

# AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

INC. JULY 2 1904

## Bulletin

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

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STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION,  
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Bulletin and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a  
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for the date shown in the above caption, required by the act of August 24,  
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2. That the owner is: This is the official publication of the American  
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W. F. CHRISTMAN.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 3rd day of January, 1933.

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Membership in the Society is open to both professional and amateur  
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and the names are there voted upon.

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

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

Back BULLETINS of the Society will be charged for at the rate of 50 cents  
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these prices are doubled. No BULLETINS available prior to No. 13.



# AMERICAN Peony Society Bulletin

VOL. 33

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No. 52

## Frostwork

By RUTH H. BRANT, Iowa City, Iowa

The winter trees are blowing white;  
The Frost King's touch, light as a fay;  
For on the icy window pane  
A fern-grot greets the breaking day.

Oh! ghosts of flowers that gladden me  
When days are fair and skies are blue;  
I trace upon the canvas cold  
The lacy leaves of meadow rue.

The grasses stand so stiff and straight;  
One corner holds a slim harebell,  
While trailing vines along the edge  
Half veil the dainty pimpernel.

The scillas' bending buds droop low;  
The snowdrop too, in pale sweet grace,  
And framed amid the maidenhair  
A hearts-ease lifts its baby face.

Mayhap when hours on earth are o'er  
And soul goes wandering, searching vain,  
The ghosts of flowers will comfort me  
As frostwork on the window pane.

## The Peony—Spring's Grandest Flower

By GEORGE R. SYFERT, Columbus, O.

**A**FTER long weeks of Winter, comes the return of Spring, and, with the awakening of all plant life, we look forward to our gardens in anticipation of much joy and happiness.

One of the finest of all hardy plants, deserving a place in our gardens, is the peony.

So much has been written in the last few years about this beautiful perennial, that it is difficult to write anything that could be claimed as being new, but the restating of some established facts about the peony might be helpful to some of us.

Early in April we see the red or pink buds pushing up through the ground from the old peony beds, and from that time on we can almost see the actual growth of the leaves as they unfold under the warm rays of the sun. Our step is quickened and with vigor we begin to clean up our gardens, putting them in shape for the blooming season—early before the buds appear, if the tops of the peonies were not cut in the Fall, then we should cut away the old dried tops of last year's growth, gathering them up together with the dead leaves and other rubbish that has accumulated during the Winter, and burn it up. Our gardens are now ready for cultivating and, in order to keep down the weeds, we must keep up this cultivating, which is good for the plants, as the more pliable the ground is, the better the plants will grow. In ordinary garden soil, thorough cultivation is more desirable for peonies than the use of too much fertilizer, be it either the commercial variety or the common stable manure, which often causes the plants to produce luxuriant foliage, but few blooms.

If you have never visited a large field of peonies during the blooming period, you are to experience a thrill that will be difficult to describe; for you will feast your eyes upon row after row of these lovely flowers, which are planted in rows 200 to 300 ft. in length about 4 ft. apart. They come in different colors ranging from pure white into blush, light and dark shades of pink, from the light cherry reds to velvety crimson, and from bright dark reds to an almost black maroon. To have been privileged to see such a sight, is one never to be forgotten by the beholder in visiting for the first time a commercial planting containing hundreds of varieties of fine peonies in full bloom.

There are many types of peonies and by including the early, mid-season and late varieties, one can have from six weeks to two months of continuous peony blooms in his garden.

I have been asked to explain the different types of peonies, and, if possible, name some varieties of these types so you may become better acquainted with these fine flowers, when you see them in the garden or on the exhibition tables at our flower shows. There are many species of peonies growing as wild plants in Europe, Lapland, Asia, Siberia, China, Spain, Portugal, Corsica, Asia Minor, Morocco, Algeria, France, Sicily, Sardinia, Persia, Armenia and Caucasian Mountain ranges. There is only one species found in America, in the snowy regions of the Sierras of California. It is called *P. Browni*; it grows to a height of 12 to 18 inches, having a dull red flower about 1 to 1½ inches in diameter. The bloom is not conspicuous for beauty.

I will speak briefly of two species that are occasionally found in some of our own gardens, *P. suffruticosa*, better known as, the Mountain or tree peony. They have woody stems that do not die to the ground in the Fall, and differ from the herbaceous peony by forming a shrub growing a little higher each year until it attains a height of 4 or 5 ft. with a spread of about 4 to 6 ft. at the top. The flowers are large and of the most delicate tints and shades, blooming three or four weeks earlier than the *Chinensis* peonies. They are perfectly hardy, but the buds, which develop very early, should be protected from severe frost or freezing after they start to swell. This can be accomplished, either by using chicken wire to enclose the plants in the Fall, and filling in the space around the plants with straw, removing same when all danger of frost is over in the Spring, or you can plant the tree peony near the house, where it will be sheltered by other shrubbery. Tree peonies still are very scarce and are rather high-priced, but I think they will be grown and be more appreciated when they are better known.

I was reading in some magazine about a fine tree peony growing in the gardens of an English gentleman by the name of E. Taylor, Diss, Norfolk, England. This fine tree is famous for its long life and sturdy growth. In 1904, when eighty years old, it was 15 ft. across and produced 400 flowers from 8 to 9 inches in diameter. The plant is now 108 years old and I presume will live on indefinitely, so the tree peony is truly a lifelong flowering plant. I will give the names of twelve fine tree peonies:

- FRAGRANS MAXIMA PLENA—Flesh, pink and salmon.  
 GLOBOSA—Very full, white with red splashes.  
 GLOIRE de SHANGHAI—Anemone type, glossy bright pink.  
 JEANNE D'ARC—Very large full flower, salmon pink with yellow tints.  
 LAMBERTINAE—White, shaded with pink and purple.  
 LOUISE MOUCHELET—Very large double, salmon flesh pink.  
 MADAME LAFFAY—Large full bloom, violet, rose and white.  
 ROBERT FORTUNE—Brilliant salmon, red tinged petals.  
 SAMARANG—Semi-double, bright scarlet, black spots.  
 SOUVENIR DE DUCHER—Full globular flowers, deep violet with reddish tinge.  
 SOUVENIR DE MADAME KNORR—Large, double, pale flesh pink, splashed with purple.  
 VILLE DE SAINT DENIS—Very large white flower, tinted purple.

— ∞ —

P. OFFICINALIS—This is the earliest variety to bloom in our gardens and is a species having a few very interesting varieties, such as:

- ALBA MUTABILIS—A fine white.  
 ROSEA PLENA—A soft delicate pink.  
 RUBRA PLENA—A double crimson, better known as the old fashioned double red peony of our grandmother's garden.  
 OTTO FROEBEL—A single salmon rose pink.  
 SMOUTHY—A single, bright crimson.  
 LIZE VAN VEEN—A full double, a sport of *P. off-rosea superba*, a new one recently introduced in commerce, in Holland; salmon yellow pink, much like the color of *P. Solange*.  
 P. TENUIFOLIA—The most unique, as regards foliage of the officinalis species. It is sometimes called the fern-leaf peony. The fine lacinated foliage reminds one of the foliage of the cosmos flower.  
 P. FLORA SIMPLEX—Is the single variety, which blooms earlier than the double, which is called *P. flora plena*. The color of the bloom is a brilliant crimson in both the single and double varieties, and, as it is the first of all peonies to bloom in our gardens, its appearance early in May is always most welcome. There is also a single variety, *P. tenuifolia rosea*, which has a peculiar pink color.  
 P. WITTMANNIANA and  
 P. MLOKOSWITSCHI—Are the only known herbaceous peonies having yellow flowers. Four hybrids, obtained from crossing *P. sinensis* with *Wittmanniana*, are:  
 AVANT GARDE—A crinkled satiny pink.  
 LE PRINTEMPS—A deep cream, with a rose flush.  
 MAI FLEURI—A flesh colored white, with a salmon colored tinge.  
 MESSAGERE—Sulphur white, tinted cream.

These four are single-flowered peonies, but their unusual loveliness appeals to all lovers of fine flowers. Their season of bloom is about three weeks ahead of the *Chinensis* peonies. These fine flowers were produced by the eminent French hybridist, Monsieur Emil Lemoine, in the years 1905-6-9.

Now we come to species *P. albiflora*, which I will try to explain at some length, as this is the species from which were derived the most beautiful peonies, which we now have in our gardens. Very early in the history of the American Peony Society, the herbaceous peony was

classified into eight different types. In the process of development from the original single type, the herbaceous peony has acquired certain forms or types, which have been classified and named "Bomb," "Crown," "Rose," etc. The stamen—the fertilizing organs of flowering plants—consist of (1) filaments or supports, and (2) anthers or double sacs filled with pollen—have in some types of the peony broadened and thickened into additional petals, called staminodes. Likewise the carpels—the seed-bearing organs—have developed into petals called carpelodes. For brevity and convenience, staminodes and carpelodes are usually called petaloids—the words staminodes, carpelodes and petaloids are all used in describing types—when the word "Guards" is employed it means the outside or the primary petals—when the word "Differentiated" occurs, reference is made to the degree of difference in appearance between the outside petals or guards and the petaloids within.

**SINGLE TYPE**—These have a single row of broad petals with the center filled with a lot of pollen-bearing stamens.

**JAPANESE TYPE**—In this the process of doubling has just begun—they have wide guard petals like the single, but the stamens and anthers are greatly enlarged, making thick, but narrow petaloids.

**ANEMONE TYPE**—These show a further step in the process of doubling, all the stamens being transformed into short, narrow petals, which form a round cushion in the center of the flower—very few choice varieties belong to this type—one which approaches this type is *P. Philomele*, which develops a crown a short time after the bloom opens, if plants are strong and vigorous.

**SEMI-DOUBLE TYPE**—These have several rows of wide petals and a center of partially transformed petals with stamens intermixed—the guard petals may or may not be distinct from the petaloids—semi-double flowers are usually loose in structure—many of the dark reds belong to this type.

**CROWN TYPE**—This type has wide petals developed in the center of the flower, which form a high crown, around which narrow, short petals form a rim or collar. Sometimes the crown and guards are of a different color or shade from the collar.

**BOMB TYPE**—In this type all the center petals are of uniform width as they approach the guards, but they are quite distinct from the guard petals and form a globe-shaped center without collar or crown.

**SEMI-ROSE TYPE**—In this class all petals are uniformly wide, but have a few pollen bearing stamens visible. Flowers are generally loosely built.

**ROSE TYPE**—In this type the process of doubling is completed—it is generally impossible to distinguish the guard petals from the others, but when they are distinct the variety should be classed as a "Bomb" type. The full double bloom of the rose type is to many the most attractive.

These eight types of the herbaceous peony, as classified by the American Peony Society, were maintained until about four years ago, when Arthur H. Fewkes, of Newton Highlands, Massachusetts (who was one of the founders and was the first secretary of the American Peony Society, which was organized in 1903), wrote a letter to the directors

of the Society, which caused them to take action during one of the directors' meetings, held in New York on January 26, 1928, when it was resolved that the herbaceous peony should be described in the Peony Manual (a book published by the Society, which was then in the course of preparation), under the following five types: Single, Japanese, anemone, semi-double and double. This action was taken in accordance with the suggestions contained in Mr. Fewkes' letter, which reads as follows:

CLASSIFICATION OF PEONY TYPES

"From long observation of peony types, I have come to believe that the term 'Crown type' was ill advised. It is not sufficiently constant and is dependent, very much upon the age of the plant and the cultivation it has had. A large proportion of varieties will produce a crown under certain conditions.

"It is much more accurate to say, that a certain variety is liable to produce a crown, than it is to say it is a 'Crown type.' The true 'Bomb' seems to be more apt to do this than any other type. I have been struck by the loose way in which the terms 'Bomb' and 'Crown' are used, almost completely obliterating the real distinction between these types. I have also become, thoroughly convinced that the types established very early in the history of the American Peony Society, badly need revision. The terms were adopted by men who had made only a superficial study of the peony and supposed that the forms of the flowers, as they saw them, were constant.

"In the light of present knowledge of the flower, we know this is not so, and that, in many cases, one form slides very easily into another, thereby very materially reducing the forms which are constant—the term 'Bomb' applied to a peony is atrocious, florists apply the term 'incurved' to the same form in the chrysanthemum, while the smooth, incurved form in the China Aster is termed 'peony-formed.' 'Bomb' type has been very frequently used when describing a flower, which is simply globular in form, but not necessarily composed of imbricated incurved petals. 'Crown' seems to apply to anything which appears above the collar, whereas, it should apply only to extra petals developed from the stigmas and superimposed upon the main part of the flower, a kind of afterthought, as it were, and not at all constant. Now the term 'Rose' type and 'Semi-rose' type, could well be reduced to the former, for many varieties will sometimes produce flowers, some of which are perfectly transformed, and others which show stamens, more or less. For all prac-

tical purposes 'Rose' type covers both, but why use the term of 'Rose' type? The flowers which we have been assigning to this type include forms which no rose ever thought of assuming, and the term as applied to peonies is practically meaningless. Peony blooms naturally arrange themselves into the following five groups: Single, Japanese, Anemone, Semi-double and Double.

**SINGLE TYPE**—Is a flower with five or more true petals arranged around a center made up of stamens with pollen-bearing anthers.

**JAPANESE TYPE**—Is really a double form, but it has arrived at its goal in a much different manner from the other double forms, and for practical purposes stands distinct and alone, characterized by five or more guard petals and a center made up of stamens, bearing abortive anthers, nearly or completely devoid of pollen, thereby distinguishing itself from the true single type with pollen-bearing anthers.

**ANEMONE TYPE**—Resembles somewhat the Japanese, but is distinguished from that, by the absence of anthers of any kind, while the filaments of the stamens have taken on a petal-like character, being narrow, more or less incurved and imbricated. While this character is constant in some varieties, there are others where it appears in side blooms and flowers borne by one or two-year-old plants. Madame Calot, for example. It is doubtful whether this type should be retained, as some flowers, which come under it, may be constant, while others are quite changeable. The term "Anemone Type" is useful in describing varieties which produce this form on immature plants or as side blooms on varieties, the main blooms of which are of a quite different type.

**SEMI-DOUBLE TYPE**—This is well marked and includes some of the most artistic blooms. Flowers of this type never become full doubles, and always show a greater or less number of broad petals intermixed with the stamens, the latter always a prominent feature. (Pride of Essex, Silvia Saunders and Marie Jacquin, are good examples of this type.)

**DOUBLE TYPE**—In this type the transformation of the stamens and sometimes the stigmas into petals has advanced to that stage where they make up the main body of the flower, sometimes leaving no trace whatsoever of either stamen or stigma, and in others still showing these to a greater or less extent, imbedded among the petals. In some varieties of this type the guard petals are shorter than the petaloids, thereby forming a globular bloom. In others the guard petals are longer and prominent, thereby forming the so-called 'Crown' type, but this form is not constant, and often in the same bloom, which starts with prominent guard petals, the petaloids keep on developing until they nearly obliterate the guards, and eventually make a globular bloom. The so-called 'Crown' type may be semi-double or double, and may even be superimposed upon the 'Bomb' type; it is not constant. Taking all these points into consideration, it seems to me that our types can be reduced to five at most; Single, Japanese, Anemone, Semi-Double and Double—possibly the Anemone type might be suppressed, using the term only as I have suggested under Anemone Type."

I think the directors of the American Peony Society did well in acting upon the suggestions of Mr. Fewkes, thereby reducing the types of the herbaceous peony to five, as above indicated.

I trust the revised classification of the different types of herbaceous peonies, will be helpful to each of us in identifying these peony types, when we see them in our gardens.

Here is a list of prominent foreign peony originators, giving the years in which they were active in producing these fine flowers.

FRENCH PRODUCERS—Lemon (1824), Donkelaer (1838), Guerin (1845-62), Miellez (1851-6), Delache (1855-6), Gombault (1856-66), Calot (1857-73), Crousse (1870-95), Verdier (1855-6), Dessert (1890-1913), Lemoine (1899-1908), Mechin (1880-90), Riviere (1908-11), Doriat (1924-?).

ENGLISH PRODUCERS—Barr (before 1890), Kelway (1884-1932).

HOLLAND PRODUCERS—Blauw (1909-?), Goos & Koenemann (1911-13), Nieunwenhuyzen (1919-20), VanLeeuwen (1924-?).

LATE LIGHT PINK		Votes	Average
		49	7.5 Augustin d'Hour
27	8.4 Chestine Gowdy	15	8.1 Ben Franklin
60	8.3 Eugene Verdier	9	8.2 Francois Rousseau
62	8.8 Grandiflora	57	8.8 Karl Rosefield
7	7.8 Louisa Brand	22	8.4 Lora Dexheimer
56	8.4 Marguerite Gerard	24	7.6 Pierre Dessert
63	9.0 Milton Hill	38	8.8 Richard Carvel
65	8.5 Mme. Emile Galle	10	7.8 Lord Kitchener
43	7.8 Model de Perfection	75	8.4 Felix Crousse
23	8.2 Pierre Duchartre	14	8.3 Winnifred Domme
24	8.4 Gismonda		
40	7.3 L'Indispensable		
40	7.5 Mme. De Galhau	20	7.8 Chas. McKellip
		12	7.7 H. F. Reddick
		27	8.7 Mary Brand
		62	8.8 Mons. Martin Cahuzac
66	7.6 Edulis Superba	15	8.2 Mme. Gaudichau
15	7.9 Ruth Brand	28	6.5 Meissonier
47	7.8 Modeste Guerin		
EARLY DEEP PINK		MID-SEASON REDS	
23	7.5 Archie Brand	27	7.5 Constant Devred
61	8.7 Claire Dubois	43	7.1 Delachii
45	7.9 Gloire de Chas. Gombault	29	8.3 Eugene Bigot
46	7.9 Mme. Ducl	8	7.9 Rachel (Terry)
49	9.0 Sarah Bernhardt	43	7.2 Rubra Superba
11	7.4 Pierre Reignoux		
		LATE REDS	
		45	7.9 Glorie de Chas. Gombault
		47	7.9 Jeanne d'Arc
		37	7.7 Philomele
		TRI-COLORED	
		YELLOW	
		22	8.8 Laura Dessert
		47	8.6 Primevere
		14	7.7 Fanny Crosby

AMERICAN PRODUCERS—Richardson (1857-1885), Terry (1890-1904), Pleas (1900-13), Rosefield (1900-1925), Hollis (1904-9), Brand (1907-?), Shaylor (1915-20), Thurlow (1915-?), Wettengel (1916-1925), Minot (1914), Lewis (1920-7), Earnshaw (1919-20), Franklin (1919-?), Betscher (1920), Gumm (1921-?), Welsh (1921), Saunders (1920-?), Secor (1921-24), Sass (1924-?), Vories (1924-?), Auten (1925-?), Oleson (1926-?).

I will now give you a list of the best inexpensive varieties and their season of bloom.



Name of Variety	Rating	Originator	Date	Color
Phyllis Kelway .....	9.0	Kelway	1908	P
Raoul Dessert .....	9.0	Dessert	1910	P
Rosa Bonheur .....	9.0	Dessert	1905	P
Sarah Bernhardt .....	9.0	Lemoine	1906	P
Solange .....	9.7	Lemoine	1907	P
Therese .....	9.8	Dessert	1904	P
Souvenir De Louis Bigot.....	9.1	Dessert	1913	P
Tourangelle .....	9.4	Dessert	1910	P
Walter Faxon .....	9.3	Richardson	1904	P

Here is another list of fine peonies that also rate 9.0 or more, but were not included in the last symposium, because they did not receive at least twenty votes. All of these were produced by American producers, except one, so you will see that the American producers are the leaders of the world, today, in the production of the finest peonies:

Name of Variety	Rating	Originator	Date	Color
Frankie Curtis .....	9.3	Vories	1924	W
A. M. Slocum.....	9.0	Franklin	1920	W
Nina Secor.....	9.0	Secor	1921	W
Grace Loomis.....	9.2	Saunders	1920	W
Rose Shaylor.....	9.1	Shaylor	1920	W
Sarah K. Thurlow.....	9.1	Thurlow	1921	W
Mrs. A. M. Brand.....	9.6	Brand	1925	W
Mrs. Frank Beach.....	9.0	Brand	1925	W
Jeannot .....	9.2	Dessert	1918	P
President Wilson.....	9.3	Thurlow	1918	P
Edwin C. Shaw.....	9.1	Thurlow	1919	P
Thomas C. Thurlow.....	9.1	Thurlow	1919	P
Katharine Havemeyer.....	9.0	Thurlow	1921	P
Mabel B. Franklin.....	9.0	Franklin	1919	P
June Day.....	9.0	Franklin	1920	P
Cornelia Shaylor.....	9.1	Shaylor	1919	P
Mrs. C. S. Minot.....	9.2	Minot	1914	P
Florence Macbeth .....	9.2	Sass	1924	P
Nancy Dolman.....	9.1	Vories	1924	P
Ella Christiansen.....	9.0	Brand	1925	P
Hansina Brand.....	9.1	Brand	1925	P
Hazel Kinney.....	9.0	Brand	1925	P
Mrs. Dean Funk.....	.....	Brand	1928	P
Mrs. Romaine B. Ware.....	9.1	Brand	1925	P
Mrs. F. A. Goodrich.....	9.0	Brand	1925	P
Mrs. John M. Kleitsch.....	9.0	Brand	1925	P
Myrtle Gentry .....	9.1	Brand	1925	P
President Coolidge.....	.....	Brand	1928	P
Victory Chateau Thierry.....	8.9	Brand	1925	P

I will close this paper by giving the names and colors of some choice Single and Japanese peonies, any of them would be quite an addition to your garden.

#### JAPANESE PEONIES

Name of Variety	Rating	Originator	Date	Color
Isani-Gidui .....	9.3	Unknown		W
Toro-No-Maki .....	9.0	Japan		W

Takaradama .....	Unknown		W
Margaret Atwood.....8.7	Unknown		W
Snow Wheel.....8.3	Unknown		W
White Lady.....9.0	Kelway	1900	W
Alma.....8.5	Shaylor	1916	P
Altar Candles.....8.0	Pleas	1905	P
Ama-No-Sode.....9.2	Japan		P
Tamate-Boku.....9.4	Unknown		P
Flashlight.....8.2	Hollis	1906	P
Kukeni-Jishi.....9.5	Unknown		P
Attraction.....8.2	Hollis	1906	R
Flamboyant.....8.5	Japan		R
Fuyajo.....9.2	Unknown		R
King of England.....8.6	Kelway	1902	R
Mikado.....8.6	Japan	1893	R
Kino-Kimo.....8.2	Unknown		R

SINGLE PEONIES

Albiflora, The Bride.....8.4	Dessert	1902	W
Le Jour.....8.6	Shaylor	1915	W
The Queen.....8.3	Kelway		W
Perle Blanche.....8.4	Dessert	1913	W
White Swan.....8.5	Pleas	1913	W
Marguerite Dessert.....8.5	Dessert	1913	W
L'Etincelante.....8.4	Dessert	1905	P
Kelway's Wild Rose.....8.5	Kelway		P
Rosy Dawn.....8.5	Barr		P
Pride of Langport.....8.9	Kelway	1910	P
Madeline Gauthier.....8.5	Dessert	1908	P
Nellie.....8.6	Kelway	1915	P
Darkness.....8.2	Brand	1913	R
Black Prince.....8.5	Thurlow	1915	R
Minnehaha.....	Pleas		R
Peter Oleson.....9.0	Oleson	1924	R
The Moor.....7.8	Barr	1916	R
Vera.....8.8	Gumm	1923	R

NOTE.—This peony paper was delivered by Geo. R. Syfert before the Columbus Horticultural Society at its regular meeting held in Columbus, Ohio, May 21, 1932. Mr. Syfert had a collection of about 200 pictures of peonies, most of which were printed in colors, which he exhibited during the delivery of this talk, explaining about the different peony types.



## Color Comparisons

L. W. KEPHART, Washington, D. C.

IN THE Peony Society BULLETIN of last December, you published a list that I had given you of peony varieties arranged in order of their color. This year, I had an opportunity at the National Peony Show and at several local shows to add to the list, and I am enclosing a new list with the thought that you might be interested. I am also enclosing a photograph of part of the peony show at the Takoma (Washington, D. C.) Horticultural Club last June, showing a table upon which 134 varieties of peonies were arranged in order of their color from pure white to deep red. This is the best way that I have found to make comparisons of color.

Flower colors are, of course, highly variable, and there is nothing very exact about a list of this kind. Varieties vary in color according to the conditions under which they were grown, the stage at which they were cut, and the method of handling after cutting, and probably no two persons would agree exactly on an arrangement of this kind. Some varieties are much more difficult to place than others, such for instance, as *Martba Bulloch* and *James Kelway* which lose a large part of their color as they age.

In making the list that I am sending you I was guided more by the flowers at the Takoma show than those at the Des Moines show, for the



*Arrangement for color classification at the Takoma Park Show, Washington, D. C.*

reason that the flowers in the Takoma show all came from Dr. Earle B. White's gardens or from mine. They were grown under nearly identical conditions and the blossoms were all cut in the bud and opened indoors. At the Des Moines show the flowers, of course, came from all over the country, and were handled in different ways, so that the blossoms there could not fairly be compared. I noticed, for instance, that Mr. Brand's blossoms were usually much lighter in color than blossoms of the same variety from points farther south, also, there were many blossoms at Des Moines that showed an unusually large percentage of red splotches in the petals—therefore, the National show is not the best place to make this sort of test.

Despite these many difficulties, I think that a list of this kind is interesting, and it certainly has been a great help to me in visualizing, in December, blossoms which I saw for only a fleeting moment six months before.

Varieties of double peonies arranged in the order of their color, from purest white to deepest red.

<i>Pure White:</i>	Couronne D'Or	Denise
Mrs. A. M. Brand	<i>White, Faint Pink Blush:</i>	T. C. Thurlow
Kelway's Glorious	Alice Harding	Pride of Essex
Jubilee	Baroness Schroeder	Elwood Pleas
Ball O' Cotton	Mont Blanc	Mary Woodbury Shaylor
Avalanche	Renee Marie	Octavie Demay
<i>Cream White:</i>	Mme. Emile Lemoine	Eugenie Verdier
Nina Secor	James Kelway	Henry Avery
Nymphaea	Eunice Shaylor	Victory Chateau Thierry
Le Cygne	Bertrade	Marie Crousse
Mrs Frank Beach	Elsa Sass	Hazel Kinney
<i>White, Yellow Center:</i>	Pasteur	Rose Shaylor
Alsace Lorraine	Solange	Mrs. Deane Funk
Mrs. Edward Harding	<i>Light Pink:</i>	Margaret Vierheller
Frances Shaylor	Gretchen	Asa Gray
Duchesse de Nemours	James Boyd	Judge Berry
Candidissima	Florence Macbeth	La Lorraine
Duc de Wellington	Mrs. Romaine B. Ware	Myrtle Gentry
Golden Dawn	Katherine Havemeyer	Ella Christiansen
Fanny Crosby	A. P. Saunders	La France
Primevere	Tourangelle	Luetta Pfeiffer
Laura Dessert	Grandiflora	Germaine Bigot
<i>White, Flecked Red:</i>	Nanette	Miss Salway
Festiva Maxima	Mme. de Verneville	Mrs. John M. Kleitsch
Frances Willard	Ginette	Marguerite Gerard
Sarah Carstenson	Lady Alexandra Duff	Somerset
John M. Good	Mme. Emile Galle	Milton Hill
Mons. Dupont	Hansina Brand	Desire
Amanda Yale	Mme. Jules Dessert	Venus
	Georgiana Shaylor	Jeanne d'Arc
		Moses Hull
		Therese

President Wilson  
 Mme. Auguste Dessert  
 Milton Lockwood  
 LaPerle  
 Neptune  
 Albert Crousse  
 Eugene Verdier  
 Floweret of Eden  
 Edwin C. Shaw

*Dark Pink:*

Elisa  
 Rosa Bonheur  
 Mignon  
 Sarah Bernhardt  
 Reine Hortense  
 Raoul Dessert  
 Strassburg  
 Henry M. Vories  
 Martha Bulloch  
 Mary P. King  
 Claire Dubois  
 Phoebe Cary  
 Lady Kate  
 Nancy Dolman  
 Kelway's Queen  
 La Fee

Mons. Jules Elie  
 Charlot  
 Phyllis Kelway  
 Souvenir de Louis Bigot  
 Walter Faxon  
 Lillian Gumm  
 Ruth Brand  
 Mme. Ducl  
 Archie Brand  
 Wiesbaden  
 Mme. Geissler  
 Gigantea  
 H. A. Hagen  
 Suzette  
 Edulis Superba  
 Mme. Emile Debatne

*Red:*

Modeste Guerin  
 Auguste Villaume  
 Victorie de la Marne  
 Mr. L. van Leeuwen  
 Dr. Caillot  
 Henry L. Richardson  
 Aviateur Reymond  
 Augustin d'Hour  
 Auguste Dessert

Magnificent  
 Felix Crousse  
 Red Bird  
 David Harum  
 Shattuck  
 Grover Cleveland  
 Winnifred Domme  
 Lora Dexheimer  
 Richard Carvel  
 C. W. Shock  
 Longfellow  
 Lord Kitchener  
 Mary Brand  
 Karl Rosefield  
 Philippe Rivoire  
 Charles McKillip  
 Benjamin Franklin  
 Cherry Hill  
 Francois Rousseau  
 Wm. F. Turner  
 Grace Ott  
 Adolphe Rousseau  
 Mme. Gaudichau  
 Souvenir de A. Millet  
 Inspecteur Lavergne  
 Prince of Darkness  
 Mons. Martin Cahuzac



## My Proposed Exhibition Peony Garden

By L. E. FOSTER, York, Nebr.

**M**Y AMBITION in the peony world is to grow an exhibition peony field of all peonies rating 7.5 or over, classified according to color, type and blooming season. This field will consist of ten acres of ground with three distinct divisions—(1) Japanese, (2) Singles, (3) Doubles. Each of these divisions will be planted to early, midseason, and late peonies and each of these in turn except the whites will be subdivided into the classifications of light, medium, and dark colors. Each variety will consist of four plants placed three feet apart forming a single row group and each of these groups will be spaced five feet apart in the row. The rows will be four feet apart to allow for ample growing room, easy cultivation and observation space. This field will consist of rows not to exceed thirty rods in length. This should provide each subdivision plenty of growing room for newer introductions later on. Some of the subdivisions in the pinks and whites will comprise three or four rows in themselves. Each variety will be labeled plainly, and this label

placed on a thirty-inch stake. Under each label will be a short description, giving color, date of origination and the originator's name, printed with weatherproof ink on a weatherproof cardboard.

My idea in unfolding my plans thus briefly in this BULLETIN is two-fold.

First:—For criticism and help in this plan. I have never seen nor heard anything quite like it, and since if it goes forward as planned, will be another step toward increasing the popularity of the grandest of all perennial flowers—the peony. I want no mistakes made, for when once the roots are in the ground, I want no changes. Let me hear *your* reaction. I am sure many of you have had more experience along this line than has the writer. Are my plans sensible? Is there any detail that should be changed or added? The writer will thoroughly appreciate any and all comments. Can you suggest a more permanent method of labeling in which the label will contain the information mentioned above?

Secondly:—I have now about one hundred varieties of good peonies—a modest collection to be sure for such an ambition, but at least a start, and a start in good faith that has cost me considerable time, money and no end of fun and enjoyment. I expect to add from year to year as my pocketbook allows, perhaps some years rapidly and other years slowly. After reading these bulletins, the thought occurred to me that possibly some of the growers or some of the peony-loving amateur gardeners have an excess of certain favorite peonies that they would be pleased to see growing in this future garden of mine. If such is the case my plan would be speeded up and a communication is solicited no matter whether your peonies are to come for a nominal sum or are to come gratis. There is only one condition—they must rate 7.5 or better or if the peonies are new introductions, some assurance that they will rate 8 or over.

I will from time to time relate my experiences regarding this big dream garden of mine in this BULLETIN, the editor permitting. At the present time all of my peonies are growing wonderfully on a one-acre plot of very fine black fertile soil directly back of my residence in town. Half of this ground was an old orchard which I worked with ax and ditch spade into the wonderful garden plot that it is. This acre will probably be well filled with peonies before my proposed garden is attempted. All varieties will go into this spot for a few years before being transplanted into their permanent home in this specimen garden. In this way each plant will be thoroughly studied and checked regarding bloom, foliage, blooming period, sturdiness of stem, etc., before being classified

for final planting. When once transplanted, it will never be disturbed.

When this garden is practically complete (it can never be complete with the new originations coming on as they are) what a world of pleasure can be enjoyed by all peony lovers in comparing the thousands of varieties in all their shades of color, beauty of form, and habits of growth, and what a field for experiments for the real peony enthusiast who wishes to try the thousands of fertilization crosses and test their results. I hope to live long enough to have that very pleasure.



## Spring Planting of Peonies

By W. C. OTIS, Woburn, Mass.

**M**ANY times since I started growing peonies, friends have come to me to get peony roots in the Springtime. Bearing in mind the advice given in practically all catalogues and in all articles on peony culture, I have steadfastly refused to dig the roots until along about the first of September. Invariably the friend who wanted the roots has gone to some hardware store, five and ten cent store, or to some



*Fall dug*

ELWOOD PLEAS

*Spring dug*

*Fall dug*

JUBILEE

*Spring dug*

huckster and got what he wanted at the time he wanted it. In all such cases that I have followed up, the Spring-planted roots have grown well. I was not perfectly satisfied with these cases so I decided to try it out myself.

On the last day of March, 1931, I sent an order for cold storage peony roots to a grower whose stock I knew to be absolutely reliable and which grew exceptionally well in my garden. These roots were received and planted April 9, 1931. The dealer from whom I bought the roots not only sent me the cold storage roots I ordered but sent me an equal number of Spring-dug roots for my trial. The eyes of the cold storage stock were dormant while those on the Spring-dug roots had started to open up; in fact, they showed so much growth I did not expect them to amount to much. They were all carefully planted and in a short time were above the ground and growing well. As the season lengthened I did not see much difference between the growth of these peonies and those planted the Fall before. No additional care was given these peonies.

The Spring order was duplicated in the Fall of 1931, the same grower sending roots of the same varieties and these roots were as carefully planted as were those in the Spring. Both Spring and Fall planted peonies

were covered with straw after the ground was frozen and, in due time, all came up in good shape.

I am showing four pictures of these plants; two of the Spring-dug roots planted in April and two of the Fall-dug roots planted the following September. Pictures were taken on August 27, 1932, and show the growth as of that date. The stick shown in all of the pictures is an ordinary yardstick. It will be noted that the growth of *Jubilee* is much greater, in both cases, than that of *Elwood Pleas* and this is what should be expected. The Spring-dug peonies all bloomed the Spring following their planting while the Fall-dug plants showed only an occasional small bloom at that time.

No pictures of plants from cold storage roots are shown as they did not do as well as the Spring-dug roots. I can see no reason for this, other than that a cold storage root loses some of its vitality while in storage. This experiment indicates that it does not pay to carry the roots in storage over Winter.

I do not wish to convey the impression that this experiment settles, once and for all, the superiority of Spring-dug roots over Fall-dug roots but I do think the possibilities of Spring-dug stock have never received the attention they deserve. The fact that the eyes of the Spring-dug stock I planted showed considerable growth indicates that such roots can safely be dug any time before they break through the ground. I do not know what would happen had the shoots already appeared above the ground.

Springtime is planting time. If general success can be obtained with Spring-dug roots it seems as though peony growers are letting a whole lot of business slip through their fingers by insisting that only Fall planting is advisable.



## W. L. Gumm Passes On

By GRACE OTT, Remington, Ind.

WALTER L. GUMM, one of the world's noted peony and iris growers, and one of the most prominent and respected citizens of Remington, Indiana, passed away Monday afternoon, Nov. 21, following an illness of 21 months, caused by a stroke of paralysis, Feb. 28, 1931.

Besides his activities as a grower of flowers, he was also one of the representative hardware merchants of Remington, where he had maintained his residence since 1878. He had achieved in floriculture a reputation that transcended even the limitations of the United States, his specialty being the growing of peonies, in which field his experiments and scientific investigations enabled him to produce many new varieties. During the last twelve years, he named and registered nineteen of his own seedlings which take their place well in the front with other prize winners; some of the best are: *Lillian Gumm*, *Grace Ott*, *Vera*, *Onahama*, *Golden Dawn*, *Edith Estelle*, *W. L. Gumm*, *Mrs. W. L. Gumm*, *Cornelia Stone* and *Frank Wade*. *Grace Ott* is named for his secretary, who has been with him in the flower business for twenty-five years and who will carry on the business in the future as he did in the past. Mr. Gumm was a peony specialist and one of America's veteran growers, few having been longer in the game.

It is a far cry back to 1880, but that was the year he obtained his first peonies. *Miellez*, *Calot*, *Verdier* and other comparative old-timers of the peony world contributed them to his peony collection. Over 1,100 named varieties and 175,000 plants are now found in his gardens. He began as an amateur, giving away hundreds of choice plants and flowers to his friends but later he realized that he could spread the peony gospel far more extensively and effectively if he became a professional grower and made the propagating and selling of peonies a business as well as a diversion. His expectations were more than realized for his customers represent every state in the Union and many of the foreign countries. He exported as well as imported and was proud of his share in the work of spreading the cult of the peony.

Mr. Gumm was born July 17th, 1857, at Marseilles, Ill. A widow, adopted daughter, one sister and one brother survive.

In a letter just received from Dr. J. H. Neeley of Paulding, Ohio, he states that the variety *W. L. Gumm* produced a bloom in his garden

this year that was proclaimed by all who saw it the peer of all the blooms he had in his collection, and that Mr. Gumm's name will live on in the beautiful creation bearing his name.



## The Duluth Peony Show

By MRS. J. M. SELLWOOD, Duluth, Minn.

TIME has had both feet and wings, I guess, since our show and I can hardly believe that it is so far passed.

We had one grand show; a beautiful room with a marvelous background for staging a peony show. The show was held in the ball-room of the Hotel Duluth, July 1-2, 1932. The hotel staff's co-operation was so fine that it did not seem possible to me, as chairman, that we were actually staging a bigger and better show than ever.

We had fifteen entries in the classes calling for twenty blooms, one named variety; and in the class calling for ten blooms, one named variety, we had twenty-two entries. They were certainly gorgeous.

The weather has been fine here this year and the peony only added to its already superior reputation among the gardens here.

*Walter Faxon* was our best flower this year and seemed to be good in every class where it was entered.

We had forty-four exhibitors, many of whom entered every class possible. We had new ones and old ones and the best part of it, everyone seemed happy. I was a little fearful that the depression spirit might mar the event, but somehow the flowers won't permit, I guess.

Angus Macauley of 106 Waverly Place, Duluth, won the silver medal for the highest points in the show, having thirty-five points. He was tied with the Fond du Lac Flower Gardens but a flip of a coin won the medal for Mr. Macauley. Joe Priley of the Fond du Lac Flower Gardens, Fond du Lac, Minn., won the Peony Manual.

Thirty-six classes were provided to cover and everyone from the novice to the professional was provided for. The judges were A. M. Brand, Faribault, Minn.; A. B. Franklin, Minneapolis, Minn.; C. A. Pfeiffer, Winona, Minn., and John M. Kleitsch, Duluth, Minn. The artistic arrangements were judged by Miss Indianola Willcuts, of Duluth. This was the seventeenth annual show of the Duluth Peony Society.

## Central Illinois Notes

By W. E. LANIGAN, Lincoln, Ill.

**D**URING the 1932 blooming season one of my originations delighted me with fine red blossoms about two shades darker than *Monsieur Martin Cabuzac*. In the course of time this new peony may be named and offered for sale.

Last May one of my seedlings began to bloom very early, only one day later than *Officinalis Rubra*. Flowers were semi-double in form, medium pink in color. The parentage is unknown. There are only a few divisions of this peony in existence. Who has a *Chinensis* seedling that blooms earlier than this unnamed variety?

In an article appearing in BULLETIN No. 36 (Dec., 1928), I included some particulars concerning a certain *Walter Faxon* and its blooms. In 1932, this peony produced a lot of medium-sized blooms (as in 1928) but it raised the number of its seven-inch blooms from one to two. *Walter Faxon* should be in every collection, large or small.



## Gloriana (Neeley 1919)

By L. B. MOFFET, JR., Philadelphia, Pa.

**I**N THE spring of 1929, I visited the gardens of Frank B. Meyer at Elkins Park, Pa., to select a few more varieties of peonies while they were in bloom. It so happened that he was not there at the time so I could but take names of those that I wanted.

Down at the rear of the garden was one plant with twelve perfect blooms on it, so beautiful that it headed my list. It was Neeley's *Gloriana*. On reaching home I immediately got out the Peony Manual expecting to find a glowing description and a high rating. Of course, all I found was a mere mention in the check list.

On another visit the following week I told Mr. Meyer that above all else I wanted a *Gloriana*. He said, "Are you sure? The price is fifty dollars." Well I lost my sureness but not my desire. However, when he divided in the fall it produced more than expected and I obtained a small two-eye division.

No peony was ever more carefully planted and watched over than was that. Even before the eyes broke through the ground I built a wire fence around it. To let it bloom or not was the next question. Well, it



*At the right is a specimen of Gloriana.*

bloomed. Two nice flowers opened and the world became a better place to live in.

*Gloriana*, when it first opens, is not up to expectations. The color of the guard petals is a trifle dull but as the flower develops and throws up a beautiful high crown, which always reminds me of a big dish of rich homemade strawberry ice cream (not the colored commercial kind), it is without doubt among the ultra-elite of peonydom. It is not similar to any other peony I have seen.

As the flower ages it pales but its beauty does not fade. Even when the petals are beginning to wither and brown, *Gloriana* is still too beautiful to snip off.

I have had my plant for three years. It has been through two dry summers and one wet one. I believe it ranks with *Festiva Maxima* and *Therese* for dependability. It opens so beautifully in the garden and stands up so well on the plant that I seldom cut one. I did, however, take three to the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Show this spring and took first in three of one variety class.

The plant is a good increaser and divides nicely into natural divisions. I saw several divided at Mr. Meyer's this Fall. The foliage is good and the stem is strong enough to hold the flowers erect.

The bloom itself is very high. One feels that the center petals will never stop reaching upward. The final result is a very symmetrical yet not set pale pink flower of unusual beauty. The enclosed picture of a two-year-old in a vase with a *Therese* and a *Martha Bulloch* will give some idea of its form. *Gloriana* is the one on the right.

To further show my enthusiasm for the variety, I set out two more plants this fall, that they might become established so that I can divide the original plant next Fall and not lose a season of good blooms.



### MEDALS AWARDED BY THE AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY —SEASON OF 1932

*Gold Medal*—Awarded W. G. DuMont for best collection not more than 100 varieties, open class, Des Moines, Iowa, June 10, 1932.

*Silver Medals*—Awarded Rev. Wm. J. Lockhart for best collection advanced amateur class, Des Moines, Iowa, June 10, 1932.

Awarded Cherry Hill Nurseries for "*Therese*," best peony at show, Boston, Mass., June 15, 1932.

Awarded Angus Macauley, sweepstake prize, Duluth, Minn., July 1, 1932.

Awarded The Island Peony Gardens, Coldwater, Mich., sweepstake prize, Michigan Peony Society show at Howell, Mich., June 15, 1932.

*B. H. Farr Medal*—Awarded Rev. Wm. J. Lockhart for "*Solange*," best peony at show, Des Moines, Iowa, June 10, 1932.

*James Boyd Gold Medal*—Presented by Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and awarded to Brand Peony Farms, Faribault, Minn., for seedling display at Des Moines, Iowa, June 10, 1932.

*American Home Achievement Medal*—Presented by the American Home and awarded to Brand Peony Farms for seedling No. 73, Des Moines, Iowa, June 10, 1932.



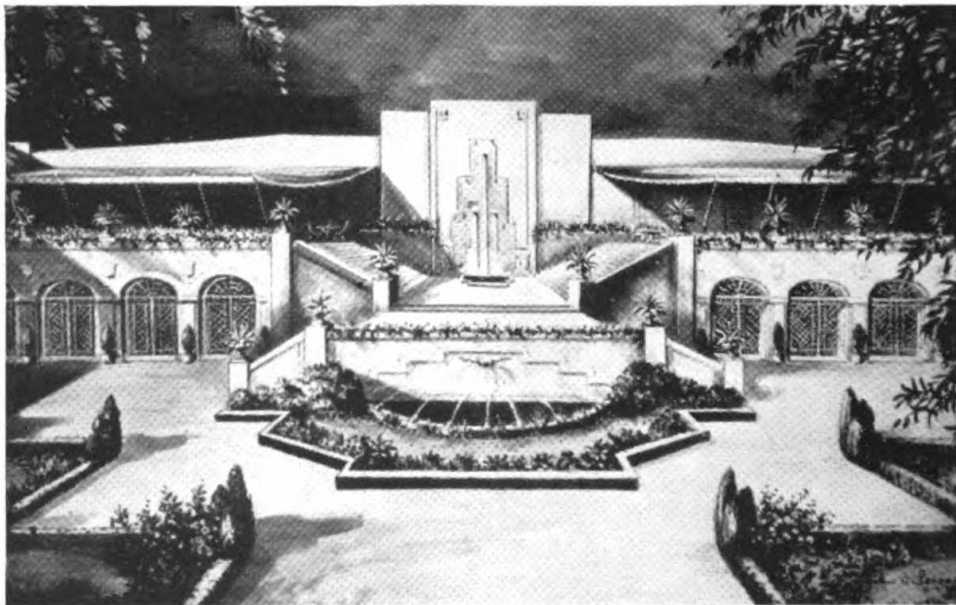
# Secretary's Notes

IT is during the Winter months that we plan for the coming year; read catalogues, make selection of plants, replan our perennial borders, in fact do a great deal of gardening and preparation that we cannot find time for during the growing season. Schedules for the Summer shows are quite often planned during the Winter months and our garden activities can prove a source of continued inspiration throughout the entire year.

What thrills one can get in reading descriptions of new creations of our favorite flowers. Preparing and collecting our garden notes for future reference will prove a thrill that will provide many hours of helpful pastime.

## COMPETITIVE PRICES

The past season has been a rather unsettled one. Some growers have sacrificed stock at prices that were below the cost of production. It is our personal opinion that this does not increase interest in peonies, and am quite sure that more harm than good will result from such action. In many cases the prices have been so low as to arouse grave sus-



*Garden entrance to terrace and main exhibition hall.  
Horticultural Building, Century of Progress*

picion as to whether or not the stock was diseased or true to name. These low prices have a tendency to cheapen the peony and we have found upon investigation that in some cases diseased peonies have been sent out. This can only result in one thing,—disappointment to the purchaser. There has been a general reduction in prices on many varieties that has been justified due to increase in stocks. We are not championing high prices but we stand for fair prices that will bring a fair remuneration to the grower for his efforts. Many a nurseryman who has figured roughly that he has made a profit covering the year's work will find, after a careful final analysis, that there has actually been a loss, and he has no return whatever for his year's labor.

Let us keep up the quality of our stock and be justified in asking a price that will be fair to the customer and at the same time bring in a return commensurate with the labor and expense involved in its production. Giving a service to the customer that embodies most courteous and careful handling of orders; the assurance of stock true to name and free from disease; supplying roots that measure up to standard requirements or better, are some of the things a grower must observe carefully.

#### CENTURY OF PROGRESS FLOWER SHOWS

At last a definite program has been worked out for the featuring of many favorite flowers during the five months of the Century of Progress Exhibition to be held in Chicago, Ill., commencing June 1, 1933.

Subject to changes, the following schedule has been arranged:

- Thurs., June 1st to 9th, inclusive—Irises, snapdragons, private estate displays.
- Sat., June 10th to 16th, inclusive—Orchids, sweet peas, California flowers.
- Sat., June 16th to 23rd, inclusive—Peonies.
- Sat., June 24th to 30th, inclusive—Roses.
- Sat., July 1st to 7th, inclusive—Delphiniums, larkspur, lilies, perennials.
- Sat., July 8th to 14th, inclusive—Garden and flower paintings, sculpture and flower arrangements.
- Sat., July 15th to 21st, inclusive—First gladiolus show.
- Sat., July 22nd to 28th, inclusive—Cacti.
- Sat., July 29th to Aug. 4th, inclusive—Lilies, hollyhocks, hardy phlox.
- Sat., Aug. 5th to 11th, inclusive—Water lilies, water plants, fish, exotics.
- Sat., Aug. 12th to 18th, inclusive—Garden Clubs Week and amateur show.
- Sat., Aug. 19th to 25th, inclusive—Asters, zinnias.
- Sat., Aug. 26th to Sept. 1st, inclusive—Second gladiolus show.
- Sat., Sept. 2nd to 8th, inclusive—Florists' Telegraph Delivery Assn. and retail florists.
- Sat., Sept. 9th to 15th, inclusive—Vegetables, fruits, nuts.
- Sat., Sept. 16th to 22nd, inclusive—Dahlias.
- Sat., Sept. 23rd to 29th, inclusive—Roses. (Commercial.)
- Sat., Sept. 30th to Oct. 6th, inclusive—California chrysanthemums.
- Sat., Oct. 7th to 13th, inclusive—Carnations.
- Sat., Oct. 14th to 20th, inclusive—Orchids and lily of the valley.
- Sat., Oct. 21st to Nov. 1st, inclusive—Chrysanthemums.

Beginning June 1, when the show opens there is planned an unbroken succession of flower shows, some of which will doubtless be sponsored by national societies.

A general advisory flower show committee of sixty-eight representatives of various flower societies and associations has been asked to cooperate in staging the various shows. Over 200,000 square feet of most desirable space has been set aside for gardens and flowers.

#### PLAN AND OUTLINE OF THE GARDEN AND FLOWER SHOW

The horticultural section will include a complete garden and flower show. Three main buildings, covering an area of about 100,000 square feet, will house the indoor exhibits. An outer area of over 100,000 square feet will be used for garden features. The entire arrangement has been designed to provide the maximum efficiency in staging exhibits and accommodating the public. Adequate facilities will be provided for the convenience of the public and exhibitors. A special hall is reserved for special seasonal exhibits and for use in connection with large meetings, lectures and receptions. A restaurant and tea room will be conveniently located in the building.

A large terrace overlooking the gardens will be a welcome rendezvous for tired visitors. Statuary, fountains, pottery and other art accessories will lend charm and artistry to the setting. Unusual lighting effects will add to the loveliness at night.

New and novel methods of display will be employed. Individual units and groups will be shown to the very best possible advantage. Commercial exhibitors will be located throughout exhibition halls, with educational and decorative units at intervals to enhance their value. Visitors to the show will pass through all the interior exhibits before entering the gardens.

#### EXTERIOR GARDEN FEATURES

To one interested in gardens there will be a wonderful opportunity to study, as about fifty gardens of varied types and designs will be laid out in the large court of the Horticultural Building. These gardens will range in size from 20x30 feet up to 40x100 feet, and be complete in every detail.

The gardens will include an entire section devoted to model garden exhibits including water gardens, rock gardens, perennial gardens, green gardens, formal, informal and naturalistic gardens. Seasonal changes provided for will keep the gardens at their best.

Many interesting water effects, such as cascades, waterfalls and pools, amid striking bits of natural beauty, will make this area the mecca of every garden and flower lover. These garden spaces will be allotted to leaders in the industry. Each will be a living example of the art and craft of its creator.

#### PEONY SHOW FOR 1933

Your committee is working with the officials of the Century of Progress as well as the officials of the Horticultural Exhibitions, Inc., on some details that are essential to the staging of the American Peony Show in Chicago this coming June. It is hoped that plans can be consummated that will permit the handling of our exhibition in connection with the Century of Progress. From the present outlook this seems quite probable but no definite information can be given at this writing.

It is definitely assured that the show will be held in Chicago and we want to make it an outstanding event in peony history. We have had some fine shows in the past but with proper co-operation we hope to outshine any past display. Many of the newer originations should be on display. Full details and schedule of the show will appear in the March number of the BULLETIN.

#### CO-OPERATION REQUESTED

To make the 1933 peony show the great success we desire it to be and to show the progress that has been made in the advancement of the peony, we request that if it is at all possible for you to make a display by all means do so. Let us show the world that the peony is king of flowers and stands on a throne unsurmountable by any other flower of its season.

#### MEMBERSHIP DUES

A society can only prosper by having the full co-operation of its members. Current expenses are liquidated by money received from dues and advertising in the BULLETIN. We have no endowments to carry on the expense of the Society. If dues are not received or advertising paid for, the scope of our activities will be greatly hampered and our progress materially retarded. We are cognizant of the fact that the depression has worked a hardship on many of us, and this doubtless accounts for the tardy response made to our recent request sent to all members in arrears on dues.

We feel that anyone interested in peonies will agree that dues of \$3.00 per year in payment of the BULLETINS and privileges of the Society

is \$3.00 profitably spent. We are pleased to report that a number of new members have recently been added to our membership roll and with the beginning of the new year we look for many more. We are hopeful that the coming year will be a banner one in membership additions and peony history.

With an increase in postage of 50 per cent we wish to avoid the expense of again mailing out membership-due statements and we have had inserted in this BULLETIN a statement covering dues for 1933. Those who have received our recent statement for dues and have not remitted can do so, including the amount with 1933 dues. If it is impossible at this time to remit 1933 dues, send in dues for which you are in arrears which will assist us to liquidate our obligations, and let the 1933 dues follow as early as possible.

#### A PREDICTION AND HOPE

We are very optimistic of the future and feel that the year 1933 will see the introduction of a number of fine new peonies to the already long list we have. We are also confident that the coming June exhibition will present many new peonies that have not appeared on our exhibition tables in the past. We hope that Old Man Depression may pack up his trunk and disappear very shortly and if he never comes back it will be soon enough. We further trust that there will be renewed activity in all lines, which, of course, will include our favorite flower, the peony.

#### CONCLUSION

We are bringing to a close a very strenuous season, surmounted by many difficulties which we have attempted to overcome. We approach the new year with a renewed determination to carry on and to profit by the lessons we have learned.

We earnestly solicit your continued co-operation the coming year in keeping your secretary supplied with articles of interest so that our BULLETINS may become more valuable and helpful.

The officers and directors extend to you the season's greetings and wish that the coming year may have many good things in store for you.

