

Grants, the Director of the Botanic Gardens. The long bank of roses and foliage was most appreciated, varieties noted were Le Progrès, Niphotos, Lady Balfour, Rugosa alba, Grana an Tepila, Lemaire, Paul Nibonand, Madama Desdane Guinoissau, and The Lion, an excellent single, large and conspicuous with its red colour and lighter eye.

The champion blooms were:—Open section.—H.T.: Mrs Harold Brooksbank (light yellow, shown by Mr. J. Mann, Ceres). T.: Mrs Myles Kennedy, shown by Mr. B. V. Ross; H.P.: Gloire de C. Guinoissau, shown by Mr. W. Peers. Amateur section.—H.T.: Rhea Reid, shown by Mr. J. F. Shepherd, Blackburn; T.: W. M. Cochet, shown by Mr. J. Mann, Ceres; H.P.: Hugh Dickson, shown by Mr. J. J. Morris, Malvern.

**N.Z. NATIONAL SWEET PEA SOCIETY.**

**EXHIBITION ON THE 19TH DECEMBER.**

One result of the recent unfavourable season is the postponement of the New Zealand Sweet Pea Society's exhibition at Palmerston North. The secretary, Mr. Osmond, writes that, owing to the scarcity of blooms, this event will now be held on the 19th inst.

This is rather unfortunate for this young Society. The general elections necessitated an alteration of the date, and now the weather compels a second; but all things considered, these matters could not be foreseen, and were unavoidable, and we believe the altered date will give the best results.

For one thing, the elections will be over, and those who failed to place their man will have recovered, and be ready to calmly consider the policy to be pursued, in order to place the Society on a sound and safe footing.

We deeply sympathise with the secretary who we are sure has had an immense amount of work and worry. His arrangements for the annual meeting, conference and garden party are evidently all upset, but Mr. Osmond is not easily daunted and we feel sure he will rise to the occasion, and the coming show turn out beyond his most sanguine expectations.

**FLOWER SHOW AT RAMARAMA.**

**A PLEASANT SURPRISE.**

On the Great South-road, between Drury and Bombay, in the Auckland province, is Ramarama, a thriving country district, possessing a creamery, a general store, a bootmaker, and a school. Within the school the first Horticultural Show was held. For several months past an energetic committee of progressive settlers has been working hard for the success of the event, and the fine display resulting must have more than compensated them for their perseverance. The manner in which every detail in connection with the successful running of a show had been provided for would have done credit to some of our big events in the centres. We have attended many such exhibitions, and it is a great pleasure to be able to heartily congratulate the promoters on their arrangements.

The display of vegetables was excellent, more especially in the fine quality and keen competition in the potatoes. There were some fine strawberries. The bonous shown by Miss Shaw were of high grade, and carried the first award. The children's exhibits grown in the school gardens were highly satisfactory, and reflected credit on the headmaster, Mr. McLaurin. It was an agreeable surprise to us to notice a fine display of flowers of more than average quality. Sweet peas were a special feature. Many of the stems of the Etta Dyke and Primrose Spencer were quite equal to any seen in Auckland, and we hope some of the successful exhibitors may be induced to enter the lists at the Auckland carnival.

We were extremely interested in the trial plots of potatoes growing in the school gardens. The manner in which the sections were labelled, the treatment in the way of manuring, spraying and non-manured recorded, the clear, tidy way the plots were kept, was an evidence that the new instructor of the Board of Education knows his business, and that the headmaster and his pupils are intelligently following out the instruction imparted. We came away from the exhibition delighted with what we had seen and hopeful that other

country districts will follow the good example set by Ramarama. A special word of praise is due to Mrs. Sharp and the secretary, Mr. Pilkington, who rendered yeoman service. Mr. Bennett, of Messrs. Bennett and Green, and Mr. Allan, of Messrs. A. Yates and Co., acted as judges.

**NATIONAL SWEET PEA SOCIETY.**

We have received the official report of the National Sweet Pea Society for 1911, and the following extracts will be of interest to sweet pea enthusiasts:—

**AWARDS.**

First-class certificates to Trial No. 118, Thomas Stevenson, Dobbie's, sent by Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Edinburgh. The silver medal was awarded, provisionally, to this trial. Trial No. 111, Barbara, sent by Mr. Robert Holmes, Tuckwood Farm, Norwich; raised by Mr. H. A. Perkins, Reigate.

Awards of merit to Trial No. 33, F. Seymour Davis, sent by Mr. F. Seymour Davis, Farham; Trial No. 43, Mauve Queen, sent by Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Edinburgh; Trial No. 138, Red Star, sent by Mr. A. Malcolm, Dunas, Berwick; Trial No. 211, May Campbell, sent by Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Edinburgh; and Trial No. 212, Mrs. B. Gilbert, sent by Messrs. Gilbert and Son, Dyke, Bourne.

**CLASSIFICATION OF SWEET PEAS.**

The floral committee presented the following as an up-to-date selection of varieties. The varieties in each colour class are placed in order of merit. \* indicates a grandiflora variety; all the others are waved.

Bicolor.—Mrs. Cuthbertson, Arthur Unwin, Mrs. Andrew Ireland and Colleen.

Blue.—Flora Norton Spencer, Mrs. G. Charles and \*Lord Nelson.

Blush.—Mrs. Harcastle Sykes and Princess Victoria.

Carmine.—John Ingman.

Corise.—Cherry Ripe, Chrisis Unwin and \*Cocleena.

Cream, Buff and Ivory.—Clara Curtis, Paradise Ivory and Isobel Malcolm.

Cream Pink (Pale).—Mrs. Routzahn, Mrs. Hugh Dickson and Gladys Burt.

Cream Pink (Deep).—Doris Usher, Mrs. R. Hallam and Constance Oliver.

Crimson.—Sunproof Crimson, Maud Holmes and King Edward Spencer.

Fancy.—Afterglow, Charles Foster and Prince George.

Lavender.—Masterpiece, Asta Ohn and Florence Nightingale.

Lilac or Pale Mauve.—Mauve Queen, Winsome and Mrs. R. H. Carrad.

Magenta.—Menie Christie.

Marbled and Watered.—May Campbell and \*Helen Pierce.

Maroon.—Nubian, Tom Bolton and Black Knight Spencer.

Maroon Purple.—Arthur Green and Mrs. J. M. Gerhold.

Maroon Red.—Red Chief.

Mauve.—Queen of Norway, Tennant Spencer, Wenvoe Castle and Helio-Paradise.

Orange Pink.—Edrom Beauty, Helen Grosvenor, and Helen Lewis.

Orange Scarlet.—Thomas Stevenson, Dazzler and Edna Unwin.

Picotee Edged (Cream Ground).—Mrs. C. W. Bredmors and Evelyn Hemus.

Picotee Edged (White Ground).—Elsa Herbert, Marchioness of Tweeddale and Mrs. Townsend.

Pink.—Elfrida Pearson, Hercules and Countess Spencer.

Rose.—Rosabelle, Marie Corelli and Marjorie Willis.

Salmon Shades.—Stirling Stent, Barbara, Melba and Earl Spencer.

Scarlet.—Red Star, Scarlet Emperor and George Stark.

Striped and Flaked (Purple and Blue).—Loyalty and Suffragette.

Striped and Flaked (Chocolate on Grey Ground).—W. R. Beaver and Senator Spencer.

Striped and Flaked (Red and Rose).—Mrs. W. J. Unwin, America Spencer and Aurora Spencer.

White.—Etta Dyke, Nora Unwin and \*Dorothy Eckford.

**TOO MUCH-ALIKE VARIETIES.**

The following varieties have been bracketed as too much alike. "Not more than one of the bracketed varieties shall be shown on the same competitive stand at any exhibition of the National Sweet Pea Society." The names are placed in alphabetical order.

Blue.—Anglian Blue, Flora Norton

Spencer, Kathleen McGowan, Shawondance and Zephyr.

Blush.—Bobby K., Countess of Northbrook, Florence Morse Spencer, Lady Evelyn Eyre, Mrs. Harcastle Sykes, and Princess Victoria.

Blush Spencer, Lady Althorp, Mrs. T. G. Baker, Paradisus Regained, and Sankey Spencer.

Carmine.—E. J. Castle, George Herbert, John Ingman, Mrs. W. Klug, Paradise Carmine, and Spencer Carmine.

Cream, Buff and Ivory (Retradiflor).—Harold James Grievae, Mrs. Collier, Mrs. A. Malcolm and Yellow Hammer.

Cream, Buff and Ivory (Waved).—Clara Curtis, Giant Cream Waved, Mrs. Miller, Paradise Cream, Primrose Paradise, Primrose Spencer, Primrose Waved, Princess Juliana, and Waved Cream (Malcolm).

Paradise Beauty, Paradise Ivory, Queenie, Sea Foam and Lady Knox.

Cream Pink.—A. B. Bantock, Earl of Plymouth, Holdfast Belle, Juliet, Mrs. Alec Ware, Mrs. Henry Bell, Mrs. Hugh Dickson, Mrs. Routzahn, Mrs. S. S. Champion, Queen (Sutton's), Queen Mary, Romani Rauti, Scashell and W. T. Hutchins.

Cream Pink (Deep).—Anglian Pink, Doris Usher, Lancashire, Minnie Furnell, Miriam Beaver, Mrs. Gibbs Box, Mrs. R. Hallam and Speira Lee.

Constance Oliver and Nell Gwynne.

Crimson.—Dodwell F. Brown, G. G. Waud, King Alfonso, King Edward Spencer, Maud Holmes, Northumbrian Crimson, Paradise Crimson, Rosie Gilbert, Sunproof Crimson, Sunproof King Alfonso, The King and The Squire.

Lavender.—Asta Ohn, Frank Unwin, Maori Belle, Masterpiece, Mrs. Chas. Foster, Mrs. E. Noakes and R. E. Felton.

Florence Nightingale, Freda Unwin, Gladys Cole, Lavender George Herbert, Lavender Paradise and Lavender Spencer.

Lilac or Pale Mauve.—Bertha Maasey, Mrs. R. H. Carrad and Winsome.

Magenta.—Menie Christie and Mrs. Charles Mander.

Maroon.—Anna Lumley, Black Knight Spencer, Douglas Unwin, Dusky Monarch, Maroon Paradise, May Gerhold, Nubian, Othello Spencer, Prince of Asturias, Sidas Cole, and Tom Bolton.

Mauve.—Amethyst, Empress, Helio-Paradise, Ida Townsend, Mrs. Walter Wright Spencer, Queen of Norway, Tennant Spencer and The Marquis.

Orange Pink.—Anglian Orange, Helen Grosvenor, Helen Lewis, Maggie Stark and Miss J. Brown.

Orange Scarlet.—Dazzler, Earl of Chester, Edna Unwin, Gordon Ankenell, Prince of Orange, Ruby (Aldersey), St. George and Thos. Stevenson.

Picotee Edged (Cream Ground).—Evelyn Hemus and Mrs. C. W. Bredmors.

Picotee Edged (White Ground).—Dainty Spencer, Distinction, E. J. Deal, Elsie Herbert, Picotee and Winifred Deal.

Eric Harvey, Marchioness of Tweeddale, Martha Washington and Paradise Apple Blossom.

Pink.—Countess Spencer, Enchantress, Hercules, Overcomer, Paradise, Pink Pearl and Thora.

Marjorie Linzee, Minnie Toogood and Olive Bolton.

Salmon.—Barbara, Charlie Irving, Earl Ing Stent.

Spencer, Melba, Nancy Perkins and Stirling-Jessie Jeffrey, Iris and Isabel.

Scarlet.—George Stark, Premier, Queen Alexandra Spencer, Red Star, Scarlet Emperor, Scarlet Empress, Scarlet Monarch and Vermillion Brilliant.

Striped and Flaked (Chocolate).—President, Senator Spencer and W. R. Beaver.

Striped and Flaked (Red and Rose).—America Spencer, Lizette Lumley, Mrs. Wilcox, Paradise Red Flake, Uncle Sam and Yankee.

Magnificent and Mrs. W. J. Unwin.

Ethel Roosevelt, Gipsy Queen and Mrs. Tigwell.

Rose.—Albert Gilbert, Lady Farren, Marie Corelli, Marjorie Willis and Rosabelle.

White.—Etta Dyke, Freda, Money-maker, Nora Unwin, Paradise White, Purfly, Snowflake, White Spencer and White Waved.

though this must not be too rigorously applied. Generally speaking, a few of each of the following should be sown, annually, although some could be retained as cut-backs:—A. K. Williams, Almo Landsell, Beattie Brown, Florissa Pemberton, Horace Vernet, Marjorie Latta, Mildred Grant, Mrs. T. Roosevelt, Mrs. W. J. Grant, William Shean, Charles J. Grahame, Comte de Kainburg, Duchess of Bedford, Duchess of Portland, Duke of Wellington, Etienne Leves, G. Y. Teas, Fisher Holmes, Gustav Pignoneau, Helen Keller, John Cuff, Lady Mary Fitzwilliam, Marchioness of Londonderry, Mrs. D. McKee, Paph Lambert, Bride of Waltham, Princess Metchersky, Queen of Spain, Ulster, Victor Hugo, White Lady and Xavier Oubo.

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**EXHIBITION ROSES AS MAIDENS.**

There are several roses that yield better blooms on the yearling or maiden plant than they do as cut-backs, at