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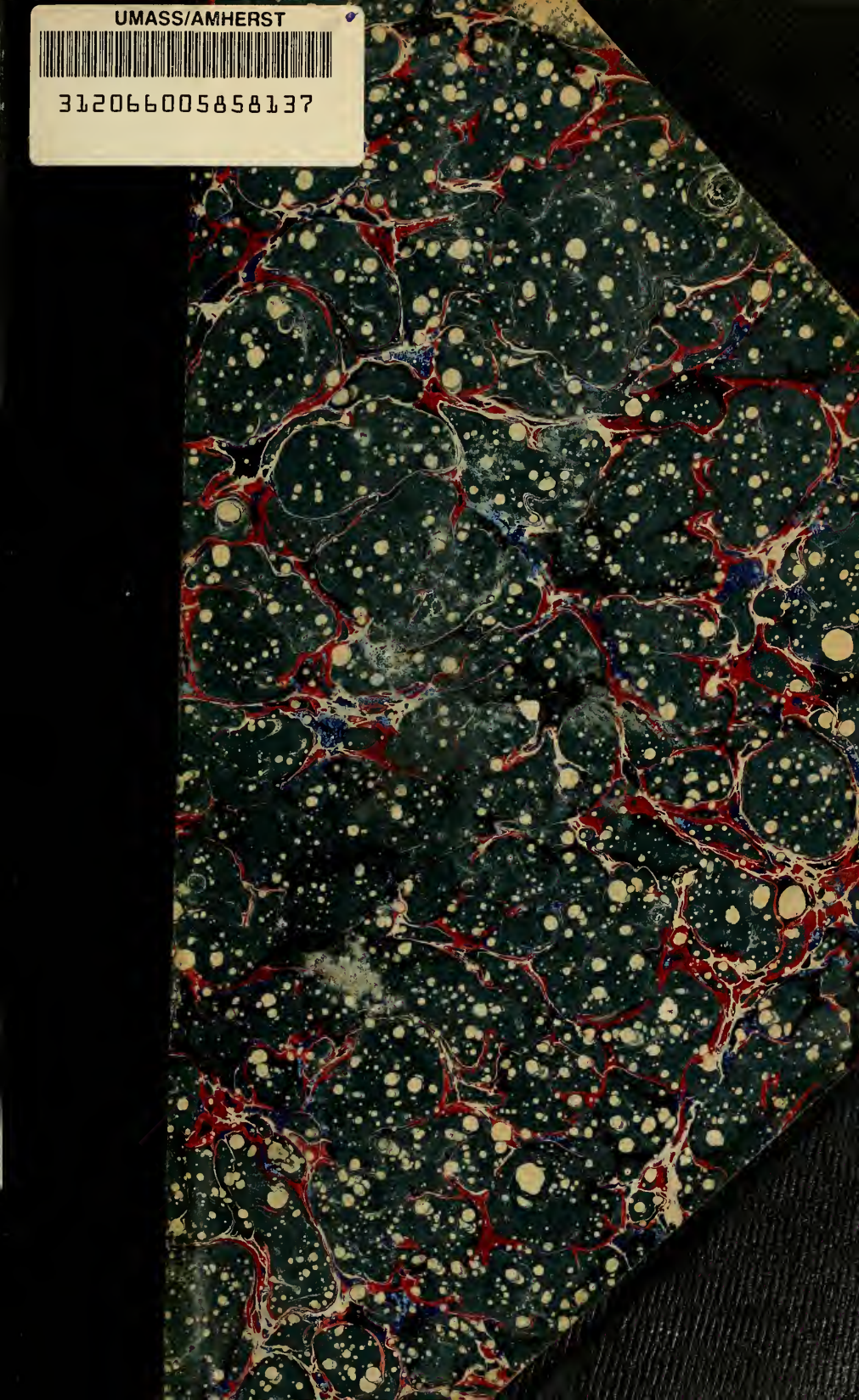

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Society of American Florists

AND ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURISTS

HELD AT

OMAHA, NEBRASKA,

August 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th,

1898.

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OFFICERS

OF THE

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FLORISTS

and Ornamental Horticulturists.

For 1898.

President.

W. F. GUDE, Washington, D.C.

Vice-President.

A. DONAGHUE, Omaha, Neb.

Secretary.

WM. J STEWART, Boston, Mass.

Treasurer.

H. B. BEATTY, Oil City, Pa.

Executive Committee.

For One Year:

W. K. HARRIS, Philadelphia, Pa.
J. G. ESLER, Saddle River, N. J.
W. N. RUDD, Mt. Greenwood, Ills.

For Two Yaars:

ELMER D. SMITH, Adrian, Mich.
GEO. M. KELLOGG, Pleasant Hill, Mo.
EDMUND M. WOOD, Natick, Mass.

For Three Years:

E. H. CUSHMAN, Euclid, O.
JOHN H. TAYLOR, Bayside, N. Y.
W. W. COLES, Kokomo, Ind.

For 1899.

President.

W. N. RUDD, Mt. Greenwood, Ills.

Vice-President.

PHILIP BREITMEYER, Detroit, Mich.

Secretary.

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W. W. COLES, Kokomo, Ind.

For Three Years:

Three Members to be appointed by the President-elect, January 1, 1899.

24190

PROCEEDINGS.

Omaha, Neb., Tuesday, August 16, 1898.

The fourteenth annual meeting of the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists began at Omaha, this day. The interior of the Convention headquarters, in the First Congregational Church, was beautifully adorned with groups of decorative plants. The sessions were held in the main auditorium, and the adjoining church parlors were utilized, at intervals, for committee meetings and clerical work. The trade exhibition was located in the basement, and every available foot of space was occupied by the various exhibits.

The preliminaries to the formal business of the Convention were opened at 10.30 A.M. by Vice-President A. Donaghue, Sr., who was also chairman of the Reception Committee of the Nebraska and Iowa Florists' Society. After organ music, prayer was offered by Rev. Thomas J. Mackay, of Omaha. In his invocation, he prayed for the sunlight of the Divine love upon those who improve the beautiful plants and flowers of God's creation, that their hearts may blossom and expand toward each other and that they themselves may improve and grow to the stature of perfect men.

A WELCOME TO OMAHA AND A RESPONSE.

Hon. Frank E. Moores, Mayor of the city of Omaha, being introduced, cordially welcomed the Convention to Omaha in an eloquent and humorous speech, which was much applauded. He said: —

Gentlemen of the Society of American Florists — It gives me pleasure, as the representative of the citizens of Omaha, to extend to you a cordial welcome to our city. As I look into the faces of the delegates

here present I can readily believe that the very flower of your organization represents your Society here to-day. It has been said that,

> In Eastern lands they talk in flowers,
> And they tell in a garland their loves and cares;
> Each blossom that blooms in their garden bowers,
> On its leaves a mystic language bears.

If I but knew that mystic language, I would express my sentiments on this occasion by presenting to the Society of American Florists a garland which would speak the word "Welcome" and which would be redolent with the sweet perfume of hospitality.

We have had numerous societies and conventions meet with us this summer. Some have sought to develop a stronger physical manhood and womanhood, others have met to devise fresh advances in educational methods, others have discussed the possibilities of future development along technical lines, while still others have met in the cause of sweet charity. The Society of American Florists differs from all these in that it seeks to promote and enhance those beauties of nature which appeal through the eye to the æsthetic sense.

Gentlemen, I congratulate you upon the work which your Society has accomplished. Let it be your object to aid nature, not to subvert it. The grace and symmetry of nature is better than the stiffness and heaviness of what is sometimes called "art." The highest art in floriculture and horticulture is that which makes the most of nature. I have been almost pained occasionally when I have seen the stiffness, precision and exactness which have characterized the methods pursued in arranging the trees, shrubbery and flowers in some parks. Such parks are no parks at all; they are monstrosities, and the sooner they are destroyed the better.

I am a great believer in liberal appropriations for municipal park systems. I believe that the influence of nature as expressed through the trees, the flowers and the green grass, has saved our cities more money in jails, reformatories and almshouses, twice over, than they have cost. The person who delights to frequent the shady park and see Mother Nature face to face is one who, as the great poet and dramatist has said, "Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, sermons in stones and good in everything." Such a man is no miser, for nature floods his heart with feelings of humanity; he is no pessimist, for all nature breathes to him hope and confidence; he is no criminal, for nature speaks to him the loftiest sentiments and touches his noblest emotions. America's great poet of nature, William Cullen Bryant, has expressed this thought in these beautiful words.

> To him who in the love of Nature holds
> Communion with her visible forms she speaks
> A various language; for his gayer hours
> She has a voice of gladness and a smile,
> And eloquence of beauty; and she glides

Into his darker musings with a mild
And healing sympathy that steals away
Their sharpness ere he is aware.

We are very glad to welcome the members of the Society of American Florists because of what they are doing in their respective localities to comfort the bereaved, to cheer the sick, to give hope to the disheartened and to bring joy and contentment into the lives of rich and poor alike.

And now, gentlemen, to better express the welcome we would extend to you, I present you with these golden Keys of the City. Use them early and often, and if they wear out I will furnish you with another pair.

[The Mayor here handed over to Chairman Donaghue, amid much applause, a pair of gilded wooden keys decorated with the national colors.]

They will not only unlock the hearts of our citizens but if any of our non-residents should try to play their "padlock" games on you, these keys will help you to unlock any games they may approach you with. The keys are also to be used for your protection in other ways. I notice a great many gray-beards and bald-heads here, and I don't think they will need any assistance from me; but some of the younger members may be out bowling or enjoying some other games, of which there are many in Omaha; and if they should disobey our "curfew law" they may want to find me. We have a curfew law, so I am told, which says that all the young men between the ages of 18 and 45 (I think that will cover the most of you) who are not at home and in bed at or before three o'clock in the morning are liable to arrest. Now, I am the holder of a mystic number that is attached to my telephone, "55",—"double 5" is the way the telephone girls have it,—and if any of you, boys, get in trouble and are annoyed by our efficient police you just call "55" and I will help you out of your trouble. [General merriment.]

Ladies and gentlemen, it is a source of satisfaction and pride to have you with us, especially so many of you who have come from the far East and West and, we know, are going to take in our exposition. This is a happy, prosperous and, if I may be allowed to say it (perhaps some of you may think I ought not to) a great Republican year for us out here,—I assure you no "politics" is intended,—for "Bill" McKinley has brought this war to a close; and, thank God, we are one country, with no East, no North, no South, no West. The "boy in blue" and the "boy in gray," touching shoulder to shoulder, can march all over this world from one end of it to the other; and if any foreign country wants to knock a chip off our shoulder or tramp on the tail of our coat, let it do it and see what we will do. [Merriment and applause.] I have said something like this to every assemblage that I have seen here, and this is the twenty-sixth pair of keys that I have had the pleasure of delivering

over. They don't come back to me; these keys belong to your President and he can take them home with him if he sees fit. I repeat that this is a great year for us with our bounteous crops and with the war over. We all feel so happy; and sometimes, when I see so many pretty faces before me, I think of what Maggie Mitchell once said upon the stage, "I wish that you boys had but one mouth that I might kiss it." I mean that for the ladies, not the boys — of course my gray hairs will protect me in saying it.

And now I again bid you welcome. I want you to have all of a good time that you can have. If you don't see anything you want ask for it or ring up "55." And when you go away you can take with you anything you want except our new depot. We never had one before and we want to keep that. [Long continued merriment and applause.]

Mr. Edmund M. Wood, of Natick, Mass., made the response to the Mayor's welcome, on behalf of the Convention. He said: —

That it may please Your Honor — The hearty kindness of your welcome, and the gracious terms in which it is expressed, sink deep into our heart of hearts. For myself, permit me to say, in the words of Hamlet, "Beggar that I am, I am even poor in thanks; but I thank you."

We are here to-day, sir, pilgrims from almost every state in the Union, to pay our annual tribute upon the altar of our patron Goddess Flora, and to deliberate upon the welfare of the institution, and the calling which we have so much at heart. And I may perhaps be permitted to say, sir, that we have another claim upon your kindness, inasmuch as we represent — and this in itself is a proud distinction — the premier body of gentlemen on the face of the earth; for we have no less an authority than the immortal Shakespeare for saying "There is no ancient Gentlemen but Gardeners; they hold up Adam's profession, for he was the first that ever bore arms."

But, sir, in speaking of and for my professional associates, I would indeed prove selfish to myself and them, were I so ungallant as to make no mention of the ladies who accompany us, who are a part and parcel of us and who, in themselves, are the most enthusiastic as well as the greatest lovers of all that is beautiful. Ah, sir, what could we do and how could we get along without them? Going back through all time, sir, you well know that

> Till Hymen brought his love delighted hour,
> There dwelt no joy in Eden's rosy bower,
> In vain the viewless seraph lingered there,
> At starry midnight charmed the silent air;
> In vain the wild bird carolled on the steep
> To hail the sun, slow wheeling from the deep;
> In vain to soothe the solitary shade,
> Aerial notes in mingled measure played;

The Summer wind that shook the spangled tree,
The whispering wave, the murmur of the bee;—
Still slowly passed the melancholy day,
And still the stranger wist nowhere to stray.
The world was sad. The garden was a wild.
And man, the hermit, sighed,—till woman smiled.

Their smiles are with us to-day, sir; their presence is an inspiration to us and I trust that they will find that high estimation in your favor that they most assuredly receive from us.

It was a happy thought, sir, as well as a wise and far-seeing provision, which induced us to make at the present time our sojourn in your famed, your hospitable, and your beautiful city, and we find ourselves more delighted at being here present with you to-day. To those of us who visit your city for the first time, the view of it while crossing the Missouri River comes as a new revelation. Nature has done wonders for you, in an unsurpassed situation for business facilities, but taste, liberality and enterprise have done vastly more for you, while you are surrounded on all sides by the most fertile region of the earth which is constantly pouring tribute into your lap. You have speedy and ample communication with every part of our country, while at the same time the entire universe is in business touch with you. Who was there, but a little more than a generation since, who could have predicted, or even dreamed of your marvelous growth, of your phenomenal prosperity? Why, sir, it seems but yesterday since you were a village, almost unknown, while to-day you are a thriving community, numbering fully, if not more than one hundred and fifty thousand souls, with untold wealth, with undeveloped resources almost beyond the bounds of possibility and with a fame and a name which is carried to the uttermost parts of the world.

And this great development of yours, sir, has been brought about within a comparative few years; — for indeed the extensive public and private improvements which have made Omaha the great and queenly city she now is, had scarcely a beginning before 1880 and since then your progress has been as permanent as it is unprecedented. Your efforts to organize a Trans-Mississippi Exposition and its phenomenal success has filled the world with admiration. To have made the attempt and to have succeeded after the great Chicago exposition required not only courage and energy but a confidence in your ability to accomplish so stupendous a work. It is a marvel. It is just such material that has made our armies and navies invincible.

We of the East, are prepared to believe in the success of anything the great West may undertake. You rival many an older community in all that pertains to civilization and culture in all its varied ramifications, and we, from the East, while astounded at the rapidity of your growth in population and prosperity, have no envies, only good wishes for your success and can bid you a heartfelt God-speed at the same time firmly believing that you will become the foremost community of our great American continent.

"Westward the course of empire takes its way."

Where can it find a more fitting culmination than in your great, your enterprising, beautiful and hospitable city of Omaha?

I have said, sir, that nature has done much for you. Will you permit me, without any egotism on my part, to say that we are doing much for nature inasmuch as we profess an art which aids as well as improves nature and

Over that art
Which adds to nature, is an art
That nature makes. You see we marry
A gentle scion to the wildest stock
And make conceive a bark of baser kind,
By bud of nobler race: This is an art
Which does mend nature, change it rather, but
The art itself is nature.

And in this respect I hold that we are public benefactors in so far that we make what was already beautiful still more so. The great poet of all nations has told us that

To gild refined gold, to paint the lily,
To smooth the ice, or add perfume to the violet
Is wasteful and ridiculous excess.

But this is not a truth. Improvement adds to the value of everything, and in improving even so insignificant a thing as a humble wayside flower, we do not only add to its beauty in an æsthetic sense but to its value as a commercial product, and thus all that adds to the commerce and trade of the country adds in a greater or less degree to the wealth and perpetuity of the nation. We do not wear our hearts upon our sleeves but in all candor I can say to you, sir, that it is not alone our mission to combine the beautiful with the useful but to make that combination a source of profit to each and all of us.

We are here, sir, not alone for the purpose of carrying on the affairs of our association but at the same time to show the glory of our art and to display, as we do from year to year, the strides we are now continually making in the art of floral culture. It is a work worthy of all consideration, of all commendation and of all encouragement and we beg for it the kindly countenance of all lovers of the beautiful, with the assurance that the aim will ever be on our part to make the "thing of beauty a joy forever."

Mr. Mayor, as the representative of this city we lay our homage at your feet. We bring to you the choicest products of our gardens and conservatories.

Here's flowers for you;
Hot lavender, mints, savory, marjoram;
The marigold, that goes to bed with the sun
And with him rises weeping; daffodils

That come before the swallow dares and take
The winds of March with beauty; violets, dim,
But sweeter than the lids of Juno's eyes,
Or Cytherea's breath; pale primroses,
That die unmarried, ere they can behold
Bright Phoebus in his strength; bold oxlips and
The crown imperial; lilies of all kinds.
The Rose peerless among her peers.

These beautiful flowers we bring, but of greater interest and importance and value to the society, we bring an art, the secret of the science of their production.

I am sure, sir, that for the brief time we shall be with you our lines shall lie in pleasant places and all our paths shall be those of pleasantness and peace. For yourself, sir, and the noble city of which you are the well-deserving pillar, I beg you once again to accept our most profound thanks and to rest assured that you and yours shall have an abiding place in our memories up to that supreme moment when for us time shall be no more.

Mr. Wood's response was generously applauded.

PRESIDENT GUDE'S ADDRESS.

Chairman Donaghue here vacated the Chair, whereupon President W. F. GUDE came forward and was cordially greeted. President GUDE then read his annual address, which was listened to with strict attention and frequently applauded.

The address was as follows: —

Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of the Society of American Florists — Goethe, whose poetical imagination permitted him to strew "Flowers of Rhetoric" around and about him, as well as probe into the mystery of the metamorphosis of plants and flowers, and observe closely the evolution of shape, color, and function, is well entitled to his prerogative of such figurative generosity, but it never should be expected that "Flowers of Rhetoric" could ever be conceived, cultured and culled by the President of the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists, organized to deal with substance, not shadows, with real earth and not with ethereal elements of poetry. And yet, who has more beautifully entered into the subject, in presenting an annual address to you, than our worthy and much loved president of a few years ago, brother W. R. Smith, and my immediate predecessor, Adam Graham of Cleveland.

Therefore, in presenting to you this address, as a practical man fully imbued with all of the interests of our Society, filled with the sense of realization as to its great importance now and in the future, I come

with my greetings to you in practical words expressing practical thoughts.

First, I congratulate you upon the choice that you have made in your meeting place, enjoying as you are the generosity, kindness and wholesouled hospitality of this growing city of the middle west which, in comparison to its population, has demonstrated since it has been recognized as a city more "push" and enterprise than any other city in our country. It has opened its doors to assemblages of all kinds and natures and entertained at its boards conventions, conferences, expositions, fraternities and shrine caravans, which have made the name of Omaha known not only in our own country but throughout the civilized world. So to-day we must feel somewhat the pride of being the guests of not only those who are members of our Society, but all who are interested in floriculture and in the progress and prosperity of this city, and it must be a gratifying fact for you all to realize that from every section of our country representatives have come in such large numbers to enjoy this reunion and the pleasure of being at Omaha.

The organization has been well favored this year in having a most efficient Executive Committee which, in the interim since the last meeting, has been not only the deliberative but likewise the legal body of our Society.

It is usual that the Executive Committee shall hold its preparatory meeting prior to the annual assemblage of the Society in the city in which the session is contemplated. For many reasons this custom was not followed and the meeting was held at the National Capital, with the hope that the presence of our representatives would have some influence upon Congress in securing action upon the National Charter which has been so long anticipated and to which my predecessors have referred with a great deal of feeling and in terms of considerable eloquence. But legislation on this bill had to give way to war appropriations, "Free Cuba" speeches and annexation treaties, so we submissively allow our matter, in sense of duty to our country, to go over until Congress meets again, when we are assured that it will be a fact and become a law.

I need not assure you of your many friends in Congress, both in the House and in the Senate, and that the object of chartering an organization such as ours has, to its great credit, become that of national consideration because it is of national interest. The sentiment, too, has found its way into the Executive circle and among the advisers of the President in his Cabinet we have there also our champions. No greater friend, however, has ever been in public life than the present Secretary of Agriculture, James Wilson, who in response to the Hon. Redfield Proctor, of the U. S. Senate, addressed a letter which I cannot refrain from embodying here in full, because it expresses in stronger language than I could possibly command, ideas and purposes which are clear in statement and convincing in reasoning and I feel sure that you will certainly appreciate my reading it to you, coming as it does from one as able and as distinguished as Secretary Wilson.

April 28, 1898.

Hon. Redfield Proctor, *United States Senate.*

My Dear Sir — Your favor of April 20th, enclosing a copy of Senate File 4415, "An Act to Incorporate the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists," is received.

The object of the bill is to create a body corporate and politic in the District of Columbia, by the name of the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists, for the elevation and advancement of horticulture in all its branches, and to increase and diffuse the knowledge thereof; and the said Association proposes to report from time to time to the Secretary of Agriculture, so that their proceedings may be communicated to Congress.

I believe this is a useful and valuable act. The last Congress thought so; President Cleveland did not. This Association will operate along the whole line of elevating the taste of our people. I believe their work is a means of grace. It is healthful to people to ornament their homes, their lawns and their surroundings generally. A love of the beautiful was implanted in the hearts of all of us by the Master, who, when he was on earth, called our attention to the lilies and asked us to consider them. This Association proposes to cultivate that sentiment.

I am endeavoring to introduce new flowers into different latitudes of the United States, from wherever I can find them in the old world. The work of this Association will be helpful to the Department, I have no doubt. We pay a great deal of money to foreign countries for bulbs, seeds, etc., because we love the beautiful. My work here is entirely utilitarian. I desire to have, and will have, through the wise appropriation of Congress, bulbs, seeds, etc., brought here from foreign countries and produced here, so as to save our people very large sums of money now being sent abroad for these things. I consult with certain of the gentlemen named in this act, with regard to these importations, and get much useful knowledge from them. The people will gratify their love for the beautiful in flowers and shrubbery and I desire that these things be grown in the United States. The Bermuda lily is an illustration. We pay a very large sum of money to foreign countries for the bulbs of that lily. I have set technical scientific divisions of the Department at work studying the diseases of that plant, and to get information for the people regarding the localities that may produce it at home and save the money now paid out for it. While my main objects are the saving of money to the American people, and the procuring of information for our producers all along the line so that they may produce more economically, I recognize the great assistance that the Department will get from these gentlemen who study decorative plants, and so I would be greatly pleased to see you push this bill and encourage this Association by giving them a name and a place in our statutes and recognition by the United States.

Very truly yours,

James Wilson, *Secretary.*

This is not a matter of sentiment from this gentleman to gain favor of you and yours nor is his interest measured by any glorification whatever that he might possibly get out of it, for he has demonstrated by his great practical work, his interest in Agriculture, in Horticulture and in Floriculture, as through his instrumentality and his influence and his practical

work and encouragement has the Ames Agricultural Institute at Ames, Iowa, his home, become the standard agricultural institution in our whole country. I say, all glory to this worthy inspirer of thought and encourager of action in all that pertains to the subjects in which we are so heartily interested.

Never has there assembled anywhere to consider any matter a more intelligent, painstaking and interested company of gentlemen than those composing your Executive Committee that held its meeting in Washington. Every subject of interest to the Society was considered, and many practical suggestions are the result of this conference. Among them is the suggestion, presented to you as the sentiment of the Executive Committee, to have certain new departments under the supervision of the Society, which I take pleasure in submitting for your consideration. The Department of Credit Information, the duty of which shall be to ascertain the financial standing and credit of persons in the trade, should be under the control of a committee of three appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee. This subject, to my mind, has its advantages and disadvantages. It may redound to the credit of the organization to endeavor to keep within the great active working body of its members throughout the country a certain *esprit de corps*, with regard to honesty and fair dealing. Oftentimes, by reason of misrepresentation, much embarrassment and loss is caused to our members and indeed to the outside world, all of which reflects in part upon the association at large. Integrity first in all things should be our motto, and that would cause all dealings of every nature and kind and with every person, to be had with a due regard for honor. On the other hand, we might say that all who are members of our Society possess sterling integrity and in the highest sense and that for a moment to question financial standing and business intercourse is an undue and untimely interference in the affairs of private individuals. Such is the position that I should love to take upon this subject, but none of us are infallible, none of us are stronger than our weakest part. Temptation is a wily, seductive member of the cabinet of his Satanic Majesty, and who can gainsay his mysterious power and winning faculties when visited with full force upon some of our nonsuspecting and susceptible members?

But especially do I commend to your favor the Department of Co-operative Purchase, the object of which is made manifest, as it will secure for the members of the Society reduced prices upon greenhouse supplies, which can be afforded by the co-operative purchase in large quantities. This would be under the supervision of a special committee, but would put no responsibility whatever upon it in the matter, except in obtaining from the furnishers prices upon large quantities, and then to impart such information received to the members of the association who would enjoy such advantage as would arise therefrom.

There is also suggested a Legislative Department, which would have charge of all legislation, State and National, concerning the departments represented by our organization. A general committee could have sub-

committees in every state in the Union, which would be constantly on the alert for the advancement of our interests and present the same to the various legislatures. This would have an effect not only upon floriculture and tree-growing, but it would also have its influence in affecting the exportation rates to growers upon the various common carriers in our country.

Also, an Arbitration Department, which, as the name implies, would be for the amicable adjustment of controversies between members, saving oftentimes long litigation at court and much notoriety of an unpleasant nature which would reflect not at all well upon the credit of the individuals engaged. This would be productive of peace and good feeling, and a committee appointed from your own members would have the interest of the individuals at heart and would settle all differences, whether financial or otherwise, with a due regard to both law and equity; and lastly, a Claim Department. This would have among its duties the adjustment of claims against transportation companies, which to some of our members would be a subject of considerable import. While in some sections the fairest treatment has been meted out by these companies to our organization, yet in other sections it has been simply a continuation of oppressive rates, surrounded by all the disadvantages of delay that can possibly come through incompetent service. It is a surprise to you, and was a surprise to the Department of Labor, when approximating the statistics of the amounts paid by florists for transportation, to find that it reached up into the great lines of figures that expressed many hundreds of thousands of dollars. So, therefore, a florist, while estimating the cost of the simplest flower produced by himself, is obliged to add oftentimes as much as twenty-five per cent. to the cost in the item of transportation in sending it to his customer.

"Honor to whom honor is due" should be the motto in all honest emulation. The more difficult the prize, in the attainment of it the greater the reward; the stronger the foe, the greater the victory. It has been suggested that our system of awarding certificates of merit and honorable mention is a little too lax, and awards have been made too freely and without that close scrutiny and just determination which should be devoted to the subject of awards. When the certificates are issued by this organization they should mean something and the more difficult they are to obtain the more they will be appreciated by the holder and the more they will mean to the outer world. This may be regarded by you as a suggestion which, if it meets your favor, might at this session bring forth some definite action which may govern this matter.

While the general subject of floriculture is constantly before us, individually and collectively, I am of opinion that especial attention should be given to the bulb culture in this country, a business feature that would keep many thousands of dollars within our own domain and add greatly to one of the most lucrative and comprehensive products of our industry. The Roman hyacinth especially is commended to your consideration for personal devotion at home.

In the southwest we have a great State, Texas, as large as an empire (it is called the "Lone Star State"), sending forth at the proper season its sweet perfume of Cape Jessamine, which could it reach far enough would waft its delightful odor over its sister States. Its climate and its soil are such that if a great Chinese wall or a mountain barrier shut off this State from the rest of our country, it could successfully grow almost everything that the earth produces. It is in about the same latitude as the islands of the sea around which now war's alarms are sounding, and its rich lands, widespread as they are, offer a welcome to our profession.

The tuberose and the gladiolus once were upon the import list but now, as you well know, they are exported in great quantities to various countries and bring the revenue therefrom this way instead of leaving it abroad. The crocus, polyanthus, and the narcissus are candidates for your kind solicitation and tender care. The calla, which once knew only the confines of the narrow space of a pottery home, now is reckoned as a free-earth, open-air California product, side by side with the fresia, which under basking Pacific suns and fanned by the Pacific air is successfully developed and grown. The Lilium longiflorum and Harrisii should also be sent from this country abroad, instead of having them seek their way to our shores. We will have in the near future araucaria factories, as we already have various rubber factories, not for rubber shoes nor mackintoshes, but the beautiful ficus, which is marvelously well grown by our well-known "Deacon" Harris of Philadelphia, who was the first life-member of our Society. Forty years ago there were only eight Latania Borbonica palms in the United States; to-day there are upwards of three million as potted plants. It is said that only two of these palms have borne seed, one belonging to the Federal Government and the other to the Corcoran estate, both of them in Washington, District of Columbia, and from these two plants no less than sixty thousand young palm seeds have been distributed throughout the cities and territories, which coming from the United States Botanical Garden may really be attributed to the one seeding plant rather than to the two.

I think also that generosity should be one of the virtues of the florist; that is, he should not be too narrow and selfish in the matter of discoveries. Being united for our common good, should entitle the wide-spread distribution of thoughts and ideas concerning plants and flowers in every particular, so that a new and rare plant in one section should give the benefit of its beauty and of its rarity to all interested in the art throughout the whole country.

The time will come when the flower that is "born to blush unseen" will be receiving the adulation of countless thousands of our people. The evolution of the field daisy, once a common weed, and the chrysanthemum, with its hundreds of varieties of gorgeous development, are probably two of the most wonderful exemplifications of what may be done by concentration of thought and by experiment. Who knows but that the microscopic flowering plants of the prairie may in coming years become the

glad adornment of the richest feasts? Who knows but that the tiny forget-me-not, with its sweet delicate shade of heaven-reflected blue, may become a giant flower in company with those representing the hardiness and strength and the beauty of some of the greatest botanical specimens?

Referring to strong flowers, color to the eye is the indication of force and strength; therefore red flowers should be more in evidence — the rose, "queen of flowers," the red poppy, the red dahlia and red carnations. Then also, as the coming flower, the orchid, marvellously mysterious in its growth, most delicate in its formation and most exquisite in its tinting, should receive more general study in its cultivation. Hydrangeas in their numberless varieties, for outdoor ornamentation, and hardy-blooming plants for out-of-doors, form one of the grandest opportunities for a profitable field of labor in the future.

It is useless, however, for me to take up your time with these suggestions, as who among you is not familiar with the subject we so dearly love and of which we are so great a part? Individual interest and advancement mean our united progress. With genuine interest each should enter into the knowledge, by any one of our members, of any discovery or any advance in the development of floriculture that may be made by him.

Our art has become one of the great bread-winners in the country and for the country and its increase naturally becomes a matter of national interest and national pride. It is your duty to encourage the taste that is being manifested everywhere for the love of flowers and for the use of them. Show me one who cultivates flowers and beautifies the domestic hearth-stool, and I will show you a home in which love prevails. Show me devotion to the growing plant and the budding rose and I will show you maternal and paternal devotion in the rearing of the children of the home. Show me flowers without and I will show you the presence of education and the taste and culture that belong to them within.

There is no more potent antidote to evil thoughts, corrupt natures and low sensuality than the adoration of the beautiful; and what can lay greater claim to all that is expressed by the word "beautiful" than flowers? They are present in our midst upon almost every occasion, be it joyous or sad. The wedding bells ring out their glad sounds of greeting; all around and about the bridal pair are the ornamentations of loveliness and floral beauty. The muffled tolling of the solemn bells in mournful strains, indicating the passing away of a soul, —and there, too, we find the tributes of love, affection, and respect and tokens of sentiment expressed in flowers. Come to the happy feast where the songs are sung and the wine goes round and there, too, shedding forth the lustre of their beauty and speaking words of welcome and hospitality, are the sweet products of our art.

Increase the love of flowers, develop the taste and in that proportion is the demand greater. The business grows necessarily with the demand; therefore it behooves you to strive that this end may be attained.

There is no better place to set a good example than in and around and about your own homes and gardens. A shoemaker, it is said, keeps the poorest shoes upon his own wife's feet. Such reputation as that should never be attributed to the floriculturist. Become a part benefactor on your own premises, as he who plants a tree or flower or cultivates a spot of ground is a benefactor because the result being a delight to the eye contributes to the pleasure of mankind. Don't fear the criticism of advertising the business, as there is no occupation that could possibly be purer, more benevolent or more godlike than our own. Therefore it is not with shame but pride that all of you, at this occasion, at every place, and in every section and among all people, say "I am a florist."

You should "let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works." If London can produce monthly a great flower exhibition, surely there is no reason why America could not have annually at some great metropolis a flower Exposition, wherein the whole country could join; and before concluding I trespass this suggestion upon you that steps will be taken here at this meeting looking to carry out this idea.

In conclusion, while not endeavoring to enter into sentimentality, I may be pardoned if I trespass a little into the poetry of our art and speak in the language of the flowers the sentiment of the hour.

First, to Woman. Our devotion to her should be next to that to our Creator, but I cannot pay more pleasing compliment to her than to spread at her feet "the Austrian Rose," which silently expresses this sentiment, "Thou art all that's lovely!" Woman! — our mothers, our wives, our sisters and our sweethearts — how grandly glorious thy mission!

To give to society its highest taste —
Well ordered home, man's best delight to make —
And by submissive wisdom, modest skill,
With every additional care, deluding art —

To raise the virtue, animate the bliss,
And sweeten all the toils of human life: —
This be the female dignity and praise.

Next in adoration, Our Country. The sound of strife is never welcome, but the call to duty fell not upon deaf ears in the brief arbitrament of arms through which we have just passed (and I beg to indulge the hope completely and entirely passed), as alike to the victorious and to the vanquished it has about it much of sorrow, hardship and tears, for the booming of cannon and the rattle of musketry is always followed by the sound of muffled drums and the music of funeral dirges.

We express the return of peace with the olive, which has mythologically been sacred to Minerva, and always the emblem of peace since before the Ark rested on Mount Ararat. Many of our flowers have mythological creations with most beautiful legends. In the dispute between Minerva and Neptune it was decided by the gods that whichever of the two should give to the inhabitants of the earth the most useful

present, great should be the reward. The olive was brought by Minerva, being the emblem of peace, which was decided to be far superior to Neptune's horse, the symbol of war and bloodshed. The olive, then, to-day be with you, and could I stand and figuratively throw out the emblem to all parts of the country and to the whole world, I would now waft myriads of leaves and let the winds carry them to the uttermost parts of the earth.

And now, one more: To those who have fought the Nation's battles, and who are returning again to their firesides to transpose the weapons of war into the ploughshare and pruning hook, we offer the nasturtium, which is a "warlike trophy." And so, with the bard —

> We bring flowers to strew in the conqueror's path;
> He hath shaken thrones with his stormy wrath.
> He comes with the spoils of Nations back;
> The vines lie crushed in his chariot's track
> The turf looks red where he won the day;
> Bring flowers to strew in the conqueror's way.

Finally as peace hath its victories as well as war, go on with your honest emulation in endeavoring to inspire a greater zeal and interest in your organization, a more widespread knowledge of our Art, and wherever it is possible to cultivate a love of it among the enlightened and progressive people of this our glorious Country.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

Mr. William J. Stewart, the Secretary, responding to the call of the Chair, read his annual report.

The following is the report: —

Mr. President and Members — I am glad to be able to report a prosperous year for our Society, in which we have not only held our ground, but made also a slight gain over the record of the two preceding years. The new method of assessing and collecting annual dues, which went into operation with the beginning of the present year, simplifies the work of collection and the discontinuance of the cumbersome delinquent list removes a prolific cause of friction. As to the effect of the new system on our treasury it is yet too early to say, and in the present transition period practical and useful comparisons of past and present conditions as to finances or active memberships cannot be made.

One hundred and thirty five persons who paid in 1896, had, up to August 10th, 1898, neglected to respond for 1897 assessment. The number of assessments collected for 1897 was 504, of which 108 were from new accessions and 25 were renewals of membership by former delinquents, each of the latter paying $2.00 extra for the privilege.

The additions were credited to the different States as follows: One each from District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota,

New Hampshire, Nebraska, Virginia; two each from California, Maine, Wisconsin; three from New Jersey; four from Ohio; five from Connecticut; seven from Rhode Island; twelve each from Pennsylvania and New York; fifty-one from Massachusetts.

Four deaths have been reported since we last met: Thomas Cartledge, Philadelphia, Pa., died on May 17th, 1898; Morris A. Hill, Ansonia, Connecticut, May 27th, 1898; H. Karlson, Exeter, New Hampshire, July 4th, 1898; Philip Wieland, Boston, Mass., July 8, 1898.

The Providence convention was a memorable one, creditable alike to the Society and to the local florists and gardeners of Providence and Newport. Its history has been fully told in the annual report of our Society and nothing in connection with it requires special mention at this time, except that some of our members were once more made victims of an untrustworthy photographer who collected money for pictures that were only delivered months afterwards and under pressure exerted through the Secretary's office.

The trade exhibition at Providence was a large and comprehensive one and managed with great ability. The competition for the Society's medals brought out some exhibits of the highest educational interest, notably that of home grown rhododendrons and azaleas. The visit to Newport's lovely gardens was equally valuable as an object lesson.

The printed list of new plants introduced to the American trade in 1897, as ordered by the Society, required much labor in compilation but appears to have been a good move and the lists of succeeding years will be more easily done and also more complete. There is a strong demand for a system of official registration of names given to new varieties of plants on lines similar to the plan adopted by the American Carnation Society. Your secretary believes that something of this kind should be provided for at this meeting.

Our life membership fund has been subscribed to by fourteen members. It was hoped that this list would have reached larger proportions by this time—forty or fifty at least—so that we might start off with a substantial permanent fund.

Railroad transportation has been a most annoying and tedious problem this year. The railroads have moved cautiously because of the entanglements that would follow rate cutting to the Exposition and the concessions which were finally granted us, although very satisfactory otherwise, came too late to materially affect our attendance from distant points.

Rarely since the formation of this Society have we seen so much interest manifested as was shown by those present at the Executive Committee meeting at Washington last spring. The holding of the general session of the Committee at a place other than the location of the next convention, for financial reasons which the Committee well understood and the reference of local convention arrangements at Omaha to the President, Vice-President and Secretary, although productive of some unfavorable comment at the time, is now generally conceded to have

been a wise course under existing circumstances and the question arises whether this plan or a modification of it might not with advantage be followed regularly hereafter.

On the most important results of the Committee's deliberations, the proposed new special departments of purchase, credit information, arbitration, claims and legislation, our programme calls for action at to-morrow's session. The importance of careful deliberation in deciding as to whether the Society should strike out into these new fields of endeavor, must be apparent to all and it is greatly to be desired that every member in attendance should be present at this and every other business session and do his part towards shaping wisely the future policy of the organization. The special field in which the Society labored so well in its young days is now pretty well covered by our enterprising trade journals and we are called upon to move on to live issues. Just in proportion as we keep in close touch with the practical business problems and present needs of the florists of America so will the shifting character of our support and membership be removed, we shall be strong where we are now weak, and we shall obtain desired permanence and stability.

We meet this time in a locality far remote from the scenes of our past activity and the wisdom of this new departure has naturally been the theme of some discussion. Upon what we do here we shall be judged. Let it not be said that we are triflers. We are here to do something useful; let us all attend to that first, earnestly and in order. The Midway will still be in the same place when we get through and we can enjoy it all the more in the consciousness of having shown due courtesy to one another and performed our duty to the Society and to our fellows throughout the country for whose interests we profess to work.

If, as has been said, the S. A. F. is heard from but once a year, let that once be loud and strong this time. Whether the Executive Committee in its recommendations has struck the right chord, is for you to determine. If their views as to the Society's scope and its power for good do not appeal to your sound judgment give us something that does, and let us not think of adjournment until something practical has been accomplished and the long sought key to the united support and sympathy of our profession throughout the land has been found.

And, gentlemen of the West, do not forget that to the Secretary's eyes the best evidence of prosperity is found within the covers of the roll book. A steady decrease in the membership means that something is wrong. We want you not only to join us but we want you to stay. You have the opportunity to set a good example and let the county realize that, so far as your influence goes, the Society is no longer forced to depend for sustenance upon the temporary affiliation of the man in whose neighborhood the organization may happen to convene. Should our visit to Omaha help to win for us your enthusiastic, loyal support and active co-operation and at the same time infuse us with a little of the courageous resourceful spirit which dominates the hustling pioneers of our business in the vast undeveloped Trans-Mississippi country and of which we, as a

society, stand so greatly in need, then indeed shall we have reason to applaud the good judgment and foresight that selected this as our meeting place, and the Convention of 1898, in the record of the good work accomplished, will stand pre-eminent in the annals of our beloved Society.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

The PRESIDENT called for the Treasurer's report.

The SECRETARY responded that Treasurer H. B. BEATTY had forwarded his report with a letter stating his inability to be present on account of some very important matters which he had to attend to in the business with which he is occupied. The report, which was read by the Secretary, was as follows: —

1897.		
Jan. 1.	To Balance per Statement rendered Executive Committee at Providence, and audited by Committee,— J. N. May, Wm. Scott, and J. G. Esler	$1021.19
	RECEIVED.	
Mar. 22.	Book 501-550, dues, 1896	129.00
	Series 1896, dues, 1897	21.00
Aug. 2.	Book 551-600, Series 1895.	
	Arrears	3.00
	Dues, 1894, 2 at $3.00	6.00
	" 1895, 42 " "	126.00
	Book 401-450, Series 1896.	
	Arrears	8.00
	Dues, 1896, 43 at $3.00	129.00
	" 1897, 7 " "	21.00
Aug. 7.	Book 1-50, Series 1897.	
	Arrears	10.00
	Dues, 1897, 49 at $3.00	147.00
	Book 51-100, Series 1897.	
	Arrears	6.00
	Dues, 1897, 50 at $3.00	150.00
Aug. 30.	Book 101-150, 1897, 49 at $3.00	147.00
	1898, 1 " "	3.00
	Arrears	2.00
	Book 151-200, 1897, 50 at $3.00	150.00
	Arrears	8.00
	Book 201-250, 1897, 50 at $3.00	150.00
	Arrears	4.00
	Book 251-300, 1897, 51 at $3.00	153.00
	Arrears	16.00
	Book 301-350, 1897, 51 at $3.00	153.00
	Arrears	2.00
	Series 1896, Book 451-500.	
	1895, 3	9.00
	1896, 46	138.00
	1897, 1	3.00
	Carried forward,	$2670.19

	Brought forward,		$2670.19
1898.			
Jan. 1.	Received W. J. Stewart, Book 601.		
	Dues, 1895, 9 at $3.00		27.00
	Book 601, 1896, 6 " "		18.00
	" 351, 1897, 50 " "		150.00
	Arrears		2.00
	" 401, 1897, 48 at $3.00		144.00
			$3056.19

PAYMENTS.

1897.					
Mar. 29.	Paid A. Graham,	as per voucher No.	79,	$ 35.00	
	" Wm. Scott,	" "	80,	26.62	
	" W. N. Rudd,	" "	81.	55.00	
	" Wm. K. Harris,	" "	82,	18.10	
	" John G. Esler,	" "	83,	11.05	
	" Wm. J. Stewart,	" "	84,	2.00	
	" Jackson Dawson,	" "	85,	2.00	
	" Elmer D. Smith,	" "	86,	45.50	
	" Wm. F. Gude,	" "	87,	25.35	
	" E. A. Wood,	" "	88,	2.30	
	" W. A. Manda,	" "	89,	12.30	
May 24.	" J. H. McFarland Co.,	" "	90,	6.10	
June 28.	" John F. Cowell,	" "	91,	27.02	
	" N. Stafford,	" "	92,	38.00	
	" Wm. J. Stewart,	" "	93,	375.00	
Aug. 2.	" Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict	" "	94,	15.00	
	" Wm. J. Stewart,	" "	95,	184.37	
Aug. 30.	" Jos. I. Gilbert,	" "	96,	110.00	
Sept. 20.	" Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict	" "	97,	21.00	
	" Wm. J. Stewart,	" "	98,	132.96	
Dec. 13.	" G. W. Bradlee,	" "	99,	299.00	
Dec. 21.	" Wm. J. Stewart,	" "	100,	375.00	
1898.					
Jan. 1.	" Wm. J. Stewart,	" "	101,	77.68	
	" J. H. McFarland,	" "	102,	2.95	
					1899.30
	Balance,				1156.89
					$3056.19

SUMMARY.

Received for the year 1894, dues		$ 6.00	
" " 1895, "		162.00	
" " 1896, "		414.00	
" " 1897, "		1389.00	
" " 1898, "		3.00	
" arrears		61.00	
			2035.00
	Balance, Jan. 1, 1897		1021.19
			$3056.19

CREDIT SUMMARY.

Secretary's Salary	$750.00	
Assistant to Secretary at Annual Meeting	31.34	
Executive Committee Meeting	272.24	
Stenographer's Report of Annual Convention	110.00	
Printing Proceedings of Annual Convention	267.00	
Miscellaneous Printing	85.80	
Secretary's office expenses	189.40	
Treasurer's office expenses	9.05	
Annual Badges	44.35	
Miscellaneous expenses	140.12	
		1899.30
		$1156.89

GENERAL BUSINESS.

On motion of Mr. H. A. SIEBRECHT, seconded by Mr. W. W. COLES, the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were accepted and ordered to be filed.

The SECRETARY made the following announcement of appointments made by the President of Committees to examine and report upon the Trade Exhibition; the first name in each instance being that of the chairman of the committee: —

CLASS A, PLANTS — Edgar Sanders, Philip Gauges, W. E. Kemble.

CLASS B, CUT BLOOMS — D. B. Long, A. S. Swanson, William Miller.

CLASS C, BOILERS AND HEATING APPARATUS — E. Weinhoeber, W. H. Elliott, John Wunder.

CLASS D, GREENHOUSE SUPPLIES AND FLOWER POTS — George L. Miller, George M. Kellogg, Robert George.

CLASS E, FLORISTS' SUPPLIES AND FANCY EARTHENWARE — John T. Temple, C. G. Anderson, Jacob Schultz.

CLASS F, BULBS AND SEEDS — Emil Schray, William Clark, C. G. Weeber.

CLASS G, MISCELLANEOUS — Edgar Sanders, Emil Schray, E. Weinhoeber, George L. Miller, D. B. Long, John T. Temple. (This committee was constituted of the chairmen of the other committees.)

The SECRETARY also announced the appointment of ex-Presidents E. G. HILL, ROBERT CRAIG, and WM. SCOTT as Judges to make the awards in the competition for the silver and bronze medals offered by the Society, and called attention to the exhibits

made in this department, which were arranged in the adjoining parlor and consisted of a display of American grown bulbs from the State of Washington and two collections of photographs of floral work.

REPORTS OF STATE VICE-PRESIDENTS.

At this point the roll of the States was called for reports from the State Vice-Presidents. A number of these, in writing, had already been received by the Secretary, and several additions were here presented.

The PRESIDENT announced that the reports would now be read.

Mr. ROBERT CRAIG, of Philadelphia: As there is so much work before the Society I move to dispense with the reading of the reports unless the reading be called for. My purpose is merely to economize time.

Mr. W. W. COLES seconded the motion.

The motion prevailed notwithstanding a considerable negative vote.

Mr. Wm. SCOTT, of Buffalo: I think it is very poor encouragement for a Vice-President that we should decline to have his report read, after he has taken the trouble to write it and send it here. It is proposed not to have the reports laid over until a specific time but to dispense with the reading of them entirely. I am opposed to that. I move to reconsider the action just taken.

Mr. H. A. SIEBRECHT, of New Rochelle, N. Y.: I agree with Brother Scott and disagree with Brother Craig. I think that the office of State Vice-President has been a kind of slip-shod arrangement all along, and I for one am sick and tired of the way in which its duties have been ignored. I hope that our next President will make it a special point to appoint, as Vice-President in each State, a man who will discharge the duties of the office and who will send in a report. There are in every State men who are willing to make sacrifices of money and of time to accomplish something in the right direction. The office ought to be one of the most important in our Society. I hope there will be a vote here in favor of reading those reports and that it may have some good effect in bringing out reports in the future.

A vote was here taken, when Mr. Scott's motion to reconsider the vote dispensing with the reading of the reports was agreed to.

The question being again presented, it was ordered, on motion of Mr. H. A. Siebrecht, that the reports be read.

The Secretary accordingly read the reports as received.* Following are the reports in full: —

EASTERN NEW YORK.

To the President, and Fellow-Members of the S. A. F. O. H. — In fulfillment of the requirements of the office of State Vice-President, to wit, to present a report of the progress and interesting horticultural events that have occurred in my State during the preceding year, together with such suggestions as, in my opinion, are calculated to increase the popularity and efficiency of the Society within my jurisdiction, I beg leave to submit the following:

While the progress in the horticultural world, in that portion of New York State of which you did me the honor to appoint me as State Vice-President for the past year, has not been phenomenal, yet there has been sufficient of it in evidence to implant within us the belief that the world doth move, horticulturally, in that locality.

Perhaps the surest indicator that points to the material progress making is the quantity of greenhouse building that is doing in the State; and to give an idea in this respect, I cannot do better than quote from a letter which I have received from one of the principal firms engaged in that industry. They say: "We think that our business, since last August, has been about the same as the previous years have averaged for eight or ten years back. We would say, however, that this result, for the last year or two, has only been obtained by the greatest effort on our part, as general business conditions have been in such a bad way that they have seriously affected greenhouse building. Our experience has been that florists have built as little as possible, and wealthy people have also been very slow to decide to build."

Trade Conditions — Notwithstanding the fact that the dark clouds of war have been hovering over our fair land for a large portion of the time that has intervened since we last met, and that business has suffered a temporary check, amounting almost to stagnation in consequence, I am pleased to report that the volume of trade done, in this industry, in my locality, will compare favorably with that of former years. Business both at Christmas and Easter was satisfactory, the latter particularly so; the only drawback being the stiffness of collections for the goods sold. The war has had the effect of almost completely annihilating the steamer trade this year; and when at last signs of peace were returning, they came too

* Note. — The report from the Vice-President for Eastern New York, Mr. Alex. Wallace, had been received but, having been borrowed for temporary use by a member, was not presented at this time. It was subsequently returned, and was read by its author at the morning session, Thursday, August 18.

late in the season to benefit this branch of the business. A fact to be noted is, that amid the general depression in the cut flower line, while averages for stock in general will be lower than last year, carnations and violets have averaged better than roses relatively.

Export and Import Traffic — The export and import horticultural traffic at the port of New York goes on apace, as the following extract from the report of the Treasury Department, for the last fiscal year, will show:

Total amount of plants, trees and vines exported	$47,826
" " " " " " " imported	515,625
" " " plants, orchids for forcing under glass imported	21,425
" " " seeds exported	168,013

The Auction Sales Rooms in the City have been patronized more largely this season than in former years, both by consignors and purchasers, but the prices obtained for stock sold through this channel have been lower than usual, owing, no doubt, to the prevailing hard times and the increased quantity of goods sent in for disposal.

As to the outlook I would quote the opinion of a large firm doing a general business, and which may be taken as an indication of the feeling prevailing around New York:

"Regarding immediate prospects for general business, they seem to be pre-eminently favorable. The balance of trade is phenomenally in our favor. Our visible crops are unusually large. A great proportion of our wealthy traveling population have remained at home, and as a consequence will purchase much at home that they have hitherto purchased abroad.

"Foreign consumers will need our products at a fair price. New markets will unquestionably be opened as a sequence of the war, and our older foreign markets will be amplified in some countries.

"The chief detrimental effect that the war will have upon business will be the scare. The facts are that business has been good in the United States during all our previous war periods, save the first few months succeeding the declaration of war.

"Weighing the favorable and unfavorable conditions against each other, the favorable seems so strongly in the ascendency that it seems safe to prophesy a highly prosperous business era, commencing with the usual fall opening of business, and I see no reason why the florist trade should be denied its full share of this prosperity."

As regards interesting horticultural events, the following are among the most noteworthy that have come under my observation: —

Contest for Chrysanthemum Society of America's Cup — On October 21, 1897, occurred at the Madison Square Garden, New York, in connection with the exhibition given by the American Institute, the contest for the silver cup offered by the Chrysanthemum Society of America for best six chrysanthemums of six varieties, the object of the contest being to encourage the exhibition of early chrysanthemums. The cup was won by

Mr. A. Herrington, Madison, N. J., with the varieties Miss Georgienne Bramhall, Viviand Morel, Mrs. Henry Robinson, Ethel Addison (an English variety), Major Bonnaffon and Mayflower. This competition was most interesting, demonstrating as it did the possibility of a satisfactory display of chrysanthemums being made as early as the date on which the contest occurred.

Certificated Chrysanthemums — The committee of the Chrysanthemum Society of America met in New York, October 23 and 30, and November 6, 13, 20 and 27, last, to inspect and pass judgment on seedlings submitted to them for the purpose of certification. Twenty varieties were before the committee, and out of that number six received certificates. They were: Solar Queen, Australian Gold, Pennsylvania, Frank Hardy, Autumn Glory and W. H. Chadwick.

Exhibitions — During the months of September and October the American Institute gave a continuous display in the Madison Square Garden, at which exhibition the most elaborate exhibit of dahlias probably ever made anywhere was presented; and which created popular interest. In connection with this exhibition occurred the cup contest of the Chrysanthemum Society of America previously referred to.

The flower show of the New York Gardeners' Society, held at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel last fall, was probably the most unique ever given; certainly no floral exhibition was ever held among such gorgeous environs. Both of the foregoing shows were well patronized.

Flower shows have also been given in various towns adjacent to the Metropolis — at Poughkeepsie, Portchester, Millbrook, and Mount Kisco, N. Y., all being fairly well attended.

No flower show was given last fall by the New York Florists' Club, or under its auspices, a fact which I very much regret to have to record; but I may state that the Club instituted a competition for its gold medal, so as to create a greater interest in the Club's monthly meetings; the medal to be awarded to the party whose exhibits receives the largest number of points during the year, 1898. This competition, unfortunately, has not turned out so satisfactory, thus far, as was anticipated. The competition, however, continues until the end of the year and conditions may improve.

Permanent Plant Market — The establishment of what may be called a permanent plant market under cover in New York City was effected this past spring, the initiative in this matter having been taken by the New York Market Florists' Association, the members whereof supporting the project having taken stalls in the old Clinton Market, Canal street, renting same from the city. The growers patronising this mart have been well pleased with the business done; and it is expected that the institution will become a fixed one, and that the market will ere long be continuous throughout the year.

Combating Adverse Legislation — Some important work in this connection has been done this year. In February last Mr. P. O'Mara, of Peter Henderson & Co., New York, on behalf of his firm, appeared before

the Committee of Agriculture at Washington, and was heard in opposition to the proposed Federal statute to govern the inspection of plants imported into the United States, and the inspection of plants grown within the United States that become subjects of interstate commerce; the object of the bill being to prevent the spread of insect and fungous pests. Mr. O'Mara was successful in having a proviso inserted in the bill exempting all florists' stock from the provisions of the act.

Later, at Albany, New York, a committee of the New York Florists' Club, consisting of Messrs. O'Mara, May and Allen, appeared before a committee of the New York Legislature and was heard relative to an act relating to the prevention of disease in fruit trees and pests that infest the same, some of the clauses of which covered plants. The gentlemen named were successful in having a section added to this bill, exempting all florists' stock from its provisions.

Horticultural Literature — There have been issued from publishing houses in New York the following books devoted to horticultural subjects: Garden Making, also The Pruning Book (Macmillan's); Greenhouse Management (Orange Judd Co.); The Water Garden, also Residential Sites and Environments (De La Mare Printing and Publishing Company, Limited).

Obituary — Death has removed from our section, since the last meeting of this Society, the following gentlemen, workers in and patrons of horticulture: Mr. Chas. A. Dana, F. E. McAllister, K. P. Lee, and Dr. Lintner.

Miscellaneous — Other matters of interest that may be cited are the advancement making with the horticultural buildings and the general progress of the Botanical Garden in Bronx Park; the institution of a series of public lectures on horticultural subjects, under the auspices of the horticultural section of the American Institute — something that our city has been sadly in need of, the lectures being very well attended; the monthly exhibitions of the same institution; the inauguration of what may be designated a ready cash commission house in New York, the outcome of which is being anxiously looked forward to, as the success of this venture will no doubt have a tendency to revolutionize, to some extent, the terms upon which purchases of cut flowers will be made; in other words, to institute a new credit system, something that would be welcomed by the many. This institution will, it is expected, also affect the prices on certain classes of stock.

Suggestions — I can suggest no better way to increase the popularity and efficiency of this Society, within my jurisdiction, than for this Convention to vote that the Society hold its next annual meeting within the State of New York, either in Saratoga, or in good old New York City itself.

Respectfully submitted by

Yours Fraternally,

ALEX. WALLACE, *Vice-President.*

WESTERN NEW YORK.

The year that has elapsed since our last convention can be called a quiet uneventful time. We believe that the volume of business done, however, was a considerable advance on the last four years, but the record of occasions and events calling for large displays of flowers and decorations is yet far behind what we experienced in the season of '92 and '93.

The plant trade was less affected by the hard times than the cut flower and decorative department of our business. The general use of plants for the dwelling house has been wonderfully increased and few families now-a-days that aspire to any degree of comfort are without a palm, a fern or some plant that thrives in the house.

The business in bulbous stuff has been gradually demoralized till last winter thousands of tulips and narcissuses were sold below cost of bulbs and labor.

Many growers complain bitterly of the poor price that their products realize, but the tendency of the age in our business is to demand an article of first rate quality. If many wholesale growers would strive to grow flowers of highest quality and in diminished quantities they would find their returns far more satisfactory and it would be a mutual benefit to grower, commission man, store man and purchaser.

In spite of nearly all fall exhibitions being a financial failure our local society has attempted to take on a new lease of life and we are making preparations to hold a chrysanthemum show in November.

There is not a great addition to the greenhouse area of Western New York within the past year but still some increase, and the tendency with all those who now build is to erect well-built, substantial structures. The best materials and the most improved and modern methods of construction are now the rule.

In one of our parks of Buffalo a $100,000 range of conservatories is being built and this we confidently believe will be a great medium not only for the diffusion of knowledge but must increase the love and taste for the beautiful and curious in the floral world.

While we hear no disparaging remarks about the S. A. F. and O. H. we regret that the attendance from our locality will not be larger. While in our opinion it is eminently proper to go West occasionally we can hardly expect for several reasons that the attendance will be large. On the return of the Society to a more central location (horticulturally) such as Niagara or Saratoga we will find the great army of florists as loyal as ever.

The auxiliary societies, the Hail and the Fire Insurance Associations, are of great value to the trade and a credit to the parent society from which they sprang and a means of bringing many into the membership of the S. A. F. The Fire Association is yet in its infancy but it could bear much more advertising, ventilating and work. When once firmly established and thoroughly organized it will be the means of saving the trade hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The department store evil is slowly making inroads into our business in our locality, and why they are not yet seriously felt is because they are not ready, not because they have any scruples. The department store may buy blocks of palms or rubbers or bushels of roses and carnations and the man who makes the sale to them thinks he has done a great business. Perhaps he has, but indirectly he has hurt dozens of legitimate florists. Department stores have closed up thousands of stores throughout the land in all classes of business, greatly depreciated the value of business property, thrown thousands of people out of employment, degraded labor until their employees — especially the young women — are little more than slaves. This is supposedly a free country and it will be a free and manly act if every grower in the country says, "*No*, Mr. Department Store, you cannot buy of me; stick to your dry goods — I sell only to florists; they have to live as well as you."

WM. F. KASTING, *Vice-President.*

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA.

As I will be unable to attend at Omaha I forward the following brief report:

I am not aware of any great horticultural event during the past year. Business has been steady — getting down to a substantial basis. The excitement of the present war has had a depressing influence on trade, but it is generally believed that when the pendulum of time swings back again our business will be better than it has been for many years.

There has been considerable building during the past year, most of which has been to replace houses that had served their time.

I would suggest to the Society the propriety of lopping off the Ornamental tail added last year as it is neither ornamental nor useful. Also that in the future it would be well to hold the Conventions in the centers of the population. I do not know of any other two things that would increase the popularity and usefulness of the Society more than these.

JOSEPH HEACOCK, *Vice-President.*

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA.

There has not been anything done new or novel in the florist's line in this vicinity this year that is worthy of mention, with the exception of the formation of wholesale cut flower commission houses at Pittsburgh, a feature of the florist's business never attempted in Western Pennsylvania before. Two are expected to open in September next.

The trade has been very fair most of the year. The war has not had as injurious an effect as was anticipated at first. The Easter trade was the best we have had for years. The prospects for a good year to come are, I consider, very flattering.

Regretting I cannot offer any suggestions for the advancement of the S. A. F.

I am very respectfully,

GUSTAV LUDWIG, *Vice-President.*

NEW JERSEY.

In regard to the annual report that State Vice-Presidents are expected to make, I know of no occurrence that calls for special mention within this jurisdiction except the recent munificence of Mr. D. Willis James, of Madison, who at a cost of not less than $100,000, bought out the slums of Madison that happened to be right in the heart of the borough, converted them into a public Park and on July 4 presented it to the citizens of Madison.

A. HERRINGTON, *Vice-President.*

CONNECTICUT.

As regards business, it has been fair considering all things, what with the hard times and war.

We are all looking forward for prosperous business this fall.

MRS. H. E. CHARTER, *Vice-President.*

VERMONT.

In conformity with my duty as State Vice-President of Vermont, I wish to make the following report:

Having heard from several of the florists throughout the State, I wish to say that the most of them say business has averaged a little better. For my own part I would say, in cut flowers much better but the sale of bedding plants not quite as good. The greatest call was for carnations, violets, daffodils, and lilies in winter and spring. Easter trade was good; short on lilies and carnations; could have sold a good many more of each.

I expect when this war is over and peace again reigns over this land that prosperity will come and that the florists will have their share. Trusting this meeting of the Society will be a success both in number who attend and subjects brought up and discussed, sorry I am not able to attend this time and hoping the Society will have such a good meeting that the Western florists will think so much more of the Eastern florists as to attend in greater numbers than ever before.

Yours respectfully,

D. MCGILLIVRAY, *Vice-President.*

MINNESOTA.

The progress of floriculture in the North Star State has flourished during the past year. Trade has shown an upward tendency all along the line; prices have been better and the demand for our products greater than for several years past. With this era of better prices and greater demand we had a light winter, thus reducing fuel bills and other expenses; a most favorable spring for trade and an excellent growing season since. The dawn of better times is certainly at hand. The crop prospects in the great Northwest were never brighter than now, while a steady foreign demand for our farm products insures good prices for some time to come. When the country in general is prosperous, the florists are, in the nature of things, bound to be also.

With the return of prosperity, however, and the consequent increased business and activity I am sorry to note a decline in the interest formerly shown in our local State Society. A few years since monthly meetings were held — full of business and sociability. Now the interest in the society appears dead. If the society were resurrected, the interest in the meetings revived and the meetings held regularly, it would prove beneficial to the trade here and indirectly benefit the S. A. F. in the State.

From the best information at hand there is between 700,000 and 800,000 square feet of glass in the State. Many of the smaller growers make the mistake of trying to grow too many things. If each one would devote himself to some particular line aggregate sales and profits would be larger. What our people and what the trade in general need are a broader education and a more friendly relation between members. This can be accomplished by the S. A. F. and its kindred and local societies. Quite a number already have hail insurance and others will make application in the near future for fire insurance.

Building and other improvements this year are the best evidences of prosperity; while the paying off of mortgages is a most satisfactory feature of the times.

S. D. Dysinger, *Vice-President.*

MICHIGAN.

In obedience to your request I exceedingly regret to say that my report as Vice-President of the S. A. F. for this State can only be brief and uninteresting.

Floricultural interest in the State is steadily increasing, and those engaged in the work are receiving a fair return for their labor.

The trade in general is in the hands of men with limited means, and it is next to impossible to make those men believe that a membership in the S. A. F. will be of as much real value to them as a sum of money equal to the annual dues and the expense of attending the yearly meeting would in their business.

It has occurred to me that if auxiliary branches of the National Society were established in some of the States where horticultural inter-

ests are large enough to support them they might act as feeders to the parent Society. Meeting once a year is not enough for a body possessing so little adhesiveness, and whose degree of intelligence is so varied as that of the members of the S. A. F. If we could meet several times a year at different parts of the State the financial and social side of the trade in general would be enlarged and developed.

Trusting that the Omaha meeting will result in increased membership and renewed interest.

I am very truly yours,

THOMAS GUNSON, *Vice-President.*

ILLINOIS.

I beg to offer the following notes, as my report for the current year:

The principal event of the year was the American Carnation Society Convention held at the Auditorium in Chicago in February. The Convention was largely attended, and the number of visitors at the exhibit was very gratifying. With the most noteworthy features of the times must be classed the remarkable growth in popularity of pæonies and carnations. It is doubtful whether the former have been able to pay thus far, but good carnations have certainly been profitable. The Convention here in February no doubt influenced some growers in its favor, but the success of local men with the plant was always a potent factor.

Recent losses from hail show the wisdom of insurance.

Pot plants were in greatly increased demand at good figures.

Some growers of plants and flowers are planning to cultivate early vegetables to some extent.

Present indications point to good prospects for the coming year.

The extensive building operations of the present season indicate a healthful condition of trade in general.

The losses in Harrisii lilies were very heavy last season, and diseased bulbs are given as the chief cause.

Among florists proper there appears to have been a general increase in trade with no appreciable increase in prices. In some cases the prices ruled lower than ordinary. Nursery stock sold freely at low prices.

J. V. MERRION, *Vice-President.*

KENTUCKY.

As Vice-President of your Society for the State of Kentucky, I have the honor to submit the following report:

That the past year has been a fairly satisfactory one to Kentucky florists and growers, is doubtless best evidenced by the quantity of new glass being added this summer, together with the remodelling of old houses; most of which changes being for the cultivation of cut flowers.

General interest is active and growers are striving to produce the maximum percentage of quality.

The demand for carnations has shown a marked increase, both as to quantity and price. Principal varieties: Scott, Daybreak, McGowan, and Flora Hill — the last named promising to become quite a favorite.

The Farquhar Violet is being grown extensively throughout the State, in place of Marie Louise. The Princess of Wales is the favorite single.

No material change in the rose situation except that Perle is on the decline, and Kaiserin is much in demand as a summer rose.

Plant trade has been satisfactory, although not equalling that of the preceding year, owing to the exceptionally cold, wet weather prevailing last April.

An important movement is now on foot, namely, to combine the State Horticultural Society and the Kentucky Society of Florists. As yet, however, the plans have not sufficiently matured to warrant any enumeration of particulars.

One of the innovations of the past year has been the opening of the Louisville Florist Supply and Commission House, for the sale of cut flowers and florists' supplies. This establishment occupies the unique position of being the first and the only commission house of its kind south of the Ohio river. Local florists regard it as an important acquisition, and believe it will centralize considerable stock.

The Chrysanthemum show held in Louisville last winter by the Kentucky Society of Florists was sufficiently satisfactory to induce the Society to contemplate an "encore" for the coming season. It is hoped this will excell its predecessors in all respects — not only as tending to awaken and to cultivate among our citizens the greater love of flowers, but, equally, to incite among growers that generous spirit of rivalry and competition which, though perchance seemingly irksome at times, is nevertheless both the "life of trade" and the key note to Progress!

Respectfully,

ALEX. GALT ROBINSON, *Vice-President.*

ONTARIO.

To the President, Officers, and Members of the S. A. F. and O. H., in Convention at Omaha — Gentlemen, I herewith submit my report as Vice-President for the Province of Ontario. I regret my inability to be with you on this occasion, but wish you and your honorable body every success and prosperity.

The most important horticultural event to take place during the year has been the organization of the Canadian Horticultural Association. This society was organized in Toronto on February 10th, on a basis somewhat similar to that of the S. A. F. Our first convention will be held in Toronto on the 7th and 8th of September next, second week of the Indus-

trial Exhibition, to which I, as president of the Association, give you all a cordial invitation.

Another important event in connection with horticulture in the Dominion was the passage of the San Jose Scale Bill, by the Dominion Parliament on March the 17th, prohibiting the importation of all kinds of trees, shrubs, vines, rose bushes, etc., from the United States, Japan, Australia, and Hawaian Islands. This act has had some severe criticism, on both sides of the line, and we hear the estimate of some enormous losses by United States nurserymen through the passage of the act at that particular season.

Throughout the Province there has been a number of flower shows and exhibitions, notably the Industrial at Toronto, and the Western at London; these two exhibitions are visited by hundreds of thousands of people and are conceded by all to be second to none on the Continent.

The cold storage and refrigerator system inaugurated and subsidized by the Government, for the shipping of dairy and fruit products to the English markets, has proved a success, consequently an almost unlimited market for our fruit has been found; this has given rise to renewed energy on the part of the fruit growers.

The past year has been one of the most prosperous on record for the florist, as witnessed by the numerous large additions which have been added and are now under construction throughout the Dominion. A marked increase in the number in our ranks is also noticeable; every town and village now has its florist, while in and around the cities those already in the business are making large additions and otherwise increasing their facilities. It is also noticeable that the business in these centers is gradually concentrating in the hands of the larger concerns.

WM. GAMMAGE, *Vice-President.*

On motion of Mr. JOHN G. ESLER, of Saddle River, N. J., the reports of the State Vice-Presidents were received and ordered to be published in the Minutes. The thanks of the Society were also voted to the authors of the reports.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS.

SECRETARY STEWART, at this point, read a number of communications received from officials and other representatives of the city of Detroit, inviting the Society to hold its next annual meeting in that city. All of the communications were of recent date, and united in extending the invitation in most cordial terms. The following is a summary of each: —

From the Detroit Convention and Business Men's League (O. A. Bierce, Secretary), on behalf of the business interests of the city, stating:

"You are probably aware of the Convention advantages of Detroit, particularly its superb location, river attractions, fine climate and general modern improvements, but the warm hospitality of Detroiters to strangers you must witness to appreciate. We can assure delegates, members, officers and their friends a pleasant visit, if you will meet with us."

From Hon. Wm. C. Maybury, Mayor of Detroit, assuring the Society of a hearty welcome, that its stay will be made as pleasant as possible; that not only will it be welcomed by those directly interested but the citizens of Detroit generally will be pleased to have in their midst a convention of so much dignity.

From Hon. H. S. Pingree, Governor of Michigan, stating: "The location of Detroit commends itself favorably to all who attend conventions, on account of its accessibility by railway and steamship lines. The natural advantages of Detroit as a Convention City are excelled by none other. The climate, especially in the summer, is all that could be desired, and the beautiful Detroit river affords the finest harbor in the world. It can be truthfully said that no other city in the country has the advantages and convention facilities of the beautiful City of the Straits. In the past half a dozen years Detroit has unconsciously made for herself the name 'The Convention City' until to-day that title is applied to her by national bodies as they seek out available places for holding coming meetings. Her advantages are too numerous to mention in a letter but among them are the excellent facilities for visiting the beautiful parks and Belle Isle; numerous waterways; rapid railway service and splendidly paved streets for carriage drives, etc. The citizens of Detroit and Michigan take especial pains to make visitors welcome."

From Mr. Philip Breitmeyer, President of the Detroit Florists' Club, stating that the facilities of the Detroiters for entertaining visitors are equalled by few cities, reciting the special attractions of the city, and expressing the regret of the writer that he had been unable to be at Omaha to present the invitation in person.

From the newspaper press of Detroit, of similar tenor, signed by the following: The Detroit Free Press, Evening News, Detroit Tribune and Detroit Journal Company.

On motion of Mr. Wm. Scott, of Buffalo, the communications were laid on the table temporarily.

ILLNESS OF EX-PRESIDENT WILLIAM R. SMITH.

President Gude said he regretted to inform the members of the Society of the absence of their fellow member and ex-President, Mr. Wm. R. Smith, of Washington, D. C., of whose serious illness most of them had probably read in the trade papers. He explained

that with the exception of the Chicago meeting, when kept at home by a like illness, Mr. Smith had attended all the Conventions of the Society. The President continued : —

We should feel grateful that his life has been spared to us so long. It is my good fortune to be able to convey to you the welcome intelligence that Mr. Smith is now reported convalescent, his condition having taken a decided turn for the better. After seven long weeks of close confinement he is now able to sit up and is in a fair way toward permanent recovery. He is already anticipating the pleasure of attending our next Convention and working with us as hard as ever. That his fond hopes may be granted by the Ruler of our destinies and that he may live to take part in our deliberations at many future meetings is the sincere wish of your President. When I saw him last Saturday, for the first time in seven weeks, I felt apprehensive that he might not recover, but more recent advices have been reassuring and show the confidence felt in his naturally strong constitution. He personally asked me to extend his regards to each and every one of you, and to express the regret he felt for his inability to be present here.

Mr. Robert Craig, of Philadelphia, moved the following resolution : —

Resolved, That the members of the Society of American Florists, in convention assembled, desire to express their profound regrets for the absence of William R. Smith, our dearly beloved member and ex-President, who, by a long life of unselfish devotion to the advancement of horticulture and by his constant courtesy and kindness, has endeared himself to us all.

Resolved, That we have heard with gladness the good news from our President of Mr. Smith's improved condition, and hope that he may be spared for many years to continue his work so long well done.

Mr. W. W. Coles, of Kokomo, Ind., seconded the resolutions.

The resolutions were adopted by a unanimous vote.

On motion of Mr. J. G. Esler, of Saddle River, N. J., it was ordered that a copy of the resolutions be wired to Mr. Smith.

The Secretary, while making some announcements on routine matters, called attention to the invitation extended to the members to visit the Lininger Art Gallery, between the hours of three and six o'clock P. M. this day.

AMERICAN GROWN BULBS.

The SECRETARY: It was expected that at this Convention we would have a paper by Mr. Kains, of the Agricultural Department, Washington, D. C., on "American Grown Bulbs"; a promise to that effect having been made by that gentleman as long ago as last January. Only ten days ago a letter came from him, saying he would be unable to do anything whatever about it and that his explanation of the cause was a personal one that he could not communicate at the time. At the suggestion of a member of the Society, the Secretary telegraphed to Prof. W. S. Massey, of Raleigh, N. C., asking him if he could not help us in the matter, as many members here would be disappointed if nothing was done on that subject. No response was received until yesterday, when this came, via my office, from Professor Massey: "Absent when telegram came. Will do the best I can." That may mean that we shall have a paper here from Professor Massey, and if it comes it will be presented in due time.

Adjourned until the following day.

RECEPTION AT LININGER ART GALLERY.

The reception at the Lininger Art Gallery on Tuesday afternoon, left one more pleasant memory of the visit to Omaha. It was attended by nearly all the visiting delegates and their ladies. The paintings, statuary and specimens of antiquity, which constitute one of the most valuable private collections in America, are the property of Mr. G. W. Lininger, a public spirited citizen and liberal patron of art. The gallery was built and thrown open to the public, free, in November, 1888, since which time many additions have been made and the collection as a whole materially improved. It is estimated that more than fifteen thousand people have visited the gallery during the past year, and eight years of free art in Omaha have made a marked improvement on the people who visit and study the pictures.

After an inspection of the gallery, the florists were the guests of Mr. Lininger, on the cool and shady lawn adjacent to his residence, where they spent several hours of solid enjoyment. Refreshments were served under the supervision of a committee of ladies consisting of Mrs. A. Donaghue, Sr., Mrs. W. H. Sanford and Miss Donaghue, of Omaha, and Mrs. Charles A. Murphy of Sioux City.

THE PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION.

President GUDE's reception, on Tuesday evening, in the church parlors of the Convention building, under the auspices of the Nebraska and Iowa Florists' Society, was a pleasant affair. All the ladies and gentlemen present were given an opportunity to shake hands with the President and become better acquainted among themselves. Aside from the formal introductions, conversation was the principal feature of the reception. Mr. H. A. Siebrecht, Secretary Stewart and President A. Donaghue, Sr., of the local club, assisted the President in receiving the guests. The local committee for the occasion consisted of Messrs. J. F. Wilcox, John Petersen, A. Donaghue, Jr., L. C. Chapin, J. J. Hess and S. B. Stewart. Music by the Apollo Zither Club occasionally filled the edifice with agreeable harmonies that seemed all the more appropriate in connection with the pretty picture presented by the profusion of floral decorations.

PROFESSOR TAYLOR'S LECTURE.

The principal feature of Tuesday evening's entertainment was a lecture on "The Real Russia," by F. W. Taylor, Superintendent of the Horticultural Department of the Trans-Mississippi Exhibition. It was illustrated with stereopticon views from photographs taken by the lecturer. Speaking from actual observations made in 1892 and 1896 in trips from St. Petersburg to the Black Sea and from the Polish frontier to the Ural Mountains, the lecturer corrected some popular misapprehensions as to the severity of the climate and the hardships of Siberian exiles. He said he did not see a single convict in all his travels. Good crops and splendid fruits were produced in a more northern latitude than our own. The people, though in the main illiterate, were contented and loyal. The public buildings, kremlins, universities and churches, surpassed in architectural beauty and size those of any other country. The primitive modes of travel by rail and along the Volga, the populous cities of Novgorod and Moscow with their market scenes, and the characteristics of the Russian peasant, were also depicted. An idea was given of the vast extent of the empire in Europe and Asia, and finally an interesting description of the sage and sociolo-

gist, the world-famed Count Tolstoi. The audience, which was very large, gave proof of its appreciation of the occasion in frequent bursts of hearty applause, which was renewed with enthusiasm at the close of the very interesting lecture.

SECOND DAY. — MORNING.

Wednesday, August 17, 1898.

The Convention met at 11.45 A.M.; President GUDE in the chair.

THE NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE.

Prof. WM. TRELEASE, of St. Louis, Chairman of the Nomenclature Committee, being called upon, presented and read the report of that committee.

The report is as follows: —

Your Nomenclature Committee for 1898 respectfully submit the following report:

Early in the season the Chairman of the Committee sent to the principal trade journals a note requesting that cases of misnaming, double naming and the like, or other matters properly coming before this Committee, might be promptly reported to its Chairman; and some weeks since a similar request was mailed to each member of the Committee. In response to the requests, the appended letters have been received, and they are hereby made a part of this report, in which their substance is incorporated.

Botanical nomenclature unfortunately is in a transition state at present, and no little difference is observable in the usage of writers on plants, so that it is not at all surprising that the same species or natural variety should frequently occur in the catalogues of dealers under two or more of the names by which it is known to botanists. In 1893 (Proceedings S. A. F. p. 92) it was made the rule of the Society, on the advice of the Nomenclature Committee for that year, that in such matters the Gardener's Dictionary of Nicholson, or, on its completion, the compendious Index Kewensis, should be followed in the acceptance of strictly botanical names, so far as practicable. At that time it was also decided by the Society to prepare and publish a full catalogue of the decorative plants handled by the American trade, compiled on this basis, so that the trade catalogues might more readily be brought into line; but unfortunately

for this purpose, in view of the expense involved, it was decided by the Executive Committee at the Pittsburg Convention that it would be impracticable to publish the catalogue, the clerical work for which had largely been completed by that time. As a result, uniformity in the use of latinized plant names by the trade is still as far from being an accomplished fact as it was before the Society's rule was adopted, though it is believed that more care is taken in this respect than formerly.

It is a matter for congratulation that such difference of usage as is observable in the catalogues of the country, is apparently attributable to the prevalent diverse custom of botanists rather than to an effort by dealers to make an old and familiar plant appear as a novelty by offering it under an unfamiliar name.

So far as your Committee are informed, no reprehensible misnaming or double naming of florists' varieties requires presentation to the Society at this time. The few cases noted in this report are rather the result of accident or perhaps of over enthusiastic zeal to distinguish favorite seedlings which, while they may be separable by skilled specialists, are scarcely to be regarded as distinct from other and earlier varieties so far as the practical needs of the trade are concerned.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

*Jeannie Falconer** = *Peter Kay*

*Miss Agnes L. Dalskov** = *Ivoire Rose.*

FUCHSIAS.

*Gracieux** = *Little Beauty.*

ROSES.

*Climbing Kaiserin** = *Mrs. Robert Peary.*

Considerable uncertainty is reported to exist with respect to the ready separability of some of the recent yellow and bronze sports of Chrysanthemum, Mrs. Jerome Jones, and some contest may result as to the names which are entitled to recognition; but as this matter is at present in the hands of the Chrysanthemum Society of America for examination, your Committee are not now prepared to report further on it.

In conclusion, your Committee wish to suggest to propagators the desirability of promptly registering with the proper Committee of the Society or with the appropriate Auxiliary Society any new varieties they may decide to offer to the trade, thus avoiding possible contest subsequently. And they would also call the attention of originators of new varieties to the confusion which is caused to the cut-flower trade, by the too common adoption of the same name, for, say, a rose, a carnation, a chrysanthemum, etc.

WM. TRELEASE.
E. G. HILL.
ROB'T. GEORGE.
ROB'T. CRAIG.
ALBERT M. HERR.

* NOTE.—The first-mentioned is recognized as the proper name.

On motion of Mr. H. A. Siebrecht, the report was accepted and a vote of thanks tendered to the committee.

FIRE INSURANCE.

The President called for a report from the Committee on the Fire Insurance Association.

Mr. E. H. Michel, of St. Louis, Chairman of the Committee, said: I wish to report that in October we had a meeting in New York, the object of which was to perfect preliminary arrangements for the organization of a Fire Insurance Association such as was wanted by the florists. Such an Association was formed, and we trust that the Society will support it. The officers of the Association are present and can explain the situation.

Mr. J. G. Esler, of Saddle River, N. J.: As President of the new fire insurance organization I think it is my duty to say to this convention that we have not been properly supported. I would say further that if the florists of this country are not sufficiently interested in fire insurance to give us proper support by the first of January next we will return the dues and disband. Gentlemen, you can have fire insurance if you wish to have it, and our endeavor has been to give you fire insurance at first cost. If you don't want it at first cost you can obtain it from the old line companies. That is the way in which the proposition stands to-day.

Mr. H. A. Siebrecht: I was very glad to hear from Mr. Michel, who has labored very long and hard, and also from Mr. Esler, who has had ample experience in this matter, and has made the Hail Insurance Association a great success; and I wish to say that I looked over the schedule very carefully and did not feel satisfied with the rates given there or the terms and regulations as a whole. I cannot now specifically point out any one of them but it has occurred to me that these gentlemen were unfortunate with respect to the time at which they made their inquiries of the insurance companies and sought to get information. The insurance companies of the country had to combine, as doubtless you all know, and they have not only doubled but trebled the premiums. In my own case I have a quantity of property which I did not insure for several years; and I am running perhaps from $100,000 to $150,000 worth of property on which I do not have a dollar's worth of insurance, and on which I will not have, unless I insure myself, until they make proper rates. That includes not only greenhouse property but ordinary property such as dwelling houses, barns, stables and so on. The companies now have receded; they have now, the most of them, re-established the old rate. Where they charged 60 cents on $100 for a three-year policy, they had put up the rate to $2. That I know to be a fact, for in several instances in which companies of which I am a director have insured prop-

erty — school, church and otherwise — that rate has been paid; but this year many of those companies have reduced their rates. I think that if the officers of this Association were now to renew their efforts, they might be able to secure better rates and offer us something that we could more readily take advantage of.

Mr. Esler: I presume Mr. Siebrecht would not have us make rates below first cost. Would he?

Mr. Siebrecht: No, sir. I know you do not want to make any money out of us but that you are going to give us insurance just as low as you can — I appreciate that — but you have not got the rates as low as you might have got them under other circumstances.

Mr. Esler: Mr. Siebrecht is in error. We had to have money to organize an Association — he will understand that — and, in order to get that, we fixed upon a classification, a minimum rate of one per cent., and ran our classification from that minimum rate. It does not of necessity follow that those rates are going to prevail. If we do not have any losses we can assess 25, 50 or 75 per cent. of that rate, as the occasion requires. That is where we come in and give you insurance at first cost. But when we start we want you to pay us a certain amount to start in with, to put us on our feet. If the florists of the country do not want to do that they ought not to have insurance at first cost; that is all.

I have been an insurance agent for twenty years; and while, in our neighborhood, you can get insurance rates from the old line companies for almost anything you please, that condition of things may not prevail very long, the local boards over the country may not stick to that rate. The great question is whether the florists want to stand by themselves, in this matter, and help each other out or not. If they do stand by themselves this insurance arrangement will be a grand success. The trouble we have here is the same that we had to meet in the movement for hail insurance. The officers of the Hail Insurance Association, for three years, had to stake their reputations in order to put that movement on a firm foundation; but we do not to-day feel like staking our personal reputations for three or four years to benefit the florists of this country, if they do not want to benefit themselves.

Mr. W. J. Vesey, of Fort Wayne, Ind. (the Secretary of the Fire Insurance Association) here called attention to the great disparity in the rates of insurance throughout the country. He thought it could not be said that the old line rates were high or that they were low, as they were both high and low. He suggested that those of the members who came from Philadelphia did not perhaps appreciate the necessity of coming into the Fire Insurance Association because of the comparatively low rates on greenhouse property (40 cts. per $100) which prevailed there, as he had been informed;

but he assured them that these rates did not prevail throughout the country. He continued:

In the neighborhood in which I reside the companies charge $2 per hundred, per annum. In other neighborhoods they charge $3.50 to $4 for first class risks and proportionately higher for poor risks. This Fire Association was started last fall, and at that time the people who wanted to insure in the Association could hardly wait until we got it into running order, which we did not do until the first of July. Personally I was gratified with the character of the risks the Association was able to procure through the West. Florists through the West, who stand high in the profession and have first class properties, have become members of the Association. Through the Eastern States they perhaps get lower rates, and from that section they did not come in so largely. A reason given by some greenhouse men for not insuring is that greenhouse property cannot burn. That is diametrically opposed to the experience given by the old line insurance companies. Greenhouse properties can burn, no matter how well they are built; but if we are able to secure the best class of buildings the chances of loss by fire are comparatively remote. In our one year's experience there has been but one loss, and that occurred down in Ohio. It was a very nicely built property and heated by hot water throughout. Just how it happened to burn nobody knows. The owners are excellent people and their loss was largely in excess of that covered by the insurance.

Now, I believe that, if gentlemen can see their own interests, they will support the Association and that before the first of January not only all of you who are here but many of your friends will be members of it. If it should prove as good as the Hail Association you will have cause to be gratified, and I think it will prove to be better. I think you ought to understand that the officers have not received nor do they expect to receive any compensation for their services. Certainly if this Society can establish an Association to furnish you with insurance at its actual cost, that Association ought to be supported by everyone of you heartily and you ought not to expect a few officers to devote their time for your, as well as their, benefit without encouragement.

Mr. E. H. Michel expressed his concurrence in the statement made by Mr. Esler, and added:

If you want insurance at what it actually costs, this Association will give it to you. We have no personal interest in it except that commercial interest in those buildings we have insured and that further interest we feel in the success of an association that we have labored hard to organize. A month or two before we began to organize and do business we had applications (not accompanied by funds or money but simple applications) for several hundred thousand dollars of insurance. It does not sound very well when I tell you now that we have only $175,000 of value actually insured.

We have done our best. We offer you the advantages of the Association. Its officers have asked for no salary and will receive none, at least so long as it is taking in no money. One officer who has devoted much time to it is the Secretary, and there has been a small expense for clerical hire. If you want protection at first cost, take it before the first of January. If we cannot by that time get the support we must have, this Association cannot be continued and it must die. If it dies it will not be because the risks we have taken are bad, for we have taken and are going to take only good risks. The character of the people who have insured with us cannot be assailed, and the character of the buildings insured is first-class. What then is the reason why we should have no insurance? If these regular associations can take it at 40 cents a hundred there is no reason why we should not. It is our candid expectation that, with the small business we have now, we will not be compelled to ask for more than fifty per cent in the assessment we will have next year; but that is not sufficient. With the small membership we have we could not assess money enough to pay the losses, and these would come very heavily on a few people, whereas we would have a very few more losses to pay if we had five times the membership we now have. If you will support the Association and will do it right away, so that we may have the benefit of it by the first of January, we will give you a good organization, and we will stake our reputations upon it, but we are not willing to risk them as the matter stands now. [Applause.]

Mr. H. A. Siebrecht: Mr. President, I offer the following resolutions: —

Resolved, That the members of the S. A. F. accept the report of the officers of the Fire Insurance Association and heartily thank them for their unselfish and untiring efforts in behalf of the interests of the Society.

And be it further Resolved, That every member hereby pledges himself not only to look into the matter, but if he sees his way clear to do so, to give the Association his support between now and the first of January next.

I pledge myself to do this. I have always advocated this matter. I did so as far back as seven or eight years ago, when it was first brought up. I am heartily in favor of the Insurance Association so that we may ourselves protect each other.

A vote being taken, the resolutions of Mr. Siebrecht were adopted without objection.

Mr. E. H. Cushman, of Euclid, O.: I would inquire whether this committee that has labored so faithfully for the last four or five years, and which has earned the thanks of the Society, has been discharged by this resolution of Mr. Siebrecht's.

Mr. Michel: That is the understanding of the committee.

The PRESIDENT: There is no doubt in the mind of the Chair that they will be discharged on the first of January next unless there is more fire insurance.

Mr. MICHEL: Let it be understood, Mr. President, that the Fire Insurance committee which was appointed by this Society has been discharged and that the work which the committee undertook is now left in the hands of the florists' Fire Insurance Association, which has now taken the place of that committee and will probably do much better work than the committee did.

Mr. H. A. SIEBRECHT suggested that a formal motion to discharge the committee seemed to be necessary.

Mr. CUSHMAN: I move that the report of the Committee on Fire Insurance be received and that the committee be discharged with the thanks of this Convention for the energetic work they have accomplished for the Society.

Mr. CUSHMAN's motion prevailed without objection.

REPORTS OF EXHIBITION COMMITTEES.

The SECRETARY presented and read reports from the Committees on the trade exhibits in the Exhibition room.

These committee reports are appended at the end of this volume.

On motion of Mr. H. A. SIEBRECHT, the reports were accepted as read.

PROPOSED CHANGE IN NOMINATING OFFICERS.

The next order of business was action on an amendment to the by-laws, proposed by Mr. LAWRENCE COTTER, as follows: —

To amend Clauses 2 and 3 of Section VI. relative to Nominations and Elections by the addition of the following words: "Provided, however, that any name, in order to be thus officially declared for any office, must have received, at least, ten per cent. of the total vote cast." So that the Clauses 2 and 3 shall read as follows:

2. Members shall, in the blank spaces so provided, insert the names of their candidates for the designated offices. These ballots shall be collected by tellers duly appointed by the Chair, the results tabulated in the presence of the members of the Executive Committee who may be present, and announced by the Secretary; the two nominees receiving the highest number of votes for each office being then declared the candidates for election for the ensuing year; provided, however, that any name, in

order to be thus officially declared for any office, must have received at least ten per cent. of the total vote cast.

3. Should either of the two nominees receiving the highest number of votes decline to stand as a candidate, the nominee receiving the next highest number of votes (if not less than ten per cent. of the total vote cast) shall be declared a candidate.

The proposed amendment was read by the Secretary.

Mr. J. D. Carmody, of Evansville, Ind., said that the members had frequently been puzzled as to the best method of selecting candidates for the offices, and he regarded the proposition now made as a very good one. He moved its adoption.

Mr. H. A. Siebrecht seconded the motion, remarking that he saw no harm in it.

Mr. J. G. Esler explained that if what was now proposed had been in effect last year it would have prevented the election of the present President of the Society, as it would have cut him out. He said that very worthy candidates could be knocked down by such a provision, and he failed to see wherein it would be of benefit.

Mr. E. H. Michel: Assuming that sixty votes were cast and that one nominee received five and the other fifty-five, the one with five votes could not stand because he would not have ten per cent. of the total vote cast. Would the other nominee stand without opposition?

The President replied that, according to his own understanding, there would be but one candidate, as the nominee receiving the smaller vote would be ineligible.

Mr. Michel: Then there would be a practically unanimous nomination. Or would it be necessary to ballot again?

Mr. Siebrecht: Under the arrangement now suggested another ballot would be necessary.

Mr. Michel: It would be if, as I understand it, the Constitution requires that there shall be two candidates.

Secretary Stewart: Perhaps I can answer Mr. Michel's question. The by-laws provide that, where there are several nominees, and all but one withdraw, that one shall be declared to be the sole candidate; and the ballot for the election is prepared accordingly. But it seems to me there is a misapprehension as to what these preliminary ballots or nominations mean. If Mr. A. has an unanimous nomination to-day and, at the election to-morrow, a majority of the votes are cast for Mr. B, the latter

stands elected and his election would, I think, be accepted by any legislative body or any court. The nomination is merely a ready way of geting at the wishes of the members of the Society without too promiscuous balloting and too much talk; but you can elect anybody you vote for regardless of those official ballots. That is the way I have always looked at it and I should expect the President to so rule.

Mr. Benj. Hammond, of Fishkill, N. Y., inquired whether a nominee who had failed to receive ten per cent. of all the votes, in the preliminary balloting, could be ruled out at the election on the following day if his friends rallied to his support and elected him.

Mr. Siebrecht replied that his election would stand. He said the members could put up a new candidate and elect him regardless of the previous balloting.

President Gude explained that the proposed amendment had been suggested by an incident which occurred at the Providence Convention, and was intended to prevent a recurrence of the embarrassing conditions which had resulted in that instance.

Mr. W. H. Elliott, of Boston, said that at a previous convention the members had been deprived of the right to discuss the merits of candidates, and now an attempt was made, in the same line, to further restrict their right to vote for whom they preferred as officers. He thought the Society could be trusted to select its own officers and was opposed to the existing rules which restrict the number of candidates for each office; he preferred to have three instead of two and thought six would be still more preferable.

Mr. J. T. D. Fulmer, of Des Moines, Iowa, favored the amendment as a means of curtailing nominations and facilitating the election of officers. He suggested that a nominee who received less than ten per cent. of the vote was not likely to be a successful candidate and that, as a sensible man, he would voluntarily withdraw and leave the contest to those who had received more than ten per cent. and from among whom a choice would be made.

Mr. Sanders, endorsed the position taken by the preceding speaker (Mr. Fulmer) in favor of the amendment, the object of which, he said, was to simplify matters and economize time by reducing the number of nominees.

Mr. P. J. Hauswirth, of Chicago, contended that the arguments of Messrs. Fulmer and Sanders were fallacious, as they assumed that all nominees receiving over ten per cent. of the vote were to be regarded as candidates. He quoted the present by-law providing that only the two nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared the candidates.

Mr. J. L. Dillon, of Bloomsburg, Pa., said he could not see that the amendment was of any practical use.

Mr. J. G. Esler thought that the adoption of the proposed rule might be a hardship to the bowlers who might be absent, bowling, when the nominations were made and that, as a consequence of this, their friends among the nominees might be deprived of the vote they would otherwise receive and thus perhaps ultimately lose the election on this account.

Mr. W. W. Coles, of Kokomo, Ind., opposed the amendment as an unnecessary restriction upon the rights of members.

Mr. E. G. Hill, of Richmond, Ind., opposed the amendment as affording a means for cliques or combinations to put forward a nominee whom they favored. He preferred that every candidate should have an equal chance.

At this point the discussion closed and, the question being taken, the proposed amendment was defeated by a decisive vote.

DEPARTMENT OF CREDIT INFORMATION.

The next order of business was action on recommendations of the Executive Committee to establish, under the supervision of the Society, certain special departments, viz. of Credit Information, Co-operative Purchase, Claims, Arbitration and Legislation.

The Secretary read the recommendation to establish the following:

"A Department of Credit Information, whose duty it shall be to furnish information concerning the business standing of persons in the trade, said information to be furnished at $5 per annum and to members of the S. A. F. at $1 per annum. To be in charge of a committee of three, appointed by the President, subject to approval of the Executive Committee."

Mr. C. S. Loder, of New York, (representing the National Florists' Board of Trade) said he thought it would be unwise for the Society to adopt the recommendation.

(At this point Mr. Loder suspended his remarks to enable the matter to be brought more directly before the Convention by a motion.)

Mr. A. Gude then moved that the recommendation be not concurred in by the Society.

Mr. J. G. Esler said that, at the Executive Committee meeting at Providence, he had favored a proposition made by Mr. Loder on this subject, believing the Society would be benefited by it, and he had favored turning the matter over to that gentleman. He was then over-ruled, however, by the Committee. He would say now that he had not changed his mind at all in regard to it.

Mr. E. H. Giesy, of Cincinnati: After having made some inquiries of members of this Society, I believe that it would be better if the Credit Bureau was made entirely independent of the Society. While members who are in the wholesale trade would be glad to have such a bureau, the smaller dealers would perhaps be very antagonistic to it. I think that if the men who are asking credit know that their affairs are being reported upon by the Society, that fact will have a tendency to reduce the membership of this Society; and I believe that the wholesale men would derive equal benefit from a Credit Bureau conducted entirely independently of the Society, at a reasonable charge, and to which no one could object. I believe there is such a bureau in existence now; and if it be given proper encouragement all the information obtainable from a credit bureau would be furnished by this one.

Mr. E. G. Hill: I think that, in justice to the Executive Committee, we ought to have a statement from them giving their reasons for this recommendation; and then I would favor hearing Mr. Loder's statement and considering whatever he has to say, in order to approach the question in an unbiased and impartial manner.

Secretary Stewart: Perhaps the Secretary can answer as well as anyone now present as to the reasons which the Executive Committee had for adopting these recommendations. There has been a feeling, as you all know, that the Society was not giving its members individually a proper equivalent or return for the amount of dues they paid. The general beneficent effect of the Society is not questioned. Every member of the trade enjoys benefits from the Society's work to the value of considerable more than three dollars a year; but it was felt that we needed to have something of tangible individual value to put into a man's hands, as,

for instance, the Hail Insurance people have done. Many recommendations and suggestions have come in from members of the Society to the Executive Committee, in response to requests for information as to the member's wishes. Members have asked that we form a Credit Bureau; that we form a Department of Co-operative Purchase and so on. These letters were presented to the Executive Committee, who acted upon them with the result that is embodied in the recommendations now pending.

While on the floor I may say further that, in the case of two of these departments, the Executive Committee went a little over the line and put them in temporary operation, so that there might be some practical demonstration of their workings, from which the Committee would be able by this time to test the feeling of the Society and learn something as to how the members would respond. We started on the Credit Department work by sending out six or eight hundred circulars to prominent firms throughout the country, asking them to give us reports upon people who had traded with them and who were considered untrustworthy. Each circular was accompanied with a blank form giving spaces for the name, the residence and the details of what the trouble was in the case of the party complained of. I received, I think, 25 or 26 responses to those hundreds of circulars; and those responses covered altogether 167 names of parties who were reported as delinquent or untrustworthy for one cause or another. It was noticeable that nearly half of these 167 reported names were those of private customers. The Executive Committee wanted names of people in the trade who could not be trusted, but some of those who made replies had given the names of ladies and gentlemen, private customers, buying flowers from them in their own localities. The resolution was passed by the Executive Committee in March, and the Secretary went to work at once, but all there is to show after these months of effort is these 26 or 27 responses.

Mr. Loder (being here called upon) resumed his remarks. He said that those whom he represented had given much time and thought to the line of work referred to and that they had experience and ability to carry out any work they undertook. He continued:

We not only have members of this Society as members of our Board but we have many members of the trade, in the United States, not members of this society, who are subscribers to our Information and Credit Department and are answering our inquiries; we also have thirty European houses, who sell foreign stock within the jurisdiction of the United States and of Canada; and we have three or four hundred houses for whom we do business, who sell to other members of the wholesale jobbing trade or to the retail trade. We do not cater to the business of retail florists who sell to individuals, and while here, I have met probably half a dozen to whom I have frankly stated that they would be of no use in this line of work. Our list embodies members of the trade who are

buying largely from the wholesale or jobbing trade. We now have in our employ, at our office in New York City, seven or eight clerks who give their entire time to this class of work, others who investigate and report upon the standing of the trade, one or two men who go out and collect accounts, also two or three stenographers, a cashier and an office boy. We have also in our employ two lawyers, who give their time and attention to our legal work.

Mr. EDGAR SANDERS here interposed to protest that the Convention did not want to hear further from Mr. Loder about his private business and that that gentleman was unnecessarily consuming time.

Mr. H. A. SIEBRECHT requested Mr. Loder to state directly any proposition that he desired to present.

Mr. LODER: The proposition made a year or so ago, and which I make now, is this: that any member of the Society who wishes to subscribe to the Information and Credit Department of the National Florists' Board of Trade may do so (provided we know that he is member of the Society and in good, regular standing) on a rebate of two dollars upon our subscription price, which is ten dollars. I believe that covers the whole point in question.

The discussion here closed and, a vote being taken, Mr. A. Gude's motion, that the recommendation of the Executive Committee be not concurred in, was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT announced: The effect of the vote just taken is that the proposition for a committee of the Society of American Florists to form this Credit Department is defeated.

DEPARTMENT OF CO-OPERATIVE PURCHASE.

The SECRETARY read the recommendation of the Executive Committee to establish the following: —

"A Department of Co-operative Purchase, the object of which will be to secure for members of the Society the low prices on various greenhouse supplies which may be obtained through co-operative purchase in large quantities. To be managed by a committee of three to be appointed by the President, subject to approval of the Executive Committee."

Mr. SANDERS: I move that the recommendation be not concurred in.

The PRESIDENT invited discussion of the subject.

Mr. E. M. Wood (of the Executive Committee) opened the discussion by reading a paper embodying a report from the sub-committee on the subject. The paper, which was much applauded, was as follows : —

At the meeting of your executive committee held at Washington, D. C., March 15 and 16 last, among the new departments recommended was the Co-operative Department of Purchase. A sub-committee, of which I have the honor of being a member, was chosen to carry into execution the objects of this department and as soon after appointment as possible your sub-committee issued a circular to the Society's members in which was set forth the benefits expected to be derived by co-operative purchase. Some time elapsed before this circular could be issued. As soon as issued, one was mailed to each member of the Society, and to more than 800 persons not members of the Society. Few responses were received, twenty-eight in all, and their wants may be summed up as follows :

Glass	2287 boxes.
Anthracite Coal	3531 tons.
Bituminous "	4008 tons.
Pipe	39500 ft.
Valves and Fittings	96
Paints	5020 lbs. 38 gals.
Hose	5050 ft.
Nails	29 kegs.
Fertilizer	37250 lbs. 5 bbls.
Insecticides	58500 lbs. 2 bbls.
Flower Pots	28725
Sash Bars	2200
Shipping Tags	10000
Paper	100 reams.
Steam Boilers	2

As they came so tardily, however, it gave the committee little or no time to obtain proper estimates. This experience shows either that the general average florist and grower of flowers did not feel the importance of despatch in replies to the committee's circular, or that the objects of this department were not fully understood, it being a new departure in the Society's affairs. The committee are inclined to the latter belief — time and the acquaintance with the objects and workings of this department will indicate the wisest course to pursue.

No doubt some look with concern upon the objects to be obtained in this new department recommended by the Executive Committee. Those interested in the trade of some of the supplies may fear it may be an injury to their trade and divert their business to other channels. With some this may prove true, but the large majority of the Society's members will reap a substantial benefit.

Railroads, Sugar, Rubber, Lead, Linseed Oil, Cotton Seed Oil, Rope and various other interests and manufactures co-operate, why not we as consumers co-operate in our purchases? If all the members yearly would

make up a list of their probable wants for the coming year, bring or send them to the Executive Committee at the annual convention, or mail to them as soon as possible thereafter, it would give the committee ample time to get estimates and to notify the members. If every member takes an active interest and sends a list of his probable wants as herein suggested, it will show their wants to be thousands of boxes of glass, thousands of feet of rubber hose and pipe and thousands of tons of coal. These are a few of the important items. If the yearly increase is anything like the ratio of increase of co-operation in the United Kingdom of Great Britain, it would increase in thirty-two years twenty-five hundred percent.

The sales of Co-operative Societies in the United Kingdom of Great Britain in the year 1862 were 2,333,593 pounds sterling or about $11,667,-965; in the year 1893, the latest official date available, the sales were 51,804,836 pounds sterling or $259,019,160. The net profit, 4,610,657 pounds sterling, $23,053,275, or about 31 per cent. profit on a share capital of 15,318,665 pounds sterling or about $75,593,460. Total sales for thirty-two years 708,549,292 pounds sterling or about $3,542,745,460, and total net profit 61,757,659 pounds sterling or $308,788,295.

The sales of the wholesale co-operative societies in the United Kingdom for 1894 were 9,443,993 pounds sterling or $47,219,965, and the net profits were 126,192 pounds sterling or $630,960, or about 21 per cent. on its share capital of 698,496 pounds sterling or $2,992,480.

It is not intended at present that the Society shall make a profit or reap any benefit from the saving which will accrue in co-operative purchase to its members, except what inducement it may be to become members of the Society, and thus reap a benefit indirectly. That it will be a substantial and very material benefit to the members of the Society, no one can for a moment doubt if they have given the subject any thought or studied into the merits of co-operation.

It has been wisely said, "One must not be too much impressed with the theoretical advantages of co-operation and expect large results almost at the outset." You should be prepared for a period of neglect and obscurity, of small internal disagreements, of mistakes of various kinds, of unforeseen annoyances that are likely to come in the beginning. To succeed in co-operation, men must bear and forbear, persevere and learn wisdom by their mistakes. Courage to hold on through the first year or two of inexperience and possible adversity is the price of success,—not condemnation or adverse criticisms at the beginning. They build nothing. I never knew a good thing but what was condemned by some. There may be mistakes made in the execution of the department of purchase, but with courage they all can be easily overcome. As experience is gained, time will no doubt change methods and improve them. All men make mistakes—none are exempt. It is the sum of all our successes being larger than the sum of our failures which makes success an accomplished fact.

Co-operation is the most admirable form of self help, because each member is helping his fellow to climb as rapidly as he climbs himself,

and thus the progress of all is facilitated. In our case the smallest grower will, when the department is perfected, get his supplies at the same reduced price his rich competitor does; and the disparity in prices which he has had to bear will be wiped away. This is one of the blessings of co-operation, but it is not all. The members will not only get their supplies as cheap as their rich competitors but all will reap a further benefit which the large aggregate of purchases is sure to command.

In view of the facts here presented and in consideration of the few responses to the Committee's circular, we beg further time in which to set forth the advantages of co-operation to the members and demonstrate its absolute feasibility. The committee, therefore, begs an extension of time with authority to continue their labors in perfecting the Department of Purchase.

Mr. SANDERS: It is well known that this co-operative system is a wonderful thing in England, but there is not a horticultural society or a society such as our own that would think of tacking on to it a system like that. It is well in itself as an independent agency but not as connected with the Society.

Mr. J. G. ESLER: The Executive Committee thought, in view of the amount of "kicking" that had been done, that the members of the Society wanted to have facilities in this direction that would be of some substantial benefit. Now, it cannot do any harm to try this another year. If it is a failure we can let it go. If it is not a failure nobody will be hurt by it.

Mr. H. A. SIEBRECHT: While I appreciate the efforts in this direction and while there may be no harm in trying the scheme for another year, I do believe it is about time we should leave off putting strings to our bow. These special matters take up nearly all our time, and here it is twelve o'clock and we have done so little at this session. I only wish to utter a word of warning that we had better not undertake too much. [Applause.]

Mr. J. L. DILLON: I notice by the committee's report that our members are discriminated against. For instance, there is one item of "sash bars." Several parties who belong to this Society are engaged in the trade in those articles, and it is proposed to take the trade away from all of them but one. Now, I don't believe in anything of that kind and, for my part, I shall vote against it.

Mr. ESLER: I don't understand that there is any discrimination. To what does the gentleman refer?

Mr. DILLON: If this applies to sash bars it applies to everything else that is sold. It takes the trade from all the others and gives it to one.

Mr. ESLER: How is that so? Every man has an opportunity to put in bids.

Mr. DILLON: Certainly he has. But as it is now the trade is divided; as it would be then it would all be centralized in one person.

Mr. WOOD: Of course the object of this department is to aggregate the amount of purchase. All very well understand that if we have 50,000 boxes of glass to purchase we can get a price which is from 30 to 50 cents less than it would be otherwise, and of course whoever buys glass will be benefited. Now, that purchase would naturally be given to a single manufacturer of glass, and those who are able to pay for their glass fore-handed would reap greater benefit because there are many people who will deal with them, who have credit locally, and would not enter into the arrangement. I am merely trying to explain the point suggested by Mr. Dillon. But I have not looked on this Department of Purchase except in the light of handling a few of the larger items that would go all over the United States.

Mr. C. B. WHITNALL, of Milwaukee: In consideration of the immense amount of labor this committee has accomplished, I think it is only courtesy to continue the committee, especially as they have made the request to be continued.

The PRESIDENT: We will now hear from Mr. Giesy, a supply man, on the subject.

Mr. E. H. GIESY, of Cincinnati: I only want to say that, as a representative of the Lockland Lumber Company, I am not in favor of the proposition but as a member of this Society I am in favor of it. The kind of goods that I represent could hardly be handled by the committee because of the various styles, sizes and so on; but that is true of other lines. Those details would adjust themselves. There are many articles that can be bought to advantage by such an arrangement as this, and all the small dealers among the members of the Society would get the benefit of it. Those matters would work out when the thing got to working. I believe that a large sum of money would be saved by co-operation.

PRESIDENT GUDE: Before the vote is taken the Chair would suggest to each and every member to bear in mind that this puts no responsibility upon anyone to the extent of a five cent piece except the three men who constitute the committee.

Mr. SANDERS: It will make a fine lot of work for that committee.

Mr. ESLER: The committee want to do it but you gentlemen seem not to want them to do it.

Mr. J. T. D. FULMER: I move, as a substitute for the pending motion, that the recommendation of the Executive Committee be concurred in.

Mr. W. W. COLES: There is no need for that motion because it is just reversing the other. If you vote down Mr. Sanders' motion to nonconcur it will be the same thing exactly as if you voted to concur. As a

member of the Executive Committee in charge of this matter, I would say that I am of the opinion stated by Mr. Esler. We have gone to considerable trouble to establish this department and it is costing the Society nothing to continue it another year. I think it would only be a matter of justice to us to let us show the Society what we can do. If we find in another year that we cannot do you any good we will be very willing to drop it.

Mr. Sander's motion that the Society do non-concur in the establishment of this Department of Purchase as recommended by the Executive Committee, was then put and was declared lost.

Mr. Siebrecht: That means that the committee will be continued?

The President: That is the effect of it. The committee will be continued.

Mr. Wood: I think we ought to have a vote specifically authorizing this Committee on the Co-operative Purchase Department to continue their labors another year.

Mr. Siebrecht: No time is fixed by the motion that was carried. Let us continue the committee for a specific time and then we will know just how long they are to work on that line.

Mr. Fulmer: I cannot understand why, after a motion has been made and a substitute for that motion has been offered the President of this Society should put the question on the motion that was offered first.

The President: The Chair did not hear the gentleman's motion seconded.

Mr. Robert Craig: The Chair was entirely in order. The gentleman's (Mr. Fulmer's) substitute, not being germane to the original motion, could not be entertained.

Mr. Wood then moved that the committee be given a term of one year with authority to continue their labors in perfecting the Department of Purchase.

The motion being seconded by Mr. Siebrecht, a vote was taken, and Mr. Wood's motion was carried.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

The Secretary read the recommendation to establish the following: —

"A Legislative Department, whose duty it shall be to discourage adverse legislation, State or National, and encourage legislation favor-

able to the trade. To be in charge of a committee of three, appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee."

On motion of Mr. E. H. Michel, the recommendation of the Executive Committee was concurred in.

Secretary Stewart: That the recommendation to establish this department may be effective, I now make a motion that the special committee which the Executive Committee has already appointed on that matter be continued for the following year. That is the committee of the New York Florists' Club, consisting of Messrs. Patrick O'Mara, C. H. Allen and J. N. May. They have done some very good work for the New York Florists' Club, and they would surely do it for the Society. It is as good a committee as we can have. My motion is that the conduct of this department be put in their hands.

A vote being taken, Mr. Stewart's motion was agreed to without discussion.

ARBITRATION DEPARTMENT.

The Secretary read the recommendation to establish the following: —

"An Arbitration Department, whose duty it shall be to promote the amicable adjustment of controversies between members, when requested by parties interested to do so. To be in charge of a committee of five, appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee."

On motion of Mr. H. A. Siebrecht, the recommendation of the Executive Committee was concurred in.

On motion of Secretary Stewart, the President was empowered to appoint a committee of five to carry into effect the Arbitration Department.

The committee was afterwards constituted as follows: Messrs. S. B. Stewart, Adam Graham, Edwin Lonsdale, P. Welch, and W. A. Manda.

CLAIM DEPARTMENT.

The Secretary read the recommendation to establish the following: —

"A Claim Department, whose duty it shall be to look after the adjustment of claims of members against transportation companies. To be in charge of a committee of three, appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee."

On motion of Mr. E. H. Michel, the recommendation of the Executive Committee was concurred in.

On motion of Secretary Stewart, the President was empowered to make effective the vote just taken.

The committee was afterwards constituted as follows: Messrs. H. A. Siebrecht, Robert Craig, and E. G. Hill.

TO MEET AT DETROIT IN 1899.

The selection of a place of meeting for 1899 was the next business.

Mr. G. A. Rackham, of Detroit, speaking on behalf of the Florists' Club of that city, extended a hearty and cordial invitation to the Society to meet at Detroit. He spoke of the location of Detroit on the west side of the Detroit River, opposite the Canadian border, of its Belle Isle Park and other attractions and its facilities for entertaining many visitors. He added:

We will endeavor to use you well; we may not give you a lavish entertainment but we will give you home comforts and perhaps some other comforts.

Mr. D. B. Long, of Buffalo, remarked that there were other places in the country besides Detroit and he would like to nominate Saratoga, N. Y., as the next meeting place.

Mr. H. A. Siebrecht moved an acceptance of Mr. Rackham's invitation.

The Secretary: In addition to the invitations, which were read yesterday, from the Florists' Club, the newspaper press, the Mayor and the Business Men's League, of Detroit, and the Governor of Michigan, two or three telegrams were received to-day. One is from the Committee on Parks and Boulevards and one from the City Clerk of Detroit, also one from Mr. C. W. Ward, all enthusiastically inviting the Society to visit Detroit. Mr. Ward's is supplemented by a letter in which he explains that his interest in Detroit is due to his having formerly resided there and that he knows all about it. He also regrets his inability to stand up and speak for it but predicts that, if the Society goes there, its meeting will be a "howling success," and adds: "Go ahead with three cheers for Detroit in 1899."

Mr. Long explained that the Pan-American Exhibition having been postponed, the Niagara Falls Board of Trade had been compelled to abandon their intention to extend an invitation to the Society for next year.

A vote was here taken and the city of Detroit was chosen as the meeting place for 1899; after which, under the lead of Mr. Siebrecht, a round of cheers was given for Detroit.

Mr. Rackham was understood to say that special instructions had been given him to include the ladies in the invitation.

Mr. Siebrecht remarked that, on his recent visit to Detroit, his wife and other ladies who accompanied him were so enchanted with the city that it was all he could do to get them away.

Mr. Dillon replied that it might be dangerous to take the ladies there. [Merriment.]

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS.

Balloting for the nomination of officers for the ensuing year was the next business. The following acted as tellers to collect the ballots: Messrs. J. L. Dillon, D. B. Long, A. Gude and E. H. Cushman. After some time the report of the tellers was presented by Mr. A. Gude. The results were announced as follows: —

For President 97 ballots were cast, of which W. N. Rudd received 59; E. M. Wood, 23; H. A. Siebrecht, 6; A. Donaghue, Sr., 4; E. H. Cushman, 2; E. H. Michel, 1; W. F. Gude, 1; H. B. Beatty, 1.

For Vice-President 94 ballots were cast, of which Philip Breitmeyer received 71; H. A. Balsley, 11; J. F. Sullivan, 5; G. A. Rackham, 2; J. F. Wilcox, 2; C. D. Ball, 1; W. W. Coles, 1; H. A. Siebrecht, 1.

For Secretary 91 ballots were cast, of which Wm. J. Stewart received 66; E. H. Michel, 13; J. A. Shaw, 5; C. C. Pollworth, 4; E. Sanders, 1; John Westcott, 1; A. M. Herr, 1.

For Treasurer 87 ballots were cast, of which H. B. Beatty received 46; John G. Esler, 23; John Westcott, 10; E. G. Hill, 4; J. C. Vaughan, 1; J. A. Shaw, 1; A. M. Herr, 1; E. H. Giesy, 1.

During the announcement of the result a number of gentlemen for whom ballots had been cast without their knowledge withdrew

their names. Others who were not present at this time withdrew subsequently.

Mr. E. M. Wood, in withdrawing from the nomination for President, remarked:

Members of the Society have come many miles West and I think that the West deserves to have the next President. I hope that my friends will vote accordingly. If at any future time the members come East, as they will, and the Society would like to make me President, I will be pleased to accept the honor they confer.

Mr. H. A. Siebrecht declined a nomination for President in favor of Mr. Rudd, remarking that he was content to be one of "the boys," that he wanted only something to do for the Society and that, for him, there was honor enough in doing it.

Mr. H. Balsley, of Detroit, in declining to be named for Vice-President, returned his thanks to his friends for their consideration and said he withdrew in favor of the right man in the right place, Mr. Breitmeyer.

Mr. John Westcott, in declining a nomination for Treasurer, said he was not an applicant for and would not accept an office; that his only ambition was to do his part in being of use to the S. A. F. He said he was satisfied to come here as one of "the boys," to be known simply as an active member and to have a good time. He said he did not want the votes of his friends, and if cast for him they would be thrown away.

Messrs. Esler, Hill and Herr, who had been named for Treasurer, withdrew their names. The remaining two nominees receiving the highest number of votes for each office were declared the candidates for election.

In the nominations for Treasurer three names had received one vote each, and it was determined to select from these in alphabetical order.

ROUTINE MATTERS.

The Secretary here read the report of the judges appointed to award medals of the Society for special exhibits. The report was as follows: —

We find on exhibition a collection of bulbs raised by Mr. George Gibbs, of Orcas, San Juan Co., Washington. This includes Narcissus, three varieties; Iris, two varieties; Roman Hyacinths, red; Dutch Hyacinths, three years old, six varieties; Crocus, yellow and white; Tulips, four varieties; and Lilium candidum.

The bulbs are all of very fine quality, being solid, heavy and well-ripened and in size comparing favorably with first-class Holland grown stock.

The Lilium candidum deserves special mention, as they are the largest and finest ever seen by your committee.

The whole exhibit is extremely interesting and valuable as indicating the possibilities of bulb culture in some sections of our country.

Awarded the Society's Silver Medal.

Mr. D. B. Long of Buffalo, N. Y., makes an exhibit of various photographic designs suitable for catalogue covers, cards, calendars, and other commercial purposes. The majority of the exhibits are of unique and original conception, and have, we believe, a decided commercial value deserving the award of the Society's Silver Medal.

There is on exhibition some very excellent photographic work by Mr. R. L. Blair of Des Moines, Iowa, one piece in particular, a decorated mirror, which shows good artistic taste in the arrangement. These photographs are commended by your committee.

E. H. Hill,
Robt. Craig,
Wm. Scott,
Judges.

On motion of Mr. H. A. Siebrecht the report was accepted.

The Secretary here called attention to the rule of the Society providing that exhibits in the Trade Exhibition not in position before one o'clock p.m. on the first day of the Convention may be excluded from the report of awards. He said that one or two exhibitors who had not arrived until after the hour named had now made application to the Society to permit a subsequent examination of their exhibits by the proper committee and a supplementary report upon them.

After some discussion, on motion of Mr. E. H. Michel, authority was given and the request of the exhibitors complied with.

An announcement was also made of the arrangements for a carriage ride for the visiting ladies of the S. A. F., as the guests of the Omaha ladies, on Wednesday afternoon at two o'clock.

Attention was called to a bunch of nasturtiums on the President's table, which had been presented by a daughter of Mr. Allen, late President of the Nebraska Horticultural Society.

The Convention at 1.15 o'clock P.M. adjourned until evening.

SECOND DAY — EVENING.

Wednesday, August 17, 1898.

The evening session opened (at 8.30 o'clock) with a small attendance, due to the protracted bowling tournament at Krug Park and the great interest felt in the result.

A FEW REMARKS ON THE DAHLIA.

A paper with this title, prepared by Mr. L. K. Peacock, of Atco, N. J., was read (in the absence of its author) by Mr. E. H. Michel, and the subject was briefly discussed.

The paper was as follows: —

With the revived popularity of dahlias comes a renewed interest in anything pertaining to their development and culture. I regret recent ill health prevented my presence with a more exhaustive article but I will be pleased to give any further information in my power or answer questions in any of the trade papers.

During the present year there was an increase of fully 50 per cent. in the sale of dahlia plants and bulbs and during the past six years over 500 per cent., or an average of nearly 100 per cent. for each year since 1892.

In reference to the different classes I am compelled to say that the cactus type has been a source of great disappointment in many ways.

First, they are not so free in blooming as the other classes; second, they will not keep so long after cutting; third, except in a few cases they have very short stems unless disbudded; fourth, they are the latest of all dahlias to bloom.

There are of course some exceptions, that is, some of the true cactus dahlias do not have all of the above failings. For instance the cactus dahlia, Henry F. Michell, is an immense flower of perfect form and an early and continuous bloomer but like other cactus varieties will not stand up well after being cut. Of their form, however, it can be said that with

their beautiful forms and exquisite blending of colors they are the most delicate and graceful of all dahlias. Of the cactus dahlias Delicata, Perle de la tête d'Or, Lady Penzance, Gloriosa and Countess of Pembroke (if it can be called cactus) are the most valuable.

Show and fancy dahlias still seem to be the favorites judging from the bulk of sales but they are closely followed by the decorative class, or as they are sometimes called, semi-cactus, decorative cactus, etc. This is perhaps the most valuable type of dahlias for florists' use. They are strong, vigorous growers, free bloomers, full range of colors and have long stems. The most valuable of this class are Clifford W. Bruton, Wm. Agnew, Grand Duke Alexis, Mrs. E. C. Monroe, Henry Patrick, Maid of Kent, Nymphæa and Black Prince. Another fine variety is the weeping dahlia, Lemon Giant. It is of pale yellow color, 5 to 6 inches in diameter, deep and full; they are borne on long drooping stems and from a distance resemble large fluffy balls.

The pompon dahlia seems to be holding its own in the race and with such beautiful varieties as Eleganta, Snowclad, Rosalia, Daybreak, Fairy Queen, Little Beatrice, Little Prince, Little Diavalo and a score more of equal merit it is not surprising. Little Beauty is the name of a new delicate pink variety to be introduced in 1899. The petals are perfectly quilled and it is a valuable acquisition.

In single dahlias great advance has been made with a corresponding increase in popularity. The greatest objection to Paragon, Nance, Cloth of Gold and other old favorite single dahlias, were their great height and lateness of bloom. We now have single dahlias, larger size and same length of stem and plants 18 inches to two feet high. Of these varieties St. George leads all; color pure yellow, height 2½ feet, size 4 to 5 inches in diameter, a strong sturdy grower, free, early and continuous bloomer. Ada Edina, Irene, Luxury, Vernie, Little Dorothy, Corinne and others including Novelty, a new fragrant dahlia, combine in making the new dwarf large, early flowering, long-stemmed, single dahlia one of the most valuable sections of the entire dahlia family.

I had not intended to say anything regarding our single-stemmed branching system, but after the past heavy storm I must mention it, even at my own expense. During April and May we had rain almost every day for six weeks which prevented early planting. This was followed by a severe drouth broken only two weeks ago with thunder storms and very heavy winds. Now, as we were late and very busy we concluded that our dahlias — 31 acres — would bloom earlier if not pinched back. This was a big item, as we had a large number engaged as soon as ready. We were perhaps two weeks ahead by not pinching, but had taller plants by one-third and shorter stems by one-half. On Thursday evening, Aug. 4th, we had an acre and a half of Clifford W. Bruton coming into full bloom, standing about 5 ft. high. During the night we had a heavy storm with wind blowing a gale. On Friday morning, Aug. 5th, our block of Bruton dahlias were flat and it took six men a half a day to stand them up. A friend of mine, Mr. C. E. Varnum, had two rows of specimen

blooms grown to the single stem branching system. Out of 300 plants exposed to the gale one plant was blown over and two or three leaned a little; the balance was standing as erect as ever.

In conclusion I would like to call attention to the possibilities of the dahlia as a florist's cut flower, both for bouquets and decorations. Varieties like Countess of Pembroke, Nymphæa and Clifford W. Bruton, have size, color, and length of stem, all that can be desired. Also to the possibilities of the dahlia as an exhibition flower; the exhibitions of the past two years, in both Philadelphia and Madison Square Garden, New York, have demonstrated their value better than I can express.

I sincerely trust that at the next meeting of this Society the American Dahlia Society will be officially represented and I think it would be a good thing if it could work in conjunction with the Society of American Florists.

Mr. Michel opened the discussion. He said: I know little on the subject, less than I formerly knew, and the reason I know so little about it is because I have not found, as Mr. Peacock claims to have found, that there has been an increase in popularity of the dahlia in the last few years. There does not seem to be any use for them in the locality from which I come. We cannot get anything for them in the market and are selling less of them every year, though there was formerly a good demand for them. Of their roots or bulbs we sell quite a few to the seed houses but I do not find the florists ordering them very largely. It may be that there is a revival in the East but it has not shown itself in the West.

Mr. H. A. Siebrecht: We have almost discarded them as far as cut flowers are concerned. They do not seem to take excepting with the smaller florists and the poorer classes. I know of several gentlemen who grow half an acre or an acre of solid colors — of pink, white or yellow, principally yellow — and they sell them at some profit; but dahlias are no longer requisite for a first-class florist's business, I think, excepting on extraordinary occasions and in large, coarse decorations. Of course as far as the bulbs are concerned there is still a market for them, I think — a limited market — and it is all right for one or two concerns to keep up a good collection. Mr. Peacock, I find, and a friend of mine up my way, old Dr. Bolton — one of the greatest dahlia showers in the country, at exhibitions,— have good collections. So that if I want any dahlias I send to one of those gentlemen and get them; but it is almost extinct as a business with us.

Mr. E. G. Hill: I think the dahlias have a place in garden embellishment. In my little city there is a party who has three or four clumps of dahlias, and I don't know how he manages it but it seems they are blooming in a week or two after the frost disappears, that is, the late frost. It is to me a source of pleasure to look at them. I think there is a place and use for dahlias. I would regret very much to think they

were going out of favor to such an extent that we would see nothing more of them in this country.

Now, there is considerable valuable information in that paper of Mr. Peacock's; but the point he makes or the information he gives in regard to the cactus dahlia in this country is likely to cause any one interested to make a serious mistake. In England, when I was over there, the cactus dahlia was being grown all over the island, and it was most magnificent. I shall never as long as I live forget the bright colors and beautiful forms of the cactus dahlia at Chas. Turner's Slough Nurseries. The care given to them and the way in which they are handled was really a revelation and a marvel to me. I thought that if we could go back and grow dahlias in this country as they were growing there, they would surely become popular favorites, but their lateness in blooming in this country would preclude them from becoming popular.

Mr. SANDERS: They have a very moist atmosphere over there.

Mr. HILL: A moist atmosphere has something to do with it. I might state that, the day I was there, a mulch of four or five inches of old rotten manure was being put over the dahlia plots two or three acres in extent. We may not like to go to the same expense and devote the same time, but the result in fine dahlia flowers was ample compensation, from their standpoint at least, for all the outlay in money and time.

Mr. SIEBRECHT: I did not mean to say that I did not like to see dahlias, but I was speaking from a business standpoint, and of course we are looking a great deal at the financial end. I agree with Mr. Hill, I like to see them. I think that one reason why our customers in the retail line, the buyers and consumers, do not go into dahlias more is the very fact that we cannot start dahlias as early as they do in Europe. We run chances of a killing frost at any time before the 15th of May in our section, and further East it may be still later than that. I used to grow the cactus dahlia and I think it is a very handsome flower, that it will have a place and probably will always remain. A gentleman in Massachusetts, Mr. Burt, makes a specialty of them, also Mr. Peacock and Mr. Bolton; and we used to have several like them around New York, old Mr. Stephen Pell and also Mr. Burgess at Evergreen Cemetery, Brooklyn. In the days I speak of we did not have so many other flowers; the dahlia was a stand-by and a great deal was made of it; but now we have so many other things which grow so easily. We did not then have the French cannas, for instance. But it will pay a few concerns to keep up a nice collection of dahlias because we all want a few dozen or a hundred or two now and then, and it is very satisfactory to know where to get them. I don't think that it would pay for all of us to keep up a collection of those things.

The discussion here closed and, on motion of Mr. J. D. CARMODY, the paper was received and a vote of thanks was given its author.

THE QUESTION BOX.

The subject of Trade Exhibitions, which had been assigned for this evening, was not taken up because of the absence of Mr. E. H. Cushman, who had prepared a paper upon it. The Question Box, being always in order, was opened and the following subject was taken up for discussion: "Is there any way to prevent State institutions from selling flowers in competition with the florists? If so, what is the best way to do it?"

Mr. E. H. MICHEL said he presumed, from the question, that the condition of affairs which it suggested was one that existed somewhere. He did not think this was true of the State from which he came. There was a question, however, that was suggested by the sight of a beautiful bedding in a public park. He said that he did not see that the eleemosynary institutions, in which the insane and paupers were supported, grew their own vegetables or things of that kind or wove the clothing for the inmates, but it was a fact that when the public authorities ornamented their parks they grew their own stock for that purpose.

He continued:

> Think of how much revenue is taken away from practical business men, citizens who are paying for the privilege of doing business in growing stock, by the cities entering into competition with them in growing that stock. We are beginning to feel that we are losing a lot of trade. For the State to enter into competition with private business interests is to follow along the same line. If our Legislative Committee can reach the people in such a way as to influence them to see the injustice of doing this, I think it will have done a good service to the Society.

Mr. H. A. SIEBRECHT suggested that the remedy was to be found in fighting the practice in the same way that the manufacturers had been fighting convict labor, which had been successfully fought in the State of New York. He said he believed that convict labor was proper in certain directions, and one was in the making of public roads. He thought that when the people, in every State, became of one mind on this point the country would get good roads and there would not be so many felons to be supported at the public expense.

Mr. E. G. Hill took issue with Mr. Michel as to the correctness of his statement about public institutions. He said:

Speaking for the institutions in the State of Indiana I want to say this. They buy glass, they buy sash bars, they build greenhouses and they employ florists. They put their patients to work, those whom they can trust. I speak more particularly of the Insane Asylum because I have to do with one of the State institutions there. Those of them that I have visited and with whose workings I have become acquainted are really an educational factor in filling the minds of the people of our State with a love for floriculture. At all these institutions they have their cows and use the milk from them and they raise hogs, corn, vegetables, etc. It is their business to do it. Of course where the State institution enters into competition with those engaged in selling greenhouse products, that is all wrong; I draw the line there; but I think it is a mistake to censure the management for producing the things that are consumed and that are necessary for use in the institution or for the embellishment of the grounds surrounding it.

Mr. Michel, in reply, explained that his own remarks had reference not to plants grown in almshouses, insane asylums and places of that kind, where the labor is the labor that is there, but to public parks where the people who are employed are receiving large salaries which the citizens have to pay. He said he had found very often that the cost of production, in these places, exceeded or at least equalled the ordinary market rates for the product.

Mr. Hill said that the conditions referred to by Mr. Michel did not exist in the good old State of Indiana, where the benevolent institutions are economically managed under non-partisan control and where the State gets an equivalent for every cent its puts into them. He added:

I believe there has been a wonderful change in our State since those institutions came under the non-partisan management. I, a good Republican all my life, happened to be appointed by a Democratic Governor and I have held on through two or three administrations. I think that the gentleman (Mr. Michel) has taken hold of the wrong end and that he needs to reform the politicians of his State instead of the institutions.

Mr. C. B. Whitnall: I do not believe there is a State of any size in which the florists' profession could supply at any price what the park systems require. It certainly could not be done unless a contract for it has been taken a year in advance; and where that has been undertaken, so far as I know, the contracts have not been satisfactorily filled.

I do not think there is any other way for the park administrations to have what they really want, when they know what they want, than to produce it themselves. In one way I would not care very much if they did compete with the florists, but when supported by the public they should not compete against those who help to support them, and as long as they consume the product themselves I think it would be a mistake for us to interfere at all. Moreover, I think we should interest ourselves and the public as far as possible in the management and care of the public parks; and I believe it would be advisable, where it can be done in our cities, for the local florists' clubs to branch out and form horticultural societies for the purpose of inducing people outside the florist profession to take an interest in the parks and their evolution, in order to back up and hold on to good superintendents and good managers when they get them. I think that by creating a support in that way this political influence will be overcome more effectually than in any other way.

The discussion here closed.

The SECRETARY: I have here a letter which perhaps belongs in the Question Box. The writer has prefaced it with a statement that he would like to attend the present Convention but does not expect to come. He did come, however, and has been present here. Still, I think he would like to have this letter presented and therefore I will read it. It is as follows:

"There is one thing I wish the Society to look into, and that is the express charges. Our Express Company refuses to give special rates. The agent claims that the rate was changed, in June, 1897, to merchandise rates in the following States: Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado. Now, I don't see why we can't have the special rate in these States. One of our companies gave me 'special' and the other refused, and the Pacific and U.S. Express compelled Wells, Fargo to charge me the merchandise rate. Will you please see that this matter is brought up in the Convention? I do not think all the agents charge the full rate, as there is a loop-hole for them to crawl through in case it is brought to their notice."

Mr. J. G. ESLER moved that the subject of the letter just read be laid before the Claims Committee when appointed.

Mr. Esler's motion was agreed to.

Mr. C. B. WHITNALL: It seems to me that matters of that kind should go to the proper committees without special action by the Society. And it would be interesting to the members of the S. A. F. to have reports from the committees from time to time, upon what is going on and what they are doing, so that we may know what is being accomplished. For instance, if upon investigation it should be found that the express companies were in error, and if our committee rectifies the error, I would like to learn of that fact, and I think we would all like to be informed of it, without waiting another year, until the next meeting of the Society. I

don't think that this matter has been provided for but it seems to me that it ought to be; and, if it was, it would help to strengthen the machinery we are putting in motion.

Mr. H. A. SIEBRECHT suggested that the committee could make known the results of its labors, from time to time, through the trade papers. He thought this the quickest way of disseminating the information. If a report was made to the trade papers as soon as the committee had done something, the members of the Society would be kept informed as to the progress made.

Mr. E. G. HILL: The committee that acted on this matter of special express rates was one headed by Mr. Patrick O'Mara. He has by his personal efforts accomplished wonders, and the credit is largely due to Mr. Patrick O'Mara for this reduction of twenty per cent from the regular merchandise rates. It was my understanding that the action taken this morning would refer all matters such as this to the Legislative Committee of which Mr. O'Mara is Chairman.

Mr. ALEX. WALLACE of New York: I think you will find the record of the work of the Committee on Express Rates in the report of the proceedings of the Society made a year or two ago. Mr. O'Mara was Chairman of that committee also and, through his efforts largely, as Mr. Hill has said, the reduction was accomplished. It was then understood that all the express companies were parties to the arrangement that was effected at that time. I think that if, in a particular case, the party himself was to take up the matter with the express company, he could get the overcharge or error rectified without the Society having to do anything in the matter at all because there is, I think, a standing order to all the companies notifying them that the reduced rate is in effect.

Mr. J. G. ESLER: Any trouble would probably be due to the local agent.

Mr. WALLACE: Yes. There was some trouble heretofore through a misunderstanding on the part of an agent.

The discussion here closed.

The SECRETARY (as the Question Box was still in order) quoted the following additional paragraph in the letter from which he had read, viz.: "Another thing is how to deal with white ants. They are in the soil and destroy my carnations. What is the best way to get rid of them?"

Mr. SANDERS: The ants want to milk the aphis. I think he will have to keep the aphis down.

The SECRETARY read the following from the Question Box and called on Mr. Whitnall to reply to it, viz.: "How can the Society best interest the regular florist storekeeper enough to make it essential and beneficial for him to join our ranks?"

Mr. C. B. WHITNALL responded: By convincing him how little he knows. [Merriment.]

BULB GROWING IN AMERICA.

The SECRETARY presented and read a paper on this subject from Prof. W. F. Massey, of Raleigh, N. C.; to whom application had been made upon Mr. Kains' delinquency becoming manifest. The paper, which was greeted with applause, was as follows: —

Americans have long been noted for their fondness for far-fetched things. An article of any kind has been assumed to be better because imported from a foreign country. Years ago one of the leading seedsmen of an Eastern city printed on all his seed packages "English Garden Seeds." His successor in the seed business has long ago learned better. Our growers have learned that with many varieties of the seeds we cultivate, better results can be had from seeds grown in our own climate. But even now there is an impression abroad that seeds grown in this country are all better for being produced in the far North, and it is a common thing for seedsmen to advertise that their seeds are "Northern grown." And yet only recently I met a gentleman in Southern Georgia whose business is the production of seeds for a dealer in New York who sells only Northern grown seeds, but who is wise enough to have certain kinds of seeds grown in the climate that suits them best. Georgia and California are beginning to make a reputation for flower seeds that will lead to the use of their flower seeds to the exclusion of the European in the near future.

We are gradually learning the varied capacity of our soils and climates North and South, and are seeking to get the best no matter where they are grown. We all remember well when no florist would have any tuberose bulbs but those grown in Italy, but now the tuberose industry has moved from Italy to North Carolina, and with the decreased demand for these, the North Carolina growers are fully able to supply the world with tuberoses. This decreased demand for the tuberose has made the culture rather more unprofitable and the men who control the tuberose output in North Carolina pay $2.00 per thousand for bulbs such as I formerly furnished to London houses at $60 per thousand.

I have for some years been endeavoring to get the bulb growers of eastern North Carolina to experiment with other and winter growing bulbs. So far the effort has not met with very great success, not because the bulbs cannot be grown, but because the growers have been inexpe-

rienced in the different methods of growing and curing demanded by hyacinths, narcissi and lilies, and because of the lack of capital to engage in the industry on a scale large enough to affect the trade. In my experiments at the North Carolina Experiment Station I have been hampered by the indifference of those in authority. They can easily see the importance of experiments in farm products and cattle, but they fail to realize that there is money for their people in things of an ornamental character, and that there are people who will spend money for things they cannot eat.

My experiments have mainly been confined to Lilium candidum, narcissi, and Roman hyacinths. The largest Romans I ever saw were grown by one of our tuberose growers in eastern North Carolina, but his inexperience in curing them led to gumming and worthless bulbs and he became discouraged. Narcissus Tazetta, the sacred lily of the Chinese, I have produced in such shape that my bulbs bloomed more quickly and better than the imported. Some time back I sent to Messrs. Peter Henderson & Co. quite a large lot of Lilium candidum. Wishing to ascertain the results from these bulbs after they got into the hands of the growers I wrote recently to the house. They replied that they were sorry that they had not kept up with the bulbs after they were sold, but that they were certainly very satisfactory, and they could see no reason why they should not have done as well at least as the French bulbs. These bulbs were 13 inches in circumference and as solid as an apple. At the same time the lily bulbs were sent to Henderson's I sent samples of other bulbs. These were noticed in *Garden and Forest*, and the editor remarked that no bulbs of equally fine appearance had been seen from Europe.

Latterly the Department at Washington asked me to experiment with the Bermuda lily. At the time the only bulbs to be had were a few badly diseased ones of very small size. These were planted last fall. They grew healthily, and made some bloom, and produced small but very clean and healthy looking bulbs, which were ripe and dug the last of July. The diseased condition of the original bulbs doubtless had something to do with this precocity. But we feel sure that after we have grown the Bermudas a while we can get them into a perfectly healthy condition, and can get them ready in full time for the early forcing. In all the eastern section of North Carolina all the varieties of the narcissus do remarkably well. The polyanthus section has a reputation for tenderness, but I find that with the proper treatment they are among the hardiest. If they are planted in the early fall, they start to grow at once and when our January cold comes they are hurt badly. But when the planting is deferred till the soil is cold, say about Christmas or the first of January, they remain below ground till the danger has passed and start off healthily in February, making fine bulbs. The upland red clay regions of the South are the best for the Roman hyacinths, especially of the White Italians, which at Raleigh grow to the size of fine Dutch hyacinths. My Dutch hyacinths this year are finer than any of the new crop coming from Holland, which are rather inferior to their usual standard. But our people lack capital,

and are not inclined to take hold of anything on which they cannot realize at once. I have proved in a small way that the bulbs can be grown here, and grown to greater perfection than those imported, for the bulbs of Lilium candidum grown at our Station have produced three times the number of flowers that were produced on imported bulbs right alongside of them.

What we wish to accomplish is to get the Agricultural Department at Washington to divert some of the money now wasted in scattering turnip seed all over the country to experiments here in bulb-growing on a scale large enough to convince the dealers that we can grow them and thus induce them to invest capital in the industry in the South. Eastern North Carolina can grow the Bermuda lily as well or better than Bermuda. She has a fine soil and a climate better adapted to the proper ripening of the bulbs than Bermuda, and all we need is for some one to put money into the business here.

I have prepared this brief statement more as a suggestion to the florists assembled at Omaha, than as a history of what has been done here. Had time allowed, I would have entered more fully into the subject, but at present am too badly crowded with work to do more than suggest that the South Atlantic coast country offers conditions more favorable for the bulb industry than any part of the country.

Mr. H. A. Siebrecht said this very valuable paper came, he thought, at about the right time. He said that Congress had given a little encouragement in an increase of duty on bulbs from ten per cent., as it was years ago, to twenty-five per cent.; and he would be glad to see it made fifty per cent. as it would encourage the trade, but he thought the time for that had not yet arrived. He said he agreed with the author of the paper that it would be well for the national government to divert for the benefit of American growers some of the money that was being squandered in many ways, so that they might have a chance to see what they could do. He suggested that, as soon as the S. A. F. saw that it could secure legislation properly, it should make another effort to have the duty raised on all bulbs such as can be grown in the south Atlantic States.

On motion of Mr. Siebrecht, the thanks of the Society were voted to Professor Massey for his valuable paper.

The President: The Chair would state that it is evident we will get the necessary legislation ultimately. The proper course to be pursued is through Secretary Wilson, of the Department of Agriculture, who is a great friend of the florists and a much better friend than perhaps the majority of us think. He is very deeply interested in this subject. If

the Department only knew just where to get the money, I don't think there would be any trouble in having the necessary experiments made, not only for one State but for eight or ten States, to find out where the bulbs can be best grown. In a recent conversation with him, Secretary Wilson assured me that, if it was thought he could do anything to encourage the bulb growing industry of the United States so that we would export rather than import, we should call on him and he would be willing to do anything in his power.

Mr. J. D. CARMODY: I think the best place in which to start an experimental station for the growing of bulbs is Posey County, Indiana. I have often seen bulbs raised there of the different sorts now displayed in the exhibition here. A number of years ago, when I first went into the florist business, an old lady living in Posey County, who had a nice little farm there, brought into my greenhouse, one day, a whole sack full of all kinds of bulbs which, she said, had grown in her garden. She said she would bring me her surplus stock every year if I would give her a few new roses. She brought in as fine bulbs as any I had ever seen; they were Holland bulbs, hyacinths, tulips, narcissus, lilies and such things as those. I of course was ready to make a swap, and I benefited largely by her generosity in experimental gardening. The soil is peculiar there and is used largely at present in the cultivation of the watermelon. To such an extent has that traffic grown there that a railroad about thirty miles long has been built for the purpose of bringing the watermelons out of that district. The soil is a black, sandy loam, and it grows anything in the bulb order to a wonderful perfection. I have often thought that in this country there are hundreds of places where the soil and climate will produce just as fine bulbs as any we have imported from the old country. I had samples of such products many years before this Society was organized. The subject, however, has not been brought up before this Society before, and I never thought to speak of it, but I am satisfied that we can grow at home just as good bulbs as we can get from the Island of Bermuda or in the flats of Holland.

Mr. J. G. ESLER: I think it would be a good idea, when he makes the attempt, for Secretary Wilson to get some good Holland Dutchmen to do the bulb growing. [Merriment.]

Mr. E. G. HILL: One thing that must not be forgotten is the exhibit of bulbs that we have here from the State of Washington. I think that that is a wonderful revelation of what can be done in that State. If any one of the florists present will examine those bulbs he will find, I think, they are as solid, hardened and well ripened as any bulbs with which he has ever had anything to do. I was a member of the committee that passed upon them; and, after I got to investigating and looking at them, I felt more deeply impressed with the fact that those bulbs were *par excellence* first-class. If they can be produced on a larger scale in this country, I hope that every encouragement will be given to the party who grew

those bulbs and that aid may also be given to growers in the coast districts of the Carolinas as well as to growers in Mr. Carmody's Posey County.

Mr. SIEBRECHT. I concur in what Mr. Hill has said about the bulbs from the State of Washington. I have examined them and can say that I marvelled at their quality and solidity.

Mr. J. G. ESLER suggested that the consent of the exhibitor of the bulbs be obtained to permit of their being forwarded to Washington, D. C., for inspection by Secretary Wilson; that President Gude be constituted a committee of one for the purpose of calling the attention of the Secretary to what seemed to be the proper localities in which to grow bulbs.

Mr. C. B. WHITNALL asked whether it would not seem advisable to request the Committee on Legislation to take up the matter with what data had been collected, including Mr. Massey's communication, and invite Mr. Massey's and perhaps Secretary Wilson's co-operation in the carrying out of some plan in regard to it.

PRESIDENT GUDE said that the gentleman (Mr. Kains) from whom the Society had expected to receive information and co-operation, held a position in the Agricultural Department, in which it was his duty to investigate and report upon the home culture of bulbs such as are imported from abroad. That gentleman had been sent by Secretary Wilson to interview Mr. Massey and others on the subject; and his failure to attend the S. A. F. Convention or to make report to it was a serious disappointment.

On motion of Mr. HILL, the question as to the disposition of the bulbs and any arrangement in regard to their use temporarily was referred to the President and Secretary of the Society.

The business of the session having been completed, an adjournment was ordered (at ten o'clock) until the following morning.

THIRD DAY — MORNING.

Thursday, August 18, 1898.

The session opened punctually at ten o'clock; President GUDE in the chair.

A MODEL REPORT AND A VOTE OF THANKS.

The report of State Vice-President ALEX. WALLACE (the presentation of which had been unavoidably delayed) was read by its author. [For report see Reports of State Vice-Presidents.]

Mr. C. C. SANDERS moved the acceptance of the report and a vote of thanks to its author for the ability and care shown in its preparation.

Mr. E. G. HILL said he regarded the report as a model paper of its kind and one well worthy of imitation. He suggested that State Vice-Presidents who had complained that they did not know how to get up an interesting report would profit by a reference to it, and that, on this account, the Society was much indebted to Mr. Wallace.

Mr. C. W. TURNLEY moved, as an amendment, a vote of thanks to the chairman of the committee in New York which had successfully combatted adverse legislation, Mr. P. O'Mara, for his indefatigable and efficient labors.

Mr. E. H. CUSHMAN suggested that the complimentary mention of Mr. O'Mara be extended to include the members of the committee who had co-operated with and assisted him.

Mr. TURNLEY accepted Mr. Cushman's suggestion as a modification of his amendment.

The amendment was agreed to; and Mr. Hill's motion, as thus modified, was adopted by a unanimous vote. The thanks of the Society were accordingly voted to Mr. Wallace and to Messrs. P. O'Mara, John N. May and C. H. Allen, the committee of the New York Florists' Club.

TRADE EXHIBITIONS.

The next subject considered was that of "Trade Exhibitions, their value to the florist business," which was presented by a paper prepared by Mr. E. H. Cushman, of Euclid, O.

Mr. CUSHMAN prefaced the reading of his paper with an apology for his absence at the bowling contest during the session

on the previous evening, at which time the subject had been assigned for consideration. His treatment of the subject was much applauded.

The paper was as follows : —

The subject of trade exhibitions is of vital importance to every one of us who has anything to sell. They furnish a good opportunity for every plantsman and dealer, who would make a business success. They are a gathering of the same lines of business under one roof, for the purpose of showing what we have to sell, and giving an opportunity for comparison and the extension of business acquaintance not otherwise possible.

These gatherings of commercial men with samples of their goods, in conjunction with a large gathering of consumers of those goods, is one of the very best advertisements possible. The wideawake and practical soon get the rough corners worn off at these shows, and usually the conceit taken out of them if they have any. There are so many good things in connection with these trade gatherings, I am sure it is a poor man who does not get value received for exhibiting or attending our conventions.

Just cast your eyes about in the Trade Hall, and see what a busy place it is. What introductions these exhibits give. Men who never would find each other, do so when they see the trade sign out, or they are interested in the same line and fall to conversing about it. In this way many pleasant business and other relations are formed, which terminate only when the mortal part is put to rest.

Gentlemen, I do not wish to be cranky on this subject, but our trade shows have done so much for me, and I see such possibilities in them for others and the trade at large, that I wish as far as possible to create greater interest in this vital organ of the S. A. F. I ask you gentlemen to throw your efforts for the building up and improving of this branch of our work. What the eyes see is retained longer than evidence taken in through any other of the senses. Show the best that customers will know when they are getting the best, and you will make it more difficult for poor stock to be palmed off on purchasers. Exhibitors at our conventions are doing more than just selfish work. These exhibitors are keeping up an education among florists themselves, of incalculable benefit. Brother exhibitors and florists, I ask of you to do all you can for this feature of the convention. If you see points that are weak, seek in a wise way to strengthen them. If we tear down let us have something better to put in its place. The discussion that will follow this, I hope will bring out many valuable thoughts, and indicate lines of improvement.

I had thought to give you a few of the requirements of a successful exhibition, but I fear that would be only a " drug on the market " as you all know how to " get there." If I could tell you how to conjure impossible conditions so as to bring a harmonious combination, Oh my, what shows we would have ! No ill feelings, no debt to wipe out and everyone with first. There are great opportunities for the trade to develop through exhibitions and shows. It behoves us, as wide-awake S. A. F.'s

to endeavor to take advanced steps in exhibitions. We must have national exhibitions in keeping with our national progress; they will be trade promoters, and we must watch and work with our government and the management of future great expositions, and see that our interests are second to none. I believe our Trade Exhibition is the most important feature of our meetings. See to it then that it receives due consideration in the future. It is worthy of the best hall and management this organization can command.

There is another sort of a trade exhibition, which it might be well to call to mind — the efforts individuals may and do make at home in their everyday business. The chief end of a display is to create a desire, and offer an opportunity for comparison. No honest dealer can begin to convey, by a description in type, what he has to sell, as he can by placing the thing itself before the would-be purchaser. This being fully realized, the up-to-date florist, or dealer, is always ready and anxious to show his skill at every opportunity. This applies to the local florist of a small town, as to the leading city establishment; to our country fair, as to our grand expositions and trade displays. If you are a market florist, it stands you in hand to study your display, so as to make it catch the eye and cash, as well as to study how to produce. Only the smartest are capable of running the retail end of the florist business, and at the same time conduct the growing successfully. I am sure increased business will come to many who give these sales exhibits more attention. Get out of the ruts, be different, so a fellow will know just when he has come to Smith's stand by its style and make up. Give it an individuality in some way, so that you will be known from the half-dozen neighbors near by.

Trade requires you to show the newest and best you have. You must fulfill this requirement, or lose custom. Show your goods, is a law of trade as essential to us as any other line. Business men fully realized this, hence the great combinations spending millions of dollars and resulting in our great expositions. Go into our cities and see the quantities of valuable goods placed attractively in large show windows, placed with all the skill and art that trained help and costly fittings can command, and you can form some idea of the value placed on trade displays in other lines of business. Our retail flower stores are not behind in this grand effort at display, for they, too, are abreast of the times in showing their beauties, with all the accessories of glass, gilt and electric lighting.

Trade displays, yes, these are the very essence of trade displays. It is not possible for me to approximate the value of these displays to the business itself. I know a prominent florist who estimates the actual value of his window display at not less than fifty dollars per day; what its direct value to him is I cannot say, but that this one window has been of great indirect value to the balance of the city's flower trade, I have but little doubt. Through blistering summer and frosty winter, that grand, beautiful live flower picture is feeding the hungry, who cannot possess, and drawing the dollars from the rich who see only to possess. In the language of the proprietor of this store, "they walk right in and buy."

Truly I believe this display is richer than the eye can see, and he who makes it is a benefactor of his race, be he the individual taken as an illustration, or any one of the hundreds making the same efforts.

Florists should be strong supporters of every effort to beautify public grounds, for they bring to the public eye the uses and beauties of our goods, and in a measure are trade exhibits. A beautiful plant, flower or combination of both, seen for the first time at some park or exposition, stamps itself on the memory, awakens a new interest and desire which at the first opportunity will be gratified and some tradesman will have made a sale.

Realizing the value of showing our goods, it behoves us as a society and as individuals to let no opportunity pass that we can utilize for the purpose of these displays. Many local clubs and individuals are, and can do much to increase trade by holding exhibitions. We can greatly increase the love for flowers by showing the people what to have and how to have it and when they have it at its best. I hope to see this trade feature extended, improved and worked up to the highest degree of effectiveness.

Mr. Benj. Hammond, of Fishkill, N. Y., opened the discussion of the paper. He said:

On Monday I came over, on the Michigan Central railway, by daylight. At Ypsilanti there is one of the most beautiful exhibits of the florist's skill that I have had the pleasure of seeing for some time. Among other things was the battleship Maine with cannon and such things in keeping with the leading feature. Nearly every one stepped to the windows as we passed the station and enjoyed the spectacle on those beautifully laid out grounds, and for perhaps half an hour afterwards it was the topic of conversation. When we reached Niles the car was almost emptied because I knew, from previous experience, the display there would be well worth the attention of everybody. Close to me was a lady of middle age who, pointing to a number of the plants, spoke of their beauty and asked where she could get any of them when she returned home.

At my home in Fishkill I have taken a piece of ground that was slate and rock and, at some considerable expense, have made some canna beds by digging and manuring until now we have a spread there that brings all the children in the neighborhood to look at it. Those in my particular neighborhood are not children who have special home advantages, for we have not the good fortune to have a Euclid Avenue; but those children all in rags and tatters, without faces washed or hair combed, will come there early in the morning to look at the flowers. Now, the exhibit of tulips in the early spring and the cannas surrounded by geraniums furnish an object lesson that is doing a vast amount of good. Those of you who remember the paper read by Mr. Farquhar, at Washington, on the subject of floriculture for the children, will realize

that it is possible to increase the volume of sales through the medium of exhibits such as Mr. Cushman has so warmly and properly advocated. Where they see a little plot of ground laid out by the florist, the people are led to think whether they cannot have a good thing like that about their own back doors or yards. Almost every neighborhood, no matter how small, gives some evidence of the popular taste for floriculture. The percentage of those who can raise flowers themselves is very small. They must go to the home florist to get the supply and that makes business. In the State of New York, to-day, the Cornell University is giving what might be called "Nature studies," to train the children of the public schools to an appreciation of the value of the beautiful things that are around and about them and that make life so much more enjoyable than it would otherwise be.

In regard to the trade display, I believe there is a great deal of force in the point made by Mr. Cushman when he says that, when we come to the trade display, we have the conceit knocked out of us. When we stay at home we are apt to conclude that we "know it all," but at the trade display we find somebody a little brighter than we are ourselves, and if we are smart we take away with us a desire to find out more about the things we have seen. So, too, in this Convention we sometimes hear papers read that are called "dull," but I may say that I have learned something from every paper to which I have listened because the paper that was read was the best work that the writer of it could give; and there is not one of them that does not contain some suggestion that, if taken home and acted upon, will develop and make things better. Every time you make a good showing of plants and flowers you create a desire to possess the beautiful on the part of the people who do not own them and who are willing to lay aside more or less of their means in order to possess them. Consequently a display, wherever it is made, means good business. If we have good business we can afford to have conventions, and by means of conventions we are enabled to grow flowers in better shape than we ever did before.

Mr. G. A. Rackham, of Detroit: I am glad the gentleman (Mr. Hammond) has spoken of Ypsilanti and Niles. As they are in my native State and only a short distance from Detroit, the florists will have an opportunity of seeing the displays at those points when they come to that city, next year.

Mr. A. Wintzer, of West Grove, Pa., expressed the pleasure with which he had listened to Mr. Cushman's suggestions. He narrated an incident which, he said, gave a practical illustration of what could be accomplished for the advancement of floriculture by a new departure. He had prepared for a neighbor a canna bed, patterned after his own, which was circular in form and had as a centre piece a canna growing seven or eight feet in height. He

said this canna bed caused a great sensation, thousands of people having driven around in their carriages to see it. As a result there were sold last spring, of those varieties, in that country district, more than fifteen hundred roots.

The PRESIDENT here remarked that the importance of trade exhibitions, in their effect upon the florists' business, was such that too much time could not be given to the subject. He suggested that the Convention would like to hear from some of the exhibitors.

Mr. E. H. CUSHMAN (in the absence of a response to the Chair's suggestion) said:

If at any time this year or prior to the meeting of the Executive Committee next spring, any of the exhibitors or anyone else interested in a trade exhibit has any suggestion to make, I would be pleased to have him consider me, as one member of the Executive Committee, ready to receive his suggestion; and I will see that it receives due consideration. I feel very much interested in the Trade Exhibition. I do believe that it draws fully as many to our conventions as does any other one feature and that more good is to be derived from it than from any other feature. We can read, at home, in the reports of the Convention proceedings, the papers that are presented here, but it is only by actual observation that we can appreciate the valuable exhibits. The Exhibition and the Convention should be mutually dependent on each other for success; and by building up the attractions of the one we shall build up the attendance on the other.

Another consideration is the opportunity afforded for visiting large establishments of interest to the trade, while attending or en route to or from the convention. A young man who is with me, who came all the way from Cleveland to Omaha to attend this Convention, learned one thing in Chicago when he stopped there; and that single idea, if he had picked up no other, on the whole trip, will compensate him for the time he has expended in coming here. I do not think there is any one who does not receive full value in return for any expenditure he may make in attending the Convention. I think it rests with individuals themselves. Improve your opportunities, help us to build up the Trade Exhibition, and in that way help us to build up the Society. [Applause.]

Mr. H. A. SIEBRECHT: I regret not having been present in time to hear Mr. Cushman read his paper. I may say that I was one of the first exhibitors, having had an exhibit at what might have been called "a Trade Exhibit" or "Exhibition of Novelties" at our first Convention, at Cincinnati. The thought occurred to me, while listening here, to suggest to the Executive Committee to make a call for a paper with a title something like this, "What can one learn while going to, attending and returning from the Convention." Mr. Cushman struck a key note when

he suggested that it is not alone when we are here but on the way that we learn something of value. The older I grow the more I realize how little I know and how much I have to learn. The trade exhibitions have an extraordinary educational value. Why, that table of crotons we had last year was an object lesson that was worth going five hundred miles to see. The trade exhibitor, who is broad and liberal minded and who has energy and push in him, will get his pay in the end. It is true we cannot see the dollars and cents coming right back to us for what we as exhibitors expend in this direction, but we are bound to reap a reward.

Mr. D. B. Long, of Buffalo (being called upon by Mr. Michel for a few remarks) said:

It is my belief, from quite a little experience as an exhibitor and also as a member of the Executive Committee for a series of years, that the S. A. F. can well afford to give liberal attention to the Trade Exhibition and to make it a more prominent feature. Just how that can be best brought about I do not know. It might be brought about by creating a committee to confer with the Executive Committee and to hold consultations with some of the more prominent exhibitors. Sometimes there are points in an exhibitor's mind that, for some reason or another, do not come before the Executive Committee. I believe to-day that if the matter of the trade exhibits was handled and worked up as it should be, it might be made of a value far greater than it has been in the past to members of the S. A. F. and the florists all over the United States. This is a mere general suggestion and I offer it for what it may be worth.

The discussion here closed.

GRAFTED ROSES FOR GROWING UNDER GLASS.

This subject being next in order on the program, it was presented in an able paper by Mr. Robert Craig of Philadelphia. Mr. Craig, upon being introduced, was cordially greeted. His paper, which was much applauded, was as follows: —

This is a subject which is exciting very great interest in the minds of many rose growers of America at the present time. The business of forcing roses for cut flowers has assumed vast proportions, the competition is so keen, and the supply frequently so large, that the markets are often glutted, so that only the very finest blooms command remunerative prices, except in the now very rare occasions when there is a scarcity in the market. Any method, therefore, which gives promise of better results is eagerly discussed, and the most progressive are ready to adopt it as soon as it is shown to be of value.

Grafting of fruiting, flowering and ornamental plants is a very old art and has been practised for thousands of years; but it is only recently

(within the past ten years) that any extensive experiments have been carried on in houses used for forcing roses for cut flowers. In this country as early as 1887 the subject was discussed in the columns of the *American Florist* by several prominent growers, some of whom were of the opinion that grafted roses gave better results than those on their own roots; and others just as prominent, maintained the contrary opinion. Now, after all these years, the fact that a few of our most successful growers, catering to the severely critical markets of New York, Boston and Philadelphia, have, for the past three years, been gradually and greatly increasing the quantity of certain varieties grown in this way, is, in itself, sufficient reason for inquiring into the subject. I will endeavor briefly to give you the results of my own experiments and observations, in the hope that the matter may be further discussed by the growers present at this meeting.

I think it may be safely said that certain varieties, in a great majority of instances, show decidedly better results when grafted than when grown on their own roots. This is most noticeable in three very important roses, Bride, Bridesmaid and Kaiserin Augusta Victoria. The advantages are in the increased vigor of growth, resulting in the production of better blooms, on longer stems, and a greater quantity of them. I have also seen Mme. Hoste and Souvenir de Wootton do remarkably well, also Mme. Caroline Testout and President Carnot when grown for summer bloom. I now have two houses of grafted Kaiserin, each 130 feet long by 22 feet wide, planted on benches, from 3-inch pots on April 20, and the plants have been paying well for the past two months. This is the best white rose for summer and therefore fills an important place. I must say I never saw young plants do so well as these have done and are now doing. The plants average three and one-half feet high and have been continually producing an abundance of good blooms. I have noticed this variety, grafted, doing particularly well in other places. I may say here that I last winter examined a house of Brides planted on benches, one-half of which were grafted and the other half on own roots. There was in this case very little difference in the growth of the two lots, both doing exceptionally well, the grower, a very prominent one, remarking that he "could see no advantage in grafted plants." In all the other lots I examined, in different sections of the country, the grafted roses showed notable superiority. In the cases of Mme. de Watteville, Mme. Cusin, Mrs. Morgan and Meteor, no difference could be noticed between those grafted and those on own roots.

In the cases of Perle and Sunset, those grafted on Manetti were inferior to those on own roots. A good stock for these varieties and others that do not thrive on Manetti may yet be found. In 1888 Mr. Peter Ball of Malden, Mass., had a house of Perles grafted on the Yellow Banksia, which did remarkably well. I am of the opinion that no advantage is to be gained by grafting American Beauty, as that variety usually makes wood fast enough on its own roots. It may be worth a trial, however, by those who cannot grow the Beauty successfully on own roots.

I have noticed experiments with roses grafted on Rosa Carolinensis, multiflora japonica, La Grifferae, polyantha, Banksia, canina (used largely in Europe as a stock for Teas), Carmine Pillar and Climbing Wootton. In the cases of Bride, Bridesmaid, Kaiserin and Wootton, the Manetti has proven decidedly the best. It is not affected by eel-worms and is so vigorous it will stand very rich feeding. As to other varieties, a suitable stock may yet be found.

The Cherokee rose might be good, as it is extremely vigorous and an evergreen variety. The stocks may be readily grown here, but it is much cheaper to obtain them from Europe. They should be ordered of as nearly uniform size as possible and not exceeding five-sixteenths of an inch in diameter. When they arrive in the fall they should be heeled in in a cool place, but where they will get no frost, which frequently injures them, until the time for potting them into 2½-inch pots arrive. After the stocks have been potted and put in a temperature of 45 to 50 degrees (it is better to start them in this low temperature) until they are well rooted, they are ready to graft. After the sap has started in the stocks, they should be kept from freezing, or failure will result.

The best method is what is known as splice grafting — that is, the stock should be severed by a long diagonal cut and the scion cut of corresponding shape to fit as nicely as possible. The important point is to form a direct contact between the layers of inner bark, as the pithy part in the center never unites. It is well to have the scion and stock as nearly a size as possible, and the union should be made as soon as possible after the scion is taken from the parent plant. The scion should not be kept for any length of time in water, the absorption of which prevents a good union from being made. The wood used for grafting may be kept in a box with damp moss or covered with damp paper. The scions may be tied with either string or raffia; the latter is preferable, as the string is apt to cut into and injure the graft. The operation should be carefully done, as the more nearly perfect the union the better for the future welfare of the plant.

The best time to graft roses is during January, February and March. After the latter month the sun gets strong and the top heat is likely to be too great. After the plants are grafted they should be put in a tight case in the greenhouse, with strong bottom heat, which may be had by enclosing steam or hot water pipes under the case. For a case five feet wide, six 1¼-inch steam pipes, regulated by valves, would be ample. First whitewash thoroughly the inside of the case with lime and sulphur as a preventive of fungus. This should be repeated every time a crop is taken out. There should be put in the bottom of the case an inch of coarse cinders or other rough material, as drainage. This should be covered by two inches of sand in which to plunge the pots and the sand should be well soaked with water before the plants are put in; this will obviate the necessity of watering for several days.

In placing the pots in the case, it is well to leave an inch space between the outer row of plants and the side of the case, as fungus, the

greatest obstacle to success, frequently starts in the woodwork. If fungus should appear it may be washed off with clear, cold water. After the plants are put in the case a steady temperature of 80 to 85 degrees should be maintained until the grafts have taken, which will be in from two to three weeks. No air should be given for the first three or four days; after that the sash may be raised an inch or two to admit air. As soon as the grafts have taken they may be removed from the case into a greenhouse with a temperature of 60 degrees, and staked up with light stakes to prevent the grafts from breaking off. It is well to shift them into three-inch pots and establish them before planting on the benches.

The PRESIDENT called attention to the paper just read as one of much value, and invited Mr. E. G. Hill to take the lead in the discussion of the subject.

Mr. WM. SCOTT said he had been requested by members to suggest that Mr. Hill speak from the platform in order that his remarks, which were anticipated with interest, might be heard by all present.

Mr. HILL appeared on the platform and said:

Mr. Craig has covered the ground so fully that I don't know that he has left anything to be said. I can speak somewhat from experience but only in a limited way. Observations made last winter led me to believe that grafted roses were producing better results than roses on their own roots in the same house and apparently treated alike. Now, it is but justice to own root roses to say that the conclusions arrived at, and which perhaps have been arrived at by Mr. Craig, are hardly fair from the fact that grafted roses have a distinct advantage in practically a year's start of most roses that are forced on their own roots. The correct or real test, that which would give us important results bearing on the relative merits of each, would be to take one-year old roses,—for instance, Brides, Bridesmaids and Kaserins that have been growing in the open air one year — pot those roses up, keep them cool until planting time and start them on even terms with roses that have been grafted. Then you have a fair test. I think that in every instance that came under my observation the parties had taken the cuttings of own root roses that had been put in the bed, along, say in January or February. I would like to know if any one present has tried two-year old own root roses, as from the results of their experience we could better arrive at correct conclusions, I think. But, aside from that, I am inclined to believe that there is a distinct and decided advantage in grafted roses of the varieties mentioned by Mr. Craig. We all know that Brides and Bridesmaids do not have the root action that some of the other Tea roses have in winter time; and by putting them upon Manetti, upon this strong growing stock the scion seems to be improved and the flowers benefited in size.

When I was at Mr. Wood's, last winter, Mr. Montgomery called my attention to one important fact bearing on this subject, and that was that he was cutting out of two houses of grafted roses, if I remember aright, sixty-two per cent. of first-class extra flowers, while out of two houses of roses on their own roots he was getting only thirty per cent. Now, if such a result can be produced in other parts of the country by grafting roses, why then by all means graft. But before we jump into this thing —plunge into it rather— we ought to give two-year old own root roses a further trial and shake-up with the grafted roses.

I have experimented somewhat with the variety Wootton and with the more tender growing Tea roses, and I have found these very beneficial in promoting a rapid and quick growth; but I have only used this stock for purposes of propagation and not for the production of winter flowers. As I said before, my personal experience with grafted roses has been somewhat limited and I have now said perhaps all that I have to say on the subject.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair is sure that all the members would like to hear from Mr. Scott of Buffalo. Can that gentleman give us some light on this subject?

Mr. WM. SCOTT: No, sir. I grow roses, but in such limited quantities that I would not be considered an authority. I think we ought to be very thankful to Mr. Craig for the explicit way in which he went into details as to the instructions and the care required in this operation. Before the Chair mentioned my name I had risen to interrogate that gentleman on one point, though perhaps not one of great consequence. He told us that the scion, which is the graft, and the root should be about equal in size but he did not tell us how many eyes the scion should have. That is a point on which I and, I think, others would be glad to hear Mr. Craig in explanation.

Mr. CRAIG: As far as I have noticed I think it does not make any difference, if the wood is good, strong and healthy, whether you have a one eye graft or two or three. I should prefer not more than two and I think one is ample, but there is no objection to your using two eyes if the stock is nice and clean; and probably there may be a little advantage if you get two branches instead of one and it may be a little quicker. But the most striking thing about grafting roses is the rapidity with which they grow after they are established on the stock. Now, it will take a cutting on its own root a couple of months to make six inches frequently, and it will make three times that growth on the stock. You can see the effect of the vigorous root action, I think, immediately. There is quite a difference as compared with those on their own roots.

Mr. HILL here remarked that the comparison made by Mr. Craig was hardly a fair one.

Mr. Craig: I am glad that Mr. Hill has brought up the matter of comparing a two-year old rose with a rose grafted on a stock a year old. I do not know of any rose grower in this country who keeps a rose over to the second year and then plants it. You will find that all our crack rose growers, all the most successful ones, make a start with a very fine cutting in January or later for the following year; and those who have tried keeping them over for the second year have, as far as I know, abandoned the practice. There is nothing in it; they do not get increased vigor in that way; so that that really would have no bearing on the subject; that is, in my view of it. I say that I am very glad that Mr. Hill brought that up; and I hope that everybody in this meeting will bring up anything that has a bearing on this question, so that we can interchange opinions on the matter because that is what we are gathered here for. There are many gentlemen in this room, old gardeners, who know a great deal about grafting roses, and now is their opportunity to tell us things they have learned in their experience.

Mr. Wm. Scott: One more question. What would be the relative difference in price as between those propagated in the usual way, on their own roots, and the grafted plants. At present it is to me a formidable job to raise two or three thousand grafted roses. I used to be acquainted with the operation but that was many years ago, in the early part of the century. [Merriment.] As it is a novel operation with many of us we would like to know something about the price, for the price would be a great consideration with many growers. Possibly a plant on its own roots would cost the grower four or five cents to raise it, and a grafted plant must cost more. Now, is the price for producing a grafted plant to be double or treble that of the other?

Mr. Craig: The way I figure on grafted roses is this: the Manetti stock may be imported and laid down in this country for about $10 or $12 a thousand; i.e., about a cent a piece or possibly a little more for stock selected to a uniform size and not exceeding five-sixteenths of an inch in diameter. Anything larger than that, I think, is not very suitable for the wood you are likely to have; you will not have any wood larger than that, but from that size down. I am speaking now of the actual cost of establishing these roses before they are grafted. I think it is worth two cents a piece to root them in the pots and establish them. I don't think there is any profit at that sum but I think you could do it for that. That would make the stock cost, up to the time it went in the case, before it was grafted, about three cents. After that you could do the work for about six cents.

Mr. H. A. Siebrecht: The grafting is worth something.

Mr. Craig: That is what I say; the grafting is worth six cents. I am speaking now of the actual cost. A finished plant in a three-inch pot would cost me about nine cents. If I wanted to sell the plants I

wouldn't take a contract for them at less than twelve and a-half cents because there is a certain amount of risk in it and you naturally want to realize something to compensate you for supervision. I think they probably will not be sold in this country, in quantities, for less than $125 a thousand. I don't think that a business in them could be made or that it would be worth while for anybody to bother with them at a lower rate.

Now, as to the other side of the question, whether it would pay the buyer to pay the difference: I think you will have to pay for first-class roses in three-inch pots, about $70 a thousand. I have never been able to buy them, such as pleased me, for any less money. We have roses advertised in the papers as low as $40 and $50 a thousand but I have always, when I had occasion to buy, paid the higher price. Seventy dollars a thousand is about the best figure I have been able to get on the kind of stock that suits me. That would make a difference in the cost, as between first-class roses in three-inch pots and those grafted roses in three-inch pots, of about five cents, according to my estimate. My judgment is that you would get that five cents back three or four times over before the own root roses began to bloom at all. So far as I am concerned, I would not now think of planting a Bride or Bridesmaid on its own roots, in my soil, under the conditions which exist there; I would cheerfully prefer to pay the five cents extra to get grafted stock and would consider myself a great gainer thereby. [Applause.]

Mr. E. M. Wood, of Boston: Replying to Mr. Hill's question about two-year old roses grafted or on their own roots, I have to say that we have grown own root roses at two years old or rather one-year old plants, and that the grafted rose maintains its supremacy, whether it is one year or two years or three years old. We have abandoned growing roses on benches and grow them in borders. We have grafted roses for a long time, and our present tea roses — good roses, first-class roses,— are very much larger and grow quicker than do those on their own roots. But there is a danger to which we are exposed, in New England, with grafted roses. If they get a check in the fall they are liable to "shut down," as we call it, and give you a limited crop. I know that some of my neighbors who have used grafted roses are about to abandon them for the simple reason, they said, that they could not get nearly as many roses from grafted stock as from those on their own roots. The cause with them was that the roses had got a check in some way, from mildew or from fall in the temperature.

Perhaps our success has been largely due to the manner in which we have run our houses. Our houses are all piped, so that we can put on one pipe or two, three, four and so on until they are all put on. They are pipes with manifold valves. We have a man whose special duty it is to look after the temperature and the pressure of the steam on the boiler. He has a sheet of paper on which he must make a record, every hour, for every house, showing how the temperature is and also the temperature outside. If the temperature outside falls three or four degrees he is in-

structed to go in and put on a pipe so as to maintain the temperature as evenly as possible from night until morning. I think that that is in one measure the secret of some of our success.

Mr. Antoine Wintzer, of West Grove, Pa: My experience has been more in the line of a propagator than as a grower of roses for cut flowers. There are various methods of propagating roses from cuttings. When I first became interested in it, in 1860 and 1862, all roses were grown merely from buds or grafts. The old root grafting system for roses was then in vogue, and it was supposed that roses could not be grown on their own roots to advantage. Thirty-six years of active practice in the rose field has demonstrated to me that if you grow any rose from a healthy cutting, giving it the same chance with the grafted rose and adding on to the own root cutting the age of the stock on which the rose is grafted, giving them equal chances, in nine cases out of ten the own root cutting will prove the better in the long run. To begin with, the grafted rose, after it becomes sick and diseased, has no recuperative power. The roses grown on their own roots always have a chance to recuperate from their own roots. A great many of them throw up suckers from the root and, in the long run, make strong bushes. Now, I will ask Mr. Craig one question, viz., has anyone made this test with own root roses grown in the old-fashioned way from one year hard wood cuttings, and given them the same age as grafted roses with the age of the plant and stock combined.

Mr. Craig: In reply to Mr. Wintzer's question as to whether there can be any comparison between roses struck in what he terms "the good old-fashioned way," viz., from hard wood, and roses grafted, I may say that, in the experience of all the rose growers in this country, in growing roses for cut flowers under glass, that old system has been discarded entirely. That was a grand way to grow roses for planting out in the field. It was what we used to do when I was a boy. My father had his rose cutting house kept at a temperature of 45 degrees, in a tan bed, to produce bottom heat for rooting hard wood cuttings. We used to keep a cool top temperature with an even moderate bottom heat, and we used to get grand cuttings of the kind that Mr. Wintzer has in his mind; and those plants, when planted out in the open air made great growth. But that is not the subject we are considering here to-day. I don't think that hard wood cuttings of that kind would be suitable for forcing under glass. The best results have been brought about in this country from cuttings from soft wood, vigorous cuttings, grown regularly on without any check whatever.

Mr. Wintzer: Properly handled, soft wood rose cuttings will make nice plants strong enough to fill a three-inch or a four-inch pot by spring. But supposing that the rose is well grown, that it is put in the bench say in May or June and is kept in good condition, will not that rose produce as good results as a grafted rose, and does it not cost less to produce it?

I have always been an advocate of roses on their own roots simply because that it is the only method that has made the rose what it is to-day in America. I have handled roses under all conditions and yet I feel that I am only in the beginning and I am glad to learn from the experience of others in their particular lines.

Mr. J. L. DILLON, of Bloomsburg, Pa.: I had some experience in grafting roses, last year, and will state it so that it may be available for the benefit of others. I procured some 2500 stocks but it was rather late in the season and consequently I had very poor success in grafting them. The varieties were Perle, American Beauty, Meteor, Wootton, Kaiserin, Bride and Bridesmaid. It was Manetti stock. They were planted out on solid benches in July. The Perle never came up to those that were on their own roots and were planted out of four-inch pots. The Meteors, though very fair as far as they had gone, met with poor success ultimately, the temperature of the house having probably been a little too cool for them. As to the Kaiserins, we could see very little difference, if any, between those and others that we planted out of four-inch pots on their own roots, in the same place. But the grafted Brides and the Bridesmaids far surpassed Brides and Bridesmaids on solid benches planted near them. One trouble we had was that a great many plants died from the union not being perfect. They grew up two feet high, some of them, and then would die out; so that I am not positive that they showed any increased number of flowers over those on their own roots in the same place. We are continuing that bed this year, so as to see what they will do the second year.

The Perles, this season, (this was just before I came away from home) were showing four times as many flowers as those on their own roots. They were literally covered with red shoots and looked as if they were going to do remarkably well this winter. The American Beauties were dried off and I cannot speak for them. The Kaiserins were doing better than those on their own roots, at least they looked so. The Brides and Bridesmaids, although the flowers were very poor, were full, and there were plenty of them. I shall continue this bed with a view to comparing with the other houses next season. We grafted some 2,000 plants in March. There was some mistake in our not getting the stock as early as we had ordered it, but when I left home I could not see any difference between the grafted stock and that in the four-inch pots on their own roots.

Mr. W. W. COLES, of Kokomo, Ind.: I would say, Mr. President, that Mr. Craig's mode of grafting in the box differs somewhat from my mode of treatment. I don't know which is the better. Mr. Craig states that he keeps the plants in his box three or four days before giving them any ventilation. Now, my experience has been that if you keep them close for that length of time it creats a sweat all over them and the leaves get mouldy. My mode of treatment is this: for the first twenty-four hours I close them up tight and do not give them any air; then on the

second day I open the sash fully — instead of giving them a little air I open it up completely — so as to dry the leaves off. After they have been dried we spray them with fresh water and then draw the sash down; and in that way we have been quite successful in grafting roses.

I remember buying from Robert Craig, some years ago, just one little plant of Mrs. John Laing, and, though what I tell you may seem incredible to some persons, it is a fact that in less than eleven months from that time I had, from it, 1350 grafted plants rooted and established — good, salable plants — ready to ship. That is a pretty good way to hustle up stock.

It may be interesting to you to know how it was done; and after being explained it appears very simple. Mrs. John Laing is a very free grower. The one we got was planted in a ten-inch pot, I believe; it grew up quite large, and after it had been hardened up we grafted about 250 from the first hard wood of the plant. That was done about the last of November. As has been said here, after they are grafted they grow very rapidly; and from these first 250, about the first or middle of February, we were able to cut an average of ten to twelve green shoots to the pot. From the way they multiply it is easy to to propagate stock in that way.

Now, while on this subject of grafting, I may say that I have been growing Kaiserin, both grafted and on their own roots. I have these in a solid bed planted two or three years without being disturbed, and they have done better every year. The first year the grafted roots had a little the advantage, but since then I have not seen that they have had any advantage whatever; the own roots produced just as good flowers as the grafted ones.

Mr. H. A. Siebrecht: I remember about that great and extraordinary propagation in the grafting business. I want to ask the gentleman (Mr. Coles) whether that was not brought about under the inspiration of a bet.

Mr. Coles: Yes, it was; that is how it came about. I wagered with a Philadelphia florist a champagne supper for twelve that I would get up 500 plants. I only had to get 500 but, instead of only 500, I got 1350. [Applause.]

Mr. A. Wintzer: In my younger days it was my fortune to have as an instructor one of the best grafters in this country; and in grafting I was always instructed that the method was to put all grafted stock under double glass, to have it kept close. But every day there was enough ventilation given to allow the moisture to be released; that is, the accumulation of moisture was always allowed to escape.

In regard to the rapid multiplication of roses by grafting, I would say that we can beat that almost every time by the showing that is made by those on their own roots. I will give you one example of what I mean. On the first of last November I commenced with one plant that

came from the open ground. I started by putting in about two hundred hard wood cuttings — "old-fashioned cuttings," as Mr. Craig calls them, but not any more old-fashioned than the grafting — and then in January the stock plant produced another crop of green wood cuttings. They were also rooted. Now, I cannot tell you how many plants we have of this variety but I am safe in saying that, since the first of November up until to-day, we have in the open field, in the beds and in the propagating bench at least five thousand. [Applause.]

The PRESIDENT here interposed to confine the discussion to its legitimate subject, viz., "Grafted roses for growing under glass."

Mr. WINTZER: I beg to be excused if I branched off, but a little diversion sometimes is only natural and serves to broaden our ideas.

Mr. R. F. TESSON, St. Louis, stated that he had been growing all his Bridesmaids the past four years as old stock, only growing enough young stock to replace any of the old stock that had to be removed for one cause or another. His experience the last year in growing grafted roses was, that there was no comparison between results obtained between the one-year-old stock as ordinarily grown and the grafted stock. When the comparison was made between one, two or three-year-old stock and four-year-old stock and grafted stock, he found no advantage in favor of the grafted stock, so that this season he did not take the trouble of grafting any stock to replant his benches.

Mr. SIEBRECHT thought that this subject was one of such importance that it might be well to have reports from the different growers who had used grafted stock, giving the results of their practical experience and observations, presented at next year's meeting.

Mr. E. G. HILL: I would emphasize the point brought out by Mr. Wood in regard to the tendency of the grafted stock to receive a check because of lack of attention to essential points. I think that those who use roses grafted on Manetti stock cannot be too careful in this particular because the Manetti, if it receives a check in the fall of the year, has a tendency to go to rest. That is one thing that ought to be watched very carefully in order to obviate the tendency of the stock, under some conditions, to become more or less dormant in the fall and winter months. Personally I believe that, from a financial point of view, the grafted rose has an advantage; that is, if we can produce good grafts we can get satisfactory results for less money than we can by growing roses on their own roots for two years, as suggested.

Mr. E. M. Wood: We have changed our method to grafted roses, and we did that because we got a larger per cent. of long stem, first class flowers. These flowers we sell in Boston market, and we obtain $4 a dozen for Brides and Bridesmaids from the middle of December until March first.

Mr. H. A. Siebrecht: That is the wholesale price?

Mr. Wood: That is the wholesale price. We make our price and we do not change it. Of course we would not use these grafted roses unless we got more off this stock than off the other. We get a very much larger percentage more. But the danger, as I have said, is that if they get a check, then we do not get a crop.

Mr. Wm. H. Elliott, of Brighton, Mass: I would like to ask Mr. Craig one question in regard to the grafting of Kaiserin. He advocates the growing of Kaiserin on the Manetti stock, as I understand. That is a rose which is sufficiently strong in its growth without grafting. It seems to me a point to be gained with Kaiserin and a great many of the hybrid tea roses is to check their tendency to drop their leaves. I ask if he has noticed whether the tendency of the grafted stock is to stop that or what particular benefit he has most noticed in grafting Kaiserin on Manetti stock.

Mr. Craig: The advantage I see in grafting Kaiserin on the Manetti stock for summer bloom is to get results quickly. We grow our Kaiserin just for a summer crop, run them up to Christmas, when they are thrown out to make room for a houseful of hydrangeas or a houseful of lilies or something else in the spring. I don't think that Kaiserin is a good rose to keep in all winter, in competition with Bride; I grow the rose just for the summer, for a crop up to Christmas and then dispense with it. I know that Mr. Elliott has noticed that when Kaiserin is in the ground for two or three years, on its own roots, it becomes extremely vigorous in a solid bed. In that case I don't think there is any particular advantage in having them grafted; but there is a decided advantage by putting them on Manetti for one season's summer bloom in getting that quick growth. Now, our Kaiserin house was planted about the 20th of April and it has been nine weeks perhaps since we began to cut from it. We cut them freely up to Christmas and then we are done with them. I don't keep Kaiserin all winter, in competition with Bride, as some of our growers do. They figure that although in January and February, in the dark days, they do not get any flowers worth speaking of, after February and all through the following spring and summer it comes in fine.

Mr. Wood: We do not graft Kaiserin; we grow it in a solid bed; and, as Mr. Craig says, the second year they are very strong. And we run it, in the winter, only in a cold house, cutting nothing from it. By running it for the summer flower trade and letting it rest for the winter, we get just as many out of that cold house as we get out of the others.

Mr. Craig: I am very glad that we have had Mr. Wood here with us this morning. I had notes of some suggestions that I got from Mr. Montgomery, regarding roses cut off the Bridesmaid, in one house or two houses, but I unfortunately left them at the hotel. The results they show are remarkable. Many of you know that at Mr. Wood's place roses are grown finer than anywhere else in this world for cut flowers. Now, I am speaking advisedly.. I say that at that place rose growing is a little in advance of what it is at any place we know of. And it is very interesting to hear Mr. Wood say that they can see an advantage in grafting Brides and Bridesmaids, because for many years they had grown these roses on their own roots. If they can see an advantage in grafting roses it is worth while for us all to think something about it. The prices Mr. Wood tells us they get for roses there in the winter seems astounding to most of us, but they actually get those prices — that is, for the first selection. They get it only because the roses are worth it, and what they have grown have been, for the last three or four years, on the Manetti.

Mr. Edgar Sanders, of Chicago: If Mr. Wood realizes $4 a dozen, I can readily understand that he is better off with only one-fourth of a crop of first-class roses than he would be with a full crop at the price that the best would be sold for in Chicago. If he can get twenty-five cents a piece for them he need not grow over one-quarter as many roses as are generally grown in the same house.

Mr. Craig: I would like to add a word for fear of having been misunderstood. I did not mean to have any of you infer that if you put the roses on the Manetti you are in any imminent danger of getting $4 a dozen for them. [Merriment.] We must not overlook the fact that, up there at Mr. Wood's, the important element is the skill in cultivation, which is something that the rest of us do not possess. We can get the Manetti, and that is one factor in the problem, but the skill is a little more difficult to get. [Merriment.]

Mr. Elliott: I would like to correct one impression that may have been created here, and that is that these roses that Mr. Wood has spoken of and which he sells for $4 a dozen are something that has been brought about since he began grafting his roses. That is not true. Mr. Wood's roses sold for $4 a dozen before he had any grafted roses on his place. Now, there are other advantages which Mr. Wood possesses, which are superior to the grafting process, and I think we need to possess the same advantages if we would obtain the results he has obtained. It was to those superior advantages over what are enjoyed by any of the rest of us that Mr. Craig referred. To speak to the point and sum them all up in a word, they are simply "Montgomery."

The discussion here closed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The next business was the election of officers for the ensuing year.

Mr. HILL announced the withdrawal of Mr. A. Donaghue, Sr., as a candidate for President; and, on motion of Mr. ADAM GRAHAM, a ballot was cast by the Secretary as the unanimous vote of the Society for Mr. W. N. Rudd, of Mount Greenwood, Ill.; whose election as President was then announced.

Mr. D. A. RACKHAM, of Detroit, withdrew as a candidate for Vice-President. He explained that his nomination had been made without his knowledge and that he declined in favor of Mr. Breitmeyer, the choice of the Detroit delegation.

On motion of Mr. RACKHAM, a ballot was cast by the Secretary as the unanimous vote of the Society for Mr. Philip Breitmeyer, of Detroit; whose election as Vice-President was then announced.

The election of Secretary was next in order; the candidates being Wm. J. Stewart, of Boston, and J. Austin Shaw of New York. A ballot was taken with the following result: Mr. Stewart, 80 votes; Mr. Shaw, 27; Mr. Reed, 1; Mr. Michel, 1; and one vote defective; total, 110. The election of Mr. Stewart was announced.

Mr. E. H. Giesy's withdrawal as a candidate for Treasurer was announced; and, on motion of Mr. BENJ. HAMMOND, a ballot was cast by the Secretary as the unanimous vote of the Society for Mr. H. B. Beatty, of Oil City, Pa.; whose election as Treasurer was then announced.

THE TROPHY IN THE BOWLING CONTEST.

Mr. JOHN WESTCOTT, of Philadelphia, at this point exhibited to the Convention the trophy (known as "the Evans' Cup") that had been competed for by the bowling teams in the contest on the previous afternoon. He said:

This handsome cup was presented by Mr. Evans, of Richmond, Ind., with the understanding that the teams competing for it would number six members each, that they would roll three games and that the one making the highest total score would own the cup for one year. In order to

retain the cup permanently the successful team must win it twice. Philadelphia has won it once, and her representatives came here fully expecting to take it back with them. In one way or another—I am sorry to say it — they failed. The cup therefore will keep on going the rounds and will continue, as heretofore, to keep up the good fellowship which is characteristic of these occasions. I take great pleasure in congratulating our successful competitors, the St. Louis Club, represented by Mr. Kuehn, to whom I now hand over the trophy.

Mr. E. G. Hill here asked what the Philadelphians expected to do with the decorated case they had prepared and in which they anticipated carrying the cup back to Philadelphia.

Mr. Westcott good humoredly replied that he was very glad to answer the question; that the Philadelphians were going to Detroit next year, that they were going "ten thousand strong"; that they would not only take a parlor car but a whole train with them and also the best men of their team.

Addressing the Convention and speaking in a more serious tone, Mr. Westcott continued:

Gentlemen, many of you may say this is nonsense, that it has nothing to do with horticulture or with the real business of the Convention; but in that you are mistaken. Men who play hard work hard; those who do not indulge in play do very little actual work. My object has been to get people to attend the conventions. If you do not have people to attend them you practically can have no conventions. Now, the bowlers have a strong inducement to be present because of the bowling contest. It is necessary for them to come and bowl on their teams; they must be florists and they are supposed to be members of the S. A. F. I may say that if we had had a gun shoot at this Convention, we would have had another half dozen members from Philadelphia, and the probability is that those six would have brought another half dozen along with them. Now that is my argument. My strong point is to get the people to the Convention, to hold out an inducement to them in the prospect of having lots of enjoyment and in helping others to enjoy themselves.

I may say, for myself, as I said yesterday in declining a nomination for Treasurer, that I am not looking for an office. I don't want to bother myself about those little things. As many of you know, I live close to one of the most prominent cemeteries in Philadelphia, and I want to have some fun while in this world because I won't have far to go when I am taken out of it; only across the street. [General merriment and applause.]

Mr. C. A. Kuehn (the representative of the St. Louis bowling team) received the trophy with the statement that good care would

be taken of it at St. Louis, that the team from there would meet the others at Detroit, next year, and that they expected then to take the cup home with them again.

PRESIDENT-ELECT RUDD.

Mr. W. N. Rudd, the President elect, was here escorted to the platform by a committee of two and, in responding to a cordial greeting, said:

I don't see how a man who has just had conferred upon him the greatest honor that he can receive can be expected to immediately get upon his feet and make a brilliant speech. I am sure that I cannot do it. I thank you all, gentlemen, for this honor that you have given me and beg to assure you that if, one year from to-day, when my successor appears, you cannot say to me "Well done, good and faithful servant," it will be simply because I have not had the ability to fill the office properly. My best efforts and undivided attention shall be at the service of your Society. [Applause.]

Mr. Wm. J. Stewart, the Secretary (responding to calls), said:

Gentlemen, I would be very unappreciative if I did not feel very deeply the confidence which you have reposed in me so many years and have now renewed. All I can say is that I am glad to have your confidence and that I will do all I can, in the coming year, for the success and prosperity of the Society whose welfare you have once more entrusted to me.

The Secretary here made a number of announcements relating to the trolley ride in the afternoon, admission to the Trans-Mississippi Exhibition, etc., etc.

Adjourned until evening.

TROLLEY RIDE TO COUNCIL BLUFFS.

On Thursday afternoon the visitors and their ladies were treated to a trolley ride from Omaha to Council Bluffs. A short stop was made at Fairmount Park, and then the party was conveyed to the establishment and residence of Mr. J. F. Wilcox. After an inspection of the greenhouses and outdoor planting, the party, numbering nearly three hundred, were entertained at luncheon on the lawn, one of the following named ladies officiating as overseer

of each table: Mrs. Frank True, Mrs. C. L. Felt, Mrs. J. E. Hunter, Mrs. A. J. Coughy and Mrs. L. A. Casper. Hearty cheers were given for the host and his wife, and the former, in a few appropriate words of welcome, expressed the hope that everyone present would have a pleasant time.

Brief speeches expressing appreciation of the enjoyable affair and returning thanks for the hospitable entertainment were made by Messrs. Wm. Scott, of Buffalo, N. Y., Robert Craig, of Philadelphia, H. A. Siebrecht, of New Rochelle, N. Y., J. D. Carmody, of Evansville, Ind., E. G. Hill, of Richmond, Ind., and Adam Graham, of Cleveland, O.

The impromptu remarks of Mr. Robert Craig were well worthy of reproduction. Being repeatedly called for and heartily cheered, he mounted a chair and eloquently expressed the sentiments of the guests in appreciation of the hospitality of Mr. Wilcox and of the uniform consideration and kindness extended to the visiting delegates since their arrival. He continued:

I am very glad I came to Omaha, and my only regret at this moment is that we have such a small delegation from the extreme East. All that we have seen has impressed us with a sense of the unparalleled growth and the increasing importance of your great Western country. Your broad grain fields and limitless pastures with their vast mineral riches; your magnificent cities, especially that of Omaha, with their rapid acquisitions of wealth and population, and your prosperous communities have been a revelation to us. As I rode along for mile after mile, on my way hither, and gazed upon hundreds of immense cornfields ready for the harvest, my thought was that these were typical of the West, for all your undertakings are upon a large scale and all your energies are directed by a whole soul and a full heart. Your great Exhibition is but one more illustration of your achievements in the arts of peace and enlightened progress.

It was my privilege to be somewhat identified with the World's Fair at Chicago, in 1893. I took part in the preliminary arrangement of the grounds on which the Exhibition buildings were afterwards located and which at that time were a swamp. I assisted in laying out the greenhouses, in figuring on their extent and like details. When I returned there, a year later, I beheld that Great White City. It had grown up like a mushroom, in a night. My mind has often since reverted to the spectacle then presented as an expression of Western force, as a demonstration of Western enterprise and spirit. In the East it would have been hardly possible to accomplish so much in such a short time. Standing there on the bridge, opposite the Administration Building, and looking toward the South, there was visible from that point the materialized

expression of more architectural grandeur than could be seen anywhere else on earth. And all this was the work of a year. Ah, the people of the West are a great people. I wish that our business associates on the Atlantic coast could come again to the Mississippi Valley, and go further West, that they might become better acquainted with the noble people here.

But my heart is full at this moment and I am unable to utter my thankfulness to those gentlemen who, setting aside all personal concerns, have catered to our welfare in this magnificent way. These expressions of hospitality are as grateful to our hearts as is the falling dew to the flower of the field. I am glad that I came among you because I can carry back with me the story of your kindness and your hospitality.

After three hours of social enjoyment the florists returned to Omaha and enlivened the return trip by singing and making merry.

THIRD DAY — EVENING.

The President called the meeting to order at 8.15 P.M.

A mantel decoration, put up by Mr. J. F. Wilcox, to the left of the platform in the Convention hall, was specially commended.

PRESENTATION TO PRESIDENT GUDE.

At this point the business program was informally interrupted to permit of the presentation to President W. F. Gude of a handsome silver four-piece tea set, water pitcher and tray, knives, forks and spoons.

Mr. J. D. CARMODY made the presentation address. As the pieces of silver were being brought forward, he said:

Mr. President, there are some gentlemen here who are my cup bearers and who are ready to present to you, in behalf of your many friends in the Society of American Florists, a few articles which, in your daily contact with life, will constantly remind you of the affection you have won from the hearts of the American Florists.

We all know, ladies and gentlemen, that there are jolly good fellows in every walk of life, but it isn't often that we have at the head of any organization such a "*Goody-goody*" (Gude-Gude) fellow, as we have here. [Merriment.] And when we do find a *Goody-goody* fellow, it is right that we should treat him as such and impress upon his mind and

heart through all time that we have recognized his goodness, his ability, his energy and the delightful manner in which he has served our Society through the past year. We have here one silver tea set, one silver butter dish, one silver water service, a half dozen pearl handled knives, forks, tea spoons and table spoons, one silver tray, one silver sugar bowl and one silver butter knife. In fact, we are just going to butter him all over. Here is the tea-pot — may it ever be warm. Here is the sugar bowl — may it ever be filled with the sugar of love. Here is the milk pitcher — may it ever be full of the milk of human kindness. Here is the butter dish for him and his wife — may he ever love none (butter) *but-her*. [Laughter.] I think young people are very spoony, and it is but just and right that he should always be spoony toward that companion of his; in fact, he need not eat with his fingers as long as he is well supplied with spoons. These knives here are not to sever friendship but to spread the butter of human kindness over every ill of life. These forks he will use to convey food from the plate to the lip, and I hope he may ever find everybody who is indebted to him *forking* over their just dues. Here is the water pitcher — that will always be, I hope, a fountain to him and his. It holds but water, but the water is pure and far better oftentimes than the sparkling wine that leads to inebriety. There is no fight in a barrel of this. I never knew of the contents of a water pitcher bringing about a divorce. May it ever be ready and filled with the sparkling fluid to quench his thirst and that of his family. With these few remarks, Mr. Gude, I present these little articles as evidences of the overflowing love of the Society for you and yours.

President Gude replied: Mr. Carmody, ladies and gentlemen — Words fail me to express my appreciation of this beautiful gift. Twelve months ago, when you honored me by electing me your presiding officer for the year 1898, I hardly expected that I should be able to give very much satisfaction. But my heart has always been in the right place, and this token from you to-day is an expression that errors, if any, are forgotten and good, if any, remains to my credit. In a position of this kind, presiding over various departments and giving due weight to dissimilar ideas, the greatest responsibility naturally devolves upon him who wields the gavel. If I have succeeded in doling out justice and doing my duty to each and every member of the Society of American Florists, the consciousness of that fact will be for me compensation sufficient. I accept this beautiful present and will take it home with me as a constant memorial of one of the happiest and most pleasant years of my life. I sincerely thank you. [Applause.]

IMPROVEMENT AS EXEMPLIFIED IN HIGH GRADE FLOWERS.

The next business was a discussion on "Improvement in Varieties and Improvement in Cultural Methods as Exemplified in High-grade Flowers," which was opened by Mr. E. G. Hill.

Mr. Hill's paper, which was received with much applause, was as follows : —

The subject assigned me is one involving questions that lie at the root of all real progress in our profession.

The pessimist declares that there has been no real progress either in the production of new varieties or in the origination of better methods, that old things are the best things.

That there are numbers of florists, good men and fair growers, who hold this view, is unquestionably true. It is unfortunate that such an opinion should hold sway over any considerable number of gardeners and plantsmen, but one has only to look about with his eyes and listen with his ears to be convinced that such a condition of mind exists among a great many florists both East and West, and the position taken by them, and their utterances of such views, have a retarding and clogging influence upon our trade life, much as we dislike to acknowledge it.

The point of view may make a great difference with our conception of the relative progress or lack of progress of our craft.

The indifferent florist, the florist lacking in energy, the florist only partially interested in his work, these are the men who measure the efforts of their fellow craftsmen by their own short yardstick and defective scales.

Notwithstanding their assertions, we claim that there has been progress in the production of new varieties of plants and this can be proven by a reference to the revised lists. Take the carnation; note what advance has been made since American growers have taken hold of this winter flowering plant. Yet, palpable as has been the gain, there are still grumblers who claim that we have only added size and at the expense of quantity, and the gain is only superficial — nothing that can be computed in dollars and cents.

This line of argument can be refuted by the reply that second and third quality flowers remain unsold, while flowers of large size and perfect form find a ready market.

It is true that the production of new varieties and the improved culture of plants must go hand in hand, and we make the claim that they have very nearly kept pace together, although there are certain lines of plants of which this cannot yet be asserted; but take the rose, which is the flower upon the production and sale of which the florist is, perhaps, most dependent. It can hardly be asserted that the origination of new varieties has kept pace with the improved culture as exemplified by a large number of our best growers both East and West. We can count on the fingers of one hand the varieties of forcing roses which are necessary for the trade of the present day: Bridesmaid, Bride, American Beauty, Meteor and Kaiserin Augusta Victoria. Perle, Sunset, Mme. Cusin, La France, Testout, Gontier, Mrs. Pierpont Morgan have all declined in favor, as did Bon Silene, Isabella Sprunt, Safrano, and Cornelia Cook in a former decade; we have not been favored with new sorts that can take the place

of those named above. Kaiserin is the only late addition, and this is not as productive as could be desired in mid-winter under our present conditions of rose forcing.

Dame Fashion desires and insists upon having novelty and change in bonnet and gown, in house and furniture, in nearly everything which ministers to our sense of pleasure.

A city lady speaking recently of her floral decorations said: "I am very tired of seeing on my table Scott carnations and Bridesmaid roses, flowers which have become so common that they are flaunted in one's face at every street corner and ferry crossing; yet often there is little else to choose in this color."

One reason for the complaint of the lack of profit in rose growing heard at many of the large rose growing centres, comes from the fact that there is not variety enough in our roses, hence the increased sale of other kinds of cut flowers, and the greatly increased demand for fine plants. If the proportion of cut roses is to keep up to the volume sold in previous years, it is manifestly evident that new varieties amenable to our present growing conditions must be forthcoming; roses for blooming in pots, for home and garden adornment, have been produced and have proven very popular as will be noted further in this paper.

The efforts of Mr. Jackson Dawson and of Mr. W. A. Manda are to be commended, for, if they continue in their line of improvements, we shall soon possess garden and climbing roses which shall combine fine decorative qualities with hardiness to withstand our severe winters and trying spring weather.

To revert again to carnations; from the best attainable data, it is fair to conclude that the art of producing fine flowers has kept pace, in measure at least, with the finer varieties of carnations introduced in recent years. The time of lifting the plants from the field, benching, preparation of the soil, feeding, staking, watering, and other details carefully looked after, have to a great extent revolutionized the method in vogue but a few years ago. If one wishes to be convinced that superior methods of culture prevail and that the new varieties are finer in size and form, with better stems and more variety in color, he has only to attend the annual exhibition of the American Carnation Society. This Society is doing a commendable work in diffusing knowledge tending toward better culture, and especially is its work valuable for the wise, fair, and cautious methods of bestowing certificates and honorable mention upon new varieties. It is only fair to say that the greatest advance has been made in carnations as compared with other flowers, and that the equality between the improved methods of culture and the improvement in varieties is very marked.

In chrysanthemums, the production of new varieties and the steady improvement in the form and finish of the cut blooms has been marked each year, despite the high grade flowers produced and exhibited the year of the World's Fair. Among the newer sorts are varieties more suitable for handling as cut flowers, varieties that bloom earlier, choicer sorts for very late growth, together with new colors.

The general production of finer flowers both for sale and exhibition as well as for decorative purposes, has been very marked.

In orchids, great strides have been made in cultural methods; the old coddling process has given way to a common-sense and economical system of management. This genus of plants will grow in favor with the public as people become better acquainted with its charming colors, unique forms, and simple requirements. Prediction is made that they will become an important factor in the cut flower market as soon as the new methods of culture are more generally known and practised.

To decorative and bedding plants there are constant additions of valuable varieties; some of the notable things are to be found among the new Brazilian caladiums; these are marvels of color combination. Among newer crotons are many brilliant and valuable additions to standard sorts; crotons grown under the new conditions prevailing, with artificial heat in summer, and suitable soil, are destined to perform an important part in all decorative plant work. Asparagus Sprengeri will prove one of the most valuable plants of recent introduction when once its diversified usefulness becomes known.

Everything indicates a marked improvement in all cultural methods as applied to the development of plants for the production of cut flowers; progress is the watchword; every wide-awake florist questions, "Is there a better way than the method I am using?"

Plants and their requirements are being studied and understood as never before and we in America are standing on the threshold of a new era in their growth and production. Let us be fully alive to the possibilities that lie before us in Flora's grand domain, and like our gallant tars and brave soldiers, not be content to simply keep abreast of the general line, but like the true American show that there is a "man behind the gun" who can and who does hit the mark.

In our endeavors to create new forms in plant life let us bear in mind the wants of the American people. We want new roses that shall supplement our too meagre list of really suitable varieties for cut flower production. Let us seek a tea rose of the shape, form, and productiveness of Bridesmaid with the color of a Jacqueminot; we also need a yellow Mermet. If the rose growers would seek as persistently, as have the carnation men, to produce choice seedlings, these two forms and tints would soon fill our eyes with gladness and our hearts with joy. Let no American rose grower use the names of Admiral Dewey or Commodore Schley until he has a scarlet Bridesmaid or a yellow Mermet with which to honor and adorn the names of these two gallant Americans!

Noteworthy evidence of recent advancement:

(1) The houses of grafted roses at the Waban Conservatories, at Natick; results showed stouter canes than under similar conditions on own roots, and 30 per cent. more of A1 blooms.

(2) A house of Crimson Rambler rose at Robt. Craig & Son's, Philadelphia, flowered in pots for Easter sales; those grown in pots for two

years gave even better results than those potted from the field the preceding autumn.

(3) Dracæna Sanderiana as grown by W. K. Harris, Philadelphia, is one of the choice things for the center of jardinieres and fern pans.

(4) A bench of Mrs. Lawson carnations as grown by Mr. Peter Fisher of Ellis, Mass.; observed early in February, showed extraordinary good cultural results; the bed shaded by cheese cloth in the middle of the day.

(5) Bench of Hector carnations as done by Dailledouze Bros., Flatbush, N. Y.; under their method of culture very prolific in bloom with good large flowers.

(6) Growth and bloom of American Beauty and other roses as grown on common drain tile benches by Bassett & Washburn. The perfect drainage produced by the tile is certainly an important factor in cultural conditions.

(7) The exhibit of carnations by W. N. Rudd at the Chicago meeting of the American Carnation Society, varieties Mayor Pingree, Mrs. McBurney, Jubilee and Flora Hill.

(8) The bench of bedded dracænas at Mr. Dressel's, Weehawken, N. J.; indicates the possibility of growing this class of plants at a minimum of cost and in a most expeditious manner.

(9) The geraniums grown in pots by C. W. Johnson, gardener for W. N. Rudd, and exhibited in bloom at the Chicago Chrysanthemum Exhibition in November last. Their development showed what could be done with geraniums at our autumn exhibits.

(10) Chrysanthemum blooms grown by Alex. Montgomery, Waban Conservatories, and shown at the autumn exhibit of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. These were especially noteworthy on account of their fine finish and perfect contour.

(11) Bougainvillea glabra, as propagated, grown and flowered by Theo. F. Beckert, Glenfield, Pa.; especially praiseworthy.

I might go on indefinitely and cite instances of improved cultural methods as shown at various places, but the above will give some slight indication of the onward movement in plant development. Surely "the world do move," even in the floricultural world.

Recent noteworthy introductions:

Asparagus Sprengerii. This will prove of very wide value; it makes grand sprays for the table, for general use, and especially for flat bouquets, as it supports the flowers combined with it; its greatest beauty is seen as a pot or vase plant, standing as it does our hot suns. The two fine baskets hanging on the porch of Mr. O. P. Bassett's, Hinsdale, Ill., show its adaptability to this particular use.

Rose, Crimson Rambler. For the adornment of porch, trellis or pillar this is one of the most valuable introductions of recent years. As a plant for growing in pots for Easter and for spring sales, this beautiful rose fills every requirement. The other varieties called ramblers, of different colors, will not bear comparison with the first variety.

Begonia Gloire de Lorraine. This beautiful plant has all the charm and exquisite beauty of the flowering begonia. Extraordinarily fine when well done; requires special treatment during a portion of the year on account of its herbaceous habit and character.

Carnation, Mrs. Geo. M. Bradt. This variety, on account of its great size and freedom of bloom, is one of the most striking of all Mr. Dorner's seedlings. This is unquestionably one of the desirable new things.

Carnation, Evelina. This promises to be an ideal white variety. The magnificent vases of flowers shown at various places the past season give promise of great value; it will have an extensive trial.

Chrysanthemum, Autumn Glory. This is one of the most charming of all pink chrysanthemums, having all the attributes of a splendid flower; its fine growth, but more especially its unique and beautiful color, places it in the front rank.

Rose, Lawrence Allen. An English hybrid; one of the last productions among the seedlings of the late Mr. Henry Bennett. This for pots, or forcing under glass, is one of the most charming roses sent out. A light satin-pink, of exquisite coloring, will prove excellent for Easter pot sales.

Geranium, Dryden. This is a novelty of the Mirande or Corona type. The flowers approach in size the larger of the single zonales. Coloring very intense. Has stood our hot summers with impunity. Will be extensively grown when better known, for its value both as a bedder and for pot culture.

Rose, H. P. Bladud. A very near approach to the long looked for white H. P. This is also one of the late Mr. Bennett's seedlings and is destined to be extensively grown when its good qualities are known. Seems to be more free in production of flowers than most hybrids.

Two show crotons, Reidi and Baueri, both high in color and fine companions.

Deutzia Lemoinei. A fine addition to our forcing varieties of shrubs.

Cannas, acalyphas, geraniums, begonias all show fine varieties of recent introduction. A candid review of the whole matter shows, however, that much of the credit belongs to the plantsmen across the water for these fine novelties in general lines, and the fact also stands out plain and distinct that we are much better off, relatively, in regard to new plants, than we were even two or three years ago. May the wheels of progress move on. Let us all be wide-awake, ready to take advantage of the evolution of the new condition of things, as we see it coming our way.

On motion of Mr. W. W. Coles, a vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Hill for his very able paper; Mr. Coles remarking that it was one of the clearest and most satisfactory he had ever heard.

Mr. Wm. Scott, of Buffalo, responding to the call of the Chair, said:

The excellent paper by Mr. Hill should receive some remarks of favor. We are greatly indebted to the patient and hard working hybridizers; and they are, in many cases, but poorly rewarded for their long years of work and care. The surface of the earth is now pretty well explored. "Dark Africa" is no longer dark to the botanical collector. Some parts of South America are as yet as little known as any region, but we can expect to find few more original species of value to the horticulturist. The Asparagus Sprengerii alluded to by Mr. Hill is from Abyssinia and is a great acquisition but soon we must expect new discoveries to be exhausted, and then we will have to depend on the work of the hybridist for new and improved varieties. The abuse of sending out many varieties of a popular flower in one year soon mends itself. Flowers, fruits and vegetables wear out in time by our artificial methods of propagation. Therefore we should have nothing but praise and thankfulness for him who is striving with hand and brain to give us new and improved flowers.

The discussion here closed.

REGISTRATION OF NEW PLANTS.

The Secretary: Mention was made at the opening session, of a demand that had been made, through correspondence, for some method of official registration of new varieties of plants of American origin. Something on the basis of the Carnation Society's work has been suggested. I would like to see something done because I believe it to be a work that we ought to do for our members, and it only requires the Society's sanction to put the machinery in motion in the Secretary's office.

Mr. Robert Craig, of Philadelphia: I can see great value in such an official register as is proposed by the Secretary. As far as chrysanthemums and carnations are concerned the respective societies take good care of them and they do very good service but there are many other varieties of plants which they take no note of and for which there is just as great a necessity for an official register as there is in the cases of the carnation and the chrysanthemum. I therefore move that such an official register be placed by the Society under the charge of the Secretary. You cannot tell how many geraniums there will be with the names of Dewey and Schley, this year, but the one entitled to the name will be the one that is first registered by this Society. It is certainly a very necessary thing.

Mr. W. W. Coles, of Kokomo, Ind.: I think it a good idea to adopt it. I second the motion.

The PRESIDENT: It has been moved and seconded that the Secretary open a register wherein all new plants may be registered by members, through the Secretary, officially.

The PRESIDENT, after taking the vote, announced that the motion had been adopted.

Mr. COLES: I suppose it is understood that no one but members of this Society will be allowed to have their new varieties registered officially. Wouldn't that be your idea, Mr. Secretary?

The SECRETARY: I should like to see that rule followed out. I don't think we ought to register for people who do not support the Society. We are under no obligation to protect them.

Mr. A. GUDE: If it is a recognition of a new thing, that thing is worthy of a new name. It seems to me that if you are going to open a register for the purpose of establishing names for new plants, outsiders ought to have just as much show as members of the Society. Any individual outside of the Society has as much right to give us a new flower as anybody in the Society.

The SECRETARY: I think the Society has done its full share for the public and it is time that others in the trade did something for the Society. [Applause.]

Mr. EDGAR SANDERS: There is no doubt that the Society, as a Society, can make these rules; but they would not prevent any one outside of its membership from using precisely the same name and advertising it. Hence a conflict would be caused there. If this Society was recognized as a national organization, under the sanction of Congress, you might do what you propose; but in the condition in which it is now to say that the Society shall recognize only the names of plants originated by its own members and not those of outsiders I don't see how the duplication of names is to be prevented.

Mr. A. GUDE: It seems to me the Society must recognize a name given to a plant by an outsider or condemn it, one or the other. Whether the Society has a right to do that or not I do not know.

Mr. COLES: My idea would be for the Secretary to register those names for members only, and my reason for it is that we want to do something to encourage the large body of florists who are not members to come in. That would be one inducement and a great inducement, I think. There is nothing to prevent an outsider from using any name for any plant he might introduce; we could not stop it, but we would not officially recognize the name. I am in favor of the Secretary taking no notice of any but members.

Mr. C. W. TURNLEY: Those are my views exactly.

The PRESIDENT: I suppose the object could be accomplished by the party making a deposit of five dollars. We could make him a member afterwards.

Mr. COLES: I move that no names be registered in this new registry other than those received from members of the Society.

Mr. A. GUDE: Now, suppose an outsider originates a new rose and, two years afterwards, a member of the Society orginates the same rose and puts it out under a different name. In the meantime the rose has had its name and has been spread over the United States and the world. Are you going to wipe out the original name?

The SECRETARY: I think that, after this resolution has been put into effect, it will be well worth five dollars to any originator of a plant to have an official recognition of that plant in the name of this Society, and that he will pay it very gladly. If this is adopted, I don't think that any new and really meritorious variety will be propagated in this country without the sanction of this Society, for I believe the party interested will gladly pay the cost of membership.

Mr. A. GUDE: I don't wish to be understood as having opposed the proposition at all. If we can carry it out successfully, well and good. I only wanted to know the law on the subject.

Mr. F. J. KING, of Ottawa, Ills.: I think it is pretty near time that a member of this Society can get something from the Society that an outsider cannot get. I cannot call to mind a thing that an outsider cannot get from this Society as well as a man who has joined it and who pays his dues.

Mr. E. H. MICHEL, of St. Louis: Let it be remembered that the Society of American Florists was organized to advance floriculture. We are here to find what is new and to help along what is new. It would be selfishness not to the outsiders but to our own members for us not to do justice to the introduction of a creditable novelty grown by an outsider. We want to publish all the novelties that come along. It would be better to charge a certain price for registration than to insist that the person should become a member of the Society.

Mr. ADAM GRAHAM, of Cleveland: It appears to me that there is no room for discussion on this question. It is a matter that will regulate itself. If a party has a new plant for introduction and it is of any value, he will not hesitate to pay the admission fee as a member of this Society, so that he may have the seal of approval on that introduction. If the plant is not of sufficient value to justify him in paying the entrance fee, that fact is pretty good evidence that it is not of sufficient value to justify us in taking notice of it.

Mr. W. N. RUDD, of Chicago: I would like to know what would be the effect of this register when published. Will it be a list of new varie-

ties of plants introduced by members of the Society of American Florists or will it be a list of new varieties of plants introduced during the year?

The SECRETARY: The Society already has a list of new plants introduced during the year, which is published officially in the Report. It is not proposed to have this conflict with that in any way. This will be nothing but a register, so that a man who selects a name for a new variety may place that variety on the market under that name, saying that it has been registered with the Society of American florists and claim a right which we can morally accord him by recognizing the plant under that name wherever we can. I think Mr. Rudd and all the gentlemen know what has been done by the Carnation Society. It will be identical with what has been done by that Society. I think the Carnation Society charges one dollar for the registration of every name.

Mr. RUDD: It seems to me to be perfectly right and proper for this Society to make a charge for the registering of any novelty, whether that charge be $5, $10, $20 or whatever sum may seem to the members to be proper; but I would make it a charge. Let it be put in that way but do not limit your registration to members of the Society. It seems to me that that would be altogether too narrow. Make a charge for registering; and if you make the charge for members different from that for those who are not members you will practically cover the point and the whole arrangement will be less liable to misconception.

Mr. E. M. WOOD, of Boston: I move an amendment by providing that there shall be a charge for registration, viz.: the amount to be paid by a member of the Society to be one dollar and the amount to be paid by anyone not a member of the Society to be five dollars.

The SECRETARY: I must rise to oppose that amendment. I don't want to see another dollar charged to the members of the Society of American Florists; they are paying enough. Let the outsider pay for this registration; let the charge be five dollars with a rebate of five dollars or let the charge be five dollars to everybody but members and free registration for members. I do not believe in charging another dollar to a member of this Society. [Applause.]

Mr. WOOD: I agree with the Secretary, and withdraw so much of the amendment as pertains to a charge upon our own members, leaving the charge of five dollars upon those not members at the time.

The PRESIDENT: Then the amendment is that there be a charge of five dollars to outsiders and registration free to all members of the Society of American Florists who are in good standing.

The CHAIR here put the question to a vote, when the amendment was agreed to; after which the original motion as amended was carried without objection.

Mr. F. J. King: I want to say that I am glad I came to this Convention because I see now for the first time something that a member of the Society can have which an outsider cannot have. It is the first case of the kind I have noticed. [Merriment.]

Mr. Coles: We have, in the State of Indiana, many florists who have a little business, whom I have begged to join this glorious Society and have tried to show them wherein it would be advantageous to them to belong to it; but they would say "What good do I get out of it — where do I get any revenue out of it?" If I tell them they can get the reports of our proceedings, they say, "We read them in the trade papers." I cannot advance a single thing by which a member is benefited more than an outsider. Therefore I am thankful for the action just taken.

The President said it was true that the energetic trade papers placed the sayings and doings of the Society before the public in advance of any official report: but he would feel sincerely sorry for a member who did not get "full value received" for his little three dollars. With respect to outsiders having an advantage, he knew it had happened at some of the conventions that smart persons attended and took part in all the pleasures without paying any dues — he did not know that that had occurred in Omaha, but it had happened in other cities — and he was much mistaken if no damage had been done to the consciences of those people. He added that, for one, he had not missed a convention for the last eight or nine years and that the convention trip, which was his only excursion in the year, was always profitable to him.

CREDIT AND INFORMATION DEPARTMENT.

Mr. C. S. Loder, of New York, obtained the floor for a few minutes. He said:

I wish to offer a proposition in writing, which is similar to the one made verbally a day or two ago and is also similar in a few respects to one submitted at Providence, last year. If the members here decide that it will pay to accept this proposition, there will be another wheel to be added to those that are already turning for them to receive benefits from. The proposition is this:

"The National Florists' Board of Trade of the United States, through its Secretary, herewith submits to the members of the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists assembled in convention at Omaha, Neb., August 18th, 1898, the following proposition; and the same is submitted because of a desire on the part of said Board for a

closer and more brotherly feeling of unity and co-operation with said Society along Credit and Information lines.

The National Florists' Board of Trade will, until further notice through trade papers, receive subscriptions to their Credit and Information Department from members of the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists at an amount of two dollars less than the regular authorized and advertised rates. Members at time of making application must notify the Secretary of their desire to take advantage of the above concession and be prepared to show that they are in good and regular standing in said Society. This advantage may accrue to old members of the Board on their renewal. Parties who have joined during the time of this convention will be given the concession as stated above. This proposition is respectfully submitted for the courteous consideration of the members of the Society of American Florists, for their acceptance or rejection."

Mr. W. W. COLES: I move that Mr. Loder's proposition be accepted by this Society.

Mr. E. H. CUSHMAN seconded the motion.

Mr. W. N. RUDD: I move, as an amendment, that the Society thanks Mr. Loder for his courteous proposition and makes known to its members, through its forthcoming report, the nature of the proposition, without comment.

Mr. E. G. HILL: I think it all right for any of the members of the Society to accept Mr. Loder's proposition. Beyond that I don't think we ought to go.

Mr. E. M. WOOD: I am heartily in accord with Mr. Rudd's amendment. The Society does not want to commit itself to any proposition, and Mr. Rudd's amendment relieves it.

The PRESIDENT put the question on the amendment and, after taking the vote, announced that it had been carried.

Subsequently, a vote was taken on the original motion as thus amended and the same was carried.

The business program having been gone through with, the Convention (at ten o'clock P.M.) adjourned.

FOURTH DAY — AT THE TRANS-MISSISSIPPI EXHIBITION.

Friday, August 19, 1898.

All day at the Trans-Mississippi Exhibition was occupied by the florists and their ladies in inspecting and discussing the display of the resources of the great West. Their headquarters was the Horticultural Building, where every convenience was provided for them by Mr. F. W. Taylor, the Superintendent of Horticulture. Formal addresses of welcome were delivered in the Nebraska Building, in which the visitors assembled soon after the noon hour. Vice-President A. Donaghue, Sr. (representing the Nebraska and Iowa Florists) presided on the occasion and introduced the speakers.

President G. W. Wattles, of the Trans-Mississippi Exhibition, after a few words of greeting, said:

For many years the West has been engaged more particularly in the production of corn and wheat and the other products that have brought money into the pockets of the farmers of this Western country with which to pay for their farms and grow their crops; but in recent years we have been giving more attention to those refining and educating influences that come along with the acquisition of wealth and population.

It is extremely gratifying to the citizens of Omaha and of the West that your Society should hold its meeting here this year. It is hoped that out of this meeting may grow a popular sentiment for the cultivation of the flowers and plants that adorn and make beautiful our homes. We have, under the supervision of one of the ablest florists and horticulturists of this country, worked out on these grounds a beautiful design which charms all visitors. No part of this Exposition is a greater success than the landscaping and the flowers and the crops we have here; and to many of the delegates here present we are indebted for contributions in this line.

If you will stay with us a few days and study here something of the progress and prosperity of this great Western country, I hope many of you who have come from the East may conclude to cast your lot here and come to live among us. The West is made up of the progressive, daring, ambitious young men who came here from the East. They have turned this Western wilderness into a garden. But a few years ago the very grounds that are now adorned by these beautiful buildings — filled, as they are, with every product of this Western country — were occupied by wild

Indians. Within the memory of some of the residents of this city the Indians encamped on these grounds. That such a change should come about within a generation is one of the marvels of this age.

We have pictured here, in the products of this Western country, something of the progress and the attainments of the great West; and to these exhibits we invite your careful consideration. Those of you who come from the East will, I hope, study well the lesson to be learned here and, if you find this Exhibition worthy of the patronage and support of your neighbors, will publish at home and abroad the beauties that you may find here, that others may come and enjoy them.

Major T. S. Clarkson, General Manager of the Exhibition, was the next speaker. He referred to the President's cordial welcome, and said:

I renew that welcome because I believe that no feature of this Exposition is more attractive and more beautiful in its entirety than the work of the florist that has been done here. It has been the admiration of everyone. I have heard it spoken of so many times that, in the walk back and forth, around the lagoon, about these great white buildings and the colonnade, the eye became weary but that some artist had placed just at the right spot to relieve the vision a beautiful little flower bed or a little green sward or a flower.

I, for one, believe that the profession of the florist is as elevating as any other profession known to man. The preacher does his work in a certain direction, so, too, the physician; but I believe that the florist, in his work in bringing forth the beauties of the flower, elevates the mind more directly and brings us nearer to God than does the member of any other profession. [Applause.] The little child goes out into the woods, tramping around with its parent, and the first thing it does is to spot a little wild flower, and it will pluck it, and it will treasure it as it treasures nothing else it sees on its rambles. It loves a flower, and I believe that every man and woman loves a flower, better than any other object in Nature's handiwork, because it is elevating.

You who are interested in floriculture seem to me to be peculiarly associated with all the pleasures as well as with all the pains of life. If there is a funeral the first one sent for is the florist; if there is a wedding the first man to be hunted up is the florist; if a baby comes into the household mother must have a rose; so that in whatever we do we are always hunting for the florist. When a young man wants to pay a visit to his "best girl" the first thing he does is to get a little flower and put it in his coat lapel.

I trust, my friends,—you who are from the more thickly settled portions of the country and who think that the world centres around the community in which you live—have learned something since you came to this broad Western country. You will find that we not only raise corn and wheat here but we raise pretty women and lots of them. They all

want flowers. We have artists in that line; and there is plenty of room to expand here, both in floriculture and horticulture. We welcome you here to our new country. Here is a field for you all in your earnest work of building up your profession.

Mr. F. W. Taylor, Superintendent of Horticulture, good humoredly remarked that he had wondered whether he dared to confront the florists in view of the promises made by him last year, upon the faith of which his invitation to Omaha had been accepted and they had made the long journey thither. He congratulated them, however, upon the prospect that their trip would be satisfactory and profitable to them. He also thanked many members of the Convention for the assistance they had rendered him in his work of building up the bureaus of agriculture and horticulture and for the materials they had sent for flower beds, etc.

Mr. Benjamin Hammond, of Fishkill, N. Y., in responding to the speeches of welcome, said the visitors were not only pleased with their visit but that it had enabled them to acquire much valuable knowledge. They had been treated handsomely, and every one whom they had met seemed to be only too anxious to do them a favor.

The exercises at the Nebraska State Building were followed by a lunch at the Markel Restaurant. The menu was appetizing and substantial. Before leaving the restaurant, Mr. William Scott, of Buffalo, was the recipient of a silver medal offered by the Omaha Bowling Team for the highest average scored in the contest for the Evans Cup. The presentation was made by Mr. A. Donaghue, Sr., who said:

In presenting to Mr. Scott this medal as a proof of his skill in bowling, I wish to express the hope that it may prove a "mascot" for him except on one occasion, and that is when he comes in competition with the Omaha boys. I hope, too, that, whenever he wears it, the medal will recall pleasant memories of his trip to Omaha.

Take it, Mr. Scott, and with it the good wishes of all the Omaha boys.

Mr. Scott accepted the gift in some pertinent and eloquent remarks.

The Committee on Final Resolutions then presented the following report, which was unanimously adopted.

Whereas, The members of the Nebraska and Iowa Florists' Club and the citizens generally have extended to us the most hearty welcome and have striven with success to make our stay in this beautiful city an occasion long to be remembered with the greatest pleasure.

Resolved, That to His Honor the Mayor, we owe the most cordial thanks for the hearty welcome accorded us.

Resolved, That we wish to especially thank Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Wilcox for the most pleasant meeting of the Society at their beautiful home and for the enjoyable collation given us.

Resolved, That we shall long remember with the keenest gratitude and pleasure the reception and view of the wonderful art collection so handsomely extended to us by Mr. Geo. W. Lininger whose gems of art are worth alone a journey to your city.

Resolved, That we wish to thank and appreciate the services and able manner in which the trade exhibit was handled by Mr. S. B. Stewart.

Resolved, That we owe to Prof. F. W. Taylor, Superintendent of the Horticultural Department of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition our sincere gratitude for the many courtesies extended to us and particularly for the very instructive and amusing lecture given us in "The Real Russia."

Resolved, That especial thanks and kind remembrance is due to our worthy Vice-President, Mr. A. Donaghue, Sr., for his courtly and whole-souled welcome to us and to the Ladies of Omaha and Council Bluffs who by their thoughtful kindness afforded the visiting ladies the greatest enjoyment by a ride around this beautiful city. The good qualities of the Omaha friends are surpassed only by that of their wives, sweethearts, and sisters.

Finally Resolved, That on returning to our homes, however distant from here, we shall ever cherish in our hearts the kindness and untiring efforts that the local florists have put forth to make our stay here a round of pleasure. We thank them all and trust the day is near at hand when we can reciprocate the great kindness that has been bestowed on us by the Nebraska and Iowa brother florists.

Robert Craig,
E. G. Hill,
William Scott,
Committee.

WILLIAM J. STEWART,
Secretary.

REPORTS OF EXHIBITION COMMITTEES.

CLASS A, PLANTS.

Your committee find five entries, mostly confined to such ornamental plants as are suitable for and may be required by retail florists in their business.

H. A. Dreer, Philadelphia, Pa; a very fine exhibit of palms in variety and size, araucarias in variety, including some extremely well-clothed and grown young plants; a quantity of small ferns, suitable for filling ferneries, vases, etc.; a young plant of Dracæna Godseffiana, apparently a very useful plant for small decorative work.

Carl Hagenberger, Mentor, Ohio; a variety of coleus, named Klondike.

E. H. Michel, St. Louis, Mo.; group of finely grown ferns, some of large size; Ficus elastica and a number of smaller miscellaneous plants.

Siebrecht & Son, New Rochelle, N. Y.; a fine group of palms, ferns, pandanuses in variety, dracænas, arecas, very fine specimen tree ferns and other ornamentals.

Ellis & Pollworth, Milwaukee, Wis.; group of palms and other ornamental plants, comprising a very general collection.

W. J. Hesser, Plattsmouth, Neb.; groups of palms, ferns, cacti, and succulent plants in variety.

(Signed) EDGAR SANDERS,
PHILIP GAUGES,
W. E. KEMBLE,
Committee.

CLASS B, CUT BLOOMS.

Sunset Seed and Plant Co., San Francisco, Cal.; exhibit of sweet peas; upwards of ninety vases in large assortment, including many new and distinct sorts; a lack of substantial labelling prevented a careful judging of the individual varieties.

Cushman Gladiolus Co., Euclid, O.; a merited display of seedling gladioli in good variety.

W. H. Elliott, Brighton, Mass.; Asparagus plumosus, including several strings more than twenty feet in length, of uniform and strong growth, the quality of which is highly commended.

B. Haas, Omaha, Neb.; a vase of gladioli.

J. F. Wilcox, Council Bluffs, Ia.; seven varieties of roses of meritorious quality, considering the time of year.

(Signed) DAN'L B. LONG,
AUG. S. SWANSON,
WILLIAM MILLER,
Committee.

CLASS D, GREENHOUSE APPLIANCES AND FLOWER POTS.

Lincoln Pottery Co., Lincoln, Neb.; a fine display of standard rose pots, also seed pans.

John C. Moninger Co., Chicago, Ill.; cypress lumber for greenhouse construction. We especially note the fine quality of material.

J. G. & A. Esler, Saddle River, N. J.; a three-ply rubber hose that seems to be exceptionally well made. The extra thickness of rubber on inside lining is particularly noticeable.

Quaker City Machine Co., Richmond, Ind.; Challenge ventilating apparatus. The committee finds that for ease of management and durability it is especially noticeable.

Yeats & Bacon, Champaign, Ill.; an alarm attachment designed to give notice to watchman of a change of temperature in pipes.

(Signed) GEO. L. MILLER,
ROBT. GEORGE,
GEO M. KELLOGG,
Committee.

CLASS E, FLORISTS' SUPPLIES AND FANCY EARTHENWARE.

Your committee on Florists' Supplies make mention of Mr. A. Herrmann's display of florists' supplies, and especially of a creditable display of metallic designs which are of American manufacture.

Ellis & Pollworth of Milwaukee, Wis.; a creditable display of florists' supplies.

The Dayton Novelty Paper Box Co., Dayton, O.; an exhibit of very useful boxes suitable for the packing and transmission of cut flowers.

Daniel B. Long, Buffalo, N. Y.; florists' photographs, calendars, etc.; very fine.

W. W. Coles, Kokomo, Ind.; paper leather-board box for shipping cut flowers, which is worthy of especial mention.

(Signed) J. T. TEMPLE,
JACOB SCHULZ,
C. G. ANDERSON,
Committee.

CLASS F, BULBS AND SEEDS.

Vaughan's Seed Store, Chicago and New York; a very fine display of florists' bulbs.

(Signed) EMIL SCHRAY,
WM. CLARK,
C. G. WEEBER,
Committee.

CLASS G, MISCELLANEOUS.

Boston Florists' Letter Co.; a frame, covering their style of florists letters.

(Signed) EDGAR SANDERS,
ERNST WEINHOEBER,
EMIL SCHRAY,
Committee.

AN OMISSION.

Record is here made of the death of Reinhardt Maitre, which was accidentally omitted from the Secretary's report, page 19. Mr. Maitre died at New Orleans, April 14th, 1898, aged 67 years, 9 months.

WILLIAM J. STEWART,
Secretary.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF TRADE EXHIBITION.

To the President, Officers, and Members of the Society of American Florists.

GENTLEMEN: — Now that my duties as Superintendent of the Trades Display, recently held in the city of Omaha, are done, I can look back and see where perhaps changes might have been made, for the benefit of the Society. But it is always thus through life; by experience we learn to improve. On the whole I believe that the Omaha Convention was a "Record Breaker." Not a complaint or "kick" from an exhibitor. The only recommendation that I would suggest to the Society is that the former prices for space be restored the same as previous to 1897; as I believe it to be a useless reduction, working no benefit that I can perceive to the Society or trade in general, while it does make it somewhat of a hardship upon the Club entertaining the S. A. F.

Our Exhibition Hall was altogether too small. I am satisfied that I could easily have filled twice the space. The following is a list of exhibitors and amounts contributed for space:

Receipts.

Boston Letter Co.	$2.50	Moninger Co., John C.	7.55
Brague, L. B.	2.00	McCarthy, N. F. & Co.	5 04
Cushman Gladiolus Co.	5.25	Plant Tonic Co.	2.00
Dayton Paper Box Co.	9.50	Quaker City Machine Works	5.25
Dreer, H. A.	36.00	Siebrecht & Son	18.00
Esler, J. G. and A.	2.00	Sunset Seed Co.	4.20
Elliott, W. H.	2.50	Scabcura Dip Co.	2.00
Ellis & Pollworth	14.25	Vaughan, J. C.	11.40
East Side Floral Co.	2.00	Wilcox, J. F.	3.00
Florists' Review	8.40	Long, D. B.	5.25
Hesser, W. J.	9.50	Lincoln Pottery Co.	9.50
Herrmann, A.	22.50		
Herendeen Mf'g Co.	4.00		
Joosten, C. H.	2.50		
Michel, E. H.	18.00	Total,	$214.09

Expenditures.

Lumber	$13.05	Brought forward	$33.23
Printing	1.50	Less Received for Lumber Sold	7.00
"	3.25		
Carpenter, helper, etc.	6.50	Miscellaneous Expenses	$26.23
Stamps	2.00	Rent of Hall	50.00
200 Circular Letters	1.50	Superintendent's Salary	75.00
Telegrams	1.30		
Freight, Cartage, etc.	3.38		
Ice	.75		
	$33.23	Total	$151.23

Contributed for Space	$214.09
Less Expenses	151.23
Balance,	62.86
Of this Balance there still remains unpaid	36.00
Leaving in hands of Superintendent Net Cash Balance	$26.86

Respectfully submitted,

S. B. STEWART, *Superintendent.*

FLORISTS' HAIL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.

A meeting of the members of the Florists' Hail Association was held in the First Congregational Church at Omaha on August 17th, 1898.

Amendments to the by-laws giving the Secretary $50, the Treasurer $20 and the President $7.50 per million square feet of glass as annual salary were passed. John T. Temple of Davenport, Iowa, and Wm. Scott of Buffalo, N. Y., were elected Directors. After the Annual Meeting, a meeting of the Board of Directors was held and the following officers were elected: J. C. Vaughan, President; E. G. Hill, Vice-President; John G. Esler, Secretary; and Albert M. Herr, Treasurer. J. C. Vaughan and E. G. Hill then resigned as Directors and the Chairman appointed E. Weinhoeber of Chicago and G. M. Kellogg of Pleasant Hill, Mo., to fill vacancies.

The Florists' Hail Association has been in existence over 11 years and has paid every loss promptly. It possesses the confidence of all its members, has a reserve fund of $6000, and grows more rapidly each year.

Secretary's Report.

The Florists' Hail Association at this date consists of 762 members. The risks are upon 2,594,982 square feet of single thick glass, 5,468,067 square feet of double thick glass, an extra one-half insurance upon 162,213 square feet of single thick glass, and 301,078 square feet of double thick glass, an extra whole insurance upon 556,697 square feet of single thick glass, and 1,337,706 square feet of double thick glass, the whole being equivalent to a single insurance upon 10,189,097 square feet of glass.

The Reserve Fund consists of $5,200 in securities (all of which are worth at least par and some would command a premium of 8 per cent.), and $662.48 cash in the hands of the Treasurer, making a total of $5,862.48.

The amount of Emergency Fund in the hands of the Treasurer on August 1, 1898, was $2,318.45, making a total cash balance of $2,990.93.

The eighth assessment levied March, 1898, amounted to $5,780.18. Other receipts have been from interest on investment, $235.32. Money drawn which had been temporarily invested, $2,500. Refunded by R. Brown & Son on re-adjustment of loss, $360.21. Evanston school fund

paid before due $500. New business for year ending August 1, 1898, $1,650.14. These items with last year's balance of $5,581.05, make a total of $16,616.90.

The expenditures have been: Losses, $7,585.88. Investments, $5,200. Running expenses, $850.09, making a total of $13,635.97, leaving a cash balance of $2,980.93 in the hands of the Treasurer, of which $2,318.45 belongs to the Emergency fund.

The losses during the past year have exceeded any previous year, 77,341 square feet of single thick glass having been broken, and 48,711 square feet of double thick glass.

One square foot of single thick glass has been broken to every 33 $\frac{42739}{77341}$ feet insured and one square foot of double thick glass has been broken to every 110 $\frac{98557}{487711}$ square feet insured. The feature of the past year has been the large percentage of breakage of double thick glass as opposed to the small percentage last year. Also the large percentage of delinquents on the eighth assessment, which was largely due to deaths, failures, removals, dissolution of partnerships, retirement from business and other causes. The large volume of new business had more than taken the place of the delinquents who retired.

Your Secretary has also to report the discovery of two errors in proofs of loss.

A recount of glass was made by a special agent employed by the Secretary and a re-adjustment of losses was made. R. Brown & Son, of Kansas City, promptly refunded to the Association $360.21. The re-adjustment of the loss of Baker Bros., of Kansas City, amounting to a balance of $85.62 in favor of the Florists' Hail Association, is still pending, owing to their absence from home. The Association has the assurance of their attorney, that it will be attended to promptly upon their return.

The annexed table may be of interest to those who are desirous of locating the hail belt. Your Secretary does not suppose for a moment that he has been able to locate every hail storm for the past eleven years, but he has done so as far as he has been able, and the information furnished is interesting to those who are willing to study statistics.

STATES.	No. of hail storms from June 1, 1887, to August 1, 1898.	No. of losses paid from June 1, 1887, to August 1, 1898	No. of hail storms for year ending August 1, 1898.	No. of losses paid for year ending Aug 1, 1898.
Maine	3	....	....	....
Vermont	3	....	....	....
New Hampshire	3	1	1	....
Rhode Island	3	....	1	....
Connecticut	4	....	....	....
Massachusetts	7	....	1	....
New York	49	6	3	....
New Jersey	36	5	4	1
Pennsylvania	36	19	4	3
Delaware	1	1	1	1
Ohio	34	27	4	3
Indiana	9	4	2	2

Illinois	42	29	4	4
Michigan	9	3	1	....
Wisconsin	15	14	3	2
Minnesota	16	5	1	1
Iowa	23	27	3	2
Missouri	39	59	5	14
Kansas	27	44	7	10
Nebraska	13	17	1	....
Arkansas	2	....	....	....
Colorado	20	16	7	5
North Dakota	5	1	2	1
South Dakota	8	4	1	1
Montana	1	....	....	....
Wyoming	1	1	....	....
Maryland	6	3	2	2
Virginia	2	1	1	1
West Virginia	10	2	1	....
North Carolina	3	....	....	....
Kentucky	5	....	1	...
Georgia	3	....	....	....
Texas	5	1	....	....
Louisiana	2	....	....	....
Tennessee	1	1	....	....
Florida	1	....	....	....
Mississippi	1	....	....	....
Oklahama Territory	4	4	2	2
Indian Territory	1	....	....	....
District of Columbia	3	....	....	....
Canada	2	1	....	....

Three violent storms doing great damage have been noted this year: one at Kansas City, Mo.; one at Harrisburg, Pa., and one at Auburn, N. Y. The Association lost heavily at Kansas City, because nearly every florist was insured. At Harrisburg and Auburn they lost nothing because no one was insured.

The value of hail insurance may be inferred.

JOHN G. ESLER, *Secretary.*

Aug. 1, 1898.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Losses.

July 13,	1897.	Green & Nicol, Fremont, Neb.	$ 16 40
July 19,		F. Heath, Hunter, S. Dakota	4 20
July 22,		E. C. Newberry, Mitchell, S. Dakota	77 26
August 19,		R. Pabst, Rutledge, Pa	12 50
"	"	J. R. Goldman, Middletown, Ohio	5 97
"	"	Henry Engler, Philadelphia, Pa.	16 45
"	"	A. M. Troxwell, Knightstown, Ind.	21 25
"	"	Jos. T. Sullivan, Moorestown, N. J.	15 82
"	"	Henry Baker, Pueblo, Colo.	26 00
"	23,	Lizzie Lindsay, Lake View, Minn.	7 25
"	"	Button Bros., Lake Geneva, Wis.	91 00

Sept.	13,	Fred. Bishop, Sioux City, Iowa	4 00
"	"	E. C. Newberry, Mitchell, S. Dakota	5 07
"	22,	C. G. Turner, Wilmington, Del	71 38
Feb.	5, 1898.	James Frost, Greenville, Ohio	28 01
"	21,	Furrow Bros., Guthrie, Oklahoma	194 68
Apl.	8,	B. Henshon, Lawrence, Kan	3 50
"	"	Junction Floral Co., Junction City, Kan	21 70
"	16,	Henry Schwartz, Cincinnati, Ohio	8 74
May	11,	Charles Kraatz, Linwood, Mo.	5 00
"	20,	Furrow Bros., Guthrie, Oklahoma	38 28
"	23,	Junction City Floral Co., Junction City, Kan	186 76
"	25,	Robt. S. Brown, Kansas City, Mo	1978 19
"	"	Mrs. Mary Ackerman, Kansas City, Mo	162 68
"	"	A. F. Barbe, Kansas City, Mo	398 91
"	"	Humfeld Floral Co., Kansas City, Mo	826 72
"	26,	Baker Bros., Kansas City, Mo	557 50
"	27,	James Payne, Kansas City, Mo	236 45
"	28,	Heite Floral Co., Kansas City, Mo	347 84
"	"	Jno. S. Morris, Miriam, Kansas	91 55
"	31,	W. P. Ranson, Junction City, Kan	27 35
"	"	Henry Smith, Kansas City, Mo	172 05
"	"	W. J. Barnes, Kansas City, Mo	353 34
"	"	A. B. Davis & Son, Purcellville, Va	43 85
"	"	J. M. Longsdorf, Mechanicsburg, Pa	32 21
June	2,	John Eberhart, Franklintown, Md	24 22
"	"	Mrs. S. E. Luther, Kansas City, Kan	51 24
"	6,	Emil Buettner, Park Ridge, Ill	54 17
"	7,	Mrs. S. H. Bagley, Abilene, Kan	10 00
"	"	Geo. W. Kline, Anderson, Ind	43 99
"	10,	Aug. Blankenfeld, Kansas City, Mo	89 85
"	"	Wm. Clark, Colorado Springs, Colo	204 26
"	11,	Edward T. Owen, Madison, Wis	37 35
"	"	Samuel Feast & Son, Baltimore, Md	129 52
"	14,	E. W. Hicks, St. Louis, Mo	27 70
"	"	A. Jablonsky, Wellston, Mo	30 00
"	20,	Lyle C. Waterbury, University Park, Colo	164 25
"	"	Junction City Floral Co., Junction City, Kan	31 08
"	"	Chas. Duer, Park Ridge, Ill	16 13
"	23,	Jas. Aldous & Son, Iowa City, Iowa	8 30
"	"	Paul R. Brooks, Lawrence, Kan	7 52
"	27,	J. F. Amman, Edwardsville, Ill	54 00
"	"	C. E. Kern, Kansas City, Mo	335 82
"	"	A. T. Shotwell, Fargo, N. Dakota	14 08
July	6,	J. J. Soper, Rockford, Ill	6 35
"	"	Jas. L. Varnum, (trustee), New York, N. Y	51 75
"	"	" " " "	96 92
"	13	F. Keuchenmeister, Wichita, Kan	7 52
			$7,585 88

Expenses.

Aug.	19, 1897.	A. T. DeLaMare, circulars with coupons	$ 2 10
Sept.	13,	New England Florist Co., advertising	1 00
"	"	American Florist Co	28 70
"	17,	John G. Esler, Cram's Atlas	7 00
"	27,	A. T. DeLaMare, letter heads and orders	5 50
Oct.	15,	A. T. DeLaMare, letter heads	1 65
"	18,	Albert M. Herr, printing reports and expressage	2 15

Oct.	18, 1897.	C. A. Wilden, Sec. Tri. State Building and Loan	2200 00
"	27,	New England Florist Co., advertising	2 13
Nov.	3,	Wilson, Humphreys & Co., entry book	5 00
"	27,	A. T. DeLaMare, assessment papers	24 60
"	29,	Lancaster Trust Co., box rent	5 00
Dec.	18,	Hackensack Republican, 1000 envelopes	3 00
Jan.	3, 1898.	Florists' Exchange, advertising	7 50
"	19,	New England Florist Co., advertising	4 55
"	26,	John G. Esler, 6 months' salary	200 00
"	"	J. M. Jordon, 6 months' salary and postage	27 00
Feb.	8,	A. T. DeLaMare, letter heads	2 08
"	"	Lancaster Trust Co., money on interest, 6 months	2500 00
March	15,	Frank J. Faesig, envelopes	1 75
"	"	John G. Esler, postage	25 51
April	1,	A. T. DeLaMare, stationery	10 45
May	2,	Frank J. Faesig, 1000 envelopes	2 50
"	26,	A. T. DeLaMare, letter heads and envelopes	6 00
"	31,	New England Florist Co., advertising	3 15
June	10,	A. T. DeLaMare, letter heads and envelopes	6 00
"	20,	A. T. DeLaMare, circulars and affidavits	15 20
"	23,	A. M. Herr, overcharged reinsurance	20 12
July	6,	The Hackensack Republican, Certificates	11 00
"	"	A. T. DeLaMare, letter heads and applications	7 00
"	7,	Florists' Exchange, advertising	6 50
"	"	Albert M. Herr, Government bond	500 00
"	13,	John G. Esler, salary and postage	224 20
"	"	Albert M. Herr, salary and postage	130 00
"	"	S. Murray, expenses for readjusting loss	6 75
"	15,	J. C. Vaughan, salary	25 00
			$6030 09

Receipts.

Interest on Evanston Bond	$ 12 27	
Evanston Bond	500 00	
Interest on two Orville township Bonds	50 00	
" " School Bonds	50 00	
" City of Chicago Bond	20 00	
" on Tri State Building & Loan, Ft. Wayne, Ind.	58 05	
" on $2500 drawn before expiration of time	25 00	
Money placed on interest and drawn for use July 7	2500 00	
" paid Brown & Sons of Kansas City, Mo., in excess of loss	360 20	
" received from 7th Assessment	5790 18	
" " " Membership Fees	647 22	
" " " First Assessments	480 93	
" " " Additional Assessments	230 01	
" " " Extra One-Half	33 46	
" " " Extra Whole	164 06	
" " " Reinsurance	94 46	
Balance of last year	5581 05	
	$16,596 90	
Less expenditures	$13,615 97	
Balance		$2,980 93

Investments.

Orville Township Bond, N. J.,	5%.	Valued, $1.08	$ 500 00	face
" " " " "		" "	500 00	"
School Bond, Dist. of Ill.,	"	Co. of DuPage	500 00	"
" " " "		" "	500 00	"
City of Chicago Bond.	4%.		500 00	"
Invested in the Tri State Building and Loan Association, of Fort Wayne, Indiana,	5%.		2200 00	"
U. S. Government Bond.	3%.		500 00	"
			$5200 00	

Signed, ALBERT M. HERR,
Treasurer.

AMERICAN CARNATION SOCIETY.

OMAHA, NEB., Aug. 17th, 1898.

This Society held an informal meeting on the above date and in the absence of the President the meeting was presided over by our Past President W. N. Rudd of Mt. Greenwood, Ill.

The Secretary reported having secured Professor Britton of the New Haven Experiment Station to give us a paper on the Experiments being conducted at that Station on Carnations grown in various forms of Commercial Fertilizers. Also that the Society was better financially than it has been any time since its organization, that there has been quite a few additions in the way of new members since the meeting last February; showing that the efforts of the Society were coming to be better appreciated by the growers throughout the country. He also reported that an effort would be made to get up the most attractive premium list for the coming show that the Society had yet issued. Also that there had been no additions secured to the contributors to the permanent fund of the Society but that there was a likelihood of the list of contributors being increased to quite a respectable showing by the end of another year.

The Secretary was instructed to secure a retail store man to give us an essay on Carnations from his point of view and suggestions for the increase of their use. He was also instructed to get as complete a report as possible of the results attained by the various growers who are experimenting with sub-irrigation to present at the meeting.

A committee was appointed consisting of E. G. Hill and A. M. Herr to get the S. A. F. to award a silver medal, for the next show held by this Society, under such rules and regulations as they may see fit to place for governing the award.

E. H. Michel of St. Louis, Mo., offered a cup to be competed for by the various Florists' Clubs or State organizations under such rules and regulations as he would suggest after giving the matter due consideration.

The Secretary was instructed to secure advertisements for the Premium list and Program and the meeting was adjourned to meet in Philadelphia, Pa., February 16th and 17th, 1899.

(Signed) WM. NICHOLSON, *President.*

Attest: ALBERT M. HERR, *Secretary.*

CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

New chrysanthemums disseminated during 1898 are as follows: —

By John N. May, Summit, N. J.: Alice F. Carey, Chempwee, Dolores, Minnewaska, Miss Gladys Vanderbilt, Robert G. Carey, Spotswood.

By E. G. Hill & Co., Richmond, Ind.: Autumn Glory, Black Hawk, H. W. Longfellow, Boundless Snow, Solar Queen, Quitto, Christmas Gift.

By Hugh Graham, Philadelphia, Pa.: Pennsylvania.

By F. Dorner & Sons Co., Lafayette, Ind: Mrs. C. H. Peirce, Snow Queen, Merry Christmas.

By Theo. Bock, Hamilton, O.: Mrs. Wm. B. Brown.

By G. P. Rawson, Elmira, N. Y.: Wm. H. Chadwick, The Yellow Fellow, Madeline Pratt.

By C. W. Ward, Queens, N. Y.: T. H. Spaulding.

By A. Herrington, Madison, N. J.: Frank Hardy.

By J. C. Vaughan, Chicago, Ill.: Yellow Mrs. J. Jones.

By F. R. Pierson Co., Tarrytown-on-Hudson, N. Y.: Mrs. O. P. Bassett.

By Theodosia B. Shepherd, Ventura, Cal.: Susan B. Anthony, Victoria, Theo. B. Shepherd, Viola, Miramar, White Wings, Dazzling, Fly-Away, Darling, Madonna, Firefly.

By McDonald & Steel, Crawfordsville, Ind.: Mrs. A. F. Wienold.

By E. J. Paddock, Cleveland, O.: Adam Graham.

By N. Smith & Son, Adrian, Mich.: Arline, Thornden, Merza, Rustique.

By W. N. Rudd, Mt. Greenwood, Ill.: Mrs. A. J. Caton.

Of the fifty-two seedlings exhibited before the committee, twenty-five scored eighty-five points or more, and have been awarded certificates. The varieties are as follows:

Mrs. Arthur J. Caton, Boundless Snow, Solar Queen, H. W. Longfellow, Australian Gold, Bessie Hollis, Autumn Glory, Black Hawk, Pennsylvania, Mrs. O. P. Bassett, Frank Hardy, Chas. W. Crouch, Mrs. Samuel Higdon, Snow Queen, Mrs. C. H. Peirce, Alice F. Carey, Robert G. Carey, Spottswood, Miss Gladys Vanderbilt, Arline, Thornden, Rustique, Merza, Our Dear Friend, W. H. Chadwick.

ELMER D. SMITH, *Secretary.*

FLORISTS' INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH DELIVERY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this association was held at Omaha on Wednesday afternoon, August 17th. The meeting was called to order by the President, H. A. Siebrecht of New York. Reports were received from the Clearing House manager as well as from a number of members, which showed that the method of working through the Clearing House was not as satisfactory as was the old one, i.e., of each member settling his own account with all members and making a report of the business transacted for the year at the annual meeting. A committee of three was appointed to adjust all matters outstanding as well as to settle up all Clearing House matters and to notify every member to send in his report, and any member not complying with this rule, a resolution was passed to drop him from the association. Several new members were elected, also three directors. The officers for the ensuing year are: H. A. Siebrecht, New York, President; W. J. Smyth, Chicago, Secretary and Treasurer.

PLANT INTRODUCTIONS IN AMERICA IN 1898.

ROSES.

Burbank, (Burpee) cherry crimson.
Climbing Marie Guillott, Cl. (Dingee & Conard Co.) white, sometimes tinged yellow.
Everblooming Prairie Queen, Cl. (Dingee & Conard Co.) dark carmine rose; originated with P. H. Meehan.
Ferd. Hatel, H. T., soft yellow, centre deep orange.
May Queen, H. Cl. (Conard & Jones Co.) Mrs. De Graw x Wichuraiana, coral pink.
Mme. Cadeau Ramey, H. T. pink, centre flesh white.
Mrs. Robert Peary, Cl. (Dingee & Conard Co.) white, sport from Kaiserin Augusta Victoria; originated with DeVoecht & DeWilde.
Muriel Graham, T., creamy white, suffused pink; sport from C. Mermet.
Prince Theodore Galitzine, T. (Ketten) orange yellow.
Princess Bonney, H. T. (Dingee & Conard Co.) Bon Silene x Wm. Francis Bennett. Crimson.
Ruby Queen, H. Cl. (Conard & Jones Co.) Queen's Scarlet x Wichuraiana, ruby red, white centre.
Santa Rosa, H. B. T. (Burbank) shell pink, a cross between a second generation Hermosa and a seedling of Bon Silene.
Souv. d'August Metral, H. T. red, shaded crimson.
White Bougere, (Dunlop) pure white.

CARNATIONS.

Alba Superba, (Burton) white.
Argyle (Stollery) carmine pink.
Bon Ton, (Ward) Portia x Cæsar, scarlet. Raised by F. A. Blake.
Conch Shell, (Grout) shell pink.
Empress, (W. Swayne) crimson, base of petals scarlet.
Evelina, (Witterstaetter) white.
Firefly, (Hancock) scarlet.
Gold Nugget, (Dorner) yellow.
Happy Day, (Hake) pink.
Jack Frost (Ed. Swayne) white, large.
John Young, (Ward) Scott x Storm King, white, deeply fringed.
Kathleen Pantlind, (Hopp & Lempke) Daybreak x Scott; pink.
Mrs. Jas. Dean, (Ward) Scott x Storm King, silvery pink.
Mrs. Northway, (Simmons) shell pink, becoming white.
New York, (Ward); Scott x Daybreak; cerise pink.
Painted Lady, (Hill) cherry pink, at times laced lighter pink on edges.
Psyche (Hill) white, flaked scarlet.
White Cloud, (Dorner) Daybreak x E. A. Wood; white.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

Alice F. Carey, Ref. (Carey) pink.
Anna Held, Anem. (Henderson) rosy pink.
Arline, Inc. (Smith) white, dwarf.
Australian Gold (Calvat) yellow.
Autumn Glory, (Hill) reddish salmon changing to shrimp. Shape of V. Morel.
Beaute Grenobloise, Jap. Inc. (Calvat) lilac white passing to yellow.
Bird's Nest, Anem. (Henderson) yellow.
Black Hawk (Hill) dark crimson scarlet, form V. Morel.
Boundless Snow, Jap. (Yoshiike) (Hill) flushed pink, gradually becoming whiter.
Chempwee, (May) yellow sport from Silver Cloud.
Christmas Gift, Inc. (Hill) nankin yellow.
Congres de Bourges, Jap. Inc. (Calvat) purple.
Directeur Liebert, (Calvat) pearly mauve; long florets.
Dolores, Inc. (May) deep yellow.
Fee de Champsaur, (Calvat) white.
Florence Turner, Ref. (Henderson) pale yellow.
Frank Hardy, Inc. (Herrington) white.
H. W. Longfellow, Inc. (Hill) white, flushed pink.
Idol's Eye, Jap. Inc. (Henderson) shrimp pink.
Iserette, (Calvat) white.
Klondike, Ref. (Henderson) golden yellow.
M. Massange de Louvrex (Calvat) yellow.
M. B. Verlot, Jap. Inc. (Calvat) pale lilac.
M. G. Chavanne, Jap. Inc. (Calvat) golden yellow.
M. W. H. Fowler (Calvat), silvery pink.
Madeline Pratt, Inc. (Rawson) white.
Marfa, (Calvat) orange yellow; petals slightly twisted.
Matterhorn, Ref. (Henderson) white.
Merza, Jap. Inc. (Smith) white, dwarf.
Merry Christmas, (Dorner) white, late.
Minnewaska (May) deep pink, late.
Miss Gladys Vanderbilt (May) pearl white, lemon centre.
Mlle. Lawrence Zede, Jap. Inc. (Calvat) lilac.
Mlle. Lucie Faure, Jap. (Calvat) white.
Mme. A. Brun (Calvat) lilac white, striped lilac.
Mme. A. Rosseau, (Calvat) lilac-mauve; outer petals drooping.
Mme. Bergier, (Calvat) soft rose.
Mme. Deis, (Calvat) white.
Mme. Ed. Roger, Inc. (Calvat) pale sea green.
Mme. Ferlat, Jap. (Calvat) plum amaranth.
Mme. G. Bruant, (Calvat) white, tinted purple.
Mme. J. Smeers, (Calvat) white.
Mme. X. Ray Jouvin, Inc. (Calvat) deep pink, slightly hairy.

Mrs. Arthur J. Caton, Jap. Inc. Yellow Queen x Mrs. E. G. Hill; bright bronze, shaded red on inside of petal.
Mrs. C. F. Diehm, Jap. (Henderson) blush white, petals irregularly marked with pink.
Mrs. C. H. Pierce, (Dorner) deep yellow.
Mrs. H. Weeks, Inc. (May) white.
Mrs. W. M. Massie, Jap. (Henderson) white, tinged pink.
N. C. S. Jubilee, Inc. (Calvat) silver pink, reverse lavender pink.
Oncle Michel, (Calvat) carmine amaranth, silvery reverse.
Pennsylvania, (Graham) bright yellow, sport from Philadelphia.
President Nonin, Jap. Inc. (Calvat) chamois yellow, paler reverse.
Princess de Galles, (Calvat) white.
Quito, (Hill) pink, late, raised by Brydon.
Robt. G. Carey, Inc. (Carey) white late.
Rustique, Jap Inc. (Smith) golden brown.
Secretaire Fierens, (Calvat) crimson red, yellow reverse, drooping petals.
Setting Sun, Jap. (Henderson) deep yellow, shaded bronze.
Snow Queen, (Dorner) snow white.
Solar Queen, (Hill) yellow, early.
Soliel d'Octobre, (Calvat) canary yellow.
Souv. de Mme. F. Rosette, (Calvat).
Souv. de Molines, (Calvat) crimson bronze, tips and reverse gold.
Spotswood, (Carey) light yellow.
T. H. Spaulding, Jap. Inc. (Ward) wine, self color.
The Yellow Fellow, (Rawson) bright yellow.
Thornden, Jap. (Smith) intense yellow.
Topaz Oriental, (Calvat) pale yellow.
W. H. Chadwick, (Rawson) waxy white, tinted pink.
Wasserfall, Ref. (Henderson) early, white.
Werther, (Calvat) purple amaranth.
Yellow Mrs. Jerome Jones, Jap. Inc. (Vaughan).

CANNAS.

Abel Chatenay, (Crozy) orange red, foliage dark purple.
Acme, (French) yellow, dwarf.
Adonis, (Dammann) red, sometimes spotted yellow, foliage bordered with a reddish band.
Africa, (Dammann) purple scarlet, yellow and orange inside; leaves bronzy.
Alliance, (Crozy) coppery red, chrome reverse.
Albert Millaud, (French) cherry red with yellow throat.
Albino, (Conard & Jones Co.) pink centre.
Alkmene, (Dammann) orange, bordered yellow.
Alemannia, (Dammann) scarlet, outer petals bordered yellow.
America, (Dammann) red purple, flamed and striped, foliage bronze.
Annie Laurie, (Conard & Jones Co.) silver rose, white throat.

Aphrodite, (Dammann) yellow, spotted salmon.
Asia, (Dammann) yellow, inner petals dotted scarlet.
Aug. Nonin, (Crozy) vermillion, spotted carmine, yellow border.
Augusta (Conard & Jones Co.) scarlet, widely bordered yellow.
Auguste Chantin, (Crozy) copper colored.
Bayard, (French) chamois shaded yellow.
Bavaria, (Dammann) yellow, with scarlet spots; leaves bluish.
Baltimore, (Conard & Jones Co.) bright red, yellow throat, leaves edged purple.
Blazing Torch, (Conard & Jones Co.) crimson scarlet.
Brahma (French), cinnabar red, tall.
Bronze, (Crozy) purple red, foliage purple with bronze reverse.
Borussia, (Dammann) canary yellow, small red spots.
Burgundia, (Dammann) yellow, with scarlet spots, red flamed; glaucous leaves.
Buttercup, (Conard & Jones Co.) buttercup yellow.
Caprice, (Blanc) cream, spotted lilac rose; lower petal cherry red.
Citoyen de Cronstadt, (Crozy) flame, spotted rose, copper reverse.
Cliviœflora, (Crozy).
Crown Prince of Italy, (Dammann) maroon scarlet, glaucous foliage.
Cuba, (Blanc) chrome yellow, blotched vermillion red.
Daniel Gerard, (Crozy) carmine, yellow spots.
Damocles, (French) solferino pink, purple foliage.
Depute Jounard (Vilmorin) carmine scarlet.
Derviche, (French) yellow, pointed red.
Defender, (Ward) yellow, spotted and striped scarlet.
Dr. Nansen, (Conard & Jones Co.) yellow.
Dubreuil, (French) dark orange red.
Edouard Andre, (Dammann) red, orange yellow spots; stalks dark red; leaves dark spotted on back.
Enchantress, (Conard & Jones Co.) clear pink.
Escarboucle, (French) scarlet.
Feu d'Artifice, (Vilmorin) yellow, mottled orange red.
Fraicheur, (French) rosy flesh, long petals.
Frere Henri, (Cretien) orange, edged yellow.
George Lechaud, (French) nasturtium red, shading to rose.
George Sand, (French) light pink, edge white.
George Washington, (Conard & Jones Co.) crimson, shaded.
Gloire de Montet, (French) nasturtium red.
Goliath, (Dreer) crimson, dwarf.
Gringoire, (French) pink, long petals.
H. Seidl. (Dammann) fiery red, with a yellow border spotted with purple.
Iberia, (Dammann) outer petals yellow with a red border; inner petals crimson; glaucous leaves.
Ideale, (French) pale yellow, spotted pink.
Inglewood, (Vaughan) a Canadian novelty, vermillion, foliage plum purple.

J. D. Eisele, (Dreer) vermillion scarlet, overlaid orange.
Klondike, (Blanc) golden orange.
Kronos, (Dammann) sulphur yellow, spotted red.
Le France, (Dammann) orange scarlet, leaves purple.
Lighthouse, (Blanc) pale yellow, flamed pink and scarlet.
Martha Washington, (Conard & Jones Co.) bright rose.
Mistress F. Dreer, (Crozy) yellow and vermillion.
Mme. Musset, (Crozy) carmine, yellow border.
Mme. Fr. Paul, (Crozy) yellow, spotted carmine.
Model, (Crozy) orange, red and yellow, dwarf.
Moonlight, (Blanc) sulphur changing to white.
Mount Etna, (Conard & Jones Co.) crimson, dark leaved,
Oceanus, (Dammann) flame colored with broad yellow border, spotted.
Panache d'Or, (French) canary, faintly marked orange, tall.
Papillion, (French) carmine red.
Paul de Mortillet, (French) orange, lighter toward centre.
Pandora, (Dammann) dark red bordered and the inside gold flamed; purple leaves, dark green stripes.
Pearl of Bedders, (French) orange red, marbled darker.
Perseus, (Dammann) canary yellow, with scarlet pencillings; leaves glaucous.
Pluto, (Dammann) scarlet purple, flamed red inside; foliage purple red.
Profusion, (Blanc) scarlet faintly edged gold.
President Cleveland, orange scarlet; raised by Pfister.
President McKinley (Ward) scarlet; with crimson shading.
President Viger, (Crozy) fiery red, darker shaded.
Pygmæa or Yellow Flamingo, (Dingee & Conard Co.) yellow, lower petals faintly dotted carmine.
Rosine, (French) rosy flesh.
Rosy-Morn, (Conard & Jones Co.) buff salmon, bordered and mottled canary yellow and deep rose.
Rosemawr, (Conard & Jones Co.) rosy pink, mottled, yellow at throat.
Robt. Christie, orange scarlet.
Sam Trelease, (Dreer) scarlet, edges and centre marked yellow.
Sang Gaulois, (French) very dark red.
Souv. de Robert Owen (Crozy) apricot.
Souv. de Mme. Leonie Viennot, (Crozy) rose and carmine.
Sunray, (Dreer) yellow, striped scarlet.
Suevia, (Dammann) canary yellow, bronzed inside.
Tarrytown, (Pierson) cherry red.
Tendresse, (French) paly rosy flesh.
The Burlington, (Vaughan) orange scarlet, bronze lustre.
Topaz, (Blanc) yellow.
Vertumne, (French) rosy red.
Virginie, (French) delicate rosy flesh.
Victoria, (Blanc) upper segments lemon, feathered in centre with rose spots on pink ground; lower petal yellow with amaranth blotch.

Vice-President Savoye, (Crozy) copper and yellow, reflex carmine.
Virginia, (Conard & Jones Co.) rose pink.
Wilhelm Beck, (Dammann) sulphur yellow, scarlet pencillings
Zephyr, (Conard & Jones Co.) light rose, passing to deep rose, dwarf.
Zebra, (Blanc) yellow, blended and striped orange, scarlet and lilac.

DAHLIAS.

Ada, Sing. (Peacock) pink and amber, pencilled crimson.
Cyclops, Cac. (Peacock) scarlet maroon, light tips.
Edina, Sing. (Peacock) white, spotted and veined crimson.
Folia variegata (Peacock) foliage margined and tipped creamy white, edged red.
Gilt edge, Show (Blanc) ivorywhite, edged with deep yellow.
Irene, Sing. (Peacock) white, suffused pink, striped crimson, scarlet disc.
La Favorite, Cac. (Peacock) snow white.
Little Dorothy, Sing. (Peacock) white or straw, suffused pink, pencilled crimson.
Lilapina, Cac. (Blanc) lilac.
Luxury, Sing. (Peacock) scarlet shading to maroon at tips, striped yellow straw.
Novelty, Sing. (Peacock) pink, mottled crimson; fragrant.
Purite, Show, (Peacock) white.
Vernie, Sing. (Peacock) white, shaded pink, spotted and striped crimson.
Wilhelm Miller, Dec. Cac. (Peacock) purple.
Xanthia, Dec. Cac. (Peacock) crimson, petals tipped or banded purple.

GERANIUMS.

Atlantis, rose marbled white, single.
Col. Barre, (Hill) rosy pink, upper petals darker, marked scarlet at base, semi-double.
Commandant Yzarny, fiery red, carmine at base of petals, single.
De Quirielle, cochineal red, reverse silver, double.
Dr. Verneuil, orange scarlet, double.
Dr. Marmoteck, violet and carmine, marbled and tipped white, single.
General Wolseley, rosy red, single.
Gustav Droz, magenta, semi-double.
Jacquerie, crimson scarlet, single.
Lavienne, white, scarlet edge, veined rose, single.
Le Cygne, snow white, dark foliage, double.
Louis Mayet, red, double.
M. J. Girardeau, rosy mauve, upper petals blotched white, dotted carmine, double.
M. Ott, magenta, upper petals blotched crimson, double.
Madame Bruant, (Henderson) white, veined carmine lake, bordered solferino.

Marquise de la Costa, orange, shading into soft rose and white; double.
Mlle. Victorienne David, white, with salmon centre and white eye, double.
Mme. Alcide Bruneau, milk white, striped rose and lilac, double.
Mme. Coralie Bajac, violet, bordered carmine, centre white, single.
Mme. Langgnth, (Vaughan) silver leaved; flowers double red, large.
Mme. Rozain, white, double.
Mme. Torterne, orange, upper petals blotched white, single.
Negus Menelik, white, deep pink border, single.
Phyllis, pale salmon rose, single.
Profusion, (Henderson) seedling from Beaute Poitevine.
Satin, pearly pink, double.
Tippecanoe, (Hill) salmon scarlet, single.
Trilby, cerise and scarlet, overlaid darker red; single.
Vincennes, (Hill) pink, shading to salmon, single.

SWEET PEAS.

Bertie Hamilton, (Walker) hooded, white, waved dark oxblood.
Black Knight, (Eckford) improved Stanley.
California, (Vaughan) Daybreak pink, self color.
Celestial, (Lorenz) light dove.
Chancellor, (Eckford) salmon, suffused orange.
Colonist, (Eckford) dull rose.
Dawn, (Walker) light gray.
Dolly Varden, (Burpee) standard purple magenta, wings white, edged purple magenta.
Duchess of Sutherland, (Eckford) light pink.
Duke of Sutherland, (Eckford) royal purple.
Earliest of All, (Burpee) like Blanch Ferry, but two weeks earlier.
Emily Lynch, (Vaughan) wings buff cream, standard rosy, tinted primrose; very early.
Golden Gleam (Sunset S. & P.) similar to Mrs. Eckford.
Lady Mary Currie, (Eckford) orange.
Light Gaiety, (Walker).
Lottie Hutchins, (Burpee) cream ground, flaked pink.
Minnehaha, (Henderson) white, waved pale pink.
Modesty, (Burpee) delicate pink.
Mrs. S. T. Walker, (Walker) pale pink.
Nita, (Walker) violet.
Oriental, (Burpee) orange salmon.
Pink Cupid, (Burpee) pink and white, dwarf.
Prince of Wales, (Eckford) dark rose.
Sensation, (Burpee) standard cream, wings white.
Striped Tennant, (Walker).
Stella Morse, (Burpee) deep cream.
The Bride, (Vaughan) pure white, selection from Mrs. Eckford.
Wawona, (Burpee) heliotrope, striped white.

PETUNIAS.

Amethyst, (Henderson) double, white and violet.
Garnet, (Henderson) double, garnet.
Ruby, (Henderson) double, white and ruby red.
Sea Foam. (Henderson) double, white.
Sunrise, (Henderson) double, white suffused rosy pink, blotched carmine
White Mrs. Sander, (Sander) double white.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Abutilon Pygmy, (Dingee & Conard Co.) dwarf, orange.
Acalypha Sanderi (Sander) long pendulous tassels of crimson flower.
Acalypha Godseffiana (Sander) foliage white bordered.
Ageratum Princess Pauline (Dreer) white, stamens sky blue, dwarf.
Areca Ilsemanii, (Sander) red stems.
Aster Daybreak, (Vick) sea shell pink.
Balsam White Defiance, (Burpee) double white, petals reflexed.
Begonia Frilled Tuberous-rooted, (Germany) single petals, wavy and frilled on edges.
Begonia Duke Zeppelin, (Dreer) scarlet, tuberous rooted, dwarf, double.
Browallia Giant, (Henderson) indigo blue.
Calla Fragrance, (Burbank) a fragrant flowered seedling from Little Gem.
Calla Pentlandii, True, (Manda) yellow.
Calla Elliottiana, (Manda) yellow, foliage mottled white.
Cosmos Klondyke (Smith) yellow.
Cuphea Llavæ New Giant, (Henderson).
Dracaena Godseffiana (Sander) dark green densely marked with irregular spots of creamy white.
Geonoma Pynaertiana, (Sander) spreading gigantic foliage.
Helenium Prandicephalum striatum, (Dreer) striped and blotched crimson, hardy perennial.
Kentia Warteliana (Sander) long slender growing species.
Kentia Sanderiana. (Sander) dwarf, bushy.
Kentia Kirsteniana, (Sander) dense growing.
Leea Roehrsiana (Sander) greenhouse climber, long foliage.
Linospadix Petrickiana (Sander) dwarf, low spreading foliage.
Linospadix Micholitzii, (Sander) in way of Geonoma acaule.
Pansy Pres. McKinley, (Burpee) yellow, petals blotched dark violet.
Phlox paniculata Tom Thumb (Manda) hardy, white, very dwarf.
Phlox Comtesse de Sarnac, (Dreer) foliage irregularly bordered with creamy white; rosy white flowers.
Scilla campanulata Rose Queen, (Krelage).
Tall Nasturtium Sunlight, (Burpee) golden yellow.
Tall Nasturtium Moonlight (Burpee) pale straw.

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Sutton, E. B., Jr., Babylon.
Taylor, J. H., Bayside.
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Weir, Fred, Bay Ridge, L. I.
Weir, John R., 324 Fulton st., Brooklyn.
Wincott, Wm., Effingham Park, Babylon.
Withers, J. W., 136 Liberty st., New York.
Wollmers, A., 215 and 217 25th st, Brooklyn.
Wood, L. E., Fishkill.
Zeller, Alfred, Lefferts ave., Brooklyn.
Zeller, Charles, Lefferts ave., Brooklyn.

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Hart, H. A., 1262-1272 Detroit st., Cleveland.
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Joseph, Miss Rosa, Pataskala.
McCullough, Albert, 134 Walnut st., Cincinnati.

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Miller, Geo. L., 12 E. Park Pl., Newark.
Pentecost, S. N., 707 Republic st., Cleveland.
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Ritter, Herman H., 435 W. North ave., Dayton.
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Craig, Robert, 49th and Market sts., Philadelphia.
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Herr, Albert M., P. O. Box 338, Lancaster.
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Kift, Robert, 1725 Chestnut st., Philadelphia.
Kleinhans, Howard P., Easton.
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Lonsdale, Edwin, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia.
Ludwig, Gustave, 208 Allegheny Market, Allegheny.
Ludwig, J. W., Allegheny.
Maule, Wm. H., 1711 Filbert st., Philadelphia.
Mayer, Jacob M., Lancaster.
McLean, Geo., 4217 Haverford ave., Philadelphia.
Michell, H. F., 1018 Market st., Philadelphia.
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O'Brien, M. I., Sharon.
Paget, John, Lochiel Park, Harrisburg.
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Schwartz, J., Brighton Road, Allegheny City.
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Scott, A. B., 19th and Catharine sts., Philadelphia.
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Smith, A. W., Boggs ave., Pittsburg.
Strong, O. H., Oil City.
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Walker, John, 49th and Market sts., Philadelphia.
Westcott, John, Ridge and Lehigh aves., Philadelphia.
Westcott, William H., Ridge and Lehigh aves., Philadelphia.
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Brainard, D. Wm., Pease st., Thompsonville, Conn.
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Brunton, F., 153 N. 10th st. Philadelphia, Pa.
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Burr, M. L., Sawens, N. Y.
Burton, John, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pa.
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Bussard, Henri, 248 New Union st., Yonkers, N. Y.
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Champion, J. N., New Haven, Conn.
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Chase, Benj., Jr., Derry, N. H.
Chase, Chas. S., Elm st., Dighton. Mass.
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Clark, William, 318 E. Platte ave., Colorado Springs, Col.
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Cook, John, 318 North Charles st., Baltimore, Md.
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Coventry, M. J., Fort Scott, Kan.
Craig, Robert, 49th and Market sts., Philadelphia, Pa.
Crawford, H. F., 975 N. Main st., Brockton, Mass.
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Dailledouze, Henry, Flatbush, N.Y.
Dailledouze, Paul, Flatbush, N. Y.
Dalley, Miss M., St. Louis, Mo.
Davis, W. S., Box 2, Purcellville, Va.
Davy, R. C., Omaha, Neb.
Deake, J. W. C., Asheville, N. C.
Deake, Mrs. J. B., 324 Charlotte st., Asheville, N. C.
* Dean, James, Babylon, N. Y.
Deamud, J. B., 51 Wabash ave., Chicago, Ill.
De La Mare, A. T., Rhinelander Building, New York, N. Y.
Devoy, Peter T., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Dickson, Hugh, 55 Royal ave., Belfast, Ireland.
Dillon, J. L., Bloomsburg, Pa.
Dingwall, John, Troy Road, Albany, N. Y.
Dirwanger, Albert, Portland, Me.
Dirwanger, Joseph A., 719 Congress st., Portland, Me.
Donaghue, A., 5425 No. 24th st., Omaha, Neb.
Donaghue, A. Jr., 109 So. 16th st., Omaha, Neb.
Donoghue, P. J., Lenox, Mass.
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Dreer, William F., 714 Chestnut st., Philadelphia, Pa.
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Dyer, H. W., South Portland, Me.
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Eadie, Jas., 97 Euclid ave., Cleveland, O.
Edgar, William W., Waverly, Mass.
Edwards, Theo. E., Bridgeton, N. J.
Eger, William C., 825 Union st., Schenectady, N. Y.
Eicholz, Henry, Waynesboro, Pa.
Eisele, John G., 20th and Ontario sts., Philadelphia, Pa.
Eisele, J. D., Riverton, N. J.
Eisele, C., 11th and Jefferson sts., Philadelphia, Pa.
Elliott, W. J., 54 Dey St., New York, N. Y.
Elliott, W. H., Brighton, Mass.
Ellis, Marcus, Keene, N. H.
Ellis, W. H., 137 Oneida st., Milwaukee, Wis.
Erhardt, Charles, 358 Erie ave., Cleveland, O.

Ernest, Wm. H., 28th and M. sts., N. E., Washington, D. C.
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Evans, J. A., Richmond, Ind.
Ewell, Warren, 38 Wayland st., Roxbury, Mass.

Falconer, Wm., Supt. of Parks, Pittsburg, Pa.
Faucourt, George E., Wilkesbarre, Pa.
Farquhar, Robt., 16 So. Market st., Boston, Mass.
Fewkes, A. H., Newton Highlands, Mass.
Fillmore, F. J., Nebraska ave., South St. Louis, Mo.
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Fotheringham, John R., Tarrytown, N. Y.
Freytag, J., Forest Home ave., Milwaukee, Wis.
Fuller, J., Leominster, Mass.
Fulmer, J. T. D., 910 Des Moines st., Des Moines, Ia.

Gaedeke, Aug., Nashua, N. H.
Galvin, John, 124 Tremont st., Boston, Mass.
Gammage, W., 213 Dundas st., London, Ontario, Canada.
Gasser, J. M., 101 Euclid ave., Cleveland, O.
Gauges, Philip, Botanic Garden, Washington, D. C.
George, E. B., Painesville, O.
George, Robert, Painesville, O.
Gibbons, H. W , 136 Liberty st., New York, N. Y.
Gibson, Thos. J., Bellevue ave., Newport, R. I.
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Goodell, L. W., Dwight, Mass.
Gordon, Geo., Beverly, Mass.
* Graham, Adam, 2849 Euclid ave., Cleveland, O.
Grant, G. L., 334 Dearborn st , Chicago, Ill.
Greene, R. W., Warwick, R. I.
Greene, W., Box 58, Davenport, Ia.
Grey, Thos. J., 32 So. Market st., Boston, Mass.
* Gude, Adolphus, 1224 F st., Washington, D. C.
* Gude, Wm. F., 1224 F. st., Washington, D. C.
Guien, A., 1483 Broad st., Augusta, Ga.
Guinevan, D. H., Beverly, Mass.
Gunson, Thos., Agricultural College P. O., Mich.

Habermehl, John P., 22d and Diamond sts., Philadelphia, Pa.
Hadkinson, J. H., Omaha, Neb.
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Hageman, Wm., 18th and Dauphin sts., Philadelphia, Pa.
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Halliday, Robt., 11 E. Baltimore st., Baltimore, Md.
Hamburger, Simon, 811 Fairmount ave, Pa.
Hammond, Benjamin, Fishkill, N. Y.
Hansen, Christian, Dale st., St. Paul, Minn.
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Harris, F. L., Wellesley, Mass.
* Harris, W. K., 55th st. and Springfield av., Philadelphia, Pa.
* Harris, W. K. Jr., 55th st. and Springfield ave., Philadelphia, Pa.
Hart, H. A., 1262-1272 Detroit st., Cleveland, O.
Hartshorne, Jas., Joliet, Ill.
Hatch, Ed., 22 Devonshire st., Boston, Mass.
Hatcher, John C., Amsterdam, N. Y.
Hausworth, P. J., 318 Wabash ave., Chicago, Ill.

Haynes, J. C., Boston, Mass.
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Henderson, Lewis, 16th and Farnum sts., Omaha, Neb.
Henderson, Alfred, 35–37 Cortlandt st., New York, N. Y.
Henderson, Charles, 35–37 Cortlandt st., New York, N. Y.
Henkel, Fred, West View, Pa.
Henshaw, Sam'l, Botanical Gardens, Bronx Park, New York, N. Y.
Herr, Albert M., P. O. Box 338, Lancaster, Pa.
Herrington, A., Madison, N. J.
Herrmann, A., 404–412 E. 34th st., New York, N. Y.
Hess, J. J., 140 Farnum st., Omaha, Neb.
Hesser, W. J., Plattsmouth, Neb.
Hewson, C. J., 1673 Abbott Road, Buffalo, N. Y.
Hews, A. H., North Cambridge, Mass.
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Ireland, R. D., 246 Boylston st., Boston, Mass.

Jansen, Ed., 124 West 19th st., New York, N. Y.
Johnson, Frank, Menlo Park, Box 49, Cal.
Johnson, George, 18 Earl st., Providence, R. I.
Johnson, Mrs. Fred H., 45 Whitney ave., Olean, N. Y.
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Juengel, Chas. A., 1841 South 14th st., St. Louis, Mo.
Junkins, Geo. S., Lawrence, Mass.
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Kadletz, J., Dongan Hills, N. Y.
Kahlert, C. W., 1514 Chestnut st., Philadelphia, Pa.
Kanst, Fred, South Park, Chicago, Ill.
Kasting, W. F., 495 Washington st., Buffalo, N. Y
Katoll, Fred, 121 Linwood Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.
Keller, J. M., 65th and 5th Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Kellogg, Geo. M., Pleasant Hill, Mo.
Kemble, W. E., Oskaloosa, Ia.
Kift, Robert, 1725 Chestnut st., Philadelphia, Pa.
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Kleinhans, Howard P., Easton, Pa.
Klokner, A., 930 Grand ave., Milwaukee, Wis.
Knapp, W. H., Newtonville, Mass.
Knickman, C. B., New York, N. Y.
Knight, C. W., Glen Cove, N. Y.
Koenig, Julius, 6471 Florisant av., St. Louis, Mo.
Koffman, E., Walden, Orange Co., N. Y.
Kraft, Julius, 317 No. Court st., Rockford, Ill.
Kramer, F. H., Washington, D. C.
Kramer, Judson A., Cedar Rapids, Ia.
Krause, H. M., Glen Island, N. Y.
Kretschmar, H. G., Box 99, West Nyack, N. Y.
Krick, W. C., 1287 Broadway, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Kromback, Charles, 181 25th st., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Krueger, Augustus, Meadville, Pa.
Kuehn, C. A., 1122 Pine st., St. Louis, Mo.

Lager, John E., Summit, N. J.
Langjahr, A. H., 19 Boerum pl., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Laisle, Christ, Keokuk, Ia.
Lange, Albert H., Worcester, Mass.
Lange, Carl C., Worcester, Mass.
Lange, H. F. A., Worcester, Mass.
Langhans, T. P., 190 North av., Allegheny, Pa.
Larson, P. L., Fort Dodge, Ia.
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Leow, Wm., 84 East st., Allegheny, Pa.
Leuly, E., West Hoboken, N. J.
Leveque, Thos. A., 672 E. Globe st., Fall River, Mass.
Loban, John, Harrisburg, Pa.
Loder, Cornelius S., 271 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
Logan, Jas. M., White Plains, N. Y.
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Lonsdale, Edwin, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pa.
Loveless, Alfred J., Lenox, Mass.
Lovett, J. T., Little Silver, N. J.
Ludwig, Gustave, 208 Allegheny Market, Allegheny, Pa.
Ludwig, J. W., Allegheny, Pa.
Lynch, M. J., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Macrorie, D., So. Orange, N. J.
Mackay, Andrew, Cedarhurst, L. I., N. Y.
MacLellan, Alex., Ruggles ave., Newport, R I.
Macrae, Farquhar, 1138 Smith st., Providence, R. I.
Manda, Joseph A., Jr., South Orange, N. J.
Manda, W. A., South Orange, N. J.
Manker, Frank, Winsor Terrace, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Mann, Mary S., Florence, Mass.
Manning, J. Woodward, 1150 Tremont Building, Boston, Mass.
Manning, W. H., 125 Tremont st., Boston, Mass.
Marshall, J F., Des Moines, Ia.
Marshall, Chas. L., Lowell, Mass.
Martin, Alvertus, 147 Waterman st., Olneyville, R I.
Martin, Wm. J., Milton, Mass.
Mass, Geo. H., Woodstock, Vt.
* Mathison, Fred R., Waltham, Mass.
Maule, Wm. H., 1711 Filbert st., Philadelphia, Pa.
May, L. L., St. Paul, Minn.
May, J. N., Summit, N. J.
Mayer, Jacob M., Lancaster, Pa.
McCarthy, N. F., 84 Hawley st., Boston, Mass.
McCullough, Albert, 134 Walnut st., Cincinnati, O.
McCullough, J. Chas., 2d and Walnut sts., Cincinnati, O.
McGillivray, D., Brattleboro, Vt.
McLean, Geo., 4217 Haverford ave., Philadelphia, Pa.
McMahon, Frank, Seabright, N. J.
McMulkin, Edw. J., 124 Tremont st., Boston, Mass.
Mellis, D. Y., Flatbush, N. Y.
Merrion, J. V., Chicago, Ill.
Meyer, Herman, Carthage, Tenn.
Meyer, J. C., 87 Sumner st., Boston, Mass.
Meyers, Hiram, Willington, Kan.
Michel, E. H., Magnolia and Tower Grove ave., St. Louis, Mo.
Michell, H. F., 1018 Market st., Philadelphia, Pa.
Millar, A., 595 Pawtucket ave., Pawtucket, R. I.
Miller, James L., 882 Western ave., Lynn, Mass.
Miller, Wm., 882 Western ave., Lynn, Mass.
Miller, A. L., Sta. E., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Miller, Geo. L., 12 E. Park Pl., Newark, O.
Millman, F. X., Green st. station, Cumberland, Md.
Molloy, William F., Wellesley, Mass.
Montgomery, Alexander, Natick, Mass.
Monson, John, 3501 Portland ave., Minneapolis, Minn.
* Montgomery, Alexander W., Jr., Natick, Mass.
Moon, S. C., Morrisville, Pa.
Moon, W. H., Morrisville, Pa.
Moore, W. H., Manhattan, Kan.
Moseley, F. C., Neponset, Mass.
Mott, Walter, Riverton, N. J.
Mueller, Chas. F., Wichita, Kan.
Murdock, H. L., West Gardner, Mass.

Murdock, A. M., 510 Smithfield st., Pittsburg, Pa.
Murray, Miss Jennie, Kansas City, Mo.

Nagel, E., Minneapolis, Minn.
Nash, S. C., Clifton, Passaic Co., N. J.
Nelson, A., care F. R. Pearson Co., Tarrytown, N. Y.
Neubrand, E. W., Tarrytown, N. Y.
Newbery, E. C., Mitchell, S. D.
Newman, J. R., Winchester, Mass.
Nichol, Jas., 29 Coddington st., Quincy, Mass.
Nicholson, William, Framingham, Mass.
Nilsson, Wm., Woodlawn, New York, N. Y.
Noe, L. M., Madison, N. J.
Norton, M. H., Hotel Berkeley, Boston, Mass.
Nussbaumer, Fred, St. Paul, Minn.

O'Brien, Chas. J., 63 Union st., Jamaica Plain, Mass.
O'Brien, M. I., Sharon, Pa.
O'Hora, Wm., Huntington Harbor, N. Y.
Ormsby, E. A., Melrose, Mass.
O'Mara, P., Grand st., Jersey City, N. J.
Ouwerkerk, P., 206 Cambridge ave., Jersey City, N. J.

Paget, John, Lochiel Park, Harrisburg, Pa.
Palmer, Ernest B., No. Easton, Mass.
Palmer, W. J., 304 Main st., Buffalo, N. Y.
Palmer, W. J., Jr., 304 Main st., Buffalo, N. Y.
Parker, T., 32 So. 6th street, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Pasell, F. H., New Bedford, Mass.
Patch, Thos., Short Hills, N. J.
Paterson, Robt., care Hon. Frank Jones, Portsmouth, N. H.
Patten, Geo. W., Lowell, Mass.
Patten, M. A., Tewksbury, Mass.
Paul, J. R., Nashua, N. H.
Penman, J. Arnot, 7 Warren st., New York, N. Y.
Pentecost, S. N., 707 Republic st., Cleveland, O.
Peterson, Henry, Florence, Neb.
Perry, W. B., Cresco, Ia.
Pettigrew, J. A., Franklin Park, Boston, Mass.
Phelps, H. L., Springfield, Ill.
Pierce, William, 232 Union st., New Bedford, Mass.
Pierson, F. R., Tarrytown, N. Y.,
Pierson, Paul M., Scarborough, N. Y.
Pike, Mrs. Chas. W., 408 Main st., Racine, Wis.
Playdon, J. H., 35 Lowell st., Andover, Mass.
Plumb, William, Throgg's Neck, N. Y.
Pollworth, C. C., Box 75, Milwaukee, Wis.
Powell, I. L., Millbrook, N. Y.

Rackham, Geo. A., 880 Vandyke ave., Detroit, Mich.
Randolph, P. S., Pittsburg, Pa.
Rane, F. W., Agricultural College, Durham, N. H.
Rath, H. C., Flushing, N. Y.
Rawson, G. P., Elmira, N. Y.
Rea, Charles H., Norwood, Mass.
Rea, Frederick J., Norwood, Mass.
Reck, John, Bridgeport, Conn.
Riebe, F. C., Webster, Mass.
Reichard, D. M., St. Joseph, Mo.
Reid, Robt., 126 Cambridge Pl., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Reineman, E. C., 305 Lowry st., Allegheny, Pa.
Rennie, A. M , 6 Exchange place, Providence, R. I.
Rennison, J. C., Sioux City, Ia.
Reynolds, Herbert J., 136 W. Pulteney st., Corning, N. Y.
Reuter, S. J., Westerly, R. I.
Rice, M., 25 N. 4th st., Philadelphia, Pa.
Ringier, Arnold, 10 No. Clark st., Chicago, Ill.
Ritter, F. W., Sr., 435 W. North ave., Dayton, O.
Ritter, Herman H., 435 W. North ave., Dayton, O.
Robinson, Alex. Galt, Louisville, Ky.
Rock, W. L., Kansas City, Mo.
Roehrs, Julius, Carleton Hill, N. J.
Roehrs, Theo., 494 E. 176th st., New York, N. Y.
Rockwell, W. C., Bradford, Pa.
Rohrer, A. D., Lancaster, Pa.
Rohrer, H. D., Lancaster, Pa.
Rolker, Winfried, 52 Dey st., New York, N. Y.

Rolker, Jos. E., 52 Dey st., New York, N. Y.
Rose, Edwin F., Bay st., Taunton, Mass.
Rosengren, J. A., Monongahela City, Pa.
Rowden, Geo. H., Wallingford, Conn.
Rudd, W. N., Mt. Greenwood, Ill.
Rupp, N. J., 297-307 Hawthorne ave., Chicago, Ill.
Rust, David, Hort. Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.
Rutty, J., 517 Banango st., Philadelphia, Pa.

Saltzer, John A., La Crosse, Wis.
Sanders, C. C., 5600 Delmar ave., St. Louis, Mo.
Sanders, Edgar, 1639 Belmont ave., Chicago, Ill.
Sandiford, Robt., Mansfield, O.
* Schellhorn, C., Washington, D. C.
Schmitt, A., Glenville, O.
Schmutz, Louis, Clarkson street, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Schray, Emil, 4101 Penn ave., St. Louis, Mo.
Schray, Wm., 4101 Penn. ave., St. Louis, Mo.
Schroyer, Geo. W., Lancaster, Pa.
Schultz, Jacob, 606 Fourth ave., Louisville, Ky.
Schumaker, J. J., Sioux Falls, S. D.
Schwartz, J., Brighton Road, Allegheny City, Pa.
Scott, John, Keap st., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Scott, A. B., 19th and Catharine sts., Philadelphia, Pa.
Scott, W., 479 Main St., Buffalo, N.Y.
Seidewitz, E. A., 36 W. Lexington st., Baltimore, Md.
Sexton, S. B., Hyde Park, N. Y.
Shanley, James, 216 25th street, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Shaw, Chas. F., No. Abington, Mass.
Shaw, J. Austin, 409 5th ave., New York, N. Y.
Shellem, John A., 17th and Tasker sts., Philadelphia, Pa.
Shelmire, W. R., Avondale, Pa.
Shepard, W. O. H ., Pensacola, Fla.
Sheridan, W. F., 39 W. 28th st., New York, N. Y.
Sibson, J. F., Germantown, Pa.
Siebert, Chas. T., Stanton av., Station B., Pittsburg, Pa.
* Siebrecht, W. H., Astoria, N. Y.
Siebrecht, H. A., New Rochelle, N. Y.
Slinn, Jas , Fall River, Mass.
Small, J. Henry, 14th and G. sts., Washington, D. C.
Smith, W. R., Botanic Garden, Washington, D. C.
Smith, Elmer D., Adrian, Mich.
Smith, John, Woodhaven, N. Y.
Smith, A. W., Boggs ave., Pittsburg, Pa.
Smyth, W. J., 270 31st st., Chicago, Ill.
Smith, Jos. F., 62 Main St., Norwich, Conn.
Snyder, Anthony J., 215 25th st., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Spalding, John, New London, Conn.
Sprague, E. B., Bowdoinham, Me.
Stafford, Wm., Fall River, Mass.
Stearns, Geo. H., Greenfield, Mass.
Steffens, Emil, 335 East 21st st., New York, N. Y.
Steinhoff, Herman C., West Hoboken, N. J.
Stewart, S. B., 119 No. 16th st., Omaha, Neb.
Stewart, William J., 67 Bromfield st., Boston, Mass.
Stollery, Geo., Argyle Park, Chicago, Ill.
Strohlein, George A., Riverton, N. J.
Strong, O. H., Oil City, Pa.
Suder, Mrs. E., 304 Summit st., Toledo, O.
Sullivan, J. F., 220 Woodward ave., Detroit, Mich.
Sutherland, Geo. A., 67 Bromfield st., Boston, Mass.
Sutton, E. B., Jr., Babylon, N. Y.
Swanson, A. S., 117 Endicott arcade, St. Paul, Minn.
Swoboda, Geo. H., 5807 No. 24th st., Omaha, Neb.
Symonds, W. T., Decorah, Ia.

Tailby, W. W., Wellesley, Mass.
Tait, C. S., Brunswick, Ga.
Taplin, Stephen, 930 Fort st., Detroit, Mich.
Taplin, W. H., Holmesburg, Pa.
Taylor, Edw. J., Southport, Conn.
Taylor, J. H., Bayside, N. Y.
Taylor, F. W., Paxton Bldg., Omaha, Neb.
Temple, J. T., Davenport, Ia.

Tesson, R. F., West Forest Park, St. Louis, Mo.
Thaden, Herman, Atlanta, Ga.
Thompson, Geo. N., Lenox, Mass.
* Thorne, Samuel, 43 Cedar st., New York, N. Y.
Thrall, A L., Jamestown, N. Y.
Trelease, Prof. Wm., Missouri Botanic Garden, St. Louis, Mo.
Tucker, Harry A., Ware, Mass.
Turner, Wm., Tarrytown, N. Y.
Turnley, C. William, Haddonfield, N. J.
Turner, Lewis, Kenosha, Wis.

Van Bochove, J. R., Kalamazoo, Mich.
Vaughan, A. L., 47 Wabash ave., Chicago, Ill.
Vaughan, J. C., 84–86 Randolph st., Chicago, Ill.
Vesey, W. J., Fort Wayne, Ind.
Vincent, R., Jr., White Marsh, P. O., Baltimore Co., Md.

Waldbart, Alexander, 3538 Chestnut st., St. Louis, Mo.
Walker, John, 49th and Market sts., Philadelphia, Pa.
Wallace, Alexander, Rhinelander Building, New York, N. Y.
Walsh, M. H., Woods Holl, Mass.
Warburton, C., 81 New Boston Road, Fall River, Mass.
Ward, C. W., Queens, N. Y.
Ward, W. S., Salem, Mass.
Weathered, C. B., 46 Marion st., New York, N. Y.
Weber, F. C., 4326 Olive st., St. Louis, Mo.
Weeber, C. G., 114 Chambers st., New York, N. Y.
Wiegand, A., 7th and Illinois Sts., Indianapolis, Ind.
Weinhoeber, E., 417 Elm St , Chicago, Ill.
Weir, Fred, Bay Ridge, L. I., N. Y.
Weir, John R , 324 Fulton st., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Welch, D., 15 Province st., Boston, Mass.
Welch, E. J., 15 Province st., Boston, Mass.
Welch, P., 15 Province st,, Boston, Mass.
Westcott, John, Ridge and Lehigh aves., Philadelphia, Pa.
Westcott, William H., Ridge and Lehigh aves., Philadelphia, Pa.
Whelan, F. A., Mt. Vernon, Va.
White, John, Pittsfield, Mass.
Whitney, Charles A , Upton, Mass.
Whiting, A., Farmington ave., Hartford, Conn.
Whitcomb, A., Lawrence, Kan.
Whitnall, C. B., 1184 Humboldt ave., Milwaukee, Wis.
Wilcox, J. F., Council Bluffs, Ia.
Wildey, J. L., 2752 Howard st., Philadelphia, Pa.
Wilson, John, 124 Church st., Burlington, Vt.
Wilson, Davis, Chester, Pa.
Wincott, Wm., Effingham Park, Babylon, N. Y.
Windler, G. B., 4059 Delore ave., St. Louis, Mo.
Windmiller, Fred, Mankato, Minn.
Wingate, Chas. E., 8 Fulton st., Lawrence, Mass.
Winkler, Edw., Wakefield, Mass.
Winters, Thomas J., 1016 Commerce st., Harrisburg, Pa.
Wintzer, A., West Grove, Pa.
Wise, L. H., 3234 Elizabeth st. Denver, Col.
Withers, J. W., 136 Liberty st., New York, N. Y.
Witterstaetter, Richard, Sedamsville, O.
Wollmers, A., 215 and 217 25th st , Brooklyn, N. Y.
Wonson, John F., 88 Mt. Pleasant ave., E. Gloucester, Mass.
* Wood, E. M., Natick, Mass.
Wood, Harvey C., West Newton, Mass.
Wood, E. A., West Newton, Mass.
Wood, L. E., Fishkill, N. Y.
Woodford, J. H., Horticultural Hall, Boston, Mass.
Wors, C. W., 313 No. Leffingwell ave., St. Louis, Mo.
Wunder, John, Winona, Minn.

Yeates, J. E., 3d st. and Champaign ave., Springfield, Ill.
Young, John W., Frank st., Germantown, Pa.

Zeller, Alfred, Lefferts ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Zeller, Charles, Lefferts ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Zirngiebel, D., Needham, Mass.
Zweifel, N., 14th st. and Groeling ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

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