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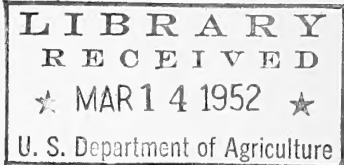
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# Gardenside Gossip

A Publication of Gardenside Nurseries, Inc.  
Shelburne, Vermont



Volume Eighteen  
SPRING 1952



### BETTER FOR MAN

WERE HE AND NATURE MORE FAMILIAR FRIENDS!  
Alexander Smith.

So it has been said thruout the ages. We read that "Lucullus, whom frugality could charm, ate roasted turnips at his Sabine farm." And tho it isn't our purpose to invite you to raise turnips, at least not to the exclusion of less mundane things, we do hope to make you feel as we do, that planting and caring for a garden is a "noble endeavour" as another ancient phrased it.

Gardening of any kind gives needed physical exercise. It helps to make an otherwise barren area, sure to produce grass, or weeds, into something one can display with pride. It can provide one with a satisfactory hobby at a very moderate cost.

And a garden of flowers and shrubs and trees does even more. Here one who cannot draw, may paint a picture. Another who may not use a chisel, can still erect a noble monument, or--unable to preach may utter a sermon. For it is thru the beauty of plants and flowers that we may hope to attain a satisfaction with life, that is often denied us by our daily work.

### TWO THALICTRUMS.

This is not the first time that we have asked for your interest in Thalictrums rochebrunianum and klusianum. But because they are so very much alike and yet so entirely distinct, and because both are rarely beautiful and exciting in the garden, we offer them here in the place of honor.

THALICTRUM ROCHEBRUNIANUM is a bit of a new-comer. We have grown it for at least eight years, but just how long before that it was in cultivation in America, we do not know. HORTUS SECOND mentions it, but omits a number of facts, notably height. A native of Japan, it certainly wasn't available when T. dipterocarpum was introduced, perhaps twenty years ago. But this last beauty was not reputedly hardy, while T. rochebrunianum unquestionably is.

In any case, here is a beautiful Meadow-Rue. All of the family that are commonly grown are tall plants for the back of the border. Their attractive foliage lasts well all summer and is especially charming when developing, and pearly with dew. This has a rather bare, but widely branching stem which rises above the foliage, usually to about four feet, altho last years wet summer proved that with adequate moisture and food, an established plant may stand six--to our surprise. The flowers are small but are borne in large panicles, closely enough together to give a definite color effect. And the color is one lacking in July and August,--a soft lavender with the yellow stamens adding the finishing touch. The flowering season of even one plant is long, for many smaller panicles continue to develop under good growing conditions, and no doubt trimming of the stems would help. But the seed heads also are attractive, as they develop. It has no diseases or pests, and is of easy culture in any deep soil.

THALICTRUM KIUSIANUM differs from the preceding in one major characteristic,--it grows about six inches high! It does not make any tall stem. The foliage is tiny, but typical, and often makes one think of Maidenhair fern fronds, lying on the ground. The lavender purple flowers are lovely, just above this foliage, and they appear nearly all summer. The plant is one for light shade, but is usually of easy culture, and spreads underground to make a large mat in time.

STRONG PLANTS OF EITHER SORT ARE PRICED AT ONE DOLLAR EACH.

All prices include delivery charges, unless otherwise stated. If you live west of Wisconsin, Illinois, Tennessee or Mississippi, please add 5% to cover higher cost of shipping.

### HARDY (AND EARLY) CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

- STRONG 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " POTTED PLANTS.** 60¢ each; 3 for \$1.50 (alike).  
Except as noted.
- BRONZE MOUND.** A new bronze Cushion Mum, flowering in early Sept.
- CANARY WONDER.** Beautiful 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " balls of soft canary yellow on two foot stems. Huge sprays for cutting. **NEW. \$1.00 each.**
- CHIPPEWA.** Bright aster-purple. Fluffy semi-dbl. flower. Very hardy.
- CHIQUITA.** Perky 15" mound, a dome of clear yellow pompoms, in late September. This replaces September Gold.
- COURAGEOUS.** On a 2' plant, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " flat double blooms, rich crimson in color. About Oct. 1st. Best red we've seen.
- EARLY WONDER.** A tall, soft pink pompom, excellent for cutting. Blooms Sept. 20th to October first.
- E. A. WANDER.** Huge sparkling bronzy yellow. Earliest big mum. Grows two feet high and fine for cutting. September 18th.
- FLAXEN BEAUTY.** You'll read about this new sort, everywhere. As it opens, it is peach, yellow and coral. As it ages, it turns an indescribable soft yellow, like a wheat field at harvest time. Blooms October 1st, and lasts well. **\$1.00 each.**
- GOLDEN CARPET.** Golden yellow pompoms on very erect, 2' stems. Very hardy and really a border plant. Sept. 15th.
- GLACIER.** Pure white, double flowers of large size, in loose clusters on good stems. Not tall. Hardy and early.
- JOAN HELEN.** Perky little 18" high plant, a mass of semi-double 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide flowers of glowing purple crimson. Sept. 15th.
- LAVENDER LASSIE.** Much like a lavender pink Azalea mum, but taller and less compact. Opens in mid-Sept., and is not hurt by frost. Very beautiful and choice. Seldom over two feet tall.
- PINK SURPRISE.** A newcomer. Flowers early in Sept. Clear rose pink, with creamy overtone. A rounded 2" flower, on a sturdy 2' plant.
- SUMMERTIME.** (Patented). Really a hardy border plant, rather than a Mum. Grows 2' high, the flowers single clear yellow daisies. After the first year, it flowers from late July on. Later, the first year. Divide every third year. 75¢ each.
- SUNAPEE.** Fully double rich gold pompoms on 30" stems, fine for cutting. Blooms thruout September and is very hardy.
- SEPTEMBER BRONZE.** Rich bronze pompom, making a low mound, 2' across in one year. Flowers thruout September.
- SEPTEMBER CHEER.** Cherry red, overlaid purple. The September group are all compact, cushion pompoms, 18" high, and hardy.
- TAPESTRY.** A fully double, 3" wide fluffy flower, opening deep rich pink, and softening to ashes of rose. 2' high. Sept. 15.
- VIOLET.** Brighter and more double than Chippewa (wine purple). Early September. A 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " flower on a two foot plant.
- WHITE MOUND.** A splendid new early white pompom, of good size. Last fall it was in full flower on September 13th.

### PLANT SOCIETIES.

There are so many societies striving for members, which deal with one family or group of plants, that anyone like ourselves must carefully draw a line, or else join so many that costs can be a burden, and interest slacken. There are Penstemon and Daylily societies; Delphinium and Lilies; and numerous shrub and tree groups. Then because of our greenhouse interests, there are Carnation and Chrysanthemum. Last of all there are the strictly professional groups, working to better the affairs of their members. Some are sectional, like our Vermont Flower Growers Association. Others are national, - the American Association of Nurserymen.

Knowing and realizing all this, we do hesitate to urge membership in any one group on our flower loving friends. But, if you like to grow Lilies, or if you have any idea that you'd like to, then you should become a member of the North American Lily Society. Write to the Treasurer, J. L. Tingle, Route 1, Kennett Square, Pa., for full information, or ask us to give you more details. The Society publishes an annual Year Book, which alone is worth the cost of membership. There are Quarterly Bulletins, with latest notes. And there is a National Show, to be held this year in Cleveland on July 7 & 8. We firmly believe that at last Lilies as a whole are on the march, and that because of the immense variety of types and colors available in nature, we shall see a development which will exceed in interest, that of any other plant family.

Which brings us to the secondary reason for this bit of GOSSIP. We have hinted at some of the new things that are appearing. No doubt a few of you know, and maybe you have seen the wonderful new yellow trumpet Lily, E. C. Butterfield, which is a typical Regal Lily, but is butter yellow, inside and out. This is outstanding in itself, but we have also been growing and selecting from a softer yellow colored group known in the whole as Laurelianense, and have some lovely things, as do others. In fact one lot is being advertised. However, the Butterfield Lily is a very decided break in color, and it produces a strong reaction when it is crossed on other sorts. To date, we cannot even hazard a guess as to what may come from our pink seedlings, on which pollen of Butterfield has been placed, but seed is already germinated.

Then there is a large group of new forms of the upright type of Lily, known as Candelabra Lilies, and by other names. These are among the oldest lilies in culture, and there have long been named sorts available. But seedlings which we saw last summer were so far ahead of the older sorts, in size and color, that there is no comparison.

Unless a price is specifically stated, all these plants are 60c each; 3 for \$1.50; 5 for \$2.00; 10 for \$3.50 postpaid. Quantity prices are for plants exactly alike. We cannot accept orders for less than \$3.00

Plant Societies, -con.

There are deep brilliant reds, and soft yellows, and all the colors between, spotted and unspotted. Some are of moderate size, and others open to be a foot or more across when fully expanded. Some grow a foot tall and others three. For bedding, for massed color in July, they excel the display made by Tulips earlier, and they last much longer. Best of all, these increase readily and should soon be plentiful.

The work being done on the Pacific Coast has been well publicised, and some of the new sorts bearing the blood of the Tiger Lily offer much color to the late summer garden. In addition there are some fine forms of the Gold Banded Lily and the Showy Lily, both of which are of major value in the fall garden. But in a New England state a teacher has been spending his spare time for years, growing lilies, and has solved some of the problems that long have bothered us in growing a short trumpeted sort known as *L. japonicum*. This is one of the loveliest of cultivated plants a soft pink trumpet, perhaps three inches long, and as widely flared. And now he has done even more. Last year at the National Show in New York City he displayed some hybrids between this lily and the Gold Banded lily, which were a sensation. There were widely flaring blooms, eight inches across, and three to four inches deep, rich pink, fading to blush pink. Many were red spotted.

It would be impossible to dwell at length on this subject, here. There are too many now working along many lines, to record all that has been and is being done. And yet there are not enough. We need ever the new approach. As witness the report in the 1951 Yearbook entitled, "Experiments with 2,4-D on Lilies with a Virus Disease." That is going afield with a vengeance, - the use of a potential plant killer, to cure what has been considered an incurable disease, and certainly the writer gives evidence of much careful work. Not that we can recommend you to spray your lilies with 2,4-D. But it is just another step in the direction we must be going. Also, if such a treatment can destroy a Virus disease in one plant, others similar may be found to stop diseases such as the Dutch Elm, or Oak Wilt, which will take a serious toll of our trees, and therefore of our national assets.

We need more members of the North American Lily Society. We need more Lily growers. We need more gardeners!

HARDY GARDEN LILIES.

We have stored some Lily bulbs as usual, and can ship from storage as early as you may wish, and until mid-May. We do recommend however, that you get the bulbs into the ground as early as possible, as late planting does not give as tall a stem, and sometimes results in blasting of the buds. We do plant Lilies here as late as June, with good results.

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AMABILE. An excellent sort to give bright color in late June and early July. Grows to about 3' and bears seven to ten grenadine red flowers, spotted black. Of easy culture, and permanent. STRONG BULBS 40¢ each; 5 for \$1.75.

AMABILE LUTEUM. A golden yellow form of the preceding, with the same black spotting. 60¢ each; 5 for \$2.75.

TENUIFOLIUM. The bright red Coral Lily is fine to scatter thru the border for June bloom. It is of easy culture, and is a permanent sort. 25¢ each; 10 for \$2.00; 25 for \$8.00.

TENUIFOLIUM GOLDEN GLEAM. A rich orange form of the Coral Lily effectively used in the same manner as its parent. 30¢ each; 10 for \$2.50; 25 for \$5.00.

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TRUMPET LILIES.

SHELburne HYBRIDS. These fine hybrid trumpet lilies, are glorified Regals which they excel by a longer and later period of blooming, and in a wider diversity of coloring, size and form. They are very hardy and free of disease. We dug an excellent crop and have two good sizes in storage. 4/5" bulbs, 40¢ each; 10 for \$3.50; 25 for \$7.50.  
5/6" bulbs, 55¢ each; 10 for \$5.00; 25 for \$10.00.

CHAMPLAIN HYBRIDS. These hybrid trumpet lilies represent an even more diverse strain, for they are the result of our many crosses made in producing our Pink Hybrids. These are not pink, altho an occasional bulb will give colored blooms. They are a very fine strain, comparable to Centifolium Hybrids. 4/5" bulbs, 60¢ each; 10 for \$5.50.  
5/6" bulbs, 85¢ each; 10 for \$8.00.

PINK TRUMPET SEEDLINGS. We have to offer at this time, a very limited number of seedlings, which have been selected over the past eight years. They differ from the ones sent out last fall in two ways. First, they are not so brightly colored, and some trumpets are small. Second, they are very large and will give a fine showing. Some of these bulbs carried ten flowers last summer. They are the bulbs we have selected over the years, from which the very finest types have been picked. PRICED AT \$2.50 EACH.

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JAPANESE LILIES.

We shall have LILIUM AURATUM, the Gold Banded Lily; and LILIUM SPECIOSUM MAGNIFICUM, the finest Showy Lily in imported bulbs of the largest size, 9/11" circumference. These will give a wonderful showing in the fall garden. They should be planted as early as possible, so please order them at once, and specify delivery date, after April 1st.

PRICED AT \$1.00 EACH.

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### PYRETHRUM.

#### PAINTED DAISIES.

The culture of Pyrethrum is simple. They like any fairly deep soil, in full sun. Partial shade will not harm them, but full shade is not recommended. Excessively wet soils retard growth and should be avoided. Very light soils grow them well, if they receive enough moisture. We believe it best to cut the plants to the ground after flowering, and the new foliage is much more attractive. Protect against winter, especially the first one, with excelsior, boughs, or straw but avoid leaves which will pack down and keep the crowns too wet.

SEE PRICES BELOW.  
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BUCKEYE. When well grown, one of the best double red sorts. The center petals are flecked with white. The spray opens nearly all its flowers at once. \$1.00 each.

CRIMSON GIANT. A very brilliant single red sort. Taller than any other we have, and opening one large flower to the stalk at a time, altho several are produced. 75¢ each.

DAINTY. Double bright pink, approaching red. The flower is not as large as that of Rose Mist, but is slightly darker and differently doubled. Despite the white fleckings, the entire effect is dark. The ray petals are less noticeable.

EILEEN MAY ROBINSON. Best of the single light pink sorts. There are enough extra petals to give the flower substance. Sturdy plant, and grows easily, but always scarce. \$1.00 each.

HELEN. Evenly doubled soft rose flowers of perfect form. A good plant, easily grown, profusely blooming, and if cut back inclined to flower again. THE BEST OF ALL, if but one sort is to be grown. Our own introduction.

HENRIETTA. Very light pink, with a profusely branching habit, making a heavy flower spray. Slightly doubled flowers. Not too tall, and makes a fine display. 75¢ each.

HUNTINGTON'S SCARLET. Best of the single deep scarlet sorts and always greatly admired. \$1.00 each.

MRS. C. E. BECKWITH. This is the best double white form we have seen. It is a bit earlier than others, and lasts well. The plant is very vigorous, producing many stems each of which is well flowered. The blooms are perfectly doubled and are seldom malformed, nor do the ray petals droop until the flower is fully open. Other whites do this and are ragged looking. The white is a clear color, not yellowed.

MRS. D. C. BLISS. This is the most brilliant colored sort we have. The flower itself is not large, about the size of a quarter, and it is single. But the petals are a bright orange pink, different from any other sort in our collection. Cut the blooms when partly open. Mass several plants for garden effect.

RED PYGMY. Almost as nice for foliage effect as for flowers. The small single dark red blooms spangle the dark green, finely cut leaves, as they are barely above the foot high mass of foliage. Makes a nice edging.

ROSARY. We obtained this but two years ago, and already it has proven its worth. It is sturdy and prolific, easily grown. The double flowers are larger than Rose Mist, and slightly lighter often with a partly open center. It is a brilliant deep rose pink, with lighter shadings. Flowers with Mrs. Beckwith.

### IT SEEMS TO US-

During the past gardening season, we were visited by a lady who wished a hardy garden. She was obviously well educated, she had visited gardens in many parts, and she had read catalogs and books on gardening so that she knew an Aconite when she saw it and perhaps a Yucca as well. In spite of all this, however, she found when she set out to plan her border that she had very little idea of design, and how to plant for continuous bloom. And as we talked with her, we realized anew how much we who live with plants, and have spent years with them, take for granted in our catalogs and garden writings.

We have explored this subject before yet it is always a new one, for there is, we trust, a new crop of gardeners springing up each year. Pardon us then, if we repeat.

If one lays out the average hardy border planting on small home grounds, it is apt to be just that, a section along the back of the lot, against a fence, or before shrubs or evergreens—perhaps in part under a tree. How wide should it be? Before we settle that let's consider what is to be used. The obvious planting is always tall subjects at the back, then lower ones, and finally an edging of really small things, the whole scattered full of bulbs. But what's the exposure, is the whole area sunny all day or for only part,—is there one section in perpetual shade, or is there no sun at all at one end of the day, or the other. And is the soil light and apt to dry out, or wet and heavy. These last may be corrected and sometimes have to be, which is a different subject, but they must be considered in planning a planting. Only a few plants require shade at all times; some tolerate it; while most things will thrive in full sun, or partial shade. Therefore if the bed faces the south, planning is easy. If it faces the north, tall plants at the back may effectively shut off light from plants that require it thru a good part of the summer. In such a case, one may use occasional clumps of low plants at the back, especially if the view beyond the border is not distasteful. Then in front of these openings, the lovers of full sun will grow, while plants that tolerate some shade can be put before the tall, fall flowering things.

Now this row of tall plants at the back can make your garden, or spoil it. Such things as *Boltonia* have a habit of taking over the space required by less rampant items, in one summer. They may be checked by planting other strong growing, but lower plants, before them, and beside them, Daylilies for example. And on occasion we have surrounded plants entirely with a close row of *Iris sibirica*, whose roots effectively fenced in the rampant roots.

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It seems to us--con.

And there are plants which quickly grow up to several feet, flower, and then lose their foliage and are unsightly or leave an opening the rest of the summer. Too there are plants which make a sloppy growth, not standing stiffly erect, and needing support. Some of these, which are fall flowering, may be planted beside the plants which will be cut out early and kept tied up. Then when the opening appears, if they are cut free, they will fill the space. *Boltonias* and *Fall Asters* are two of these. Others that occur are *Clematis* such as *recta*, or the upright types of which *heracleafolia* (*davidiana*) is best known. *Hibiscus moscheutos* and *Lespedeza bicolor* are good, and too, one may use the *Buddleias*, by cutting them to the ground in spring.

The center of your border, requires the most careful planning. Here are the things which grow up, flower--perhaps in June--then are cut away. Something must fill their place. Or else one uses *Peonies* which fill the center for weeks, but whose foliage must be reckoned with all summer. It is here too, that the ultimate width of the border is determined. The larger and stronger the plants used, the wider it must be. One knows that the background planting will be strong and perhaps rampant. But if *Delphinium*, and *Poppies* and *Peonies* and *Phlox* and *Baby's Breath* fill the center, and they are sure to be used,--then one must have room for a planting in front, of *Geums* and *Pyrethrum* and *Columbine*, or of *Lupins* and perhaps *Iris*, which can be cut back, and provide a loss mass of foliage, before the stronger growing central planting. Which in turn brings us to the edging.

In the out and out border, an edging may often be dispensed with, unless one relies on such a plant as *Hosta*, or perhaps *Pyrethrum Red Pygmy*, which will make a mass of foot high foliage all season. It is in the more formal border or garden, that such edgings as *Armerias*, or *Primulas*, or the smaller *Dianthus*, have a place. Yet if the wandering border is not too wide, so that weeding is made difficult, it will pay in 'finish', to give it just such a dwarf edging. Sometimes there is an in-between way of treatment. *Pansies*, between which may be planted some of the smaller growing hardy *Mums* or *Violas*, which, cut back, are small early in the season, and become quite large, later on. These both require that the second row be of early flowering things that will not be spoiled or crowded out by the strong growing mid-season and later, habit of the *Chrysanthemums* or the *Violas*. If *Hostas* are used, they get large so early that the second row, must be fairly strong--*Iris*.

### PYRETHRUM.

ROSE GLORY. Deep rose, much like *Rose Mist* and *Rosary*. Color and form are excellent, and culture is easy. It is fine for cutting, tho the stem is not heavily branched.

ROSE MIST. The ray petals are deep rose, approaching red, while the center is slightly lighter. The flower is very double, and the center is flecked with white, hence the name. 75¢ each.

SILVERTIPS. This variety seems identical with another we have known as *Hallauer's Red*. The name *Silvertips* describes it perfectly. A very double, deep pink bloom. Each petal twists enough to show a bit of the white reverse side, toward the tip, giving an odd but fine effect.

VICTORIA. A fine old English variety, deep rose on the edge of red. It grows easily, flowers heavily, and is fine both for cutting, or for massing for show in the garden.

HEAVY TWO YEAR OLD CLUMPS OF HELEN AND MRS. D.C. BLISS. We have some fine 2-yr. old plants of these two at \$1.00 each.

### HARDY PHLOX.

We have added to our collection of *Phlox* a number of well spoken of sorts, and have fine young stock of all the following. Nothing gives more color in the midsummer garden,--as you know!

AFRICA. Brilliant carmine-red with blood-red eye.

B. COMTE. Rich satiny brilliant purple red. Tall and late.

CAROLINE VANDENBURG. A large, true, lavender blue.

CHARLES CURTIS. Brilliant sunset red.

DAILY SKETCH. Salmon pink, with a vivid crimson eye.

GEORGE STIPP. Deep glowing salmon with shaded lighter eye.

GRAFF ZEPPELIN. White with a vermilion red eye.

JULES SANDEAU. Compact trusses of pure pink. Short stocky plant.

LEO SCHLAGETER. Brilliant scarlet with an orange cast.

LILLIAN. Soft cameo pink, about like *Elizabeth Campbell*.

MARY LOUISE. Best pure white. Strong plant and enormous flowers.

MRS. SCHOLTIN. Dark Salmon pink.

NEW BIRD. Amaranth red of great brilliance.

PROGRESS. Considered the best lavender blue.

RYNSTROM. An old sort, still among the best deep pinks.

SALMON GLOW. Lively pink, shaded salmon

SPITFIRE. Brilliant orange scarlet.

VON HOCHBURG. Like *B. Comte*, but earlier and less tall.

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SELECTED HARDY PLANTS.

ANEMONE JAPONICA, Early Strain. Two years ago, we sowed some seed of this Anemone. Our main purpose was to obtain some nematode free plants. There are many very fine forms of the Japanese Anemone, but much of the material available is badly diseased, and cannot be cleaned up. And, from our viewpoint, another fault is that they all flower just in time to be frosted as they open. The very first summer, we had a few early blooms, but last year out of the entire bed which had not been disturbed, three plants began to flower in August. A little later, a fourth plant bloomed. All the rest of the seedlings opened in October, and were frosted. The blooms of this early strain are not outstanding, but they are typical soft pink in color. One visiting landscape architect from Massachusetts was greatly taken by it, and later wrote us and reserved the first plants we could spare. There is, of course an early flowering form, *Anemone vitifolia*, but that has five parted leaves, while this has but three, typical of *A. japonica*. In any case, we believe this *Anemone japonica* will flower long before frost in any garden, and are propagating it. Plants, probably from plant bands, should flower this summer. They will be ready in May, and are priced at REGULAR RATES.

ANEMONE PULSATILLA. The Pasque-Flower differs from the preceding by flowering in the earliest spring days. At first the rich purple cups, an inch across by two high, appear to have no stems, but they do, and gradually the plant becomes nearly a foot high. It is one of the choicest plants of May or earlier days, and of easy culture in any deep soil.

ASTILBE GERTRUDE BRIX. This Herbaceous Spirea grows to about 30" tall, and has spikes of large size. The flowers are rich pink, with a silvery overcast, making it distinct. We consider one of the best sorts in our collection.

A. GLORIA SUPREME. The better form of Gloria is a clear pink in color, tall and of large size. It has been the favorite pink for many years.

CAMPANULA BLUE CARPET. This is a particularly fine, compact form of the well known *Campanula carpatica*. It makes a low edging, for it is propagated, and all plants are identical. The plants are completely covered with deep blue flowers from June til October. And it's iron-clad, against cold.

CHRYSANTHEMUM MAXIMUM, MT. SHASTA. Lovers of Shasta Daisies must be sure to have this double variety. It is the most perfectly formed we have ever seen, and much harder than earlier forms. Having grown it for several years we can vouch for it.

DELPHINIUM PACIFIC GIANTS. These exceptionally fine Hybrid Delphinium are everywhere popular. We have grown nothing else for several years. All colors are represented in this lot, and the plants are a full year old. They will flower well this year, yet are not too large to establish readily.

DIANTHUS LITTLE JOE. Little Joe Borsch, for whom this fine hardy pink was named by his father, Fred Borsch, quite a number of years ago, must be a big boy now. Fred Borsch knew good varieties of plants, and this *Dianthus* which he sent out is still a small compact plant, with the largest bright red flowers on a pink of its size, that we ever saw. They are more than an inch across. The entire plant grows under six inches, and it flowers all summer.

It seems to us--con.

As usual, we have but barely touched on our subject, yet we must leave it for other problems. Suppose there are evergreens or shrubs back of the border, what then? It is almost surely best to dispense with the tall growing and late flowering plants at the back, for their continual shade will force the shrubs upward, and may spoil the evergreen foliage, both of which will create an unsightly spot in fall and winter. Good plants here are Daylilies, or even the true Lilies, both of which cast little shade from their flowering stems. *Doronicum* and *Trollius* will give fair height at their flowering time, and little shade thereafter but one must consider whether they in turn will be hurt. *Doronicum* can stand a dry and sunny spot in summer, while the Globe-flower needs moisture. Also useful here are *Aquilegias*; *Astilbes*; *Campanula persicifolia*; *Liatris*; and *Penstemons*. If one plans well, the middle rows of the border will be the usual plants, and there will be a spot at the back free of growth but which will not be noted.

In the formal garden, the problems all change. One cannot easily put tall things at the back of a bed which one is likely to inspect from all four sides. Here, the taller plants go at the center, and their height must be considered not only in the general scheme of the planting, but also as to the season of their strongest growth. Emphasis points in the center of beds which surround a central feature, might look all right in mid or late summer but be entirely out of place in May. A very good idea is to plan for height at the outside of the area as early as possible with low things at the center, and then when Phlox, perhaps, fills the center beds let the outside have the height of the *Heleniums* and *Artemisia lactiflora*. If the area permits, most good garden planers will put permanent features into the beds of a formal planting, -Lilacs and Flowering Crabs being favorite subjects. In smaller areas one might use the low shrubs in the same way, -*Clethra*; *Deutzia gracilis*; *Daphne mezereum*, to name but a few.

When the beds are small, as often happens the problems increase. So rampant a plant as *Arabis* will entirely cover plants of *Veronica incana* which may be near it, before the latter comes to flower. It is best to depend on the strong central feature, be it shrub or strong perennial, and let the surrounding plants be those whose foliage pleases when out of bloom. And quite often, as has been suggested, it is unwise to mix them.

It seems to us that if we have made enough suggestions here to start you thinking along these lines, we will have served our purpose.

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SHOULD THE SALE OF COLLECTED NATIVE  
PLANTS BE PERMITTED?

In another column in this GOSSIP, will be found a reference to a rare native Orchid which is being destroyed by man. We have been in touch with the gentleman from whom we have obtained *Cypripedium candidum*, for a number of years. When first he wrote us, he knew of this wild colony and wished to exchange a few roots of it, for a rare Vermont species not found in Michigan. We in turn had a client who wished this rare white form, to photograph and an exchange was arranged.

Last summer we were advised that the area was being over-pastured, and that animals were literally treading these rare Lady Slippers into the muck, to get to the water near which they grew. It would have been impossible, we do not doubt, to have persuaded the farmer to fence the small spot to protect a few weeds. Yet, if a commercial collector were to dig a few roots from the muck, and it became known, many persons become very indignant. We have more than once been notified that someone would no longer buy plants from us because we trafficked in native flora.

Last summer, too, a commercial collector here in Vermont quietly informed us that in 1950, he had found the rare Climbing Fern growing wild in Vermont, where it had never before been reported. There were so few plants that he had not dug a single root. We were able to arrange for him to show the find to competent authorities so that it is now recorded in the Flora of Vermont.

Some years ago, climbing high in the Green Mountains, we found a splendid colony of the Fragrant Fern, not unknown, but distinctly scarce and hard to find. It was made known to several persons, not interested in commercial plant culture, and today, it no longer exists. We know that some of the plants are growing elsewhere, but that hidden ledge has entirely lost its beauty.

Commercial collectors will never strip a colony entirely, since to do so will surely affect their own income. In the wild, where conditions favor the growth of a plant, if only a few are left, those few will reproduce themselves rapidly. When a colony is threatened with destruction as was the one in Michigan, or a small stand of Horton's Spleenwort nearby, not too long ago, a collector may take all. And in the main, such plants find their way to those who know something of their culture and will cherish them. Not so the farmer, or the lumberman. We say, let there be reasonable collection and sale of Native Plants.

SELECTED HARDY PLANTS.

ECHINOPS TAPLOW BLUE. Time was, when the umbrella stand in the front hall was graced with a bunch of stems of the Globe Thistle, which dried and kept their deep blue color for months. Now, there is seldom an umbrella stand. But in the garden, a clump of this new sort, very deep blue in color and not too tall, makes a fine contrast for Phlox. Will grow well on hard poor soils.

HOSTA PLANTIGINEA. Tho this is now the accepted name, to us this will always be *Funkia subcordata grandiflora*, the late fall flowering white Plantain Lily, whose yellow green leaves make such an attractive clump all summer, particularly in partial shade, and whose white flowers are so richly fragrant.

IRIS SIBIRICA, TYCOON. This is the largest flowered Siberian Iris. The huge violet blue flowers are well formed, and the plant is a splendid garden subject.

LIATRIS PYCHNOSTACHYA ALBA. The white flowered form of the Kansas Gayfeather can scarcely be obtained elsewhere, so far as we know. It is fine to plant with the type, and for cutting. Strong flowering size roots, \$1.00 each.

ONOTHERA MISSOURIENSIS. We were amazed by the number of visitors here last summer who had never seen this plant. It grows a foot or so high, with stems which sprawl away from the crown. These carry the enormous soft yellow flowers, which are four and five inches across, and are followed by the huge winged seedpod, which in fall breaks free and is rolled away by the wind. Flowers all summer.

PLATYCODON, DOUBLE WHITE. These are the same fine plants that we sent out last year. They do not grow too tall, perhaps 30" and clear white flowers have several extra petals, giving an almost Gardenia like effect. Heavy plants, \$1.00 each.

RANUNCULUS MONTANUS. Among the tiny things we particularly like, this takes high place. It grows but a few inches high, the shining dark green leaves in a close tuft, and this is barely topped by the large yellow Buttercup like flowers which appear quite early in May. The foliage is attractive at all times, and the plant happy in wet soil. We find it useful where faucets drip, and in partial damp shade.

THYMUS SERPYLLUM. When you wish for a plant to use in a flagged walk or terrace, think of this. We have both red and white flowered varieties. Grows but a few inches high, is not hurt by being walked on, stands incredible amounts of heat and drought. Just tear a clump apart, and stick a few sprigs in every opening between the flags. Will also carpet dry areas in full sun, where doesn't grow. STRONG SODS, \$1.00 each.

VERONICA LONGIFOLIA SUBSESSILIS. The finest dark blue flowered plant for August color in the garden. Grows about two feet high, with tall large spikes of bloom. Likes a deep cool soil and a little extra water at flowering time will help.

VIOLA ROYAL PURPLE. This giant sized Viola is one of the most popular things we grow. Each summer visitors marvel at the show of dark purple blooms it displays in the hottest weather. The plant is strong, eventually making a mound nearly a foot high, and wider than high. The dark purple blooms have almost no eye, are quite round, and huge. The stems are long, making it fine for cutting.

All prices include delivery charges, unless otherwise stated. If you live west of Wisconsin, Illinois, Tennessee or Mississippi, please add 5% to cover higher cost of shipping.

WOODLAND NATIVE PLANTS.THE MANAGER'S DESK.

ASARUM SHUTTLEWORTHII. We have grown this southern form of the Coltsfoot or Wild Ginger, for a number of years, and it has been entirely hardy, tho not inclined to spread. It is apt to lose its foliage over winter, but a part of its charm is in the softly yellow spotted green leaves which open in May, and are often mistaken for Hardy Cyclamen, by visitors. Nice for shade, in the rockery or wild garden. SIXTY CENTS.

CYPRIPEDIUM CANDIDUM. This rarely offered White Lady-Slipper comes to us from Michigan, from a stand where it is being destroyed by man. We have not found it to be difficult. It apparently grows naturally in wet turf at the edge of a swamp. In very limited quantity, we offer at \$1.50 per bud.

C. PARVIFLORUM. The smaller Yellow Lady-Slipper is at home on the edge of swampy land in partial shade. Grows easily in a cool soil, shaded, not too acid. 60¢ per bud.

C. PUBESCENS. This, the larger Yellow Lady-Slipper is found with the preceding, and often in moderately moist soil in open woodland. The color is softer yellow. 60¢ per bud.

C. SPECTABILIS. The Showy Lady-Slipper is by far the finest of all our native orchids. It grows in deep cool bogs, on tussocks elevated above the muck. In full bloom a plant may stand two feet high with blooms three inches across. Grows well in partial shade in cool soils, moderately damp. 60¢ per bud.

EPIGEA REPENS. This is Arbutus, best loved of New England wild flowers, both for its association with our past, and for its fragrance. It isn't hard to grow in a partially shaded location, where other growth doesn't crowd it. Under Pines is a fine spot, but we know it in the open on north facing sandy banks, in moss. The soil must be acid. The real trouble is in getting plants that will grow. Collected plants seldom do. We expect our usual supply of seed grown plants, in pots. These grow and often flower the first year. \$1.50 each.

HABENARIA CILIARIS. This loveliest of the Fringed Orchis, is distinct in color from any other native Orchid. It is a glowing orange. At its best, it will stand 40" high, with a raceme of small, fringed blooms eight inches long and an inch and a half in diameter at the top. Native to moist ground, beside streams or ponds, in woodland. Blooms in July and August. 60¢ each.

LYGODIUM PALMATUM. The Climbing, or Hartford Fern is included here, because of its rarity. It has recently been found wild for the first time in Vermont. Some years ago, we obtained sods of it in Massachusetts, and have found it easy of culture in a moist alluvial soil, shaded, and with some means of support for the twining stems which will climb to as much as four feet. We offer strong plants at \$1.00 each.

VANCOUVERIA HEXANDRA. From Pacific Coast woodlands, this is our American counterpart of the Epimediums. It is a beautiful ground cover, with much finely divided foliage on 12" stems from a creeping rootstalk. Dies to the ground, and is particularly attractive in new foliage, while new stems appear from time to time, all summer. Needs high shade to be happy. Not particular as to acidity of soil. \$1.00 each.

With the cost of mailing the common Postal Card, now two cents, I feel sure that each and every one of you must be aware of the advance in postage rates. If this were the only place that it can affect us, I should not be so concerned. But the cost of mailing this GOSSIP has advanced 50%, and there is a decided increase in Parcel Post rates, while Express charges, particularly on small packages seem out of all reason.

I feel very strongly against any further advance in the price of plants. No doubt such an increase would do little to increase the degree of inflation. But it would be a part of a general trend. And it would certainly tend to further check the enjoyment of ones own flower garden. Therefore I am forced to do the only other thing I know of, to lower our costs. That is to set a limit below which we will not accept orders. I have always felt that we could fill small orders more easily than larger firms might, for several reasons. And I have always hated to refuse to accept the order for one or two plants, from someone whom I felt really wished to have them, and perhaps couldn't afford more at one time. But now we must do so. Orders for less than three dollars, we cannot economically handle, and such orders we will refuse, or hold until further orders reach us.

The rest of our terms I think almost all of you know. We do not guarantee that our plants will grow for you. But we do guarantee to get plants to you in good growing condition, and if notified promptly we will do our best to replace any that are dead on arrival, or to send some other plants in the same amount. Quantity prices are for plants exactly alike, e.g. 3 Phlox Africa, not three different Phlox.

Our shipping season normally begins in early April. In a few cases, bulbs or other items from storage can be sent earlier. But in the main, it is useless to ask us for March delivery. We just can't do it.

*Fred M. Atkey*

Gardenside Nurseries, Inc.  
Shelburne, Vermont

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