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AN EARLY BOOK ON THE AURICULA

Walter C. Blasdale, Berkeley, Calif.

A comprehensive history of the Auricula, which comprises an interval of at least two and a half centuries, has yet to be written even though there is a voluminous literature concerning it. The difficulties which arise in writing such a history seem, at the present time almost insuperable. We have inherited certain traditions and surmises as to the origin of the first Auriculas but lack the specific information needed to connect these plants with the various natural species of Primula which may have been concerned in their ancestry. Those who were interested in growing and developing the Auricula in the earlier stages of its development left scanty records of their activities and were poorly skilled in the art of observing and describing plants or in finding artists capable of portraying them correctly. Although treatises on the Auricula began to appear in England, Germany, and France as early as the middle of the seventeenth century, it is questionable whether we will ever be able to complete a satisfactory account of the development of the Auricula to the degree of perfection it attained by the middle of the nineteenth century.

About seven years ago the seduction of a catalogue of rare books, offered by a London firm, resulted in my becoming the owner of a small volume, made up of seventy-four 4 x 6-inch pages, published in Paris in 1738, entitled Traite de la culture parfaite des Oreilles D’Ours ou Auricules. Its author did not choose to reveal his identity but a later edition of the book is reported to contain a statement from which it can be inferred that he bore the name of Guenin. The only illustration in the book is a frontispiece which, together with the title page, has been reproduced in Fig. 1. It will be noted that the frontispiece bears a motto which reads (translated) “Everyone has his hobby.” Obviously Monsieur Guenin was one of a large number of individuals who mitigated the tedium of a period in which the choice of recreational activities was decidedly limited, by devoting his spare time to the cultivation of Auriculas. He had no commercial interest in this pastime and the frequency with which he refers to connoisseurs, often somewhat critically, indicates that he classed himself as an amateur. The book shows that the author was an intelligent man who had acquired a good knowledge of human nature and his own philosophy of life. It contains many statements which throw some light on the history of the Auricula.

The book has three chapters, the first of which constitutes forty percent of the text. It treats of “The Qualities which a Perfect Auricula should Possess.” The author discusses these requirements under fourteen heads, and admits that they are idealistic rather than real. In other treatises of this and later periods there may be found similar specifications scarcely attainable in actual Auricula plants. A simplified list of
M. Guenin's demands follow. (1) The foliage should be ample, green rather than yellowish, and without farina. (2) The flower stem should be capable of sustaining its cluster of blossoms without an artificial support. (3) The flowers should be round, flat, composed of six petals so combined as not to form a wheel-shaped or star-shaped flower. (4) The flowers should be at least one inch in diameter. (5) The petals should be voluminous or thick, also velvety, satiny, lustrous, or transparent. (6) The flower pedicels should be strong and not too long, in order to form a pleasing flower cluster. (7) The eye should be large, well proportioned, round, clear, and well-defined. (8) The notches which separate the petals should not extend into the eye. (9) The eye of the true and the striped Auriculas should be without farina. (10) The flower should bear spangles (stamens) rather than pins (pistils), which is his way of stating that the flowers be thrum-eyed rather than pin-eyed. (11) The flowers should retain their normal color until they wither. (12) The petals should not curl at their edges. (13) The flowers should not show any suggestion of being trumpet-shaped. (14) The throat should be small enough to be filled with the stamens.

Following this list of specifications is an extended discussion of the three classes of Auriculas known to the author. The first, which he calls the True Auriculas, includes those which display, in addition to a white or yellow eye, a single color, red, crimson, violet, fire, purple, etc. Those whose corollas have the same color as the eye are called degenerate and of little merit. This class is especially valued because of their large velvety corollas but they are sometimes marred by hexagonal or star-shaped eyes. Some specimens, which are called shaded, have a patch of velvety brown or black on the middle of each petal. Certain named varieties of this type are designated "the most beautiful flowers on earth." It is conceivable that these shaded Auriculas were the precursors of the Alpine Auriculas which we value so highly but were not introduced into cultivation as a distinctively new class until about 1850.

The second class, called Striped Auriculas, are distinguished by streaks of white or yellow extending from the eye to the periphery of the corolla. M. Guenin states, and the same idea is repeated nearly a century later, that some authors believe that the striping is the result of decreased vitality of the plant, but he is disposed to consider it a "play of nature" and does not put this class in the highest rank. However striped Auriculas were greatly cherished for a long period, both before and after the time of M. Guenin, but have now entirely disappeared, apparently as the result of the advent of the Alpine varieties. As far as we can judge from the few colored plates we have of them they were inferior to most of the better Auriculas of the present day. This statement is confirmed by some colored plates in my possession, which form part of a four-volume folio work by Johann Weinmann, entitled Phyanthozoa Iconographia, published in Regensburg, Bavaria between 1737 and 1745. I have reproduced portions of two of these plates in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3. The flowers of these, as well as those of the four other plates illustrating Auriculas, have as their ground colors shades of yellow, red, brown, purple and black; the stripes are white or yellow and the eyes are white or very light yellow. In form and symmetry few approach the standards set by M. Guenin and most of them fall short in this respect of those of the present day. It is possible that those grown in Germany at that time were inferior to those described by M. Guenin.

The third class, called Bizarre Auriculas, consists of two kinds. The older has eyes of a different color from that with which they are striped; most frequently a white eye with yellow or gold stripes. This kind is subject to degeneration and therefore of lesser merit. The newer kind, recently derived from England, is said to include plants of great merit because of the variety of colors represented, the regularity of the striping, the larger and more conspicuous stripes, and the foliage which is reported to be more abundant than in any other strain. These are said not only to combine the best features of the True and the Striped classes but also to possess an eye covered with a fine white powder, which adds greatly to its brilliancy. This last statement is of great importance because it confirms the accepted belief that the paste-covered eye is an English achievement and also that it was perfected before 1738. M. Guenin reports however that he obtained only one first grade seedling of this strain out of five hundred seeds. His characterization of the
Bizarre Auriculas is not entirely clear but he appears to have been greatly impressed with what he calls an English form of it.

The remainder of the first chapter deals with the exhibition of Auriculas. According to the author, only a connoisseur will fully appreciate the merits of a single plant whereas a collection of many plants may arouse the interests of "those who have no taste for flowers" to the degree which their beauties justify. To show them off to good advantage calls for a "theatre", such as that which forms the subject of the frontispiece. This is essentially a cupboard, provided with a series of narrow shelves, each separated from the one below it by a space of three inches and recessed progressively from the lowest to the highest. The plants placed thereon are protected from the weather by a roof, back, and sides, the theatre being set up to face the north for protection of the plants from the direct rays of the sun. The lower half of it extends from the ground to a height of four feet and is adorned with an ornamental panel which, in the illustration, represents the garden of the owner. This, in accordance with the French idea of a garden of this period, consists of an enclosed area with an arched entrance way and gravelled walks which divide the entire garden into beds of geometric forms. One cannot fail to be amused at the liberties taken by the artist, who drew the illustration, as to the form and proportions of the Auricula plants which he portrays.

Such theatres appear to have been a customary feature of the gardens of French lovers of Auriculas. They were in use only in the spring for the display of the choicest plants of the collector and were designed to arouse the admiration and envy of other Auricula enthusiasts as well as friends of the owner. Similar structures are described by Emmerton in a book on the Auricula published in London in 1815; these appear to have been less ornate in construction and were used by competitors at Auricula shows in the smaller English cities.

In arranging his display our author advises placing plants of the same color adjacent to each other and favors showing plants of all three classes in the same theatre. He also expresses disapproval of double and semi-double Auriculas because one corolla conceals the one beneath it and because the spangles and eye are almost obliterated. He considers the eye the most beautiful character of the Auricula flower.

(to be concluded in the October issue)

remember the primrose contest

The spring's Primrose garden is a summer memory—fresh, cool, unspoiled—either the way it actually was or the way it will be accomplished another year. Jot down the combination of color and plant material which gave the most pleasure, or note the improvements yet to be carried out. Send to the Editor's office, Box 218, Gresham, Oregon. Perhaps your paper will win some of the more difficult to obtain plants and seed; in any event, you will be giving enjoyment and benefit to other Primrose enthusiasts. See page 65, current Year Book, for details.

site and the part it plays in plant survival

A. H. MacAndrews, Syracuse, N.Y.

The Primrose is a popular flower in Western New York but many flower lovers find it difficult to grow because of the extreme fluctuation of climate. After a few years of effort, with indifferent results, they give up in disgust, never stopping to ask themselves why they failed. One of the chief causes of failure is the hot, dry period during July and August. Spring and fall growth is fine and they winter well if healthy and well drained, but the mid-summer mortality is high due to drought and red spider. If death does not actually occur the plants are at least left in a weakened condition just prior to winter. Some falls are very dry and some are very wet and this unpredictable fluctuation makes gardening very difficult and taxes the ingenuity of the gardener.

The successful Primrose grower in this area either is fortunate in having ideal growing conditions or else he creates them artificially. In my own garden Primroses did not last for more than two or three years, though I moved them from place to place in search of the ideal spot. When they faced the west the hot, late afternoon sun left them wilted for hours even when the ground was moist. A southern exposure was worse, especially in the winter, when the sun on the frozen ground caused injury to the tops and the continual freezing and thawing caused heaving and root injury.

As I have a lot of trees around of all ages, sizes and kinds I decided to create my own climate and site conditions. I realized that Primroses in this area had to have part shade with a moist, cool, deep root run if they were going to survive the hot, dry periods of July and August, especially the hot, dry nights which gave them no chance to recuperate after a hot day. It is amazing how much cooler the air and soil will be in the shade of a tree and how much more moist the air will be at ground level in such a place. On hot days the soil temperature of beds in the sun (especially when the soil was dark and rich in organic matter) actually got 20 to 30 degrees hotter than the air temperature, while beds in shade were cooler than the air temperature. The soil temperatures were measured in the first inch or so of surface soil.

I have always wanted Primroses under evergreens with ferns and wild flowers. It gives a woodsy feeling that no other combination will give, so I started planting but soon ran into trouble. Spruce and Douglas Fir did not give enough overhead shade and when I moved the plants in close enough to get the shade I found the ground was filled with roots and in light showers no rain reached the plants at all. A planting on the north side of Juniper and Arborvitaes failed. Then came Pine—white, red, Jack—but the ground under the white and red Pine was too dry and the shade too heavy. Jack Pine solved the problem. When grown as a single specimen it assumes an open form with a thin crown and gnarled, twisted limbs. These sprawling limbs, which are the joy of the artist, give filtered light, and in winter the tree provides much more protection for the Primrose than the leafless limbs of hardwoods. The root system is not objectionable and Primroses on the northeast side of the tree have made wonderful growth. The falling needles on the bed create a woodsy
AMERICAN PRIMROSE SOCIETY

PRIMULAE INTERCEDENS

Frank F. Beattie, Dundas, Ontario, Canada

This Primula was discovered last summer while searching for native Primulas along the northern shore of Lake Huron and through the Bruce Peninsula.

It was found a hundred yards from the shore of Lake Huron, growing in marshy ground near the banks of a small stream. The soil was an evergreen leaf-mould mixed with about an equal quantity of very fine sand. With it were growing small acid-loving herbs such as yellow Lady's Slipper, Indian Paint Brush, and Potentilla fruticosa. The location was quite open, the only shade being that provided by its companions and the low grasses with which it was matted. They were growing in large clumps and so thickly matted together that I would say there were about a hundred or more of the Primulas in a square foot of ground.

Primula intercedens belongs to the section Farinosae, sub-section Eufarinosae. In some respects it resembles P. mistassinica, especially in corolla structure. However it differs in character of seeds and in the fact it has farina on the undersurface of the leaves. Mistassinica has no or very little farina on the undersurface of its leaves, while P. intercedens is thickly coated with farina of a deep yellow. Intercedens is the only American species of Primula which has a yellow farina unless P. ajanensis, named for Ajan Bay in the extreme northeast of Asia and a sub-species of the Japanese P. modesta, is classed as an American P. ajanensis is said to have a heavy coating of yellow meal.

When not in flower, P. intercedens looks on casual examination to be a tiny P. longiflora. The most unusual character of this species is its habit of sending tiny hair-like roots along under the ground, from which at intervals, are sent up new plants. This accounts for the formation of dense clumps natural to the plant. I might add that I have not encountered any reference to this habit in the literature on the species.

Red Spider

Red spider, an orange mite with great devitalizing powers, multiplies rapidly during July and August when temperatures are high and rainfall low. The pest winters over on low-growing vegetation and migrates, as warm weather advances, to certain other plants, including Primroses, wherever hot, dry conditions favor development. Infestations are on the under side of leaves where fine, almost impenetrable webs are spun in which the eggs are laid. Broods overlap making reproduction continuous throughout the summer, quickly accelerating during periods of drought.

Plants attacked by red spider become stunted, pale green or yellowish in color, pinched and dried looking as a result of their puncturing of the leaf tissue and feeding on the sap. Plants first to be affected are those in too much sun, those under broadleafed, surface rooting trees which take from the ground and evaporate many gallons of water during a hot day, and those plants suffering from insufficient moisture.

(Continued on Page 16)
Primula Intercedens

Primula intercedens is very close to P. farinosa and is rare in Colorado. The writer knows of but four locations where it is found. It grows at the edges of lakes or fresh water bogs, sometimes around beaver ponds. It is never found in stagnant water. The color of the flower is blue, its habit extremely neat, growing to about six inches in height.

Like P. angustifolia, P. intercedens comes reasonably easy from seed, and the two plants by their size and habit are ideal plants for a well-planned rock garden. Growers interested in miniature plants should not ignore these two.—Chester K. Strong, Loveland, Colorado.

Review of the 5th Annual Show Held April 10th and 11th

Greater finish was achieved in the Society's 5th annual show than heretofore by carefully laid plans for the maximum enjoyment and education of visitors, for better management of plants, and for the most pleasing and advantageous manner of staging exhibits. The number of entries in all divisions topped previous records, the standard of plants was higher despite the long unfavorable stretch of weather, and the Seedling Division, accommodating those plants grown by the exhibitors from seed, was distinguished by superlative quality and culture. The lectures on hybridizing, genetics, cultural methods, and pest control; demonstrations, showing of colored slides, art objects and herbarium specimens, an occasional Viennese Waltz or English Country Dance captivated the crowds. Responsibility for the show rested with Mrs. John M. Young, who with the aid of seventy members to whom she wishes to express her "heartfelt thanks for their splendid cooperation" scored a brilliant success for the Society.

This was the first show in which not only the main floor and outdoor court of the Portland Art Museum were utilized, but also the rooms off the main hall and the auditorium on the lower level which served as a lecture hall. Centered and running half the length of the main hall were the miniature gardens and garden club horticultural exhibits leading to the rows of tables on which the amateur horticultural displays stood. Commercial entries flanked the amateurs', running three walls of the main room.

Plants in the amateur division were arranged in color sequence for the best overall picture. Even in retrospect the color and part of the Polyanthus are memorable. Richness, depth, clarity were on every hand, and when seen in the new purples, pastels, brown and tan shades gave that deep pleasure a horticulturist feels when seeing something new and fine. Although not particularly striving for, large blooms were the rule with tasteful blending but causing no great stir. Small, medium and giant flowered specimens seemed to win an equal share of the awards, and the flame Polyanthus judged the best in the show was of very modest size.

The beauty and cultural excellence of the garden clubs' horticultural displays were a credit to the show and to the competing organizations, many coming from outlying districts and cities. Each of these exhibits deserves description as do the miniature gardens, but lack of space dictates otherwise. A miniature garden memorial to one late past president, Capt. E. S. Bradford, by the Portland Dahlia Society was a delicate and restrained dedication to a friend who was missed.

Commercial growers exhibiting in the main show room planned with individuality and variety while those showing in the outdoor marble court more or less unified their efforts in a spring landscape using native shrubs and ferns for background with quantities of Primroses, Polyanthus, and early-blooming Primulas.

Wing rooms off the main hall accommodated the great number of arrangements using Primroses, each distinct, different and thoroughly delightful.

Lectures and demonstrations given at stated intervals during the two afternoons and evenings were so well attended many guests were forced to stand. Seedling and potting soils were mixed, large plants divided, and steps in Primrose culture discussed by Miss Dora Broctje, Mrs. Marguerite Norbro, Mrs. Marguerite Clarke and Mrs. Lois Lane; corsage making using Primroses by Mrs. M. A. Lawrence, Mrs. Jack Healey, and Mrs. G. H. Ostrander; hybridizing by Mrs. R. P. McHenry, and Mrs. Florence Levy; genetics by Donald O'Connell; and pest control by Carl Maskey. Colored slides of Asiatic Primulas were shown and narrated by Mrs. O'Connell. The program was directed by Joyce B. Nellen.

Two features in the main hall which seemed greatly appreciated were the table bearing those Primula types current in England during the reign of Queen Elizabeth and a case displaying objects of Primrose art and herbarium specimens. The Elizabethan table, draped in silver and blue velvet and backed by a tapestry of the period, held gold-fringed nosegays of the older double Primroses, Oxlips, Cowslips and Primroses, plants of Gold-laced Polyanthus and P. hirsuta, the latter, perhaps, poetic license as no one can be sure that its arrival from the European Alps coincided with Elizabeth's reign, old as it is to English gardens. Mrs. B. E. Torpen was in charge.

The Queen's influence carried over to the art case where she stood, about a foot high and correct in minutest detail, a proper distance from an English Flower Girl of the 19th century, who was vending Primroses. Both dolls were the work of Mrs. H. B. Lathem. The old prints, the water color arrangements of old Primrose and Cowslip forms from Parkinson's "Paradisi in Sole", the now famous thirteen Spode plates each with a different Self or Edged Show Auricula against a turqoise...
ground were all shown. Two English works, G. H. Dalrymple's Auricula Chart and the picture of G. F. Wilson's first blue Primrose stimulated many questions. The latter work, a water color which appears to be a faithful portrayal of Wilson's first blue Primrose, was painted by Mr. Wilson's daughter and Mrs. A. Leonora Davison, now of British Columbia, at Wissley probably in the early nineties of the last century.

The herbarium specimens displayed in the case were prepared by Mr. Stanley Anderson while in type-growers in Europe. Oxlip and Primrose types native to Normandy and species from Oberinthal (Upper Inn Valley) in the Austrian Tyrol which included P. Auricula collected in bloom the 1st of July at about 8,000 feet, Primulas hisruta and viscosa, P. longiflora, and others of the Farinosae group were shown. All of these specimens were collected within a seventy-mile radius in diverse situations as grassy slopes, rock ledges, cliffs and crevices.

Mrs. A. C. U. Berry's complimentary exhibit contained Show and Alpine Auriculae and European Alpine Primulas the usual high standard and created much enthusiasm for these types of Primulas.

Committee chairmen are listed on page 53 of the current Year Book; winners of awards follow:

**VERNALES SECTION**

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**Oxlip**

1st Mrs. John Karron
2nd Mrs. John M. Young

**Primulas**

1st Mrs. John Karron
2nd Mrs. John M. Young

**AURICULA SECTION**

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**CORTISOIDES, DENTICULATA, AURICULAE SECTIONS**

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The Bremerton (Washington) Primrose Show and the Society's representation at the International Flower Show, New York, will be reviewed in the coming issue of the Quarterly.

**Spring Meetings**

Much of the March meeting was given over to business concerning the approaching annual show, discussion of the show schedule, rules and the grooming of plants. The main event of the evening was the flower arrangements using Primroses by the speaker of the evening, Mrs. Philip Hart, a member of the Society and well-known in the area for her artistic work.

April promises to be the annual sale of plants. This particular sale was remunerative to the Society and members alike, netting the treasury well over $200 and the members rarer types of Primulas not to be had through regular commercial channels. Mrs. Ben F. Smith organized and handled the affair with great efficiency and Mr. Allen W. Davis again consented to act as auctioneer which added much to the evening's success and fun.

At the May meeting Florence Holmes Gerke, landscape architect, and Marguerite R. Clarke, a leading professional grower, both widely known and members of the Society, spoke on the variety of uses to which Polyanthus may be put in the spring garden, and the many, often dramatic, effects obtainable through the use of Asiatic Primulas. Condensations of these lectures will appear in a later issue of the Quarterly.

Florence Levy was presented with an honorary life membership by the President, Mr. Robert W. Ewell, for "outstanding services rendered to the Society." This is the third such membership awarded.
GROWING ASIATICS: MISTAKES NOS. 2 AND 3
Helen Garrett, Monroe, Oregon

One of the earliest lessons the neophyte in growing Asiatic Primulas learns is that they are not plants to love and leave alone. The first unaccountable sickening unto death of a member of the cherished lot brings a sense of humiliation at the failure involved, as well as grief from the loss of something beautiful.

Mistake No. 2 in my small experimental plot was failure to provide cooling, after sundown showers during the hot days of summer. It may well be that hot humid days and crowded plants will cause loss from rotting, but here in Oregon, the hot summer brings very low humidity, and the Asiatics will fold their tents so quietly and steal away so gently that we do not know they are leaving until they have gone. Crowded plants apparently are not in so great danger at this time as those which are in too warm a location. Shade and moderate root moisture are not enough, the plants need extra coolness from frequent waterings.

Mistake No. 3 was choosing a time for division and replanting during that short period of uncertainty which comes to many Asiatics after seed ripening and before the new roots have reached sufficient length to support growth and anchor the divisions. To overcome this I set the crowns quite deeply into the soil, and spent the next two anguished

(Continued on Page 15)
The Auricula Chart of Mr. G. H. Dalrymple

Mr. G. H. Dalrymple of Bartley, Southampton, England, has honored the Society by the temporary loan of his Auricula chart done in water colors. Florets of four types of Alpine and four of Show Auriculas are illustrated on a 12 x 20 sheet. Alpines, he states, are either light centered, or gold centered, without paste, thrum-eyed, perfectly circular corollas, body color evenly graduated to a lighter shade at edge. Light centered Alpines are usually violet or purple and gold centered types most often brown-maroon or crimson. The four florets chosen to typify the Alpine types are purple with cream center, violet with white, brown with pale yellow center and crimson with deep yellow.

Mr. Dalrymple describes edged Show Auriculas beginning with "The tube, the center of the flower, should be rich yellow, circular and level with the flatly expanded flower. The anthers must always be above the pistil and set round the mouth of tube. Then comes the paste, a circle of white meal which must be smooth and circular. The body colour follows, feathering off towards the edge of the flower and must be dense, bright and of one colour and free from meal. Finally comes the edge which determines which of the three classes the flower belongs. It may be green without meal, green with a frosting of meal or fully white." The fourth type of Show Auricula, known as the Self, has the same kind of tube, is, of course, thrum-eyed, the same smooth zone of paste, but is one pure color without shading "right through from the paste to the edge of the flower." The florets illustrating the Show Auriculas are a yellow Self, green-edged brown, grey-edged maroon-black, and a white-edged black.

The chart, displayed to members at the March meeting of the Society and to the public at the Fifth Annual Show, received close attention and was appreciated from both the educational and artistic points of view.

School for Judges

A series of lectures on the history and development of Polyanthus, Auriculas, Acaulis and Julianas hybrids and the standards of excellence adopted by the American Primrose Society were given in January and February at the Portland Library by Florence Levy. The lectures, planned for Primrose appreciation and the training of judges, terminated in two examinations. An unusually large number attended resulting in twenty-six accredited judges. The examination questions and answers will be published in the Quarterly at a later date.

New Members, Active and Sustaining

To each of the two hundred new members who have joined the Society in the past three months we bid a hearty welcome. To Mr. H. F. DuPont, Winterthur, Delaware, and Mr. William Steinhans of Heatherhills Farm, Medina, Washington, the Society expresses appreciation for subscribing as sustaining members.

Year Book of English Auricula Society Available

Through the courtesy of Mr. R. H. Briggs, Honorable Secretary of the National Auricula Society of England (Northern Section) the recent Year Book of the Society has been received. This book is proving of great interest to Primula enthusiasts in this country for a number of reasons. The report of last year's show, the show schedule and rules for the exhibition which was held May 4th, the Society's 73rd and, as tradition requires, on the first Saturday in May, the balance sheet and list of subscribers enables us to appreciate the tenacity with which these cultivators have clung to their fancy through the war years. Although their pre-war place of exhibition was completely destroyed in the Manchester blitz, the "dour and dogged members have continued to hold their Shows" in other quarters.

Of particular value to us is the fact that the English interest centers almost entirely around the formal types of Polyanthus and Auricula, those forms which are bred to rules of exactness and precision for show table, rather than garden, use. Lack of seed, rather than lack of interest in the show types, has caused the relatively few Show and Alpine Auriculas and Gold-laced Polyanthuses to be grown here. Competition promises to be keen in another year or two when results of seed, recently imported by members of the American Society, are shown.

Articles of interest include The Development of the Auricula, a Visit to an Auricula Show, Old and New Auriculas, Judging Auriculas and Polyanthus, Gold-laced Polyanthus, and an article on the John Innes Horticultural Institute giving the well-known seeding and potting composts which use peat and chemical fertilizers with other materials instead of farmyard manures. Illustrations include the Auricula silver challenge cup, Show and Alpine Auriculas, Gold-laced Polyanthus, and a panel portrait of the last generation of Auricula growers.

Printed on highest quality paper, the 52-page issue may be had from Mr. R. H. Briggs, Hon. Sec'y., High Bank, Rawtenstall, Rossendale, England, for $1, post free.

(From Page 12)
Avoiding such situations is the first step in the control of red spider, the next is spraying the underside of leaves with sulfur in some form. Dust is ineffective against the tightly spun webs. Red spider congregates first on the leaves nearest the ground and when the first signs are noticed—small, pale blotches—and examination of the underside discloses gauze-like webs, this foliage, which is old and which will be lost through natural means before next year, may be picked off and burned thereby temporarily delaying reproduction.

A rather novel control used successfully and spoken of by E. I. McDaniel of Michigan State College (published by the Michigan Horticultural Society in Horticultural News) is a spray using either bill poster's paste or common glue which, when sprayed on the underside of leaves, seals the mites to the foliage causing suffocation. One tablespoon of bill poster's paste to a gallon of water, and from 2 to 3 tablespoons of glue to the gallon is the rule.

Thoroughly watered plants in the proper amount of shade for the locality are seldom attacked.

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