

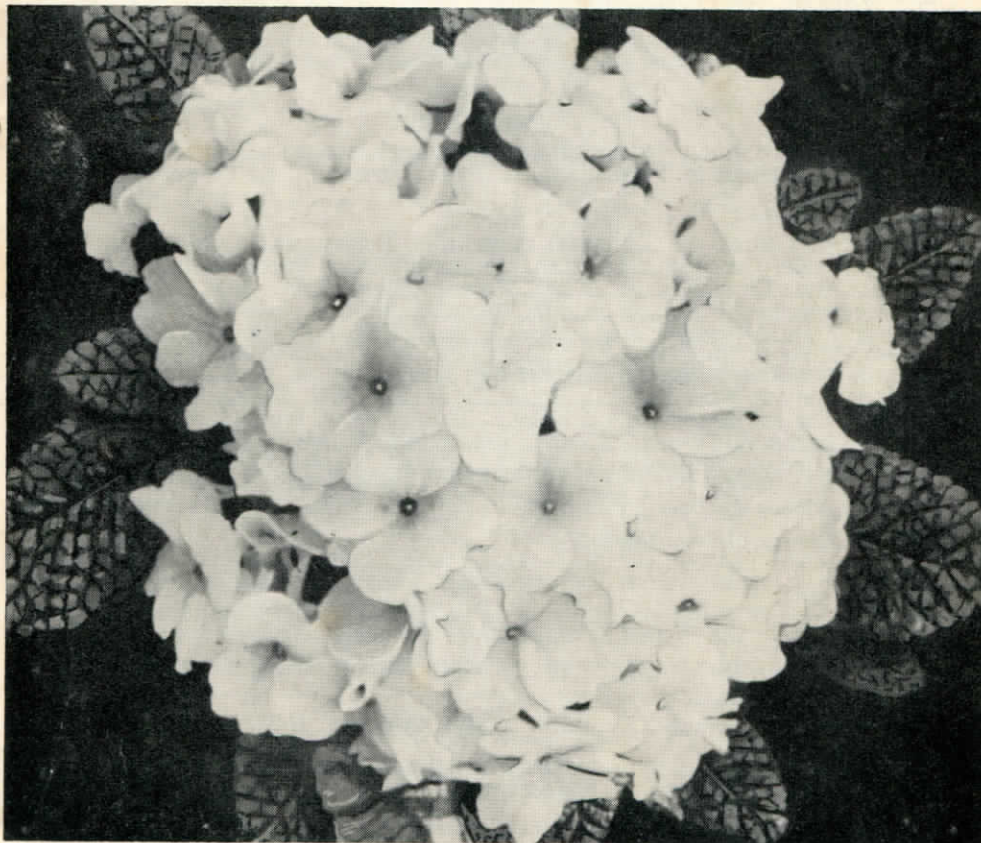
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Quarterly of the American
Primrose
Society

VOLUME XXII

WINTER 1964

NUMBER 1



Primula vulgaris (acaulis) 'PREMIERE'—Courtesy Ernst Benary

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THE PICTURE ON THE COVER: *Primula vulgaris (acaulis)* 'PREMIERE' is a
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 Photograph courtesy of Ernst Benary.

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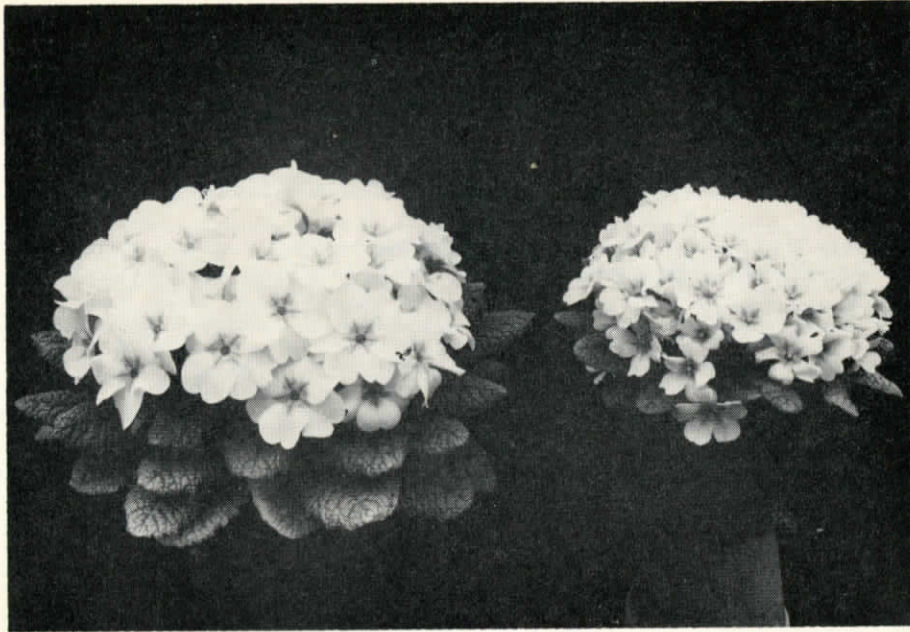
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Left: *P. vulgaris* 'Biedermeier', Right: *P. vulgaris* 'Amulett'
 Courtesy Edgar Gugenhan

Notes On New Primula Acaulis Forms

ELMER C. BALDWIN

In the 1963 exchange list we were able to distribute under No. 450 a small amount of *P. acaulis* Vatter's Strain. Our Editor in charge of translations, Mr. Robert Luscher, has kindly forwarded the following notes: "Since *P. acaulis* has been seriously cultivated, its garden value has steadily increased, becoming first class material for urns. One entirely new Swiss strain, first offered from 1962 seed crop is the Vatter Strain. It is remarkable in its large flowers of clear, pure colors of yellow, medium and dark blue, dark red, and white, as well as pastels." Another primula which we tested last year (No. 444), *acaulis* PREMIERE is also mentioned: "—by the use of colchicine, a mutant resulted, becoming the basis for an entirely new strain within the *acaulis* class. We have

here a new plant structure, notable in that the leaves form small rosettes, giving free space in the center for the compact and colorful inflorescence."

A third new strain described is: "—*acaulis* Biedermeier, deriving its name from the bouquet-forming and abundantly arranged florets over nearly horizontal leaves. The individual floret is of moderate size, their profusion more than offsetting the questionable shortcoming of size. It is hardy, easily forced, and is a patented plant with a color range of blue, white, cream, yellow, golden-orange, and red."

A new variety, first available in 1964 crop seed will be *acaulis* Amulett. The following description by the Director of the Agricultural Institute is given with permission: "For many years, Hans

Mueller studied the possibilities and adaptabilities of special strains and cultures within the geographic and climatic limitations of his location. Two particular strains were selected and very extensively developed over the following years. The results of this work are now ready for the market. They are BIEDERMEIER and AMULETT, both patented. The most outstanding variety, Amulett, had completely new growth characteristics. The primary aim was to obtain a plant suitable for pot culture on a large scale. About 120,000 potted plants were in cultivation during the spring of 1963. This plant is ideal for 2½ to 3¼ inch pots and also for combinations in community pots, and of course, in the garden border or under light shade of trees.

As seedlings, the growth features are similar to all other usual kinds, the leaves forming a somewhat open rosette, averaging, including the stalk, approximately 8" in length and 2⅜" in width. During the second year, however, a very distinct change takes place. After a winter's dormancy, many leaf-rosettes begin to grow from the crown. The novelty consists in the dwarfing of the leaves which in open ground reach a length of 2 inches, and when forced in pots, slightly longer with a maximum width of nearly ¾ of an inch. During the formation of the flower buds the leaf arrangement envelops the flowers like a wreath. While the flowers form a compact ball with from 60 to 100 open blossoms, more flower buds are present for a successive display. The entire blooming period can be from 4 to 6 weeks. The pedicel is short, 1¼ to 2 inches, erect and is slightly pubescent. Each floret expands to ¾ to 1¼ inches. The colors are blue, white, yellow, red and intermediates.

The plant gives the impression of compactness. The inflorescence appears above the partially hidden leaf-rosette, underneath. The plant has withstood 4 degrees F., with no snow covering

It is readily forced in temperature of 45 to 54 degrees F. and when brought into the greenhouse, become salable in from 9 to 15 days. The culture is identical to all other known strains, with only one transplanting after sowing in the spring and potting up during August or September into 2½ to 3¼ pots. The wintering over for forcing is best accomplished in the cold frame."

We are indebted to Mr. Gugenham, Director of the Hohenheim Agricultural Institute for permission to reprint the notes on *P. acaulis* AMULETT and BIEDERMEIER, as well as the pictures; to the publishers of the South German Market Gardener's Journal, Eugen Ulmer of Stuttgart and its Editor, Mr. Leo Jellito; and to Mr. Robert Luscher for the translation of the above notes.

The French strain, *P. acaulis* "Parisian Mixed" is also recommended for pot culture. The grower gives the following suggestions: "Sow in March, in the shaded seed plot and transplant in May or June to a partially shaded place. Pot up in 3½ to 4 inch pots in September and place in cold frame until the time for forcing, as, to assure the abundant, quick, and regular production of flowers it is indispensable that the plants be subjected to the influence of a period of cold of a maximum temperature of plus 41 F., which favors the formation of the flower bud, until their entry into greenhouse temperatures of from 50 to 54 F., maximum, where they should remain for 3 to 4 weeks to bring them into proper flowering. Care should be taken to keep the pot buried to the rim, in the cold frame as well as in the greenhouse, to avoid drying which will retard growth."

It is recommended that the potting soil be on the light and humus side, containing leaf mold and well decayed cow manure, or its equivalent, depending on the grower's preference.

Letter From The North

RUTH M. SCHERER, *Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan*

Mrs. Florence Bellis of Barnhaven, Gresham, Oregon has shared this letter with us in the hope that it will help others who have difficult weather.

Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan
February 25, 1963

Dear Mrs. Bellis:

You, too, seem surprised that primroses grow so well here at the Sault. They do!—if planted where they like it. Turning the calendar back to around 1938 or 1940 when we lived four hundred miles to the south in New Buffalo, I remember my first primroses. Those three yellow Polyanthus eventually became a primrose path for my large Herb Garden there and, although I still have a few of these original plants here on the campus of Michigan College of Mining and Technology, heat and cold took their toll after we left.

Here, at this Branch of the College, we must, of course, garden within the framework of the institution. The campus is on top of a flat hill of resistant clay overlooking the St. Mary's River and Canada. The New International Bridge Toll Gate or Plaza is just one block to the west of us where the hill was cut down on the west end of the campus. This means that our house gets a real buffeting by the strong and cold winds off the upper St. Mary's River and Lake Superior. All year, there is an almost constant air circulation through The Falls Trench.

My first gardening attempts here were in front of the house, which faces east. The first thing that had to be done was to plant shrubs at the northeast corner to help waylay the wind and direct it to pile more snow on the front lawn. We can expect snow about November 15th and to have it with us until the last of April to a depth of from two to five feet. Naturally, it melts away from the house first, laying the ground bare which, in turn, uncovers

the resting buds of *P. denticulata*. To me, *P. denticulata* is an unbelievably lovely flower. And it blooms so early! I first saw this Primula at a local nursery about thirteen years ago. Again, as with my first yellow Polyanthus, I bought three plants. By dividing, I now have three large groups of them, their shades of lavender accented by daffodils and some of my original yellow Polyanthus. All are happy out there in front of the house which, as I said before, faces east, and they continue to give happiness to visitors and students who stop to enjoy them each spring. The snow is their only protection, and the elm, nearby, provides summer shade. Although I do not cover the *Denticulatas* at all, I do clip off all old foliage in the fall to eliminate hiding places for slugs. To the hard clay soil I have added woods humus, buckwheat hulls, sand, plant food, etc., throughout the years.

By this time the primrose bug had really bitten me, so the conclusion that-if-a-few-plants-are-lovely-why-not-more? was easily reached. Out came the primrose catalogs, followed by my order, and back came the reply that it was too late for blooming plants. In time, transplants were delivered. These I planted around the elm by the walk and they seemed happy that summer, but by spring, only a few plants remained. Naturally, I was disappointed. In the meantime my membership in the Primrose Society, and the back issues of the Quarterly with all their information only made me want more. The problem was: WHERE TO PLANT? I looked to the south of the house where there is a hedge of buckthorn between buildings. Here winter winds blew large drifts in places, but the space nearest the house was always blown clean, freezing water pipes seven feet underground. So I laid up a low wall of used brick to direct and pile



P. Denticulata and Tulip Clusiana bloom at the same time.

the snow where I wanted it and there I keep my most choice plants.

The primrose border extends upgrade along some forty feet of hedge. Last fall much of it was prepared for divisions of older plants and to take the plantlets. I dug out the clay, then mixed it with sand, compost, peat moss and plant food, after which I replaced it. Then I set out some of the "planting pockets" with young plants somewhat the way Doretta Klaber suggested. In back of this primrose border (which is mostly Polyanthus and Acaulis) are daffodils and perennials and in back of these, is the hedge. With the coming of fall, we gathered red and white pine needles—the long ones—which were

added for winter mulch, tucked under all the plants and over them, then the whole thing topped off with boughs of pine and spruce. Now (February 25th) there is from one and a half feet to four feet of snow over the entire area.

My first order of plants was designed to make a "pretty picture" with taller Candelabras for the back, Auriculas in front, then Polyanthus and Acaulis. Since then, I've learned that Auriculas like lime, so this bed and added areas have all been rearranged. All the "limies" are located together. Limestone is easily procured here from the Limestone Ridge twenty-five miles to the south of us. Into the area of these plants I work nut-sized limestone into



Primula acaulis

the soil four to eight inches down, then cover with a humusey mixture. After the plants are set in this, ground limestone of gravel-size is spread over the soil and around the plants. The Auriculas seem quite happy, and the small plants from seed seem to be doing well. Next summer will tell.

I would say that, for this area, Acaulis, Polyanthus and Denticulatas are quite easily grown IF the clay is combined with plenty of humus, sand and peat moss or compost, and then well protected in winter by snowdrifts. The mulch of pine needles and evergreen boughs also helps against the winds while the ground is bare. I use bonemeal and commercial cow or sheep manure for side dressing and for working into the soil around plants. And, of course, watering when needed. In addition to the primroses already mentioned, I have several named Doubles, Hose-in-hose and P. Sieboldi and all seem happy. But only a trace of the Candel-

abras remains, due I am sure, to too dry a location.

In ending, I wish to say that no other flower has given me so much pleasure.

Most sincerely
RUTH M. SCHERER

By-Laws Change . . .

At the October 26, 1963 meeting of the A.P.S. Board of Directors, a change was voted in the By-Laws, Article 4, Section (one) which now reads as follows:

"The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, the immediate Past President, the Editor of the Quarterly, the six elected Directors and the current president of each affiliated Society."

This change was made with the idea of fostering closer unity and cooperation within the A. P. S. Affiliated Societies are asked to please keep us informed of the election of new local presidents so that they may receive notice of board meetings.

Primroses I Love You

JULIA L. ASHER

Primroses do wonderfully here in northern Indiana. Our climate is about the same as that of Chicago with long, cold winters and not so long, hot summers. Temperatures usually range between ten degrees below zero to ninety and a hundred, but last winter was colder than usual with a ten day period of night-time temperatures ranging from five below to twenty-one below zero. Since primroses do so well here, I believe they must adapt themselves and change their schedule to suit whatever climate falls to their lot. Here, with the long winters, that schedule is almost like clockwork. One can nearly predict the very day they will start bursting into bloom! This is around April 25th, the time of our last killing frost.

I tread an equally predictable course of action although always several steps behind schedule. Around March 1st I plant the seed. In July — earlier if possible — I set out the small plants under tall, widely-spaced oak trees which give dappled shade. Before planting, plenty of humus has been added to the soil to conserve moisture. Later I mulch. Then, immediately the ground freezes and before it snows, I put on the winter protection. When enough snow has melted to take a peek, I do that. And when the ground thaws, I remove the winter protection which means that in about three weeks I will be going out of my mind as the primroses are coming into bloom.

Pinpointing my procedure, seed is first frozen and thawed three or four weeks and then sown in flats around the 1st of March. These flats are placed in a sunny utility room. In a short time I am transplanting into peat pots and moving them into the cold frames. Since our sun can be fatal to tiny seedlings (although large plants can endure it), I use some burlap over the slat shading

for extra shade until the hottest hours of the day have passed. The frames are closed to protect the seedlings from heavy rain, and the slat shading is placed on this.

The ideal time to prepare the soil for planting out the seedlings would, of course, be a week or two in advance. But commercial growers have to do their spadework as, or after, the sales plants are sold and space becomes available. Inasmuch as our native humus is peat from the peat marshes and this can be purchased in no smaller amounts than by the truck load, I usually suggest peat moss or leafmould from the woods. Ours happens to be oak leafmould, of which I use a lot and find that it is not too acid. For plant food I keep compost heaps going with weed clippings, rabbit and cow manure, which we have available. I realize that of this combination only the weed clippings are handy to most gardeners, so I suggest any good organic fertilizer worked into the soil along with bonemeal at planting time. I also scratch a good bit of bonemeal around the old and new plants in late summer or early fall before putting the sawdust mulch on. At this time I also dig last year's sawdust mulch into the soil around the older plants that were not sold. By this time it is thoroughly rotted and makes a fine contribution of nitrogen and humus to the soil. It should, of course, never be dug in until it is thoroughly rotted. In the green stage, sawdust robs the soil of nitrogen instead of adding it. Years of stunted plants is the result.

Since the plants are in the shade and the humus holds the moisture, I do not have to water very often. Of course, the plants should never get too dry, particularly the young ones and the Candelabras, so watering is sometimes necessary. I then soak them well rather than



A well grown Polyanthus Primrose. — Photo by Orval Agee

sprinkling from the top.

But to return to the planting out of the seedlings. As I previously said they are planted under the oaks in July, or if the plants and I get together on it, before July to give the longest possible time for growth and deep rooting before winter shuts down activity. Like most cold climates, we have our periods of partial freezing followed by thaw which

breaks the roots and pushes up the plants unless something is done about it. This something I take care of by placing at least an inch of ROTTED OR ROTTING sawdust on top of the soil between and around the young plants any time after they are large enough, usually late August or September. This means under the leaves and around the crowns but not in or on the

plants. Sawdust gives the same insulation to the soil in winter as it did to ice in summer back in the days of the old ice houses. Once the sawdust is down there is little left to do as it prevents weeds from growing throughout the entire spring blooming season. Just be sure the sawdust does not come from wood treated with creosote.

With this mulch around the plants and proper coverage over them after the ground has really frozen, we have never had any winter damage. Sometimes there is quite a rush to get this covering on between the time the ground freezes and the first snow. Last winter this was December 7th. It takes a comparatively short time to put on a lacy web of pulled wood excelsior (this for extra air and lightness) on top of which I put a good six to eight inches of straw. Nothing happens to them under this protection except a sense of well-being and actual expansion. When enough snow has melted it is pecking time. Last year this was on George Washington's birthday and, as always, I found the leaves plump and a brilliant green! What a herald of spring.

Around April 1st the ground thaws and the plants have begun pushing up so eagerly that I must remove all the straw and excelsior. Until April 25th we are apt to have freezing temperatures at night, often with drops to twenty degrees. This, however, seems to do no damage as the plants have evidently hardened themselves to the climate. In the fall, too, when there are scattered blooms, a drop to twenty degrees seems not to phase them at all. If the next day says that winter is not yet here, so do the primroses with the opening of new buds! I never cease to wonder that a plant so exquisite, with beauty so rare, can be that adaptable and easy to handle. People look on them in bloom as on a world of magic. And this is the way they effect me year after year.

(Editor's note: Mrs. Asher operates the Woodland Nursery, R.R. 2, Box 379, Chesterton, Indiana.)

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 NANCY FORD, Editor.

Winter Weather Watching

FLORENCE BELLIS, *Barnhaven, Gresham, Oregon*

While Mrs. Scherer is directing and managing her snowdrifts on page four, and Mrs. Asher, on page nine is confidently awaiting her George Washington's birthday peek, others are leading their primroses through the winter by much the same methods. All say their plants emerge like fat lambs in the spring but, since space prohibits quoting so many, two from Iowa will be selected. As everyone knows, Iowa's climate consists of four seasons dedicated to the failure of primroses.

Jane Wood, good gardener that she is, saves excelsior (she didn't say whether wood or paper but it doesn't matter) during the summer and puts it on just *before* the ground freezes. Mrs. Asher puts her winter cover on *after* the ground freezes, so evidently it makes no difference just so it's on. Miss Wood, who gardens in Ottumwa, places wire baskets over the excelsior to keep it in place and protect the plants from traffic and whatever other disaster may be headed in their direction.

Mrs. Paul Ryan says that the snow in Davenport seems to put such pressure on the plants they are squashed and smothered unless she places plastic bell covers over them, especially the young plants. Over the older plants she puts berry boxes. One of her friends has equal success by making collarettes out of excelsior around each plant, lifting the leaves off the ground. Like Mrs. Asher, Mrs. Ryan speaks of the unusually cold winter of last year. The drop was so sudden, and the cold so intense, she did not get the plants covered. All of her Oriental primroses survived this coldest winter in twenty-five years, and half the Polyanthus. They are planted on the north side of the house several feet from the foundation wall with plenty of humus and cow manure in the soil.

In the meantime, what are we doing in the Pacific Northwest? I don't know about everyone else but I am thumping the barometer every morning, checking the thermometer throughout the day, listening to the 6 o'clock weather report, and worrying. Frankly, I should like to skip winter entirely and have eternal spring or, at least, return to those good old-fashioned winters with a nice snow coverage whenever the temperature drops to around twenty or twenty-five. But such winters seem in the long ago replaced by the modern, glamorous spring-in-winter followed by winter-in-spring kind. This is the type of winter that has caused too many of our northwestern gardeners to drag the non-hardy herring across their decimated primrose plantings. And it has been more than a decimation. If it were but one out of ten, but more often it is ten out of ten that are lost.

Perhaps we are spoiled by an otherwise cooperative gardening climate. Or perhaps we still don't know what's causing it or what to do about it. The trouble lies not only in a winter that wishes to be spring followed by the bitter reality that it is not, but in the nature of primroses themselves. Because they are the first perennials to bloom in the spring, most of them heavy with foliage, they are winter active whenever temperatures are above freezing. Add to this the fact that, because they are the first to bloom in the spring, they become additionally restless with the lengthening days. This time, of course, begins December 21st. To this add the moderate temperatures of recent Decembers and Januaries followed by sudden drops of from ten degrees to zero, and you have the whole collapsed picture of the unprotected, winter-active plant.

There are those who insist that some

colors of Polyanthus are hardy but that other colors are not, the notes being pinks, blues, violets lavenders, corals. This is a natural conclusion but incorrect. Just as incorrect as my conclusion that Candelabras, because the majority are winter dormant are always safe here without covering. While Mrs. Ryan's Candelabras in Davenport without covering and in at least 25 degrees below zero weather came through 100%, ours were 100% lost at 10 degrees. The difference lies in the fact that Mrs. Ryan's had not started growing, that the tender leaves remained wrapped inside the resting buds, and the resting buds were in a pre-natal slumber with knees drawn up to their chin. Just so do Mrs. Scherer's Denticulatas remain in the same deep sleep. But, here, how many times have we watched, with a fool's ecstasy, the unfolding of Denticulata resting buds, knowing that spring has really come. Otherwise how could the flower be there, open, and nestling in the crown's heart? And how many times have we returned, following a late freeze, to find nothing but blackened stumps?

So it is with the Polyanthus that bloom too early for their own good because we have not protected them against themselves. These pinks and blues, already mentioned, are the ones with the Mediterranean blood, and the Mediterranean blood flares up, alive and eager, whenever it feels the urge to do so without regard for caution. But not those of English extraction, not the yellows, white, bronzes and allied colors. The English, always calm and composed, keep cool and wait for the sure thing. And there you have the reason for the fall and winter bloom of one color group predominating over the other, with the result that the winter casualties of the one predominate practically to the exclusion of the other.

For my part, I am going to play it safe and cover everything from now on with excelsior while the temperature is sliding down to twenty degrees or lower. Last year paper excelsior was used, bat-

tened down by branches against the high winds that sweep down from the cold Eastern Oregon desert through the Columbia River Gorge. Where the paper held, the plants were fine. Where it was blown off, the plants were gone. When Beth Tait (the Society's Treasurer) was down this summer, she told me of her igloo idea. Not that she called it that, but that's what it amounts to. First she arched evergreen boughs over her plantings, then thatched the boughs with slough hay providing an airy darkness which kept even the Mediterraneans quiet. This sort of covering can be safely left on during periods of moderation and rain. Wearying of putting on and taking off, we finally left on the paper excelsior (fluffed directly on the plants) for two or three weeks after the freeze against a possible repeat, which did occur. During that time it warmed and rained, but nothing untoward happened to the plants beneath the soggy blanket. I really wouldn't recommend this, however, unless it is your life or the plants'.

Perhaps something should be said about the effect of early and late planting on winter-active plants. Also about the role nourishment plays. Those who strive for an extra large plant with heavy, early bloom, may plant out, or divide, in May which, I think, is too early here. If kept growing throughout the summer, as primroses should to store up energy for the spring display, such a plant is going to be too anxious to burst into bloom during our irresolute winters. With sap and stalks up, it is easy prey for sudden temperature drops—cells collapse, rot sets in and travels to the crown, and the plant is gone. If it is planted out as a seedling, or divided, too late in the fall, it has had no chance to root deeply and establish, and is in and out of the ground all winter. If it lives, it is not worth much in the spring. Perhaps June is not too early here, certainly it is not in the east, but I believe early July is about right. Here, this coincides with the spring sowing of seed, one phase of growth flowing into another in rhythmic order.

Another cause of winter loss in the Northwest is the improper use of nitrogen. Nitrogen is for growth — leaf growth—in the summer growing season, and not to stimulate activity in the fall or to force bloom in the spring. Our records show temperature drops to twenty-five degrees as late as May 1st. So, if the plants have not been properly fed during the summer growing period, you are inviting disaster by trying to push them just prior to, or during, the sneak freeze season.

You will have noticed that Mrs. Ryan mentions the use of "plenty of humus and cow manure in the soil." Miss Wood says she and her sister, who part-time garden an acre, growing and freezing their own fruits and vegetables, compost leaves, grass clippings and garbage. She admits to being a staunch organic gardener, and so do I after having witnessed at least one crop of transplants go down like wheat in a hailstorm as soon as the young roots came in contact with particles of inorganic fertilizer.

Mrs. Scherer's use of lime interests me. Many years ago, when the only guide to primrose culture came out of a Madison Avenue armchair, the word got around that primroses were rock garden plants and therefore should be treated to lime in their diet. So we set up some experiments using lime on Auriculas, among other Primulas, and the only result we found was a general stunting of plants, a yellowing of foliage, and a changing of color. As with hydrangeas, the blues dulled into purple and lavender, the lavenders into a muddy pink with the addition of lime to the soil. After removal to neutral or acid soil, they eventually returned to their original colors, sharp and brilliant as before the lime treatment. But perhaps lime is beneficial, even necessary, to certain soils in the east, and we will not know until such keen gardeners as Mrs. Scherer can give us the result of her experiments.

In the matter of plant food and compost, Mrs. Asher is fortunate in having hutches and a barnyard of her very own. This is just the thing gardeners dream

about, but in normal moments realize something of what such a premium represents in time expenditure and work. That she adds bonemeal to all of this is proof of her love for plants and soil. I may be wrong, but it is my understanding that raw bone breaks down very slowly. Steamed bone, so they say, is here today and gone tomorrow. So if it's raw bone she uses perhaps the plants are sold before much good has accrued. Being a commercial grower myself, I know that many patrons like half the farm with each plant, so there goes all the good of the bonemeal as far as the plant loving commercial is concerned. Here, again, I could be proven wrong and I hope Mrs. Asher will be the one to do it.

At any rate, the object of all this is to say that the term "hardy" is relative and depends upon circumstances. That plants should be kept growing during the summer growing season, encouraged to remain as inactive as possible during the winter, and further, that you should be prepared to go to their aid with whatever protection you have at hand should they need it in a sudden freeze. In the case of the English Weeding Woman in Mary's Meadow first published in 1883, "her'd put a bed-quilt over un, and any cold corner would do for she."

DUES . . . Member are reminded that 1964 dues should have been sent to Mrs. L. G. Tait, 14015 84th N. E., Bothell, Wn. before Jan. 15.

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An inviting view of Mrs. Dowling's gardens where the Primroses enjoy partial shade from evergreens and deciduous trees. Photograph by Mrs. A. J. Kraus

Concerning Primulas

GRACE DOWLING, Seattle, Washington

CHAPTER 12.

BULLATAE SECTION

This section is not large, only having less than a dozen representatives. The word Bullatae refers to the leaves, all of which are much wrinkled, or blistered-looking; this peculiarity often called rugose in botanies, meaning wrinkled.

The Bullatae section was originally called the Suffruticosa section but the primula conference changed its name to Bullatae section because of the similarity of the name to *P. suffrutescens* which belongs to the Cuneifolia section.

The plants all have a thick, heavy rhizome or root stalk and, as it grows, the old withered leaves cling to it. The

plants are rather shrubby; they are what is called sub-shrubby, meaning the plants have a shrubby tendency. The only member I have in my garden is *P. Forrestii*.

The Bullatae section is one whose plants cannot be divided—mentioned in the chapter on propagation. All the growth comes from one root stalk.

Primula Forrestii

Mr. George Forrest has brought a multitude of fine primulas into cultivation and this especial one bears his name. His expeditions have sent back so many seeds that even today, numerous varieties have only a number to identify them. See

Illustration opposite. This is true of quantities of plants from expeditions into Asia, South America and other unexplored horticultural fields about the world. Frequently expeditions are arranged and financed by governments, individuals, universities, or by subscriptions. If by subscriptions, the individuals subscribing to the expenses receive recompense in seeds and plants. Dr. Rock's expedition sent back not a few primula seeds and Mr. George Forrest sent seeds of primulas, several of which I have listed, and which are invaluable to the primula enthusiast.

P. Forrestii came from Yunnan and is a typical representative of the whole section. It has the heavy, woody, rhibomatous root which, in an old plant, is often elongated to twelve inches and longer and which has a tuft of leaves at the top. The leaves are evergreen and fragrant, a soft pea-green color when young, wrinkled like a lettuce leaf, the under-side covered with yellow meal, and shocking as it may seem after hearing about so many moisture loving primulas, it hates wet. However, it does not despise some shade, even objecting moderately to too much sun.

The flowers are borne at the top of the tuft of leaves on a three to six or seven inch stem and are a fine cowslip yellow, fragrant and nodding. They flower in May.

P. Forrestii is rather difficult to keep in our rainy climate but should be marvelous in the eastern United States with the dry summers and snowy winters to keep the plants dry. Here on the coast they need a glass over them in the winter; even then many times they must be replaced every few years. The alpine house is the safest place for them in winter in this climate.

They grow easily from seeds, if planted when the seeds are fresh, but the flowers must be hand-pollinated to get a good supply of seeds. They are susceptible to the "damping off" disease so should be transplanted as soon as possible to a flat of very light, porous soil with plenty of small sandstone chips. If



P. Forrestii — Courtesy Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Lawrence.

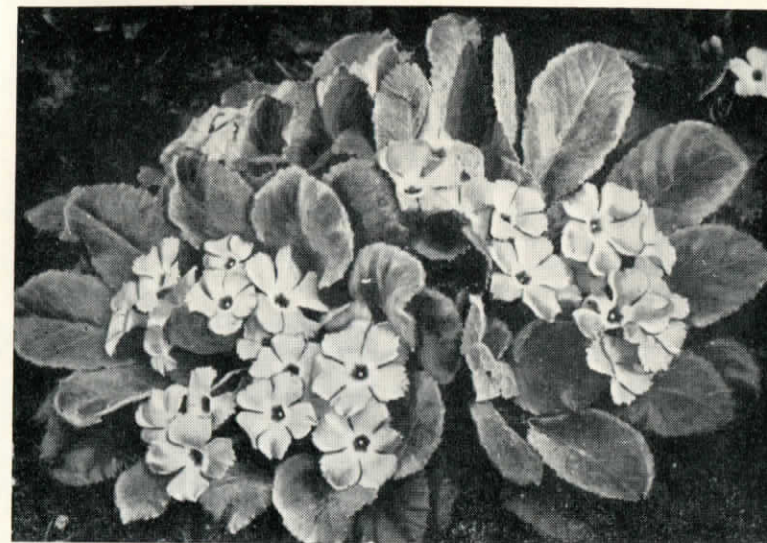
given sufficient air and light they have a fair life-expectancy. When planted in the garden, a cleft with an overhanging rock is a suitable place, where the roots may creep far down to moisture but where no water reaches the plant proper. It likes a place where saxafrages grow and the association of these two is perfect.

CHAPTER 13. PETIOLARIS SECTION

A most complex section and one which is not well understood by primula growers. *P. Winteri* is the one precious member that has been grown with any great success. The whole section is peculiar in that the seed does not need to dry before it germinates, in fact it will germinate if planted while the seed is quite green, apparently preferring this stage, although the seeds have been known to germinate when dry.

Most of the members are very early blooming, some are called winter blooming and this is quite true of *P. Winteri*.

The section is named because of the long petiole or stem of the leaves which



(Courtesy Gardening Illustrated)

Primula Edgeworthii, long known under its synonym *Winteri*.

is a distinguishing characteristic. There are other peculiar idiosyncracies that have not yet been entirely comprehended.

Primula Winteri

Contrary to all suspicion, *P. Winteri* was not named because it blooms in the winter but because Mr. E. L. Winter found it somewhere between Kashmir and Nepal and brought it to England.

I had always believed that *P. Winteri* was too difficult for me, but while it has not yet bloomed, it is apparently not unhappy in a pot in my cold house. In the spring it will go outdoors where just the place may be found to leave it in the open.

P. Winteri has many unconformities that are still not intelligible to the grower. Many botanists believe this and *P. Edgeworthii* are the same plant. The plant in its native woodland in a wet summer sends up blooms at a different time than that which seems to be the normal blooming time of *P. Winteri*, a winter blooming plant. This may, or may not, according to botanists, be two different plants or one and the same. The summer-blooming plant, it is thought, may be *P. Edgeworthii* and the winter flowering form *P. Winteri*. As far

as I know *P. Edgeworthii* is not in captivity on the west coast.

Another innovation among primulas is *P. Winteri's* habit of seed forming. This unusual custom is more or less true of the whole section but it has apparently been observed more closely in *P. Winteri*. In all other sections of primulas the seed forms and ripens in the accepted form of the general run of all plant families but *P. Winteri's* seed pod fills with seed, so full that before the seeds have time to ripen the thin membrane at the top of the pod is burst and soft, green seeds are thrust out ready to germinate without waiting to become dry and ripe. This all happens early in the spring before the soil becomes dry. The seed germinates and seedlings are well up, ready to take care of themselves in the spring, while the soil is still damp. Is this plant intelligent or what? Nevertheless seeds have germinated after a long trip from England and after becoming partly dry.

The plant begins to bloom in December and blooms until March, then dies down for its resting period, rarely, but apparently sometimes, coming up in summer for another bloom. This pro-

ceeding has caused the controversy.

One recognizes at first glance that *P. Winteri* is an aristocrat: It has an elegant style of growth, never sloppy nor tired looking, each saw-toothed leaf standing straight out on its long stem surrounding the most charming thick growing bud of leaves covered with beautiful, beady farina. From this central little "Brussels sprout," comes the blossom. It looks like a primrose blossom, pale purple or lavender on short stalks, each carrying from a few to many blooms. The flowers have a yellow eye and frequently they have a broad white band around the eye, while the edge of the bloom is notched. The umbel is also like a primula, each bloom having a little stem of its own, two inches or so long.

An inexperienced grower will not have too much difficulty growing it from seeds, planting the seeds immediately after collecting and before they have ripened. To be sure of seed, it is best to hand-pollenate the blossoms. It can also be propagated from the leaves, if the leaf is carefully pulled away from the plant and inserted in sand, covered closely with a glass, and kept moist.

All the growers I know on Vancouver Island grow *P. Winteri* successfully and Mrs. Berry, in Portland, grows them by the hundreds from seeds. She has them planted in a perpendicular wall with ramondias; in her woodland garden tucked along an old overhanging log, besides many casual plantings much the same as less difficult varieties. They like a rich soil with plenty of sand, sandstone chips, peat and leafmold, and of course, perfect drainage. Mr. Clarence Elliott, whom I have quoted before, thinks they may not dislike lime but he has found porous sandstone more successful.

In spite of all this care, sometimes for no known reason, they absolutely disappear, if not over night, at least before aid can be sent to them. In some locations the plant may form several crowns, becoming twelve inches in diameter, but these fine plants seem more

likely to collapse than the small ones, growing limp without warning, over night.

The greatest difficulty is, like many other primulas, crown rot, and while it is much safer to keep them in a cold green house, or cold frame, they are not as beautiful, nor do they have the same sparkle as they have in the open.

There is an albino form, almost too lovely for this sphere, called *P. W. alba*.



Primula scapigera
(Courtesy Mrs. A. C. U. Berry)

Primula Scapigera

A fairly new species, introduced in 1920, from the Himalayas, *P. scapigera* has been grown by several primula enthusiasts in the Pacific Coast region.

It is much like *P. Winteri* with colors varying from many shades of pale purple and mauve to pale pink. The flowers are somewhat larger than *P. Winteri* and the flowering season may be a trifle longer. The scape (thus the name, *scapigera*) or stem of the leaf, very prominent in this species, gives the leaf a decided wedge-shaped appearance and these leaves, three to six inches long, if taken from the plant in July and placed in moist sand or sand and peat have a strong tendency to root.

The flower stem is short, so short that the blossoms barely rise above the leaves.

P. scapigera likes a home similarly located to that of *P. Winteri*, in rich, fibrous loam with much leafmold and good drainage. It is an alpine woodland

((Continued on pg. 26))

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529	530	531	534	535	536		

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CONTRIBUTORS TO THE EXCHANGE

- A Jelenits, Dr. Istvan: Budapest, Hungary.
- B Baylor, Mrs. A. H.: Johnson, Vt.
- C Goplerud, Robert: Livonia, Michigan
- D Crewdson, Cecily: Kendal, England
- E Balcom, Ralph: Seattle, Wash.
- F. Klaber, Doretta: Quakertown, Pa.
- G Lennox, D. J.: Jefferson, N.H.
- H Hieke, Ing. Karel: Pruhonice, Czechoslovakia
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- M Camp, Mrs. Darwin: Nedrow, N.Y.
- N Bellis, Mrs. Florence: Gresham, Oregon
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- Q Baker, Mrs. Alfred: Ketchikan, Alaska
- R Rose, Frank H.: Missoula, Mont.
- S Marshall, Mrs. Earl A.: Portland, Oregon
- T Kristof, V.: Chrudim, Czechoslovakia
- U Ries, Victor H.: Columbus, Ohio
- V Foster, H. Lincoln: Falls Village, Conn.
- W Ruffier-Lanche, R.: Grenoble, France
- X Non-member sources
- Y Kartack, R. E.: Baraboo, Wisc.
- Z Baldwin, Elmer C.: Syracuse, N.Y.
- AA Wright, Mrs. Wm. T.: East Boothbay, Maine
- BB The Botanic Garden, Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan
- CC Crawford, Charles G.: Toledo, Ohio
- DD Ozawa, Motonosuke: Tokyo, Japan
- EE Althouse, Mrs. Harry: Laureldale, Pa.
- FF Jordan, Dr. Fred A: Cortland, N.Y.
- GG Luscher, Robert: Thedford, Ont., Canada
- HH Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Mo.

SEEDS FOR 1964 SEED EXCHANGE

- 1 ACIDANTHERA BICOLOR Z
- 2 ACONITUM NAPELLUS O
- 3 ACTAEA ASIATICA BB
- 4 " PACHYPODA ALBA V, Z
- 5 " RUBRA V
- 6 ADONIS FLOS X
- 7 " VERNALIS I
- 8 AETHIONEMA ANITAURUS O
- 9 " CRETICUM O
- 10 " GRANDIFLORA T
- 11 AGROSTEMMA MILAS X
- 12 ALLIUM AFLATUNENSE A
- 13 " OSTROWSKIANUM A
- 14 ALYSSUM ARGENTEUM L, T
- 15 " late form AA
- 16 " MONTANUM T
- 17 " SAXATILE CITRINUM K
- 18 " WULFENIANUM K
- 19 AMARANTHUS X HYPOCHONDRIACUS Z
- 20 AMORPHA CANESCENS Z
- 21 AMSONIA TABERNAEMONTANA L, Z
- 22 ANACYCLUS DEPRESSUS O
- 23 ANDROSACE CARNEA D
- 24 " LACTIFLORA O

25	ANEMONE ALPINA I	83	CASSIA MARILANDICA M, Z
26	ANEMONE PULSATILLA O	84	CATANANCHE CAERULEA L
27	" " ALBA V, AA	85	CAULOPHYLLUM THALIC- TROIDES V, Z*
28	" " CAMLA G	86	CELSIA CRETICUM Z
29	" " LETCHWORTHI G	87	CENTAUREA JACEA Z
30	" " RUBRA G, O, AA	88	CHAENOMELES JAPONICA Z
31	" SYLVESTRIS G	89	" LAGENARIA, white to rose Z
32	ANTENNARIA DIOICA O	90	CHEIRANTHUS CHEIRI FL. PL. X
33	ANTHEMIS HAUSKNECHTI L	91	" " GOLDEN BROWN X
34	" BIEBERSTEINIANA W	92	" " ORANGE X
35	ANTHERICUM LILIAGO T	93	" " RUBY X
36	ANTIRRHINUM ASARINA T	94	" " VIOLET-BLUE X
37	AQUILEGIA CLEMATIFLORA AA	95	CHRYSANTHEMUM ALPINUM V
38	" DISCOLOR MINIATURE K	96	" LEUCANTHEMUM MAXIMUM T
39	" FLABELLATA NANA G	97	" MAXIMUM AA
40	" GLANDULOSA A	98	" WEYRICHII O
41	" X EDELWEISS G	99	CHRYSOPSIS FALCATA O, AA
42	" X MCKANA GIANTS X	100	CHRYSOPSIS VERTICILLATA O
43	" SCOPULORUM AA	101	" VILLOSA F
44	" X STAR OF INDIA G	102	CIMICIFUGA JAPONICA BB
45	ARABIS ALPINA O	103	" RACEMOSA O, V
46	" MURALIS O	104	" YESOENSIS BB
47	" STELLERI JAPONICA X	105	CLEMATIS COLUMBIANA R
48	ARCTERICA NANA BB	106	" DOUGLASII (PULSATILLA HIRSUTISSIMA) R
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61	BAPTISIA AUSTRALIS M	119	CYCLAMEN, HARDY (SMALL 2 YR TUBER) Z
62	BRUCKENTHALIA SPICULIFOLIA O	120	DAPHNE ALTAICA I*
63	CALCEOLARIA MEXICANA K	121	" MEZEREUM GG, I, O
64	CALLIANTHEMUM RUTIFOLIUM I	122	DEINANTHE BIFIDA V
65	CAMPANULA ALPINA I	123	DELPHINIUM BICOLOR R*
66	" AMERICANA U	124	" GRANDIFLORUM ALBUM T
67	" CARPATICA T	125	DELPHINIUM GRANDIFLORUM NANUM T
68	" ELATINES GARGANICA X	126	" TATSIIENSENSE G
69	" GLOMERATA A	127	DIANTHUS ALWOODII X
70	" LATIFOLIA "BRENTWOOD" AA	128	" " ALPINUS C
71	" LINIFOLIA T	129	" ALPINUS K
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73	" " PINK J	131	" NEGLECTUS V, W
74	" " AA	132	" PLUMARIUS Z
75	" POSCHARSKIANA T	133	DICENTRA PEREGRINA PUSILLA DD
76	CAMPANULA PULLA I*	134	DIGITALIS AMBIGUA O
77	" SARMATICA A	135	" LAEVIGATA U
78	" THYRSOIDES CARNIOLICA O	136	" MINIMA U
79	" TURBINATA AA		
80	CARDIOCRINUM CORDATUM DD		
81	CARNATION "CHAUBAUD DOUBLE" X		
82	" "IRISH BORDER" X		

137	DIMORPHOTHECA AURANTIACA	197	" VULGARIS L
138	" " "GOLIATH" X	198	HELIANTHEMUM NUMMULAR- IUM Z, AA
139	DODECATHEON CUSICKII R*	199	" " "BEN LUI" T
140	" JEFFREYI R*	200	HELIANTHEMUM NUMULARIUM "GOLDEN QUEEN" T
141	" SPECIES (SO. OREGON) S*	201	HELIOSPERMA ALPINA V
142	" VISCIDUM R*	202	HELLEBORUS FOETIDUS O
143	DORONICUM AUSTRIACUM W*	203	" NIGER I, O
144	DOUGLASIA MONTANA R*	204	HEMEROCALLIS HYBRIDS Z
145	DRABA BERTOLINI V	205	HESPERIS MATRONALIS U
146	" BRUNIIFOLIA K	206	HIERACIUM LANATUM AA
147	" INCERTA G	207	HORMINUM PYRENAICUM T
148	DRYAS DRUMMONDII O	208	HOULTTUYNIA CORDATA O
149	" OCTAPETALA O	209	HYPERICUM KAMTSCHATICUM SENANENSE DD*
150	DUCHESNEA INDICA O	210	" RHODOPEUM L
151	ELAEAGNUS UMGELLATA Z	211	" YACUMENSE O
152	ELSCHOLITZIA STAUNTONII Z	212	HYSSOPUS OFFICINALIS L
153	EMPETRUM NIGRUM JAPONI- CUM DD	213	" " ROSEUS L
154	EPIGAEA REPENS V	214	IMPATIENS SULTANII "DWARF BABY" X
155	EPISCIA DIANTHIFLORA Z	215	" WALLERIANA COMPACTA X
156	ERICA TETRALIX RUBRA O	216	INCARVILLEA DELAVAYI T, W
157	ERIGERON COMPOSITUS R*	217	INULA MONTANA O
158	ERINUS ALPINUS T	218	IRIS INNOMINATA HYBRIDS S
159	" " ROSEUS X	219	" PUMILA V
160	ERIOPHYLLUM LANATUM AA	220	" RUTHENICA G
161	ERYTHRONIUM GRANDIFLORUM R*	221	" SANGUINEA BB*
162	" HENDERSONII S	222	" SIBIRICA AA
163	" OREGONUM S	223	IXIOLIRION MONTANUM (zone 6-8 ?) AA
164	" REVOLUTUM S	224	JEFFERSONIA DIPHYLLA I
165	EUPATORIUM MACULATUM PURPUREUM Z	225	LAPEIROUSIA CRUENTA S
166	FILIPENDULA KAMTSCHATICA BB*	226	LARIX LARICINA Z
167	" PURPUREA BB*	227	LEDUM PALUSTRE YESOENSE BB*
168	FRITILLARIA ARMENA I*	228	LEONTOPODIUM AA
169	" GRAECA I*	229	" ALPINUM O
170	" GUICCIARDI I*	230	LEWISIA REDIVIVA R*
171	" MESSANENSIS I*	231	" TWEEDI V
172	" SPECIES (TURKEY) I*	232	LILIUM CENTIFOLIUM HYBRIDS Z
173	GAILLARDIA ARISTATA "BURGUNDY" L	233	" CORDATUM GLEHNI BB*
174	GALEGA OFFICINALIS Z	234	" MAKINOI DD*
175	GAULTHERIA MIQUELIANA BB*	235	" MARTAGON T
176	GAULTHERIA ADENOTHRIX DD*	236	" " HYBRIDS Z
177	" PROCUMBENS Z*	237	" PHILADELPHICUM V
178	GENTIANA ALTAICA T	238	" PUMILUM AA
179	" ANDREWSII O	239	" PYRENAICUM W*
180	" ASCLEPIADEA K, V	240	LINARIA MACEDONICA L
181	" ALBA O	241	LINDELOFIA LONGIFLORA K
182	" CRINITA O	242	LINUM ALPINUM O
183	" CRUCIATA W*	243	LIRIOPE GRAMINIFOLIA DD
184	" GRACILIPES T	244	LOBELIA CARDINALIS Y, Z
185	" PANNONICA I, T	245	" SIPHILITICA Z
186	" PYRENAICA A	246	LYCHNIS ALPINA X
187	" SEPTEMFIDA K, O, T, AA	247	" CHALCEDONICA M
188	" TRIFLORA JAPONICA DD*	248	" " SALMONEA Z
189	GERANIUM DALMATICUM O	249	MAHONIA AQUIFOLIUM Z
190	" FARRERI O	250	MALVA ALCEA Z
191	" PRATENSE blue Z	251	" MOSCHATA L
192	" SANGUINEUM dwarf Z	252	" " ALBA V
193	" LANCASTRIENSE S	253	" " ROSEA V, Z
194	GEUM BORISII O	254	MAURANDIA BARCLAIANA Z
195	" MONTANUM K, O	255	MAZUS REPTANS V
196	GILIA RUBRA CC		
197	GLOBULARIA TRICOSANTHA V		

256	MECONOPSIS CAMBRICA C, V	313	PORTULACA GRANDIFLORA
257	" HORRIDULA B, S, W		" " "CLAUDIA" X
258	" SS&W PINK D	314	POTENTILLA ALBA T
259	" SUPERBA D	315	" AUREA T
260	" NAPAULENSIS (SSW 7405) D	316	" FRAGIFORMIS K, AA
		317	" MEGALANTHA O
		318	" RUPESTRIS L, T
261	" QUINTUPLINERVA D	319	" WARRENSII O
262	" SS&W MIXED D	320	PRIMULA ACAULIS P
263	" SHELDONI D	321	" ALPICOLA LUNA B
264	" VILLOSA D	322	" AURICULA I*
265	MEDEOLA VIRGINIANA Z*	323	" " ALBO-CINCTA W*
266	MELANDRIUM RUBRUM SERPENTINICOLA G	324	" " BALBISII W*
		325	" " BORDER B, E, O, V, Z
267	MENZIESIA CILICALYX DD*	326	PRIMULA AURICULATA W
268	MERTENSIA OBLONGIFOLIA R*	327	" BULLEYANA N
269	METAPLEXIS JAPONICA BB*	328	" BURMANICA N
270	MITCHELLA REPENS Z*	329	" CAWDORIANA V
271	MIMULUS CARDINALIS Z	330	" CHIONANTHA W
272	" MONARCH HYBRIDS T	331	" CLUSIANA I*, O, W*
273	" TIGRINUS HYBRIDS T	332	" COCKBURNIANA N, W
274	MYOSOTIS ALPESTRIS O	333	" DARIALICA V
275	NARCISSUS JUNCIFOLIUS I	334	" DENTICULATA C, O, X
276	NARTHECIUM ASIATICUM DD*	335	" " ALBA O
277	NYMPHAEA GIGANTEA (with instructions) HH	336	" ELATIOR A
278	PAEONIA MLOKOSEWITSCHII Z	337	" " PALLASII W
279	" SPECIES I*, Z	338	" FARINOSA & FRONDOSA F
280	PANSY, "ADONIS" wisteria blue X	339	" FAURIAE V
281	" "BUTTERFLY" pastels X	340	" " ALBA V
282	" "GORGEOUS" port-red X	341	" FLORINDAE K
283	" "JUMBO" mixed X	342	" FRONDOSA V
284	" "PAY DIRT" gold, dark rays X	343	" GAMBELLIANA W
		344	" GLUTINOSA I*
		345	" GRANDIS W
285	" "SUNSET" X	346	" HALLERI O
286	PAPAVER ALPINUM G, O, V, W, Y, FF	347	" IOESSA SUBPINNATIFIDA W
		348	" JAPONICA G, N, U, AA, CC
287	" FAURIAE O	349	" " red E, K
288	" NUDICAULE Z	350	" " white K
289	PATRINIA TRILOBA K	351	PRIMULA LAURENTIANA G
290	PEDICULARIS CANADENSIS O	352	" LONGISCAPA W* (Uzbekistan)
291	" OEDERI BB*	353	" LUTEOLA W
292	PENSTEMON ALBERTINUS R*	354	" MARGINATA K, W*
293	" PINIFOLIUS K	355	" " DRAKE'S FORM X
294	" WHIPPLEANUS G	356	" MODESTA ALBA V
295	" WILCOXII R*	357	" " MATSUMURAE DD*
296	" X "ROSE ELF" O	358	" NIPPONICA DD*
297	PHACELIA BIPINNATIFIDA V	359	" OBTUSIFOLIA W
298	PHLOX DIVARICATA V	360	" PEDEMONTANA W*
299	PHYLLODOCE ALEUTICA DD*	361	" POLYANTHUS B, EE
300	PHYLLODOCE CAERULEA BB*	362	" " "RAINBOW" L
301	PHYTEUMA CHARMEII AA	363	" " TECUMSEH SELECTION (O.P.) Z
302	" SCHEUCHZERI T	364	" POLYNEURA B
303	" SPICATUM O	365	" PULVERULENTA N
304	PINUS MUGO Z	366	" " BARTLEY N
305	" NIGRA Z	367	" ROSEA K
306	PLATYCODON blue 18" O	368	" " GRANDIFLORA B, T
307	" GRANDIFLORUM AUTUMNALE Z	369	" RUBRA K, W*
308	" mixed F	370	" SAXATILIS B
309	PODOPHYLLUM PELTATUM V	371	" SIEBOLDII C
310	POLEMONIUM PULCHERRIMUM O	372	" " "SNOW WHITE" Z
311	" RICHARDSONII T	373	" " "SOUTHERN CROSS" B
312	POLYGONATUM COMMUTATUM Z*		

374	" SIKKIMENSIS HOPEANA D	430	TRIPTEROSPERMUM JAPONI-CUM DD*
375	" " SSW 8119 W	431	TROLLIUS EUROPAEUS A
376	PRIMULA SINO-PLANTAGINEA W	432	" LAXUS V
377	" SINO-PURPUREA W	433	" PUMILUS YUNNANENSIS T
378	" VERIS MACROCALYX A, W*	434	TULIPA DASYSTEMON C, I
		435	" KAUFMANNIANA C
379	" VISCOSA W*	436	" SPRENGERI V
380	" " HYBRIDS X	437	TUNICA SAXIFRAGA O
381	" WALTONII W	438	VALERIANA CELTICA I*
383	" X KEWENSIS E, Z	439	VERATRUM JAPONICUM BB*
384	" X "PAGODAS" N	440	" STAMINEUM DD*
385	PSEUDOTSUGA TAXIFOLIA Z	441	VERBASCUM BLATTARIA white Z*
386	RHODODENDRON CATAWBIENSE O	442	" " yellow Z*
		443	" PHOENICEUM L
		444	VERNONIA NOVEBORACENSIS Z
387	" HIRSUTUM I	445	VERONICA ALLIONII T
388	" INTERMEDIUM I	446	" SACHATIENSE T
389	RIVINA HUMILIS Z	447	" SATUREOIDES K
390	SALVIA PRATENSIS blue L, S	448	VIOLA CANADENSIS V
391	SANGUINARIA CANADENSIS V	449	" LUTEA W
392	SAXIFRAGA AIZOON O		SELECT PRIMULAS BY "COUNTRY OF ORIGIN"
393	" " ROSEA O		AUSTRALIA
394	" CAESPITOSA G	450	P. POLYANTHUS GARTFORD (O.P.)
395	" LACINIATA BB*	454	" " GARTFORD X PACIFIC (O.P.)
396	" MERKII BB*		CZECHOSLAVAKIA
397	" mossy AA	455	P. KEWENSIS "ALPINE SPRING"
398	" NIPPONICA BB*	456	" MALACOIDES "CHARME" shining rose
399	" OPPOSITIFOLIA I*	457	" " "FIRE GLOBE" fiery carmine, yellow eye
400	SCABIOSA ALPINA O	458	" " "GUILD CHOICE" carmine
401	SCHIVERECKIA PODOLICA K, O	459	" " ORANIENBURG STRAIN 'DR. BOHNERTS RED'
402	SCHIZOCODON SOLDANELLOIDES DD*	460	" " 'PRIMAVERA'
403	SCILLA CAMPANULA ALBA Q	461	" " 'PURPLE BALL'
404	" HISPANICA Z	462	" " 'SIGNAL FIRE'
405	SEDUM MAXIMUM ATROPUR-PUREUM O	463	" " 'UNDINE'
406	" PILOSUM K	464	" " 'WINTER JOY'
407	SENECIO ADONIDIFOLIUS L, O	465	" OBCONICA 'GARDENER'S PRIDE'
408	SILENE ACAULIS I	466	" " 'HAMBURG RED'
409	" ALPESTRIS O	467	" " deep salmon red
410	" SCHAFTA O, X	468	" " violet-blue
411	SISYRINCHIUM ANGUSTIFOLIUM Z	469	" " white
			ENGLAND
412	SMILAX HERBACEA Z*	470	P. ACAULIS 'SUTTON'S PERFECTION'
413	SOLDANELLA ALPINA X	471	" AURICULA 'ALPINE FORM'
414	SOLIDAGO CUTLERI O	472	" " 'SHOW FORM'
415	SPIRAEA BETULIFOLIA DD*	473	" " 'FANCIES'
416	STAPHYLEA PINNATA Z	474	" POLYANTHUS 'AWARD OF MERIT'
417	STOKESIA LAEVIS CAERULEA L, O	475	" " 'GIANT BLUE'
418	SYMPHYANDRA WANNERI V	476	" " 'LANGDON'S BLUE'
419	TEUCRIUM HIRCANUM Z	477	" " 'GOLD MEDAL RHS PINK' (HP)
420	THALICTRUM AQUILEGIAFOLIUM W*	478	" " 'GOLD-LACED'
421	" ROCHEBRUNIANUM "LAVENDER MIST" CC	479	" " 'SUTTON'S FANCY'
422	THLASPI PRAECOX G	480	" " 'TRIUMPH BRILLIANT'
423	" ROTUNDIFOLIUM O, V		
424	THYMOPHYLLA TENUISECTA O		
425	TIARELLA WHERRYI O		
426	TOWNSENDIA PARRYI R*		
427	TRICYRTIS STOLONIFERA O		
428	TRICYSTIS LATIFOLIA DD*		
429	TRILLIUM TSCHONOSKII DD*		

FRANCE

- × 483 " ACAULIS 'PARISIAN STRAIN'
- × 484 " " 'PRINTANIA STRAIN' dwarf
- × 485 " " " " blue, dwarf
- × 486 " " 'VILMORIN GIANT'
- 487 " POLYANTHUS 'CARNIVAL STRAIN'
- × 488 " " " " blue selection
- 489 " " 'ILE DE FRANCE'

GERMANY

- × 490 P. ACAULIS 'BIEDERMEIER' blue
- × 491 " " 'HAMPE STRAIN' blue
- × 492 " " " " red
- × 493 " " " " white
- × 494 " " 'PREMIERE'
- 495 " OBCONICA 'ARENDS' NEW SALMON'

- 496 " POLYANTHUS 'ARENDS' ELITE'
- × 497 " " 'PFITZER'S COLOSSEA' blue
- × 498 " " 'VIERLANDER GOLD'

HOLLAND

- 499 " " COLOSSEA

IRELAND

- × 500 " ACAULIS 'ALL BLUE'
- × 501 " " 'DEAN'S HYBRIDS'
- 502 " AURICULA 'DICKSON'S PRIZE'
- 503 " POLYANTHUS 'HAWLMARK'
- 504 " " " " blue selection
- 505 " " 'GOLD LACED'

NEW ZEALAND

- 506 " " 'HARRISON'S BLUE'
- 507 " " pink and rose selection
- 508 " " 'PACIFIC GIANTS'
- × 509 " " 'TANGO SUPREME'

SCOTLAND

- 510 P. DENTICULATA 'ROSE AND RED' SELECTION

SWITZERLAND

- × 511 P. ACAULIS 'BREITENSTEIN' bright blue
- × 512 " " " " dark blue
- × 513 " " " " mixed colors
- × 514 " " 'CHURCH WINDOWS' carmine
- × 515 " " " " dark blue
- × 516 " " " " white
- × 517 " " " " pastels
- 518 " " " " pure colors
- 519 " MALOCOIDES 'L INNOCENCE'

- 520 " " 'WADENSWILER' GIANT PURPLE'
- 521 " " 'WADENSWILER ORANGE-PURPLE'
- 522 " " 'WADENSWILER SALMON-ROSE'
- 523 " OBCONICA 'CITY OF BASEL' shining red, yellow eye
- 524 " " 'CITY OF ZURICH' carmine-red
- 525 " " 'EROS' carmine-red
- 526 " " 'FAVORITE' dark red
- 527 " SINENSIS FIMBRIATA 'COTE D'AZUR'
- 528 " " " 'DAZZLER'

UNITED STATES

- × 529 P. ACAULIS 'AMERICAN BLUE' (HP)
- × 530 " " 'CANDY PINKS' (HP)
- × 531 " " 'OSIERED AMBER' (HP)
- 532 " JULIANA (HP)
- 533 " POLYANTHUS 'AMERICAN MIXTURE' (HP)
- × 534 " " 'COWICHAN' (HP)
- × 535 " " 'MARINE BLUE' (HP)
- × 536 " " 'NEW PINKS' (HP)

Photographs of primroses in glossy black and white or colored slides for the A.P.S. slide collection are needed. Slides are available to your garden club.

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Primulas and Judging

HERBERT DICKSON, *Seattle, Washington*

Who are the judges of the primula plants we grow in our gardens and display at our shows? The real judges are the people who see them. Either consciously or unconsciously every one of these people judge each plant they see. It is their opinion that really counts.

What do you have to know to judge a primula plant? Nothing, absolutely nothing, except to be able to see the plant because you will judge the plant if you look at it. To be a good judge; that is a different story. The more you know about nature, gardening, beauty, color, art, landscaping, and people in general as well as what you know about primulas determines how good a judge of primulas you are.

The purpose of the A.P.S. in simple terms is to get more people interested in more primulas. This can only be done by growing and exhibiting primulas where they are seen by increasing numbers of people and by having plants that will demand a second look from the casual observer.

Volumes have been written about what makes a good primula plant and how one plant can be determined to excel another. We have drawn on 400 years of experience and tradition for our present standards of excellence, point scores, and rules for judging. These rules are all necessary and practical for administering some of our activities as a club. Sometimes I wonder, though, if some of these rules have not lost sight of the basic important factor that it is not the expert but the first time, the casual and the average observer who has the final word, regardless of what our little handful of specialists say.

This public opinion can be changed, developed and directed through education. Really the A.P.S. has come a long way in educating the public to the fact that there are outstanding and desirable varieties and species of primula that the average home gardener can grow

effectively. First we must instruct our instructors. All A.P.S. members are instructors for the public; but our judges are the principal instructors because they award the trophies that proclaim to all observers "These are the best."

In an effort to keep that statement true, you must meet certain requirements before you can become an accredited A.P.S. judge of primulas. In the past, these requirements have been few. As the A.P.S. assumed stature as a national, even international organization, we found our standards and requirements inadequate to meet our needs and keep some semblance of uniformity throughout our society. The A.P.S. controls these matters for the best interests of the society.

For a time any interested person satisfactorily completing an A.P.S. judges school became an accredited A.P.S. judge from that time on. There was no other requirement to grow, judge, or keep up on current developments or even be an A.P.S. member to still be an accredited judge. Because of this some of our national shows have been judged very poorly yet by fully accredited A.P.S. judges. The Board acted to correct this. First, accredited judges must be A.P.S. members in good standing. Second, judges must be accredited annually by the A.P.S. board. Third, the present judges and interested people must have a get-together for the purpose of refreshing themselves on the standards and rules, analyzing them for needed changes, defining the duties and responsibilities of an accredited judge and recommending criteria on which the A.P.S. board can base its action when approving a judge as an accredited A.P.S. judge.

The purpose of these symposiums is to use our collective knowledge to eliminate our weaknesses and improve our public image not only in judging but in how to exhibit a plant so its good points are

evident.

The time and place of these symposiums will be announced later, probably by letter. The plan is to have one in Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, and Vancouver, B.C. and one in the East if enough local interest is evidenced. There will be a small charge to cover the necessary expenses. All members and interested gardeners are welcome to attend.

Read up in your back issues of the Quarterly all you can about judging and exhibiting. Go over your old show schedules. Then bring your best ideas for the good of the society to the symposium. Remember, primulas are primarily a garden plant and many of them need to be grown in mass to be appreciated. What about a pin eye? Should we have garden judges to score our named hybrids for garden performance? Can you ever divorce the flower from the plant that grows it except in cut flowers? These and many other things

must be dealt with and a consensus of opinion arrived at, not just one or two persons' arbitrary decision, if we want the A.P.S. to stay healthy and grow in knowledge and public favor.

Editor's note: If you are interested in attending the Symposium please notify Mrs. Dorothy Dickson, A.P.S. Judges Chairman, 13347 56th Ave. So., Seattle, Wn., to be sure of receiving notice of time and place.

CONCERNING PRIMULAS

cont. from pg. 16
plant, but may be planted in the rock garden if a situation in half-shade and somewhat woodland conditions can be arranged. The oak woodlands in the rock out-croppings around Victoria, on Vancouver Island should seem like home to *P. scapigera*.

Leaf cuttings have been successfully rooted and the resultant plant has become as vigorous as the plant from which the leaf was detached.

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MRS. GWENDOLLYN M. HAWKES

We regret to announce that Mrs. Gwendolyn M. Hawks has asked to be relieved of her position as British Membership Chairman of our American Primrose Society. She tells us that she has been a bit ill for the past few months, not seriously, but enough that she does not feel up to carrying longer the burden of this work. We regret losing her for she has been a true representative of our society in England and has been such a help to us.

There are no plans at present to fill the vacancy caused by her resignation. Originally, this post was created because the money from English dues could not be sent to this country. This is now changed and it is easy to send overseas dues directly to our treasurer, Mrs. Lawrence G. Tait. Just a personal bank cheque or even currency is acceptable.

We are grateful to Mrs. Hawkes for her splendid assistance which she gave at a time when it was badly needed. May she soon have complete recovery

from her illness.

Ralph W. Balcom
A. P. S. President



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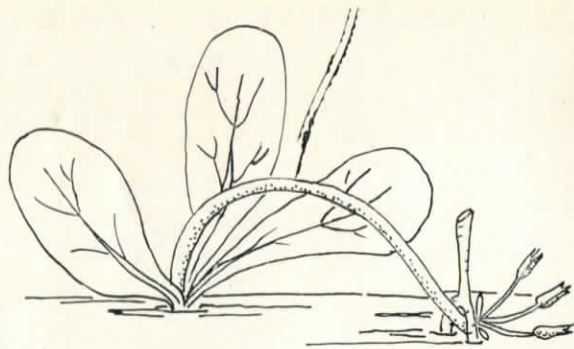
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Anchoring the flower stem. Sketch by author.

More On Primula Propagation

ROSINA LAUGHLIN, Everett, Washington

In "Propagation of Primulas" by T. C. Clare (Fall 1963) Mr. Clare mentions that occasionally candelabra stems will produce leaves on the flower heads from which new plants can be grown.

This past season such leaves appeared on *P. frondosa*, hose-in-hose, polyanthus, and *P. alpicola* for me. Those that I cut off and planted died. All those that I bent over and anchored with the leaves in contact with the soil either by holding the stem down with a small stone or an

inverted "Y" tree-branch produced new plants. The stems snap off readily, and so must be bent over very gently.

Two things I did not try but intend to another time. First, I want to try the cut off flower stems with leaves in a Wardian case. Second, I should like to try bending over flower stems and anchoring them when no such leaves have appeared. This method did not occur to me this season as I was concerned only with those that did produce leaves.

CLASSIFIED ADS

VERMONT HARDY PRIMULAS. New introductions—old favorites. Species, double and semi-double auriculas, \$3.50 and \$2.50—red, purple, lavender, pink, white, apple blossom or yellow. Seeds of above: 50 for \$3.00. Gold Laced Polyanthus and Sieboldi (including Southern Cross). 1963 Seeds. SKY HOOK FARM, Johnson, Vt.

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Back Issues Offer . . .

To acquaint new members with back issues of the A. P. S. Quarterly a special offer of ten issues (our choice) may be obtained by sending \$3.50 to the Editor or the treasurer, Mrs. L. G. Tait. Old members, too, may avail themselves of this special price.



The antique wooden plow cutting a furrow of sod was the central theme of the PRIMROSE ACRES floor plot at the 1963 Kirkland Primrose Show. Mrs. Lawrence G. Tait, treasurer, won a blue ribbon for her efforts. Photo by Michael De S. Clarke.

Show News

The National A. P. S. Show will be held in Tacoma this year on Saturday and Sunday, April 11 and 12. The location is in the center of Villa Plaza, Lakewood (just past Lakewood Center) at the National Bank of Washington.

Colonel Louis M. Haas, 536 Ramsdell St., Fircrest, Wn., will be the show chairman. The Theme of the show will be "HERALDS OF SPRING."

It is hoped that members from nearby states will plan to attend the National Banquet held in connection with the show on Saturday, April 11. Further announcements regarding this will appear in the Spring Quarterly.

The Oregon Primrose Show date will be the last weekend in April on the 25th and 26th. This show is held in Milwaukie, Oregon. For location please write Anita Alexander, 11848 S.E. Rhone, Portland, Oregon, or Mrs. Orval Agee, 11112 S.E. Wood Ave., Milwaukie, Oregon.

The East Side Garden Club of Kirk-

land, Wn., will hold its annual Primrose Show at the Civic Center, Kirkland, on April 17, 18 and 19.

The Washington State Primrose Society will hold another Auricula Show this year on the first weekend in May, Saturday and Sunday, May 2 and 3, at the Naval Reserve Building in Seattle.

Reports from other Primrose Clubs regarding their show dates have not been received as yet but will appear in the Spring Quarterly. We would appreciate having this information by the first of March from the Show Chairmen of these clubs.

From the Treasurer . . .

Mrs. L. G. Tait wishes to thank all those who sent in their 1964 dues so promptly. For those who have not, she would appreciate your sending them in before the Spring membership list is made up in February. Her address is 14015 84th Ave. N.E., Bothell, Wn.

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