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COVER PHOTO: THE Barnhaven Doubles. Introduced into commerce for the first time in 1965 by the originator Florence Bellis and now available thru Far North Gardens. Please read story in this issue.

Photo courtesy Far North Gardens

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Dear Fellow Members:

Did you have a white Christmas? There was no snow in our part of the country. You people in the East are to be envied. All the snow to decorate the landscape! How the people in the more temperate zone must envy you!

Now for other things. Are your plants coming through the winter? Are they groomed for the show? Could they use a shot of fertilizer to be at their best? Come now, let us all do our best to make a successful show any year. All of us must do the best we can. Come on now . . . you might win the best in show.

In place of any words of mine I would like to present this poem.

The Little Things

We meet some folks along life’s way
Who have ‘the magic touch’
And it’s the “little things” they do
That means so very much
The little unexpected call
That brightens someone’s day
The smile that gives assurance
In it’s bright and sunny way
The little deeds of kindness
That assure someone you care
The word of cheer and comfort
Either spoken or in prayer
The thoughtful little bunch of flowers
Perhaps a single rose
The little gifts and the messages
What love they all disclose
And if we all would take the time
It wouldn’t take too much
We’d make the world “a magic place”
With just “the magic touch.”

Hoping all your happenings are good this year.

Your president,
Dick Charlton

---

DOWN THE PRIMROSE PATH

WITH THE EDITOR

Once again a new year . . . one which we all hope will join us closer together as we pursue our interest in our favorite flower. There is so much to learn and so many qualified, knowledgeable members of the Society to teach us.

Let us begin our new year by carefully choosing, planting and tending new seed and seedlings. Why not make careful notes, take pictures along the way and share your experiences with the membership.

Many thanks to you in the mid-West who noted the Editor’s request for material and donated copy for this issue. We’d like to hear from some of the California membership for the next issue.

The Editor’s office has received several terse notes recently concerning receipt of the Quarterly. In each case a change of address form was not filled out and filed with the Post Office. Each Quarterly mailed out has a return postage guarantee stamped on the envelope. This simply means that for each copy returned to the office a return fee of 10 cents is paid. More postage is then required when the correct address has been located. This becomes a rather costly process. Fortunately most members do send address changes in promptly. For some reason the unclaimed Quarterlies from the preceeding mailing seem to take almost three months to return to this office, so the lack of notification is also costly in time to the member looking for the lost Quarterly.

Because of the early date of the National Show and the Annual Meeting, the deadline for copy for the Spring issue of the Quarterly has been set for March 28, 1975.

Several requests have been received for reinstate the “Wish Corner” feature. It appears again in this issue. Please answer the requests if able or send in one of your own “wishes.”

Deadline for Spring issue is March 28, 1975!!!!!!!!!
By Gus N. Arneson

What shall we read this winter? One suggestion is an excellent book called *Plant Hunters* by Alice M. Coats (published in London in 1969 and published and distributed in the U.S. in 1970). It purports to be “A History of the Horticultural Pioneers, Their Quests and Their Discoveries from the Renaissance to the Twentieth Century” and, to the extent that such a vast subject can be packed into four hundred pages, it is, and it is a good one. The book is interesting and readable and because it records the discovery and introduction of hundreds of plants from *Abelia chinensis* to *Zennia ekgans* it is also a valuable reference book. A taste of what it offers might be had from a sampling of what is found on the single genus *Primula*.

The work of nineteen courageous, resourceful and skilled plant hunters among whose discoveries and introductions were primulas is sketched in this book together with the names of thirty-five of the primulas they discovered and introduced. Pioneers like John Gould Veich who, in 1860, collecting under watchful and suspicious official Japanese restraint, introduced *P. amoena*, *P. cortusoides*, and *P. japonica*; Dr. Joseph Dalton Hooker who, exploring in Sikkim and the Himalayas about 1850, introduced *P. sikkimensis* and *P. capitata*; and Dr. John Forbes Royle, a medical officer responsible for two hospitals and who was also in charge of the East India Company Gardens in the Punjab who introduced *P. denticulata*, are a sampling of the pioneers that people these pages.

It is good to be acquainted with these great men and to have some measure of understanding of the hazards they braved and the hardships they suffered. I think it deepens our appreciation of the sturdy little plants that brighten our “primrose paths” or that we preen for display in flower shows. *P. cockburniana*, *P. polyneura* and *P. pulverulenta* mean something more to me when I know that they were discovered by Earnest Henry Wilson far up in Tibet in 1903, the year in which was born Frank Kingdon-Ward, one of the giants among plant collectors, found a new primula in Tibet in 1924 and called it *P. florindae* in honor of his wife. Also, in Tibet in 1924-1925 he collected *P. cawdoriana* and *P. baihyana* and, during a difficult winter journey in the Himalayas in 1922 he found *P. melanops*.

The work of another giant, George Forrest (1873-1932), he who suffered incredible hardships and found so much in Tibet and other areas in the Himalayas is outlined in this book. It was Forrest who found, among much else, *P. bulleyana*, *P. beesiana*, and *P. forrestii*.

Perhaps I have written enough to establish by thesis that *Plant Hunters* is worth reading. I reluctantly omit mention of the nice little accounts of interesting incidents like the time in 1934 when Frank Ludlow and George Sherriff were collecting in Tibet and Sherriff stood on a branch of a shrub to reach a primula on a cliff-face. In doing so he saw another “scrubby little thing” growing in some moss. Both the primulas and the shrub proved to be discoveries: *P. sherriffiae*, *P. ludlowii*, and *Luculia grandifolia*. This team, exploring in the Himalayas in 1936, are said to have found fifty-nine primulas, fourteen of them new including *P. kingii* and *P. muscaroides*. (It is recorded that of the twenty-seven new primulas discovered by Ludlow at least seven received horticultural Awards of Merit). And then there is the story of elderly, retired plant hunter Ludwig Franzewich Mlokosewich who established a “teaching garden” for his children as a “guarantee of moral purity” and taking them on a “botanical excursion,” one of his daughters, Julia, found a new primula, hence — *P. juliae*!

The Barnhaven Double Primroses

By Bob and Dorothy Goplerud
Livonia, Michigan

Most authorities agree that Gerard's "Historie of Plants" was originally published in 1597, and contained the statement "... our garden double Primrose, of all the rest is of greatest beauty, the description whereof I refer unto your owne consideration." While this was the earliest note on the subject familiar to us today, double primroses were known and loved during the reign of Elizabeth I. In that day such plants were occasionally found growing wild in the English countryside, and brought into cultivation. Only during the nineteenth century did such specialists as Murray Thomson and the Cocker brothers begin producing man-made doubles in Scotland. Other varieties originated in France, and names such as Marie Crousse, Mme. Pompadour and Rose du Barri are still with us today, although surviving plants are few and far between. However, breeders of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries were able to produce only a handful of doubles to a thousand seedlings, increasing their stocks by division until disease and old age took their toll.

Mrs. Bellis introduced Barnhaven Double Primroses in April, 1965, after eight years of painstaking study and work. To the best of our knowledge she was first to develop breeding methods on a commercial scale, which produced approximately 25 percent doubles among her seedlings. That spring there were 340 plants at Barnhaven, all in their maiden bloom, each differing from the others in shade or tint of the various colors. These included pink and rose shades, cyclamen and purple, and Egyptian buff. Many were silver-edged, and the blooms were camellia-like in form and fully double. Unlike the tiny flowers of the old varieties, these ranged in size from a fifty-cent piece to a silver dollar. Primrose fanciers from far and near came to Barnhaven in hordes to see, admire and photograph these plants in all their glory, and many were shipped to distant parts of the country.

When Mrs. Bellis hung up her shovel and hoe, the methods developed during her thirty years as fairy godmother of the primrose world were shipped back across the Atlantic to Jared and Sylvia Sinclair, who lived in the little village of Brigsteer in England's picturesque Lake District. Here they have continued the difficult and often heart-breaking task of selection and hand-pollinating for doubles. Mrs. Bellis, meanwhile has continued to produce some seed on a limited scale in her lovely garden on Oregon's Pacific Coast. Colors now include frosty white and yellows of many shades from pale primrose to golden amber, coral and apricot, raspberry, lavender, violet, reds in brick and scarlet hues, and now indigo, cornflower and sky blue. More are yet to come.

Double primroses do have their little quirks. Certain plants will produce single blooms early in the season. Others will produce single flowers during their first blooming season when grown from seed, or the first year after division, then assume their true form and produce double blooms thereafter. Sometimes doubles will bloom sparsely in alternate years, and bloom will not be characteristic. They have sometimes been considered tender or short lived because they bloom heavily over a long period of time (125 blooms on a plant during the season are not uncommon) in a vain effort to set seed, then, due to poor growing conditions or division at the wrong season, sulk and become dormant for months. Doubling displaces the female organs, and it is not possible for these plants to perpetuate themselves. Sometimes the blooms produce a bit of pollen, however, and this may be used for breeding.

We have not found double primroses appreciably more difficult to grow than polyanthus or acaulis, but they are slower to increase when divided. They seem to be less tempting to slugs, but are susceptible to red spider, especially in hot, dry weather. Control is not difficult with the new systemic

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granules, and of course a plentiful supply of moisture is essential throughout
the summer and early fall. Like most primroses, they need a cool situation in
good garden soil enriched with organic material, such as well-aged manure,
leaf mould or compost. Dense shade will discourage bloom, but protection
from bright sunlight is important. So is shelter from strong winds. High
dappled shade is ideal. The plants should be divided when they have become
too large and bloom diminishes, preferably while they are still in bloom. After
the blooming season has ended the roots begin to stretch out, and if they are
divided at any other time a year's growth may be lost. When dividing, the
old woody crown at the center of the plant should be discarded. Each division
should consist of at least one complete crown, and when teased or cut apart
from the others should have a fair share of roots. If these are too long to be
handled easily, they should be cut back to four inches with a sharp knife.
Scissors will bruise the roots, and the divisions are very apt to die back
instead of producing the desired new system of fibrous root growth.

Nowadays more people than ever are anxious to grow double primroses
successfully. As the years roll by, the old varieties are more and more
difficult to find, and even more difficult to keep alive and in good health. This
situation inspired Mrs. Bellis to embark on her breeding program years ago,
a program which now makes it possible for everyone to grow double
primroses from seed or obtain plants to grow on in their own gardens. Barnhaven Doubles are the crowning achievement of Florence Bellis' long
career in horticulture, and one of which she can be very proud.

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**- HINT of the QUARTER -**

Epsom salts at the rate of one
tablespoon to a gallon of water will
correct yellowing of foliage.

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The officers of The American Primrose Society wish to thank Mr. Gary Box of
Seattle, Washington for his kind and
generous donation to the Society.

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**1975 SHOW DATES**

**National Show and Annual Meeting**

April 12 and 13, 1975
Show at Villa Plaza Branch,
Pacific National Bank of Wash.,
Tacoma, Washington
Banquet to be announced

Valley Hi—March 28 and 29
Milwaukee, Oregon—
April 5 and 6
Washington State Society—
April 19 and 20
Eastern Chapter—May 17

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**MID-WEST EXPERIENCES WITH PRIMULAS**

By R. Arthur Dodd
Madison, Wisconsin

For the last ten years I have
been growing primroses in Southern
Wisconsin, not difficult varieties
admittedly, but mostly acaulis and
polyanthus which remind me of
spring in my native England.

The winters here are hard, with
January and February temperatures
occasionally falling to below -20 F. However, the weather is usually
mild until mid-December and it is
about at this time that we get a
permanent snow cover which per-
sists until near the end of March.
Mid-winter thaws are rare and so
the plants are well protected under
a snow blanket. I have occasionally
covered the plants with straw as a
protective measure, but in recent
years I have simply spread leaves
(we have a copious supply of oak
and elm) thickly in between the
plants and I doubt whether the
winter-kill has ever exceeded 2 per-
cent of my plant total.

I have never brought a single
plant, believing that the enjoyment
of primroses is greatly increased
when you raise your own plants
from seed. Of course, my 12 ft. 12
ft. lean-to-greenhouse helps enor-
mously here. I believe my original
polyanthus seed was the Pacific
Giant strain - which by the way I
found no less hardy than any other
variety — but my present 200+
plants represent seed from ten or a
dozens sources and also my own
hybridizing efforts.

My 100 or more large acaulis
plants resulted from a few seeds of
the Biedemeier variety sown nine or
Growing Primroses in Iowa

By Harry and Rose Miller
Des Moines, Iowa

Primroses are not a common garden plant in Iowa. This is unfortunate since if you can get them through the rest of the year, they bloom beautifully in our wet springs. I do not believe the difficulties in raising primroses are the reason for their not being seen in Iowa gardens, since the problems are not really that great. We are doing our best to popularize them here.

Weather of 105 degrees which we had in July this past summer is our greatest hindrance. This can only be counteracted by a great deal of shade and at least daily watering. Probably the amount of shade we need slows down their growth to some degree. Division and transplanting time for primulas, of course, comes at this hot period and can cause a great deal of trouble. We divided our Acaulis last summer and had quite a struggle to keep them from dying in that hot weather. Only next year's bloom will tell whether we were successful but they look better now.

In the Fall Quarterly, the Campbell's speak of a light covering for winter protection. That will not do in Iowa. Twenty below zero is common, followed by above freezing temperatures and the primroses will freeze badly if the ground is not kept frozen in these warm periods. We find a heavy mound of oak and maple leaves to be about the best protection we can give. We do not seem to lose many primulas during our winters with this treatment.

Bloom time begins about the first of April here and we have both snow and freezing weather all through April. We have a blue primrose which is invariably out for April Fool's Day. It came in something called "Spring Mixture" so we do not know exactly what kind it is. Thus far, we have only been successful with Acaulis, various Polyanthus, Sieboldii and some of the Julias. Next year, we hope to make the grade with auriculas and denticulata. We tried raising Candelabras, capitanas, vialias and cortusoides from seed, but were not successful in getting the plants to the stage where we could set them outside. However, I think most of these can be raised here, at least for a season or two. We are going to continue to try.

Slugs are our greatest pest. We also have something that eats the roots on a few plants. I guess everyone who raises primulas has to fight slugs.

We have two Pacific Polyanthus plants purchased last winter from a grocery store selection. They were blooming so lushly and we were thrilled by this opportunity for early primrose bloom. Both plants were kept in a cool bedroom and have been watered from beneath with rain water. They were in air conditioning during the hottest part of the summer and have seemed to flourish in these conditions. We divided both plants in August and set divisions from each clump outside. They may be too tender for our winter, but so far are doing well. The one plant, a deep yellow, continues to bloom outside. We will cover them with heavy mulch and see what next spring brings.

This is "Primroses in Iowa," at least in the Des Moines area.

EASTERN CHAPTER
Spring 1975 Meeting

The Spring 1975 Meeting of the Eastern Chapter of the American Primrose Society will be held on May 17 in South Acworth, New Hampshire. Our member Kris Fenderson is making all the arrangements for us, for which we are very grateful.

Everyone is invited to attend, whether or not you are a member of the Eastern Chapter. Please plan to enter many primulas of all kinds in the informal Primrose Show which will be judged by popular vote of all those attending the meeting — this adds to the fun!

We also ask you to bring lots of seedlings and plants as donations for the plant sale. Those who were with us last spring know how popular the sale was, and hopefully some of the plants purchased then will appear on the show bench — as winners, of course!

Two extremely knowledgeable primrose enthusiasts will be our speakers at the luncheon meeting: Alice Hills Baylor will talk about her specialty "The Vernales Primrose Group," and H. Lincoln Foster's topic will be "Primroses And Relatives."

Full details about the meeting will be sent automatically to registered members of the Eastern Chapter. All others interested in attending should write to the Chapter's Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Wallace J. Balla, 189 Taconic Road, Greenwich, Conn. 06830, or telephone (203) 661-4860.

We're looking forward to seeing you in May!
Details on Germinating Primula Seed

By Alice Hills Baylor

One should feel quite humble when holding a tiny seed in one's hand and hoping that in two years a lovely primrose will result from its planting. The first requisite is fresh seed. However, I have germinated three year old P. auricula seed by leaving the flat outdoors under snow all winter. Care of seed before planting is important. If one is to wait until February to start seed indoors the packets should be placed in a covered jar and placed in the refrigerator, not in the freezer. Prepare flats or pots with a layer of drainage material at bottom. Fill to within an inch of the top with a mixture of one part clean sand, one part compost or soaked peat moss, one part good garden soil and a handful of crushed eggshells to a bucket of mix. Sift three times. Pat mixture down even and place in a pan of water to allow soil to be soaked, (overnight or several hours). Sprinkle seed on top of soil mixture and sift a fine layer of sphagnum moss over seed. Cover with snow or ice. Place under fluorescent light, lower light to within an inch of top of pot or flat. Never allow top to dry. Water with a rose spray with 100 degree water. Alternate snow or ice and 100 degree water until germination begins. That is one method.

The cold frame method is to prepare bed early. Sprinkle seeds in rows when they arrive, cover with snow or ice and allow to remain out until warm weather starts germination. Care must then be taken to keep cold frame ventilated and watered. One can use a medium that has no food value and as soon as germination begins use a mild solution of fertilizer. When seedlings are in second leaf they should be transplanted into another flat and allow at least a square inch for growth. This is a time to be extra careful not to break the tender roots. The little plants may be very close together, so lift a group of them with a spoon and place in a saucer of an extremely mild solution of any fertilizer. This will prevent shock and will separate the roots. The mixture into which they are planted should be the same as the germinating mixture with the addition of a large trowelful of dry cow manure to a flat. Then once a week the plants should be watered with a mild solution of fertilizer. When plants are crowding the flat they may be transplanted out in the open, not later than August so they will become established before cold weather. When transplanting have a trowelful of dry cow manure at the base of the planting hole and water in well when the hole is half full of soil. Mulch around the plant and do not allow the little plants to dry out. They should bloom the following spring. Watch during mild spells for earth heaving, and if plants have heaved, push them carefully down and firm the soil and mulch around, avoiding having any mulch or soil on the crown of the plant. Then fertilize well in the early spring.

Show and Alpine Auricula

Since so many of us do not know what to look for in a good show or Alpine Auricula and even the types, I hope this letter from my friend Mr. Hawks will be of help to some of the readers. Since Mr. Hawks is certainly one of the leading growers and has done much to plead the cause of the Auricula, I feel we need his help.

Mr. C. A. Hawks is president of the National Auricula and Primula Society of England, Southern Section and feel that as they are an advertiser in American Primrose Society Quarterly it is not out of place to give the address. The secretary is Mr. Lawrence E. Wigley, 67, Warnham Court Road, Carshalton-Beeches, Surrey England. I am a member and highly recommend it if you are interested in primulas and especially show and alpine auricula.

Since I am very much interested in the show and alpine auricula I will try to help anyone that I can if they care to write.

In the fall issue of American Primrose Society Quarterly is an ad giving a source of good seed that I have tried and can recommend highly.

Let's all grow more of these beautiful plants and once again make them part of the A.P.S.
Dear Mr. Long,

Thank you for your letter. I will try to help you with some information.

Firstly, I think we must establish just exactly which type of auricula you are interested in. You may know all of this, of course, but when you refer to the auriculas you have just by colour of blooms, I wonder if you know how they are classified. This is really important. I am enclosing some slides to help you, in case you have no knowledge of this at all.

First of all, there are two basic types of Florist Auricula — the type which are grown under glass. One group are the Alpines and the other group are the Show auriculas. The name Show does not mean that this kind are the only ones which are exhibited at flower shows, Alpines are exhibited just as often.

The Alpine auriculas are divided into two groups - Light-centres and Gold-centres. In each case, the petals must be richly and evenly shaded. They carry no meal (powder) at all, either on leaves or flowers, although there is sometimes a dusting of it on the flower stem. The Light-centres are usually blue, violet, mauve or pink and they must be shaded and have white or cream coloured centres to the flowers. The Gold-centres are usually, brownish or yellow, shaded and this time with yellow or gold centres. The slide of the variety Gordon Douglas shows the effect to aim at — flat flowers, evenly spaced and looking as circular as possible (notched petals are a definite fault).

The Show auriculas are divided into two main groups, the Edged and the Selfs. Taking the Selfs first, these can be any colour but are almost always yellow, red, violet-blue or a very dark shade of maroon. These are called respectively Yellow Selfs, Red Selfs, Blue Selfs or Dark Selfs. The petals must not be shaded and the centre which must be white is actually made up of a layer of white meal, called the “paste.” If you touch this white centre with the tip of your finger, you will see the meal has come off. The leaves are often, but not always mealed, too. Note again, the difference between those and the Alpines. The Show have un-shaded petals and meal thickly covering the centre, the Alpines have shaded petals and no meal on flowers or leaves.

The second group of Show auriculas are the Edged types. These can be Green-edged, Gray-edged or White-edged. In reality, the edges are really all green but the White-edged are covered with a thick layer of meal so that the edge appears white; the Gray-edges have a thinner layer, so that the green shows partly through; the Green-edges have no meal on the Edge at all. In every case, these Edged types have a white centre, covered with “paste” as in the Selfs. You will see in the slide of the Green-edge “Chloe” the yellow tube containing the anthers in the centre, then the white paste, then the circle of the body-colour which must be as near black as possible, then the green edge. In a White or Gray-edge, the proportions must be about the same but these, of course, would have either a white or gray edge instead of green.

It is of the utmost importance not to intercross these types. If you want to raise seed, cross Light-centres only with other Light-centres; Gold-centre Alpines only with other Gold-centres. With the Selfs, you would probably do best to cross similar colours ie. Yellow-Selfs only with other Yellow-Selfs, although I have sometimes crossed different coloured Selfs and obtained reasonable results. But cross Self only with Self. Do not, on any account, cross Selfs with Alpines or Edged types.

With the Edged plants, to be safe, cross like with like, that is Green-edges with other Green-edges etc. Again, it must be said, that good results are obtained by crossing different types of Edged plants, for instance Green with White-edge. But again, on no account whatever, cross Edged plants with either Alpines or Selfs. If you do, it will take you a lifetime to sort out the resultant mongrels.

It is difficult to advise you about your pin-eyed plants. I don’t see why you shouldn’t cross them with a thrum-eyed plant of the same type. But never cross two pin-eyes together.

It is perfectly possible to build up a collection from seedlings, indeed most of mine are seedlings and I flatter myself that some of them are up to

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the standard of the named plants. Don’t forget that every named variety was once a seedling.

A fair number of named plants have, over the years, crossed the Atlantic from England and, to be honest it is difficult to know what becomes of them. On average, an auricula will produce one off-set per year and this means that after about a dozen years, one named variety should have multiplied into about a thousand (work it out for yourself and see!)

Yours Sincerely,
C.A. Hawks

I do hope the information will be of help to someone and to say it is very kind of Mr. Hawks to share it.

James F. Long

PRIMULA REIDII

By Dorothy Campbell
Buckley, Washington

Primula Reidii is in the Soldanelloideae Section and should be grown as an alpine plant in preference to being attempted outdoors. Possibly if it were grown in a somewhat warmer climate than is offered here in the Pacific Northwest where it wouldn’t be subjected to such heavy rains, or the heaving as prevalent as we have it here, it might be possible to raise it in outdoor conditions. I have never owned a sufficient number of plants of this truly scarce species to want to sacrifice even one of them to the torrential downpour and hail as we sometimes see here in Washington! I would think that if it was given a warm sheltered position in a warmer area with mild winters and some overhead winter shelter, such as a pane of glass that had been lightly painted on the under surface, to prevent sunburn, it would be possible for some of our members who could meet those requirements to attempt growing it out doors. It is a miniature species, which has delicate looking 3” basal leaves, sharply toothed, bristled on the upper surface, and hairy underneath, each plant forming a basal cluster of leaves from which springs up a 3 to 5 inch scape. The overlapping, silver-edged, calyx segments form a neat, shingled roof from which the heavily mealed bells of creamy white flare down and out. This group of bells forms at the top of the scape, which is also dusted with meal, and makes an entirely beautiful sight. A substantial clump of this primrose will display many scapes, generally one scape to each individual plant and the whole clump reward you with an extremely nice showing, making it well worth the extra attention bestowed upon it. They also reward you with a heavenly scent! Of all the species I have had this is the one that produces the “Ohs” and “Ahs”!! The whole plant disappears into the ground in the fall and will not show until late spring again, even when it is grown in a container in the alpine or green-house.

In the spring the very tiny seedlings should be carefully pricked from the seed pan as soon as they can be handled and planted in humusy soil with good drainage, then planted in an open but shaded frame after danger of frost is passed. They could be started in a green house and then potted and placed in an alpine house with equal success.

My first introduction to this lovely species was from seed obtained from the seed exchange quite a few years ago. They are a bit difficult to grow and hold but if you ever own one of the lovely things you will never forget them!!

This is a primrose for the connoisseur who likes a challenge.

QUARTERLIES NEEDED

Dorothy and Herb Dickson

Dorothy and Herb Dickson are still in the process of putting together at least three complete sets of Quarterlies. Now needed are:

1944 Spring—4 copies
Summer—3 copies
Fall—4 copies
1946 Winter—4 copies
1949 Spring—3 copies

If you have one of these and would like to donate it to the Society, please contact the Dicksons. A suggestion has been made that perhaps memorials to former members might be made in the form of donations of old Quarterlies to the Society instead of to libraries.

The name and address of long-time A.P.S. member Mr. Fauler was omitted from the 1974 Membership Roster. Please add to your listing:
Mr. Frederick A. Fauler
8542 Fenner R. R. 2
Baldwinsville, New York 13027

Any other corrections and a listing of the new members will be found in the upcoming issue. Our apologies to Mr. Fauler.

Those desiring to join
A. P. S. ROUND ROBIN
Please Contact
Mrs. Ruth Bartlett Huston,
Chairman
Spring Hill Farm
P.O. Box 42
Gig Harbor, Wash. 98335

AMERICAN PRIMROSE SOCIETY
Q. I have become a Primula enthusiast and would like to start plants from seed. Living in northern New York I need to have winter hardy strains.
A. I have never found that the source of seed effected the hardiness of primrose plants. Seeds from Virginia were as hardy in Vermont as my own seeds.

Q. Do you have a source of English nurseries where I might send for seed?
A. Yes. If you will send a self-addressed, stamped envelope I will send you a list of nurseries in the United Kingdom where you will be able to buy primrose seeds.

Q. I have two plants of primroses which I do not know. I am sending you the leaves from both. Will you kindly identify these for me?
A. It is not possible to identify primroses from just a leaf. However, you have two members of the Vernales group. If in spring you will send a flower and a description of the plant, I will be able to give you more information.

Q. Will you give me a source of primrose seed? Will you give detailed instructions on germination.
A. I can give you the names of several nurseries that deal in primula seed. Would greatly appreciate a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Q. Have you ever had a failure with primula seeds?
A. Yes. I have had quite a list as most growers have!

Q. There was seed listed as "P. Rosea X P. Kleini" in the exchange. Can you tell me if P. Kleini is a cross or not? What would be the result of such a cross?
A. The result would very likely be plants smaller than rosea, perhaps quite a few different color shades. P. Kleini is a cross made by and named for the late Peter Klein of P. rosea and P. Clarkii. It is much smaller than rosea and has a soft but bright pink cluster of flowers. The one great advantage in this cross is the hardness, taking after the rosea parent. While the size of the plant is larger than P. Clarkii the color is a bit brighter. It is pink instead of the brilliant crimson of rosea.

Q. Could you give me the names of white P. Julianas and tell me if they are cushion or stalked?
A. The white Julianas I have grown are: "SNOW WHITE," a stalked type about four inches high. It is a strong grower and multiplies rapidly. "NETTIE GALE" is a white cushion which is very like the true type of P. Juliae except that the leaves are not heart shaped, but very small and prostrate. It is extremely hardy and seems to need more sun than half a day to bloom well. "SNOW CUSHION" is another low type. Those are pure white. I have had "DOVE" which is a stalked but slightly on the ivory color and it did not prove to be as hardy as the others.

Q. Do you know of a source of seed of Jack-in-the-green?
A. It is listed by J.W. and S.M. Sinclair, Low Barrow House, Westmoreland, England.

Ed. note: See also the ad for Far North Gardens in this issue.

Q. Why is P. Juliae listed in the Pictorial Dictionary of the Species Primula and not P. Julianas?
A. Because P. Juliae is the true type and all the named types are hybrids and referred to as Julianas. These have P. Juliae as one parent and other members of the Vernales group as another. Thus, if crossed with a stalked Vernales, such as P. veris, they will be a stalked form and taller. If crossed with P. vulgaris or any of its sub-species (such as P. sibthorpiii), the result will be smaller and perhaps prostrate.
WISH CORNER

The Quarterly offers this column as an aid to members trying to locate specific seed or plants.
Send your requests to the Editor: Mrs. Frank Springer, 7213 South 15th, Tacoma, Washington 98465.
List your request and your return address. Those desiring to help satisfy items desired will please contact those making the request, NOT the editor.

* * * * * * * * * *

WANTED:
A source for seed or plants of “Gold Lace” and “Silver Lace” polyanthus.
Marie W. Ballard
P.O. Box 313
Kernersville, N.C. 27284

* * * * * * * * *

(Ed. Note: Please check Far North Ad this issue)

WANTED:
Named Show and Alpine Auriculas to begin a breeding program of my own. I would like to buy any offsets, especially named ones and to correspond with anyone interested in Show, Alpine, Border Auriculas or Gold Laced Polyanthus.
James F Long
R. #2 Box 69A
Marion, VA. 24354

* * * * * * * * *

WANTED:
A plant of the Juliana hybrids “Julius Caesar” and “Millicent.”
Dorothy Springer
7213 So. 15th
Tacoma, Wash. 98465

* * * * * * * * *

WANTED:
Seeds or plants (preferably) of named or unnamed, but very good P. juliae, P. vulgaris, P. sieboldii, and perhaps others if exceptional. Will buy or exchange from my extensive collection of various garden perennials.
Margaret Frost
172 Highland Blvd.
Kensington, California 94708

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Pictorial Dictionary of the Cultivated Species of the Genus Primula. Published by the American Primrose Society, $3.00 per copy. Send orders and checks to Mrs. John Genheimer, 7100 S.W. 209th, Beaverton, Oregon 97005.

American Primrose Society

Please send all advertising copy including that for the “Classified Ads” to the Editor’s office: 7213 South 15th, Tacoma, Wash. 98465. Payment for same will be accepted and billed thru the Editor’s office. Advertising rates are as follows:

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Waterbury, Ct. 06705

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