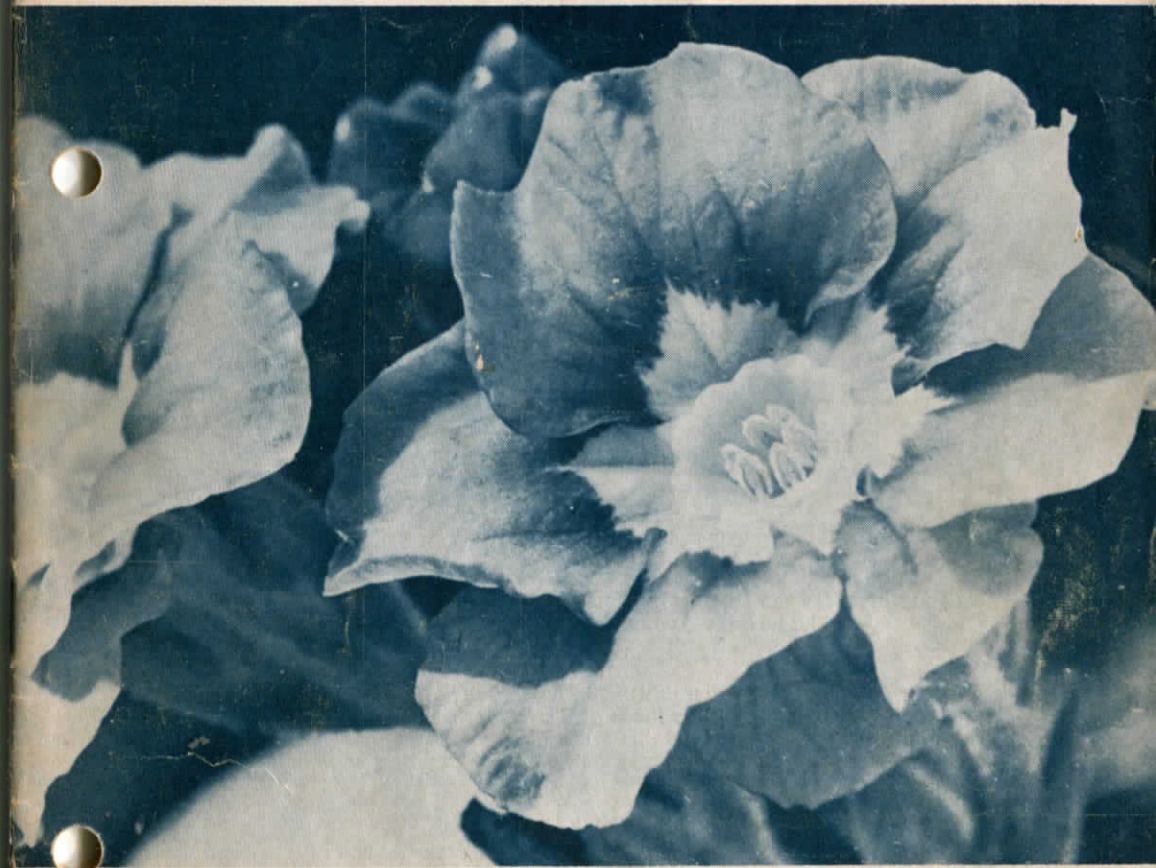


Quarterly of the American
Primrose
Society

VOLUME XXV

FALL 1967

NUMBER 4



Blue Polyanthus

American Primrose Society

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THE PICTURE ON THE COVER: Blue Polyanthus from Vetterle & Reinelt seed.
 See page 83.

The Quarterly of the American Primrose Society is owned solely by the Society, which is incorporated under the copyrighted name AMERICAN PRIMROSE, PRIMULA AND AURICULA SOCIETY.

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A Message from Your President

IT WAS a wonderful relief to us all to have found a new Editor, Mrs. Orrin Hale, to take over the so important job of producing our Quarterly. We will miss Anita Alexander's cheery notes from Rhone St. and again we extend to her our warm feeling of gratitude for her term of handling the Quarterly, often under duress. Now, we hope the continuing threads will be caught up and that Mrs. Hale will find a great measure of satisfaction in editing our Quarterly bulletin for us. Actually it is the most important part of our society, our communication tie with distant members. For our Quarterly to be a success Mrs. Hale MUST have assistance with material from as many sources as possible. Please feel free to write and tell us all about the *Primulas* you are growing, ask questions if you have difficulties and we will try to assist. Our Societys' purpose is lost if we cannot develop a feeling of usefulness especially towards those new members who are just venturing into the primrose meadow. I would be very pleased to hear from any members re queries pertaining to the Society—or new suggested sections for the Quarterly.

We are sorry the Dictionary is so late in getting out. It took a lot of work at a time when Mrs. Watson had to move residence, so the delay just cannot be avoided. We sincerely hope that this little book will be useful, though we are disappointed we can not give the Society a completely revised edition. This was impossible as the time and research involved would run into several years. An up-to-date volume is the next step and I feel we should have a committee to receive any information of new *Primulas* and *Hybrids* with sources of the information and pictures, toward this new volume.

I had a most delightful trip to the East this spring, in company with our eastern Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Alice Baylor, to attend the American Rock Garden Society's Annual Meeting at Longwood Gardens, Pa. I flew back to Montreal on May 1st, and travelled by bus to Johnson, Vt. As Alice has made several trips to the West Coast in the past few years, her invitation to accompany her was most tempting and I decided to go. I grow a number of the eastern native plants and had long wanted to see the New England States in the Spring, also Alice's garden.

It was early and the snow had barely receded from Alice's interesting garden. The later Auriculas were just unfolding crushed leaves, but here and there were bright patches of early Juliae Hybrids and *P. Denticulata*. Our home visit was short as we had to depart early the next morning for Norwalk, Conn., where we were to stay overnight with the Hochheimers (retiring secretary of the A.R.G.S.). As we moved

further south the leaves gradually unfolded further and there were some roadside flowers to be seen. Wild Bloodroot, Hepatica, unfurling ferns, Goodyera and many *Kalmia latifolia*, not yet in bloom, were seen. En route we visited the Lincoln Foster garden, (Pres. A.R.G.S.) in Falls Village. Unfortunately no one was home but we rested a spell as we peeped around the completely lovely place, with a large stream and waterfalls, an alpine meadow misty with the lavender of *P. Denticulata*. Some beautiful clear blue and red primroses with soft yellows brightened the path edges. 'Neath trees we delighted in the clumps of Bloodroot, so glistening white in the afternoon sunshine. *Anemone Pulsatilla*, dainty *P. Farinosa* and many lovely alpines, just arousing from dormancy, would later clothe the sloping ledged rock gardens with gay spring attire.

We continued on our journey and arrived in Norwalk, travel weary. The lovely, quiet woodland setting of their home, with drifts of *Narcissi* and the friendly hospitality of our charming hosts soon revived us. We enjoyed viewing their pretty scree rock garden with many dainty treasures flourishing was worthy of the pride they felt for it. The following day we visited Mr. Lee's wonderful *Narcissi* garden (American Horticulture Yearbook of *Narcissi* author). As *Narcissi* are one of my particular pets I found his collections most interesting, planted as they were in named groups between his many Rhododendron shrubs around his sloping garden. When the *Narcissi* were passed the garden would follow with a galaxy of color from the fat buds we saw. The districts we drove through about Norwalk were lovely with *Cornus Florida* in bloom by roadside, park and gardens. *Magnolia Soulanguiana* also appeared full of



Alice Baylor in Lincoln Foster Garden

rosy bloom. It is a lovely part of the country in the Spring and wished that I had checked addresses of A.P.S. members in the area.

We departed early the following morning with the Hochheimers for Longwood. The countryside was rolling and the pretty farms looked fresh and tidy in the Spring sunshine. Along the way we saw many wild stations of *Cornus Florida*, from soft pink to deeper tones besides the glistening white. One would almost mistake the gay displays for flights of butterflies resting en route to somewhere!

As we neared Longwood area the sky darkened and by the next morning came the rains! It was unpleasantly wet but with some umbrellas available we still scanned the outdoor rock gardens where Rhodos, Daphnes, and Japanese flowering cherries hung their bows with rain filled blossom. The grand trees about the arboretum were most interesting but most of the various groups were forced indoors in the protected conservatories. The displays of a wide variety of plant material were at their super best, a wonderful example of efficient management and fastidious care. The Rhodo House was most beautiful with masses of bloom on large and small specimens. Ferns, used extensively, were an airy soft foil. Many tender species were in bloom and the air was spicily perfumed. Unfortunately many of our hardy varieties, commonly grown, lack this most appealing characteristic. It would take many pages to cover in detail the tour of the rest of the conservatories. We saw so much it was difficult to absorb and remember details of such an extensive flowerland.

The evening banquet meeting was very well attended and Alice and I had the pleasure of meeting and dining with Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Bald-



Alice Baylor's Primula Shelved Garden

win, our APS Seed Exchange Chairman and company. How very pleasant it is to be able to put a face and personality to normally just a name. We also met Dr. Barr, who has contributed so generously to our seed exchange.

Perhaps the highlight was to meet Mr. and Mrs. Klaber—Doretta, so many of you will “know” through her “Primroses and Spring” (1965). She was presented with a citation award from the A.R.G.S. for her achievement in and work towards horticultural development in America. In modestly accepting the award she gave a personal account of her experiences in America, finishing with the practical thought, “Whatever your surroundings, let them be your guide for any planting you make. The garden is, after all, a natural extension of your home and living quarters, and should be a place to house the plants you love, a place to rest and relax.” En route home we visited the Klaber home, near Quakertown, Pa., and became even more aware of the warm natural charm of the Klabers—both of personality and cheery log fire that welcomed visitors on a continuing wet morning. Despite the excess moisture we delighted in following the little garden paths through her semi-naturalized garden. *Mertensia Virginica* was lovely in company with *Aquilegia Canadense* and ferns. Primroses, Polyanthus and Auriculas bloomed pleasantly throughout the garden as if they had always been there. There were many other things but these we best remember. The charm of the little old farm house, cozy and hospitable, was very difficult to leave. Before leaving we were delighted to view some of the dainty violet paintings Doretta had been working on for her new book.

Despite the rain, the alternative route Mr. Hochheimer took, which followed the Delaware River—was through lovely country parts of which we were able to glimpse through the clouds. It seemed no time at all before I arrived back in Montreal the next evening, returning May 9th to Vancouver and home. Such a busy week, packed with so many pleasant memories of beautiful places and hospitable friendly garden folk.

Sincerely
Grace M. Conboy

American Primrose Society Board Meeting

A noon meeting of the American Primrose Society was held in Seattle on February 26, 1967, at the Chuck Wagon Restaurant. Eighteen members were present. Our president, Grace Conboy presided.

Mrs. Conboy expressed thanks to Anita Alexander for a fine job editing the Quarterly for three years.

The president announced the hy-

bridizers committee as Mr. Ross Willingham, Mrs. Herbert (Dorothy) Dickson and Mrs. Orval (Ivy) Agee. It was announced by Mr. Floyd Keller, Sr., of Tacoma the Wesely Bottoms award for the best Hose-in-hose Primrose be added to the National Trophy list.

The Board passed a motion to charge Affiliated Clubs \$3.50 per year. A sustaining membership of \$10.00, includes three extra copies of the Quarterly.

Notes from Rhone Street

This is the last time the *Quarterly* will include "Notes from Rhone Street" because I have found it necessary to resign the editorship. The Board is to be commended for the choice of Emma Hale as the new editor. She is an experienced grower and editor who is well known and loved by many in the Pacific Northwest. A decade or two ago when I lived in Bend, Oregon, and planted Clarkes Blue Pansies I also read "Pacific Gardens & Homes" edited by Emma Hale. She is a very busy woman, and the editorship is a demanding task. The reading membership can help tremendously by contributing information of interest to their fellow primula enthusiasts. Please continue to remember the editorial need for new material, and that the *Quarterly* will be as good as the membership contributions. I wish to thank those who helped me in many ways.

It has been a pleasure to receive the news the National Council of State Garden Clubs has awarded their Presidential Citation to Florence Bellis of Barnhaven. The Citation for distinguished achievement reads "World Wide authority in hybridizing of *Primula*, originator of Barnhaven strain of Primroses, key instrument in organization of the American Primrose Society." It is a well-deserved honor, for such a gifted creator of so many "new" primroses.

The article "Mrs. A. C. U. Berry and Her Garden" should surely

have included the two *primula* that increase by runners. One was given her as "Loczii", as having come from Alaska. She says, "I could never find anything about it, but had it for years. Loczii and pulchella were the only primroses I have ever had that increased by runners." The Life Membership Award notice printed on page 48 of the 1967 Spring Issue was given in 1944. The APS membership surely have had the occasion to "look back with satisfaction on the wisdom of their choice."

Mrs. Lucien Alexander

Memoranda from the Treasurer's Record Book

Please fill out and mail before spring, the enclosed membership dues sheet. The Treasury is running somewhat short, due to the reprint of the *Primula Dictionary*. This Dictionary will be of great value as reference material to old as well as new members. It also will be helpful in selecting seed from The Seed Exchange in the *Spring Issue*.

Many thanks to Mrs. Ellen Haydon, who sent \$100 toward the Dictionary Fund, and our thanks to the members that sent extra money with their 1967 dues.

Back issues of the *Quarterlys* are available, ten issues for \$3.50. These issues include many articles written by experts.

Mrs. Lawrence G. Tait
14015 84th Avenue N.E.
Bothell, Wash. 98011

AMERICAN PRIMROSE SOCIETY

1967 SHOW NEWS

A. P. S. National Show Tacoma Primrose Society Host

This year the Tacoma Primrose Society hosted the National Show for the A.P.S. The show was held at the National Bank of Washington at Villa Plaza on April 1st. Considering the date, the theme "Primroses, No Fool-in" was chosen. We had many lovely exhibits from all over the Northwest.

The A.P.S. banquet was held at the Embers Restaurant where the following awards were presented. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Clarke won the sweepstakes award and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Dickson were runners-up. Mrs. Frank Springer won sweepstakes in the decorative division. National award winners were: Gold Lace (Hawkes Trophy) Ross Willingham; Hose-in-Hose, and Vernalis (Bottoms Trophy) Floyd Keller; Auricula, best Alpine (Michaud Trophy) Mrs. Orval Agee; Alpine Seedling (Haddock Trophy) Ralph Balcom and Double Auricula (Ellen Page Haydon Trophy) Ralph Balcom.

Washington State Primrose Society, Annual Auricula and Primrose Show

Washington State Primrose Society, Annual Auricula and Primula Show was held in Bellevue, Washington. Some of the winners were: Sweepstakes in Horticulture — Mr. Ralph Balcom; Runner-up, Horticulture — Dickson Gardens; Best Gold and Silver Laced—Mrs. P. B. Charles; Best in Rarity and Oddity—Mrs. Nancy Ford; Best Border Alpine Auricula, Mrs. Lou Dines; Best Polyanthus-Primrose Acres; and Best Seedling Show Auricula — Mrs. Beth Tait (Bamford Trophy 1967 only).

AURICULA THEATER DISPLAY

An interesting highlight of the Washington Primrose Society's annual Auricula and Primrose show is a class for exhibiting these little theaters, which are built by the exhibitors. A perpetual trophy is given to the winner in this class. This trophy is an antique brass Chinese tea kettle. Hundreds of years ago the French Floriculturists built Auricula Theaters or small stages which they decorated with velvet and bric-a-brac. These were set up in the drawing rooms of their homes and after a dinner party the host could show his guests his most prized exhibition auriculas in a jewel-box setting. Dr. Patricia A. Winter won the 1967 trophy for the Auricula Theatre display.

Mt. Angel 1967 Primrose Show

Mt. Angel—The 1967 Mt. Angel Primrose Show, held in St. Mary's School basement dining room, was a definite success and enthusiastically received by the large crowd which filled the hall at all times from the noon opening of the doors to the 6 p.m. closing. This large attendance, quantity array of flowers—and colorful—as well as the enthusiasm has been an attribute from the very first show down to this year's—the twentieth.

The beginning was small, naturally, with handprinted plaques, division cards, signs and even the award ribbons, all made by Miss Juliana Dehler, the chairman for the first as well as many succeeding shows. Each year has brought additions of many kinds, some permanent, some temporary, but the enthusiasm and the PRIMROSE have withstood 20 years.

Each show has likewise had characteristics peculiar to that year and

the 1967 show was no exception. This year's seemed to be the overwhelming domination of the Polyanthus. The Polyanthus, due to their adaptability, ease of culture, and great variety of color, especially the pinks, have always been a favorite in this area, but never to so great a length as evidenced by the showing this year. Out of 240 exhibits shown, those in the Polyanthus divisions numbered 200.

There were only 12 *Acaulis*, two *Juliae*, three *Cowichan*, one *Sieboldii* and a dozen or so plants in the Rarities and Oddities division.

Following the same trend, half of all the major prizes in the plant divisions went to Mrs. Alan Obersinner, Rt. 1, Silverton, and a member of the Mt. Angel Garden Club, who specializes in Polyanthus, although she had a few entries in other divisions. She contributed a great many plants for the plant sale which finances the show.

Prizes garnered by Mrs. Obersinner included the City Council's Award, the Governor's Gold Bowl which goes to the winner of the best Polyanthus in the Show each year and is kept by the winner for the year in which it is won; also the runner-up award for this; the award for the best Polyanthus Seedling, and the runner-up for the best Seedling.

The runner-up for the City Council Award went to Mrs. W. Stalp, Mt. Angel.

SEED EXCHANGE

Please send in your seed for Seed Exchange, well marked. It is necessary to receive seeds as soon as possible, so the seed list can be compiled. Send to

MR. ELMER C. BALDWIN
Seed Exchange Director
400 Tecumseh Road
Syracuse, N. Y. 13224

Mrs. Dave Shepherd, Mt. Angel, took the award for the best Auricula grown from seed as well as the runner-up award for this.

The Novice Division Sweepstake Award went to Mrs. Joseph Rerpelding, Rt. 1, Silverton and the runner-up to Mrs. Ron Morris, Salem.

Weather conditions were mostly responsible for the shortage of Auricula and candelabra types.

Story Behind Eastside Garden Club's Primrose Show Held at Kirkland Washington

"Mother, what are you going to do? What are you going to do?" This was my daughter calling as she pounded up the stairs from her bedroom early that Saturday morning.

"What am I going to do about about what?" I asked her.

"Haven't you listened to the news?" The Civic Center in Kirkland burned to the ground early this morning!

Well, this was news! The Civic Center! How many other names it had been called! "The eye-sore", "the old monstrosity", "the white elephant" among others. The building dated back to WPA days, but hadn't been completed until the Navy needed housing during the early 1940's. Now it was really a down-at-the-heels lady, having been used to house the radio station, the Y program for the Eastside, recreation hall, the youth program, and many other things, but the important thing at the present time, it had been the home of the Primrose Show of the Eastside Garden Club for 19 years. Every inch of the main floor had been figured to scale for the floor plots, etc. How often we had fussed about the old building, but now it was gone and the question really was, "What are we going to do?" In just a few short weeks the "Show had to go on" and there wasn't really a large building available. The first unofficial word went out that the show was cancelled. At first the shock sort of gripped us

all, but after the work that had gone into those other 19 shows a burned down Civic Center couldn't be the show-stopper.

The theme we had picked for our 20th anniversary show was "Primrose City, U.S.A.," and we found out that Kirkland is really "Primrose City." The City and the Eastside Journal really went to bat for us in a big way. They helped us get a building to house the show. We even used our original floor plans by cutting off a portion of the plan, and rearranging the horticultural display. We had to beg and rent "props" as we had lost all ours in the fire.

The "new" building had been used as a hardware store and had not been cleaned up since the things were moved to the new location. What a mess! There wasn't time to do a lot of painting and fixing up, but we put wrapping paper on the walls, and several "artists" went to work. Floor plots never had such backgrounds. The decorative division was right under lights (we had to put them there to keep people from konking their heads on light fixtures). The tea room had a "niche" all of its own; we also had a "sales room" for our regular growers who did a land office business—I guess people thought this might be the last chance to get primrose plants.

The judges looked around at the show when it was ready to be judged and were amazed at what they saw! The quality of plants and also the quantity gave no indication of all the excitement we had been through—everything was serene on the opening day. People were waiting to get in before the judges had finished, as they always were. Moving to a new location hadn't made any difference—there were also those who were curious to see what had been accomplished. They were not disappointed. The judges' verdict was very gratifying. The trophies were awarded to all the winners as in other years

(they were not stored at the Civic Center).

So the answer to my daughter's question, "What are you going to do?" was answered. "Just like we always do. Put on the best possible Primrose Show that we can for the enjoyment of the people that come to see it in Primrose City, U.S.A."

Some of the winners of the East Side Garden Club Primrose Show—1967 were: HORTICULTURE—AMATEUR—Mrs. Rupert Baxter, Bothell, Sweepstakes; Mrs. C. C. Chambers, Seattle, Runner-up.

HORTICULTURE — PROFESSIONAL — Primrose Acres, Bothell, Sweepstakes; Dickson Gardens, Tukwila, Runner-up.

JUNIORS — Miss Shelly Clark, Sweepstakes; Miss Chriss Higginbotham, Best Plant.

DIRECTOR'S AWARD—Mrs. John Lytle, Bellevue, Wash.

Oregon Primrose Society 1967 Show

The Seventh Annual Primrose Show of the Oregon Primrose Society was held April 8 and 9, 1967, in the Milwaukie Community Club, Milwaukie, Ore.

The staging was three gardens showing the use of Primroses.

Mt. Hood with a mountain meadow of Primroses and live Alpine Trees, this was a Club project, directed by Mrs. Mary Zach.

A pool with a planting of Bernhardt's Mt. Hood strain of Primroses, and Oregon Grape, was a Commercial display by Bernhardt's of Boring, Ore.

A raised display of Gold Lace, Bardfield Oxslip, edged with Species *Juliae*, with a little fawn resting in this tiny meadow, was also by the club. This was designed by Mrs. William Tate.

Plant entries were received from Tacoma and Seattle, Washington, as well as from Lake Oswego, Silverton, Portland, Boring, Gresham, Forest Grove, Sandy and Milwaukie, Oregon.

Trophy for the best Plant in the Show was won by Mrs. Obersinner of Silverton, Ore., with a plant grown from Allen Goodwin seed from Tasmania. She also won Amateur Sweepstakes.

Our president, Ernest A. Gates, of Lake Oswego, Ore., won the Commercial Sweepstakes.

Mrs. Christina Hanson was Educational Chairman and she had a very informative display.

Pleione Preici Orchid, Seedling Japanese Maples, Australian Fern as well as a wide variety of Primroses were for sale at the show.

Our attendance was very good for the two day show.

The Alpine Garden Club of British Columbia 1967 Show Report

"The truly co-operative spirit of teamwork displayed by all concerned resulted in a show which, by all reports, pleased everyone. To those who worked long hours on the committee, to those who so generously donated to the plant and tea sale, and to the exhibitors (without whom it would all have been in vain) may I extend my personal appreciation and gratitude for a job well done."—R. Woodward, Show Chairman.

A *RANDOM SAMPLING* of some of the more seldom-seen plants on the show benches:

Androsace pyrenaica: one of the intractable alpine androsaces, seven years from seed, well flowered and forming a flawless green cushion. This observer has never seen a finer specimen.

Gaulthéria wisleyensis: This shrub is an interesting bi-generic hybrid between our native salal and *Pernettya mucronata*. With its very large dark berries and salal-like foliage, this handsome shrub clearly indicates the influence of both its parents.

Jeffersonia dubia: In its Manchurian homeland, we are told, the flowers of this aristocratic woodlander appear above ground well before the fo-

liage but in our climate the lovely blue flowers tend to be hidden within the earlier appearing foliage. A beauty nonetheless.

Pleione Oriental Jewel: This orchid with the beautifully fringed and spotted lip is, if we are not mistaken, a selected form of *P. formosana* (or *P. pricei*, if you prefer). It is to be hoped that this outstanding form will become more readily available in the future.

Shortia galacifolia: a beautifully grown and well flowered specimen, grown in the open ground. One wonders how the grower managed to keep the slugs at bay from one of their favorite morsels.

Viola hallii: Included in a fine collection of violets was this will-o'-the-wisp from the Siskiyou Mts. It is difficult to capture in words (and cultivation) the charm of its upturned, multi-colored face, flanked by royal purple wings, peering from the finely cut foliage with an air of both abandon and defiance.

Pulsatilla vernalis (in flower)—To read Farrer's account of this plant is to fall helplessly under his magic spell: "Anemone vernalis takes us high, high into the Alps again, and is the boldest climber of all its race, at least in Europe. It is on the highest alpine grasses that you will come upon the Lady of the Snow. Spread out flat upon the ground, still sere and bare with the passing winter, lie pressed the two or three carrotty leaves . . . next, an inch or two of stem, shaggy with fur of bronzy gold, a fluffy frill of the same, and then, almost sitting upon the moor, like some mystic water-lily, a great goblet-shaped flower, staring up to the sun, white as an opalescent pearl within, and tasseled with fire, while the outside of the pearl is a-shimmer with gold and violet silk, iridescent as it catches the sun in countless shifting shades of lilac and fawn and milk. Let no one persuade you that The Lady of the Snow is not beauti-

ful, as you see her floating on the darkness of the earth, so dead and cold in the first moment of the dawn, and offering to the drowsy creatures of the air the new wine from her opening white chalice, brimmed over with its foam of gold."

And then, as if to forestall the suicide of anyone unable to flower it, he goes on: "At the same truth must be told; in lower stations, and in later stages, the stem is longer, and the blossom looks correspondingly smaller; worst of all, the Lady of the Snow clings so desperately to her departing beauties that she will not let them go, nor confess to growing old. The blossom fades but never falls, the pearly skin turns into a withered hag's, till in the end that once peerless loveliness takes a blowzy and disreputable look, like some raddled and unrequited dowager in a chestnut wig; while all the while her cousin, Alpina, more wise, is advancing honestly into the full beauty of old age, and reaping the reward of its honourable silver heads."

Also admired on the show benches were *Gentiana verna*, *Lewisia tweedyi*, *Schizocodon soldanelloides*, *Fritillaria pudica*, *Asperula suberosa*, *Cassiope x Wardii*, *Gypsophila aretioides*, *Cyclamen libanoticum*, *Daphne collina*, *Synthyris lanuginosa* and many, many other fine plants we must forego mentioning due to lack of space.

We must draw attention, however, to one of the plants in Mrs. Burnham's much-admired Centennial native plant display. This was the rare and difficult *Nymphaea cheatii*, shown for the first time *anywhere!* Bearing a superficial resemblance to the flower of a yellow chrysanthemum floating in a pool of water, this plant drew gasps of astonishment from the hushed onlookers. Prompted no doubt by motives of conservation, neither Mrs. Burnham nor her co-conspirator, Mr. Guppy, would reveal the exact locale where this plant was collected. We have since learned that it was near (in fact, *quite* near) that very display table.

Some of the main award winning



Mrs. M. Rose (new director) wins trophy for best primula species *P. modesta faurii*, at Alpine Garden Club 1967 Show

plants in the 1967 show were: Best Primula—*P. rosea x clarkei*—Mrs. T. Chapman; Best Primula species—*P. modesta faurii*—Mrs. M. Ross; Best Primula hybrid—*P. Rosea x clarkei*—Mrs. T. Chapman, and Highest Aggregate Points—R. Woodward.

Friday Harbor Primrose Club 1967 Report

On April 14-15, 1967, the Friday Harbor Primrose Club held their exhibit, sale and tea with the theme name "Primroses and Driftwood". Moss was brought in from the woods to be used as ground covering, into which was set pots of special Primroses with driftwood as a background. This proved to be one of the easier, but most outstanding of shows. A special table was set up as an "Educational Table" with special and hybrid plants. Tea tables were covered with white tablecloths, small containers of Primroses, candles, etc. Plants were sold. The attendance was made up of people from other Islands and out of state visitors. Out of state visitors remarked they had never enjoyed anything so much. A beautiful pink potted Primrose was used as a door prize—also a basket of a number of Primroses was the main prize. The chairman was Mrs. Theo Drummond, a member of the Friday Harbor Primrose Club. A very successful and outstanding job for a small group of women.

Bamford Trophy Won by Beth Tait

A very good yellow self show auricula seedling won the coveted Bamford Trophy for Beth Tait of Primrose Acres. One parent of this seedling was *Sunflower*, a named English Show Auricula of considerable merit. Several other plants from the same cross give promise of future blue ribbons and trophies.

Mrs. Tait has the largest collection of English Named Show Auriculas in America but it has only been in recent years that she has had time to do any



Beth Tait holding the Bamford Trophy

hybridizing with them, beset as she is with work involved in being treasurer of the A. P. S. and running a large primrose nursery. Perhaps she was discouraged from reading in past issues of the *Quarterly* that only one in a thousand seedlings would be worthy of the show bench. At any rate, she is now hybridizing show auriculas and former winners of the Bamford Trophy will have to work hard to compete with her because whatever she does she does very well indeed.

The Bamford Trophy is a lovely antique copper kettle presented to the American Primrose Society in 1954 by Dan Bamford, one of the foremost growers of Show Auriculas in England. It had been offered as a trophy there for over one hundred years before being sent to us. It was given the first two years to the one who had done the most to further the interest of Show Auriculas in America. Since 1955 it was Mr. Bamford's wish that it be awarded to the person who raised the best seedling Show Auricula. This was done to encourage hybridizing to achieve the perfect auricula according to the point score adopted by our society . . . A goal that we are striving for. Nancy Ford

PRIMROSES

For Eastern Gardens

Primroses have become one of the popular garden plants during the last ten or twelve years and more and more people write for cultural notes so that they may be grown with success. The secrets are few, but they must be met, and when they are one will enjoy the beauty of this most appealing garden favorite.

The first and most important requisite is the proper preparation of the soil. It must be filled with humus and rich in plant food as *Primulas* are gross feeders. Old cow manure is the best medium but garden compost, well soaked peat, well rotted hay or wood is excellent. The soil must be of a texture which will hold moisture but at the same time there must be good drainage. Here at Sky Hook we cultivate the soil two spades deep adding quantities of humus. The area for planting is raised three to four inches so no excess water will stand around the plants. If the site is so prepared it will be in excellent condition for several years. In spring we add a mulch which is enriched with fertilizer.

In many areas in the Eastern portion of our country the soil is slightly acid. This does not seem to affect most garden types of Primroses. Then there are other areas where the soil is sandy. In these places more humus should be added to the soil. Here in Vermont our soil is clay and we have enriched it and lightened it with the

addition of compost. There is one area where the rock formation is near the surface with only a few inches of soil. It was an ideal place for Primroses as there is partial shade from pines and maples and the soil is naturally moist. In preparing this area we laid down a layer of old hay to a depth of six to eight inches and placed eight inches of top soil over the layer of hay. The deep rooted Candelabras found this place ideal and have flourished. Old logs were used to hold the soil from washing and gives a naturalistic effect to this woodland setting. Ferns, Bluebells, Foamflower and two native Gentians grow here to add to the beauty.

Partial shade is needful but it should not be smothering so that air will not circulate freely. A planting of white pine gives the windbreak.

During periods of drought Primroses should be watered once a week and the soil should be well soaked so that the roots will benefit. In such a period we clean out our three pools which are fed by a living spring. There is silt which collects in the bottom of the pools and that is mixed with compost in a metal cart and poured around the plants. Fertilizer is also added for the mid-summer feeding.

In late fall there should be some protection placed over Primroses. It is the alternate freezing and thawing that is detrimental to the plants. Evergreen branches are

ideal or one may use trimming from shrubs to prevent drying winds. These will hold the snow and keep a winter covering. In areas where there is little snow a light covering of salt hay, excelsior or even spent tomato vines

may be used. Avoid any material which will pack.

There are many organic fertilizers on the market which may be used if well rotted cow manure is not available. Dry cow manure and the fish emulsions are most satisfactory. If a commercial fertilizer (10-5-5-) is used it should be mixed with the spring and mid-summer mulch so it will not come in direct contact with the roots.

Following these cultural notes will give the gardener the satisfaction of having prime Primroses to enhance the garden. The little extra care will repay bountifully.

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PRIMROSE CARE

For Northwest Gardens

As summer creeps into fall with cooler nights, it is soon time to think of winter care for the primroses.

Spray the primroses with Liquinox 0-10-10, to harden them off for the winter. Use some slug bait at the same time. This will take care of the little slugs, so they won't be eating at the plants all winter, leaving a weak plant.

When making up your primrose beds use well rotted manure, a little bone meal, some soil dust and a little agriculture lime. Work this mixture into the soil before planting, water well and let stand a couple of weeks. Continue cultivating to kill weeds as they germinate.

New members check your specie plants as some raise themselves up like *P. Sieboldii*, the old crown dies and raises up a new one on top of the old, so your new root is exposed on top of soil. Light mulch the exposed root for winter protection.

What a sight to behold in May when the *P. Sieboldii* comes into bloom, their leaves are small growing larger as the blooms start, making an old fashioned bouquet. The new shades pink, rose, maroon, blues and lavender of snow flake like blooms should be a must in your garden for spring. Try them in your shady areas. Use Violets, a few hardy Cyclamen and some tiny Anemone with *P. Sieboldii* for a beautiful planting.

One usually thinks of buying primroses from the growers in the spring, why not in the fall? Some plants, especially the species, move better in the fall. Have your plot ready and buy a good sized clump, set it in, water well and it will never know it has been moved. So many are dormant at this season. Then you have a surprise in the spring and summer when they come into bloom. Try *P. rosea grandiflora* or *P. Klineii*, both are pink, a worthwhile sight when they bloom in April and May. You can leave these for three or four years before dividing to make more plants. Consult your nursery man for varieties to plant now.

Be sure to remove all old foliage and seed.

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IN MEMORIAM . . .

MARGUERITE CLARKE

Marguerite Clarke, a long term member of the American Primrose Society, died in a Portland hospital July 26. The Clarkes were renowned seedsmen, operating Clarke's Pansy and Primrose Seed Nursery in Clackamas for many years. Mrs. Clarke was particularly fond of primroses that would naturalize in the Northwest, such as *Seiboldii*. Her *Polyanthus Clarkes Gold* was particularly fine, with strong stems, prolific bloom, clear yellows and oranges of heavy substance. She was a well-known lecturer on the growth of pansies and primroses.

RAYMOND R. BERNHARDT

Raymond R. Bernhardt of Borning, Oregon was stricken by a heart attack July 13. He is survived by his wife Mary and four children, David, Raymond, Diane and Donna. He was elected to membership on the Board of Directors of the APS in the spring of 1966. He was an enthusiastic gardener always seeking to improve his methods and had a deep appreciation of the beauties and needs of plants. The Bernhardt family are raising polyanthus, acaulis, some species and candelabras commercially. He said "I just fell in love with Primroses!"

ANTONE SHWARTZ

Antone, beloved husband of Kitty Schwartz, a talented, helpful and artistic member died in June. His life, love and devotion to God, to people and his thousands of primroses is over. For the past ten years Antone and Kitty have won many awards for their fine primrose displays. Now his wife Kitty alone will carry on in that beautiful hillside garden of primroses.

JOHN SHUMAN

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of John Shuman, of Seattle. His favorite plants were the Auricula, and he is credited with bringing the first show Auriculas into this country from Canada, through Mr. Frank Michaud. With his wife, Win, they compiled the Auricula judging scores still being used at the shows. (see Jan. 1956)

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Primroses of the World

The Pacific Strain of Polyanthus Primroses

by Elmer C. Baldwin

As with many great achievements, its start was small. The originator notes that his acquaintance with—and interest in—the plant dates back to his youth in Czechoslovakia where, in even the smallest garden they would be found; that there was much rain in the summer, and cold, snowy winters to complete the ideal conditions for growing and naturalizing primroses. After coming to California, Frank Reinelt was fortunate to having an employer who was also enthusiastic about flowers, and seeds were purchased from all possible sources.

In 1934 a commercial nursery was opened and the breeding of primroses began in earnest. Seed was obtained from outstanding sources in Europe, perhaps the best of them coming from Sutton's, and Blackmore & Langdon's. The best plants he was able to collect were from the garden of Sidney B. Mitchell from seeds from an English amateur—whose livelihood was from pigs, and whose hobby was primroses. Some of the forebearers of the strain were a large blue *acaulis Vilmorin's*, *Sutton's Brilliancy*, *Sutton's White*, certain named *acaulis* varieties from the garden of Mr. Hugh B. Logan, of Inverness — plants he had brought from Ireland: flowers of exceptional size for that time, and were used extensively in the beginning, to gain

size. At that time the annual seedling crop was from five to ten thousand — a snail's pace — but with increase in selection, results progressed. He was given the opportunity of seeing in the garden of Mrs. Williams, in Santa Rosa, a small garden full of magnificent primroses. These had been inter-bred for years and the sight furnished a tremendous incentive for closer attention and higher selection to the end that larger and better generations were raised each year, a few of which—the very outstanding plants — were potted for greenhouse pollination, raising a new generation from these for the next year's work. The best of these were sold to Dreer's, who in turn sold them as "Riverton Giants". The remainder were plowed under.

The Pacific Strain was officially introduced during the Golden Gate Exposition, and in 1953 nearly two hundred thousand were grown. The seed is the product of hand pollination exclusively, in the greenhouse. It is the firm conviction of Mr. Reinelt that there is no satisfactory substitute for selective breeding. Seed sown in July, fielded in October, produced large plants in bloom by mid-February as a rule. (See front cover picture).

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Primula Symposium Report from Czechoslovakia

by Mrs. Olga Duchacova

The winter has been very harsh in the mountains with immense quantities of snow and the temperature down to -29 degrees C. For skiing, the conditions were ideal, and much enjoyed. In the lowlands, we had short spells of -20 degrees C. on one or two occasions only. So, while the rock garden rests, I will tell you of our winter "gardening". At our January meeting in Prague we saw three wonderful colour-films on Japanese nature, mountains, and gardens. We were enchanted—the people of Japan so marvelously combine the beauty of nature with civilization. At our next meeting, we are to have the opportunity to see a Canadian film on Alpine Plants of the Rocky Mountains. This film will be borrowed from the Canadian Embassy.

As so often happens, today is very warm, +10 degrees C., so the snow is disappearing. If it continues, we will soon start the spring cleaning of the rock gardens, as crocuses and early *Vernalis primulas* will soon be up. That lovely little fern, *Ceterach officinarum* (native of Yugoslavia) is rather rare here but is much prized, does well in a mixture of leaf-mold, sand, limestone gravel and a little loam and is so attractive in a vertical crevice.

We are anxious to see how our primroses came through the winter. Some of the plants were not covered with glass . . . And now, two weeks later (February 1st) spring has already made a visit to our gardens: a splendid day, warm and sunny. The last snow has disappeared and the



photo by Mrs. O. Duchacova
PULSATILLA halleri slavica (garden of Mrs. Duchacova)

crocuses are beginning to show. We were able to spend most of the day in cleaning the rockery. *Primula modesta fawriae*, so heavily dusted with yellow farina, looks very promising. *P. scotica* is alive and rosettes of *P. capitata* are eager to start. It is wonderful to be among them and to feel the closeness of spring!

The seeds sent you were from Dr. Satava, of Liberec, North Bohemia, where growing conditions are much more favorable than ours in Middle Bohemia. In the north, the climate is cool, with high air-humidity. Liberec altitude is about 650 m. while we are about 400 m. Our summers are very dry and hot. The soil in both locations is about the same—rather heavy.

Dr. Satava is perhaps our most successful *primula* collector and grower. His seeming lack of care is noteworthy! He simply takes a plant, puts it in the heavy soil and that is all. They grow and bloom quite happily. There, from December to March, is a thick blanket of snow while we, here, only rarely experience such good snow conditions.

Just recently we—and several rock gardening friends—met Dr. Satava in Prague where he showed us many interesting coloured slides from his summer holiday in the Caucasus Mountains where the flora is so different from ours and is very beautiful. It is a pity that there are no rock gardeners there who might be interested in exchanging seeds, bulbs, or plants.

I have always found *primulas* attractive and exciting plants, and much to be desired but have had little actual experience in growing them. This past summer, however, we made an artificial valley following the main rock garden, so that we gained a north facing slope where now *alpine primulas* are planted in crevices. As the garden faces east, south and west, it was a problem to provide a north slope for shade requiring treasures

but with this new advantage, we now have a semi-shady and cool place. Our seedlings and the more tender young plants are moved into the larger alpine house for the winter. In *primulas* these include: *nutans*, *reidii*, *chionantha*, *warshenewskiana*, *saxatilis*, *waltoni*, *viali*, *smithiana*, *capitata*, *amoena*, *darialica*, *farinosa*, *scotica*, *viscosa*, *hirsuta*, *minima*, *bileckii*, *glaucescens*, *commutata*, *clusii*, *auricula*, *vochinensis*, *ioessa* and *spectabilis*.

All of our primroses are given good drainage, especially the alpine species. We add to our heavy soil, coarse sand or disintegrating granite, peat, and leaf-mold, all mixed with gravel, and although the plants all look good now, the future will show if this method is the right one.

Now, I wish to thank you for the loan of so many colour slides of some of your American natives. We projected them for our friends this past Sunday and I hope to project them at our next meeting in Prague where I will give as much information about them as I am able to gather. The slide of *Sanguineum canadensis fl. pl.* is quite enchanting. Is it rare in America? Also the slide of *Arisaema triphyllum*.

As spring is now here in earnest, we are extremely busy in the garden. It is wonderful of course but it is very early and we are concerned about frost even though our meteorologists say that spring is very early and the

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weather should be warm. My husband prepared a special bed for *Cypripediums* as we are also very interested in these plants. Mrs. Brinkerhoff sent us *C. acaulis* and another friend sent a plant of *C. reginae*. We have, of course, the native *C. calceolus* which we would like to exchange for other American species. Also, just recently we received many seeds of *Pentstemon* species from Mrs. Brinkerhoff, and from Sweden, rare seeds from the expedition in Iran, including several species of *Dionysia*. This

choice and not easy plant is quite unknown here. Today, we received an exciting packet from Belgium, with living plants of several beautiful *Saxifraga kabschia*. They are my darlings and most of the plants outside are already full of flower buds. Our climate is quite suitable to their requirements and they are ideal even for the smallest rock garden or trough, and are especially well-doing in tufa—which unfortunately is rather rare here. There are a few locations in eastern Slovakia, where it may be found but much too far from us to be practical. *Pulsatilla halleri slavica* will soon have many flowers—they now look like a flock of small, hairy chicks!

When the roads dry, we shall go to the woods for stones, some gravel of decomposed granite, as well as loam from mole hills, and leaf-mold. Such expeditions are great fun and we look forward to them. The most difficult to find is dry cow dung, so we probably will fill boxes of it when we next go to the high Tatras where it is abundant in the meadows.

But now, before closing, a last look at the garden: *Lewisia tweedyi* already has many flower buds—we have removed all of the side-rosettes and the plants look wonderful. The other *Lewisias* look as well—and are a pleasant sight. *Erica Carnea* varieties are in full flower and lovely to see, as well as many of the *Crocus* species.



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Primula Symposium Report from Yorkshire, England

By Victor Brooke

The primula has always fascinated me, and as a gardener by trade, I have considerable use for them. In this part of the world—which is the west riding of Yorkshire—most primulas do quite well. The garden of which I have charge is at the edge of a large reservoir, 840 feet above sea level, where winter temperatures range from 25 to 40 degrees F. from November to April, and the spring and summer temperatures are from 40 to 70 degrees. Prevailing winds from November to February are north-west, and north; shifting in the spring to the north-east, east, and south-east; for the balance of the year, completing the circle: south-west, and west. Rainfall for the year is about 46 inches with some fog during the winter months. The soil is a peaty loam on a sandstone base, requiring the addition of plenty of leafmold.

The majority of the primulas are grown on an east-facing rockery, in pockets of soil to suit the requirements of the particular species. Many are grown from seed—some with success, and some, quite otherwise. Compost used for our primulas consists of 1 part each of leaf soil, peat, and sand, and 2 parts loam, well mixed. To each 2 gallons of compost is added a 2½" pot of blood and bone meal, and a 3" pot of charcoal, all well mixed in. Soil for pricking out consists of 1½ parts each, of leaf soil, and of peat; 2 parts each of sand, and of well rotted rabbit hutch litter (where peat has been used) to 7 parts loam. To each 2 gallons of the mixture add a 2½" pot each, of blood and bone meal, of hoof and horn, of charcoal, and of wood ash, all well mixed.

Some of the varieties we grow are Wanda, which always does well—the autumn blooms are sometimes frilled; *auricula* in all varieties; *denticulata*, *japonica*, and some of the less common species: *calycina*, grown in a pocket with some limestone chips; *aurantiaca* (this does well and lasts a long time, some are four years old); *cortusoides*, and *patens*—these two are very much alike, both wanting a small amount of limestone chips. Many varieties of candelabra primulas are grown, as well as *acaulis*, juliana hybrids, and *polyanthus*. Much of the APS exchange seed of 1966 is coming into flower at this time: *auricula*, wild form; *acaulis* Haba Giant; *bulleyana*; *cortusoides*; *sino-purpurea*; *polyneura*; *polyanthus* gold laced, and many others. 1967 exchange seed is germinating well with just a few missed: *luteola*, *rubra*, and

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paryi. I hope sometime to grow such varieties as *forrestii*, *caudoriana*, *incana*, *allionii*, *palinuri*, *cusickiana*, etc., when seed is available.

All plants are fed in autumn with a mixture of 4 parts of loaf-soil, and of peat; 2 parts each of rotted cow manure, and of rotted rabbit litter; ¼ part each of blood and bone, and of hoof and horn meals, well mixed and forked into the soil.

CORRECTION

In the article "Mrs. A. C. U. Berry and Her Garden" on page 60 of the 1967 Spring Issue a *Primula* is titled *P. Florindae* but should have been titled *P. Alpicola* as indicated by the leaves.

HELP FOR THE SEED DONORS

Members desiring to contribute seed for the Exchange and desiring envelopes for the seeds may request the number required for the number of varieties to be sent. Requests should be sent to the Seed Director. There is no charge for the envelopes, which hold approximately one teaspoonful of clean seed. For larger envelopes to contain a greater amount of seed or larger seed, the No. 1 coin envelope is also available. Please specify *small* and/or *No. 1 coin* envelopes and the number desired. If you wish, a five cent stamp may be included with the request, to help defray cost.

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An Introduction to the New Editor

To the people of the Pacific Northwest, Emma Hale needs no introduction. Most of us remember the magazine, *Pacific Gardens and Homes*, that she and her husband, the late Orrin Hale, edited and published in Seattle.

To me the highlight was the feature article, "Aunt Emmy Says," in which she gave her personal reaction to life and events both large and small along with a running account of the gardening pleasures and disappointments that she and the "Boss", Mr. Hale experienced at Penny Creek Farm.

The Hales through their magazine were good friends and supporters of gardeners and all garden organizations. My first personal contact with Mrs. Hale was in 1954 in planning a series of articles on primroses and announcements of the first truly National Show of the A.P.S. in Tacoma in April 1955.

Mrs. Hale continued the *Pacific Gardens and Homes* for some time after her husband's illness, finally circumstances forced her to discontinue the magazine.

The American Primrose Society is indeed fortunate in having Mrs. Emma Hale accept the editorship of the *Quarterly*. It is with pleasure and pride that I welcome the talent and experience of "Aunt Emmy" to the *Quarterly*. Maybe we will hear some up-to-date news about Penny Creek Farm where she still lives.

Herbert Dickson, Vice-president
American Primrose Society.

Have You Any Garden Questions You Wish Answered?

Our Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Alice Baylor, has kindly offered to answer any of your gardening questions. Mrs. Baylor has had many years of experience as a commercial grower. We feel fortunate that such a qualified expert has offered to answer your questions, so write the editor or send your question direct to Mrs. Alice Hills Baylor
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JULIAE PRIMROSES

By C. S. Marsh, Annaghloy Boyle Co. Roscommon, Eiere

Some time just before 1900 a *primula* arrived in England from the Caucasus. This was *P. Altaica*. It was a Primrose that formed a mat of shiny leaves and had a short flower stem. It had bluish-pink flowers and these opened so early in the year that it was soon called Christmas Carol. In 1900 itself another very similar *primula* arrived from the same part of the world. This one also had mat-forming small, shiny leaves, but its color was a rather vulgar vivid purple. It was *P. Juliae*. These two *primulas* were soon to make their mark on the gardens of Britain. Once the hybridists turned their attention to the pair things began to hum.

As far as is known *Juliae* made her home in the Gardens of St. John's College, Oxford — where many fine plants have started their careers in England. — Nothing much seems to have been done about it until after the first world war. I do know that when the late Mrs. Johnson came back to her home at Kinlough in Co Leitrim she found several seedlings had appeared from her *Juliaes*. Amongst them was the lovely pink *polyanthus* type Kinlough Beauty, while another was the creamy yellow Lady Greer. The ever popular Wanda must have appeared about that time, too, but who was responsible for it

I do not know. In any case, all sorts of people started crossing Wanda and the two originals with coloured primroses, and later on with *polyanthuses*. The result is that now we must have many hundreds of distinct varieties. I have over eighty distinct forms in my own garden.

All these lovely plants are ideal for the modern labour saving garden. Most of the hybrids maintain the glossy leaves and mat forming habits of *Juliae*. Most of them too are hardy, easily grown, and easy to increase. In my garden I find they have an extraordinary resistance to weeds. In fact, some kinds can conquer the weeds and come up smiling. They have a long season of bloom, too, and because they do not all bloom at once, by having a number of varieties, there can be primroses smothered in flowers from early March to late May. Of course, in the South they will start earlier, and in the North later. If planted in a sunny pocket the same sort will flower a fortnight earlier than if it is planted on a windswept north-facing slope.

A great many varieties, though distinct, vary so slightly in form and colouring that it takes an expert to separate them. It might be of interest to consider some of the best. The purely primrose forms could be start-

ed with because there are Primroses and Polyanthuses and in between forms in the large army.

The blues are probably the most dramatic of the colours. Certainly they are the hardest to find. Blue Ribbon is one of the first to bloom. This was raised in Scotland by Mr. George Murray. It is not a clean, clear blue as the deep blue flowers are shaded with red at the center. The leaves are deep green and it is very vigorous. Bunty was the most famous of the purse deep blue, but sad to say it had a very weak constitution and has almost faded away. Before it left me I was able to cross it with an ordinary blue Primrose, and got a very good, clean deep blue hybrid, that has a red-rimmed yellow eye. It blooms early and for a long time and is very hardy. Unfortunately, it does not increase as quickly as I would like. I call it Lady Jean Kingston. Blue Horizon comes in rather late—in early April. It was introduced by the Six Hills Nurseries. It is a splendid clear sky blue and covers itself with bloom for a long time. Buckland Belle was raised by Mr. Champernowne of Yelverton, and is a superb violet blue flushed with red. In spite of its strong constitution it is rather rare. Avalone is like a Princess of Wales violet in colour and it likes shade to keep the colour strong, but it too is hard to get. Romeo is a beauty of Palma Violet colour. It is very hardy and strong growing, and makes

an excellent foil for cream or pale yellow tulips. Iris Mainwaring is another pale blue with a delicate pink flush. It has deep green foliage, and makes a very compact plant that is ideal in a trough or windowbox.

The whites are easy to deal with. Craddock's white is by far the best. It flowers in April. The deep green leaves have bronze veins and the white flowers have a yellow center and a strong fragrance. It is a striking plant.

The reds are more difficult to assess, but Wisley Red springs to mind at once, if only for its brilliant beet-root red leaves and stems. The plant is very compact and hearty. The blooms are large and purple-red held well above the foliage. Rubin is a newcomer, having small flowers of wine-red over bronzy-green foliage. It is an early flowerer. Mrs. Frank Neave flowers late and for a long time, its colour is Magenta-crimson. It is easy to grow and propagate. Moreton Hybrid is an old one, but it is not so easy to grow. My plants have flowers on them all the year round, but the full flush comes in late April. The brilliant red flowers are large and have a bright yellow center. Lingwood Beauty is another late flowerer in cerise crimson with a deep orange center over bright green leaves. It too is a good doer. One of the first to bloom and one of the best is the large red-leaved Claret coloured

(Continued on page 95)

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Juliae Primroses

(Continued from page 91)

Julius Caesar raised in Ireland by Miss Wynne of Avoca. Although this is a strong grower with me it seems to be very rare. Dinah is a final choice in reds. Its velvety burgundy-crimson blooms have an olive eye the green of which makes it most distinctive. It flowers well again in the autumn which increases its value.

There are no pure pinks amongst the primrose types. Wendy is the nearest, but it is well shot with mauve. Yellows are scarce, too. The only one of value I know is Lambrook yellow, raised, I presume, by Mrs. Fish. There is a multitude of Mauves and each man to his own pet. I like Lambrook mauve as it has such a clean, clear colour. Groeniken's Glory is a Dutch variety of mauve-pink with a strange green eye. It can be very attractive. Mauve Queen is another good and early variety. It has longish stems that are good for picking, and does very well in windowboxes. In the deep purple classe Perle von Bot-top is a new German hybrid. The blooms held well above the leaves are vivid claret-purple. Purple Splendor is another excellent form of crimson purple with pale foliage and a yellow eye. It is an easy bloomer.

There is a batch of Orange terracotta shades. E. R. Janes is the best known, it is small and perfect for rockwork. It covers itself so completely with flowers that not a leaf shows. Its only fault is its habit of pushing itself out of the soil. It flowers again in the autumn, and if moved into a cold house will go on flowering all winter. Afterglow is a rust-orange with a yellow eye. Sunsetglow is a mat forming plant of orange-scarlet that needs shade to keep its colour unburned. Tiny Tim is the smallest of all *Juliaes*, like an orange red Pam. It is perfect for a trough. These last three are hard to find.

Like all the other primrose classes some of the loveliest varieties are

either lost to cultivation or hidden away in some garden. Cottage Maid is one. This is deep lilac pink with a wide candy stripe down the middle of each petal. Gem of Roses has large pink flowers, and a large yellow eye. Kingfisher was rich sapphire blue with a yellow eye on short stems. Primavera was a brilliant deep orange scarlet with no trace of mauve. The Sultan came from British Columbia and was the only brown *Juliae*. And finally Trizone from Devon had a dark red ring around the eye with outer rings of purple and blue. It was most unusual and attractive. Where have they gone?

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