American Primrose Society

OFFICERS

President—Mr. Herbert Dickson 13347 - 56th Ave. S., Seattle, Wn. 98168
Vice-Pres.—Mrs. William Dines 8837 Avondale Rd., Redmond, Wn. 98052
Rec. Sec’y.—Mrs John Siepman 3616 N.E. Bel-Red Rd., Bellevue, Wn. 98004
Corresp. Sec’y.—Mrs. Alice Hills Baylor 14015 84th Ave. N.E., Bothell, Wn. 98011
Treasurer—Mrs. Lawrence G. Tait 14015 84th Ave. N.E., Bothell, Wn. 98011

ELECTED DIRECTORS

Mr. Orval Agee, 1967 ..... Milwaukee, Ore. Mrs. C. C. Chambers, 1968 ... Seattle, Wn.
Mrs. Grace Conboy, Immediate Past President ..... Burnaby, B.C.

President

President of affiliated Primrose Societies are included on the Board of Directors

QUARTERLY

Florence Bellis—Editor Emeritus

Editor—Mrs. Emma Hale 16614 Ninth Avenue, Bothell, Washington 98011

Regional Editors —
Mrs. Lucian Alexander 11848 S. E. Rhone St., Portland, Oregon 97266
Mr. Ralph W. Balcom 345 W. 88th St., Seattle, Washington 98107
Mr. Elmer C. Baldwin 400 Tecumseh Rd., Syracuse, N.Y. 13224
Mrs. Grace M. Conboy 5848 S. E. Marine Dr., S. Burnaby 1, B. C., Canada
Miss Loretta Dehler Rt. 1, Box 136, Mt. Angel, Oregon 97362
Mrs. Robert Ford 740 35th Ave., Seattle, Washington 98122
Mr. Charles E. Gilman 16330 Burton Rd., Los Gatos, California 95030
Mrs. Cyrus Happy III P.O. Box 51, Steilacoom, Washington 98388
Mrs. Doretta Klaber Rt. 1, Quakertown, Pennsylvania 18951
Mrs. Mary E. Zach 8825 N. W. Bailey, Portland, Oregon 97231

Editor in Charge of Translations—
Mr. Robert Luscher Box 251, Thedford, Ontario, Canada

Seed Exchange Chairman—
Mr. Elmer C. Baldwin 400 Tecumseh Rd., Syracuse, N.Y. 13224

Slide Chairman—
Mrs. Dorothy Dickson 13347 56th Ave., Seattle, Wn. 98168

Membership Chairman—
Mr. George Long Box 115, Medulin, Washington 98039

Advertising Chairman—
Mrs. John Siepman 3616 N.E. Redmond-Bellevue Rd., Bellevue, Wn. 98004

All material for the Quarterly should be sent direct to the Editor’s Office, 16614 Ninth Avenue, Bothell, Washington 98011

Subscription (including membership): $3.50 per year, $10.00 for three years paid in advance. Old Quarterly's available at Treasurer's Office—Treasurer, Mrs. L. G. Tait, 14015 84th Ave. N.E., Bothell Washington 98011. Foreign (except Canada) subscription price (including membership): 1 pound per year.

It is published at the Grange Cooperative Printing Association, Seattle, Washington. Published four times a year: Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall. Copyright 1948 by American Primrose Society

Entered as second-class matter at Bothell, Wash., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

AMERICAN PRIMROSE SOCIETY
A Message from
Your New President

Dear Fellow Members,

It is with mixed feelings that I assumed the duties of President of the A.P.S. again. Primroses and the A.P.S. are my greatest interests. I only wish I had full time to devote to them. But this year I am busier than any other time in my life. I still must work on my full time job until June 30, 1969 and now commute 40 miles to my job. I still belong to the Naval Reserve which takes one evening each week. I will retire from it the same day I retire from my job. So we can grow more primroses, Dorothy and I are moving our nursery to Rt. 21 Box 162 Chehalis, Washington, where we have 18 acres one mile south of Chehalis on old highway 99. I am truly glad to be your President again but sorry I do not have the time to give to the job that it deserves.

I will need the cooperation and help of every member to keep the A.P.S. on the upswing as it is going now. Our membership is increasing but so are the costs of printing the Quarterly and running the society. Unless we get a big surge of new members it may be necessary to raise the dues.

Besides general improvement of the A.P.S. I have one big objective; that is establishing five new local primrose societies or area groups of the A.P.S. within one year.

I would like to hear from any member who would be willing to take on the job of sponsoring a new group until it can stand on its own feet. It usually takes at least two years of special guidance. This is work; but, it is very satisfying and rewarding work when you achieve any measure of success. I will help with program aids and information as much as possible within the resources of the A.P.S.

With your help we can achieve and maybe double our goal of five new Primrose Clubs within the A. P. S. in one year.

Herbert H. Dickson
President
American Primrose Society

(We hope to have a picture of our new president in our next issue)
Oriental treasures. In hotter, drier areas the gardener will have to create
a microclimate that will provide the moisture and humidity required.

Gardeners who are not familiar with the needs of candelabras often
lose them in one of three ways: they let the plants get bone dry, they
let a plant that is growing in a marginal situation seed itself to death,
or they fail to recognize the resting period after the seed is set. The
center of many of the species dies out, the stem rots off at the base, and
the plant makes a number of new buds around the center, each with short
roots. At that point or time of growth the water level in the soil is criti-
cal. A plant that came from a mountain meadow recently is not going to
survive a site that is bone dry a few feet or so beneath the roots in Aug-
ust. Candelabras growing in the optimum condition of deep leaf mold
with abundant water, partial shade, and excellent drainage will set abun-
dant seed and form large clumps. Candelabras growing in a sunny per-
ennial border should have the seed stalks cut off to strengthen the plant,
and the roots should never be allowed to dry out. They will fall over in
the hot sun and then stand up again in the evening. I cut the seed stalks
off after enjoying the bloom to keep the multitude of seedlings from
adding to the weed population and to encourage the plants growth into
larger and more abundant divisions. I firmly believe in hand pollination,
laborious though it is, and have been doing its since Maude Hannon in-
spired me ten years ago. Insect and animal pests are few in number and
I used to ignore them. After years of producing bountiful food supply for
themselves in a given area the predators move in and one is forced into action.

In the damp forest areas of the Northwest slugs and snails are a menace
that require control. I bait with a metaldehyde-arsenic combination
weekly. It keeps the wee sea lions back in the woods where they eat trilli-
um pollen and perform other evil deeds. Wild strawberries are abundant
here, and they have hosted the strawberry root weavil and strawberry
leaf beetles for many years. The destructive pests ignore the candelabras
in my garden, and are equally kind to most of the other Asiatics. The
vernales section is on their diet list, so if one has polyanthus growing
near candelabras one of the chemical controls may be necessary. I work
aldrin into the ground once a year, and watch the vernales primulas and
rhododendrons and azaleas for weevil damage to crowns of plants and
circular holes in leaves. Other effective chemicals, such as chlordane,
rotenone, methoxychlor, are used as sprays against adult weevils. Various
commercial poison baits are effective for the larvae. Aphis are the
only insects that have damaged my candelabras and I use one-third of a
commercial dust thinned two-thirds with tacle as a weapon against aphis
infestations at pollinating time. Gophers will eat the roots but a good
dog or a trap will take care of that. I have lots of damage from moun-
tain beaver, a nocturnal little animal "Aplodontia rufa rufa" which
might better be named mountain burrower. They will eat most any-
thing but are very fond of lillies and candelabras and create a vast net-
work of underground tunnels, often directly down the rows, under the
plants. They leave bunches of cut leaves, (particularly the white japoni-
ca "Fujii" and the pink pulverulenta) on logs or stones to dry. They may
take a stack of green leaves into the tunnels, so I do not think they are
very organized about their haying. They will cut off the entire plant,
bloom stalk and all, and arrange it in a methodical pile to wither in the
sun. They cross-over my garden, selecting the whites and pastels first.
I put a toothpick dab of strychnine (with the Game Commissions' per-
mission) on apple chunks and threw them deep into the burrows. That
stopped the mountain beaver activity for awhile, but I worried so about
the racoons I quit baiting, and now the mountain beaver have the upper
hand again. Unfortunately the mountain beaver do not hibernate, they
are busily eating roots all winter. Many gardeners tell me these animals
do not exist, it is gophers and mice. Very early in the morning and very
late in the evening mountain beaver can be seen, hard at work, cutting
lilly and primrose hay and making a quavering whistle when startled. I
may take up trapping and line my next coat with their hides.

I have prepared an index of past issues of the Quarterly, which con-
tain very good articles on the Candelabra section and the species in culti-
vation. Specialists in the Northwest and in England and Scotland can
supply seed. Hybrids have been developed in each area which have en-
RARE DWARF SLOW GROWING CONIFERS

Flowering shrubs and unusual rock plants suitable for
Bonsai culture are listed in our catalogue, Alpenglow Gardens.

ALPENGLOW GARDENS
13328 King George Hwy. North Surrey, B.C., Canada

JAPONICA FUJII TAKEN IN THE HANNON GARDEN—Photo by Orval Agee
larged the color range and lengthened the blooming period. Our leading hybridizer of candelabras was Maude Hannon of Hannon Acres, who developed the Pagoda Hybrids. She used *P. Burmanica*, *aurantiaca*, *Beesi-ana*, *Bulleyana*, *chungensis*, *Cockburniana*, and *pulverulenta*. I do not think the quality of any hybrid can be maintained unless it is hand-pollinated because the hummingbirds and bumblebees are not very selective. Seed should be stored in dry glass jars with tight lids and in the refrigerator. I plant the amount of seed I want immediately in the fall, in flats, and leave them out all winter with a screen over the flat to keep the birds and mice out. In colder climates they should be planted in very early spring. Candelabras like an acid soil, they grow in the same areas as rhododendrons. Articles written in the Northwest concerning primula culture often say "add a little lime to the soil". In an area where the acidic soil may test 4.5 as it does here, and is likely to average 5.5 a "little lime" will still leave an acid soil. Growers who have never tested their soil can save a lot of time and money by arranging through the county agent for a soil test, and then fertilizing as the results indicate the need. I use a commercial fertilizer during the spring and summer which contains nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash.

Considering the wealth of material available in past *Quarterlys* and other publications, it is rather repetitive to describe the species in cultivation. In my garden the two early ones are *P. pulverulenta* and *P. Japanica*. The former is my favorite until the later blooming Pagoda Hybrids glorify the wild garden. The stalks and buds of pulverulenta are dusted with farina, a silver meal, the ribbed green leaves curve gracefully from the stalk, the entire effect is one of muted harmony and grace. The magenta forms are less harsh than are those of the Japanica's and the red, dark pink, and light pink forms. *P. Japonica* does not cross with the others, to the sorrow of hybridizers, but it has many variations in the wild and in cultivation. Good selections of it are among the lovliest of the candelabras, in white, in shade and tints of red. Some of the pinks with a dark eye look spotty and the magenta forms are too strong for my taste. The Japonica is stiff in growth, sturdy, early to bloom. Seedlings are easy to raise, so one should select the best and discard the others, and cut the bloom stalks before further seed is set. Magazine illustrations of "candelabras" or "Asiatic Primulas" or they may be specific enough to say "Japonicas" usually show a spotty group of pinks, a disgrace to a species with so many fine forms. *P. Burmanica* blooms just after the above, is easily grown and one of the most beautiful in this section. It hybridizes readily with anything in sight, so seedlings may not be reddish purple with a yellow eye, but pink or lavender. *P. Burmanica* needs more water than most of the others, it thrives best in almost bog conditions. *P. Beesiana* is smaller and blooms later and has other technical differences, but is about the same in color. A white flowered form of it was found by Forest in the Mulli mountains in the Litang valley and given the varietal name leucantha. Apparently it is now lost to cultivation in the gardens of Europe and America. *P. Bulleyana* is a handsome species, tall and muted or dusted with farina on the stem and calyx. The petals are red gold on the back and clear chrome yellow on the top, so the buds look red and the opened flowers clear yellow. It blooms over a long period of time and the leaves and stems decay much later in the fall than do others. There are other species in cultivation, some of them smaller, but these and the tall helodoxa are my favorites. Helo-

doxa is so yellow it makes all the others look off-color. Mountain beaver like to eat it, so the few plants I have are thriving in an old rotted fir log by a spring where they are always wet but the drainage is sharp. They grow 6 feet tall, taller than they are supposed to be. Helodoxa means "Glory of the Marsh" a very fitting name.

**INDEX OF ARTICLES CONCERNING CANDELABRAS**

*In previous issues of the Quarterly*

- Vol. 1, Nos. 1, 2, 3, p. 7 They are Asias Wild Flowers, Florence Bellis
- Vol. 2, No. 1, p. 10 Some Moisture Loving Primulas from Seed, Mrs. John Karpopp
- Vol. 3, No. 1, p. 6 Hunting for Primula with Capt. Ward, C. M. Lord
- Vol. 3, No. 1, p. 8 Understanding the Asiatis, Florence Bellis
- Vol. 3, No. 1, p. 15 Sketchbook P. aurentiaca, Florence Bellis
- Vol. 4, No. 1, p. 12 Growing Asiatics; Mistakes 2 & 3, Helen Garret
- Vol. 5, No. 2, p. 17 Notes on the sections of the Genus Primula, Donald O’Connell
- Vol. 5, No. 2, p. 22 Plant Hunters of the Past, Florence Bellis
- Vol. 7, No. 1, p. 11 Chairman’s Report on the Society’s Asiatic Show, R. M. Bond
- Vol. 7, No. 1, p. 13 Primula Chromosome Count
- Vol. 7, No. 4, p. 59 Primula Culture in an Eastern Garden, Dr. C. R. Worth
- Vol. 9, No. 1, p. 1 Rhododendrons & Primroses as Companion Plants, E. J. France, Jr.
- Vol. 11, No. 1, p. 22 Seed Harvest, Susan Watson
- Vol. 11, Oct. 53, p. 43 Candelabra Hybrids, Anita Alexander
- Vol. 14, No. 2, p. 52 Classification of Primulas as to Their Cultivation, Dr. Walter Blasdale
- Vol. 14, No. 3, p. 93 Oriental Splendor for the Occidental Garden, Maude Hannon
- Vol. 15, No. 3, p. 90 Primroses of Japan, Yoshihara Matsumura
- Vol. 16, No. 3, p. 90 Hybriding Award to Maude Hannon, Florence Bellis
- Vol. 17, No. 1, p. 4 A Primula Manual for New Members, Florence Bellis
- Vol. 17, No. 2, p. 49 Primula for the Average Garden, F. C. Fuddle
- Vol. 18, No. 4, p. 119 A Letter from Alaska, Mrs. Frances Baker
- Vol. 20, No. 2, p. 37 Candelabra Hybrids, Anita Alexander
- Vol. 21, No. 1, p. 4 Concerning Primula, Candelabra Section, Grace Dowling
- Vol. 23, No. 1, p. 7 Primrose Echoes, Frances Kinne Roberson
- Vol. 23, No. 1, p. 17 Notes on Raising Hardy Asiatic Primula from Seed, Alex Duguid
- Vol. 23, No. 3, p. 99 Primrose Season Continues Still, F. Bellis
- Vol. 23, No. 4, p. 117 Fall and Winter Care for Primula, F. Bellis
- Vol. 24, No. 4, p. 113 Primula Symposium Report for New Hampshire, Dr. Arthur Griswoold
- Vol. 24, No. 4, p. 116 Primula Report from Redmond, Washington, Mary Woods
- Vol. 25, No. 2, p. 42 Mrs. A. C. U. Berry and Her Garden
- Vol. 25, No. 3 Pictorial Dictionary
It Pays To Keep Good Records

By Ralph W. Balcom, Regional Editor

"Reprinted by permission from the 1967 issue of the Year Book of the National Auricula & Primula Society of England—Southern Section."

Each year that I add to the rather voluminous records of my double auricula crosses, I discover new bits of information. Last year was no exception and I learned something that should be of interest to the average grower who finds the genetics of hybridizing so complicated that he just gives up trying to do it in a scientific way. It seems worthwhile relating here.

The objective in trying to improve my strain the past few years has been threefold. It was first, to get blossoms that are more fully doubled: second, to get them in attractive colors and lastly, to obtain plants that are sturdy and easy to grow. The first one, that of getting fully doubled flowers, with none on a plant that are semi-doubled or single, has to be the most important consideration. In order to accomplish this, I have been selecting, as much as possible, plants with the most fully doubled blossoms for use as breeders. Only occasionally, and then for some unusual reason, have I been using the lesser doubled ones. So, with this small amount, it was surprising to find how often a cross between two unlikely, only partially doubled plants, obtained better results than some of the crosses between full doubles from which I had expected much. Then, much more often than would be expected, there would be a cross between two of the best full doubled ones for which I had, great hopes, which would be a big disappointment in that the progeny would be semi or even single.

This was indeed puzzling, and then I remembered something I had learned years ago in my college days. At that time, dairy breeding for high milk production and poultrymen trying to obtain a higher yield of eggs from their flocks, had encountered much the same problem. The Main Experiment Station had tried for a period of ten years, mating only hens in a flock that were the best layers, to males that were sons of hens with the highest egg laying records. To the surprise of everyone, the average egg production of the flock actually dropped instead of raising as expected.

At about this same time, the dairymen discovered that occasionally a certain bull or a cow would produce daughters that would be uniformly high milk producers even though the bull was from only mediocre ancestors in this regard or the cow herself was not above average. They termed this ability of an individual to transmit a desired characteristic to its offspring "prepotency". When it was learned, early in the life of a bull or cow, that it was prepotent for high milk production, of course it became very valuable. Although many methods of breeding for higher milk production were tried over the years, the best and surest method found and still in use today, is the simple one called "progeny testing". The prepotency of an animal is determined as early in its life as possible simply by raising a few daughters and testing them. Then, if it is found to possess this ability, it is used as much as possible for the remainder of its life to produce other offspring. If it does not have this ability, it is discarded. Just as simple as that!

With the thought in mind of finding out if some of my plants might be "prepotent" for the doubling character, I did some "progeny testing" of my own, and, after re-checking the records of my crosses, I found to my delight that this is apparently true. Out of the approximately 400 doubling plants that I have used over the years, of which I have kept a performance record, I have found six so far that really fit into this category in that they have produced offspring that were mostly good doubled ones. There were quite a number of others that occasionally produced a few that were good but it seemed to be more or less accidental. Only the six have been really consistent in this regard which is a much smaller number than one would expect. Out of these six plants, there is one especially, whether it was used either as a paternal or as a maternal parent, that has been an outstanding performer. It not only produces a high percentage of good full doubles, but also a high percentage, somewhere near 85 per cent, of doubling plants as compared to singles. It is a sort of mauve color which needs improving, but this is not too serious a problem if it is crossed with plants with blossoms of good colors.

This so called method of "progeny testing" no doubt can be used to good advantage in obtaining desired characteristics in other types of primula plants, even in procuring more and better show and alpine auriculas. Of course, a variation of it has been used in a minor way by many of our old time, and also by our contemporary florists, but it is doubtful if many, perhaps none, have kept as complete a record of their crosses as I have done with my doubles. One must also keep a record of the culls.
produced from crosses as well as the good ones in order to judge the ability of a parent and also to avoid a tremendous waste of time if one uses plants for breeders that are not prepotent, because of the lack of knowledge of their ability. Imagine the value to our Primrose Society at large, if members by keeping complete records, would learn that certain show or alpine auricula plants were prepotent for producing other show winners and would forward the names of these to the secretary where a list could be maintained which would be available to other members or could be published from time to time in the Quarterly.

Mr. Cyrus Happy of Tacoma, without doubt the foremost raiser of show auriculas in this country, evidently has such a prepotent show plant. It is a green edged one, if I remember correctly, named for the late Peter Klein, one of our best hybridizers whom we miss so much. This one plant is the father of many of Mr. Happy’s best shows from his crosses over the past several years. It has contributed much to the fact that he has several times been the winner of the famous Bamford Trophy, which is awarded each year for the best show auricula seedling grown in America. It was a winner itself one year and in later years, several of its progeny also won the award for their owner. A picture of this green edged auricula, Peter Klein, and about a dozen of its offspring, all fine plants, is shown on Page 95 of the 1965 summer issue of our Quarterly. It is a fine family of plants. Mr. Happy, being a keen observer, recognized early its ability to produce outstanding show seedlings and has been using it each year in his program. The fact that he has allowed this picture to be published and is always willing to share his hybridizing “secrets” with others is an indication of the generosity and unselfishness of “Cy” Happy.

News item: The New England Unit of the American Rock Garden Society met in the garden of the H. Lincoln Fosters, Falls Village, Conn. Sprinkled along a shady path, primroses lighten the way in shades of yellow, orange, rusts, apricots, reds, purples, blues, pinks and whites, with many contrasting eyes. Flowers may be in heads, umbels, solitary or on individual stems. Some primroses have evergreen leaves. A few have leaves that ap-

WATER LILIES
Oxygenating Plants and other
Interesting Ornamental PLANTS for POOLS
L. N. ROBERSON CO. 1539 N. E. 103rd Street Seattle, Washington 98125 LA 3-1189

GIANT POLYANTHUS; GIANT ACAULIS; AURICULAS; DOUBLES; SPECIES; SIEBOLDII PLANTS • TRANSPLANTS • SEEDS List On Request Alice Hills Baylor SKY HOOK FARM Johnson, Vermont

Crowded Clumps of Primroses Need Dividing

After three or four years’ growth primrose clumps often become crowded and fail to bloom freely. Then they need lifting, dividing and replanting.

Lift the entire primrose clump with a spading fork. Wash the soil from the roots. Gently pull the crowns apart, with a few roots attached to each. Dust the roots with a fungicide such as captain and replant immediately.

Water the new divisions deeply and keep them moist until they reestablish. When they perk up from the move, give them a boost of plant food to increase their vigor. As most primroses are natives of the rain-drenched Himalayan foothills, moist, cool conditions are favorable to their existence.

The coastal Pacific Northwest is world renowned as a center of primrose culture.
Pear in spring, then disappear to return later in summer. Others unfold their foliage slowly with the warmth of the spring sun.

Primroses are gay vagabonds. They may be moved in the early spring, fall or when in full flower with success.

These beauties revel under the protection of high trees that permit sunlight to strike them a few hours each spring day. Beneath the canopy of flowering dogwood, crab-apples, cherries or plums they heighten the color crescendo of spring.

Primroses planted informally in wooded areas as shady ground-cover plants or tucked in a shady rock pocket enliven the scene.

Soil for growing primroses is best when composed of leaf mold, old rotten logs or stumps or other humus-filled material. A slightly acid-type soil reaction is desirable. Some types of primroses do best in a boggy, wet soil while others prefer a well-drained, sandy soil.

As a general rule, add a handful of coarse sand in the bottom of each planting pocket to insure adequate drainage. Stagnant winter water around the roots and crown is to be avoided.

Moisture is needed during the growing season in the spring and summer.

Maintenance of a primrose planting is simple.

Keep the area free of weeds. Clean the soil of unwanted plants, then spread a mulch of ground bark, peat moss or old sawdust over the primrose planting. The mulch will retain needed moisture and discourage weeds.

Fertilize primroses in the early spring and again after they finish flowering. Use a commercial plant food such as a 5-10-10.

Place the fertilizer around the crown of the plant and wash it into the soil immediately. One large tablespoon to a plant is sufficient, twice a year.

Decomposed manure is helpful when applied in winter, about the first of February. Many growers fertilize with fish meal or cottonseed meal in spring.

Root Weevils and slugs are the pests of primroses. The weevils chew on the roots and leaves. When they are present, the plant appears wilted and sickly. Root weevils are particularly destructive in the early spring. Destroy them with a soil dust containing chlordane and aldrin.

Slugs will keep the plants eaten down to the soil level if allowed. Ring around the plants baits containing metaldehyde during the entire growing season.

(Reprint Courtesy Seattle Times)

As it has been a pleasure for me to read the recent Quarterly Symposia, it may be that some American Primrose Society members will be interested in these few notes relating to the gathering of a collection of Primulas grown here in North Surrey, just twelve miles from the centre of London.

It began with a chance meeting some-thirteen years ago. The Alpine Garden Society was holding a general spring show in London's Royal Exchange, and it was during a very brief lunchtime visit that I first encountered that fine marginata hybrid "Linda Pope." There followed the inevitable enquiries to nurseries, and she was eventually traced. Three others, namely P. marginata coerulens, P. pubescens "Mrs. J. H. Wilson," and the border Auricula "Blue Velvet" were ordered at the same time. Thus a nucleus to the collection was formed.

From then on frequent additions were made. Shortly after the Royal Exchange encounter, and again more or less out of casual curiosity, I attended a National Auricula & Primula Society show which in those days was held on a fairly small scale in a room in the London headquarters of the Royal Horticultural Society. There is little need to describe the impact which a high quality Auricula display can make upon the uninitiated, for most readers will doubtless be fully aware of this!

Thereafter the primula ranks were gradually augmented by seedling auriculas for, coupled with my astonishment at the standard of perfection attainable was a degree of despondency at the very high prices which prevailed for named varieties. However, some quite pleasing results were obtained from the seedlings.

Armed with Kenneth Corsar's excellent work "Primulas in the Garden," I continued to add to the collection when opportunity and space allowed. Inevitably, some primulas were to become particular favourites, many of these being...
from the Auricula Section. My object was to have a long season of primulas in flower in a cold glasshouse, all the plants being in pots. I have achieved this in so far as I now have a floral display from mid-December to late May or early June. Last Christmas Day, Primula abechasica, the border Auriculas "Blue Velvet" and "Yellow Dusty Miller," together with that old dependable Julias hybrid "Wanda," all obliged with a good mid-winter performance.

The "Boothman Variety" of P. rubra is particularly attractive, being both free-flowering and quick to increase. The masses of deep pink blooms make a fine show. Also valuable are the better forms of P. x pubescens, especially "Blue Wave," the pink "Christine" and the ever vigorous dark-red "Rufus." Keeping the aforementioned company here are also "The General," "Red Indian," "Faldonside" and P. x pubescens alba. The later two seem to be feeling their age a little now, and are slow to increase. The later-flowering, crimson-red "Kingscote" usually closes the season for this group.

"Yellow Dusty Miller" usually flowers again in great profusion in March. One is reluctant to plant it out of doors where much of its beauty would be destroyed by rain.

The later-flowering Primulas scapigera and P. x pubescens alba. The later-flowering, crimson-red "Kingscote" usually closes the season for this group.

"Yellow Dusty Miller" usually flowers again in great profusion in March. One is reluctant to plant it out of doors where much of its beauty would be destroyed by rain. I did have Primula carnioica with its distinctly fragrant, pale lavender flowers, but this species recently tired of my company and departed from the collection. It always seemed particularly susceptible to root aphids.

For added interest and variation certain primulas from other Sections have been acquired over the years. Several from Section Petiolares are most beautiful and useful for this purpose. P. gracilipes seems to be the easiest to please. Also amenable are P. bracteosa and P. bhutanica. Two others which stayed for a while but chose to depart for pastures new were P. Edgeworthii and that fine hybrid "Scapeosa," from a liaison between Primulas scapigera and bracteosa.

I have also incorporated various Julias hybrids in the collection, but one needs to be a little selective here. Among the best for pot culture have been "Blue Riband," the pale pink "Irish Mainwaring," "Blue Horizon" and "Groken's Glory." A comparatively recent acquisition has been "Nora MacConnell," having small, most appealing crimson-purple flowers. Another firm favourite, but not so easily obtained now is "Sunset Glow." This glowing-orange variety is most remarkable, and attracts much attention when grown beneath the staging to preserve the colour. The Garryarde primroses entered the collection at an early stage, the unique foliage having been intriguing. The pale pink "Guinevere," "Hillhouse Red," and the salmon, pink-veined blooms of "Enchantress" make a nice trio.

Not wishing to overlook ancestors, I have also acquired a few plants of the true P. Julias, perhaps as a small token of appreciation of what she has produced in the hands of the hybridisers.

Apart from "Linda Pope," other marginata forms are presented, which together with coerulea make a pleasing group, Kesslring's and Pritchard's varieties both do well here. Further contrast is provided by P. pedemontana, and the crimson-purple flowers of "Elpenor"—a form of Primula hirsuta.

Additional variation is given by the dwarf, brilliant pink P. warshenevskiana, and by several specimens of its taller cousin P. rosara. Together with the diminutive P. Clarkiei and the beautifully scented, white P. involucrata, these Farinacea primulas do well in pots provided their relative thirsts are taken into consideration. Another favourite from this Section which does very well is P. frondosa. Of the species grown under glass, P. polyneura is usually the last to flower.

A few plants of Primulas vulgaris and auricula usually supplement the overall display, again perhaps as an almost subconscious mark of appreciation of the progeny which have come from these two species over the years.

Of the original auricula seedlings mentioned earlier, only two or three of the very best have been retained. There are invariably several hundred new seedlings on trial however, in the hope that the odd one or two might be good enough to take their places on the staging. They have to be good, for in addition to all the afore-named primulas it is a fact that they have to take the somewhat limited space with between forty and fifty named Show and Alpine Auriculas, many being of undoubted aristocratic bearings! Their numbers include such veterans as the red Show selves "Fanny Meerbeck" (raised 1898), "Harrison Weir" (1908), and the light centred Alpine "Argus" of 1904.

One could eulogise at considerable length on the Auriculas. It is sufficient however, just to say here how very well they, and the other primulas mentioned, live together, and what a long and beautiful combined display they all give.

Wanted: Primula slides, native N. American, European, and Asiatic. Please state cost. All slides not used will be immediately returned to sender and postage reimbursed. Apart from "Linda Pope," other marginata forms are presented, which together with coerulea make a pleasing group, Kesslring's and Pritchard's varieties both do well here. Further contrast is provided by P. pedemontana, and the crimson-purple flowers of "Elpenor"—a form of Primula hirsuta.

Additional variation is given by the dwarf, brilliant pink P. warshenevskiana, and by several specimens of its taller cousin P. rosara. Together with the diminutive P. Clarkiei and the beautifully scented, white P. involucrata, these Farinacea primulas do well in pots provided their relative thirsts are taken into consideration. Another favourite from this Section which does very well is P. frondosa. Of the species grown under glass, P. polyneura is usually the last to flower.

A few plants of Primulas vulgaris and auricula usually supplement the overall display, again perhaps as an almost subconscious mark of appreciation of the progeny which have come from these two species over the years.

Of the original auricula seedlings mentioned earlier, only two or three of the very best have been retained. There are invariably several hundred new seedlings on trial however, in the hope that the odd one or two might be good enough to take their places on the staging. They have to be good, for in addition to all the afore-named primulas it is a fact that they have to take the somewhat limited space with between forty and fifty named Show and Alpine Auriculas, many being of undoubted aristocratic bearings! Their numbers include such veterans as the red Show selves "Fanny Meerbeck" (raised 1898), "Harrison Weir" (1908), and the light centred Alpine "Argus" of 1904.

One could eulogise at considerable length on the Auriculas. It is sufficient however, just to say here how very well they, and the other primulas mentioned, live together, and what a long and beautiful combined display they all give.

Wanted: Primula slides, native N. American, European, and Asiatic. Please state cost. All slides not used will be immediately returned to sender and postage reimbursed. Apart from "Linda Pope," other marginata forms are presented, which together with coerulea make a pleasing group, Kesslring's and Pritchard's varieties both do well here. Further contrast is provided by P. pedemontana, and the crimson-purple flowers of "Elpenor"—a form of Primula hirsuta.

Additional variation is given by the dwarf, brilliant pink P. warshenevskiana, and by several specimens of its taller cousin P. rosara. Together with the diminutive P. Clarkiei and the beautifully scented, white P. involucrata, these Farinacea primulas do well in pots provided their relative thirsts are taken into consideration. Another favourite from this Section which does very well is P. frondosa. Of the species grown under glass, P. polyneura is usually the last to flower.

A few plants of Primulas vulgaris and auricula usually supplement the overall display, again perhaps as an almost subconscious mark of appreciation of the progeny which have come from these two species over the years.

Of the original auricula seedlings mentioned earlier, only two or three of the very best have been retained. There are invariably several hundred new seedlings on trial however, in the hope that the odd one or two might be good enough to take their places on the staging. They have to be good, for in addition to all the afore-named primulas it is a fact that they have to take the somewhat limited space with between forty and fifty named Show and Alpine Auriculas, many being of undoubted aristocratic bearings! Their numbers include such veterans as the red Show selves "Fanny Meerbeck" (raised 1898), "Harrison Weir" (1908), and the light centred Alpine "Argus" of 1904.

One could eulogise at considerable length on the Auriculas. It is sufficient however, just to say here how very well they, and the other primulas mentioned, live together, and what a long and beautiful combined display they all give.

American Primrose Society Annual Meeting

The awards dinner was held at the Surf Restaurant in Bellevue, May 4th, 1968. After greetings from Grace Conboy, president, the business meeting began with Treasurer's Report, Beth Tait reported a balance of $441.06.

Judges Chairman, Dorothy Dickson suggested the following change in Auricula score that there will be five more points given for Show and Alpine foliage.

Election of Officers: Following officers were elected.

President—Mr. Herbert Dickson.

Vice President—Mrs. William Dines.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. John Siepman.

Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. Alice Hills Baylor.

Treasurer—Mrs. Lawrence Tait.

New Directors—Mrs. C.C. Chambers, Mr. Albert Rapp.

The president expressed thanks on behalf of all the members to Mrs. Emma Haydn for the excellent Quarterly she has edited.

The awards certificates were given to all present that had won trophies. A gift of a copper tea kettle was given to Grace Conboy in appreciation of two years' work as president. It was presented by Mrs. Hale.

Mrs. Hale motioned to name a double Auricula in honor of Mrs. Ellen Page Haydon. Motion passed.

Motion made by Mrs. Ford to give a life membership to Mrs. James W. Watson in appreciation for her many hours of work in compiling the Pictorial Dictionary for the Society. Seconded by Ralph Balcom. Motion passed.

Program: Mr. Cyrus Happ gave an interesting program on primroses with excellent slides.

Meeting adjourned. 10 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Anne Siepman.
The Bamford Award

Mrs. Orval Agee, a recent president of the American Primrose Society, is the winner of the Bamford Trophy for 1968.

The Bamford Trophy is a lovely old copper kettle that over a century ago was awarded each year for the best plant displayed at the Auricula Show held in a small town in northern England. In 1954, it was presented to the American Primrose Society by the late Dan Bamford and sent to the United States to be awarded annually for the best American or Canadian grown seedling "Show" Auricula. Mr. Bamford hoped that the presentation of this award would stimulate interest here in America in the growing of this lovely primrose. He also hoped that we here in America would maintain the same standards of excellence as those used in England, and he passed these standards on to us by writing many letters to growers here and by contributing articles to the Primrose Society Quarterly explaining them in detail.

On one occasion it was awarded to a Canadian, Mr. Frank Michaud of New Westminster, British Columbia. Mrs. Agee now becomes the fifteenth winner to have her name inscribed on this historic trophy and the fact that she also won it in the year of 1960, demonstrates her ability and skill as a grower of this charming type of primrose.

MRS. ORVAL AGEE, 1968 BAMFORD TROPHY WINNER—Photo: Orval Agee

Trophies and Awards


Marian Hannah Award
Sweepstakes Award Horticulture
Primrose Acres

Hilltoppers Garden Club Award
Runnerup Horticulture
Ralph Balcom

Safeway Stores Award
Best Polyanthus
Dorothy Campbell

Safeway Stores Award
Best Species Auricula
Primrose Acres

Alice Warneck Award
Best Border Auricula
Mrs. Joseph Harnish

James W. Watson Award
Brightest Garden Auricula
Dickson’s Gardens

Wesley M. Bottoms Memorial Award
Best Hose-in-Hose
Ralph Balcom

Orrin Hale Trophy
Best Garden Auricula
Orval Agee

Ellen Page Haydon Trophy
Best Double Auricula
Ralph Balcom

John Shuman Trophy
Best Alpine Auricula
Primrose Acres

Mrs. Alice Stenning Trophy
Best Oddity
Dickson’s Gardens

Anne Siepmann Award
Best Species Primula
Ida Magnus

Mrs. Edna McCray Trophy
Best Acaulis
Primrose Acres

Mrs. C. C. Chambers Trophy
Best Seedling Double Auricula
Ralph Balcom

Mrs. Alice Stenning Trophy
Best Seedling Border Auricula
Primrose Acres

John Haddock Trophy
Grace Dowling Award
Best Seedling Alpine
Al Rapp

Bamford Trophy
Eastside Garden Club
Best Show Seedling
Ivanel Agee

Janet Round Trophy
Best Double Auricula
Ralph Balcom

Pacific Northwest Nurseries Award
Best Juliana
Primrose Acres

Nancy Ford Award
Best Auricula Theatre
Mary Baxter

Eastside Garden Club Trophy
Decorative Sweepstakes
Mrs. Oran Stewart

Primrose Acres Trophy
Runnerup Decorative
Mary Baxter

Eastside Garden Club
Best Arrangement
Mrs. Don Flagle

WASHINGTON STATE PRIMROSE SOCIETY AURICULA SHOW

Take the word "handicap". Handicap? What does it mean? Well, it all depends to whom you are talking. To the person who bowls, or one who goes to the race track, to the one in...
Correspondence Notes and Cards
Plain or Imprinted
Send 10c for samples of 6 styles & prices
Elmer C. Baldwin
400 Tecumseh Road
Syracuse, N.Y., #13224

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

SPRING HILL FARM
P. O. Box 42—Gig Harbor, Wn.
PRIMULA SEED—including
Double-Primula, Rock Garden
and other plants shipped in the
Fall. Catalog Free

Join The Society For Those Who Grow Under Lights
SEED FUND! ROUND ROBINS! LIBRARY! BULLETIN!

Six pictures and information filled issues per year.
Regular Membership—$4.00 per year.
Contributing Membership—$6.00 per year.
Add $1.00 to either for joint husband and wife membership with one copy of the bulletin to be sent to:
INDOOR LIGHT GARDENING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
Mrs. Lucille S. Peden.
Dept. PS 4 Wildwood Rd.,—Greenville, S.C. 29607
PRIMULAS OF THE WORLD

Primula Acaulis Kirchenfenster

By Dr. I. Graft

In Switzerland Primulas were first grown for seed after 1945. Up to that time, seed was purchased primarily in Germany. As it was not possible to get a good quality of seed locally, some gardeners, especially in the districts of Basle and Zurich, started to select plants and to pollinate them. But this individual handling did not prosper in the long run.

For this reason, about ten years ago, we—together with Mr. Bonsack from Basle decided to take over our own growing program. Mr. Bonsack was already in possession of good strains, having chosen from many thousands of plants only a few dozens for seed production. By suitable breeding methods the quality was to be improved and possibly new colours and varieties to be created. We selected the very outstanding plants and put them together in pairs (long-styled x short-styled plants). The progenies were examined and again only the best selected for further development. In this way we approached the following aims:

1) Obtain entirely pure and clear colours, with very little variation within one colour, thus to meet the designation “Kirchenfenster” (=stained glass window).

2) Improved growth so that the mass of flowers spreads as a cupola over the leaf rosette.

3) The flowers should be flat, and of a large size and clear colours.

4) The formation of stems—this is the rule in the elatior group—should be avoided.

The work progressed, and in 1963 we observed our first rose-coloured Primulas. With Mr. Bonsack it was almost an apple-blossom pink, while we obtained a som pink, which in contrast to the existing, pale yellow which resembles the original wild Primula acaulis. We are trying to obtain a more shining red—similar to the red found in the elatior varieties—but to preserve the original growth of the acaulis. Presently, the strain contains a warm, intensive golden colour.

We hope to continue it for another year; to share this joy with all who are interested in the growing of Primulas. (See front cover.)

Our Seed Exchange has for several years included seed of Primula acaulis Kirchenfenster (Church Windows) (Stained Glass) and it was felt that our members would be interested in learning something of its origin and development.

Elmer C. Baldwin
Seed Exchange Chairman

VETTERLE & REINELT
CAPITOLA, CALIFORNIA

Attention Stamp Collectors...

If interested in postage stamps affixed to incoming mail for the Seed Exchange, state what countries you are interested in, and send stamped self addressed envelope to:

Seed Exchange Director
Mr. Elmer Baldwin,
400 Tecumseh Road,
Syracuse, N.Y. 13224

Seeds of Alpines & Unusual Plants

European wild types of Primulas

Jardin Alpin "FLORAIRE"
CORREVON FILS & Cie
1225 Chene-Bourg,
Geneva, Switzerland
QUESTIONs AND ANSWERS
Answers by Alice Hills Baylor, Corresponding Secretary
Johnson, Vermont, 05656

Question: "Where may one purchase plants developed by Peter Klein? (Four such questions).
Answer: The only source I know is P. Kleinii, which is a cross of Rosea and P. Clarkii, and may be bought from Sky Hook, Johnson, Vermont 05656. If any one knows of another source kindly send it to the writer.

Question: Where may one buy P. Cusickiana?
Answer: If any one knows of a source will they make it known. The only grower of this Primula that I know about is Mrs. A. C. U. Berry, Portland, Oregon.

Question: Will you kindly give the culture for P. marginata.
Answer: This tiny Primula has a root stock out of proportion to its size and should be inserted into the soil in a horizontal position between two rocks for complete drainage. It blooms very early and the lavender-blue flowers often wear a wet snow cap in April. It is not particular to the Ph of the soil.

Question: Why is it I am unable to keep P. farinosa more than two years?
Answer: This in one of the Bird’s-eye Primroses that is not long lived. It comes easily from seed and if one wishes to keep it in the garden one must start seeds every year and replace the plants with seedlings. This is also true of P. ferdosia. The long lived of the group are, P. rosea; P. Luteola and P. darianica.

Question: When should a new bed be prepared for Primroses and how should it be made?
Answer: A new bed should be prepared in advance if one is buying a new supply. If one is remaking an old site late summer is the best time. The soil should be dug to a depth of twelve to eighteen inches laying a layer of about 12 inches of old hay, compost or sod at the bottom, over which the soil taken out can be replaced adding compost and fertilizer. Perfect drainage is a requisite so that the resulting bed should be three to five inches above the surrounding area, to insure drainage. Reset the plants, firming and watering and finish with a mulch of compost. Avoid having any material on the crown of the plants. The auricula group should be top dressed with small stones. A top dressing of compost and fertilizer should be given Primulas every spring and again in summer.

Question: How often should Primroses be watered if the season is dry?
Answer: Once a week and then a good soaking.

Question: My P. denticulata rotted at the crown this spring, what was the cause?
Answer: Very likely water stood on the plants for a period. Improve the drainage. The roots of P. denticulata may be removed from the rotted crown and planted. Often a new plant will develop from the single root.

Question: When should Primroses be divided and how?
Answer: The best time for all types is directly after the plant has bloomed. Lift the plant, place in a pan of water and slowly work the roots apart. Those in the Vernal group will divide easily. The roots of P. juliae will be matted and overlapping. These will also come apart by soaking. P. auricula has side shoots which are attached to the main root or “carrot.” These can be removed if large enough to have a tiny root system of its own. If one is cutting the side shoot from the “carrot” the cutting should be placed in a pot of clean sand until it has made roots of its own.

Question: I have had very good luck with all kinds of Primula seed except the alpine auricula species; P. rubra; P. allionii; P. viscosa; P. villosa and P. marginata. Do they require special conditions?
Answer: I do not believe there is a Primrose grower who has not had difficulty in germinating the little “difficult” ones. There may be a problem of seed that is not fresh. The best mixture I have found for starting all Primulas from seed is: I part each good garden soil; clean sand and wet compost or soaked peat. Have the flat or pot wet by standing it in water until the surface is soaked. Then sprinkle the seed lightly over the surface and cover lightly with powdered sphagnum moss. (May be done by rubbing it through a sieve). There are some who advocate covering with plastic or a

SCENE IN THE GARDEN OF MRS. VERA STEPANKOVA
I have found it is better to keep careful watch in watering the flat by using a fine piece of glass. I now have a flat of P. marginata that was planted February, 1967 and it showed no germination until October. The flat was placed out doors in a frame covering until October. The flat was placed out doors in a frame covering until October.

I have had trouble at times with P. marginata rose spray. I now have a flat of watering the flat by using a fine piece of glass. I have found it is better to keep careful watch in watering the flat by using a fine piece of glass.

The bank of your pond. Japonicas like moisture and will rot if water in the crown. I would suggest you plant these higher on the bank of your pond.

Question: Unfortunately I have lost the P. Japonicus which I planted along my pond. They are all rotted, what was the trouble?
Answer: Drainage is lacking. P. Japonicus like moisture and will grow along a stream where the water is running but will not endure water in the crown. I would suggest you plant these higher on the bank of your pond.

Question: Will Primrose plants revert to another color when transplanted to other soil or to another garden?
Answer: Not to another color but certainly to either a lighter or a darker shade of the same color. This I have found true in separating colors from the seedling beds to the color block in the nursery. Two years ago I used a great deal of rotted wood, more wood ashes than usual, in the nursery and in addition used another fertilizer which I had never used before. When the plants bloomed the following spring the pastels were vivid, the lavenders a deep lilac, the blues a deeper shade and the bright vivid burgundy. There had been plants sent out from those nursery beds and I was certain there would be complaints as to colors. I wrote to several old clients asking if the plants sent out had been deeper colors and no one had noticed. I came to the conclusion by remaining in the same retreated soil here the plants had taken on deeper shades. The potash in fertilizers and wood ashes gives color to flowers. The new fertilizer must have a greater potash content and with the addition of the wood ashes caused the color change. It is the old story of "We are what we eat." Deep shading of flowers and rosy cheeks are the result of nourishing food for plant and child!

Question: Is spring a good time to plant P. auricula?
Answer: Yes, the heavy root stock called "carrot", gives the strength to avoid the shock of transplanting more than most other Primulas. They can also be transplanted directly after blooming and again in fall.

Question: Can P. auriculas be divided?
Answer: P. auriculas propagate themselves by side shoots on the "carrot". These can be removed when they show they have produced roots of their own. One can cut off the side shoots, rub wound with either a piece of charcoal or powdered sulfur and place in a pot of clean sand treating them as one would any cutting.

Question: Will you kindly give me information on P. Edelbergii?
I am sorry but I have no information on this Primula. Does anyone have that information?

Question: Will you kindly tell me where I might buy plants of P. Kewensis: P. Malacoides: P. Obconica and P. Sinensis?
I do not know of a source for these Primulas. Is there anyone in the Society who does know? It will be appreciated if a source will be made known.

Interesting Excerpts From

Letters To Ye Editor

"... I read somewhere that you are short of this number, so send mine, with my compliments—and greetings from one Editor to another.

I am struggling to get our Year Book done: one is always held up by someone or illness hits someone and delays matters. I can only get it all sorted out by sitting on the floor, alone and nearly going berserk! Do you?

We are all aghast and grieved at the terrible tragedy (death of Senator Robert Kennedy) which has struck your country again. It has been in everybody's mind.

I don't know whether you have heard of the sudden death of Tom Meek, the Editor of the Northern Year Book. It's a great loss — he was a dear little man and so witty. I loved his editorials! ... Mrs. J. E. Youle, (Hon. Editor), National Auricula & Primula Society (Southern Section).

Editor's Note: I'm sure every subscriber to this magazine can understand how dear to my heart this letter is and how much it means to me.—Emma Hale

In a communication from our member Mr. Vaclav Plestil, of Czechoslovakia, he mentions that Mrs. Vera Stepankova has an extensive rock garden with special interests in primulas and would be glad to correspond with any gardener with like interest. She is a prospective member of the APS. Unfortunately, no address was given for Mrs. Stepankova. Mr. Plestil's address is:

Bela 41—p. Turnov, okres Semily, Czechoslovakia.

Mrs. Stepankova will look forward to corresponding with any of our interested members. Address in care of Mr. Plestil.

Elmer C. Baldwin
See page 89.

"... I have just written Mrs. Haydon thanking her and I also took her by word description out how dear to my heart this letter is and how much it means to me.—Emma Hale

In a communication from our member Mr. Vaclav Plestil, of Czechoslovakia, he mentions that Mrs. Vera Stepankova has an extensive rock garden with special interests in primulas and would be glad to correspond with any gardener with like interest. She is a prospective member of the APS. Unfortunately, no address was given for Mrs. Stepankova. Mr. Plestil's address is:

Bela 41—p. Turnov, okres Semily, Czechoslovakia.

Mrs. Stepankova will look forward to corresponding with any of our interested members. Address in care of Mr. Plestil.

Elmer C. Baldwin
See page 89.

"... I have just written Mrs. Haydon thanking her and I also took her by word description out how dear to my heart this letter is and how much it means to me.—Emma Hale

In a communication from our member Mr. Vaclav Plestil, of Czechoslovakia, he mentions that Mrs. Vera Stepankova has an extensive rock garden with special interests in primulas and would be glad to correspond with any gardener with like interest. She is a prospective member of the APS. Unfortunately, no address was given for Mrs. Stepankova. Mr. Plestil's address is:

Bela 41—p. Turnov, okres Semily, Czechoslovakia.

Mrs. Stepankova will look forward to corresponding with any of our interested members. Address in care of Mr. Plestil.

Elmer C. Baldwin
See page 89.

"... I have just written Mrs. Haydon thanking her and I also took her by word description out how dear to my heart this letter is and how much it means to me.—Emma Hale

In a communication from our member Mr. Vaclav Plestil, of Czechoslovakia, he mentions that Mrs. Vera Stepankova has an extensive rock garden with special interests in primulas and would be glad to correspond with any gardener with like interest. She is a prospective member of the APS. Unfortunately, no address was given for Mrs. Stepankova. Mr. Plestil's address is:

Bela 41—p. Turnov, okres Semily, Czechoslovakia.

Mrs. Stepankova will look forward to corresponding with any of our interested members. Address in care of Mr. Plestil.

Elmer C. Baldwin
See page 89.

"... I have just written Mrs. Haydon thanking her and I also took her by word description out how dear to my heart this letter is and how much it means to me.—Emma Hale

In a communication from our member Mr. Vaclav Plestil, of Czechoslovakia, he mentions that Mrs. Vera Stepankova has an extensive rock garden with special interests in primulas and would be glad to correspond with any gardener with like interest. She is a prospective member of the APS. Unfortunately, no address was given for Mrs. Stepankova. Mr. Plestil's address is:

Bela 41—p. Turnov, okres Semily, Czechoslovakia.

Mrs. Stepankova will look forward to corresponding with any of our interested members. Address in care of Mr. Plestil.

Elmer C. Baldwin
See page 89.

"... I have just written Mrs. Haydon thanking her and I also took her by word description out how dear to my heart this letter is and how much it means to me.—Emma Hale

In a communication from our member Mr. Vaclav Plestil, of Czechoslovakia, he mentions that Mrs. Vera Stepankova has an extensive rock garden with special interests in primulas and would be glad to correspond with any gardener with like interest. She is a prospective member of the APS. Unfortunately, no address was given for Mrs. Stepankova. Mr. Plestil's address is:

Bela 41—p. Turnov, okres Semily, Czechoslovakia.

Mrs. Stepankova will look forward to corresponding with any of our interested members. Address in care of Mr. Plestil.

Elmer C. Baldwin
See page 89.
through my garden as of today with the masses of Primroses and Narcissii in bloom" . . . Alice Hills Baylor.

Many thanks to our Corresponding Secretary Alice Hills Baylor for her many fine contributions to Primrose lovers and growers everywhere. Ye editor personally wishes to thank her for the outstanding job she is doing on the Question and Answer Column. Keep your questions coming.

"... Have a letter from Mr. J. Robinson stating that the Editor, Mr. Tom Meek of Stillingfleet, York, England, age 83 years—in ill health—insisted on judging a section of their last show, then died on his way home on the train so their year book at present is in rather a mix up". Mrs. Thelma Nelson, Tacoma, Wash.

Primrose growers everywhere will miss Mr. Meek and his very fine writings.

"... I am enjoying my Quarterly very much. In the article by Dr. Satava of Czechoslovakia on Primula minima, I was interested by the use of a metal box and was reminded of a rock garden many years ago in which I used a copper pipe underground having punctures nine or ten inches apart with a faucet hidden in shrubbery above to be turned on or off as needed.

My garden is a mass of P. Dorothy and P. Wanda. They make a nice start in spite of cold spells. Auriculas and others are following closely. My auriculas in the rock garden come through the winters without covering. All others are covered with peat moss under oak leaves and branches." Eva Dow, Davenport, Iowa.

NATIONAL AURICULA AND PRIMULA SOCIETY — Southern Section
Invites all Auricula and Primula Lovers to join this Old Society
Membership of $1.50 per year includes Year Book
Hon. Sec. A. Marlow
2, Glebe Close Thornford, Sherborne, Dorset, England

THE SCOTTISH ROCK GARDEN CLUB
invites you to join.
The Club's twice yearly JOURNALS, illustrated in colour and black and white, are described in the most flattering terms by rock and alpine gardening authorities in many lands outside Scotland.
The yearly SEED DISTRIBUTION contains much seed unobtainable elsewhere.
The full annual subscription is £1 ($3)
Novice or Expert, you will enjoy membership
MR. A. V. McLEOD, Subscription Secretary
34 Traquair Park West, Edinburgh 12, Scotland

Double Auricula Named

... First officially named double auricula in America.

At the last annual meeting of the American Primrose Society, it was voted that the above pictured double auricula be named ELLEN PAGE HAYDON in honor of one of our most esteemed members who has done so much to make our society what it is today. This is the first double auricula to be officially named by our society.

It blooms consistently each year, every blossom a full double and is a lovely peach color with just a hint of shading. At the 1957 National show, it was exhibited for the first time and was judged the best double displayed, and again at the National show held in Kirkland in 1966, it received the same honor. Here, appropriately, it also was the first winner of the beautiful perpetual silver bowl trophy which had been donated by Mrs. Ellen Page Hayden for the best double auricula plant exhibited at each year's National show.

This plant was grown by Ralph Balcom and first bloomed in 1957. Every year since, it has bloomed with fully doubled blossoms—with none of them semi-doubled or single. It is a prolific bloomer, has a sturdy stalk and the plant throws offsets in profusion. It has stood the test of time and is a beautiful plant when well grown.

The American Rock Garden Society
(founded 1934)
cordially invites you to join its growing list of enthusiastic members
Annual Seed List  •  Quarterly Magazine
Family membership—$7
Single membership—$5
Richard W. Redfield, Secretary
Box 26
Closter, N. J. 07624

AMERICAN PRIMROSE SOCIETY
Of Cabbages and Kings or Should There Be A Seed Exchange?

This is a word of appreciation to those who are supporting so generously, this enterprise. It is not a plea for funds with which to continue the exchange. It is addressed to only a few of our members who are pre-occupied with other matters and unable to give consideration to "survival!"

To the best of our ability, we have reduced every known waste to a minimum. Even to counting the seeds in the scarcer items. We wish to continue the nominal charge per packet that has been in effect for the duration of this director's tenure. It would certainly be redundant to speak of sky-rocketing costs of supplies and printing. Our third largest expense item is postage; we are correct in our belief that members can have no idea of the amount of correspondence that must take place regarding every contribution of seeds from non-member sources which we see in our lists. This means time: for searching; for correspondence; for waiting; for follow-up. This is repeated with each donating source. From one Garden, our desiderata was submitted in June of 1967. The seeds were received in May of 1968. Effort must be— and is— expended on this segment of our listings. In passing, we note the obvious: these seeds do not fall as manna from the heavens.

We now come to the punch lines and point out several aids which can be effected by the concerned members. Point 1. To continue to function, dues of all members must be paid when due prior to January first for the ensuing year, which is to say in advance. We have recommended that such a note be placed in the Quarterly for October, to indicate that Quarterly's will not be mailed to members whose dues are not paid by January first. What action may be taken on this is the prerogative of the Board of Directors. Whatever is done by the Board, the Seed Exchange will have a listing of members in good standing, whose dues are paid for the new year and those whose names are included will be eligible to participate in the succeeding spring seed exchange—the seed distribution being one of the early features in the A.P.S. year. Far too much time has to be spent in billing and re-billing for dues. Point 2. In requesting seeds, please do not ask to be billed later. This makes for extra correspondence and we do not have time for maintaining an accounting system in this direction. For non-members, while International Postal Reply Coupons is not the best means for transmitting funds, they are acceptable. It should be remembered however, that they have a value of thirteen cents each, regardless of what they may cost, and if two or three are received with the seed request and air mail is required, the postage alone would take two for a minimum weight letter. As a part of our program in maintaining the 5c per package charge, postage is to be paid by the member. It will be seen that the member will be disturbed when but a single packet of seeds is received; that being the residual amount of his remittance. To avoid misunderstanding and unnecessary correspondence, International Postal Money Order or Bank Draft should be used. We feel that if the seeds are of any interest, they are worth the 5c service charge. Point 3. Canadian members please use Postal Money Orders, or Bank Draft drawn in American funds.

(Continued on page 95)
LIQUINOX

THE ALL-PURPOSE BLUE RIBBON FERTILIZER

Contains Yucca Extract

10-10-5
17-7-0
0-10-10

Pint Quart Gallon
.89 $1.50 $3.95

KEIFFER'S NURSERY

Kirkland, Washington 11444 98th N.E. VA. 2-5326

IMPORTED ENGLISH ALPINE AURICULA SHOWS

Including named varieties, Greys-Greens-Selfs. Polyanthus-Acaulis-Garden Auricula and Species

HAND POLINATED SEED
Pollyanthus, Acaulis, Garden Auricula, Florindae, Candelabra and Species $1.00 per package
List available on request

NEW FEATURES
Dwarf Geraniums, new Millisa Hope Delphinium (low grower with huge flowers) Pacific Hybrid Delphiniums, Seedling Exbury Azaleas, (large plants)

PRIMROSE ACRES
14015-84th. Ave. N.E. Bothell, Washington 98011