



AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY



Bulletin

DECEMBER, 1959 - No. 155

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American Peony Society

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George W. Peyton, Editor — Rapidan, Virginia

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

OFFICERS

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Treasurer: L. W. Lindgren, 1787 West Minnehaha Avenue, St. Paul, 4, Minnesota.

Secretary and Editor: George W. Peyton, Box No. 1, Rapidan, Virginia.

Frank E. Moots, 1127 West Broadway, Newton, Kansas. (1961).

George W. Peyton, Box No. 1, Rapidan, Virginia. (1961).

Miss Silvia Saunders, Clinton, New York. (1959)

Louis Smirnow, 85 Linden Lane, Brookville, Long Island, New York, (1961).

Charles H. Stewart, 1532 Claymore Ave., Ottawa, Ontario, Can. (1962).

Allen J. Wild, Sarcoxie, Missouri. (1960).

Harold E. Wolfe, 24 South 30th Street, Belleville, Illinois. (1961).

Director on Board of American Horticultural Council: Dr. J. Franklin Styer, Concordville, Pennsylvania.

DIRECTORS

W. A. Alexander, 145 Eberly Avenue, Bowling Green, Ohio. (1960).

Myron D. Bigger, 1147 Oakland Ave., Topeka, Kansas. (1962).

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L. W. Lindgren, 1787 W. Minnehaha Ave., St. Paul 4, Minnesota (1961).

DISTRICT V

President: Theo. K. Mysyk, Box 525, Hebron, Illinois

Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Irene Mysyk, Box 525, Hebron, Illinois

OBJECTIVES

The Articles of Incorporation state: Sec. 2. That the particular objects for which the corporation is to be formed are as follows: To increase the general interest in the cultivation and use of the peony; to improve the standard of excellence of the flower; to improve the methods of its cultivation and method of placing it upon the market; to increase its use as a decorative flower; to bring about a more thorough understanding between those interested in its culture; to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of peonies; to stimulate the growing and introduction of improved seedlings and crosses of such flower; and to promote any of the general objects herein specified by holding or causing to be held examinations, and awarding or causing or procuring to be awarded, prizes therefor, or in any other manner.

MEMBERSHIP

The By-Laws state: All reputable persons, professional or amateur, who are interested in the peony, its propagation, culture, sale and development, are eligible to membership.

The annual dues are now \$5.00 a year. The year begins with January 1 and runs the calendar year. Applicants for membership should send a check or money order for five dollars payable to AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY to the Secretary. If cash is sent, the letter should be registered. The Society will not be responsible for any cash remittances made otherwise. Membership fee is \$5.00, \$3.00 of which is for a subscription to the American Peony Society Bulletin for one year. Subscription to the Bulletin to non-members, \$5.00 for one year.

THE BULLETIN

The Bulletin is issued quarterly. Back numbers when available, will be charged at prices which will be furnished by the Editor. Current year back numbers will be fifty cents each to members.

DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION

This department was formed "to properly supervise the nomenclature of the different varieties and kinds of peonies." Those who desire to register a new variety, and all new varieties should be registered to avoid duplication of names, should apply to George W. Peyton, Chairman, Nomenclature Committee. Registration fee is \$2.00 for each variety registered.



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President's Message

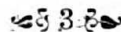


HOLIDAY GREETINGS

a n d

A Good Peony Year in 1960!

—*Myron D. Bigger*



Fifteenth Annual Peony Show

Peony Unit of Oklahoma

Art Center-Fairgrounds

May 9-10, 1959

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Theme: PEONIES, THE ARTISTS' DELIGHT

AWARDS-TROPHIES

The following Traveling Trophies are awarded each year. Any one winning any trophy for three successive years is entitled to keep it permanently.

THE PEONY UNIT: For the outstanding horticultural specimen in the Junior section; The Peony Jr. Club of the U. S. Grant Junior High School.

THE PEONY UNIT: For the outstanding specimen in the Show: E. W. Sisney with Florence Bond. The Grand Champion Award.

THE OPAL M. HAMILTON: For the outstanding Japanese variety in the Show: E. W. Sisney with Nippon Warrior.

THE LUCKY DAY PEONY UNIT: For the outstanding single variety in the Show: E. W. Sisney with Pico.

THE PEONY UNIT: For the outstanding arrangement in the Show: First: Mrs. E. V. Cox. Second: Mrs. W. H. Allen. Third: Mrs. E. Gleason.

THE JUNE DAY PEONY UNIT: For the outstanding June Day Peony in the Show: No entry.

THE MRS. G. A. BAWDEN: For the outstanding tree peony: No entry.

THE MRS. BOZO JONES: For the outstanding bomb peony in the Show: Mrs. Opal Hamilton with Mons. Jules Elie.

THE MRS. W. R. BOYINGTON: For the outstanding hybrid peony in the show: E. W. Sisney with Red Charm.

THE MRS. W. H. ALLEN: For the outstanding anemone peony in

the Show: Mrs. W. H. Allen with Red Bird.

THE ROSE KAMIN: For the outstanding seedling peony: Mrs. G. A. Bawden with a pink single.

SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS

Winners of the largest number of blue ribbons.

First: Mrs. Opal Hamilton. Second: E. W. Sisney, Third: Mrs. W. H. Allen.

THE JUNIOR

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

For the outstanding Junior Exhibit. Combination red, white and blue ribbon: winner not named.

NOTE: The persons winning in the classes, etc. below are not known except where given.

BEST FLOWERS

IN THE SHOW

GRAND CHAMPION: Florence Bond—E. W. Sisney.

DOUBLE—White: Florence Bond.—E. W. Sisney.

Blush: Coral Queen.

Deep pink: Mme. Emile Debatene.

SEMI-DOUBLE—White Beauty Pink: Edulis Superba.

Red: The Mighty Mo.

BOMB—Pink: Mons. Jules Elie—Mrs. Opal Hamilton. (Also best bomb in show)

Red: Felix Crousse.

SINGLE—White: Pico—E. W. Sisney (Also best single in the show)

JAPANESE—White: Plainsman.

Red: Red Warrior—E. W. Sisney (Also best Jap. in the show)

ANEMONE—Red: Red Bird-

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Mrs. W. H. Allen. (Also best anemone in the show)

HYBRID—Best in the show: Red Charm—E. W. Sisney

MINIATURE—Best in the show: Tiny Tim.

COLLECTIONS

FIVE DIFFERENT VARIETIES: First: Coral Queen, Florence Bond, Henry Sass, Red Charm, Robert W. Auten.

Second: Bright Knight, Chocolate Soldier, Golden Glow, Minuet, Pico.

HORTICULTURAL SPECIMENS

One Bloom

DOUBLE—White: Firsts: Mrs. John M. Good, The Admiral, Florence Bond.

Blush: Firsts: Coral Queen, Odile

Second: Lillian Wild.

Pink: Firsts: Acme, Diadem, Donald, Hespanola, Mme. Emile Debatene, Walter Faxon.

Second: Cathie Ann.

Light red: Kansas (First and Second.)

Medium red: Firsts: Dearborn, Louis Joliet. Second: Mary Brand.

Dark red: First: Highlight.

SEMI-DOUBLE—White: First: White Beauty. Second: White Waters.

Blush: Second: Minnie Shaylor.

Light pink: First: Bethel.

Dark pink: First: Edulis Superba.

Red: First: The Mighty Mo. Second: The Mighty Mo.

BOMB—White: Second: Lady of the Snows.

Pink: First: Mons. Jules Elie (Best bomb in the show.) Also second.

Red: First: Felix Crousse.

SINGLE—White: Firsts: Cygnet, Pico.

Pink: Firsts: Lucky Day, Seashell. Second: Mischief.

Red: First: Inca. Second: Kickapoo.

JAPANESE—White: Firsts: Gold Standard, Plainsman. Second: Lotus Queen.

Pink: Firsts: Filigree, Kukenijishi, Kate Barry. Second: Amasode, Westerner.

Red: Firsts: Dress Parade, Fire Chief, Mikado, Nippon Warrior. Second: Red Emperor.

ANEMONE—White: Second: J. C. Legg.

Red: First: Red Bird.

HYBRID—Pink: First: Mercy (S).

Red: Firsts: Bright Knight (S), Red Charm (D).

Seconds: Golden Glow (S), Robert W. Auten (SD-D), Topeka (D).

MINIATURE—Pink: First: Tiny Tim.

SEEDLINGS: Pink: First: No. 35-4—Mrs. G. A. Bawden.

THREE BLOOMS—One Variety.

DOUBLE—White: Second: Kelway's Glorious.

Pinks: First: Mrs. Fern Lough. Seconds: Odile, Victory Chateau Thierry, Walter Faxon

Red: Second: Kansas

SEMI-DOUBLE—Red: First: The Mighty Mo. Second: Albuquerque.

SINGLE—Pink: First: Seashell.

Red: First: Kickapoo, Second: President Lincoln.

JAPANESE—White: First: Plainsman. Second: Isani Gidui

Pink: Firsts: Filigree, Kukenijishi. Second: Westerner.

Red: First: Nippon Chief.

ANEMONE—Red: First: Red Bird.

HYBRID—Red: First: Bright Knight.

MINIATURE—Pink: First: Tiny Tim.

ARRANGEMENTS. Peonies must predominate.

THE ARTISTS PAINT BRUSH—Suitable for an entry hall, using

Japanese peonies—First: Mrs. E. V. Cox (Best in show).

Second: Mrs. W. H. Allen.
Third: Mrs. Opal Hamilton.

RHYTHM IN COLOR—Suitable for a console. Line arrangement;

First: Mrs. B. E. Gleason. Second: Mrs. W. R. Boyington.

Third: Mrs. Opal Hamilton.

POSE IN PINK—Suitable for a buffet using pink peonies. First: Mrs. E. V. Cox. Second: Mrs. W. R. Boyington. Third: Mrs. Opal Hamilton.

SKETCH IN PASTELS—Suitable for a dressing table. No awards.

THE OLD MASTER—Suitable for a dining table. Mass, using antique or antique-like container: First: Mrs. W. H. Allen.

Second: Mrs. Opal Hamilton.
Third: Mrs. W. R. Boyington.

JUNIOR DIVISION.

HORTICULTURE—Specimens: First: The Mighty Mo. Second: Kansas.

Third: Krinkled White.

ARRANGEMENTS—1. Pose in Pink. 2. Sketch in Pastels. 3. The Old Master.

REMARKS

There were 234 Horticulture entries, 56 Blue Ribbon winners and 41 Red Ribbon winners.

It was a beautiful show. There was no air-conditioning, which may be installed by next year. Peonies were good this year and it is hoped they will be next year also.

The thanks of the management are extended to Mrs. Nan Sheets for making the Art Center available.

The Awards Banquet was held the evening of May 9th in the Patrician Room of O'Mealey's Cafeteria, sponsored by the Lucky Day Peony Unit.

SHOW CHAIRMEN

General Chairman:

..... Mrs. J. E. Hamilton

Co-Chairman:

..... Mrs. W. R. Boyington

Staging Mrs. J. E. Hamilton

Publicity Mrs. J. A. Harris

Schedule Mrs. W. R. Boyington

Judges Mrs. L. W. Kamin

Awards Mrs. B. E. Gleason

Posters Mrs. E. V. Cox

Hospitality Mrs. Tip Couch

HORTICULTURE

Entry Mrs. Leon Orr

Classification Mrs. W. H. Allen

Clerk Mrs. Rose Kamin

Awards Mrs. W. R. Boyington

ARRANGEMENTS

Entry Mrs. E. V. Cox

Classification Mrs. Iva Hilbert

Clerk Mrs. Gomer Bittle

Awards Mrs. A. L. Guild

Reporter: Mrs. W. H. Allen

NOTE: Mrs. Allen sent in a full account soon after the Show, but it was evidently lost in transit as it was never received by the Secretary. We thank her for supplying the above account.

**FOURTEENTH ANNUAL
GARDEN SYMPOSIUM
March 29-April 1, 1960**

For the first time this annual event will be held in a single four day session, instead of its usual two sessions.

The time chosen is two weeks before Easter and will be when the flowering shrubs and spring bulbs will be at their height of bloom.

The theme this time will be "What Makes a Garden Great". Many of the leading horticulturists of this country will take part. The sponsors are Colonial Williamsburg and the Flower Grower Magazine. Registrations are now being accepted by Mrs. Cecil W. Cunningham, Registrar, Goodwin Building, Williamsburg, Virginia.

14th Annual American Horticultural Congress Held At Rochester

Another successful Congress was staged by the American Horticultural Council at the Sheraton Hotel in Rochester from October 7 - 10. Over 150 delegates gathered to participate from all parts of the United States, Canada, and Europe.

After the meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee on Wednesday, October 7, an Ice Breaker Reception was hosted by Kelly Bros. and Ra-Pid-Gro Corp. of Dansville, Brown Bros. of East Rochester and the Joseph Harris Seed Co. of Rochester. That evening a special dinner was held honoring the Presidents of the 115 standardized plant societies and horticultural organizations affiliated with the American Horticultural Council. Dr. A. J. Irving of New York, President of the Council presided. Miss Margaret Herbst, Secretary of the Garden Writers Association, conducted the Roll Call of the member organizations. Mr. Frank J. Horton, representing the Mayor of Rochester, welcomed the group giving an account of the horticultural history of Rochester before he presented the key of the city to M. and Mme. Andre de Vilmorin.

Eugene Boerner, famed hybridizer for Jackson & Perkins Co. introduced Mr. de Vilmorin, principal speaker and first vice-president of the French Horticultural Society. It was pointed out that Andre de Vilmorin belongs to the seventh generation of this renowned European firm. The family has also established the first arboretum in France. Mr. de Vilmorin mentioned the work of some French breeders in horticulture

including Andre Michaux, Father David, Victor Lemoine, Francois Cels, Soulange Bodin, Leon Chenault, Pernet Ducher, and the Meillands. As to the future, M. de Vilmorin believed in the research of novelties, the greater importance of botanical gardens and the very important part that breeders would play in the orientation of the social life.

Thursday, October 8 the Garden Writers Association of America held a special breakfast at which Mr. Arthur P. Trimble of the Eastman Kodak Co. spoke on "Picture Your Flowers in Color." This talk and slide presentation was followed by the Plenary Session at which Dr. Irving, President of the Council presided. Reports were given by Officers and Chairmen of Commissions and Committees including the President's Report on the many outstanding accomplishments of the Council during the past year. Among these we can cite the successful efforts to obtain a Federal Grant making possible American participation in the Rotterdam Flower Show of 1960. The AHC is also acting as the coordinating agency for this event.

Dr. Henry T. Skinner, Director of the National Arboretum in Washington, presided at the Thursday luncheon. The main speaker was Mr. Wilbur E. Wright, Director of the Bureau of Parks and Recreation in Rochester, and Co-Chairman of the Congress with Bernard Harkness. Rochester is one of the few remaining cities which maintains a municipally sponsored botanical collection. The Parks were begun in 1888 and the work was stabi-

lized by the Slavin Brothers. Beautiful slides illustrated the flowering season in Rochester Parks. Mr. Wright also referred to an interesting growing experience where acid-loving plants, such as azaleas and rhododendrons are growing in alkaline soil with the addition of two feet of solid peat and a foot of oak leaves.

That afternoon various members of the Cornell University staff presented a special program moderated by Mr. Daniel M. Dalrymple, Assistant Commissioner of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. The first speaker was Dr. John Naegele, Professor of Entomology, who covered the technical subject of Acaricide Resistance in Mites. He went into the difficulties in controlling mites. Dr. A. W. Dimock, Professor of Plant Pathology, then discussed special methods in Indexing Chrysanthemums for Disease Control. These methods were shown on the Exhibition floor, demonstrating how carefully these procedures must be carried out. Dr. John Seeley, Professor of Floriculture and Ornamental Horticulture, spoke on how day length can affect the flowering of ornamental plants, particularly chrysanthemums. The final presentation entitled "Carrots and Coconuts," as given by Dr. F. C. Steward, Professor of Plant Physiology, attracted unusual comment. He graphically explained the interesting and successful experiments which increased carrots 80 times in twenty days due to the medium of coconut milk. The same experiment can be accomplished with the milk of the horse chestnut.

The Cornell program was followed by the Report of the Commission on Education given by Dr. Donald Watson of Michigan State University. During a recent

trip around the world it was forcibly brought home to Dr. Watson that there is a greater emphasis on horticultural education in other countries than in the United States and a far greater concentration on practical experience. His magnificent slides of far-away places and their educational institutions illustrated the varied manifestations of horticulture and the wide range of plant material.

One of the most important decisions taken at the Congress was the voting at the Plenary Session and the Board of Directors to merge the American Horticultural Council with the American Horticultural Society. A new name may be adopted for the combined group such as the Horticultural Society of America. Meantime, elections were held by the Council naming Dr. Richard P. White, Executive Vice-President of the American Association of Nurserymen as President, Carl Fenninger of the John J. Tyler Arboretum 1st Vice-President, William Frederick, Jr., Millcreek Nursery. 2nd. Vice-President and Dr. Donald Wyman of the Arnold Arboretum Secretary-Treasurer. The new Board of Directors will consist of Mrs. Dorothy Hansell of the New York Botanical Garden, Dr. William E. Snyder of Rutgers University, Charles D. Webster of the Horticultural Society of New York, Mrs. Jesse F. Hakes, Jerome A. Eaton and Harold Epstein of the American Rock Garden Society.

The Thursday evening banquet presided over by Dr. George H. M. Lawrence of the Bailey Hortorium, featured George Spalding, Superintendent of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum who spoke on "Bottlebrushes and Kangaroo Paws." These were just two of the many new flowers obtained through more than five months'

plant exploration in Australia for the U.S.D.A. and Longwood Gardens.

All day Friday was devoted to a bus tour and field trip to the State Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, Stern's Nursery, and Jackson & Perkins Co. The Annual Banquet that evening, presided over by Mrs. Jesse F. Hakes, marked the presentation of the following special citations:

Eugene Boerner of the Jackson & Perkins Co. was honored with a citation for his contributions made by seeking out, introducing and popularizing new herbaceous plants from all over the world, by hybridizing delphinium, chrysanthemums and other plants and especially for originating a long list of fine roses for both greenhouse and garden culture.

Henry J. Kohankie, a well-known nurseryman, received his citation particularly "for a lifetime devoted to the propagation and production of high quality plant material . . . and for elevating the standards of nursery practice and business ethics."

Fred F. Rockwell, Orleans, Mass., was given recognition for being the author, co-author or editor of many fine books for American gardeners, for promoting horticulture through writing, lectures and photography, and for the inspiration, encouragement and instruction to both amateur and professional horticulturists during a lifetime devoted to gardening and horticultural journalism.

Similar honor was conferred upon Thomas P. Reily of the Rapid-Gro Corp. of Dansville, New York for demonstrating in a practical way that plants could be foliar fed effectively, thus opening the way to a new cultural practice in horticulture.

John Nash Ott of Winnetka,

Illinois was given a special citation for his contributions in developing time-lapse photography techniques, thus popularizing gardening through radio, television, movies and lectures.

Liberty Hyde Bailey Medal Award

The second Liberty Hyde Bailey Medal Award was conferred by the American Horticultural Council upon Benjamin Yoe Morrison, outstanding horticulturist from Washington, D. C., in charge of the Division of Plant Exploration and Introduction of the Bureau of Plant Industry for many years.

F. H. Bartlett Medal Award

The very first F. H. Bartlett Medal award was established this year for outstanding contributions towards the appreciation and care of ornamental trees. The medal was designed by Edmund Amateis, internationally known sculptor of Brewster, New York and an amateur horticulturist. The award was deservedly won by Bernard H. Slavin of Rochester, N. Y. who started in 1890 as a laborer in the Parks System at the age of 18, and rose to be Superintendent by 1928. Mr. Slavin retired in 1942 at the age of 70.

Dr. Raymond C. Allen, Director of Kingwood Center, Mansfield, Ohio, conferred the above awards.

The banquet concluded with a film showing and commentary by Dr. William M. Harlow of the New York State College of Forestry, Syracuse University including two productions entitled "Rhythmic Motions of Growing Plants" and "Tree Portraits."

Saturday October 10 programmed the Annual Meeting of the Garden Writers Association of America and a bus tour of the Rochester Parks. A luncheon and business meeting was also scheduled for the American Association of Botanic Gardens and Arboretums.

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Outstanding exhibits were arranged by the Men's Garden Club of America, Jackson & Perkins Co., Joseph Harris Co., Massachusetts Horticultural Society, American Iris Society, among others.

Most beautiful flower arrangements were on display daily by the University Women's Garden Club, the Garden Center of Rochester, the Down-to-Earth Garden Club and the Pittsford Garden Club.

The Congress Committee consisted of Wilbur E. Wright and Bernard Harkness, Co-Chairmen assisted by Dr. John Seeley, Dr. George H. M. Lawrence, Richard Hart and Eugene Boerner. The 15th Congress will be held at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum in Arcadia, California in 1960.

At the Annual Meeting of the Garden Writers Association of America on Saturday October 10, the following officers were elected: President Richard Thomson of Philadelphia, Pa., Vice-President, Frederic Huette of Norfolk, Va., Secretary, Margaret Herbst of New York and Treasurer Paul Young of Cleveland, Ohio.

DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION

The following cultivars (varieties), whose names have been approved by the Nomenclature Committee, are presented for registration by the originator, owner or grower, as the case may be.

By Orville W. Fay, 1775 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, Illinois, originator:

PRAIRIE MOON. (Fay, 1959). SD E. Pale yellow. Seedling No. 56-1. Parentage: Laura Magnuson x Archangel. Its large, pale yellow, flowers are carried on upright, strong stems about 25 inches tall. It has no side buds. Its foliage is a glossy green that remains so

until killed by frost. It suffered no winter damage last winter when so many hybrids were killed. It has a center of yellow stamens and its carpels are well developed. Whether it will produce viable pollen or set seed is not yet known. It blooms with the herbaceous hybrids. It will be distributed by Mr. Fay and Mission Gardens, Techy, Illinois, jointly, in 1960.

By A. L. Murawska, 8740 Ridge Street, River Grove, Illinois, owner and originator:

EDWIN C. BILLS. (Murawska, 1959). D. M. Red. Seedling No. not given Parentage: Rosalie x Beth Ann. Large, full double, medium tall, blooming in midseason, color slightly darker than American Beauty red. The stems are strong, making it a good garden variety.

By Walter Mains, Belle Center, Ohio, originator and W. A. Alexander, distributor, 145 Eberly Avenue, Bowling Green, Ohio.

FIREBELLE. (Mains, 1959) SD E. Brilliant red. Seedling No. 20 X. Parentage: *officinalis* x *lactiflora*. This hybrid semi-double has brilliant medium red flowers which are carried on tall stems and blooms quite early. The plant is a vigorous grower. It is valuable as a cut flower as stems can be cut long without dangerous reduction of foliage.

By Charles Klehm and Son, 2 East Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, Ill., originator and owner.

JAY CEE (Klehm, 1959). D. M. Seedling No. 784 T. Parentage: Mons. Jules Elie x Mr. L. van Leeuwen. Large, full double, rose type flower, carried on strong stems of medium height and blooming in midseason. Its color is an American Beauty Red with silver edges. It shows no stamens. Its foliage is full and luscious. It makes an excellent garden flower as well as one that can be used for cut flowers.

Peyton's Peony Pilgrimage — 1959

George W. Peyton

My Pilgrimage really started on Saturday the 9th of May with my visit to the beautiful show of the Lynchburg, Virginia, Council of Garden Clubs, whose theme was "Lessons in Flowers". Mrs. S. A. Carpenter and Mrs. Helen Early, of Orange, Virginia, accompanied us and judged the peonies. My son, Jimmie, drove us down. As this trip was written-up in the June, 1959, issue of this Bulletin, we shall pass over the details.

Our long trip began on Tuesday evening, June 16. We left Orange on the George Washington, the yellow and silver streamliner of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, for Cincinnati, occupying an up-to-date roomette. Arriving at Cincinnati Wednesday morning at 7:30, we paused only long enough to have breakfast in the good station restaurant.

Leaving at 8:30 on the James Whitcomb Riley of the New York Central, we arrived in Indianapolis at 10:30 and were met at the station by our charming hostess for the day, Mrs. Earl Knapp, so well known to our members as Dorothy J. We were joined for lunch by Dorothy's son, Steven, and a lovely lady, Mrs. George Ober, whom some of our members will remember as Mary Helen. She was with Dorothy at the show in Milwaukee in 1949 and I am certain that some of us have quite vivid memories of that meeting, at which the new by-laws were discussed in one of the liveliest of all our memorable meetings. Taking a prominent part in that discussion was a man whom we all remember with so much pleasure, Mr. J. W. Bernstein of Lincoln, Nebraska. His untimely passing some years ago, has left a void in our ranks, which has not yet been

filled. Some of us also remember that meeting for other incidents which we shall not detail here. After a pleasant afternoon, spent in discussing the above happenings and others of mutual interest I left for Peru for a most enjoyable evening and morning with Mr. and Mrs. Russell H. Jones, who are always the perfect hosts.

On Thursday afternoon my hosts drove me over to Lake Tippecanoe for a visit with my good friends, the Martin Rohes. Of course we got lost for awhile, due to my faulty memory, but we finally arrived in ample time for the Jones to reach home in time for another engagement.

This almost yearly visit to the Rohes is always one of the high lights of my trips. This friendship began nearly thirty years ago, first through correspondence with Mrs. Rohe's father, the late Richard Napier of Blue Island, Illinois, and later by many visits in his home during the peony season and after his death, in that of the Rohes. It has been unbroken through the years. This year, the entire family were at Lake Tippecanoe which consists of Martin and Miriam and their three daughters, Barbara and the two lively teen-agers Sally and Christine, and Barbara's small son Timmy. Sally's boy friend, Larrie, joined us for the last evening and drove me over to my train in the early morning on Saturday.

On Friday, Martin and I drove over to Goshen, which is nearby, to see Mrs. Ernest I. Stahly, another friend of long standing. Since her husband's tragic death several years ago, she has carried on the peony business with outstanding success. She is also now a house mother at the University of Illinois in Urbana.

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After a delicious lunch, Mrs. Stahly took us to a nearby farm, operated by one of our members, Mr. Richard Moller, and his most capable wife, who showed us around the place. Besides an outstanding rose garden there are about 1600 peonies on the grounds. The main crop on this farm is ponies. They hope soon to have one hundred brood mares, which goal is now not far off.

Early Saturday morning I was on my way to St. Paul, leaving on the combined Trial Blazer and General of the Pennsylvania Railroad. This 18 car train was over half an hour late leaving Warsaw, but it made up enough time to enable me to catch the Morning Zephyr of the Burlington for St. Paul. I had a stay of just 14 minutes in Union Station, Chicago. As this was excursion day on the Burlington, there being special cars for East Dubuque and Prairie du Chien and the regular cars filled with those destined for St. Paul and Minneapolis the train was crowded and added to this was the failure of the air conditioning unit on my car which never recovered in spite of the strenuous efforts of the train men to make it do its duty, So this part of my trip was not as comfortable as it usually is, to say the least. Though we were over an hour late at times, extra fast running from Winona into St. Paul brought us in only about half an hour late.

A telephone call soon brought Walter Lindgren to take me to his home for my week-long stay of unalloyed pleasure.

According to custom, we went to the cold storage plant for Walter's flowers, Sunday afternoon and took them over to the show room in the Northwestern National Bank that evening. While Walter was getting his blooms in water, I helped Mr. Tupper get Myron Big-

ger's lot of seedlings unpacked and into water. Unfortunately these had heated in transit and never fully recovered.

Early Monday morning we went to the show room and were greeted by many friends and especially the Bank's private guards, who always go out of their way to make me comfortable and thus add much to the pleasure and enjoyment of this show. The five ladies, who man the Information desks, are also most courteous in doing every thing they can to help.

After the judging was over and the extra fine lunch with the judges and officers of the Minnesota Peony and Iris Society, in a downstairs restaurant, the afternoon was spent with the photographers whose work was especially good. Meanwhile my good friend, Bill Boyle and his young grandson had busied themselves with getting for me the report of the show. This labor of love on Bill's part, is a great help to me and is much appreciated. He has lately had trouble with his eyesight and now expects to have a cataract removed in early 1960. We wish him complete recovery of his eyesight.

On Tuesday morning we went in to the show early and spent the entire day there. We had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Peggy Schultz who is on the editorial staff of the Flower and Garden Magazine. She and her attractive daughter came in for lunch with Walter, Rudy Schneider and myself at the same place we had lunch on Monday. After lunch, Walter and myself took Mrs. Schultz on a tour of the show. Owing to the fact that the show room is air conditioned the flowers were in excellent condition.

On Tuesday evening Walter showed his ribbons to many admiring friends, living in his neighborhood. They made an imposing

array, consisting of fifteen firsts, 2 seconds. 4 Court of Honor, 1 Grand Champion, 1 sweepstakes. He was also able to show three of the finest flowers in the show: the Grand Champion, Frances Mains; the best single, Pico and the best hybrid, Red Charm. These flowers were all in excellent condition and kept it until the next day, when we took them across the State to Willmar as a present to Mr. William Anderson, a former resident of St. Paul and now, at an advanced age, a bed-ridden patient in the Willmar Nursing Home. I was glad to have the opportunity of renewing my acquaintance with Mr. Anderson whom I had met many years ago at one of the Minneapolis shows, where he was often an exhibitor.

On Thursday morning we paid a visit to Mr. T. E. Carpenter at his place of business, a modern stationery and office furniture store. There he has a permanent exhibit of a modern business suite, furnished with the most modern fixtures and machines to speedily accomplish the work of the day. Mr. Carpenter, being a peony man, has not forgotten the esthetic side as the walls of these offices are adorned by many paintings, imported in many instances from abroad, and there are plants and flowers to enhance the overall beauty of the suite.

That afternoon we spent with Mr. Boyle, going over his garden plant by plant until the rain drove us inside. This garden contains one of the finest collections of the best peonies in the country. Mr. Boyle has never grown many hybrids, only four or five all told, and no tree peonies. Last winter reduced his hybrid population to only two, Laddie and Red Charm. He says Laddie is about to take over the place as with him it is a most vigorous grower. If we take

into the picture Mr. Lindgren's garden, it is doubtful if there is any other place in this country where there can be seen, in a small space, better collections of the finest peonies than are found in these two gardens within a few miles of each other. All of us know that the Lindgren garden produces about the finest exhibition blooms to be found anywhere while Mr. Boyle cares little about that side of the game.

Friday morning, the Lindgrens and myself drove through the beautiful country side to Saga Hill, the home of Mrs. J. A. Harratty, situated on the shores of famed Lake Minnetonka, where our hostesses were Mrs. Harratty and her daughter Mrs. Pat Wysocky, who lives almost directly across the lake from her mother, a distance of only a few miles by boat, but far longer by highway. This home is bounded on three sides by the forest and on the other by the lake. It is a fine modern house and is surrounded by a well kept garden of many different flowers and shrubs. After a bounteous luncheon, we regretfully took leave of our gracious hostesses and came back to St. Paul by an entirely different route from the one we had used that morning, stopping on the way to pick up a few baskets of strawberries which were still available.

On Saturday morning, just at nine, I left St. Paul for my final destination, Grand Forks, North Dakota, on the Western Star, famous streamliner of the Great Northern Railway. A ride of slightly over six hours brought us to Grand Forks in the early afternoon. This is a beautiful ride through the lush countryside of Minnesota and North Dakota, which was made more enjoyable by the many friendly travelling

companions and the courtesy of the train men. The distance of 323 miles was covered by our nineteen car train with four diesels comprising the team, at an average speed of just about fifty miles an hour.

A taxi ride of four or five blocks brought us to the Hotel Ryan which was to be our home for the next four days. Registration was soon completed and I was ushered up to my room M-1 on the mezzanine floor, which was part of the suite so thoughtfully reserved for Myron and Annie Bigger and myself by the show management, for the duration of our stay.

The Biggers had already arrived and soon a telephone call came from Mr. Loyde C. Thompson, the General Show Chairman, welcoming us to Grand Forks, followed by a call from him in person. This call was followed by a gift of a corsage for Annie and a bouquet of red roses from the Rose Shop, for me thus assuring us of a warm welcome to this Wild Western town, some sixteen hundred miles from Rapidan. However there is little left of the Wild West in this city of beautiful homes, modern office buildings and wide streets, except the far reaching stretches of the prairie with their miles long rows of corn, flax, soy beans and other crops and most of all, possibly, the unvarying hospitality and friendly greetings of its inhabitants. But, come to think of it, those traits are characteristic of almost all of the many places which I visit on my annual treks over this broad land of ours as I am often greeted by a pleasant "Good Morning" and more often by a friendly smile from people I have never seen before and cannot expect ever to see again. And this happens, not only in the smaller cities and towns,

but even on crowded Broadway in New York and Jackson Boulevard in Chicago.

After dinner we went to the show room for an hour or two, where we found several old friends and were introduced to many new ones.

On Sunday we attended morning service at a nearby Episcopal Church of which denomination the Biggers are members. There we were cordially greeted as usual and, after service, had a pleasant talk with the rector and other members of the congregation.

That afternoon we met the Lindgrens at the train and spent the balance of the day holding open house, in our suite, for the many arriving members of the Society.

Later on in the early evening, though in broad daylight which lasted until well after nine o'clock two or three car loads of us followed the lead of Myron far out to the west to have supper at some road-side inn which, with his well-known propensity for locating the best eating places in any town he has visited for an hour, he had already spotted. However when we arrived, the place was closed, so we took a short drive through that part of town and came on back to our usual resting place.

Monday and Tuesday were occupied to the full with the usual duties which accompany our shows and as these have been told in detail in the September Bulletin, they will be passed over here. So I shall take up this narrative again at noon on Tuesday. By that time, nearly all had left either for home or for a visit to nearby Canada and with the departure of the Lindgrens on the afternoon train, only Clarence Lienau and we three were left to tell the tale.

Clarence spent most of his time trying to keep track of his hat, which he had brought along for some unknown reason. Whether he finally caught up with it or not I do not know at this writing some five months later.

After an early six o'clock breakfast Wednesday morning the Biggers drove me to the station to take the Red River streamliner for St. Paul, which I had supposed left at seven thirty. But on arrival at the station the lady ticket agent in charge informed me the train had left on time some half an hour before, as the schedule had been changed some two weeks before and I had never taken the trouble to check on it. Whether Myron will ever forget this occurrence in the life of a supposedly railroad expert who is reputed to know every train schedule in the country by heart, only time will tell. We came on back to the hotel where I repossessed my room and the Biggers soon left for home. Then I went back to the station and got my roomette reserved for Chicago by this same lady ticket agent who proved to be most accommodating and she also wired ahead for my reservation from Chicago to Washington.

I then went to say a second good bye to Mr. Thompson at his office which was only a short block or two away. There I found the three attractive secretaries enjoying a coffee break and Mr. Thompson absent at the show room cleaning up. Of course it would not have been polite to leave at once so I spent a pleasant half hour chatting with these young ladies and then hied me over to the show room where I found Mr. and Mrs. Thompson just leaving for home. They took me along and then Mr. Thompson and I came back to his office for a few

minutes and then we went to the hotel for lunch and my final check out. On reaching the station we found that my train was late, so we drove through a beautiful part of the city and even out into the country on the Minnesota side of the Red River which I had not seen. My train arrived soon after we came back to the station and with its departure there ended my stay in this far off friendly city of unbounded hospitality, the memories of which I shall long treasure with such pleasure.

It had been my intention to spend the hours between my first intended arrival in St. Paul until my train left that night for Chicago, with the Lindgrens, but missing my train put an end to that plan and I had called Mrs. Lindgren and told her of my change of plans earlier in the day.

The afternoon and evening were spent either in the observation car or my roomette viewing the passing landscape. On reaching Minneapolis at about nine P. M. I retired for the night and when I awoke next morning we were passing through East Dubuque, Wisconsin. My train arrived in Chicago, Union Station, on time at 8:15 and I immediately hied me and my baggage by taxi over to the Baltimore and Ohio station, a few blocks away, from which my train for Washington was due to leave at 3:45 that afternoon. There I was delighted to find that my friendly lady ticket agent in Grand Forks had been successful in securing me a reservation on the newly installed slumber coach on the all coach Columbian. This car is really an all room car with 24 single and eight double rooms. These single rooms are almost exactly like a roomette the only difference being a bed that is only the width of half the seat which

allows the wash basin and toilet to be used at night without having to get out of bed and lift it up to uncover them, which is a most decided improvement. There are only two lights instead of the several in an ordinary roomette. I found it to be fully as comfortable and only a coach ticket is required for occupancy with about half the charge for a roomette additional, which meant a saving of about \$17.50 for the trip from Chicago to Washington. They are run on only a few trains as they are comparatively new innovations and so far as I know the other trains on which they are used are the Denver Zephyr and the aristocratic Twentieth Century.

After completing these details I sent a telegram to Jimmie telling him my time of arrival in Washington and then went over to the La Salle Street Station to pay a visit to one of our new members, Mr. Martin Cassell the general counsel of the Rock Island Road. After a pleasant half hour, he had to leave for an engagement and I went across the street to see Richard Napier whom I had not seen for several years. His office is still in charge of my good friend Miss Marjorie Herman whom it was a pleasure to see once more. There I found Richard's sister-in-law assisting and it was another unexpected pleasure to renew an acquaintance begun some years ago in Blue Island. Richard wished me to stay for lunch with him, and as he had some business to finish, I was assigned a private telephone to use in calling some of my many good friends whom it was impossible to visit. Though I did not succeed in reaching all of them, I did find Mrs. Mull, Mrs. Christman and Art Murawska at home. Mrs. Mull has sold her old home and now lives across the

street from her former home. She still has some of her favorite peonies in her garden. Mrs. Christman seemed her usual happy self and Art was just leaving for the Duluth show to be held the following week. After an excellent lunch and a good talk with Richard over old times he had to leave to catch his train for his summer home at Wisconsin Dells.

After a visit to Martin Rohe's office where I found he had left for the Lake I went back to my station and waited out the short remaining time until my train left for Washington. Leaving Chicago this train is now a combination of the former all-Pullman Capitol Limited and the all-coach Columbian. When Willard, Ohio, is reached the Capitol is uncoupled and proceeds to Washington as a separate train and the Columbian is combined with the Ambassador from Detroit until Washington is reached, where all three are combined for the forty mile run to Baltimore.

The afternoon and evening were spent mainly in the dome where my evening seat companion was a German woman on her way back to Bonn from several years residence in Los Angeles. She did not intend to return to this country.

On arrival at Washington at 8:30 slightly ahead of time, I was met at the station by Jimmie with the news that all those almost human calculating machines connected with his office had been destroyed by fire the day before and at that time he was uncertain whether his office had been seriously damaged or not. As his office was still closed, he drove me home and had to return immediately to be on hand if needed. Stopping only to replenish the home larder and for a quick lunch we reached Windy Hill soon after

noon. Thus ended a trip of about five thousand miles through a country that was never more beautiful. It will be remembered throughout my remaining span of life as one of unalloyed pleasure made so by unvarying courtesy of the many train men with whom I came into contact, the excellent service given by the employees and staff of the Hotel Ryan, the cordial hospitality of my friends at whose homes I was privileged to stay, and the great pleasure of once more greeting so many old friends as well as meeting and making some new ones. It shows that amidst the hurly-burly of modern life, there are still many men and women who take time out to show an old man that he still occupies a place of genuine affection in their lives for which this one is truly thankful.

ORVILLE FAY WINS A BRITISH IRIS AWARD

On September 4th, Harry Randall, past president of the British Iris Society, presented the coveted Sir Michael Foster Medal of that organization to Orville Fay, a leading American iris and hemerocal-lis breeder.

The Sir Michael Foster Medal, which has been presented to several American iris enthusiasts (first of these to Dr. John C. Wister of Swarthmore), is presented for work of outstanding quality in promoting or breeding the iris. Unlike the Dykes Medal, however, it is not given for a specific variety, but for personal attainments in any field related to irises.

The presentation took place at a dinner in Northfield, Illinois.

"The Flower Grower," Nov. 1959

PRAIRIE MOON

A new peony, being registered in this Bulletin by Mr. Orville W. Fay should be of more than ordinary interest to our readers and especially to those interested in hybridizing.

This peony is exceptional in more ways than one. First: It is a product of a cross made in 1953 between Laura Magnuson and Archangel. The parentage of Laura Magnuson is *lactiflora* and *lobata* and that of Archangel is *lactiflora* and *macrophylla*. Two seeds were produced and planted that fall in a flower pot plunged in the garden. Both germinated in the spring of 1954 and the one from which Prairie Moon came, flowered first in 1956, bearing three light yellow, cup shaped flowers. In its second year it produced seven semi-double light yellow flowers of large size. It has no side buds.

It was divided in 1957 into eight nice divisions, all of which flowered in 1958, each division having two or three flowers.

It will be noted that it is a triple hybrid of the second generation, having *macrophylla*, *lobata* and a double dose of *lactiflora* in its composition.

It should next be noted that it is a light yellow in color, though it has no Mlokosewitschi in it. The only other variety, that we know of, that is a light yellow with no Mlokosewitschi in it, is Moonrise, a Saunders hybrid (*lactiflora lobata*), with the same parentage as Laura Magnuson.

It should also be noted that its parentage is two hybrids. How many varieties have been produced by crossing two first generation hybrids we do not know, but certainly not many if any. Maybe some other triple or quadruple hybrids have been so produced.

It should also be noted that it

flowered just two years after it was first planted as a seedling in 1954, and that it bore flowers the first year on every plant when first divided two years later.

Then it should be noted that its foliage does not die down until killed by frost. Personally I have never seen a hybrid that did not die earlier, often by August and in August. It might be wise for every one to note what hybrids keep their foliage green until frost kills it. This early dying of the foliage is a serious fault of hybrids in general in the eyes of many gardeners.

If it has viable pollen or if its stigmas are capable of being fertilized, its value as a parent of better yellows is almost incalculable.

It may be noted also that up to the present, no plant has ever attained maturity as the original plant was divided the fall after its second blooming season. These divisions should be three years old next year unless they were divided this fall. A mature plant might produce flowers almost fully double.

Let us hope that some one will keep a plant until it is mature and see what happens. Also let us hope that some one will cross it with other varieties that would give better yellows as far as can be determined beforehand. Claire de Lune, Oriental Gold, and any existing variety that has Mloko-sewitschi in its genealogy might give remarkable results if they can be crossed successfully. Only the future can tell about this.

November 16, 1959

Dear Mr. Peyton:

Thank you for your letter of November 11. The copy of the article which you plan to print in the Bulletin is very accurate, and

I am pleased with it. I did not plan on advance publicity when I told you about this peony, but only wanted to give you all the necessary information for registration. Thank you for the time and trouble you have taken.

I do not have a black and white print of Prairie Moon, but I do have several kodachrome slides, not suitable for reproduction. This flower always photographs more yellow than it really is.

This fall I divided seven of the eight clumps, but I left one nice clump undisturbed, so we can see the flowers on a mature plant. This clump should produce twelve or fourteen flowers next spring.

I have been breeding plants for the last 30 years, iris, mums, day lilies and daffodils, where most of the problems are problems in genetics. Peonies, with the exception of *lactiflora* and Japanese tree peonies, are the most stubborn and the most sterile of any plants I have ever tried to hybridize. The problems are problems in cytology. The trouble all starts with the small number of chromosomes in the peony. N-5, 2N-10, or the number of chromosomes in a diploid peony. 4N-20, or the number of chromosomes in a tetraploid peony. Most of the hybrid herbaceous peonies are from *lobata* a tetraploid x *lactiflora* a diploid, or *officinalis* a tetraploid x *lactiflora* a diploid. The resulting seedlings are almost invariably triploids, and very highly sterile, but not completely so. If you make enough crosses between these triploids, you will get a few seeds, and the resulting seedlings may be either diploid, triploid, or tetraploid. I would like to overcome this difficulty by changing *lactiflora* from a diploid to a tetraploid by the use of colchicine, or by changing some of

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the sterile triploids to hexaploids of 30 chromosomes, which should be fertile. This is not easy, but I believe it could be done.

For the past seven years Dr. Robert Griesbach (Ph.D. in botany) who teaches cytogenetics at Depaul and I have been working with colchicine to produce tetraploid hems. We have been quite successful. We are now laying plans to go to work on peonies.

If we can produce fertile hybrids with higher chromosome numbers so that every one in the society who cares to, can go ahead and raise a lot of seedlings, as is now being done in many other plant societies, then the interest in peonies will grow and grow.

Last April 10th I flew from Chicago direct to London, England, on a B.O.A.C. Britannia, a giant turbo prop which made the trip in 10½ hours flying time. I visited the great London daffodil show held in the new R.H.S. Hall. There I met Sir Frederick Stern, author of the Monograph "A Study of the Genus Paeonia". He invited me and my host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Randall, to visit him and Lady Stern at their estate, "Highdown by the Sea", near Goaring in the south of England. We were invited to arrive at 10 and stay to lunch which we did.

Sir Frederick has been, for many years, a director of the John Innes Horticultural Institute where he has made many chromosome counts on peonies. I had a wonderful day walking among his beds of daffodil seedlings, and plantings of specie peonies. I spent nine days being driven about in the south of England, and around London. I visited Kew Gardens, and the trial gardens of the R.H.S. at Wisley, plus dozens of beautiful private gardens. Wherever I went I found many

of my iris growing as well as they grow at home. At Oxford in a little formal garden back of one of the Colleges I found three Fay iris acting as though they had been born there.

Whenever you are in Chicago, please come out to Northbrook and visit us. We are two miles west of Mission Gardens at Techny, Ill.

Truly yours,
Orville W. Fay

Northbrook, Ill.

MR. MASON'S FAVORITE SINGLES AND JAPS

James Mason, Chicago, Illinois

He says: "Here are my favorite singles and Japs as they grow for me in my garden:"

SINGLES

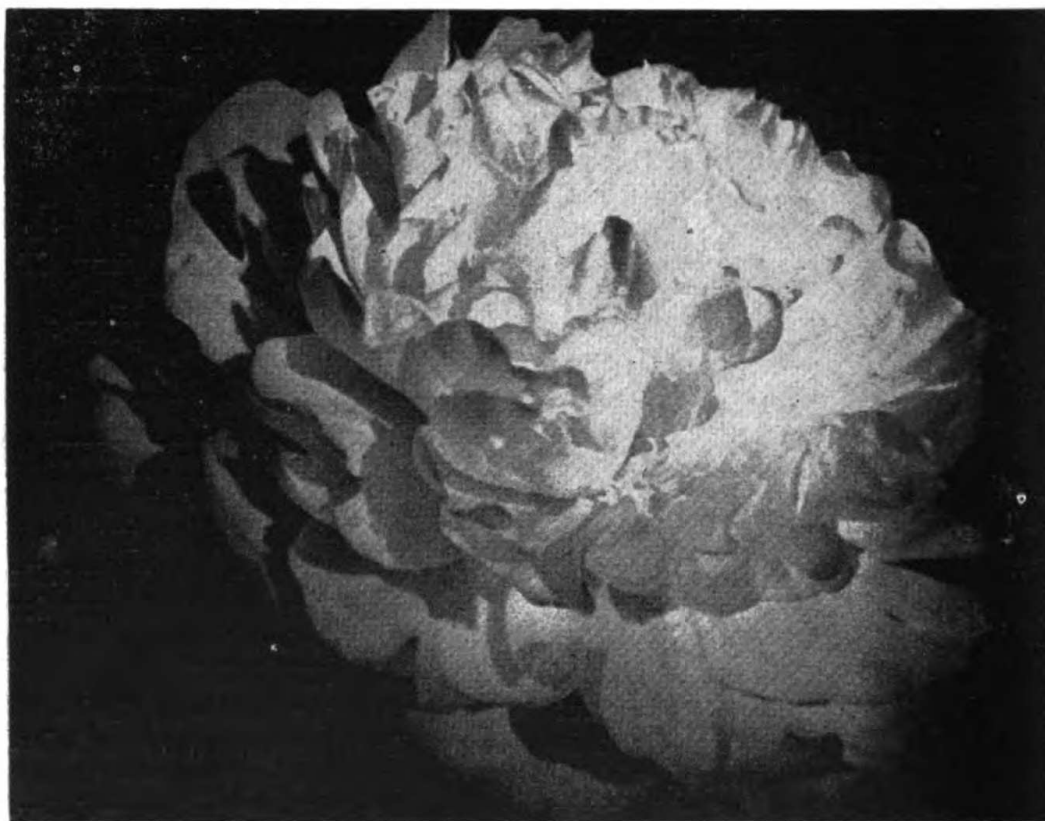
Dakota, orange scarlet, hybrid.
Dusky Dinah, dark winey red, hybrid.
Glasscock's 1-G-49, orange red, hybrid.
Illini Belle, black-red, hybrid. Often semi-double.
Krinkled White.
Pride of Langport, light pink.
Salmon Glow, salmon, hybrid.
Sun-up, dark red.
Tango, orange red, hybrid.
Veritas, dark red, hybrid. Often semi-double or indeterminate.

JAPANESE

Dignity, dark red.
Lotus Queen, white.
Nippon Beauty, dark red.
Nippon Chief, bright red.
Rashoomon, red.
Xenia, light pink.
Yellow King, light pink.

Note: It will be seen that Mr. Mason's favorite color must be red. Seven of his ten singles are some shade of red and four of his Japs. There is one white of each and two pinks. All but three of his singles are hybrids. No hybrid Japs.

AMALIA OLSON



This year the annual award of the American Home Magazine Achievement Medal for the best and most distinctive new peony shown was made to a pure white double named AMALIA OLSON. As this peony has quite an interesting history, we present it here as gathered from letters from its originator, Mr. Christian Olson of Colfax, North Dakota, Dr. Casper I. Nelson of River Falls, Wisconsin, and Mr. George E. Tollefson, of Fargo, North Dakota.

Early in this century there moved to Abercrombie, North Dakota, a young dentist, Dr. H. C. Cooper, a most remarkable man in many ways. He was an expert tennis player, expert figure skater and skier, accomplished flutist, and most important, perhaps, a lover and hybridizer of peonies.

While he was there he developed many of his seedlings, a num-

ber of which are now well known to members of our Society, including Doris Cooper and Alma Hansen. However, his dream of a pure white double which was his greatest ambition to produce and which he hoped would be the world's finest never became a reality. After many years he decided to move to Portland, Oregon. He took many of his seedlings with him, but also gave away many.

In nearby Colfax, there lived a young bachelor farmer with his mother, his father having died when he was three years old. Some of these seedlings of Dr. Cooper found their way into the garden of this farmer, Christian Olson by name. From these seedlings Mr. Olson gathered and planted many seeds, drilling them in as he would wheat. Mr. Olson was interested in many other plants and often visited the laboratories of Dr. Casper

I. Nelson, a professor in the State College of Agriculture at nearby Fargo. In due time, possibly twelve years ago, Dr. Nelson and his wife visited Mr. Olson's garden and there saw among many other seedlings a beautiful full double white, which they greatly admired.

By this time the fame of Mr. Olson's peonies had spread and about 1949, Mr. George E. Tollefson of Fargo and a friend, Mr. E. G. Schultze, visited his garden when the peonies were in bloom. There they spotted this pure white which Mr. Olson tells us was growing on the corner of his seedling block over which he often walked. He says it lived a rough life from the start. Mr. Olson never liked to bother his peonies nor even to cut the blooms. But finally he was persuaded to dig and divide this one. Mr. Tollefson helped him do the job and he gave Mr. Tollefson, Mr. Schultze and Dr. Nelson roots and planted the rest himself, probably about four or five divisions.

Some years later a bloom of it was entered in the show in Grand Forks, where it took first prize in the seedling class.

Three or four years ago, Dr. Nelson sent me a root of it under the

name "Christina Amalia" which is Mrs. Olson's full name we presume. Dr. Nelson moved to River Falls, Wisc., on his retirement and every year since we have urged him to show a flower of this variety in the Minneapolis show, but so far this has not been possible.

This year I was rewarded with my first good bloom from my plant which has lived as rough a life in my garden as it had in Mr. Olson's. While the flower was not large, it was notable for its pure white color and its beautiful formation which rivals Le Cygne in perfection.

Needless to say I looked forward to seeing this flower at Grand Forks and when I visited the show room on Sunday night, both Mr. Olson and Mr. Tollefson met me and showed me the blooms they had there. While the flowers had suffered somewhat from age, they showed me that it would fulfill its early promise of excellence.

Mr. Olson has requested that the name of this variety be AMALIA OLSON his mother's name and that it will be. We hope and predict for it a brilliant future and that, indirectly will make Dr. Cooper's dream come true.



Christian Olson and his mother, Mrs. Amalia Olson

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A Meeting Of Peony Folks



Edwin C. Bills with "Mildred May". To his right, "Moonstone".

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For some time, I had been wanting to have a few of the peony boys over to have a little gabfest about peonies and to have a social nibble, etc., mostly the latter. On this terribly hot day of August, the eighth day in a row above ninety, I decided to stay indoors and what more appropriate day was there for a gathering of some of the local loco peony minds. So, I corraled Sam Wissing, F. J. Lang, F. P. Tikalsky and E. C. Bills and the party was on. I wanted to have the last named over in particular, since I had sent a request to our secretary and the necessary centavos to register a red peony that was named after him. Whenever a peony is given the name of a person, quite a few in our membership wonder who the party is and why the peony was named after him or her. First, there is in all probability no mortal still in orbit who is more fond of the peony than E. C. Bills. He knows them well, very well in fact. Then, in my association in life, I have never met a person who is bubbling over with so many honest to goodness virtues. Let's have just a few words about him to sort of introduce our membership to an old member. Bills was born in Chicago in 1875, was educated there and worked all of his life in that illustrious burg. His business was jewelry and at one time was a buyer of precious stones for a very large firm. But, he often says, "No precious stone, no matter how large nor how refined-it does not compare to the beauty of a simple flower". Ed. Bills was always interested in a garden, he cannot remember when he wasn't. He related at this little party that his grandfather would remark with pride that little Ed never stept on anything. Bills was rath-

er slow in catching on to the beauty of peonies, but when he saw some refulgent beauties at a flower show that was held in Chicago in 1925, then he had a wonderful down payment on insanity. His order went in immediately for a dozen or so until there are now three hundred plants embracing about a hundred varieties in his Crystal Lake garden. And at his age, he gives these all of the attention that he can muster in the fruitful golden years. But that isn't all. Ed commutes from Grays Lake to his daughter's home in Peoria, Illinois. And while there, he gets lonesome for his precious peonies. So, this very active fellow planted seventy five plants of about a like number of varieties in his daughter's garden.

What are E. C. Bills favorites?

He lists the following:

White and blush, Elsa Sass, Nick Shaylor and Moonstone; pinks, Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt, Sarah Bernhardt and Dolorodell; reds, Philippe Rivoire, Matilda Lewis and Kansas. Among the semidoubles he prefers Minnie Shaylor, Miss America and Margaret Lough. Ama-no-sode, Isani Gidui, Lotus Queen, Onahama and Dignity are his selection of the Japs that he grows. He does not get moved much by singles so did not give his preference.

After a sumptuous luncheon, Sam Wissing gave a very interesting illustrative talk on how to hybridize peonies. After the talk we viewed some color slides of peonies and irises and all welcomed the comments that pendulumed back and forth. About two-thirty, I had to scamper to the locomotive that stood on the siding. By gosh, this meeting was really a tonic and we'll have another ere long.

Arthur L. Murawska

PEONY PERSONS



EDWIN C. BILLS

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Mr. Bills was born in Chicago on February 1, 1875 and after receiving his education in the primary schools he embarked on the venture of earning his own living. He married Louise J. Brurock in June 1898 and moved to Davenport, Iowa, where he was associated with his brother in the greenhouse business. He then returned to Chicago in 1901 and went to work in the jewelry business, specializing in diamonds, becoming a buyer later for one of the largest merchantil houses in Chicago. He had a fling at having his own diamond business in 1927 and three years later he was forced to get out of it since few were the diamonds that were sold in the most disastrous depression that this country had ever experienced. Then he went to work for the government for twelve years before he retired at the youthful age of seventy-one. Mr. Bills' wife passed away in 1956 at the age of 80, after a period of fifty-eight years of married life. His eldest daughter, Edna, died in 1940. Three of the four children, that were born to them, survive, a son and two

daughters. With one of them, Mrs. K. Sheppard, he has a nice planting of peonies in Peoria, Illinois. On the spacious grounds of his other daughter, the wife of Dr. C. H. Short in Crystal Lake, Illinois, Mr. Bills maintains his main planting of peonies. He commutes between the two daughters, doing what he can to make them each a show place in the spring of the year in the respective communities. He now lives with his son, Edwin T. Bills, in Chicago.

Mr. Bills has been an outdoor man and attributes his long life and long period of good health to garden work. He likes to hunt and fish, mainly to get out in nature and live, as he says. Lately, he has been restricted in the scope of these and gardening, but his enthusiasm is that of an adolescent. It is quite a treat to see this old garden patriarch browsing thru the various large plantings of peonies, fondle and expound their virtues. In terms of years he is old, but in spirit, interest and devotion to flowers, he is very youthful, indeed.

A. Murawska.

THE SPRING FLOWER SHOWS

The International Flower Show (the 43rd) will be held in the New York Coliseum, Broadway and 8th Avenue at 58th Street, New York 19, New York, March 5-12, 1960. Admission \$2.00. We hope some one will make exhibits of forced peonies.

The Spring Flower Show of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society will be held at the Dog Race Track, as the building in which it has usually been held has been torn down. We do not know the dates. We think Mr. Marinus Vander Pol intends to make his usual exhibit of forced tree peonies.

There will also be a spring show in Chicago at which Charles Klehm and Son will make exhibits of forced peonies in quite a large way.

We suppose there will be the usual shows of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and other floral organizations in Philadelphia and also in Washington. We have no definite information about these as yet.

Those European bound should remember the Floriade, the continuous show beginning March 25 and lasting until September 25, 1960. It will be held in Rotterdam, Holland, and will feature outdoor as well as indoor exhibits.

**THE FIFTY SEVENTH ANNUAL
MEETING
and the
FIFTY FIFTH ANNUAL
EXHIBITION**

On December 10, 1959, Messrs. Denlinger and Alexander, members of our Board of Directors and of the Show Committee, met with Messrs. Delmar Cobb, President of the Van Wert Peony Festival Association, Dan Pennell, Mayor-elect of Van Wert, Walter Smith, Executive Manager of the Van Wert Chamber of Commerce and representatives of the local garden clubs, whose names were not given, in Van Wert and the decision was reached to hold the above meetings in Van Wert, Ohio, on June 10-11, 1960.

They will be sponsored by the local garden clubs with the cooperation of the Festival Association and the Chamber of Commerce.

The annual meeting and banquet will be held in the new American Legion Hall in the airconditioned dining room, which has a seating capacity of 350, on the evening of June 10.

The exhibition will be staged in the City Armory, which has an exhibition hall 108 by 72 feet, which is ample room for it. There are two main entrances and plenty of work room. It is not airconditioned. This exhibition will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 10-11.

The festival will begin with a parade on Saturday afternoon, followed by the crowning of the Queen, Jubilee the 16th, and a second parade that evening. There are also usually other events held in connection with the Festival. We shall give a full schedule in the March Bulletin, if available at that time.

This festival is held in commemoration of the great Peony Per-

sons of the past who were natives of Van Wert and who were largely responsible for the popularity of the Peony during the Twenties. It is, next to the Rose Festival in Pasadena, California, about the largest of its kind in America and possibly in the world. The yearly attendance now numbers well over a hundred thousand each year. The date of these meetings makes it possible for exhibitors from the nearby areas and those south of Van Wert, to bring exhibits of all the regular peonies from early to late. Those residing further north will have an opportunity to show the herbaceous hybrids and tree peonies also. Let us hope full advantage will be taken of this and that the show will go down in peony history as one of the finest ever held.

Van Wert is situated near many many growers in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois and is easy of access by car, train and airplane. U. S. Highway No. 30 passes through the city. The Pennsylvania Railroad also has its main line from the East to Chicago serving the city. Nearby Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Lima, Ohio, will furnish additional accommodations, if needed.

Pittsburgh is 288 miles away and Chicago 280. Cincinnati, Columbus, Cleveland, Akron, Toledo, Detroit, Lansing, Indianapolis, Dayton, Richmond (Indiana) and many other large centers of population are only a few hours driving time away. Our Peony Planting in Kingwood Center at Mansfield, Ohio, is only about 110 miles east on Route 30. This gives our members a fine opportunity to see how the peonies are doing there.

We hope every one, who can, will plan to take a vacation and come to the show and bring flowers to exhibit. It can be made an outstanding event

PEONIES OUTDOORS AND IN

In order that buyers of this book may have some idea of what they will get, here are some details of the contents.

The size of the book is about 5½ x 8 inches. There are nearly 300 pages divided into five parts. Black and white illustrations number about 100 and there are eleven color plates showing several tree peonies and about forty herbaceous.

The Introductory section contains about 20 pages, followed by Part I. "The Queen of Flowers," 30 pages, embracing a history, old fashioned peony recipes, classification, flower and plant parts, types, where they will grow and a calendar of Things to Do. in 3 chapters.

Part II. The Herbaceous Peony, 8 chapters, 75 pages, treats the garden design, landscape and border ideas, companion plants, one chapter; next chapter, selecting varieties with lists for the beginner, the connoisseur, the vote winners, most popular by type and color, border varieties, spectacular and foliage effects, fragrance, by color and season for different sections of the country and the herbaceous species.

There follow chapters on the herbaceous hybrids, making new plantings, caring for the established plants, diseases and insects, dividing, spraying, propagation and forcing, ending with a chapter of questions and answers on why they fail to bloom, poor flowers, and where they will grow.

Part III. The Tree Peony, forty pages, six chapters, adapts the information given above to the tree peony.

PEONIES INDOORS is the subject of Part IV, Five chapters, about fifty pages, give information on the use of peonies in the

home, floral designs of all kinds, how to cut, condition, dry and store them, varieties best suited for cutting and the last chapter on flower shows. This is one of the most valuable of all in the book as it gives full directions on flower show management, schedule, rules, classes, entries, staging, judging and awards, information we have long wished to have.

The final part, V-Supplement, gives lists of private and public plantings retail sources ending with a list of all varieties that have been registered in the Department of Registration of the American Peony Society since it was started in 1916 until the end of 1958. This is the first time the complete list of these registrations has been published under one cover. It was compiled by several ladies on the staff of the library of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and occupies about forty valuable pages. We wish to express here the sincere gratitude and appreciation of the American Peony Society to these ladies, under the leadership of Miss Dorothy Manks, for their unselfish expenditure of time and care in preparing this list, to Mr. and Mrs. Arno H. Nehrling for their idea of including it as a part of their book and to the Hearthsides Press for publishing it at considerable expenditure of money and space.

An index ends the book.

With the sole exception of our 36 page Handbook of the Peony, this is the only book, now in print, in this country, dealing entirely with peonies, both herbaceous and tree. It is written beautifully by two of our foremost horticulturists, who have exercised great care to have the contents free of errors, so common in these magazines and garden books that treat all kinds of flowers, and it is up-to-date in every way.

Letters From Correspondents

25 BEST IN PENNA.

Here is the "25 Best" list coming back to you.

One good old one, growing on this place when we bought it fifteen years ago, is omitted because I do not know its name. It might be Alice Harding, a fine performer year after year, until the heavy blooms are waterlogged in a rainy season.

If I must apologize for some other choices let it be on the ground that I love them for their *individuality*. They are standouts because they are distinct and different and memorable where other worthies lose out in the heavy competitions among white, blush, pink and red doubles. Ruth Clay and Dearborn, for instance, probably have tough going in a showroom against Kansas and Bonanza and W. E. Blanchette (that name is too close to Wet Blanket for the good of the plant) but in the garden they are so brilliant and so *nicely proportioned* to the size of the plant and the strength of their stems that they are chosen for comment by garden visitors seeking the best varieties for their own collections. Among the big double whites, Hans P. Sass is a standout for sheer quality, giving even Festiva Maxima and Kelsey's Glorious a run for their money. Mrs. Edward Harding with her lavish clusters of bloom and fragrance is another splendid performer over a long season. She grows in half-shade here and opens flat until every stem bears a bouquet of its own.

Sunshine is so bright on clear days in our mountain air that some of the more delicate Japs and even some of the doubles burn on the petal edges unless they are cut and kept indoors. That is why the

palm goes to Alexander Woolcott Gay Paree and Exotic. They can take all the light there is and glow and blaze right back at the sun. Victory Chateau Thierry belongs with them probably; I'd like to see it perform again, to be sure.

When it comes to the tree peonies — Well, what can anyone say except that they are exquisite and magnificent and I am so grateful to them for being happy here? — They deserve a ritual of appreciation. The *luteas* are undoubtedly the choicest, the Japanese, incomparably varied and artistic, and I don't like flowers just because they are big — but, when Reine Elizabeth staged her one-flower show last spring, everyone lucky enough to see her could only gasp and exclaim "Wow!" Thanks to the old BULLETIN you sent me, there are two flats full of seedlings coming along on the back porch which is enclosed but not heated and I am looking forward to seeing bloom on some sixty-odd, three-year-old tree peonies bought from a nurseryman two years ago.

And who knows peonies until he has grown some of the species of which I list only *Mlokozewitschi*? They are personalities as exciting as any in the world of flowering plants, *tenuifolia*, *macrophylla*, the *lobatas*, in their dazzling colors and interesting foliage patterns.

Gardeners who aren't growing peonies in variety, old and new, today, are missing so much!

Personally, I should like to see more of the anemone type on the market. And we could use some better Japs in pink and white shades. The reds are excellent. Exotic opens up a vista toward new petal patterns that could be most interesting. And it would be

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pleasant to have more little ones for landscaping purposes, to tuck into corners around rocks and in foundation plantings and in front of taller varieties in large borders. They would lend themselves to intimate arrangements, too.

Here is one woman's 4 cents' worth to try your patience. What?

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Virginia P. Conklin
Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania.

Birmingham, Mich.

December 4, 1959

As for the '59 season, it was very good. With the bad winter I did not lose a single peony plant but did lose nearly all of the roses. While I have about 70 varieties only about 10 are 3 years old, balance are one and two years old so can't write a very good report.

In tree peonies Hana-daigin (3 years) had 35 blooms. This really made a nice picture. Tsuki-sekai had 4 nice blooms. Taiyo had no blooms. Yae-zakura, though a large plant, had only 2 blooms. This year I have added Yachio-tsubaki and Yomo-zakura.

In the hybrids Red Charm, as always, was good as was Laura Magnuson. A new plant of Helen Matthews, had 2 blooms which, while small, were beautiful I sure like this one. Ann Zahller (new) had 2 nice blooms. Charles Mains (new) had one bloom. It is a large flower of a nice shade of pink but it fades very badly. Walter Mains (2 years) had 6 blooms and they were very nice. This year have added "Avelyn".

In the regulars I've tried to get only the best. Mother's Choice, Frances Mains, Gardenia, are really a sight to behold. In the reds, Felix Supreme, A. Murawska's Black Velvet, Kansas, were good but I like Beth Ann best as a gar-

den variety. This year have added Ann Cousins, Ada Priscilla, Florence Ellis, Sparkling Star, White Rose, and Mr. Wm. Krekler's Major Krekler, Wabash, Corinne Werson, Russell Emrick, Mine.

In another couple of years I really should have something to rave about.

I remain

Stephen J. Janovac
17191 Kinross,
Birmingham, Mich.

VERITABLE PARADISE OF FLOWERS CREATED BY CITY GARDENER

"I think I'll drain off that slough below the tracks and plant a couple of acres of peonies."

That could be what 70-year-old J. T. Harding said to himself when he arrived in Red Deer 14 years ago—"for a visit."

Today, at 84, Mr. Harding is sole keeper of his two-acre flower kingdom in North Red Deer—a solid field of blooms in hundreds of varieties and colors.

Patrons at the Horticultural Society's Flower Tea Thursday were amazed by the size and quality of the peony blossoms on display—not to mention the dozens of exquisite, perfectly-developed lilies. It was quite a surprise to many to learn the flowers were the work of an 84-year-old man—the greenest thumb in Central Alberta.

"J. T." as he is called even by his wife Minnie, has been working his huge garden by himself ever since he retired from the CPR in 1945 and came to Red Deer. Gardener with the railroad for over 20 years, he designed the famous Regina Gardens, now torn up for a big post office building.

Although his bulbs and seedlings are for sale and orders come

in from all parts of Canada, J. T. doesn't have to work as hard as he does. Constantly chided by his wife and friends for the dawn-to-dark hours he puts in around "the plot," the crusty old gentleman's reply is always the same:

"You're just missing the point. If I dressed up like a gentleman every day and settled myself in a rocking chair, I wouldn't last two weeks."

While toiling endlessly in a two-acre flower bed may not be every man's idea of a self-preservation aid, it seems to be standing J. T. in good stead. His tall, slightly stooped frame with the battered felt hat gives the impression of being almost a part of the landscape—and he likes it that way. J. T. doesn't grow his garden; he nurtures it.

And what a garden it is. His peonies alone number 180 different varieties, many of them unavailable elsewhere in Canada. Besides his prize peonies and lilies, there's a profusion of catnip, bleeding heart, maiden pink, delphiniums, irises, roses. Jacob's ladder, violas, columbines. Siberian larch sedum, wood violets, California bluebells, windflowers, pyrethrum, lilacs (his are still blooming) and a hundred others, not to mention his several dozen kinds of fruit trees, shrubs, moss plants and flowering shrubs..

Point out any one of them, and he'll tell you not only its common name but the botanical title as well—with names like *dicentra dielytra spectabilis* (bleeding heart), that takes some doing.

The Harding garden differs from most in that it is not a series of neat beds and hard-surface paths, laid out in a compact, geometric design. According to its creator, he should have three helpers, and "that's why it looks

the way it does." But visitors agree the bright floral jungle, criss-crossed with only rough footpaths, holds a greater appeal than any formal grounds could achieve. Everything looks as if it "just grew."

One of the reasons may be J. T.'s policy regarding the pruning of blossoms for size, a common practice among flower growers.

"I don't do it," he states with characteristic finality. "The way I like them, it's the more the merrier—I just let 'em come."

"We're just waiting for the Big Boss to send us a one-way ticket home. But meanwhile we're having a real good time, trying to add a little beauty to the country side."

FIFTH DISTRICT — ANNUAL MEETING

The Fifth District held their annual meeting and dinner on Sunday, November 1, 1959 at Smart's Town and Country House, Antioch, Illinois.

A fine dinner was enjoyed by the members in attendance with a pleasant exchange of peony talk on the past season and the performances of favorite varieties.

Business discussions included a suggestion by Mr. Roy Gayle of Rockford, Illinois to consider a National Show in June of 1963 in conjunction with the National Men's Garden Club convention in that city. The members voted to sponsor the show and the Fifth District will present a bid to the National Mens' Garden Club Ass'n and the National Peony Society. A specific sum was authorized and set aside to meet expenses.

Mr. Marvin Karrels of Milwaukee, Wisc. initiated a discussion on the need for an adequate and acceptable peony rating sys-

tem for our adopted flower. The president was authorized to select a committee of five members to make a comprehensive study of an acceptable rating method to cover a broad evaluation of all plants grown in this district and to include not only the rating of the flower but also plant habit, foliage, color, etc.

All officers were reelected for another year.

A peony auction was conducted by Mr. Gayle which added \$127.50 to our treasury. Excellent roots were contributed by Messrs. Karels, Art Murawska, Frank Lang, C. Klehm, and Mission Gardens (Brother Charles Reckamy S. V. D.). Varieties sold included some of the best: Red Charm, Moonstone, Jessie Gist, Ethel Mars, Emma Klehm, Kate Smith, Chipewa, Red Splendor, Westerner, Golden Glow, Ramona Lins, Dolorodell, Solange Supreme, and tree peonies Tama-fujo and Silver Sails. Cash balance on hand after expenses: \$700.38.

Theo. R. Mysyk
Pres.-Fifth Dist.

THE NEW PEONY BOOKS

Due to the notice given in our letter recently sent all members, we have received a number of orders for the book, PEONIES OUTDOORS AND IN by Mr. and Mrs. Arno Nehrling. The distribution of this book has been delayed by many difficulties attending the publication of any book. It is now reported that it will be released on February 1, 1960. Those who have ordered it may expect delivery soon after that date. We wish to remind our members that they can purchase this book, if the orders are sent through us, at the special price of \$4.95 instead of the \$5.95 price at which it is sold the general public. Let us

have your orders on the enclosed order blank.

We are advised by the Managing Editor of the National Horticultural Magazine, published by the American Horticultural Society, that their special issue, which will be devoted to herbaceous peonies and edited by Dr. John C. Wister, will be published probably in January 1961. We have no information about the price. As soon as we get this information we shall publish it in the next issue of the Bulletin. We shall also tell you how you may obtain a copy.

We wish especially, to call your attention to the fact that we have now on hand only about forty copies of the Tree Peony Monograph, (January, 1955, issue of the National Horticultural Magazine). When these have been sold, it will exhaust the entire supply and the book will no longer be obtainable. Those wishing a copy should order from us at once. Its price is \$2.00 until February 1, 1960, then \$5.00 if available. It is unfortunate that, when the supply of this book is exhausted, there will be no book entirely devoted to the Tree Peony available. However there is quite a generous section of PEONIES OUTDOORS AND IN devoted to the tree peony and also one in our Handbook of the Peony.

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden has recently issued as a special edition of their publication, Plants and Gardens, a Handbook on Breeding Ornamental Plants. This book has a special section devoted to breeding tree peonies. Single copies may be obtained from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn 25, New York, for one dollar. Send your order direct to them and be sure to mention this notice when you order it.

This 112 page book is as complete in its information as a book

of its size can be. It gives explicit directions for every phase of hybridizing. It tells in 35 different articles how to choose the best flowers for hybridizing, prepare the bloom for pollenization, make the cross, harvest the seed. raise the seedling and other information any hybridizer might like to have.

PEONY ARTICLES

A list of the articles on Peonies, published recently, that have come to the attention of the Editor is here given for the benefit of those who wish to read them.

The September 28, 1959, issue of LIFE had a two page color feature, picturing in the foreground a basket of peonies against a background of a part of the fields of Gilbert H. Wild and Son, Sarcocie, Missouri. The basket contained blooms of Daisy B., Better Times, Westerner, Sister Margaret, Florence Nicholls, The Mighty Mo, Ann Cousins, E. G. Kendall, Bright Knight. The three center rows in the field are The Mighty Mo, flanked on the right by the single White Perfection and on the left by Mrs. Frank Beach far down the row. The white Jap in the left hand row was not identified.

The picture was taken on a hot, windy day, which accounts for the somewhat wilted appearance of the flowers in the basket.

This spread occupies pages 58 and 59. Page 61 has quite accurate instructions for planting and care of peonies. If this space had been a paid advertisement it would have cost \$110,000. It was seen by many millions of the readers of Life. This free publicity given the Peony by the publishers of Life is much appreciated.

The November issue of Popular Gardening contains an article on Prize Peonies of 1959 by your

editor which begins on page 6. The caption under the illustration on Page 6 was not furnished by the writer. It was "Japanese single peonies". For many years it has been one of our main themes describing the difference between a Jap and a single peony. We would never have used the term Japanese single peony. Nor would we have misspelled the name of the variety Lady Alexandra Duff by using the male name Alexander instead of the female Alexandra. Nor would we have spelled Mr. Thompson's name, Lloyd, instead of the correct way, Loyde.

The September number of this magazine had a full page illustrated article by Ruth Marie Peters, the Indoor Gardening Editor of the magazine, on how to plant peonies and how to clean and feed old plants. The directions given were excellent. The facing page (41) was entirely occupied by the advertisement of Gilbert H. Wild and Son, featuring peonies and day-lilies. The picture of the Japanese type peony, shown in the ad, was particularly good. Its name was not given.

The November issue also has an article on Flowers for Southern Gardens which gives Mr. Milton Rubel's directions for planting in all sections of the South. They are recommended reading for all our Southern members and any others in the South who wish to grow peonies and we find there are many.

The Question and Answer article on Peonies on Page 53 of the September Flower Grower by Roy Gayle was well illustrated and gave much good advice in Roy's answers to the various questions asked. However Roy disclaims all responsibility for the lists of varieties given as his lists have been edited by some one and a

number of varieties added which were not recommended by him. But we must say they are all good varieties. There is one error in listing Puritan Maid under the Japanese as it is not a Jap but a white single. Also we find Tempest listed in both the semi-doubles and doubles. While it has some stamens it is generally considered a double though we find it listed as semi-double in some of the questionnaires returned by our members.

In this same issue there is a similar article by Louis Smirnow on Tree Peonies. We note that the variety Hana-kisoi is misspelled in Gayle's Nana-Kisoi and in Smirnows we have Souvenir de Maxime Dornu which should be Cornu. These were evidently typographical errors and were not the fault of the authors.

Several issues of Horticulture have had articles on Peonies. The March issue (page 172) had an article by Ann Tegtmeier on Peonies for Spring. In May page 290 directions were given on how to have larger blooms on your peonies. Tree peonies were recommended by Marinus Vander Pol to give that Look of Garden Luxury, which was illustrated by a full page color picture (pages 430 and 431) August, of the variety Virginia. I. Pierce, grown in the garden of Mrs. Irving C. Wright, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. This variety is unknown to us. It is a light pink semi-double and a beautiful flower in the picture. The October number has an article by Toichi Domoto on Tree Peonies for California, (page 500).

The October Flower and Garden Magazine carried an article by Peggy Schultz on the Minneapolis show which we regret we have not seen.

Many newspapers featured Peonies in their garden sections this fall.

On behalf of the American Peony Society, we wish to express our sincere appreciation to these magazines, newspapers and the authors and to those of which we have no record for the publicity given the Peony.

DEATHS

The following deaths have been reported:

MR. MERLE E. REED, 7436 Kenlea Avenue, Baltimore 6, Maryland. Mr. Reed joined the Society September 12, 1957. His Sept. 1959 bulletin was returned to us marked "Deceased".

MR. M. H. SCOTT, Piper City, Illinois. Mrs. Scott reported to us that Mr. Scott died on August 13, 1959. He had been a member for a long time. We have no particulars of his life. He once wrote, when a questionnaire was sent him to fill out, that he only grew his own seedlings which he had originated during the last thirty years and that he had grown and tested thirty thousand. He said he was contemplating writing an article for the Bulletin, giving his experience, but we never received it.

NEW MEMBERS

George P. Allen, 7617 Pittsburg Road, N.W., North Canton 20, Ohio.

Clarence Bakken, Binford, North Dakota.

William Boychi, Suncrest Nursery, Akron - Wads Road, Baberton, Ohio.

Fred J. Brooks, 308 North Division Street, Fremont, Michigan.

John A. Carr, 682 Stryker Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Mrs. L. A. Gipson, Box 325, Monette, Arkansas.

Dr. Gill J. Gitsen, 1332 East Main, Medford, Oregon.



Carl L. Holt, 6336 South Benton,
Kansas City 32, Missouri.

Freeda J. Greenan, Route 2, Box
117, Hope, Arkansas.

John W. McGrath, 421 South 35th
Avenue, Yakima, Washington.

Moss Greenhouse & Flower Shoppe,
Shore Road, Swainton, New Jer-
sey.

Rufus B. Rogers, 521 Coliseum
Boulevard, Montgomery, Ala-
bama

Walter Seidenkranz, 1523 12th
Street, South, Moorhead, Min-
nesota.

Mrs. Curtis G. Shake, 1534 Audu-
bon Road, Vincennes, Indiana.

Richard J. Sloan, Box 243, North
Chicago, Illinois.

L. M. Thompson, 302 South Lin-
coln, Palestine, Illinois.

Marshall Tiemeyer, Route 4, Co-
lumbus, Indiana.

Mrs. Lucille J. Vernon, 1918 Brant-
ly Street, Winston-Salem, N.C.

Winter Haven Garden Club,
c/o Mrs. Marshall Mullikin, Box
95, Winter Haven, Florida.

OUTSTANDING PEONIES—1959

Certainly Hansina Brand domi-
nated the show at Grand Forks,
winning the Grand Championship,
three trophies and the B. H. Farr
Medal.

Red Charm and Crusader carried
off the high honors for hybrids.

In seedlings, Amalia Olson won
top honors.

In the Minneapolis show, the
sensational bloom of Frances Mains
was Grand Champion and kept up
its reputation of winning in almost
every class in which it is shown.

The bloom of Solange was extra
large for that variety and a beauti-
ful one.

The triple hybrid, Athena, was
certainly the novelty among the
hybrids. Its color is yellow with a
strong overtone of green.

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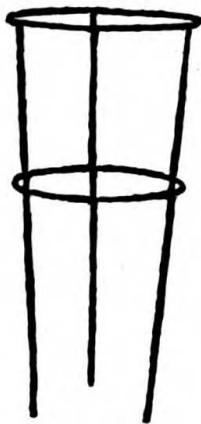
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