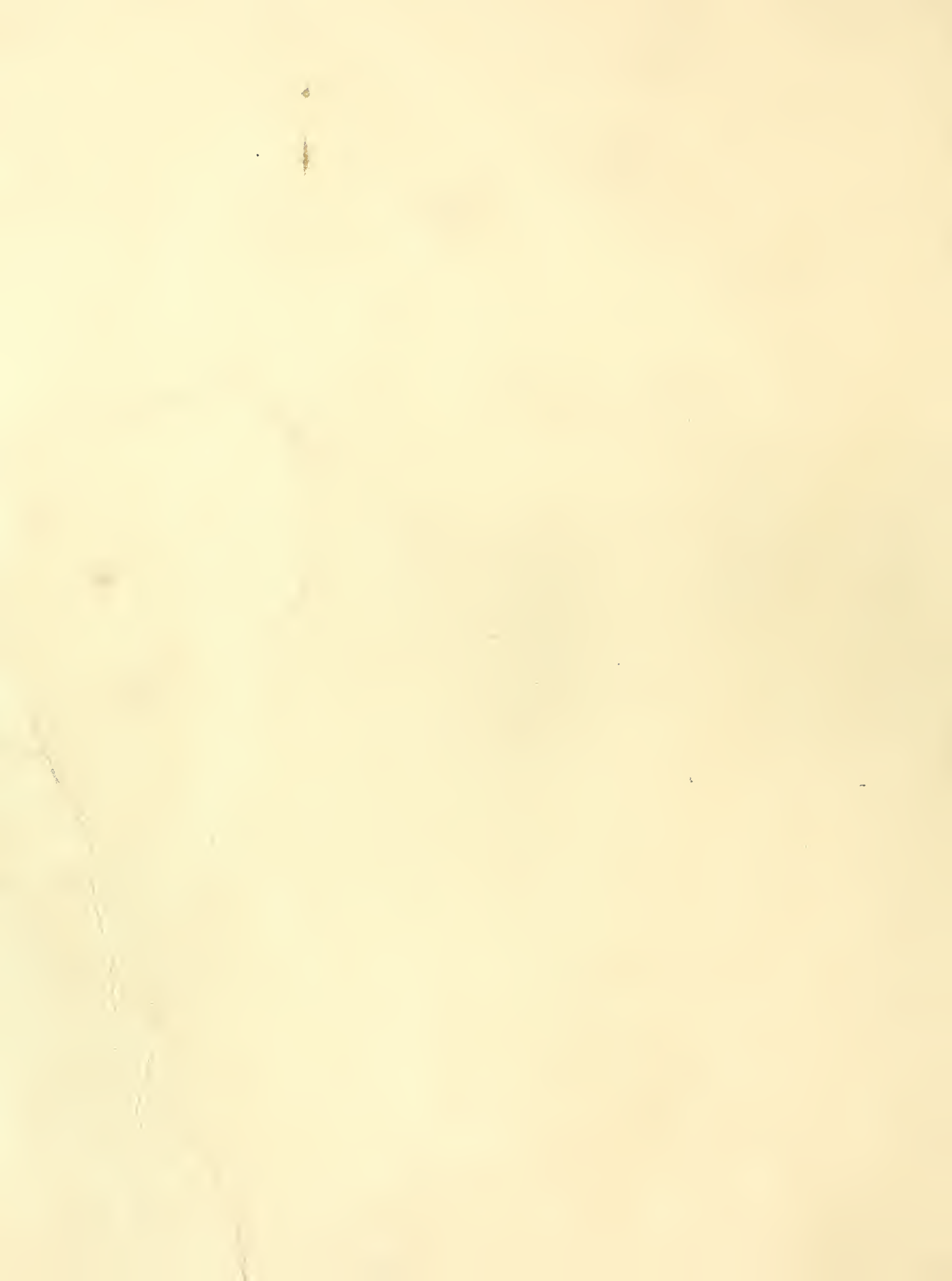


Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



Gardenside Gossip

A Publication of Gardenside Nurseries, Inc.
Shelburne, Vermont



Volume Nineteen
FALL 1953

IF YOUR NOSE IS CLOSE
TO THE GRINDSTONE ROUGH,
AND YOU HOLD IT DOWN
THERE LONG ENOUGH,
IN TIME YOU'LL SAY
THERE'S NO SUCH THING
AS BROOKS THAT BABBLE
AND BIRDS THAT SING.
THESE THREE WILL ALL
YOUR WORLD COMPOSE:
JUST YOU, THE STONE,
AND YOUR DARNED OLD NOSE.

This little jingle is not great poetry we'll all agree. Yet the temptation to use it has finally overcome our scruples. For it points in a different way to the idea we have so long urged our readers to consider. Everyone needs a hobby.

In these days, when any thinking person wonders what the future holds. And when to succeed, or even to hold one's own, takes almost all one's time and energy, a hobby is a necessity. And what better hobby than to make a garden? Not only do you harden your muscles, and get outdoors. At low cost you get these benefits, and another.

For gardening brings beauty. And beauty in itself takes one out of the workaday world into another land, away from grindstones, and 'the cares that infest the day.' And may we help to make your garden?



LIBRARY RECEIVED
U. S. Department of Agriculture
NORTH AMERICAN LILY SOCIETY

Annual Lily Show

At Hamilt. Col. on July 17th 1953
SECTION D CLASS 18 A

EXHIBITED BY

*Gardenside
Shelburne Vt.*

WE HAD TWO OF THESE, -- BOTH FIRSTS!

And we quote from the newspaper report of the Show--

"The winning blooms were the new and unusual pink trumpet lilies which have been developed by Gardenside Nurseries."

The report refers to our entries of a single stem, and of three stems of our Hybrid Regal Lily--

WINTER SUNSET.

This fine new trumpet lily, which flowers in mid-July, was introduced by us two years ago. It was first flowered in 1945 since when we have been increasing its numbers as rapidly as possible, but it is still not plentiful. It is a soft even rose in color, slightly deeper outside, but not lacking color on the inside of the trumpet. It has a sturdy erect stem, which does not need support, and the flowers are held well erect, so that they may be seen. Its name derives from the similarity of its coloring to the rosy flush of sunset on the snowclad peaks of our Green Mountains.

Two recent visitors have reported on this lily in their own gardens this year. From Montreal, where it grew on a heavy cold clay soil comes, 'it was lovely and stopped passers-by.' And in Central Illinois, on a rich fertile loam, it grew five feet high, with two stems carrying four blooms each.

STRONG BULBS, WHICH HAVE FLOWERED THIS YEAR, \$4.00 each.

The prices on our plants do not include delivery charges. Please add postage to your order, we will refund the excess. If you prefer we will ship by railway express.

TRUMPET LILIES.WHERE ARE LILIES GOING?

SHELBURNE HYBRIDS. The many strains of Hybrid Regal Lilies offered today, have essentially the same parents. They are quite likely to excel, both in vigor and in size of bloom and all are very lovely. But in the final analysis, it is their garden value which is most important. We believe that to be of the greatest beauty, they should hold their blooms quite erect, on sturdy stems, and that these blooms should flare widely, so that the full benefit of the color is had. We also like a diversity of flowering time, so that not all open on the same day. And they should withstand heat and bad weather. All these features we have selected for as we have grown Shelburnes, these many years. Their white trumpets will beautify your garden for many years.

4/5" bulbs, 30¢ each; 10 for \$2.75; 25 for \$6.00

5/6" bulbs, 40¢ each; 10 for \$3.50; 25 for \$8.00

6/8" bulbs, 50¢ each; 10 for \$4.50

8/10" bulbs, 75¢ each.

PINK SHELBURNE HYBRIDS. When first we found the pink forms in our beds of Shelburnes, we set out to produce a seed strain which would permit us to raise quantities of these beauties. We are now able to do so, and we mark the colored plants at flowering time, later digging each bulb separately. These bulbs are then mixed, and the degree of coloring of the blooms cannot be guaranteed. But they vary from rich deep shades, inside and out, to white flowers, with light pink pencillings inside. Anyone who saw our exhibit at Hamilton will know how brilliantly these colored forms stand out against the white of the Shelburne Hybrid strain. Be sure to plant them with a contrasting color, to fully realize their beauty. Strong bulbs which have flowered well this year. \$2.50 each; 5 for \$10.00.

CHAMPLAIN HYBRIDS. In raising seedlings of the Pink Shelburnes and also in growing other interesting forms of the trumpet lilies, we have a quantity of bulbs which vary more widely in their flowers, than do the Shelburnes. Occasionally a pink seedling will get by us, and there are long green blooms, or the widely flared, broad segmented type which we know indicates *L. auratum* blood. We cannot promise what you'll get, but they are all fine lilies.

4/5" bulbs, 40¢ each; 10 for \$3.50; 25 for \$8.00

5/6" bulbs, 50¢ each; 10 for \$4.50; 25 for \$10.00

AURELIAN TRUMPETS. So much is being written today about the Aurelian Lilies, that it is well to consider what they are. They are hybrids of *L. henryi* and *L. sargentiae*, which were first grown at Orleans, France, some years ago. As further groups of seedlings have been grown from the bulbs, a number of forms have appeared, some of which are much like the Henry's Lily, while others are short trumpets, or wide flaring ones, in soft yellow whites. Our own strain is of these last types. We have selected a number of fine soft yellow forms to increase. This year we have a lot of fine seedlings, all much alike, which flower about with the Shelburne Hybrids, and make a fine contrast when planted with them. STRONG BULBS, \$1.00 each.

AURELIAN SUNBURST. While not trumpet Lilies, we place these here for contrast with the preceding. All of these flower in late July, and early August. Deriving from the same cross as the trumpets, the Sunburst strain are much more like *L. henryi*, with narrow segments, which open flat, or may eventually completely reflex to make a turks-cap bloom. The colors vary from white, with a yellow throat, to pure orange. The stems are moderately strong, but not rigid. The blooms sway in the wind. We suggest planting in mid-height perennials. STRONG BULBS, \$2.00 each.

It sounds rather of a simple question perhaps. But if the meaning is made clear it may not seem so foolish. For it means 'What may we expect the presently known and grown lilies to become in the next few years?'

No doubt a number of our readers have been Gladiolus enthusiasts, and some of them for many years. Do you not recall when we grew gladiolus species, and only a scattering few hybrids, or named sorts? And how long ago was it that *G. primulinus* was introduced, and used in crossing, giving first the hooded flowers, then later to aid in producing the many superb varieties now being grown. All this in less than a lifetime. Today, the lily stands at the same stage in its development! We are growing mostly species still. Many hybrids are but small improvement over the parents. And the combinations being attempted and with success would not even have been tried a very few years ago. We must not forget that the Lily and the Gladiolus differ greatly in ease of increase, which of itself will slow the progress. Even here, new means may be found to speed propagation.

This subject has been very much in our mind since attending the National Lily Show at Hamilton, Ontario, in mid-July. We have not seen previous Shows, because they have come too early for the group of lilies in which we are primarily interested. Yet the few blooms of some of the earlier flowering sorts which had been kept and were shown this year out of cold storage, proved only too well what we had missed. Next year, the Show will be on the Pacific Coast, and we'll probably not be there. Let us hope it may be possible to have a few smaller displays, here in the East, so that the new things won't be hidden for two years.

By the way, if you are not a member of the NORTH AMERICAN LILY SOCIETY, which is the sponsor of the National Show, why not write the Secretary, Dr. F. E. Kendall, 240-06 53rd Avenue, Douglaston, L.I. New York. He will gladly send you information and a membership application blank. The cost is small, and the Annual Year Book, alone is worth the fee, while in addition there is a seed exchange feature, and quarterly Bulletins of information.

It is only when one sees the new things displayed at the Show, that realization comes of the progress we are making. There were displays of species lilies, true. But they didn't hold the center of the floor. Instead it was the stem here and there, representing the work of this or the other hybridist, which stood out. And instead of the familiar species names, one heard 'Coronation' or 'Dunkirk' and 'it has one eighth the blood of so-and-so, and the rest is ? and ?'. It was hard to keep up.

Where are Lilies going,-con.

NEW LILIES FROM MANY SOURCES.

First of all, we have to say this. There were plenty of blooms shown and named which in our opinion would better have been left at home, or for that matter never grown. A few minor changes do not make a 'wonderful new lily'. Yet it is only when such are displayed and judged against others that their value or lack of it is fully realized. There will be a lot of new lilies sent out over the years to come, some of which will become fixtures in our gardening; others will be stepping-stones to still better things; while not a few will soon be discarded. Moreover, the final test is in the garden, never forget that. And there is one more point to make. We are too prone to keep on old forms, because the lily is a hardy plant. Unwanted *Gladiolus* left in the field over winter, will perish. But lilies grow and grow, and both the gardener and the grower find it hard to dig them up and destroy them. We should learn to eat them, as the Chinese do!

Just what did we see at Hamilton? Out of the more than 500 entries, less than half a dozen persist, after these few weeks. And rather than slight anyone, or praise our own entries too highly, perhaps it will be best now to answer the query at the head of this column. Bear in mind that the lilies shown were those of late June, and July up to the 18th, with a very few later ones that were either forced, or came from a different part of the country.

We feel certain that soon we shall have some much better May flowering sorts, and that these upright, and extremely showy things will supplement the Tulips. No doubt but that they will also be winter flowered and sold in the shops. Then in the June garden we shall have new sorts combining the many good features of the Coral Lily, with other kinds to give new colors and more vigor. And when July comes we shall soon have so many new forms and colors of the trumpet group, that we'll not know which to choose. These predominated at Hamilton, and because our interests lay there, we studied them all. Not only can we have the huge white trumpets of the varied hybrid strains. We can have them now in pink and rose. Yellows as bright as buttercups were shown. Another development will be to the chartreuse, and who can doubt that red can be had, -if wanted. Then the variants of form and size. Short, widely flared trumpets, in white and yellow and cream. Flat open flowers too, hardly recognized as trumpet lilies until one looked at the foliage. These last, in soft yellows, were outstanding we thought. Then we pass on to an entirely different group, which has the blood of *L. henryi*, and repeat the whole series of colors, with even more widely varied form, most of them flowering later in July, and continuing into August.

ALASKA. New last year, and very scarce, is this fine lily of *henryi* crossed aurelian breeding. It is a lovely white bloom, with a fine pale yellow band, flecked with lavender and it fades to nearly pure white as it ages. The stem is an outstanding feature, for it stands rigidly erect, holding the huge racemose head with its 15-20 flowers as much as six feet high. There is an extra bud on each flower stem, and these second buds do not open until nearly all the first flowers are past, which keeps it in good form for a long time. Flowers were barely open for the Hamilton Show but they took high honors there. In our opinion it far excels any other lily of its type. STRONG BULBS, \$10.00 each.

DUNKIRK. This is a shocking lily. Raised by Dr. F. L. Skinner, it will grow to five feet tall. The flowers face outward and are flat or slightly reflexed, appearing in late June and into July. The color is blood red, and one can easily see why it was given its name. Yet despite the shocking red color, it grows in ones liking. There is really nothing else quite like it. Only a few available at \$3.00 each.

GOLD RUSH. DeGraff calls this, with Parade and Tango, and others the Mid-Century Hybrids. The stand well erect, with flowers facing outward, of large size and in bright colors. As garden subjects, they excel, for they make a great display. Gold-Rush is golden yellow. LARGE BULBS, \$1.50 each.

LEMON LADY. From Dr. Skinner, this two foot beauty with soft lemon yellow flowers, facing outward. Coming in July, it may be put near Dunkirk, to cool its blazing color. \$3.00 each.

MOLLY STARK. May grow four feet high, topped with a widely spreading raceme of bright tangerine colored blooms, many of them 4" in diameter. Vigorous and hardy, July. \$1.50 each.

PARADE. Rich yellow orange with a strip of burnished gold down the center of each segment, and all well spotted with black or maroon. Flowers heavily. Large bulbs, \$1.50 each.

SENECA. A later Tiger Lily, blooming late in August. It may grow six feet tall. Somewhat lighter in color than the Tiger Lily. Helps the fall garden. \$1.00 each.

SPECIOSUM, RED CHAMPION. This is a very fine and brightly colored form of the Showy Lily. Raised in Oregon, it is free of disease. Flowers in late August and September. 6/7" \$1.00 ea.

T. A. HAVEMEYER. This lily, which originated in New Jersey, is in effect a strong growing Henry's Lily, but with flowers that open out flat, instead of being very reflexed as in its parent. The color is ivory-yellow and apricot, and the six foot or more high stem, will carry a lot of the four to six inch wide blooms. It needs some support for its pliant stem, but coming as it does in mid-August and later, it is very much worthwhile in the garden. Our stock came from the originator Mr. Tom Barry. STRONG BULBS (have flowered) \$2.00 each.

TANGO. Latest of the Mid-Century group, this is a pale amber in color, almost parchment. The flower is black spotted and very large. The foliage of this lily is a rich green. One of the best DeGraff originations. LARGE BULBS, \$1.50 each.

HARDY GARDEN LILIES.

AMABILE. In June this bright grenadine red turkscape fills the garden with color. It grows easily, yet is not a weed. The bright, black spotted blooms are on good long stems, and the plant has a graceful and airy effect. LARGE BULBS, 30¢ ea.

AMABILE LUTEUM. A clear light yellow form of the preceding with the typical black spotting. Equally easy to grow and the color is rare in a June flowering lily. LARGE BULBS, 50¢ each.

AURATUM. We hope to be able to supply American grown bulbs of this beautiful large white Japanese lily, with their characteristic gold band down the center of each segment, their red spots, and delicious fragrance, in time for planting this fall. We reserve the right to hold the bulbs till spring if they are late in arriving here. 8/10" bulbs, \$1.00 each.

CALLOSUM. A slender and quite tall stem is topped with a lot of very much recurved dusty orange-red flowers toward the end of July. Not large, but the jewel like blooms always attract attention. Fine on dry poor soil with us. 50¢ each.

CALLOSUM LUTEUM. A pure yellow form of the preceding, very rare and hard to obtain. \$2.00 each.

CANADENSE. The native Meadow Lily will grow to seven feet tall when happy in moist lowland conditions. It will thrive in any good garden soil when the lower stem is shaded. Drooping bell shaped flowers of yellow or orange-red in late June and thru July. Strong collected bulbs, 50¢ each.

CANDIDUM, CASCADE STRAIN. Produced in Oregon by Jan de Graff, this strain of the Madonna Lily surpasses all others in hardiness and freedom from disease. The pure white, intensely fragrant flowers appear in early July, and many were shown at Hamilton. 7/8" bulbs, 75¢ each.

CERNUUM. One of the most charming little lilies, much resembling the Coral Lily in stem, leaf, and flower form. It is different in being a bright lavender pink, the flowers are larger, and do not make so much of a turkscape. It seems to like quite deep planting, in our light dry soil, and is probably happiest when the ground is shaded and cool. It will grow three feet or more high, when happy. Fine large bulbs are available in quantity at 50¢ each.

CONCOLOR. The Star Lily is an erect flowering small growing sort standing sometimes three feet high. The flat open blooms are a bright orange red, and appear in July. It is especially fine when planted in low growing perennials. Never plentiful, we have a small number at 50¢ each.

DAURICUM. Who said there were no May flowering Lilies? These low growing sorts, with large upright cup-shaped flowers in colors ranging from light pinkish orange to yellow, mostly spotted with brown, may be in full bloom in mid-May. They are of easy culture, grow to two feet high. Best to plant them among July and August flowering perennials. We offer good large bulbs at 35¢ each.

PRESTON HYBRID, LILLIAN CUMMINGS. This grows to about 30" high with us, the slightly recurved flowers in a close head, all facing outward. The color is grenadine red, spotted black. It is slightly later flowering than amabile. No lily of its type will make more garden display for it increases rapidly to make a large clump, and is very permanent. 50¢ each.

Where are Lilies going,--con.

No one who has seen Dr. Pfeiffer's hybrids of *L. auratum*, with *L. japonicum* can ever forget them, and the glimpse they give of what we may expect to grow in July, August, and even September, makes us long for the day when the 'bugs' will be bred out of the growing of *L. auratum*. We do not doubt that they will be, for already we have it crossed with *L. regale*, and as the sturdy habit and freedom from disease of the Regal Lily can be coupled with the size, and vivid colorings of the Gold Band together with its much longer and later flowering habits, we shall hope to be nearing our goal. Seedlings combining Dr. Pfeiffer's strain and our own Whiteface lily, are now a year old in our fields.

Along the way there are so many possibilities that we have overlooked. Soft yellow turkscape lilies of all heights and times of blooming are assured. They are a cooling influence on the brighter shades so prevalent in midsummer. More than once on a hot day, we have wished that the strong colors of such lilies as the Tiger would utterly disappear, yet we must give this lily its due for its disease resistance and ease of culture. It has been used in breeding some very nice new things, and if time proves that they also have inherited its freedom from trouble, it will be well to consider using it still further.

It is very apparent that as we continue growing new lilies, old classifications will depart, and that just as with the *Gladiolus*, we shall have color and form and good health the main characteristics. Therefore it is important that we do not lose sight of the importance of the last in our haste to raise new varieties. It isn't going to be enough to say that hybrids of *L. tigrinum* inherit its ability to withstand Mosaic, even tho infected, for they will surely continue to infect other less resistant forms. Instead, we must have a resistance to disease,--not Mosaic alone, but Botrytis and Basal Rot. We hope the day comes when any new lily that shows a tendency to the latter two, will be discarded without a showing. Maybe it can't be done, but similar immunity has been developed in other plants.

We must also look forward to more testing and appraising of the new varieties before dissemination. This is a very ambitious hope, for the country is wide, and some sorts do well in one section, others in another. If we had about three test grounds it would help! But for the present, we must let the tests be made in the purchasers garden, which is, after all, the most important spot in the pattern. But lilies are slow to increase, and apt to be high in initial cost. Oh, well, it's the difference of opinion that makes horse races!

ABOUT OUR LILIES.

After writing the preceding, and reading it over, we decided that it might be well to say something about our own choices of the lilies offered here.

Why we stress our Shelburne Hybrid strain is only too apparent. It embodies our ideas of the best in trumpet lilies. We don't like droopy heads, of dull colored blooms, no matter if they stand ten feet high, and can be seen by looking up. These Shelburnes open widely, and hold their blossoms so they may be seen, even when three feet high. To a lesser extent is this true of the Champlains, but there is a more diverse inheritance here, and occasionally one of these will be a soft greenish white and droopy, or open quite flat. Of the pink forms, we can only say that the seedlings were a sensation at Hamilton. They will stand out anywhere, and our customers are writing in to tell us so. The Aurelians, and with them the Havemeyer Lily, represent the next class to flower, and to hold our interest. Alaska comes from this group, and so too will soon come some Havemeyer seedlings, probably to be called Barryi Hybrids which we particularly like. Most of the rest we offer, which we have grown here, are the older species and their variants, and all are beautiful and interesting.

With but a few exceptions, all the other lilies offered are growing in our fields. They have been selected primarily for our own liking for them, or for some outstanding characteristic. This is true of the Cascade Candidums, and Speciosum Red Champion. They are not only better and brighter colored but they are American produced, which has two distinct advantages to our mind. The other DeGraff forms we offer are those we have liked for color, primarily. That they have a place in the garden is evident, for they make a large display. We thought the blossoms faded rather quickly this year, but then it rained all spring til June, and then it stopped and turned hot and dry. It was enough to discourage any lily that was raised on the Pacific Coast!

We have wanted to include Dunkirk for some time. We tell you frankly, that we do not like the color. But it may truly be said that we know no color like it. It fascinates others, as it has us. Lemon Lady, another of Dr. Skinner's Canadian raised beauties, is truly lovely. We hope it did well for those of you who bought it of us last year.

Last of all, a few sorts from a Vermont neighbor who likes, and grows, all lilies, - at least all he can obtain. While we do not always agree with his enthusiasms, there can be no doubt of his sincerity. And if he says you should like a certain lily, we are very inclined to agree with him.

HARDY GARDEN LILIES.

PUMILUM (TENUFOLIUM). The Coral Lily is a bright red turkscape growing to three feet high. When so large, it may easily display 25 or more of its nodding blooms. Very hardy, and usually permanent, it is ideal to scatter thruout the border for June color. LARGE BULBS, 30¢ each; 10 for \$2.50

PUMILUM, GOLDEN GLEAM. A bright orange yellow form of the Coral Lily, of the same easy culture. LARGE BULBS, 30¢ each.

PUMILUM, RED STAR. The bright red flowers open to form an outward facing star, of more substance and somewhat later and larger than the Coral Lily. SCARCE AND RARE, 50¢ each.

TSINGTAUENSE. The flowers of this rare lily, resemble those of L. concolor, but they are larger than the Star Lily, and the thick petals have a waxy substance that catches the eye. It will grow to three feet at least, and has its leaves in whorls like those of L. hansonii. \$2.00 each.

UMBELLATUM, WEST BURKE. Sometimes called Candlestick Lilies, and by botanists now known as L. hollandicum, to indicate that they are very likely not a true species, but rather a group of nursery raised hybrids. This rather short growing, to two feet, form has almost red flowers in June. 50¢ each.

UMBELLATUM, HANNAH DUSTIN. This is a giant, growing to three feet when happy, with large upright cupshaped blooms, which if flattened would be a foot across. The basic color is light orange yellow, while edges and tips of the segments are almost dark red. Makes a fine clump. 75¢ each.

UMBELLATUM, HELEN CARROLL. An unspotted chinese yellow bloom which may be eight inches across. It grows about a foot high, and flowers in early July. Scarce and rare. \$2.00 ea.

ODDMENTS.

CORYDALIS BULBOSA. In earliest spring, this little plant pops out of the ground and flowers. A few weeks later it has ripened and disappeared. The flowers look like rosy purple Dutchman's Breeches, and the delicate foliage is charming. Plant it where it can be seen from a window. 10 for 50¢.

FRITTILLARIA IMPERIALIS. Crown Imperials are natives of Persia but they were common in old gardens. Growth starts very early and is sometimes nipped by late frosts. The stem grows very rapidly to about 30" of height, and is topped by a cluster of pendant orange-red bells. After flowering the growth soon ripens and disappears until another year. Best in a dry location. STRONG BULBS \$1.00 each.

SCOLOPENDRIUM VULGARE. The Hart's-Tongue Fern, so rare in this country is common in Europe, and many wonderfully crisped forked, twisted and curled forms have arisen. We have a fine collection of these varied forms, and it seems no two are alike. They can be grown as houseplants if kept cool, and they are fine in the greenhouse. Outdoors, they are hardy if well placed and protected. Strong potted plants, \$1.00 each.

TRILLIUM GRANDIFLORUM. No one who has seen a stretch of open damp woodland completely carpeted with the great White Trillium, will ever forget it. The plants stand a foot or more high, with a huge white flower often more than 3" across. As it ages, this turns to an attractive pink. Of easy culture in partial or full shade. 15¢ each; 10 for \$1.25.

PYRETHRUM
or
PAINTED DAISIES.

For many years, we have been collecting forms of these old favorites, until we now have a large collection. We have also raised some seedlings, and a few are almost ready to send out. Pyrethrum grow readily in any well drained soil, they cannot tolerate wet feet. A little shade does no harm, but they like full sun. Give them a little covering for the first winter at least. After flowering, cut to the ground for better foliage and divide about every third year, for best results.

THE FOLLOWING ARE SINGLE FLOWERED.

CRIMSON GIANT. The largest and strongest growing sort we know. It is often four feet high, with one huge flower open at a time, brilliant red, with yellow center. There are several flowers per stalk, giving a long season. 50¢ each.

EILEEN MAY ROBINSON. A large and perfectly formed flower, soft pink in color. While single, like most of the better forms it has extra petals, tho the center is the familiar yellow disk. It is a vigorous plant, of easy culture. Robinson, the leading English grower, regarded it as his finest. 50¢ each.

HUNTINGTON'S SCARLET. This is the very best of the dark red varieties. It originated in Ohio, at least thirty years ago. It is darker than Crimson Giant, and flowers more profusely. A good plant, of easy culture. 50¢ each.

MRS. D. C. BLISS. This is not a large flower, and it is single, tho with extra petals to give it substance. But it produces a profusion of blooms on slender wiry stems. The color is a bright orange pink, unusual in itself, and a plant in full bloom is a mass of brilliant color. 75¢ each.

VICTORIA. An old, old English sort, with even deep rose red flowers. It is notable for vigor, and the profusion of its blooming. It is less erect than some sorts, but the stems are long for cutting. 50¢ each.

THE FOLLOWING ARE DOUBLE FLOWERED.

BUCKEYE. An old favorite, with very double, perfectly formed blooms of a good red shade, slightly lighter at the center. Tho well known, it is never plentiful. \$1.00 each.

CAMEO PINK. Offered for the first time. This has the outer or ray petals a good rose pink, while the center is quilled, but not entirely doubled. A very nice thing. 75¢ each.

CHERRY GLOW. This is, we think, a little brighter in color than Buckeye, which it much resembles. Tho the center, which is very well filled, shows more white. 75¢ each.

LILLIE MORGAN. This is a white, with the center quilled lightly but with a very branching stem habit, which makes it quite distinct. A stem is a bouquet. \$1.00 each.

MRS. C. E. BECKWITH. This is the best, very double white form we know, and it was introduced by us. It is sturdy and vigorous flowers heavily, and early, and last thruout the season. This permits cutting it with most other varieties. Not until it is fully open and matured do the outer petals droop, - a fairly common fault. 50¢ each.

ABOUT PERENNIAL PLANTS.

In 1916, thirty seven years ago, we first became acquainted with hardy herbaceous plant material, and also with the somewhat strange group of persons who usually have devoted a lifetime to growing them for sale, or as a hobby. Not every perennial gardener is of this group. But there are many persons, some wealthy, some not, who like plants, and are happiest when working with them, or talking about them. Sometimes it seems their number is lessening, even tho the persons who have gardens is increasing. And then we meet a newcomer to the fold. We have no doubt there will always be plantsmen.

And there are so many of them we haven't known, or at least have never met. And sometimes when one does meet one for the first time, previously held conceptions are found entirely wrong. It was a pleasure to meet while at Hamilton, Dr. F. L. Skinner of Dropmore, Manitoba, and to have a long visit with him. And there were a number of other persons there of whom we have known, but met for the first time, and who were entirely different from our ideas of them, - and may we add, from each other. Also, we renewed an old friendship with A. F. Emberley, whose Mountain View Nursery in Quebec, always interested, and amused us. There was no mountain!

These men, and others like them cannot view a n herbaceous plant without seeing ways in which it can be improved. Seedsmen do this too, but with annuals and tender perennials. So that while many a fine thing has appeared as a chance seedling, much more often it has been the result of patient study and careful breeding. For instance, the late T. A. Weston brought over from England a packet of choice Viola seed and from it raised Viola Jersey Gem, which first made American gardeners Viola minded. Yet he often told how when he described the new plant to the senior member of the seed firm from which it came, he was informed that just such a thing had appeared in trials the year before, but had somehow gotten lost. Only the chance picking of a seed pod from those trial plants, to send over to Mr. Weston, brought the plant to notice, for it was always better in America. But it required Tom Weston's skilled eye to detect the good plant.

For years we wanted the White Dicentra spectabilis, and finally learned that it was available in one English nursery. We finally obtained and grew it, yet in our visit with Emberley, he said that it was no longer to be had in England. Not important perhaps, but still enough different from the ordinary Bleedingheart, to make it worthwhile.

About perennial plants,--con.

DOUBLE PYRETHRUM.

Then there is the White Mertensia virginica. For years we have regarded this in the light of a very prized possession, both for its rarity, and its very real beauty. There is no white more clear. We have been told by collectors that the plant is not rare, but is often seen in the wild, but we commissioned one such to get us a quantity, which never appeared. Now at last we can again send out a limited number. It is a pleasure for us, and we hope will be a treat for you.

For several years too, we have been able to supply seed grown Arbutus, which was grown by an elderly person. To our regret he is no longer able to do so, and if you have been told we had it, this will advise that we no longer can supply.

These are little things, each of them produced by one small nursery or some one person working in spare time. But there are those whose efforts are really large, as anyone who has visited Bristol Nurseries at the Chrysanthemum season can attest. And so, in a lesser way is our production of Painted Daisies. Ever since the first time we saw a bed of mixed seedlings, we have aspired to grow the better forms. At times, we would accumulate a quantity of several varieties, then they would get away from us. Even now, when we do have a considerable stock, and a large number of varieties, we have a few which we can't increase. And of Helen, which we sent out, and have grown by thousands, thru overselling two years ago, we now have too few to offer. We sometimes wonder about the persons who first raised the better forms. We knew the Huntingtons, and Mrs. Beckwith, and Helen's father, who named his prize for his daughter. But Buckeye has been in the plant trade for ages. Who grew it? And how did we happen to get Silvertips from our good friend in New York, and from the Pacific Coast, at about the same time.

Viola Maggie Mott has been grown in England, perhaps for a hundred years. We have been told of establishments outside of London, which grew it exclusively, and in tremendous quantities, for it is a very great favorite over there for bedding. Still, we'd like to know who first saw it flower. Did he raise it, or was he walking about one evening, and chance to spy it in a cottage garden?

Who was Fortin, who saw and saved the giant Lily of the Valley, which bears his name? Incidentally, he was never Fortune, tho this name is sometimes used. No doubt some one knows, and if they do, we'd enjoy hearing. For you see, after thirty seven years, we're still one of those strange persons who like plants.

POINSETTIA. We offer this for the first time, tho it may be known elsewhere. When well grown, the flower is large and about the color of Victoria, a deep rose red. However, there are an extra number of outer petals, some of which are quilled, and the center has some doubling. Looking at it one can understand the naming, but it is difficult to tell why, or describe the flower. 75¢ each.

ROSARY. This fine fully doubled sort flowers early, with Mrs. Beckwith, but is a brilliant deep rose pink, with lighter shadings. It is of good size, and is a sturdy plant. Not all varieties grow equally well, but this is one of the best. We sold short last year. 75¢ each.

ROSE GLORY. Much like the preceding, but somewhat smaller and we think later. It came to us from the Pacific Coast, and has proved to be one of the 'doers.' 50¢ each.

ROSE MIST. Also from the Pacific Coast, this has outer petals of deep rose, and a slightly lighter center, which is flecked with white, hence the name. 75¢ each.

SILVERTIPS. We had this variety from different sources, and of the two names given it, we chose this as most descriptive. The very double, deep pink bloom shows a bit of the white reverse side of the center petals, nearly to the outside making it an outstanding novelty. Of good easy culture and fine for cutting. 50¢ each.

AN OUTSTANDING NOVELTY

RED PYGMY. This variety grows less than a foot high and it is almost as attractive because of its dark green mass of foliage as for its single bright red flowers on short stems, which spangle the plant. 75¢ each.

HARDY ORCHIDS.

CYPRIPEDIUM ACAULE. This, the Moccasin Flower, is found in pine woodland and in acid bogs. It is a lovely thing, with its single large rose pink flower held erect on the bare stem to even a foot of height. Permanent, when happy. 60¢ per bud.

C. PARVIFLORUM. This is the smaller Yellow Lady-Slipper, found in open damp woodland, or on the edge of a swamp in partial shade. Of easy culture in any cool soil. 60¢ per bud.

C. PUBESCENS. The larger Yellow Lady-Slipper is found with the smaller form, but is more common in open woodland. It is not hard to grow in a cool soil and partial shade. Avoid too acid soils however. 60¢ per bud.

C. SPECTABILE. The Showy Lady-Slipper (also listed as C. hirsutum and C. reginae) is the finest of our native orchids. It grows in cool bogs on tussocks above the muck. We have grown it well in the past in our lath house, in our average soil. Avoid wet feet, but be sure of shade and cool root-run. The plant when happy is majestic, for it will stand two feet high, with striking foliage, and the pink and white 'slippers' can be three inches long. 60¢ per bud.

A FEW UNUSUAL PLANTS.

- ADONIS PYRENAICA. The Spring Adonis, or Pheasant's Eye, is an early flowering plant of the Crowfoot Family. This may not be the true *A. pyrenaica*, but since it differs but slightly from *A. vernalis* anyway, little harm can come of it. Ferny foliage in earliest spring, to a foot or more, and bright yellow single flowers, which open in sunlight. Disappears after flowering. Best in partial shade. \$1.00 each.
- CONVALLARIA FORTIN'S GIANT. This is the strongest growing form of Lily of the Valley, and the flower stems are often a foot high. Give it the same shaded location as any Valley, and it will surpass it in every way. STRONG SINGLE PIPS, 25¢ each.
- DICENTRA SPECTABILIS ALBA. We have about the only stock of the true white form of the common Bleedingheart. It has soft gray-green foliage, and the flowers open white, but fade to a delicate shell pink. So far as we know, it is not available anywhere else in the world. \$1.00 each.
- MERTENSIA VIRGINICA. Virginia Cowslips are quite the finest of our native wildflowers for earliest spring. They are attractive from the day they first show their purple tips above the soil, thruout the blue and pink flowering of pendant bells at the tips of the foot high stems. They ask a little shade to be happiest, especially for summer. 35¢ each.
- MERTENSIA VIRGINICA ALBA. Again we can offer the rare white form of the Virginia Cowslip. It is called Snowbell by some. There is no white flower with such perfect beauty. There is but a limited stock, so order early. \$2.50 each.
- PHLOX DIVARICATA LAPHAMI. Flowering very early in spring, this Phlox perfumes the May garden, and if given a good place, - which isn't hard for the culture is easy - it will carpet an area with its soft blue flowers on foot high stems. After flowering, it should be cut down closely, to get good foliage thru the summer. STRONG YOUNG PLANTS 50¢ each.
- PHLOX DIVARICATA SNOWFLAKE. Good authorities consider this the finest of the white flowered Phloxes of its type. Like the preceding, it is very fragrant. It makes a fine clump, being less inclined to spread. Ours is true stock. 50¢ each.
- SANGUINARIA CANADENSIS FLORE PLENO. The Double Bloodroot is so perfectly doubled as to resemble a waterlily. If the native single form grows for you, this will too. \$1.00 per strong bud
- THALICTRUM ROCHEBRUNIANUM. This tall meadow-rue begins to flower in July and is lovely all thru August. The flowers are lavender, with prominent yellow stamens, and the plant may grow to five feet. Delicate foliage and a long blooming time, together with a hard to get August color, - for \$1.00.
- VIOLA MAGGIE MOTT. Lovers of Violas will be delighted to know that we again have a good number of this soft lavender sort grown for many years and truly one of the outstanding plants of the spring garden. Ours are true to name, heavy plants. They are fragrant too, the flowers 2" across. 50¢ each.
- VIOLA ROYAL PURPLE. Originating in Canada, we have long thought this to be the finest purple Viola grown. It is huge in size, brilliant in color, makes a big plant, and flowers all summer. One very prominent horticulturist says, 'should be more widely disseminated.' So say we! 35¢ each; 10 for \$3.

THE MANAGER'S DESK.

Last spring, when I first made the decision not to mail a Gossip, I thought it might be well to send out a letter telling of the decision, and the reason for it, to each of you. However, it seemed likely that not everyone would care deeply, and the letter was finally written and mailed to those who asked for a catalog, or why the Gossip hadn't been received. I was surprised and pleased at the numbers of the latter and the kind words of praise the Gossip received. It is only necessary to say here that there were, and still are, problems of personnel; of plant supplies; and ever increasing costs. Too, the tendency is more and more towards specialization, and the things in which we are most interested are best sent out in the fall. Here is the Gossip for 1953. You will note some changes.

The main one is our decision not to pay the shipping charges on our plants. With ever increasing rates, we were forced to consider the possibility of shipment to the far zones, and thus those near us paid a part of the postage for those further away. We still guarantee safe delivery in a growing condition, tho we cannot be responsible for the success of any planting. Please write us promptly if you feel that the package you receive is not in good shape. We will try to replace, or advise.

Will you include with your order a sum which you think will cover the postage, if you wish the plants shipped by post. We will refund any balance. Otherwise, we will ship by Express collect, or C.O.D. for the amount of the postage.

We still grow a lot of Iris; Poppies; Daylilies, and many lesser groups. If you wish some sort we have previously listed please ask for it. We welcome visitors, too but please be prepared to talk plants in the office. We have too little help that can wait on you in the field.

CANADIAN CUSTOMER, PLEASE NOTE.

Our Lilies are sold in Canada by
Mr. George E. Holland,
440 Douglas Avenue,
Toronto, 12, Ontario.

Place your orders with him, to avoid the extra cost of inspection and postage. If you wish plants, but not lilies, send the order to us, and we will notify you of the probable cost. And PLEASE ORDER EARLY.