THE DALLAS CONVENTION
AS SEEN
BY THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT

While the attendance numbered over 100 from 27 states, a good many of our most active members were unable to attend. Several have already asked me to tell them about it; others would doubtless like to know. So in lieu of lengthy individual letters I decided I might satisfy them best by this personal and unofficial report.

The speakers were uniformly excellent and that included in particular the panel on Daffodils in the South in which Mrs. Ben Robertson, Mrs. Walter Thompson, Miss Eleanor Hill and Willis Wheeler participated. The subject was treated very comprehensively by these and other speakers. Everyone liked Tom Throckmorton. His luncheon talk was humorous, but he did not soft pedal the difficulties of growing daffodils in Iowa nor the need for varieties suitable to his conditions.

B. Y. Morrison’s hilarious account of his visits to English and Irish daffodil breeders 30 years ago was a rare occasion. He is a remarkable personality and completely captured his audience. Prior to his talk he was awarded and presented with the Gold Medal of the Society for his outstanding work with daffodils years ago.

Mrs. J. Lionel Richardson, wife of the Irish breeder and grower, brought movies and colored slides as guest of the convention, with many stories and much information on growing and showing methods overseas.

The seminar on judging was an unexpected attraction. The room provided proved to be too small and the gathering overflowed into the hall.

Proposed amendments to the by-laws limiting the tenure of officers and directors were adopted. New officers were elected as follows:

President: Wells Knierim (Ohio); first vice president: Willis Wheeler (Va.); second vice president: John R. Larus (Conn.); secretary: Mrs. Ernest J. Adams (W. Va.); treasurer: Mrs. William A. Bridges to serve until July 31 and then be replaced by Mrs. Grover F. Roennfeldt (Mo.).

Pennsylvania was transferred from the Middle Atlantic Region to the Northeast Region on recommendation of the Nominating Committee.

New regional vice presidents were elected as follows:

Northeast, Mrs. Timms (Pa.); Midwest, Mrs. Wilkie (Ohio); Southern, Mrs. Cox (Ark.); Central, Miss Becker (Mo.); Southwest, Mrs. Harmon (Texas); Far West, Mrs. Engdahl (Ore.).

On the recommendation of the Awards Committee new awards were sanctioned for ADS-approved shows as follows:

1. Sweepstakes ribbon for the greatest number of blue ribbons in the horticultural section.
2. An award for the best daffodil in the show.
3. An award for a collection of five varieties from any division of American origin or breeding.
4. An award for a collection of five varieties reverse bi-color.
5. An award for a collection of five varieties of miniature daffodils under 6 inches.

Roanoke and the Hotel Roanoke were selected for the 1961 convention, April 6-8.

My own report revealed that:

Our membership has reached 1,500. While expenses showed little change, income increased about $700 and enabled us to convert a loss of $500 in 1958 to a profit of about $200 in 1959.

Our present Yearbook, Bulletin and services represent about the most we can offer members on dues of $3. Dues are as low as those of any major plant society and have not changed since the Society was founded in 1954, while costs have climbed sharply.

The new Executive Committee will consist of Mrs. Bridges, Mrs. Adams (ex officio), Mrs. Ben Robertson, and Messrs. Knierim, Wheeler, Larus and Lee. Mrs. Roennfeldt will replace Mrs. Bridges August 1.