

"THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ONTARIO REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY"

VOL. 18

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** IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL **
** MEMBERS **
**

* O. R. L. S. ANNUAL MEETING *
*** and WORKSHOP ***

at the Headquarters Building of the
Royal Botanical Gardens, Plains Rd.
Burlington, Ontario

SUNDAY, APRIL 18th, 2 P.M.

It's spring, and to lead off another season of lily growing your board of directors has planned a most interesting programme for the afternoon. The nominating committee is hard at work to fill the vacancies on the board, and following the election of officers, brief committee reports and business, an informal workshop with demonstrations will be conducted. Three topics will be covered and if time permits you might be able to take part in all three groups. There is sure to be one or two that will be of interest to you, and the informal groupings will invite questions and active participation which will lead to a generous exchange of ideas.

Your friends are cordially invited to attend. Our meetings are always open to interested gardeners, and this approach to talking lilies should prove popular with everyone.

A gift certificate for lily bulbs has been donated by Ancaster Lily Gardens and will be awarded to someone attending the annual meeting. It could be you!

And here's a special opportunity for our many members who, because of distance or otherwise, cannot attend the meeting. A gift certificate for lily bulbs has been donated by Niagara Highland Lily Gardens, and will be awarded to a member who cannot attend the meeting. To qualify, your 1971 dues must have been paid and received by the Treasurer prior to the date of the meeting, and to show your interest in the draw the ticket signed and returned to the Secretary in time for inclusion in the draw. (The ticket to be completed is at the bottom of page three of the constitution and by-laws, printed on yellow paper and included with this issue of the Newsletter.) We urge you to take part in our meeting - wherever you live - winner will be notified by mail and will be reported in our June Newsletter.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

With Ontario still in the grip of early spring and sleeping lilies still captive to the frozen soil, comes word that the white Madonna lily, L. candidum has begun its early salute to the new year, its green thrust reaching toward the warming sun. What better evidence that the wait will not be long before the wine and green spears of all our lilies begin emerging in the flower border. Have you ever paused to watch how, day by day, the new sprouts stretch their stems and unfold another leaf with each warm rain and sunny sky? What potential there must be in that small, scaly bulb - planted in the cool October soil - that within two short months from first emerging in the early spring - can boast a stem so tall, so strong, and yet have strength still stored to produce a majestic flower head, each bloom so delicate, and in a range of colour and form so varied. Is it any wonder so many have found the lily a challenge with which to create new and better plants - a flower that in the midst of summer's heat can thrust its head so high as to look you in the face?

This issue of the Newsletter will take you back to capture some of this thrilling past. The excitement of our early hybridizers in creating new lilies before never dreamed possible. The Aurelian hybrids, one of the most popular and varied group of lilies has had a wide and facinating history, some of it, we hope, is portrayed in these pages. We thank Mr. Paul Buckman for helping us relive this past.

Mr. Norman Smith writes of the value of keeping records, Mr. Stanley Woleben relates how to build a rock garden and use of lilies in such a setting. Acknowledgement is given to the North Star Lily Society and the author of "Lily Growing for Beginners", Mrs. Louise Koehler for permission to reprint an excerpt of her article.

Lilies received another boost in the Hamilton area on March 29th when Frank Howarth appeared on channel 8 cable television to discuss lilies. In a garden series sponsored and conducted by the Mount Hamilton Horticultural Society, "Let's Talk Gardening", Mr. Howarth answered questions dealing with many aspects of lily culture. Those with colour television could also enjoy themany slides which accompanied the discussion. This was a public service programme in co-operation with one of the local cable companies.

If you've not paid your dues for the current year, why not do so now. It will enable you to partake in the Annual Meeting gift certificate draw and for some lucky person, a few new lily acquisitions come fall planting time.

The Board of Directors met at the Royal Botanical Gardens, March 24. The Royal Bank of Canada has donated a trophy for our annual lily show which will be used in our decorative section of the schedule. The annual Lily Show was discussed and a tentative two day show was considered for further approval by the new executive. Show date will be Sunday, July 18th and if a second day is approved, the Saturday, July 17th, will be added. Word has been received that Mrs. C. Biddle, Vice President of the Australian Lilium Society, plans to be with us for our show, and stay a few days in our area to visit lily growers before moving further westward.

Word from Dupont of Canada Limited is that Benlate has not yet been registered as yet, but this should be done shortly. Distributor will be Plant Products Ltd., Port Credit, Ontario.

I have often wondered why there seems to be so little reference in lily literature relative to the inclusion of certain low-growing lily varieties in a rock garden. The building of one rewards a personal expression of inner self through selection of rocks, placement and design, and a splendid opportunity to compete with Mother Nature in creating a beautiful setting to highlight a yard, patio, or even a swimming pool.

Man-made rock gardens were first started in Great Britain, and the early settlers in the New England states brought with them the knack of reproducing them. To-day we have a society in the United States known as The American Rock Garden Society.

The first and most important part - or creation of an inexpensive rock garden - is planning, shape, size, location, and purpose - especially the latter. They are often used on slopes or terraces as a prevention against erosion of the soil, but to decrease grass areas and thus reduce mowing and edging time. In addition, one's aesthetics of mind and emotion in relation to your sense of beauty when proceeding, step by step, is certain to grow as your plan of a finished foundation is visualized.

A "must" is a source of drainage!

Foundation: Remove a foot of earth from the selected area. About six inches of this should be backfilled with medium gravel and enough sandy loam to fill in the crevices between the gravel. The remaining six inches can be filled with sandy loam and the removed soil mixed half and half. This base should be wetted down until the basis foundation is settled and then allowed to dry.

The next step, the selection of the kind of rocks and their placement, is where your personal desires take over. Some materials hold moisture more than others. Tufa rock is ideal. Granite is too hard! Field stone, easily found, is a good substitute. Regardless of your choice, one important point to remember is, that if rocks are placed on top of each other, a layer of soil must be placed between them to a depth of several inches, soaked and firmed before placing the next layer. Plant selection and their position is of course strictly up to you. The height and breadth of the area regulates the whole size.

You will soon learn that rocks will hold moisture indefinitely and will thus supply moisture to your plants over long periods. The soil should be tested periodically, and proper nourishment for your plants should be added as necessary.

Location: It depends on what you plan to grow. For a wide assortment of plant material that utilizes sun, a northern exposure is better than any other, especially if low-growing lilies are to be included. It is most important that good drainage is assured, therefore the placement of rocks should be arranged on a 12 degree angle, far enough apart so that the bedding soil should be deep enough to accommodate the lilies' basal roots. To buttress the side areas, pieces of sod removed when excavating, can be used to good advantage.

Rock gardens can present a problem in summer when most alpine plants suitable for rockeries have finished flowering. Lilies are useful in filling this gap, and some of the species *liliums* are especially suitable. The upfacing star-shaped *L. concolor*, brilliant scarlet, and *L. pumilum* with wiry stems and grassy leaves with sealing-wax red blooms are two excellent choices. Other color forms of these species can add further contrast. *L. amabile*, *L. cernuum* and *L. dauricum* are other fine choices.

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LILIES IN A ROCK GARDEN (Continued)

Most of the tall growing lilies and brilliant large-flowering hybrids have no place in a rock garden, but many of the more dainty hybrids of *L. cernuum* might be worth considering.

If stepping stones are needed to afford access to the planting areas, they should be set at four inch heights.

With sound planning, your rock garden will provide you with many hours of enjoyment as you gaze upon its natural beauty and see the real you expressed in the design.

A simple, inexpensive way to provide enough moisture is to use a length of canvas soaker to the hose, arranged so that the water seeps slowly under low pressure, for an hour or two at sundown - never during the heat of day. In the morning see how fresh the lilies appear.

If they could talk, they will smile and say, "Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness".

Stanley H. Woleben
Dearborn Heights, Mich.

O. R. L. S. SLIDE COLLECTION

* Fred H. Hayes

It is with much satisfaction that I submit a brief report on the circulation of the society's 35 m.m. slide collection. As many of you know, this collection began with the contribution of some 80 slides by Oregon Bulb Farms, to which was added forty or more slides of my own. Since then, on behalf of the society, I gratefully acknowledge slides from Dr. Wallace Windus, Mr. and Mrs. Sid Holmes, Emerson Hickling, Ross Martin, Joseph Tiffin and Eugene Mossman.

While the collection is far from complete, it is slowly becoming representative of the Horticultural Classification of the genus *Lilium*, and we welcome any donations anyone may care to make.

One can only speculate on the number of earlier hybrids that may have been lost to cultivation without being visually recorded for posterity.

I have had the pleasure of addressing six or more horticultural societies, and have mailed the slides to at least another six societies in Ontario. From these lectures and mailings have come several new members to the O. R. L.S., and I hope a little more knowledge of the cultural requirements and history of the lily.

Fred H. Hayes
Burlington, Ontario

NEW MEMBERS

We warmly welcome the following new members and former members who have rejoined our Society: Fred L. Archer, Mississauga, Ont.; Miss E. J. Bird, Georgetown, Ont.; Mr. Gordon Brown, Harley, Ont.; Mrs. John Ericksen, Wauchope, Sask.; Mr. LaVern Freimann, Bellingham, Wash.; Mrs. H. W. Johnson, Verdi, Minn.; Mr. & Mrs. C. Lightheart, Ridgeway, Ont.; Mr. Fraser McClung, Port Dover, Ont.; Mr. M. D. Smith, Thornhill, Ont.; Mr. W. L. Gendron, West Hill, Ont.;

May your association with us be both pleasant and rewarding.

(Reprinted in part from the Newsletter of the North Star Lily Society -
THE NORTH STAR LILY NEWS, Vol. 4, No. 2, April 1971

The popularity of lilies in gardens is growing by leaps and bounds. Three reasons why they are becoming so popular are:

1. The great number of fine hybrids that are now available on the market
2. The ease with which they can be grown
3. The dignity and charm they add to the flower garden

Anyone who grows perennials can grow lilies. As with almost all garden perennials the first and most essential requirement for success is good drainage. Lilies don't like wet feet. To provide drainage where the ground is level the bed may be raised about six inches. Peat moss and/or other organic material worked down to a depth of eight inches will help to loosen heavy soils. The same materials can be used to improve light sandy soils. Lilies like humus in the soil. Good aeration is essential to keep bulbs healthy. Two excellent soil conditioners are leaf mold and compost if you have them.

For fertilizing, bone meal is safe to use, slow acting and available over a long period of time. Well rotted manure may be used as a top dressing after bulbs are planted but should not come directly in contact with the bulbs as it may cause them to rot. Although I don't use commercial fertilizers a 10-10-10 or similar fertilizer before and after blooming is recommended by some growers. Overfeeding should be avoided as it weakens or injures the bulbs.

Lilies can be transplanted at any stage of growth even when they are in full bloom, but because commercial growers dig bulbs only in fall most bulbs are planted at that time. The depth to plant them depends on the size of the bulbs. Small bulbs should be planted 2 to 3 inches deep, medium sized bulbs 4 to 5 inches, and large bulbs 6 to 8 inches. Do not plant them too deep. Lilies have contractile roots that will pull the bulbs down to the right depth but they cannot pull themselves up. Firm the soil around the roots and bulbs and then water them thoroughly.

In late October or November apply a mulch of any of several materials such as leaves, ground corn cobs, sawdust, or marsh hay. The mulch keeps the ground from thawing and freezing in winter if there is no snow cover. It will also prevent soil from thawing too early in spring and keep lilies from emerging before danger of frost is over.

If you cannot plant bulbs immediately when they arrive, store them in a cool shady place or heel them in until you are ready to plant. Bulbs that arrive after the ground is frozen, too late to be planted, can be stored in the refrigerator (or any place where the temperature remains between 33° and 40° F) until spring, right in the plastic bags in which they came, then plant them in spring as soon as frost is out of the ground.

Lilies like a cool soil in summer. This can be provided by leaving the winter mulch on the beds. If the mulch is too heavy for lilies to poke through in spring, push it aside and later when lilies have emerged, it can be put around the plants. For gardeners who prefer to remove the mulch, annual flowers planted among the lilies will shade the ground and keep it cool. Poor air circulation in the garden sometimes causes botrytis during humid or rainy weather. This can be controlled by spraying every ten days with a good garden fungicide, such as bordeaux mixture or captan.

Louise Koehler
Owatonna, Minnesota

Thank heavens I have always been keen on recording little things, whether photographic exposures, wood finishing procedures or garden facts. Regardless of the occasional jibe I just kept on and how well I have been repaid.

Long before I entered the business world and my first boss told me a pencil was one's best memory, I had a diary. Not the sentimental type, just factual and what a wonderful source of reference.

The year 1935 saw my earliest gardening and I can look back to that era with particular reference to my first lilliums. They were L. tigrinum splendens, L. elegans, followed by L. auratum and L. speciosum rubrum. All were recorded in my garden notes and their bloom recorded by my plate camera. It was not too long until a book of garden plans evolved and a garden diary, recording what, when and where I had made plantings. A bit later my "Lily Log" was born - devoted entirely to the bulbs I had obtained, their flowering dates over the years divided between my town and cottage gardens. For a spell my town gardens were in two different locations in Quebec province but now here in Ontario. The cottage garden is in the Haliburton Highlands so naturally flowering dates varied as well as soil conditions.

As the years rolled along I became interested in raising lilies from seed so there were more records, for such a procedure is an endless business to follow and trace results. Then I tried my hand at hybridizing and the entries multiplied.

To my mind, half the fun in raising lilies is to be able to look back at how, where and when each came about. Searching back sure makes for a good winter passtime while one's precious bulbs slumber beneath the snows.

All numerical and alphabetical references are keyed into the year. Type of seed by number and each trial group a letter so that any seedling may be traced through its vicissitudes of life.

Now, just in case any member of the O. R. L. S. has not started to make notes, do give it consideration, one cannot start too soon. Knowing where you have been, and where you are going, is a must and you will be repaid a thousand fold.

Norman P. Smith,
Millbrook, Ontario

THE 1971 ANNUAL LILY SHOW AND CONVENTION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN LILY SOCIETY

If you have not planned your vacation this year as yet, why not consider a trip to Boston to attend this year's annual International Lily Show. A follow-up to last year's event at Hamilton should give you some idea of what to expect, only this year you can enjoy the show and let the co-sponsors, The New England Regional Lily Group do the work. The usual tours available during the convention dates make one want to return soon to again enjoy the hospitality of the host lily group, and this year's show promises to be no exception. The dates - July 9th to 11th, at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society Hall, Boston, Mass. Further information can be obtained from a number of our members who are also N.A.L.S. members, or better still, contact Fred H. Hayes, Canadian Vice-President.

TOM BARRY - A PAGE IN THE HISTORY OF THE AURELIAN HYBRIDS

So much could be written of the now famous lilies which we have grouped together to call "Aurelian Hybrids" that it becomes rather difficult to define the name. Generally one would have to agree that an Aurelian Hybrid as we know it to-day is a lily - a hybrid - that has both Chinese trumpet (i.e. L. sargentiae, L. centifolium, L. regale, L. sulphureum, etc.) and L. henryi in its parentage, either as a first generation cross, or second, third, and so on. Such extensive hybridizing has been done with this group, and hybrids derived from such crosses, that it becomes difficult for a layman to determine whether a trumpet hybrid is truly an Aurelian or not. Most certainly when a bloom deviates from the classic trumpet shape and is more bowl-shaped, it can be imagined that somewhere in its ancestry, that the hybrid has had some influence to make it so, and thus far in the world of hybridizing this influence can be attributed to L. henryi. Sunburst and flaring forms are much easier evidence of the orange speciosum's role in the parentage. Most trumpet forms have narrow foliage while L. henryi boasts of wider leaves. Aurelian hybrids often reflect their history through their foliage.

In 1897 the Royal Botanic Garden at Kew, England crossed L. henryi and L. leucanthum. Three years later a creamy buff hybrid with widely spreading twisted segments first flowered, and was promptly named L. x Kewense. The hybrid was soon lost but here started the first of what appeared to be a major break-through in lily breeding. Spurred by this success, M. Edouard Debras of St. Jean de Braye, France crossed L. sargentiae and L. henryi, and in 1928 flowered a beautiful buff coloured intermediate between the two parents, and called it L. Aurelianense after his city, Orleans, which is the modern French version of Aurelium, a city destroyed by Caesar and rebuilt by the Roman Emperor Aurelian in the third century. The name Aurelian, shortened from its original, has come to mean a hybrid between a trumpet species and L. henryi, or a cross involving a hybrid from them.

Much of the early work in North America on Aurelians took place in the 1930's. Carleton Yerex of Newberg Oregon had already done extensive work on crossing the various Chinese trumpet species including L. regale, L. sargentiae, L. brownii, L. myriophyllum (sulphureum), and various named trumpet hybrids such as G. C. Creelman, Pride of Charlotte, and the Shelburne Hybrids, but it was not until 1936, a year after receiving a bulb of the true hybrid L. Aurelianense from M. Debras, that L. henryi parentage was introduced into the Yerex stock. Further generations of hybridizing produced many fine selections, among the earlier ones - Cleopatra (a bulb of which is still in our gardens), Eventide, and Mei Ling which appeared in the Romaine B. Ware catalogue as early as 1950, and which won an award of merit at the Boston show in 1947. Numerous other fine hybrids have followed and among these Aurabunda, Goldspire, Pink Frills and Carnival Queen are popular. It was also through the use of L. Aurelianense that Mr. Yerex developed his "Aurelian Golden Trumpets" and hence the name "Aurelian" became a household word of the future.

In 1938 Jan DeGraaff too commenced working with L. leucanthum var. centifolium, grown from seed contributed by Dr. David Griffiths of the bulb research station of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture at Bellingham Washington. Together with a stock of L. sulphureum, L. sargentiae, and a few bulbs of Debras' L. x Aurelianense, and Tom Barry's T. A. Havemeyer, and L. henryi, Mr. DeGraaff's work in Aurelians began. Ware's catalogue of 1948 lists the Sunburst Strain, while the 1950 version of the same catalogue introduced Heart's Desire Aurelian Strain. Many of the DeGraaff Aurelians have won major awards throughout the world, Golden Clarion being an Award of Merit winner in London in 1949. Recent introductions include Damson, Thunderbolt,

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TOM BARRY - A PAGE IN THE HISTORY OF THE AURELIAN HYBRIDS (continued)

Stardust, Green Dragon, Golden Sunburst, Bright Star, and First Love Strain.

In 1937 LaVern Freimann of Bellingham Washington obtained two seedling bulbs of T. A. Havemeyer from Tom Barry, the originator. These were crossed with pink trumpet seedlings Mr. Freimann had been working on, using L. Regale, L. sargentiae and L. centifolium. From this group of seedlings came open faced yellow flowers, and others in shades of apricot similar in shape to T. A. Havemeyer. One a semi-trumpet, cream coloured with a brilliant apricot band down the centre of each petal was named Apricot Queen. Further work by Mr. Freimann developed golden yellow and apricot trumpets.

In Canada, Dr. E. F. Palmer of Vineland Station, and director of the Horticultural Research Station at Vineland, had been developing creamy-white and near yellow trumpets using L. sulphureum, L. regale and L. sargentiae, and in 1945 introduced the pollen of L. x aurelianense hybrids and other Aurelian hybrids to his Sulphur Hybrids to further intensify the yellow in the trumpet group. From this further breeding have come Regina, Sundance, Moonbeam, Oneida, and the Vineland Golden Aurelian Strain.

Other breeders could be cited for the work they too have done to develop the Aurelian hybrids. Dr. David Griffiths is one of these persons, who, while working toward similar goals, ably assisted so many others by providing plant material to work with.

The history of the Aurelians is indeed enriched by the dedicated efforts of so many lily enthusiasts, and one whose work has contributed so much to this "clan" of lilies is Tom Barry.

Tom Barry of Lambertville, New Jersey, and a direct descendant of the long ago firm of Ellwanger and Barry of Rochester, N. Y., was a farmer, but operated a small nursery business, and enjoyed making crosses between difficult-to-grow plants. The tale, often told, of how on a hot August day in 1935 he was helping to thresh grain at his farm, and stopped in his garden on the way to dinner to see if an interesting cross between two lilies had come into bloom. What he saw took him to the house to insist that all there came out into the garden to see what he had accomplished, for there indeed he had created an entirely new lily, a different lily, with huge and rather flattened bloom, and slightly recurved petals. In colour it was a soft buff yellow, with a deep green throat. While the stem was rather weak to hold such a large head of bloom, this new lily, named T. A. Havemeyer (after Theodore Havemeyer, president of the N. Y. Horticultural Society for many years) proved to be a valuable, reliable, and vigorous lily. It was an unusual thing - a cross between a trumpet lily and a turkscap, and it is interesting to note that Mr. Barry thought his cross to be L. myriophyllum x L. tigrinum parentage. The general appearance of the hybrid led some lily investigators to postulate L. myriophyllum x L. henryi as the true parents, and by a study of the chromosomes this proved to be the case. (N.A.L.S. yearbook 1947, page 23).

The development of T. A. Havemeyer, which won the R.H.S. Award of Merit in 1937, spurred Tom Barry to make even further crosses using Havemeyer as a parent. Seedlings sent to Fred Abbey's Gardenside Nursery in Vermont were offered in his Gardenside Gossip as Barryi Strain and described as white to green to yellow, often two-toned, reflexed, but not extremely so, and flowered in late July lasting well into August. Many of these plants carried secondary buds on the pedicels. The true T. A. Havemeyer was grown extensively at Gardenside until the nursery was sold.

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In 1940 Mr. Barry sent Edgar L. Kline of Lake Grove, Oregon, six seedling bulbs of the Havemeyer lily which flowered in 1941, and were named individually: Paulina Kline, Edmund L. Kagy, William Bates, Ida Jane Califf, G. V. Shaw, and Mabel B. Ronna. The first four named were retained and introduced, the last two proved too slow to increase and were eventually discarded. In the fall of 1951 Tom Barry sent bulbs of a seedling which he felt the most outstanding of all his lilies. The lemon yellow flat-facing flowers, slightly reflexed at the tips, with sap green throat and spotless, was indeed attractive. A cross between T. A. Havemeyer and one of its seedlings, it was named "Tom Barry", but proved too slow a propagator to be commercially practical and was not introduced.

Tom Barry passed away during October of 1956, thus ending a host of lily projects with the final chapters incomplete. The use of T. A. Havemeyer in the development of fine Aurelian lilies was extensive, it proved to be the key that unlocked the door through which others followed. Mr. Paul J. Buckman of Buckingham Pa. writes of acquaintance with Tom Barry during the last few years before his death:

"It was a lazy, sultry late summer afternoon when I walked thru the dusty paths that meandered in and out among a group of weatherbeaten dilapidated farm buildings; each one overflowing with flower pots, seedling flats and sundry gardening supplies indicating they had recently been used but, with that exception, the whole atmosphere breathed of desolation. I had come in quest of *Oxydendrum arboreum*, co-incidentally referred to as Lily-of-the-Valley tree, or sour wood, and at the time not at all interested in lilies.

"Not seeing or hearing any sign of human life, I walked out into the open where I could view the hills rolling down into a small valley below where two short rows of small shrubs and trees grew in freshly cultivated soil, convincing me that I was not alone.

"Looking up the slope, built into the steep bank was a long, dreary looking clap-board house, unpretentious, but with an air of quiet serenity about it; a house that was reminiscent of a colonial farm house, surrounded with old fashioned gardens of flowers, herbs and ivy, all carefully attended. An old iron dinner bell, mounted on a pole, seemed to guard the open gate as you entered the garden inclosed in an old fashioned pale fence; even the weathered paint on the pales lent its charm to whole surroundings. The eerie feeling that embraced me when I first came in was suddenly overcome by the charm and warmth that seemed to come from everywhere.

"For a moment I had forgotten, nor cared less, what I had come here for ... suddenly my attention was drawn to a large mass of yellow bloom literally covering a clump of stalks, perhaps thirty inches in diameter, growing at the far end of the house...breathhtaking! That was seventeen years ago when my knowledge of lilies was meager - so how would I know they were the yellow L. tigrinum from Japan?

"That is where I first met Tom Barry, standing at the back of the house, a torn straw hat in his hand, seemingly as enthralled by the sight as I was. He was a big man, soft spoken, gentle, and friendly with slightly stooped shoulders, bespeaking the effects of long years of tilling the soil - for he was a farmer. His kindly face wore a pleasant smile as he spoke and his alert eyes constantly searching over the landscape as he pointed out the beauties of nature.

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"The name Tom Barry had no significance to me at the time and it wasn't until the following summer that I discovered the T. A. Havemeyer lily I had been growing for years was his own introduction. Our friendship did not develop over mutual interest in lilies - for I was still a neophyte - but a deep mutual interest in all growing plants and the joy in sharing our experiences. I later discovered that he had a great need for conversation, for both his wife and daughter not only had a lack of interest in his work but resented his "waste of time", as they put it.

"I went home late that afternoon refreshed by frothy ice cold beer and pretzels, a dozen bulbils of the yellow tigrinum, a wonderful feeling of contentment and an urging to return in the early fall to see his new crop of lily crosses.

"My one sincere regret now, as I look back with more knowledge, is that I was not able to consume or retain the vast horticultural wisdom this man had to offer. He told me of the trials and errors resulting in the origin of T. A. Havemeyer hybrid; the years spent in propagating until he built up a large number of bulbs; the ultimate loss of all but thirty to a virus and his subsequent last hope of the Cornell University experimental division accepting his bulbs for preservation. Unfortunately, they were unable to check the virus and returned his last few bulbs. At that time he had checked the disease and a few were still thriving.

"Once again he went back to crossing and the last fall I was there he had about five hundred seedling blooming, primarily L. auratum hybrids; to a layman like myself, gorgeous huge blooms but he could fault every one. I'm sure, had he lived, he would have developed some fantastic strains that would be in all collectors' gardens today.

"I left him that fall, hale and hearty, with a purchase of six of his "dogs" and a promise that the following year I could have first selection of his entire field ...but for him next year never came - he died during the late part of that year, from a heart attack.

"Needless to say, in the spring when I learned of his passing, I hurried there to try and purchase his entire crop of bulbs. It was then I realized what he was trying to convey when he told me his wife and daughter resented his passion for flowersfor the entire lily beds had been harrowed to bits.

"As I walked away with a heavy heart I looked back at the ravaged bed at the end of the house and envisioned a clump of yellow tigrinum lilies blooming, and a kindly, happy friend standing tall and straight, gazing out over the landscape and smiling ..."

(Ed. note: History of the Aurelians compiled with considerable help from the yearbooks of the North American Lily Society. Special thanks to Mr. Paul J. Buckman, Box 112, Buckingham, Pa. Anyone wishing to see the true T. A. Havemeyer should visit us during the early part of August at Binbrook.)

NOTICE OF DUES OWING: ONTARIO REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY

Memberships are now due and should be paid. Annual \$2.00, Family \$3.00
For society year - Jan. to December 1971. Treasurer; Miss Mabel Watson
2 Watson's Lane, Dundas, Ontario

 GEORGE E. HOLLAND MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The following books available to members of the O.R.L.S. can be obtained by writing the Librarian, Robert S. Barber, 50 Market St., Georgetown, Ont. Books should not be kept more than one month. Please include sufficient remittance to cover postage on mailing books to you.

Books:

FROM MY GARDEN SCRAPBOOK (Thelma Boucher)
 CANADIAN HOME GARDENING (A. B. Cutting)
 GARDENING SHORTCUTS (Kains)
 THE NEW BOOK OF LILIES (Jan DeGraaff)
 FLOWERS OF THE WORLD (Lemmon & Sherman)
 GARDEN BULBS IN COLOR (McFarland)
 GARDEN LILIES (MacNeil)
 LILIES IN THEIR HOMES (Maxwell, Alice C.)
 AMERICAN WILD FLOWERS (Moldenke)
 LILIES FOR EVERY GARDEN (Preston)
 THE COMPLETE BOOK OF LILIES (Rockwell, Grayson, DeGraaff)
 PAY DIRT (J. I. Rodale)
 LILIES OF THE WORLD (Drysdale, Woodcock and Stearn)
 LILIES FOR AMERICAN GARDENS (George L. Slate)

YEARBOOKS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN LILY SOCIETY: 1947 to 1970 inclusive

LILY YEARBOOKS OF THE ROYAL HORT. SOCIETY: 1953, 1958, 1960, 1963

AMERICAN LILY YEARBOOKS: 1940, 1942, 1946

R. H. S. Journals: numerous

Wisconsin-Illinois Lily Gazette: numerous issues

N. A. L.S. Quarterly Bulletins: numerous issues

Please clip for future reference

ONTARIO REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY
BINBROOK ONTARIO

March '71

FIRST CLASS MAIL

*Mr. + Mrs. E. P. Hickling,
8065 North Main St.
Eden, n.y. 14057
U.S.A.*

