

**BIGGEST FLOWER SHOW
IN WORLD'S HISTORY
OPENS HERE TODAY**

Convention Hall the Scene of an Unparalleled Display of Rare and Beautiful Blooms

WONDERFUL IN VARIETY

The biggest flower show the world has ever known opened in this city at 2 o'clock this afternoon, when officials of the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists threw open the doors of Convention Hall to the flower lovers of Philadelphia and those of other cities who have come here for the occasion.

Those who visited the exhibition today were amazed at the wilderness of blooms and the richness of the fragrance which will greet them as they enter Convention Hall. Thousands of roses, some of them growing over elaborate trellises and pergolas, tens of thousands of carnations and countless daffodils are basked against endless seas of other less plentiful blooms. There are rare orchids by the score, exquisite palms and foliage plants and other wonders too numerous to mention.

The present flower show is the fourth staged by the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists. The first was held in New York in 1907, and at three-year intervals they were presented in Boston and Chicago. Each exhibition has exceeded its predecessor, and the present show breaks all records in the number of exhibitors and exhibits, in costliness, beauty, arrangement and magnitude. The prizes awarded amount to \$25,000, a sum which is many thousands of dollars larger than has ever figured in an event of this nature.

The stage of Convention Hall had been extended, and from it the opening exercises of the Flower Show was conducted. There was address by E. T. Stoenesbury, Congressman J. Hampton Moore and other Congressmen, who accompanied him from Washington to attend the ceremony. E. J. Carroll, city statistician, and other prominent Philadelphians, among those who have promised to attend and who was invited to speak are: John Wanamaker, Receiver of Texas W. Freeland Kendrick; John Gribbel, president of the Union League; ex-Governor Edwin S. Stuart, Justice Emory A. Walling, City Treasurer William McConch, Nathan F. Polwell, Charles P. Caldwell, Senator Edwin H. Vane and Congressman William S. Vane.

This is "Rose Garden Day" at the National Flower Show. Three exhibitors have entered the competition for \$1200 in prizes which were awarded this afternoon, and each has converted his plot of 500 square feet of floor space into a magic cloistered rose sanctuary laden with the choicest of blossoms. In addition to these are plots of 100 square feet, each filled with growing plants, to which a first prize of \$200 and a second prize of \$100 were awarded. Other features among the rose exhibits included every variety of rose bush known. There were ramblers climbing gracefully over arbors and cut roses of every description. Generous prizes were awarded in each class.

An idea as to the magnitude of the flower show is derived from a glance at the list of exhibits. There are about 3000 of them, and some are staggering. In the carnation exhibition, for instance, there is a competition for a number of prizes for groups showing not less than 1000 blossoms and not more than 1500. Each of the exhibitors is showing the maximum number, and there are no less than 12,000 blossoms figuring in this class alone.

TEA GARDEN FEATURE. Another feature of the flower show is the tea garden, which is seen upon the left of the main entrance to Convention

Hall. It is to be conducted every afternoon and evening until the show closes on April 3, and will be under the management of a different organization twice every day. This afternoon it is in the hands of the Flower Market, of which Mrs. George G. Meade Large is chairman, while this evening the Civic Club will be in charge, with Mrs. Wendell Reber officiating. The proceeds from the tea garden will be devoted to charity.

A rare collection of boxwoods and trained yew has been placed at the right of the main entrance. Lining the front of the exhibition space are six specimens of trained boxwoods more than 100 years old. Each is cut fantastically. At the back of the space are six trained yews which are even older than the boxwoods.

For the fish fancier there are many aquariums where the rarest fish of every description are to be seen. Silver cups, medals and ribbons will go to the owners of the successful entries. The judging in this class will be done today.

Every afternoon and evening a 12-piece band, under the direction of Elias E. Hummel, will play from the platform of Convention Hall. Ten other societies are working with the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists in staging the Flower Show. They are the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, the American Rose Society, the American Carnation Society, the Florists' Club of Philadelphia; the American Sweet Pea Society, the American Gladiolus Society, the National Association of Gardeners, the American Dahlia Society, the Chrysanthemum Society of America and the Florists' Telegraph Delivery.

A series of lectures is to be delivered at Convention Hall during the flower show. This evening W. S. Ludd, of Chicago, will speak on "Home Grounds," and on Monday Richard Rothe, of Glenside, Pa., will deliver an address on "Rock Gardens." In the evening Prof. E. A. White, of Cornell University, will deliver his famous lecture on "Orchids." Among others who will deliver addresses next week are Robert Pyle, of West Grove, Pa.; Frank N. Meyer, of the Department of Agriculture at Washington; J. Otto Thilow, of this city; J. Horace McFarland, president of the American Civic Association; Arthur Cowee, of Berlin, New York; Max Seeling, of New York city; Miss Caro Miller, of the Bureau of Education, of this city; Richard Vincent, president of the American Dahlia Society; Miss Elizabeth Leighton Lee, of Ambler, Pa.; and E. L. Wilde, of State College, Pa.

The officers of the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists for 1916 are Daniel MacBride, of San Francisco, Cal., president; R. C. Kerr, of Houston, Tex., vice president; John Young, of New York city, secretary; W. F. Kasting, N. Y., treasurer. The committee in charge of the Flower Show comprises: George Asmus, of Chicago, chairman; John Young, of New York city; William F. Kasting, of Buffalo, N. Y.;

Thomas Roland, of Nahant, Mass.; Charles H. Totty, of Madison, N. J.; Adolph Farsenwald, of Roslyn, Pa.; William P. Craig, of this city, and Patrick Welch, of Boston.

GIVES BLOOD TO SAVE FRIEND

Outcome of Blood Transfusion Anxiously Awaited by Physicians

The outcome of an operation in which nearly a pint of blood was sacrificed by a friend and infused into the veins of a man in the Pennsylvania Hospital is being anxiously awaited today. The man under treatment is William Johnson, 54 years old, of the Inasmuch Mission, Locust street near 19th, and the friend who yesterday willingly made the sacrifice is Harry Fisher, of 823 Race street. Johnson was taken to the hospital several days ago, suffering from anemia. Physicians believe he will recover.

SMITH APPROVES CONTRACTS

Mayor Sanctions Plans for Byberry Improvements

Contracts awarded by Director Krusen, of the Department of Health and Charities for the erection of a heating and power plant at Byberry were today approved by Mayor Smith. The main contract, in connection with the work goes to the Charles E. Mondy Company at their estimate of \$76,223. The second largest part of the work will be done by the J. F. Buchanan Company at a cost to the city of \$27,274.

BOYS CHUMS PALLBEARERS

Lads Carry Body of 8-year-old Playmate to Hearse

Six little playmates of J. Clayton Culbertson, who died in the West Philadelphia Homeopathic Hospital of injuries received last Monday, when he was run down by an autotruck, carried his little body from his home, 1633 North Edgewood street, today into a hearse. The pallbearers, ranging in age from

six to eight years, are all pupils of the Overbrook School, 82d street and Lebanon avenue—the school where Clayton used to go to. They are Frank Briggs, of 6093 Lansdowne avenue; William Burns, of 1440 North Redfield street; Almen Temeron, of 1638 North 61st street; Vernon Malford, of 1741 North 61st street; Gardiner Russell, of 1840 North Edgewood street, and William Schuler, of 1847 North Edgewood street.

The Rev. C. Edgar Adamson, pastor of Simpson Memorial Church, conducted the services at the dead boy's home. Interment was made in Arlington Cemetery.

PLANS and PLANTS for Grounds and Gardens

HERE is a book every home-owner and garden lover should have. It is written for us by Mr. Herbert Durand, in order to give helpful information strictly from the gardener's point of view. It is beautifully illustrated and tells briefly and plainly how you can plan and plant your own grounds and gardens in perfect taste and have beautiful flowers every day for table and room decoration. From the hundreds of trees, shrubs and flowering plants listed in confusing catalogs and garden books, it picks the select and inexpensive few that you must have and will like most. It shows by simple diagrams how to group and plant them and tells how to make them thrive.

"Plans and Plants" is of special value to owners of average town or city lots, and of suburban places up to one acre in area. We will send a copy to any address, postpaid, for 25 cents (stamps or silver) and if you return the readings to us, we will accept it as good for 50 cents and only other amounting to 25 or more.

THOMAS MEEHAN & SONS
The Pioneer Nurserymen of America
4114 Chestnut Street (Germantown), Philadelphia, Pa.

See the Gorgeous Rose Gardens and the thousands of other magnificent plants in the National Flower Show

which opens at 2 o'clock today in CONVENTION HALL Broad Street and Allegheny Avenue

THIS is Philadelphia's first National Flower Show—Philadelphia's first opportunity to see thousands upon thousands of the most wonderfully odd, richly colored and highly perfumed roses, orchids, sweet peas, gladioli, carnations, etc., ever assembled—assembled artistically in a veritable fairyland of beauty. A National Flower Show is really indescribable, it is so unique and fascinating. Come see these rare plants, together with a notable exhibit of beautiful fish.

\$25,000 WORTH OF PRIZES

—more than was ever offered before at a National Flower Show, which means that this show will have the biggest and best collection of flowers ever gathered under one roof in America.

Open to April 2
Admission, 50 cents.
Music Illustrated Lectures.



DAWN OF THE ELECTRICAL ERA IN RAILROADING

The All-Steel "Olympian" and "Columbian" Trains Now Operated Electrically Over the Rocky Mountains

Progress has no age. Onward is ever the slogan of railway construction, operation and efficiency. In this forward movement electricity challenges the supremacy of steam, and on the Scroll of Time the year 1916 marks the dawn of the electrical era in railroading—and the accomplishment of a definite step to conserve the world's energies. It is particularly fitting that "The St. Paul Road," which since its inception has been identified with great pioneering achievements, should have been able to carry through to definite accomplishment the dreams and aspirations of engineers and scientists by the electrification of 440 miles of its main line through a region demanding the utmost of energy and efficiency in locomotives.

440 Miles of Main Line Electrified

The electrified district is that of the Great Continental Divide, extending from Harlowton, Mont., to Avery, Idaho, a distance of 440 miles. (115 miles, from Three Forks to Deer Lodge, now in operation.)

World's Mightiest Locomotives

The electric locomotives which pull "The Olympian" and "The Columbian" over the mountain divisions are the most powerful built. They are 112 feet long and weigh 284 tons. They require no coal or water, run at an even speed, are thoroughly dependable in all temperatures, penetrate the heaviest snow drifts with comparative ease, are smokeless and dustless.

Power from Mountain Streams

The power used to operate the electric locomotives is obtained from mountain waterfalls instead of from coal—marking a definite step to conserve the world's resources. This power in 100,000 volts alternating current, is delivered to the 14 substations of the railway and there transformed to 3,000 volts

direct—the current used by the locomotives. This is the highest voltage direct current adapted for railway work in the world.

Regenerative Braking

One of the scientific marvels is regenerative braking, by which the train on down grades, instead of consuming electricity, actually produces it while traveling onward, and by which at the same time, the speed of the train is kept under perfect control. This is the first use of direct current regenerative braking. It provides maximum safety, eliminates wheel, brakeshoe and track wear and overheating, insures a uniform speed and recovers from 25% to 52% of power.

More Efficient Operation

With electrification has come more efficient and economical operation; a better maintenance of schedules; the practical elimination of vexatious delays due to bad weather; smoother riding caused by greater evenness of speed; enhanced comfort due to greater cleanliness, and a pronounced improvement of the view from car window and observation platform, owing to freedom from smoke and cinders.

Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway

The advantages of electrification, added to the superb equipment and luxurious appointments of "The Olympian" and "The Columbian," the renowned personal service of the employees, the splendid physical condition of the road and the extent and variety of the scenery makes the "St. Paul" more than ever the road of efficiency, comfort and charm. Remember this fact when planning your next trip to the Pacific Northwest.

Booklet giving complete information free on request.

G. J. LINCOLN, General Agent, 818 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

The Dreer Exhibit

At the National Flower Show Convention Hall March 25th to April 2d

will be of especial interest to the amateur. Be sure to see

Dreer's Rose Garden

which will contain hundreds of Garden Roses in full bloom.

The Water Lily Pool

will be filled with the choicest sorts in bloom, while the beds of

Spring Blooming Bulbs

will contain a complete collection of the finest Hyacinths, Tulips and Narcissus.

Henry A. Dreer 714-16 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, Pa.

THIS IS FLOWER SHOW WEEK

See the Show, Then Take Home a Bunch of Flowers From One of These Reliable Florists



Bell, Walnut 1149 Keystone, Race 3193
FOR CHOICE FLOWERS ARTISTICALLY ARRANGED, SEE
Forrest Flower Shop
131 South Broad St.
J. MAX NITZSCHE

Frank L. Polites
FLOWER SHOP
1420 Chestnut Street Philadelphia, Pa.
Special Designs

Evergreen Bittersweet
SPECIALISTS IN Hardy Phlox, Lilies, Roses, Iris, Evergreen and Shrubbery
Ask for Our Price List
ADOLF MÜLLER
Norristown, Pa.
DE KALB NURSERIES
P. O. BOX 88

Estimates cheerfully furnished Phone—Keystone Race 1117 Bell, Walnut 882
The National Decorating Co.
C. M. KERRIGAN
Originators of unique and artistic decorations in Hunting, Flag, Plant, Floral and Electrical Signs, for Balls, Receptions or Celebrations at all locations. All materials and fittings furnished. Phone—Keystone Race 1117
Stores at all Charco—1200 Sanson St. Terms at lowest prices Philadelphia

Are You Interested in Flowers?
Read the Evening Ledger Flower Show News.