apart. I refer to *Nick Shaylor*, a peony of surpassing beauty and because of its sure-fire qualities will probably supplant *Solange* in many gardens. Undoubtedly the finest to come from the Shaylor-Allison farm and outstanding among all peonies. As usual, *Hansina Brand* was in show form and it is a peony that must always be reckoned with. Its performance at the last two national shows was no accident, more particularly at Chicago, where competition was keen, and the way it stood up throughout the shows marks it a peony of exceptional substance, along with all its other good qualities. *Myrtle Gentry* takes high rank, either in the showroom or in the field. Its beautiful form and pink coloring leave little to be desired and when in show form any peony must look to its laurels.

What shall I say of *Victory Chateau Thierry*? Opened indoors a bloom of it lasted six days and measured ten inches, certainly one of the finest. *Mrs. Dean Funk*, though variable with me, was radiant in her *Walter Faxon* pink, and *Gloriana* showed wonderfully, too. It struck me as being very choice. Old and beautiful was *Lady Alexandra Duff*. Its fine large buds may not be surpassed, and the full double and semi-double blooms on the same plant enhance its beauty.

Martha Bulloch made a great show and the great rose-colored blooms escaped no visitor. In opening, *Martha* sometimes plays the laggard, but not often, and this year she was radiant. Comparatively new is *Odile*,

a lighter toned *Tourangelle* pink, with better stems. An occasional bud has a tendency to open sidewise, but all buds open well here. The flower possesses good substance and is beautiful indeed. In a deep pink, *Anna Sass* should go far. It has height, color and substance, and when the stock is sufficient to show it, it should make itself felt in the showroom. No less can be said for *Elizabeth Huntington*, a peony par excellence. I would rank it as one of Mr. Sass' best. Very large and very tall with fine stems, the great white blooms heavily tinted pink will command recognition once they get in the showroom. In *Pink Opal*, Jacob Sass has added quite a remarkable pink to the list. Its color and height may be discerned in a three-acre field among one hundred named varieties, and thousands of seedlings, and it is very easy to note that no other peony in the field is as tall as *Pink Opal*, besides its color is distinctive and good. Dr. Neeley's *Garden Princess* is on the same order. While the plant was new, it made fine growth and the white blooms tinted pink indicate another topnotcher. *Alice Harding* bloomed beautifully on a good plant, but to me the flower seems to lack substance and in a hot sun it simply quits. The flower seems soft, even as in *Therese*, and in storage it reacts, as does *Therese*. On the other hand, *Sarah Bernhardt* proved a fine performer in every way, and twenty blooms in artificial light always catch the eye.

Mme. Jules Dessert was splendid, and *La Lorraine* was more than that. Six blooms of it in a crystal vase were gorgeous, and certainly few peonies surpass it regardless of their ratings.

Walter Faxon, *Lillian Gumm*, *Georgiana Shaylor*, *La France*, *Madelon* and *Tourangelle* were at their best, and the fact that every bud opened on *La France* proved the season was exceptional.

Coming to the reds, *Cherry Hill* was the first to bloom and a five-year plant with twenty blooms was as colorful as any in the garden. It always attracts visitors and for landscape purposes it is unsurpassed. *Philippe Rivoire* was never better and that means a beautiful peony. It is one of the best we have, and always performs well.

I don't know whether I am partial to *Mary Brand* or not, but when all around good qualities are considered, it is my choice. It has fine height and size, good color and equals the very best in the sun. More could not be said for any peony and as a plant it surpasses *Philippe Rivoire*. *Longfellow* was hard hit by the frosts, though a few blooms opened well. It has fine color and is splendid in the sun, and when good

it is hard to beat. It does not seem as dependable nor as profuse a bloomer as *Mary Brand*, *Richard Carvel* or *Philippe Rivoire*.

Holding the above reds in the high esteem I do, there were two new reds blooming in my garden, originated in the fields of Mr. H. P. Sass, that are likely to cause all red peonies to look to their laurels, namely *Priam* and *Splendor*. The former is particularly good, and its fine note of color among the reds struck me as forcibly as did *Nick Shaylor* among the pinks. It is about two shades lighter than *Cabuzac*, has good height and size and has substance second to none. *Splendor* is a lighter toned red, though still in the deep red class. It holds its color well in the sun, has good stems and good height and should do well in the showroom. A good red of which we hear little is *Grace Ott*. It has all the qualities necessary for a good peony, and its deep red tones frequently attract visitors in preference to a dozen other reds.

Adolphe Rousseau bloomed beautifully, as it always does, and the great dark blooms with a pleasing sheen are always admired. *Mons. Martin Cabuzac* was very good in his somber robes. Some have little praise for it, but when cut in the bud and placed in a crystal vase the blooms are strikingly beautiful, and when shown to advantage in a showroom, I know of no particular red which has a walkaway to beat *Mons. Martin Cabuzac*. *Inspecteur Levergne* is another red, possessing no stamens. It holds up well and has a pleasing color. The deep scarlet of *Winnifred Domme* is always noticeable and would that it had the height of *Long-fellow* or *Mary Brand*. In this section *Richard Carvel* is the Decoration Day red par excellence. It blooms profusely, holds well in storage, and is in great demand. Blooming with *Edulis Superba* it has not failed to be out by Memorial Day for the past several years, hence I consider it the most valuable red peony I have. Due to the extreme heat the last week in May it was an unusual feature to be able to go into the field and cut prime bloom from *Karl Rosefield*, *Chas. McKellip* and *Felix Crousse* for Decoration Day cut flowers, though *Richard Carvel* had been in storage a week.

One may not rightfully consider a blooming season for peonies and fail to give due recognition to the Japs and singles, for after all, they are as striking and as airily graceful as any peony that grows, and when put to the test in wind and rain they surpass the double varieties. From a spectacular point of view the red Japs are hard to beat and I know of none more satisfying in every respect than *Nippon Beauty*. It is cer-

tainly well-named, as it is strikingly beautiful and its form and substance are unsurpassed.

Another topnotcher is *Hari-ai-nin*. It is browner toned and very fine, a fit companion for *Nippon Beauty*. A different toned red is *Currant Jap*. Its color is different and probably unusual. It has good height and size, but a hot sun will cause it to flop.

Charm is another well-named red Jap. It has charm and everything else a good peony should have. In the color scale it is the darkest red of any of the above, fully as dark as *Fuyajo*, which it may supplant, owing to better stems. Even so, the memory of a four-year plant of *Fuyajo* waving in the breeze certainly has its compensations and unless the garden is terribly small there should be room for *Fuyajo* and *Charm*, too. *Some-ganoko* adds yet another tone of red that is distinctive and good, and though we hear now that it be put in the background to make way for the newcomers, yet I would not want to put it too far back, for it still possesses charm and merit and I might want to move it to the front again.

Among the pink Japs *Ama-no-sode* was outstanding and made a better show than did *Tamate-boku*. The latter was not up to standard, but the former was in show form. The beautiful china pink of *Henri Potin* was much noticed by visitors and is a charming flower. Sass' *Geisha* bloomed on a new plant and will certainly hold high rank among the elect once it becomes established.

In the white Japs *Isani Gidui* proved its worth and so did *Toro-no-maki*. In fact, when all is said and done, few sights in peonydom equal four-year plants of these two varieties.

Mr. H. P. Sass has given us a beautiful white Jap in *Polar Star*, a seedling of *Le Cygne*. While the plant was too young for intelligent comparison, my first impression places it in a class with the two above named.

Among the single reds *Verdun*, *President Lincoln*, *Jimmie Franklin* and *Departing Sun* showed their different shades of red and I would rate them in the order named. While not as tall as *President Lincoln*, *Verdun* has better substance, good deep color and good form. *President Lincoln* has all the above, but it shies some at the sun, otherwise very good. Some years *Jimmie Franklin* is unbeatable, other years mediocre. I mention *Departing Sun* last, but even as I do I have in mind the wonderful blooms of that variety, shown at St. Paul at the National Show this past year. The blooms came from Duluth, and at no other time nor place

have I ever seen single peony bloom that equalled those of *Departing Sun* at St. Paul.

The Manual lists *Mr. Thim* as a red, perhaps it is, though it might be termed a pink, as it is on the border line of red and pink. Regardless of that, it is very outstanding in size and height, being the largest single I know, and possessing fine form. Sure to be very noticeable in the garden, *Imperial Pink* holds much promise and it, too, is very large. *Helen's* pink tones are probably the most pleasing and it, too, has fine size. *L'Etincelante* and *Pride of Langport* were not to be outdone, and a four-year plant of *Pride of Langport* waving in the breeze was airy and beautiful. Add to those *Shirley Walker* and *Le Jour*, and one sees the most satisfying sight in the floral kingdom.

After a terrifying summer, in which heat and drouth held sway, it would seem futile to guess the outcome of the coming season. Hope, though, is eternal, and I am optimistic. September and November provided us with an abundance of rain, and as I write a foot of snow covers the ground, the remains of an eighteen-inch snowfall, to which has been added two inches.

In dividing some established plants this past fall I was agreeably surprised to find fine large eyes and with the moisture of the past fall I look forward to seeing some very fine bloom. The blooms may not be as heavily petalled as usual, but I hope for good-sized blooms, all of which should open well.



A Tribute to J. F. Rosenfield

HARRY L. RICHARDSON, Indianapolis, Ind.

FRONTING almost a quarter mile on wide La Fayette Road, historic, exclusively romantic, richly haunted in name; a tall iron fence the entire distance, each picket standing port arms as at inspection, each opening reflecting a hallowed welcome as you pass, great iron gates supported by four-faced brick pillars capped with Indiana limestone, indicative of four generals—thus you enter the grounds—a million-dollar picture at blooming time and home of J. F. Rosenfield, deceased.

Many times he greeted me just after I had passed through the massive iron gates, the entrance to his estate, as I always alluded to it in his presence.

As blooming season nears, I reflect with respect the privilege of

knowing him so well, hoping I may spend many more pleasant hours with apparitions of his memory and nearness in the atmosphere and garden.

I also prize many of his seedlings that were gifts in the past. The sudden and untimely death of Mr. Rosenfield was a shock to the lovers of peonies and flower world, and again as blooming season of peonies draws near, I am reminded of a life modestly spent, a successful career, the results of endless days, weeks and months each year until he was again permitted to partake of the loveliness of his hybrids.

Wherever peonies are grown, on all parts of the globe, his introduction, *Karl Rosenfield*, is known as the best, all 'round red peony in commerce.

Have always insisted it was necessary to see his hundreds of worthy introductions in their nativity, where they were first germinated and propagated to appreciate their merits.

Gene Stratton Porter, for instance, on six-year-old plants beautiful, immaculate white, just as Mr. R. has described them; bird nest shaped, stand up sturdy, every stem a flower.

Just a few years ago this writer had the privilege of meeting Mr. Rosenfield, which was the beginning of an unusual friendship developing to the naming of his new sweet scented red peony now in commerce and bearing my name.

A confidence that I prize, privileged me to his garden—was free to acquaint me with his seedlings, informed me that he never resorted to hand pollenization, and was a wizard at propagation—his secrets passed with him unfortunately. Noteworthy whites since GSP No. 1-13-36—*Mrs. J. F. Rosenfield*. To describe these in detail is not my privilege to usurp. He would not have a flower that displayed stamens.

I have seen better flowers thrown to discard after many years of observation by him than many that have been forced on the public in recent years, and assert this, casting no reflections. More than a dozen *new* reds are *yet* to grace his originations. Outstanding are Nos. 64, 65, 72, 76—one very dark red, double to the center, similar to a great dahlia, foliage resembling a rose leaf and very waxy, distinctive. Again he was too modest to allow it to bear his name other than as patentee—now *Lowell Thomas*, grandest flower in peony realm.

Of pinks, a new light pink similar to *Edulis Superba*; several days earlier, lighter in color, correct for Memorial Day, modestly registered, *Memorial Queen*. No. 44, the most perfect rose-shaped peony in the

world (this is covering plenty of territory). A salmon-pink seedling, a perfect *Jules Elie*. Will never forget how proud he was when displaying from two 4-year-old plants a bouquet of blooms from this flower. That was back in 1925. That flower is now *Indiana Moon*, but was always *Lady Suzan* to me.

Could you have spent one complete blooming season with him in his garden you would proclaim him one of the world's greatest hybridizers, and seen flowers the world may never see in commerce or even in private collections. I sincerely hope that for future posterity the gardens may carry on, and a distribution be made to the public of peony lovers.

Mr. Rosenfield was a discriminating grower, kept an accurate record of variation at blooming time, style, height, habit, etc., compiled his ratings and was very critical.



To Attend or To Not Attend the Peony Shows

DR. A. C. WILHELM, Chicago, Ill.

WHILE going from one display bench to another in the last peony show held in St. Paul, and admiring the many beautiful blooms there, although it was one of the most unfavorable blooming seasons on record, I could not help but feel very proud and indeed honored to meet and shake hands with some of America's most famous peony originators. To see *Mrs. John M. Kleitsch* in bloom on one table and on another *Hansina Brand* in all her glory and beauty be proclaimed the best flower of the show, and then to meet the man in person, who originated them, was in itself worthy of the trip from Chicago.

In mentioning but two of the many wonderful peonies sent in by Mr. Brand, I cannot keep from saying a word or two to all the peony-loving world, who were not fortunate enough to be at the show, that Mr. Brand has another new seedling that, I think I am safe in saying, will some day find a place in every peony connoisseur's garden. This newcomer is being named *Oliver Brand* in honor of Mr. Brand's father, who was the founder of Brand Peony Farm. I can assure my readers that Mr. Brand considers this new seedling as his masterpiece, or he would never have chosen the name he did for it.

Strange as it may seem, but most of our American originations come from Minnesota. While admiring the Brand display on one side of the showroom, there was another thrill in store for me when I reached

the display of that grand old peony lover, A. B. Franklin, who probably has some forty or fifty new ones to his credit, and every one a gem in its class. Three of Mr. Franklin's outstanding beautiful varieties are: *Franklin's Pride*, *Charm* and one named for himself, *A. B. Franklin*. They are real aristocrats of the peony world and worthy of a place in the finest peony collection of today.

As I said before, most of the good originations seem to come from the state of Minnesota, as the one I am going to mention now hails from White Bear Lake, Minn. This peony named *Mrs. J. V. Edlund*, is as fine a specimen as I have had the pleasure of seeing at this or any other show. The originator, a real peony lover, has enough sportsmanship in him to show this flower for exhibition only and not for competition, which in itself speaks for the high quality of this bloom.

The 1935 show will be held in Boston and the management is going to stage a seedling class, which should bring out some very interesting things, as after all it is the new good things that bring out not only the public but also the real peony enthusiasts. This year's show should be really worth while, not alone to see that big entry of seedlings, but also to see those Eastern peonies, *Nick Shaylor* and *Harry F. Little* compete for honors with that wonderful flower, *Mrs. J. V. Edlund*. This peony originated by J. V. Edlund and named in honor of his wife, is to my mind all that can be asked or looked for in a flower. If there is a peony on the market that could rate 100 per cent perfect, *Mrs. J. V. Edlund* is that bloom, and all the praise and glowing comments that I heard from real peony men at the show is none too much, for the flower speaks for itself. I feel very happy indeed to have in my collection all of these peonies except *Harry F. Little*, and if I can ever grow a bloom of *Mrs. J. V. Edlund* as perfect as the ones I saw in St. Paul last year, I shall feel very happy and contented.

Another American originator who has some very fine new ones, is Mr. Auten from Princeville, Ill. I am growing quite a few of his originations. One in particular, a Jap, has always had a choice spot in my collection. This peony is a great improvement on *Fuyajo*. It is called *Nippon Beauty*, and when grown to perfection is one of the showiest blooms in the garden or on the show bench.

That old saying, "Seeing is believing," certainly holds good for the peony, therefore, I believe in attending the national peony shows where the peony blooms can be seen at their best and judged with your own eyes. When the peony lover has seen these worth while new ones I have

just mentioned, I am sure they will feel the same as I did and make a great effort, yes, even sacrifice some other want, to be the proud possessor of one of each, or at least one of whatever they can afford to get. And if one is fortunate enough to have the price to purchase them, what a sad disappointment it is to find the variety you had your heart set on is not for sale this year. That is what happened to me last fall when I tried to buy that wonderful new white peony, *Elsa Sass*. This peony is just one of the twenty or more originated by none other than one of those world renowned iris hybridizers, Jacob and Hans Sass, from Omaha, Neb. After having my money returned from three or four growers last year and having made up my mind that if I would add one new variety to my collection this year, it would be *Elsa Sass*, I journeyed to the Sass Farms last spring and after seeing this peony in bloom on a wonderful plant, I then and there purchased a root of it, and hope some day to be able to show a few blooms at a national show, so the peony lovers from all over the country can at least enjoy the beauty of this flower.

Another outstanding very large pale pink peony the Sass Brothers brought out, is *Elizabeth Huntington*. This flower is in a class all by itself, not only for the wonderful form of the bloom, but the growth, habit and exceptional stems, which need no staking, and makes a very fine specimen plant in any real collection.

A beautiful Japanese variety that I think bloomed for the first time in the Jacob Sass seedling bed, and which has not been named as yet, is on my list just as soon as it will be released. It is something absolutely new in color in peonies, and is also a very fine landscape variety.

The joy of seeing my own collection in bloom, which consists of over four hundred varieties including most of the newer ones, is beyond expression. I am looking forward to the spring of 1935 for my seedling patch to show color. I have transplanted about 15,000 two to four-year-old peony seedlings, and with the thousands of iris seedlings also coming into bloom next spring, I feel, now in December as I am writing these memories, that real pleasure and happiness is in store for me in spring when for the first time some of my own seedlings will open their petals and seem to say, "Here I am; how do you like me?"



A Visit to Mr. Glasscock's Garden

EDWARD AUTEN, JR., Princeville, Ill.

FOR several years I had wanted to visit Mr. Lyman D. Glasscock's garden at Elwood, Ill., at blooming time, so when he wrote that May 23 would be about the best date, Mrs. Auten and myself deserted our own fields with many *Chinensis* in bloom, and drove the 120 miles to Elwood. Although 40 miles from Lake Michigan, its influ-



Mr. Glasscock at work in his garden.

ence is felt there, and his hybrids were at their best, while mine were already done.

The most striking feature as one looked down the rows of bloom was the extreme brilliance of the coloring of these hybrids. While an

occasional bloom was dull and lifeless, the total effect would rival that of a bed of geraniums. The orange-red shades of the *Otto Froebel* (an *officinalis* variety) hybrids on the *Chinensis* dominated the picture, one fine seedling following another. Mr. Glasscock will have to do some careful selecting to get the very best of these, so many are so very fine. *Otto Froebel* itself is not especially attractive, but it has proved itself a wonderful parent.

At the first show at the Century of Progress in 1933 Mr. Glasscock showed *O. F. No. 5*, a very beautiful shade of warm coral pink, a Jap, but with an imperfect bloom. In 1934 in his garden I saw the one plant, and on it were perfect blooms, one of the finest new things I have ever seen, and an adequate reward for many years of patient effort. The accompanying photograph will give some idea of the beautifully finished bloom. Note also the distinctive foliage. Mr. Glasscock says that from the cross he raised but one seed. In trying to pick it, it fell in the dirt and though he hunted for it for a full half hour he could not find it. But the next spring a plant appeared and it was carefully protected and finally saved.

Very striking was a long row of the single red *Legionnaire*. This hybrid is of high quality in every way, and will soon be better known.



Mr. Glasscock's Hybrid *O. F. 5*, a coral pink Jap.

Fully as interesting as the blooming plants were the large number of young plants which Mr. Glasscock has coming on in cold frames. These probably contain still finer things than those that have already bloomed. The effect of different species shows plainly in foliage and plant habit, and one cannot blame him for longing for the time when they will bloom.

The picture of Mr. Glasscock in his garden shows a *Chinensis* variety which he forced into bloom with the *Officinalis* by using warm water and a protecting frame. Pollen was taken from the single blooms to use on other species, and to make fullest use of the forced plant, pollen from early species was transferred to these *Chinensis* blooms. Note the cigar box mounted on a tripod. In this he carries the various dishes of pollen, protected from the wind. The top of the box he uses as a writing desk. His labels, book, sacks and pencil he carries in the pockets of his carpenter's apron. Pollen is transferred on his thumb. No camel's hair brushes for him! And to this may I add my own "Amen."

Mr. Glasscock's enduring interest in and love for these hybrids shows in his every word and move as one goes around with him. We should all rejoice that his work is producing such fine results, and that some day his peonies will have an honored place in our gardens.



On the Relative Blooming Time of Peonies

A Suggested Method of Rating

BENJAMIN WILDER GUPPY

WHAT is an early blooming peony? In the Manual *Mme. Calot* is rated as early and *Mme. Ducl* mid-season, yet in my garden over a period of six years *Mme. Ducl* has bloomed on the same day as *Mme. Calot* three times and on an earlier date three times. And what of *Anomala* which has bloomed from seventeen to twenty-five days earlier than *Mme. Calot* and of all the species and hybrids that come between? I think the terms we use for indicating blooming time are about as indefinite as those used for describing the quality of eggs.

If all the records of the blooming dates of peonies made by members of the Society were brought together and analyzed, I believe a list of ten or a dozen varieties could be prepared covering the entire blooming season, the varieties selected being those found to bloom in the same sequence year after year with approximately uniform intervals between appearance of blooms. The varieties in this list to be numbered consecu-

tively to provide the necessary index numbers. The relative blooming time of any other particular variety would be given as 3, 7 or other appropriate number and we would then have a pretty good idea of what time during the season it might be expected to bloom.

My own records of dates of blooming are very incomplete owing to many necessary absences from home during the season with no one to take notes while I am away. However, from such notes as I have the following tabulation has been prepared to illustrate the suggested method of determining and using the index numbers. No variety in this list has bloomed earlier than the one above it nor later than the one below it, although at times it has bloomed on the same date as either the one above or below. This list is by no means complete as it covers only early blooming varieties and the blooming dates of some of these are so close together that it would not be necessary to include all of them in the proposed yardstick.

BLOOMING DATES OF PEONIES

At No. 52 Statford Road, Melrose, Massachusetts

Index Number	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
1—Anomala	5/22	5/29	5/21	5/13	5/19	5/17
2—Banksii	5/25	5/29	5/22	5/14	5/20	5/17
3—Off. Rosea	5/31	6/6	5/28	5/22	5/22	5/22
4—Off. Rubra	6/4	6/7	5/30	5/22	5/26	5/27
5—La Fiancee (Dessert).....	6/9	6/14	6/3	6/5	6/2	6/3
6—Mons. Jules Elie	6/10	6/14	6/8	6/5	6/4	6/4
7—Mme. Ducei	6/10	6/15	6/8	6/6	6/5	6/6
8—Mme. Calot	6/10	6/17	6/10	6/7	6/5	6/6
9—Duchesse de Nemours.....	6/15	6/17	6/10	6/7	6/10	6/6
Date is date of first bloom.						
Example:	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Festiva Maxima.....	6/14	6/17	6/8	6/7	6/6	6/6

Bloomed earlier than Mme. Calot once, later twice, on the same date three times. Has not bloomed earlier than Mme. Ducei nor later than Duchesse de Nemours, index number for blooming period will be 8, the same as Mme. Calot.



Magna Charta

A. B. CADY, Waverly, N. Y.

ON A visit to the University peony garden in 1927 I took notes on *Magna Charta*, a large full double pink peony with unusually pleasant fragrance.

From the Cornell University peony garden in 1932 came Mr. Christy as a judge to the first flower show of the Waverly Garden Club.

Mr. Christy brought several peonies, the best in his exhibit was *Magna Charta*.

I can learn nothing of the source of *Magna Charta* from the University men. It is not mentioned in the Peony Manual. It is one of the original 3,500 planted by the American Peony Society as a test garden at Cornell University. From the name we may assume it originated in England. Two English growers contributed to this garden, Peter Barr and James Veitch.

If you can help me to locate this peony which I believe is too good to be lost, I will appreciate your kindness.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—Anyone growing this variety, please get in communication with Mr. Cady direct. I do not recall as ever having seen this peony on exhibition. The variety is practically lost to commerce as we do not find it listed in any of the catalogs we have on file. This is doubtless an English origination as stated by Mr. Cady.



Attend the Boston Show

An Appeal from President Claybaugh

IT IS my wish that every peony lover who has a small garden and raises at least a few good blooms, to send, or better still, bring a box of blooms to the Boston Show the morning of June 20. Many of these small gardens contain fine plants of the newer originations, or possibly seedlings of merit.

If each peony lover would follow this suggestion we could truly have a national show at Boston. A class will be provided for entries of this nature and we hope there will be a large showing.

Of course it would be necessary to have a large part of these blooms sent to Boston and placed in cold storage to hold them until June 20, especially bloom from territory south of Boston. Storage facilities will be provided to hold bloom sent in prior to the show dates. Definite shipping instructions will be shown in the schedule of classes that will be provided anyone interested in exhibiting.

The many interesting articles in our past BULLETINS on the subject of selection and preparation of blooms for storage and exhibition will assist you greatly in making a proper choice of most desirable bloom.

We want to make the Boston Show one of the finest ever staged by the American Peony Society and with your co-operation and support this can be accomplished.

I am counting on you to bring in a display, even though it may be possible for you to bring in but a few blooms. Quality counts, so

help us to stage a show that we will all be proud of for years to come, and one that will be a credit to the Society.

Another request I wish to make at this time is for articles for the BULLETIN. We will soon be enjoying another season of peony bloom. This is a most opportune time to make notes of your best peonies as to their blooming quality, habit of growth, season, or any other interesting feature you may observe. Comparisons are always interesting; exchange of experiences helpful and the spirit of co-operation most commendable. If you have tried out new varieties let us have your report. I know the editor will gladly welcome such contributions and we have a grand array of talent in our membership ranks to provide most interesting and instructive articles. If you have good photographs of your plantings that can be reproduced, let them accompany your articles. Send them direct to the secretary's office. We want to make these BULLETINS of great interest to our members and your contributions will continue to make this possible.



Minnesota Peony and Iris Society

THE annual meeting of the Minnesota Peony and Iris Society brought out practically the entire membership. The membership is not large but every member is a real enthusiast and there is no more progressive society in the United States. St. Paul, Minn., was selected for this year's meeting.

A banquet preceded the meeting and proved a most enjoyable setting for an interesting meeting that followed.

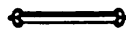
The speakers of the evening were A. M. Brand, of Brand's Peony Gardens, Faribault, Minn., and Robert Schreiner of Schreiner's Iris Gardens, St. Paul, Minn.

Mr. Brand's many years of association with the peony, which he has helped to develop to its present high state, enabled him to speak with a broad knowledge of the new peonies. He stressed the point that a seedling peony should not be introduced and sold to the peony loving public until it had been thoroughly tested for several years in various soils to determine definitely whether or not the variety is a consistent bloomer under all conditions. In his usual modest manner, he refrained from mentioning many of his fine originations but did briefly mention a few of his most recent developments.

Mr. Schreiner gave a brief report of his iris pilgrimage to the iris gardens on the West Coast, as well as outstanding gardens in some of the southern states. Mr. Schreiner is an iris expert and from his instructive talk we learned much about the new iris. Due to the rapid growth of the iris, new originations are being introduced by the score and some very outstanding ones will soon be obtainable. Mr. Schreiner made it clear that too many varieties are being sent out by over-enthusiastic breeders before they had been given sufficient trial.

President G. H. Greaves of St. Paul, Minn., presided at the meeting. The election held resulted in the following officers being elected for the year 1935; Mrs. A. S. Gowen, St. Paul, Minn., president; Mrs. J. Taylor, St. Paul, Minn., first vice-president; A. M. Brand, Faribault, Minn., second vice-president; Mrs. H. B. Tillotson, Minneapolis, Minn., secretary and treasurer; J. M. Kleitsch, Duluth, Minn.; G. H. Greaves, St. Paul, Minn.; L. W. Lindgren, St. Paul, Minn.; L. R. Fischer, Minneapolis, Minn., directors.

Mrs. Gowen, the new president, carried off high honors at the American Peony Society's exhibition last year and knowing her deep interest in the peony, we predict some splendid peony exhibitions in the Twin Cities this coming year.



Peonies In Drouth-Stricken Nebraska

L. E. FOSTER, York, Neb.

THE spring of 1934 was ushered in with hot weather, very little moisture and seventeen dust storms. A very unusual season for Nebraska. But in spite of this fact my peonies bloomed their heads off—those that didn't got their heads blasted off. So rapidly did they come and so early that only a few of the later varieties were left for Decoration Day. The stems were shorter but in most cases the blooms were gorgeous. As I recall my cut flowers taken to the house to open in the cool of the basement, *Departing Sun*, that almost perfect Jap, was the most beautiful. It was especially lovely this year, and all who saw it raved over its exquisite beauty. *Isani-Gidui* was not far removed, nor *Mons. Jules Elie*, *Clairette*, *Mrs. Edward Harding*, *Souvenir de Louis Bigot*, *Fuyajo*, *Hari-ai-nin*, *Standard Bearer*, *Kelway's Glorious* and *Sarah Bernhardt*. In fact I counted eighty varieties that were wonderful, that number that the drouth seemed not to affect.

The earliest bloom was *Tenuifolia*, on April 29. May 15 saw the following in bloom: *Rosy Dawn*, *Clairette*, *Mafeking*, *Mrs. E. J. Shaylor*, *Umbellata Rosea* and *Harriet Olney*. The latter one was fine but the bloom was shortlived out-of-doors. During the next fifteen days all of the peonies bloomed or were blasted on the stems. *Commander* was the last to show color and I picked it June 1. *Mme. Emile Galle* was very pretty and withstood the drouth the best of all of my 450 varieties. Apparently it took no notice of the drouth. It was very fortunate that I was able to irrigate my whole acre of peonies, which I did several times after the blooming period. I was very much surprised to find on digging about the clumps where the drouth seemed to have scored that very few of them had died. A few of my early species and a few spring-planted ones that had come to me late in very bad condition had gone under but most of those whose stalks had died early were alive with fine-looking buds. Truly the peony is a hardy perennial to withstand all of this tremendous dry weather and blasting wind that burned up the fields and lawns.

I mentioned eighty best blooming varieties. These were all fine flowers and fit to exhibit in any peony show. These bloomed in the midst of dust storms and hot burning winds and no irrigation was started until after all had bloomed. It might be interesting to some to note the names of these varieties: *Isani-Gidui*, *Fuyajo*, *Mrs. Deane Funke*, *Mrs. Romaine B. Ware*, *Mr. L. van Leeuwen*, *Therese*, *Mrs. Edward Harding*, *Solange*, *Departing Sun*, *Mons. Jules Elie*, *Auguste Dessert*, *Kelway's Glorious*, *Festiva Maxima*, *Madame de Verneville*, *David Harum*, *Richard Carvel*, *Hari-ai-nin*, *Le Cygne*, *President Wilson*, *Karl Rosefield*, *Mary Brand*, *Felix Crousse*, *Lady Alexandra Duff*, *Longfellow*, *Mons. Martin Cabuzac*, *Inspecteur Lavergne*, *Laura Dessert*, *Mary Woodbury Shaylor*, *Rose Shaylor*, *Ruth Brand*, *Eugenie Verdier*, *Standard Bearer*, *Souvenir de Louis Bigot*, *Pierre Ducharte*, *Mrs. Frank Beach*, *La Fee*, *Martha Bulloch*, *Lillian Gumm*, *Ama-no-sode*, *Mons. Jules Dessert*, *Model de Perfection*, *Mikado*, *Clemenceau*, *Snowball*, *Dr. Barnsby*, *Henry Avery*, *Desire*, *Marguerite Gerard*, *Tokio*, *Mons. Dupont*, *Sarah Bernhardt*, *Hansina Brand*, *Rev. Tragitt*, *Livingstone*, *Mrs. F. A. Goodrich*, *Nina Secor*, *La France*, *Baroness Schroeder*, *Couronne d'Or*, *Rosa Bonheur*, *Mme. Jules Dessert*, *E. G. Hill*, *Phoebe Cary*, *Hazel Kinney*, *Ella Christiansen*, *Blanche King*, *James R. Mann*, *Alsace Lorraine*, *Philippe Rivoire*, *Walter Faxon*, *Edmond About*, *Solange*, *Commander*, *Ella W. Wilcox*, *Milton Hill*, *Mme. Emile Galle*, *Mrs. John M. Kleitsch*, and *Albert Crousse*.

We from Nebraska are hoping to never see such a drouth again, and prospects now on December 9, 1934, indicate that we have plenty of moisture, with rains and snows for the past two months to give us a mighty good start for a real peony year.



Comments

LOUIS R. POTTER, Milwaukee, Wis.

I JUST by accident looked again at the June, 1934, BULLETIN No. 57 and noted Dr. A. H. Lemke's lengthy tale of woe with your notation and a little poem thereafter, and felt that I had to comment in regard thereto. So here it is:

My conditions so far as soil, lack of covering, lack of moisture, no snow covering, and past mild winter were very similar to those of Dr. Lemke. The subsoil in my case is conglomerate with perfect drainage and there was no ice in my garden. As in his case, snow was absent and there were extreme cases of low and high temperature following each other within a few days, causing alternate freezing and thawing excessively.

I have had losses, but rather negligible losses in comparison with those of Dr. Lemke and his acquaintances, associates and friends. Conditions being equal in every way, I am certain there is one reason why my losses weren't anywhere near the amount of the losses Dr. Lemke has noted in his letter.

For some years past, after much experimentation, I came to the conclusion that fertilization of peonies in a good clay soil was a waste of money, time, and effort. I did discover, however, that there was only a small amount of new shoot formation from the crown when moisture was lacking and that there was correspondingly much more new growth from the crown when moisture was present. To bring about the more favorable condition, I, some five years ago, dug out all my peonies and mixed the soil for about two feet down with fifty per cent good peat moss and fifty per cent of the top two feet of soil. I caused this to be thoroughly mixed in such a way that, within a few years, the peat moss in the soil would become an integral part. Immediately after the mixing, I pruned back the roots of my clumps without dividing them and re-planted them in the new soil.

In the fall of that year, I put on a covering of peat moss about

three inches high. Each year since, the soil around these peonies has been spaded at the beginning of the season. This last spring I found that I lost about one-half of one per cent of my peonies. The loss in each case was due to the fact that those lost had been planted a bit too shallow, permitting heaving to occur. I had noticed this condition the year before but carelessly mounded soil around the tops instead of having the plants dug out, pruned, and replanted with a change of soil a bit deeper.

This fall, I dug out of another spot treated similarly to this five clumps which I divided, pruned, and planted. These clumps, while much bushier than a three-year-old plant from a division, were just as clean and fine in every way so far as roots and eyes were concerned as any three-year division I have ever seen, and I have seen more than a few thousand by far.

I would say, in conclusion, that any good mulching in the fall, in our climate, of peat moss or any similar substance would give the protection anywhere in Wisconsin or any other cold spot, that is required for peonies. It is undeniably true that here and there peony roots, as a result of exposure to thawing and freezing, get up a bit higher. Growers should not be as careless as I was, to leave them that way, but should immediately reset the plants. If this is done, I can't see any reason why anyone should ever suffer winter losses such as Dr. Lemke suffered. Such losses are not only regrettable but, to a man of years, are irreparable, but to a real peony fan, as I understand Dr. Lemke to be, it should serve, and undoubtedly has by this time, to spur him on to greater efforts.



Reply To Mr. Potter

DR. A. H. LEMKE, Wausau, Wis.

RECEIVED a carbon copy of letter from Louis R. Potter of Milwaukee, Wis., dated December 6, of which you also received a copy, setting forth theories and facts as to why I lost my peonies.

Mr. Potter's letter contains eight paragraphs.

Commenting on the third paragraph. All is very much the same except that the severe low temperature is never so great in Milwaukee, being so near the lake and one hundred and fifty miles southeast by air line from Wausau, and also several hundred feet higher in elevation, all of which makes a difference. Summer rains are mostly local, snowstorms are very much the same. There was a snow covering all around Marathon County but not here, and south. The rain of January 31 was followed

by a drop in temperature to 24 degrees below zero and hung around 15 to 20 below for several days before it moderated, and no snow of any consequence following up.

Paragraph six. Newly-set plants with pockets about the roots causes the pockets to fill with water, then followed by freezing will heave the plants. Newly-set plants, without a snow covering will heave also, but the plants will not kill with a snow covering. Erosion will also bring the plants up but will not kill under the snow.

Paragraph eight. The following should be in capital letters: IN A SEVERE CLIMATE, EVERYTHING NEWLY SET OR PLANTED SHOULD BE WELL MULCHED, BE IT TREES OR PLANTS!

I have planted plants, shrubs, and trees over fifty years, and during all this time have never experienced such loss in our locality just because we were without snow. The eastern nurseries advertising perfectly hardy plants, which they have been growing for years, were caught barehanded. They now know what their hardy stock is. They should now know what the North Central States have to put up with in weather conditions. The last winter's loss in the East is irreparable.

Mr. Christman, in your last letter a few months ago you asked whether or not there were shoots coming up at random at any time. Yes, a few came, but after mid-summer none came. But in the fall when I dug up a considerable number to "round them up" I found a few "eyes" ready for the next season's growth. But only on extra old clumps. On one old *Therese* that did not have a sprout, I obtained six pieces of roots with a nice eye on each. *Walter Faxon* also did well. Here is something strange: In the fall of '32 I planted a *Kelway's Glorious* that did not grow in '33. Now this season, to my surprise when I dug it up, there was the perfect root with a nice eye on it.



Boston Peony Show

GEORGE C. THURLOW, West Newbury, Mass.

LAST June when we had our peony show in Boston, June 14 and 15, we had some pictures taken of our exhibit which we arranged for a garden scene.

For several years besides entering the classes at Boston, we have endeavored to put up an exhibit as nearly like a garden scene as possible. We use cedars for a background and Scotch pines to lighten up the planting, with native ferns set in among the peonies.



Attractive arrangement of displays at the Boston show.

This last year the Society called for a display to cover 400 square feet arranged for effect, also a smaller class of 200 square feet. We entered both classes and in the larger picture, you will note the 200 square feet in the foreground and the 400 square feet in the background against the tall cedars. The side wall we trimmed with cedars and had groups of peonies against the wall, which do not show very much in this picture. They did, however, help to carry out the effect of the garden scene.

The group in the foreground of 200 square feet had been a theory of Winthrop's for several years and he carried this out using single peonies wholly, mostly Japanese singles, to give the effect of the peonies, as much as possible, growing in the ground. Here we used about four inches of peat, plunging the bottles into the peat so that they would not show, and using about three or four blooms to a vase. The effect, I thought, was very good. In the background and on the sides, we used double varieties with the reds grouped on either sides against the walls. With a grass edging to hold the bed, it makes a rather pleasing effect, especially to one coming in from the hot, city street.

The night before setting up the peonies, we sprayed the evergreens quite thoroughly, as well as the peat moss, so as to give as much moisture



Another view showing artistic layout at the Boston show.

in the hall as possible. In this way, we find the flowers stand up much better. This was proven to us very conclusively when we exhibited at St. Paul a number of years ago, and the committee had the tan-bark thoroughly soaked down beforehand. This humidity in the hall certainly keeps the flowers looking much fresher.

We have been having some real winter weather for the last two weeks, with the thermometer at zero or below every night. This is about as severe as we had it last year, but fortunately, this year we have a very heavy covering of snow to protect the plants. In fact, it was so severe when it came that it nearly paralyzed automobile traffic in the cities where they were not prepared for it and had no adequate snow-removing equipment.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—The above communication from Mr. Thurlow was not sent in for publication but it is of such interest that I feel it should accompany the beautiful photographs we are presenting. This is one of the many features we may expect to see at the Boston Show this coming June 20 and 21.

A Report From Virginia

NATHANIEL BACON, Fairfax, Va.

OF COURSE I am only an amateur, though I am now 71 years old. I have been planting seeds from my mother's old peony, *Queen Victoria*.

My curiosity caused me to plant the seeds of it and I fooled with those seedlings for years. I got only singles of many colors and sizes. I sold most all of these plants to people who came and had never seen a single and wanted one. I got an average of \$1 each for them.

The first peony catalogue I ever got hold of was one from George H. Peterson of New Jersey. I bought 52 plants that cost me just \$100. Of course neighbors called me a fool. But when they began to bloom I sold blooms for \$2 per dozen. Then I began to increase my planting until I had flowers enough to sell \$100 per day, Decoration week.

From those improved varieties I began planting seed in quantity just for my own pleasure, with no thought of introducing anything.

At the present time I have about 6,000 plants of every shade from singles to doubles. I can go into the planting and pick out as fine a peony garden as one could wish. Some of them so late and so hard in bud that they have never opened for me.

In 1932 I had one that put me wild. I had what I said was a yellow peony. In 1933 it bloomed again. In 1934 I had my camera ready to take a photo and send it to you, but it failed to open. It stuck. Now it is a perfect *Solange* in shape, two weeks earlier and no sign of any other color in its center. If it is not a yellow when it blooms this year I will be sorely disappointed. If it blooms you get a photo. Now there are many more fine doubles and singles. Also quite a few Japs.

TREE PEONIES

December 12, 1924, Prof. Saunders sent me twenty-eight tree peony seed, which I planted and got eight little plants, all of which died but two. They are great white singles. But they are somewhat slow to grow. He also gave me the address where I could buy tree peony seed by the pound. I bought two pounds, all the firm had on hand from Japan at the time. But these Japanese seed do not come up good, for reasons which I feel sure are best known to the grower.

From the two pounds of seed I have about one hundred plants of which only about twenty have come into bloom. And have a gorgeous display of them, no two alike. I have one plant which blooms in the

fall, or tries it, but, of course, gets frost-bitten. It has fifteen frost-bitten buds on it now. But it will bloom again in the spring. I think I shall dig it early next fall and put it in a tub in the cellar. It is large enough now to divide and I could put half of it in the tub and leave half outdoors, but I guess this would set it back and I might never see it bloom again. There is one great big pink just the color of *Walter Faxon*. It is a beauty and some day I hope to increase these and get them into hands who will appreciate them when I am gone.



Prize-Winning Peonies

W. F. CHRISTMAN, *Secretary*, Northbrook, Ill.

WHAT lover of peonies is not interested, in more than a casual way, in the prize winners at the annual shows held throughout the country? Even those who do not grow peonies, but attend the shows from year to year, due to the beauty of the flower, have a desire to know the prize winners. It is with this thought in mind that I have gone over the records of the American Peony Society for the past ten years and summarized the winners in an easy, comprehensive manner, to enable one to see at a glance the information they require.

One of the most keenly contested classes of the many offered in the schedule of the American Peony Society is the one calling for the best ten varieties. The very finest specimens in the entire exhibition usually appear in this class and as the number of varieties is not large, competition is always very keen, and is usually represented by several exhibitors. It is to this class one can go to find the cream of the year's crop. It is this class that usually gives the judges considerable trouble in arriving at definite decisions. Watch for this class at the coming national exhibition and you will not be disappointed. You will see many new varieties not shown in our list as each year some new variety replaces one that has been in commerce for some time. You will also find that some of the varieties shown in the lists that follow will again be prominent and it will be many years before they are replaced, if ever. They are varieties that have stood the test for years and are the most desirable and reliable peonies for garden attraction. No mistake will be made in securing any of the peonies that have appeared in this class.

It might be interesting to note that none of the varieties have appeared consecutively for the ten years. This is accounted for in a

measure, due to the fact that the exhibition is held in various sections of the country where certain varieties are more generally grown than others.

By a careful inspection of the charts prepared, it will be possible to readily learn the year the different varieties were displayed in the winning class. This reference chart may be found of interest and value in making selections for your peony planting or additions to your present collection.

VARIETIES APPEARING IN CLASS CALLING FOR TEN VARIETIES COVERING A TEN-YEAR PERIOD

Variety	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924
Avalanche					X					
Baroness Schroeder.....					X					X
Blanche King.....				X						
Brand's Magnificent.....		X				X				X
Charles McKellip.....								X		
Chestine Gowdy.....								X		
Cornelia Shaylor.....				X						
Elizabeth Barrett Browning										X
Enchantresse	X									
Eugenie Verdier.....			X							
Felix Crousse.....					X					
Frances Willard		X			X			X	X	
Francois Rousseau.....										X
Frankie Curtis						X				
Gismonda										X
Grover Cleveland.....			X							
Hansina Brand.....	X			X						
James Kelway.....			X							
Judge Berry.....						X	X			
June Day.....						X				
Karl Rosefield.....	X								X	
Katharine Havemeyer.....								X		
Kelway's Glorious.....	X			X		X				
Kelway's Queen.....					X					
Lady Alexandra Duff.....			X			X				
La Fee			X							
La France		X					X			X
La Lorraine	X	X		X				X		
La Tendresse								X		
Le Cygne	X	X				X			X	
Lillian Gumm										X
Longfellow							X			
Martha Bulloch.....			X	X				X	X	

Variety	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924
Mary Brand.....							X			
Mary Baker Eddy.....			X							
Milton Hill.....	X			X	X					X
Mme. Boulanger.....									X	
Mme. Emile Lemoine.....	X	X								
Mme. Jules Dessert.....							X			
Modeste Guerin.....			X							
Model de Perfection.....								X		
Mons. Jules Elie.....			X							
Mons. Martin Cahuzac.....		X				X				X
Myrtle Gentry.....				X						
Mrs. Deane Funk.....	X									
Nancy Dolman.....				X						
Philippe Rivoire.....				X						
President Wilson.....									X	
Reine Hortense.....						X	X			
Rose Shaylor.....							X			
Samoset.....								X		
Sarah Bernhardt.....					X		X	X	X	
Shattuck.....		X								
Solange.....	X				X		X			
Souv. de Louis Bigot.....						X	X		X	
Therese.....							X		X	
Tourangelle.....					X					X
Victory Chateau Thierry.....		X								
Walter Faxon.....	X	X			X				X	

WINNERS OF BEST TEN CLASSES IN PAST TEN YEARS

Winner and Exhibition City	Date
Harry F. Little, Des Moines, Ia.....	June 21, 1924
Movilla Gardens, Philadelphia, Pa.....	June 5, 1925
Good & Welsh Peony Farms, Inc., Ft. Wayne, Ind.....	June 15, 1926
Mrs. Deane Funk, Peoria, Ill.....	June 9, 1927
Indian Spring Farms, Boston, Mass.....	June 22, 1928
Howard Watkins, Washington, D. C.....	June 7, 1929
C. W. Bunn, Duluth, Minn.....	July 2, 1930
Tom Knipe, Fort Wayne, Ind.....	June 12, 1931
Brand's Peony Farms, Des Moines, Ia.....	June 10, 1932
C. W. Bunn, Chicago, Ill.....	June 21, 1933

During the past ten years sixty varieties of peonies have been shown in this particular class by the winners shown above.

In summing up varieties presented we find the following seven varieties winning four years out of the ten:

Frances Willard
La Lorraine

Le Cygne
Martha Bulloch
Walter Faxon

Milton Hill
Sarah Bernhardt

The following six varieties were to be found in the winning three years out of the ten:

Brand's Magnificent	La France	Souv. de Louis Bigot
Kelway's Glorious	Mons. Martin Cahuzac	Solange

The following eight varieties appeared as winners two years out of the ten:

Baroness Schroeder	Karl Rosefield	Therese
Hansina Brand	Lady Alexandra Duff	Tourangelle
Judge Berry	Mme. Emile Lemoine	

The following varieties appeared as winners one year out of the ten. In this list will be found some of the finest peonies grown and a glance at the list will develop the fact that many are of recent origin and are not generally found in gardens outside of large collections by professional growers or advanced amateurs. These new ones will be far more in evidence in the next ten years, and a comparison of the present list at that time would develop a wide variation. Doubtless there will be varieties in the list that are not now in general commerce:

Avalanche	James Kelway	Modeste Guerin
Blanche King	June Day	Mons. Jules Elie
Charles McKellip	Katharine Havemeyer	Mrs. Deane Funk
Chestine Gowdy	Kelway's Queen	Myrtle Gentry
Cornelia Shaylor	La Fee	Nancy Dolman
Elizabeth B. Browning	La Tendresse	Philippe Rivoire
Enchantresse	Lillian Gumm	President Wilson
Eugenie Verdier	Longfellow	Reine Hortense
Felix Crousse	Mary Brand	Rose Shaylor
Frankie Curtis	Mary Baker Eddy	Samoset
Francois Rousseau	Mme. Boulanger	Shattuck
Gismonda	Mme. Jules Dessert	Victory Chateau Thierry
Grover Cleveland	Model de Perfection	

It is interesting to note that out of the sixty varieties in the winning class of ten during the past ten years twenty-nine American and thirty-one foreign originations appear. This speaks well for the American originators because their work in producing new varieties does not cover an extensive period. The past quarter of a century has seen the most of this development and from the yearly display of new creations it is reasonable to expect that the next ten or fifteen years will see several more outstanding originations.

For those desiring to make large collections or plantings, we have also summarized one of the most outstanding classes in the entire list. We have reference to the class calling for eighty and not more than one hundred varieties.

It is a coveted honor and distinction to win in this class, and the

friendly rivalry between contestants is always intensely interesting. To enter this class entails a great deal of preparation, careful planning, and the possession of a large collection. Professional growers are usually winners in this class, having the advantage over amateur growers in the number of varieties they possess. The quality of bloom in this class is not usually up to the high standard shown in the class calling for ten varieties. The reason for this is readily apparent to anyone growing peonies, as necessary care, such as watering, cultivating, handling in storage, etc., cannot be as carefully done as where a few plants are grown. Here undivided attention can be bestowed upon them, while the professional grower has constant and repeated interruptions and his individual care is often entirely turned to other work requiring his undivided attention. This makes it necessary to delegate the work to someone else who may not have adequate ability or possess the desired love for the flower to enable them to handle the work properly.

The advanced amateur can leave his plants undisturbed for years to get the very finest possible blooms while the professional grower, if progressive, is constantly propagating and making changes necessary to meet the demands of the trade. It is impracticable for the professional grower to go to the trouble in planting that the amateur often does. We have reference to trenching or excavating to a considerable depth and carefully preparing the soil by applications of manure and fertile soil, or any other procedure that will eventually produce the finest results.

The following chart covers a period of ten years and contains every peony that was exhibited during that time in the winning class. It is interesting to study this list and observe the varieties appearing several consecutive years. It is also interesting to note the trend to the newer varieties as they appear during the past five years. Some of the older varieties still appear on the list and will continue to do so for years to come, as they have never been improved upon in their particular type or color:

Variety	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924
Addielanchea	X									
Adelaide Hollis										X
Admiral								X		
Adolphe Rousseau.....				X			X		X	X
Alexandria				X						
Albert Crousse.....		X		X			X			X
Alice Balfour.....							X			
Alice Harding.....	X	X	X							

Variety	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924
Alsace Lorraine.....		X		X	X					
Alice de Julvecourt.....				X						
A. M. Slocum.....				X						
A. P. Saunders.....		X	X	X						
Amanda Yale.....					X	X				
Armandine Mechin.....								X		
Archie Brand.....	X				X				X	
Asa Gray.....	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Atrosanguinea.....							X	X		
Augustin d'Hour.....				X		X				X
Augustin Foreman.....						X				
Aviateur Reymond.....			X							X
Auguste Dessert.....		X	X	X	X					
Avalanche.....	X		X	X		X				
Argentine.....	X									
Aviateur Lindbergh.....			X							
Aurore.....					X					
Baroness Schroeder.....	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Ball o' Cotton.....			X	X	X					
Bertrade.....		X	X			X				
Benjamin Franklin.....		X			X	X				
Bayadere.....								X		
Biebrich.....					X					
Boule de Neige.....						X				
Brand's Magnificent.....			X		X	X	X			
Bunker Hill.....							X	X		
Candeur.....			X					X	X	
Carnea Elegans.....										X
Cardinal.....	X									
Charles Neidel.....			X	X						
Charles McKellip.....			X							X
Charlotte.....			X							X
Charlotte Cushman.....					X					
Chestine Gowdy.....	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Cherry Hill.....		X			X	X			X	
Clara Anderson.....			X							
Clemenceau.....	X			X			X			X
Claire Dubois.....				X				X	X	X
Constant Devred.....							X	X		
Cornelia Shaylor.....	X			X					X	
Coronation.....									X	
Coquette.....								X		
Coquelin.....							X	X		
Commander.....		X								
Couronne d'Or.....	X			X			X	X		
C. W. Schock.....	X									

Variety	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924
Daphne	X									
David Harum	X	X	X							X
Dawn of Day	X									
Daybreak									X	
Delachei					X					
Denise			X							
Desire					X					
Dr. H. Barnsby							X	X		
Dr. Caillot					X					
Dr. H. van der Tak								X		
Dorothy E. Kibbe					X					
Diana		X								
E. B. Browning					X			X		
E. G. Hill				X		X	X			X
E. C. Shaw	X		X		X				X	
Edulis Superba						X			X	X
Edith Estelle	X									
E. J. Shaylor	X									
Elie Chevalier								X		X
Elisa					X		X			
Ella Wheeler Wilcox					X			X		
Elwood Pleas			X	X				X		
Enchantment	X									
Enchantresse	X	X		X	X		X	X		X
Enfant de Nancy								X		
Entente Cordiale							X			
Estafette			X			X	X		X	
Etta										X
Eugene Bigot				X						
Eugene Reignoux										X
Eugenie Verdier	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	
Evangeline							X			X
Evening Glow			X							
Exquisite			X			X			X	X
Fanny Crosby		X								X
Fanny Lee						X				
Felix Crousse	X	X		X	X				X	X
Festiva										X
Festiva Maxima				X	X			X	X	
Floral Treasure				X						
Frances Shaylor		X	X			X		X	X	X
Frances Willard	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Francois Rousseau				X		X		X		
Frankie Curtis						X				
General Garcia	X									
General Gorgas	X									

Variety	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924
Georgiana Shaylor			X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Germaine Bigot			X	X	X			X		
Gigantea			X		X	X	X	X		
Ginette						X				X
Gismonda										X
Gloire de Chas. Gombault				X					X	
Gloire de Touraine.....										X
Glorious							X	X		
Glory of Somerset.....				X						
Golden Dawn.....										X
Governor Johnson.....						X				
Grace Batson.....	X	X								
Grace Loomis.....		X								
Grace Ott.....						X				X
Grandiflora	X	X		X						
Gravatey							X	X		
Graziella							X	X		X
Gretchen		X				X	X	X		
Grover Cleveland.....								X	X	X
Hansina Brand.....	X	X								
Hazel Kinney.....		X								
H. A. Hagen.....	X						X	X		
Henry Avery.....		X	X	X	X	X				X
Helen Wolaver.....										X
Henry Murger.....							X	X		X
Henry Woodward.....								X		
H. P. Sass.....	X									
H. F. Reddick.....				X		X				
Inspecteur Lavergne	X									
Isoline							X			
James Kelway	X			X		X	X		X	
Jeanne d'Arc.....								X		
Jeanne Gaudichau.....				X						
Jennie E. Richardson.....	X									
Jessie Shaylor.....						X				
Jeannot					X					
John M. Good.....			X			X				
Jubilee		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Judge Berry			X		X	X	X	X	X	X
June Day.....		X								
Karl Rosefield.....			X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Katharine Havemeyer.....	X		X		X					
Kelway's Glorious	X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X
Kelway's Queen.....	X	X	X		X		X			X
Lady Emily				X						
Lady Iris						X				X

Variety	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924
Lady Alexandra Duff.....	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lady Beresford.....			X							
La Fayette			X			X	X	X		
La Fiancee						X	X		X	
La Fee			X					X		X
La Fontaine								X	X	X
La France		X		X	X	X	X	X		X
La Tendresse			X	X			X	X	X	
Le Cygne		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Lamartine (Calot).....									X	
La Rosiere				X	X					
La Hollande							X			
Laura Dessert		X		X					X	
Laverne Christman	X									
La Perle	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X
Lake of Silver.....						X				
Lamartine (Lemoine).....				X			X	X		X
Last Rose.....		X								
La Verne										X
La Lorraine	X	X	X		X			X	X	
Livingstone	X	X		X						X
Lora Dexheimer.....		X	X			X	X			X
Longfellow	X			X	X	X	X		X	X
Lord Kitchener					X		X			X
Lorch	X									
Luetta Pfeiffer.....			X			X			X	
Lillian Gumm.....				X						
Mabel L. Franklin.....		X			X					
Madelon	X		X					X		
Magnificent										X
Marcelle Dessert						X			X	
Marchioness of Lansdown										X
Margaret Vierheller.....			X							
Marguerite Dessert									X	
Marguerite Gaudichau.....				X				X		
Marguerite Gerard.....			X	X	X				X	
Marie										X
Marie Calot						X				
Marie Crousse.....	X	X		X	X			X	X	
Marie Deroux										X
Marie Jacquin	X		X	X		X			X	
Marie Lemoine.....		X		X	X					
Marquis C. Lagergren			X					X		
Martha Bulloch.....	X					X			X	
Martha Bulloch.....		X	X	X	X		X			X
Mary Brand.....			X	X		X	X			

Variety	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924
Mary Hollis.....					X					
Mary P. King.....		X	X		X	X				
Mary Vories.....	X									
Mary Woodbury Shaylor.....					X				X	
Mme. de Vatry.....								X		
Mme. Geissler.....					X					X
Mme. Emile Galle.....	X	X		X	X				X	
Mme. de Treyeran.....						X				
Mme. Ducl.....					X	X			X	
Mme. de Galhau.....							X	X		X
Mme. Jules Dessert.....	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		
Mme. Emile Dupraz.....								X		
Mme. Joanne Sallier.....									X	
Mme. Francois Toscanelli.....								X		
Mme. Savreau.....						X	X	X		X
Mme. Jeanne Riviere.....						X	X	X		
Mme. Leonie Calot.....									X	
Mme. Jules Calot.....										X
Mme. Gaudichau.....		X	X					X	X	
Mme. Calot.....				X				X		X
Mme. Auguste Dessert.....		X		X	X	X			X	X
Mme. Emile Lemoine.....		X	X	X		X	X	X		X
Mme. Edouard Doriat.....			X							
Mme. de Verneville.....				X	X	X			X	
Media.....		X								
Mignon.....					X		X	X		X
Milton Hill.....	X	X		X	X			X		
Miss Salway.....	X		X							X
Minerva.....		X								
Miriam.....			X		X					
Minnie Shaylor.....			X							
Midnight.....					X					
Mons. Martin Cahuzac.....			X	X		X	X			X
Mons. Jules Elie.....		X	X		X	X		X	X	X
Mons. Jules Dessert.....										X
Mons. Dupont.....						X				
Mons. Barral.....										X
Modeste Guerin.....							X	X	X	
Mrs. Edward Harding.....			X	X	X	X			X	X
Mrs. Geo. Bunyard.....										X
Mrs. C. S. Minot.....	X		X			X				X
Mrs. A. M. Brand.....	X	X								
Mrs. E. Dunkels.....							X			
Mrs. Deane Funk.....	X	X								
Mrs. Harriet Gentry.....	X	X								
Mrs. Charles Gilbert.....						X				

Variety	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924
Mrs. Shaylor Force.....		X	X							
Mrs. John M. Kleitsch....	X	X								
Mr. L. van Leeuwen.....	X	X	X				X	X		
Mulligan								X		
Mlle. Rousseau.....						X				
Myrtle Gentry.....	X	X								X
Modele de Perfection.....	X									
Nanette			X							
Nell Shaylor.....			X							
Neptune					X					
Nina Secor.....	X	X		X						
Norfolk					X					
Nymphaea			X			X				X
Octavie Demay					X	X	X	X	X	X
Odette								X		
Old Silver Tip.....										X
Opal			X	X		X			X	
Othello							X	X		X
Pallas			X							
Paradise						X				
Pasteur	X			X				X		
Perette						X	X			
Peter Pan.....			X							
Philippe Rivoire.....	X	X		X	X		X	X		
Philomele				X				X		
Phoebe Carey.....	X	X		X	X	X				
Phyllis Kelway.....	X	X		X	X					
Pierre Duchartre.....	X									
Pierre Reignoux.....							X			X
Pink Baroness Schroeder..										X
Poet Frederick Mistral....								X		
Pomponette										X
Ponemah						X				
President Coolidge.....	X									
President Wilson	X		X	X					X	
Pride of Essex.....				X		X	X	X		X
Primevere	X			X		X	X	X		
Prince of Darkness.....				X						
Prince Imperial							X			
Prince of Wales.....							X	X		
Queen Wilhelmina							X	X		
Rachel						X				
Rachel (Lemoine).....				X		X	X	X	X	
Ralph			X							
Ramona	X									
Raoul Dessert.....		X	X	X	X		X			X

Variety	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924
Red Bird		X			X					
Reine Hortense	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Renee Marie			X							
Rev. Tragitt	X	X								
Richard Carvel		X		X		X				
R. P. Whitfield							X			
Rosa Bonheur	X						X	X		X
Rosalie		X								
Rose d'Amour								X		
Rose Shaylor			X			X				X
Rosette			X			X			X	
Rossini							X			
Rubra Superba		X								X
Ruby		X								
Ruth Brand					X	X			X	
Ruy Blas										X
Sappho							X	X		
Sarah Bernhardt	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
Sarah Carstensen			X			X		X	X	X
Sarah K. Thurlow										X
Shaylor's Dream			X							
Simonne Chevalier						X				
Sisters Ann						X				
Solange	X	X		X	X		X	X		X
Souv. de A. Millet			X							
Souv. de Gen. Gallienre							X			
Souv. de Louis Bigot			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Souv. de Francois Ruitton		X								
Splendida	X								X	X
Standard Bearer				X					X	
Stephanie			X							
Strassburg			X		X		X	X		
Suzette					X		X		X	X
Suzanne Dessert								X		
Sylvia				X				X		
Sylvia Louise				X						
Sylvia Saunders			X							
Therese			X	X	X			X		
Thomas Holloway								X		
Tourangelle	X		X	X			X	X	X	
Triomphe de L'Exp. de Lillie				X						
Umbellata Rosea						X				
Venus						X	X	X	X	X
Victoire Chateau Thierry			X							
Victoire de la Marne	X		X	X			X			

John S. Snook, asking for facts concerning Mr. Neeley's life in Paulding, and the second letter is the substance of Mr. Snook's reply.

"Lancaster, Ohio,
"December 12, 1934.

"Hon. John S. Snook,
"Paulding, Ohio.
"Dear Mr. Snook:

"Although a stranger to you I am taking the liberty of addressing you on a subject that I trust will be of interest to both.

"The Fairfield Garden Club is to devote one of its regular meetings as a memorial to Dr. John H. Neeley. Of course you know he was a native of Fairfield County, as well as having many friends here. It devolves upon me to deliver the principal paper of the evening.

"I think I am in possession of all the essential facts of his early life: birth, schooling, ancestry, habits, etc.

"I am not, however, so well informed concerning his life in Paulding. I know that it is asking a good deal of you to assist me, but I hope that it may be a labor of love to do so.

"I may say that I am familiar with your article in *The Flower Grower* of June, 1923. It is very helpful.

"Perhaps I can best put my wants in the form of questions. You need not answer in that order.

"What did John H. Neeley mean to Paulding?

"Did he ever hold public office?

"Was he instrumental in procuring a public library?

"Was he instrumental in procuring school work?

"Was he interested in church work?

"Was he interested in fraternal work?

"What started him in gardening work and when?

"What has he originated? I know of glads., peonies and poppies, but do not know their names.

"Of course, I know his garden in a general way and have several issues of his *Garden of Friendships*, so I know something of what it contains. What I want more than anything else are characteristic stories of his personality, garden, etc.

"What outstanding awards did he win?

"Was he as outstanding in his profession as he made himself in the field of gardening?

"Did he write anything for publication, either in the flower world, archeology or other?"

"Thanking you in advance I am,

"Yours truly,
"Gilbert S. Dey,
"424 E. 64th Ave.,
"Lancaster, Ohio."

Following is Judge Snook's reply:

"Paulding, Ohio,
"December 31, 1934.

"Mr. Gilbert S. Dey,

"Lancaster, Ohio.

"My Dear Mr. Dey:

"I surely am glad to learn that your Garden Club plans to devote one of its meetings as a memorial to Dr. Neeley. I am glad to say that I was one of his nearest friends.

"I visited with him at his home, and in his office and we took many trips together to visit flower shows, gardens and peony farms. I found him always to be a modest, high class gentleman, seemingly unconscious of his ability. Referring to the article in *The Flower Grower*, Madison Cooper had written him requesting that he prepare and send him, for publication, an article on his life and work.

"With his usual modesty he showed me Cooper's letter and said he could not write about himself and wondered if I would comply with Cooper's request. He gave me the information and it was in this way that the little article came to be published. I am sure his modesty was such that he would never have consented to write about himself. Such truly was the man.

"He often talked with me about his early life in Fairfield County, and the days he spent on his father's farm and in the country school. From his talk you could see that even then, he was interested in outdoor life and that as a boy he learned about all the birds that lived in that country, their habits and their songs. He told me, too, about the flowers and shrubs and trees, what one grew on the low lands and what on the hills. He could tell you just about all there was to know about such things. It was a subject in which he was interested from his earliest boyhood to his very last days.

"This being so he was a great admirer of John Burroughs and we often discussed his books.

"He had, by far, the widest and yet the most accurate knowledge of birds, insects, trees, shrubs, vines and flowers of any man it has ever been my privilege to know.

"His opinion was sought by growers all over the country and for many years he kept a personal correspondence with flower growers in every part of the United States. Just prior to his death he and several other growers were corresponding with Perry of England arranging to catalogue all the varieties of Oriental peonies.

"I often wondered how he found time to keep up this correspondence but he seemed to enjoy it thoroughly for he would say in this way he was keeping up with the times as well as making many friendships.

"He was a man of fine personality and an outstanding figure at all the flower shows which he attended. He was a member of the seedling committee of the American Peony Society formed for the purpose of passing on the merit of all new seedlings exhibited at the annual national peony shows.

"He was awarded the first prize at both the national peony shows held at Ft. Wayne, Ind., in the advanced amateur class for a showing of fifty or more varieties. His garden was visited every year by people from every part of the country.

"No wonder he named it 'A Garden of Friendships,' for most of the flowers and plants were gladly contributed by or secured through exchange with friends. If you have a copy of one of his circulars you will see that he had about all of the newest and best things that are to be had.

"Now to try to answer the specific questions you ask.

"What did Dr. Neeley mean to Paulding?

"I suppose no man is ever appraised at his true worth by the people among whom he lives. But I feel sure that it could be said almost unanimously that we have never had a citizen who did more for the community than he. You would be surprised to see how his example influenced others to have gardens and grow flowers. There are very few towns of our size anywhere that have so many flower gardens and still fewer that can show so many rare varieties. And I attribute it all to his influence.

"He was a man of great integrity and therefore very successful in his profession, always carrying on his work on the highest plane.

"Did he ever hold a public office?

"Never any that carried a salary, such he would not accept. But

for years he was a member of the board of education and trustee of the public library. In both capacities he gave the very highest kind of service.

“Was he interested in church work?”

“He was an active member of the Christian Church and for many years teacher of the Men’s Bible Class. He gave a good deal of time to this work. He often discussed it with me. He was quite independent in his thought and liked to lay out a course of work at times that was suggested by his reading or study. He used the lecture method and illustrated his talks from history, literature and incidents from everyday life. He was fond also of poetry and often he would devote a whole lesson to poetry, reciting poem after poem, and stopping to point out the moral or philosophy which he thought the author intended to express. In this work, too, he quoted often from McGuffey’s Readers, of which he was a great admirer.

“Was he interested in fraternal work?”

“He was a Mason and attended lodge and sometimes took part in the work, but he did not seem to care to be an officer of the lodge. Nearly all of the time he could spare from his professional work was devoted to his home, to reading and to his garden.

“You also ask if I can tell what started him in his garden work. I do not know for sure but I believe it was innate love of the beautiful as he saw it expressed in flower and shrub.

“He did not seem to be so much interested in the form or plan of the garden, however, as he did in the form, color and perfection of the individual blossom, as he was always trying through cross fertilization and cultivation to get a new and more beautiful flower and in this he had no little success.

“In his pamphlet, *A Garden of Friendships*, he lists some of the peonies, gladioli, iris and Oriental poppies which he originated, that is, which he grew from seed and which are different from any grown up to that time. The pamphlets do not have the names of all he originated for he was constantly culling and selecting from the hundreds of seedlings he had growing at all times.

“Most of the peonies that he thought good enough to name came from a single year’s sowing and were selected from something like about a thousand plants. The percentage of worth while plants from this one sowing is the highest I have ever known. In his latest pamphlet he lists as his own seedlings 1 to 77 and 100 to 109. I have seen all of these

and feel sure that each one has some merit and there are at least a dozen or more that rate away the best yet produced.

"Among those are *Gloriana*, *Pride of Paulding*, *Floweret of Eden*, Mrs. J. H. Neeley, *Ward Welch* and *Harry Burden*.

"He began very early in his gardening to collect Oriental poppies and he was so successful that at the time of his death he had one of the finest, if not the finest, collection of these flowers in the world. Here, too, he grew a great many new ones from seed, some of which he considered good enough to name. I realize how difficult it was to pick out the best flower in any variety and that judges are likely to differ in their choice, but to my way of thinking, his poppy named after his wife, Lulu A. Neeley, is the best that has yet been produced. His Cavalier poppy is also well known.

"He also grew many gladioli from seed, some of these he thought good enough to name and one found listed in *A Garden of Friendships*. The same is true of iris. In his garden will be found one of the finest collections of the newer varieties of iris to be found in a private garden anywhere.

"One of the finest memorials that anyone could have was bestowed on him while he was still alive when Ward Welch of the Good & Welch Company, Springfield, O., named the finest seedling they ever produced, *Dr. J. H. Neeley*. I am sure this peony will help to keep his name and fame fresh in the memories of all peony growers, for truly, it is one of the most beautiful flowers in the world.

"I copy the following from the December, 1934, number of the PEONY BULLETIN which gives the names of some of his seedling peonies, poppies and glads., and I have added a few names from memory:

"We have recently heard of the passing of Dr. J. H. Neeley of Paulding, O. Dr. Neeley has been a member of the American Peony Society for a number of years and was also on the permanent seedling committee. His work with the Oriental poppy has been outstanding. Lulu A. Neeley, one of his older originations, is one of the finest poppies now in commerce. Cavalier, Echo, Enchantresse, June Delight, Purity, Mary Jane Miller, are among the outstanding recently introduced in the poppy world. Among his peony introductions are *Gloriana*, *Pride of Paulding*, *Floweret of Eden*, *Ward Welch*, Mrs. J. H. Neeley, *Harry Burden*, *Heart's Idol*, *Star of Hope* and *Leto Jap*. In gladioli we have *Beauty's Queen*, *Storm Cloud*, *Bright Wings*, *Fairy Lantern*, *Winter King* and *Golden Promise*."

"Yours truly,

"John S. Snook, Paulding, Ohio."

Schedule of the American Peony Society's Annual Exhibition,
June 20-21, 1935, in Horticultural Hall, 300 Massa-
chusetts Avenue, Boston, Mass.,

in co-operation with

The Massachusetts Horticultural Society

Judges of the following schedules: Harry W. Claybaugh, chairman, Franklin, Pa.; Dr. Earl B. White, Kensington, Md.; Geo. W. Peyton, Rapidan, Va.; L. E. Foster, York, Neb.; Harry A. Norton, Ayers Cliff, Quebec; David E. Moulton, Portland, Me.

Alternate judges will be appointed in the event regular designated judges are not present at time of judging.

- Class 1. Collection of one hundred named varieties and not less than eighty, semi-double or double, one bloom each. The Gold Medal of the American Peony Society will be offered.
- Class 2. Collection of not less than twenty-five nor more than thirty named varieties, one bloom each, semi-double or double. The Silver Medal of the American Peony Society will be offered. (Amateurs.)
- Class 3. Collection of ten named varieties, semi-double or double, three blooms each, each variety shown in a separate container.
- Class 4. Ten blooms, one variety, white, named, semi-double or double, shown in one container.
- Class 5. Ten blooms, one variety, light pink, named, semi-double or double, shown in one container.
- Class 6. Ten blooms, one variety, dark pink, named, semi-double or double, shown in one container.
- Class 7. Ten blooms, one variety, red, named, semi-double or double, shown in one container.
- Class 8. Three specimen blooms, one variety, white, named, semi-double or double, shown in one container.
- Class 9. Three specimen blooms, one variety, light pink, named, semi-double or double, shown in one container.
- Class 10. Three specimen blooms, one variety, dark pink, named, semi-double or double, shown in one container.
- Class 11. Three specimen blooms, one variety, red, named, semi-double or double, shown in one container.
- Class 12. Collection of not less than ten, nor more than twenty Japanese varieties, named, one bloom each, shown in separate container, both quality and quantity to count.
- Class 13. Collection of ten single Chinese varieties, named, one bloom each, shown in separate containers.
- Class 14. Best red peony in the show, one bloom.
- Class 15. Collection of two blooms each of five varieties of American origin. Cherry Hill Nurseries offers \$10 and \$5 in roots.

- Class 16. Collection of two blooms each of five varieties of foreign introductions. Cherry Hill Nurseries offers \$10 and \$5 in roots.
- Class 17. Collection, not exceeding twenty-five varieties, one bloom of each, single, double, or Japanese from any state or province other than Massachusetts. To promote interest and encourage exhibits from a wide area.
- Class 18. Collection of double peonies rating 8.5 or over, one bloom in each vase, limited to thirty varieties.
- Class 19. Collection of tree peonies, named, single or double.
- Class 20. Collection of early flowering hybrids derived from officinalis, Wittmanniana, etc.
- Class 21. Six blooms, one named variety, shown in one container.
- Class 22. Collection of varieties introduced in the year 1920 or later, any number, one bloom each, shown in separate container, showing name of variety, name of introducer, and year of introduction.
- Class 23. Seedlings. The judging of this class will be done by the standing Seedling Committee and the following may be awarded: Certificates of Honorable Mention, First Class Certificate, Silver Medal and Gold Medal. The scale of points to be used in judging will be as follows:

Color	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25%
Form	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15%
Size	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15%
Distinctiveness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15%
Substance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
Stem	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
Odor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
								100%

- Class 24. Best one specimen bloom, representing the best flower of the show, to be selected by the judges from entries in all the classes. Prize, B. H. Farr Medal.
- Class 25. The best basket arrangement of peonies, basket not to exceed twenty inches in diameter. Other flowers or foliage may be used but peonies must predominate.
- Class 26. The best arrangement in vase, bowl, or other container featuring peonies. Other flowers or foliage may be used but peonies must predominate.
- Class 27. THE AMERICAN HOME ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL. The American Home offers this medal for the best NEW PEONY exhibited at the show. Award to be made by the Seedling Committee.

SPECIAL!

BOYD MEDAL. The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society offers yearly The James Boyd Memorial Silver Medal for the most distinguished peony entry in the show, the decision to be made by all the judges participating.

NOTES

Copies of this schedule may be obtained from A. H. Nehrling, Show Manager, Horticultural Society, 300 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, Mass., who can also give you full instructions as to where cold storage shipments should be made. Extra copies can also be obtained from the secretary, W. F. Christman, Northbrook, Ill.

The annual meeting and banquet will be held at Hotel Statler, 7 P. M., June 20th, the banquet preceding the meeting. Tickets may be secured at Horticultural Hall, or advance reservations may be sent to Winthrop H. Thurlow, West Newbury, Mass.

Rules of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society will be followed.



Secretary's Notes



THE preliminary schedule for the Boston show has been completed and final schedule is being prepared. We want to have it appear in this issue of the BULLETIN and for this reason have delayed the publishing of the number.

The number of classes has been materially reduced from former years but this will not in any way reduce the quality of the exhibits, in fact, we think it will improve them. Most of the classes are open to both amateurs and professional growers alike. The finest classes have been retained and these have been supplemented by some interesting ones. We know the show will be of a very high standard and we expect some outstanding bloom to be displayed.

The request of President Claybaugh should be complied with by everyone growing peonies. There will be a class provided for such entries and we would like to see which state or province can put up the finest exhibit of first-class bloom.

From reports we have received from various sections of the country we feel sure that there will be sufficient moisture this spring to start growth and the prospects at this time are for a splendid blooming season. In this immediate section the growth was temporarily retarded by a belated snowstorm, April 8, but as the temperature did not get far below the freezing point, no material damage will result. There was sufficient snow to protect the plants from damage. It was of short duration and doubtless did a great deal of good as all of the moisture was absorbed.

Mr. H. F. DuPont of Winterthur, Delaware, has written me under date of January 28, stating that he has grown the variety Wittmannia for many years and that it blooms early in May of each year. We would like to hear from others growing these specie peonies, which will add many days to your peony-blooming season. The wonderful gardens of Mr. DuPont are known far and wide and we are hopeful that we may have some photos of these famous gardens to present to our readers through the BULLETIN.

Mr. Bongers has given us a very interesting account of peonies in southern Iowa. We hope to hear more from him in future BULLETINS.

Mr. Auten has given us a little history of the work of Mr. Glass-

cock and his hybrid peonies. I have had the pleasure of visiting this fine planting of peonies but unfortunately it was too early in the season to see the bloom. We are hopeful this year of making a visit when the bloom are at their best. We saw hundreds of hybrids just peeping through the ground and doubtless a number of them will develop into worthy introductions.

Mr. Harry L. Richardson who has been honored by Mr. Rosenfield in the naming of one of his finest red seedling peonies, and who is doubtless as well qualified as any one to write about the late Mr. Rosenfield's work with the peony, has given us a very interesting article in this issue.

Dr. Wilhelm urges all to attend the national shows each year and become better acquainted with the new peonies that are being brought out.

Mr. Benjamin W. Guppy has suggested a method of rating peonies and has some very sound advice to offer. Let us have some comments on this method.

Drouth-stricken Nebraska, like many other sections of the country last season, is well described in Mr. Foster's article.

Mr. Nathaniel Bacon has given us a report from Virginia and Mr. Lanigan of Central Illinois. Let's have many of these reports from the various peony-growing sections of the country.

Your Secretary has attempted to give you some data on prize-winning peonies that was prepared some time ago, but still contains information that will be found helpful.

The memorial planned for Dr. Neeley, which is described in this issue, will be of interest to many of us who knew Dr. Neeley during his lifetime. It is very fitting that the Fairfield Garden Club honor Dr. Neeley's memory in this manner.

We have the first installment of descriptions of the new peonies that has been compiled by Geo. W. Peyton of Rapidan, Va., with comments that will be found most interesting. This will appear in the June issue of the BULLETIN and will be found a splendid guide in making selections for fall planting. These descriptions will continue in forthcoming issues and will cover a large number of the more recent and newest originations now in commerce, or soon to be introduced.

DEATHS REPORTED

Barlow, Thos. B., North Plainfield, N. J.

Darrall, Fred C., R. R. 2, Boise, Idaho. Died February 28th, 1935.

McClain, Frederick, Gibsonia, Pa. Died May, 1932.

NEW MEMBERS

Abramson, E., 2309 S. Kenneth, Chicago, Ill.

Interstate Nurseries, Hamburg, Iowa.

Kneeland, Mrs. L. G., Treasurer, The Home Garden Club, 574 South High Street, Denver, Colorado.

Manning, L. E., c/o F. W. Kelsey Nursery Co., 50 Church Street, New York City, N. Y.

Rush, R. Z., R. F. D. 3, Chanute, Kan.

CHANGES IN ADDRESS

Brander, Dr. J. F., formerly 502 McLeod Bldg., change to 10652-81st Ave., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Hubbard, C. W., Lake Forest, Ill., change to 339 Oak Circle, Wilmette, Ill.

Webb, Dr. J. S., formerly 2271 Hoyt Ave., W., St. Paul, Minn., change to Department Electrical Engineering, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.



Peonies Reach Perfection in Western Climate

J. A. SIMPSON, manager of Hubbard Peony Farm, Everett, Snohomish County, Wash., a former Chicago resident, started in the commercial production of peonies in Minnesota in 1914, where he started out by growing 800 seedlings. From this stock he selected twenty-five outstanding plants which he took with him to western Washington in 1918.

"I made a study of soil and climatic conditions in various parts of the United States, finding the Puget Sound country to be the most ideal for the production of peonies and Holland bulbs," says Mr. Simpson. "Soil and temperature conditions when coupled with the long growing season are most desirable. A bulb will come to its maximum production here as nowhere else in the United States."

Mr. Simpson is the originator of several new varieties. Three of them are registered with the American Peony Society. One of these is *Everett*, a delicate pink of the crown type, another one *Marion Talley*, a pink of crown type, and *Mrs. Colonel Lindbergh*, pink, rose type with rose fragrance.

"The longer one grows peonies the more critical he becomes and does not get very optimistic about new creations until they have been scored and registered by the authorities of the association," Mr. Simpson says.

Many of the varieties he has on his specialty farm have been winners of gold medals. He specializes on those of the world's highest rating. He says that peonies will grow anywhere except in the tropics, will stand sub-zero weather, and are known to produce splendid blooms above Edmonton, Canada, but that they come to their acme of perfection in

the Puget Sound country. Mr. Simpson has found that they will stand more abuse than any other perennial, have no insect pests and almost no diseases. They have been known to remain in one place without transplanting for 75 years.



Central Illinois Notes

W. E. LANIGAN, Lincoln, Ill.

BEFORE me on my writing desk is a small dark object, about the size and shape of a pea. Diminutive and insignificant as far as itself is concerned, this small, dark object is a seed from one of the largest and most beautiful peonies in existence, *Monsieur Jules Elie*.

Introduced in 1888, *Monsieur Jules Elie* proved to be Crousse's masterpiece. Its stems are somewhat weak but the size and color of its blooms are outstanding.

If I planted this *Elie* seed this week (the last week of October), it is probable that there would be no germination next spring. The outside has become dry and extremely hard. Peony seed should be planted soon after the seed becomes brown.

Peonies vary considerably in seed-production. *Walter Faxon*, *Festiva Maxima*, *Monsieur Jules Elie*, *Madame Jules Dessert*, *Karl Rosefield*, *Eugenie Verdier*, *Pallas*, *Variiegata*, *Felix Crousse*, *Marie Crousse*, *James Kelway*, *Pbyllis Kelway*, *Georgiana Shaylor*, *Exquisite*, *Suzette* and *Frances Willard* set some seed nearly every year but the quantity is usually small. *Primevere*, *Monsieur Martin Cabuzac*, *Venus*, *Richard Carvel*, *Lady Alexandra Duff* and *Octavie Demay* are excellent seed-parents. I have never found seed on *Le Cygne*, *Therese*, *Solange*, *Jubilee*, *Eldon Pleas*, *Opal*, *Couronne D'Or*, *Claire Dubois*, *Grover Cleveland*, *Eugene Verdier*, *Albert Crousse*, *Sarah Bernhardt*, *Martha Bulloch*, *Grandiflora*, *Baroness Schroeder* or *Philippe Rivoire*.



AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

THE American Iris Society has, since its organization in 1920, published 45 Bulletins which cover every phase of Iris growing and should be useful to all gardeners.

The society has copies of all but three of these Bulletins for sale. A circular giving list of contents of each Bulletin, price, etc., may be secured from the acting Secretary, John H. Ferguson, 1918 Harford Ave., Baltimore, Md.

In order to dispose of surplus stocks of some numbers we offer 6 Bulletins (our selection) for \$1.00.



Through an endowment given as a memorial to the late Bertrand H. Farr the American Iris Society is able to offer free to all Garden Clubs or Horticultural

Societies the use of our traveling library. This library contains all books ever published on Iris and a complete file of the Bulletins of this society and the English Iris Society, and miscellaneous pamphlets.

The library may be borrowed for one month without charge except the actual express charges. Organizations desiring it should communicate with the nearest of the following offices:

Horticultural Society of New York,
598 Madison Ave., New York City.

*Mrs. Katherine H. Leigh, Missouri
Botanic Garden, St. Louis, Mo.

Sydney B. Mitchell, School of Librarian-
ship, Berkeley, Calif.

*Mrs. Leigh also has charge of the Society's collection of Iris lantern slides, which can be rented for \$10.

To Members of the *American Peony Society*

Did you ever wonder what peony species look like? Do you know what our American species look like? We often have, and so we begged the help of Professor Saunders whom you all know. The result is a beautiful series of photographs in the July issue of *The National Horticultural Magazine*. As a special offer to members of the American Peony Society, we will send a copy of this number for fifty cents. Payment should be made to The American Horticultural Society and the order sent to B. Y. Morrison, Room 821, Washington Loan and Trust Building, Washington, D. C. If stamps are sent, send only two-cent and three-cent stamps, please. Be sure to mention your membership in the American Peony Society.

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