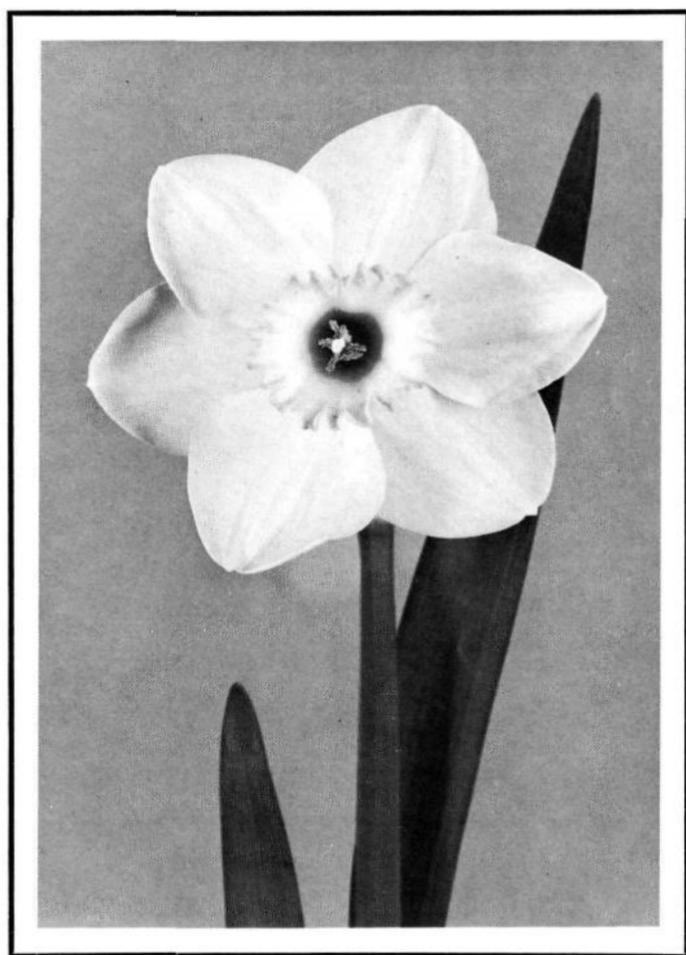


The

DAFFODIL

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Quarterly Publication of the
AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, Inc.

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The DAFFODIL JOURNAL

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Volume IV

Number 4

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Articles and photographs (glossy finish) on daffodil culture and related subjects are invited from members of the Society. Manuscripts should be typewritten double-spaced, and all material should be addressed to the Editor.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE JULY 15, 1968.

SCHEDULE OF MEMBERSHIP DUES IN THE AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY

Individual Annual \$5 a year or \$12.50 for three years.
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or \$18.75 for three years, with one copy of the JOURNAL.
Individual Sustaining Member \$7.50 per year.
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PICTURED ON THE COVER

is Cream Cloud, a midseason 2b from Polindra x Green Island. The perianth is milk-white and the cup opens pale lemon, fading to ivory with a narrow lemon frill. Raised by Grant E. Mitsch and introduced by him in 1965. (Photograph by James S. Wright of Washington, D. C.)



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First, there was Carey Quinn: Suave, genteel and elegant. Judge of people and daffodils; the arbiter of excellence, and knowledgeable "court of last resort."

Then there was George Lee. A truly great natural organizer. His expertise and efficiency deftly fleshed in the bones of the A.D.S., and ministers to it, still.

Wells Knierim's long suit was (and still is) hard work. His is a tremendous dedication to daffodils and the people who grow and show them. He is never too busy to take on and conclude "another job." He gave the A.D.S. muscle.

Willis Wheeler, deeply immersed in daffodil lore, dealt daily with weeds, molds and fungi, virus, insects, and growing conditions. Willis is the "Complete Daffodil Doctor." But Willis was also known and admired in other lands. He had a working relationship with the daffodil hierarchy in the British Isles and with the Dutch bulb growers. The international aspects of the A.D.S. were dignified by our relationship with Willis Wheeler. He gave us that thing called character.

Along came John Larus. The business executive who tempered the democratic process with administrative decision-making. He cajoled, pushed, and pulled — and insisted that jobs be done. He gave the A.D.S. stature.

Bill Pannill followed. A dedicated grower and show-er, he knew daffodils, and he knew the things that motivate people. He could artfully compromise, improvise, assuage at the same time. These almost magical qualities gave to the A.D.S. a growing sense of breadth.

To follow men like these is a little like following the "Hallelujah Chorus," a banjo act, and a love-duet from Wagner. The only chance I've got of being really useful to the A.D.S. is to be "just me." And so, for better or for worse, you now have as President a short-tempered surgeon who loves daffodils, ladies, and a peaceful atmosphere. The Committee Chairmen are all appointed; there are two splendid and experienced Vice Presidents. Don't hesitate to send me your daffodil problems or suggestions — I've a great staff to whom they will be referred for action.

— TOM D. THROCKMORTON, M.D.

NEW MANAGEMENT

With this issue a new Publications Committee Chairman and a new Editor assume responsibility. Both have been associated with the Journal in recent years. Sharing the work will be three additional members of the Committee: Miss Anne C. Sangree, Mrs. William O. Ticknor, and Willis H. Wheeler.

It has been hinted that we may expand a little and we shall need your help. We should like to introduce at least one new writer in every issue, preferably more. Our principal aim is to make the Journal as responsive as possible to the needs and wishes of the membership. We invite your comments, suggestions, and contributions to that end. Let us hear from you.

Roberta C. Watrous, *Editor*

William O. Ticknor, *Chairman,*

Publications Committee

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1968 SEASON

We asked several members in widely separated areas to send us reports on their daffodil season. Four of these reports appear here; those from more northern areas will be in the September issue.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA NOTES

Collected by Joe and Adele Nederburgh, Whittier, Calif.

Polly Anderson's early blooms are old and true varieties such as Riotous, Zircon, Dunkeld, and Sacajawea, which are good every year regardless of the weather. Her best blooms this year were Mitsch's Pipit and Divertimento, the latter a beautiful little pink 7b. It was in full bloom when she returned from the convention in Portland, Erlicheer was very good in all gardens in Southern California this year, as was Ceylon. They seem to like our hot dry climate.

Jo and George Scott, Arcadia, have to keep pruning live oak trees to give sufficient sunlight to their garden. Bobolink was their earliest bloom; three stems took a blue ribbon at the Santa Barbara Show. Galway was by far the best bloom in their garden this year; Arctic Gold was very good, too. Doubles this year were the best they have ever grown. Sunburst and Double Event were most outstanding. No miniatures bloomed for them this year; the buds were blind due to extreme desert winds. New varieties that did well were Inca Gold (1a), Space Age (2a), and Chiffon (2b). Unfortunately Rima has never done well for them, in spite of several attempts with new bulbs. The climate is just too hot. At the time of reporting Green Island was blooming and was excellent.

Bill and Rosemary Roese, La Habra, reported unusually bad weather, with no rain from the first week in December to March 9th (when 4 in. fell). This was the hottest February on record. Divertimento was very floriferous and Cloud Cap had the longest stem for a pink yet seen in this area. Best blooms at the three California shows were Revelry (at Santa Barbara, Mar. 2), Precedent (at Descanso, Mar. 16), and Rockall (at Oakland, Mar. 22).

The Northern California Show at Oakland had more than 40 members entering flowers, as well as entries from southern California, Santa Barbara and on up to Oregon and Washington. Flowers were of exceptional quality, and it was an outstanding first show for them.

Bill and Carol Hesse, Fullerton, changed their soil mixture this year, trying redwood mulch and a small amount of Blue Whale added to

their soil. Results seem to indicate better quality of blooms, color, and size.

Early flowers were Lunar Sea, Moonmist, and Sacajawea, all very good this year. They always get two blooming periods from Lunar Sea and Moonmist, about a month apart, and rate these as the varieties having the best blooms in their garden this year. Medina, one of Murray Evans' poets, and Dactyl were blooming in a shaded area late in April.

As for the Nederburghs, we had more blind buds than usual this year, especially in miniatures, due to extreme hot dry desert winds in February. Fourteen buds on Xit, and only one bloomed! Halingy was our earliest miniature, blooming in mid-November. Growing miniatures for over ten years, this was the only year we had none to enter in either the Santa Barbara or the Descanso Show. Of the standard varieties, Galway did exceptionally well in our garden this year, while Sweet Pepper and Pueblo, both jonquillas, bloomed continuously for several months, and never really seem to die down.

THE FEW PLEASANT SURPRISES OF SPRING 1968

By Carl R. Amason, *El Dorado, Ark.*

It was considered a bad winter; even the old folks thought so. And it lasted and lasted, making the coming of spring a topic of much debate and concern. And for the growers of daffodils, it was far from the ideal spring, for the flowering season was disrupted by freezing rains and a late spring snowstorm, more than 7 inches of snow being on the ground during the peak of the daffodil season. That any delight and joy could be salvaged this season was due in most part to a small group of especially hardy varieties, perhaps luckily situated for the season, but ones that I heartily recommend for any daffodil fanciers. In fact, I only wish I had more bulbs of these varieties, for they are well worth growing.

One of the first varieties to bloom in spite of unsatisfactory weather was Cornet, 6a. There are a number of things to say about Cornet, most of them good. First, it is unmistakably a cyclamineus hybrid, and although its proportions of perianth to corona are not as pleasing as in some, its golden smooth textured features lasted longer than any other variety for me this year — more than three weeks. It is not a miniature, or perhaps even an intermediate, but no one would doubt it to be a daffodil, and a good one at that! Although it may never win a prize on a show bench, a well-grown clump will win your heart. The Classified List gives credit to Alec Gray for this garden gem which he registered in 1953.

Another cyclamineus hybrid that pleased me was Snipe, a miniature variety with rather thin substance for this Division, but a real addition to any garden or collection. It is what the British might call whitish, and most American lady daffodil growers in America would call white, but I rate it a pale creamy white. It flowers early and the cold of early spring only tends to make it last longer. And it contrasts so beautifully with my next star, Jack Snipe, a crisp bicolor 6a, which is a bit larger.

Who else grows Adventure? It is an old large-cup that is quite good for me. It is a solid medium yellow, much better than the old stand-by Carlton, as it has better texture, thicker substance, and excellent form. It has been around for a long time, as it was introduced in 1927 by the Englishman F. H. Chapman, and it won Awards of Merit in the next few years. It is seldom offered, I suspect; watch for it as it is very good.

As a class, the triandrus hybrids are perhaps the most graceful. And these hybrids are some of the whitest and most appealing of all daffodils. Among my perennial favorites have been Shot Silk and Moonshine, but this year Moonshine was the better. Both are quite old de Graaff varieties and to me are superior to such garden favorites as Thalia, Tresamble, Niveth, and some other standard varieties in Division 5. I like the proportions of Moonshine and Shot Silk; there is some degree of imbrication to the perianth segments that Thalia and Niveth do not have, and to me they are more pleasing than the well-known show variety Tresamble. But just why de Graaff should name a variety Moonshine in the introductory year 1927 is beyond me. Maybe "moonshine" does not mean the same to a Dutchman as it does to me, but I think the term moonshine for illicit whisky is much older than the late twenties in this country. At any rate the term is well known, and one of my little jokes in the daffodil season, depending on the type of visitor, is to whisper that I have "Moonshine" on my place, and the response is immediate; it is usually one of shock or amazement, but in one case it was pleasure that soon turned to disappointment. One just does not think of a variety of daffodil, even in the daffodil season in a daffodil garden, at the mention of "moonshine," I have found.

And so my season draws nearer to the end, but I always anticipate three late triandrus hybrids. It is apparent that they are hybrids with an admixture of jonquil influence. All are miniatures and are immediate favorites when seen. I would not want to be without them, and if they are somewhat difficult to acquire they are well worth the trouble and expense. These three are the 5a Mary Plumstead and the 5b varieties April Tears and Hawera. I do not know who Mary Plumstead is, or was, but she should feel flattered. April Tears is late enough to bloom in April for me, so I find no fault in the name. Both are introductions of the well-known English breeder of small daffodils, Alec Gray.

Hawera, the oldest of the three by some years, was bred by Dr. W. M. Thomson of New Zealand. All are similar in appearance at first glance, but with a little practice the three can easily be told apart.

So much for the really pleasant surprises of this spring. In thinking, however, I should realize that actually the surprise would have been had not these distinguished themselves again for me. They are well worth growing.

THE GEORGIA DAFFODIL SEASON, 1968

By Mildred H. Simms, *Atlanta, Ga.*

Since the first bud of *N. bulb. citrinus* opened on January 5, I have not been without at least one daffodil, as it continued to send up new buds until after the very early varieties, such as March Sunshine, High Sierra, and February Gold had begun to open on March 1.

Atlanta's rainfall measured only 1¼ inches during the month of February and, with 25 of the 29 days below freezing, little watering was possible. Thus, daffodil growth was lagging far behind schedule. However, several warm days of March sunshine and a good rain induced such rapid growth that by the 10th of March established plantings of both early and midseason varieties were making a breathtaking display — the prettiest in several years. This big splash lasted less than two weeks, due to a sudden burst into summer weather. For those who think of daffodils in terms of landscape value only the season was over at this point and it had been short. To the daffodil lover, the best was yet to be.

Newly-acquired varieties and newer varieties down for their second year were, with few exceptions, extremely slow in getting out of the ground. Once out, growth was phenomenal, and some few varieties managed to produce blooms within 15 days on very short stems. Designated blooming dates did not apply this season. The Albany, Macon, and Atlanta shows were at least a week too early. Consequently many of the best show flowers were enjoyed in the garden, while older varieties graced the show bench.

Outstanding flowers in the Macon show were a collection of Mitsch's reverse bicolors, the best of which, Nampa, was chosen as the best flower in the show. The best flower in Albany's show was an exceptionally good Rustom Pasha.

Falstaff, a striking red and yellow 2a introduced in 1960 by J. L. Richardson, was selected as the best flower in the Atlanta show. Others worthy of mention were: a Roman Candle of unbelievable size, quality and intensity of color with no suggestion of hooding in the perianth;

Joyous, a good 2b new to our show; Harmony Bells, with three florets; and a perfect little Sundial that was selected as the best miniature.

Some of the blooms that did not open in time for the show table do deserve recognition. Cloudcap, a jumbo-sized Rose Ribbon with weather resistance built in, has the finest stem of anything I grow. If consistent in performance it should do well for both exhibition and garden. Smiling Maestro, a very large, well-balanced, intensely red-cupped 2a, was indeed spectacular, but did not last in our hot sun as well as Cloudcap. Seeing the two growing side by side I had the feeling the former, standing so straight and tall above everything else, deserved a more commanding name — maybe Garden Maestro.

Glamorous is a well named, much larger Green Island with a little more green down in the cup. After being open a week in full sun, it is still in good condition.

Mitsch's R/33/19 has been an excellent 3c of large size here for the past two years. It seems more at home in the South than does Lovable, R/33/60.

Quick Step and Pipit have given an amazing amount of bloom; five stems with a total of 14 florets from one bulb of Quick Step; six stems with a total of 12 florets from one small bulb of Pipit. I do hope they are not "blooming themselves to death."

Accent, Carita, Passionale, and most of the other pinks in my planting have colored up well this season, but the coloring in Flamingo has been the prettiest pink I shall ever hope to see in a daffodil!

In a normal season *N. x biflorus* is the last daffodil to bloom, but right now, April 11, it is blooming along with Aircastle, April Clouds, Broughshane, Finola, Azalea, Kilworth, and about 40 other varieties. Buds are yet to open on Rashee, Falaise, Gay Time, Limerick, Dunlewey; a number of miniatures have buds near the ground. With a plentiful supply of water and a little improvised shade, I am hoping to extend the season to May 5 — an even four months of daffodils in Georgia.

THE SEASON IN TIDEWATER VIRGINIA

By Sarah Terry, Hampton, Va.

The 1968 daffodil season opened officially on March 24th with the annual pilgrimage of the Tidewater Virginia Daffodil Society to the Richard Dardens' at Newsoms near the North Carolina line. The blooming time there is about two weeks earlier than in the Hampton-Newport News area so we were able to see many of the standard varieties blooming amidst the graceful miniatures.

The winter of 1967-68 was colder than usual and had below-average precipitation. The first daffodil to bloom in my yard was March Sun-

shine, opening around the middle of the month. At this time the usual wail, "There won't be any flowers for the show" was heard throughout the area. After a few warm days the flowers began popping out and the stands were well filled at the Tidewater show on March 30th. The early flowers were smaller than in some years and bloomed on short stems. Rain came on April 5th and I returned from the Gloucester show in a near cloudburst. The effect of the rain was tremendous. On Palm Sunday when I inspected my beds, I found that the flowers then opening were larger and that the stems had grown 2 inches as shown by the whiteness at the lower part. Shirley Neale was almost waist high.

Of the newer varieties I planted last fall I was very pleased with Butterscotch. The blooms were smooth, well rounded and a beautiful color. Pinafore had a superb perianth, and Tranquil Morn was a beauty. A poll of the "showers" in our Society revealed that Accent, Camelot, Honeybird, Joyous, Lovable, New Song and Verona had produced exceptional flowers this season.

The early red cups did not color well, but as the season progressed the color deepened and it ended with fiery red cups on Kilworth and Rockall. My favorite pink this year was little Pink Isle. Its form was good and its color really pink. Passionale does not color well for me, and Salmon Trout was a long time turning. The all-yellow Arctic Gold and Ormeau performed well as usual. Viking was very popular at the show. Cantatrice is one of the few whites that seems to grow like a weed in the Tidewater area. The only doubles I have luck with are the multi-flowered ones like Bridal Crown and the Cheerfulnesses. In Division 5 Harmony Bells, Merry Bells, and Elizabeth F. Prentis were outstanding. Charity May was smaller than usual this year. This may be due to the fact it had been down for two years and not lifted every year as in the past. Woodcock had good form and color. Sweet Pepper was very prolific and every bloom stood on long sturdy stems and had many florets. My favorite in Division 8 is Silver Chimes, which does very well in this area. Martha Washington is gaining favor with me; now she often presents me with three flowers to a stem. I saw Quetzal for the first time this year as I was away when it bloomed last year. It is a nice change from Actaea, but the perianth was somewhat reflexed. Jane Moore reports this has been a very good year for her poets and 3 c's. She cites Sea Green and Cushendall as outstanding examples.

The flowers are now all faded and gone except for four blooms of green-eyed Dallas. The only daffodils I can still look forward to are *N. x biflorus* and "Albus Plenus Odoratus"; the latter blooms in early May in this area.

LOUISE HAZLEHURST WHARTON

By NANCY W. BARNES, *Churchville, Md.*

As one grows older one realizes that the people who have mattered most are men and women who possessed an inherent quality of goodness and greatness of character. Often, these people have no idea of their influence on others — this is the essence of humility. Such a person was Louise Hazlehurst Wharton.

Mrs. Lawrence R. Wharton was strikingly statuesque in bearing and serene of countenance with an ever ready sparkle. A nurse, a doctor's wife, the mother of three sons, she always made gardening her dominant hobby. Gardening for her was a way of life. Always generous with her time, her knowledge, and her thought of and for others, she was a gardener par excellence and daffodil enthusiast.

Mrs. Wharton was a long-time member of the Maryland Daffodil Society, in which society at one time or another she held every possible office; she was made a Permanent Advisor in 1965. Believing that the future of the Maryland Daffodil Society, as in any organization, is in the hands of the young with their ideas, suggestions, and enthusiasm, she spoke on daffodils to innumerable garden clubs. It was while president of the Maryland Daffodil Society that Mrs. Wharton with Mrs. J. Robert Walker and Judge Carey Quinn helped form the ADS. In 1962, this Society presented its Silver Medal to Mrs. Wharton. The citation read:

"To a lady who has worked with the ADS since its organization and who has been untiring in her efforts to further the purpose of the Society. She was a hostess to the organization meeting of the ADS, first Vice President of Middle Atlantic Region; has long been prominent in the Baltimore area as a daffodil enthusiast; where she worked on shows and presented several judging schools. She has consistently worked with and for the ADS, encouraging and guiding individuals and groups and promoting the love of daffodils."

The years did not dim her spirit. She retained a vigor and a liveliness of interest that usually fades when youth is gone. She was blithe — her personality had a sparkle, and she knew the moments for laughter as well as those for the more earnest side of wisdom. The Maryland Daffodil Society is establishing a tangible memorial in her honor, and it is for us to add the intangibles: loyalty to the aims and quality of a great lady, Louise Hazlehurst Wharton.



Mrs. Mitsch and daffodils in the Mitsch garage.



One of the Mitsch daffodil fields

PORTLAND PANORAMA

By AMY COLE ANTHONY, *Bloomfield, Conn.*

Anticipating fun and an educational experience, we nevertheless had underestimated what awaited us at our first Annual Convention. We already knew most of the others in the Connecticut contingent, but on the bus from the airport Roberta Watrous became a person instead of a medal and a name familiar through a Robin and the Journal. Wells Knierim, the Chairman who made all the arrangements from his geographically difficult location across the Continent, Mary, his wife and the hard-working Registrar, Bill Pannill, Tom Throckmorton, Harry Tuggle, George Lee, and scores of others are now to us real people with faces we hope to see many times again.

The decision to hold the Convention in the heart of the most important commercial growing area in the United States, despite the dearth of ADS members to form a local Arrangement Committee, was as courageous as it was rewarding. Meeting, talking, and browsing at our own pace through the extensive and beautiful fields of Grant and Amy Mitsch and those of Murray and Stella Evans was alone worth the trip.

Three busloads plus several cars descended on Daffodil Haven where the Mitsch's kind hospitality included unlimited hot coffee and cookies when desired. Despite the cool weather with its sudden showers and a bit of hail, everybody enjoyed wandering among the many rows of seedlings and larger stocks of named varieties. In the barn, individual blooms were beautifully staged. Nothing can take the place of seeing

the living flowers one may know only through a catalogue, although it may prove a problem to our pocketbooks and growing space. AS11/3 with its pale-lemon perianth and pink cup was the flower of the day. As the stock is limited to eight bulbs, our desire to grow this bulb will have to bow to Father Time and Mother Nature.

Sunday at the Evans' was equally delightful for those who stayed over. Again, coffee and goodies were ready when one needed a respite to collect thoughts or chat around the dining-room table after admiring and walking over their lovely acres high above the Columbia River. And to the addicts' delight, Murray Evans allowed us to tag a few seedlings for our own gardens for \$1 apiece. These seedlings otherwise are dug this summer and sold in mixtures. Labeling a particular bulb gave no guarantee we will receive it, as Murray still has the right to keep it if it shows particular promise. Perhaps our collective eyes have discovered something he missed (very unlikely), but it also gives him an idea of what appeals to ADS members and us the pride of sole ownership. To those who are also birdwatchers it was a thrill to see a number of Rufous hummingbirds dining happily and continually at the several feeders.

An important extra treat was the presence and participation of Matthew Zandbergen from Holland, and, from New Zealand, Messrs. Herbert Poole, P. Phillips, J. A. O'More, and E. T. Bartosh. The New Zealanders were en route to Prospect House in Ireland, the London Daffodil Show, and Holland. Mr. Zandbergen planned to visit the Puyallup Daffodil Festival and daffodil shows in Washington, D. C., and Virginia before the London Show.

The scheduled talks and discussions seemed to me well planned and presented. Bill Pannill presided with rare wit, and his successor as President, Dr. Tom Throckmorton, showed equal promise — witness his comment when the electrical outlet for the slide projector was elusive, "Benjamin Franklin flew a kite, married a widow and discovered electricity."

The Gold Medal for service to the daffodil was not given this year, but Harry Tuggle was fittingly honored in being awarded the Silver Medal of the ADS for service to the society.

Jan de Graaff, now the outstanding hybridizer of lilies, reviewing the history of daffodil culture in the United States, informed us that during the grace period following enactment of the quarantine on foreign bulbs, in 1922, enormous quantities were imported and commercial growing became a big business in the Northwest. Over the years steadily rising American costs have made it economically impossible for our growers to supply the mass market, with the result that today only a few hybrid-

izers of specialties for the "carriage trade" can exist, and the threat to the future is the shortage of interested younger men to follow them.

A bothersome allergy forced me to miss the session on Disease and Pest Control, but my husband, who had thought that nematodes were our only real worry, told me that the learned discussions on viruses, fungi, and daffodil flies made him wonder if daffodils really were, as he had been led to believe, relatively free from trouble. Significant in his opinion was the report of Dr. Charles J. Gould of real progress in developing a systemic treatment for prevention of basal rot. Merck TBZ may reach the market this year and DuPont's 1991 in two years. Charles Doucette and Dr. Frank McWhorter reported recent findings that will make it easier for us to cope with bulb flies and virus diseases in the future. Incidentally, my husband learned that to distinguish the daffodil fly from a bee you pick it up. If its rear stings you, it is a bee; if it bites you it is a fly.

The Saturday afternoon panel on hybridizing was instructive and not without elements of tragedy and comedy. Inability to darken the room deprived us of appreciating the color of either the beautiful seedlings which Mr. O'More grows in New Zealand or the miniatures of Mrs. Watrous. There was some disagreement on which way to cross for desired results and to an inquiry from the floor "Does anyone hybridize at night?" the rejoinder was "What — daffodils?"

Mr. Phillips' slides that evening made us all hope for the chance to visit New Zealand at the height of their season. The slides were beautiful and his description of the country tantalizing.

The omission of a school on judging was disappointing to us. An excellent display of blooms, both named and seedlings, had been arranged by Mrs. Fort Linton and her committee, who had descended on the Mitsch and Evans fields a day in advance and had come away with station wagons loaded with buckets full of daffodils. All attending were given a ballot to select the best named cultivar and to score the best seedlings in each Division and Class and choose the best pink seedling. A specimen of Vigil, 1c, was the most favored named variety; an Evans 1d was selected the best seedling, and a Mitsch cross of Precedent x Accent the best pink seedling. Blooms brought from Holland by Matthew Zandbergen via the Polar Route were also on display, as were a few miniature seedlings brought by Mrs. Watrous.

The meals planed from Kentucky by Mrs. Raymond L. Roof were enjoyed at tables adorned by Mitsch and Evans daffodils and Westminster broom, arranged by Mrs. W. L. Bankston — single-handed!

In closing these impressions the final line of an old Chinese proverb seems appropriate: "If one would be happy one's whole life long, be a Gardener."

The September issue of The Daffodil Journal will include an article by Matthew Zandbergen commenting on the Mitsch and Evans daffodils.

CONVENTION BUSINESS

By GEORGE S. LEE, JR., *Executive Director*

The social side of a convention overshadows the fact that it is also the occasion for the annual meeting of the members, required by our by-laws, and for two meetings of the directors, at which times considerable business is transacted. A list of the new officers and directors is published elsewhere.

The new Executive Committee will consist of the five general officers, Mrs. Royal A. Ferris, Jr., of Texas, and Mrs. Leon Killigrew of Indiana.

A new Nominating Committee was named which consists of Mrs. Raymond D. Roof of Kentucky, chairman; Mrs. Richmond S. Barton of New York, Mrs. Howard B. Bloomer, Jr., of Virginia, Mrs. Jesse Cox of Arkansas, and Mrs. Ben M. Robertson of South Carolina.

The purchase of 250 hard-cover binders for the *Journal* was approved. These will be in green cloth, stamped THE DAFFODIL JOURNAL in gold foil on the cover and spine, and will hold 12 copies of the *Journal*. The binders are similar to those offered their members by the American Rose Society and other plant societies and operate on the principle of a flexible metal rod which runs through the center fold of the publication and is inserted into slots at top and bottom of the binders. The binders will be available shortly and may be ordered now from the Executive Director. They are priced at \$3.00 each, including parcel post mailing charges. Binders will not only keep Journals in sequence but will protect them from creases and tears.

A recommendation was accepted to abolish the Publicity Committee and create a Public Relations Committee having broad duties to promote interest in, and knowledge of, the daffodil and of the Society. With our former treasurer, Mrs. Grover F. Roennfeldt, as chairman, a number of new projects will be undertaken, including a brief manual for holding a new daffodil show and methods to strengthen our ties with local daffodil societies.

An amendment to the by-laws was adopted under which regional vice presidents may now serve three one-year terms, rather than two.

In view of the strong financial position of the Society, it was voted to continue the practice, started with the Daffodil Handbook, of giving members an occasional bonus or dividend. This time it will take the form of facsimile copies of Peter Barr's famous "Ye Narcissus or Daffodyl Flower, Containing Hys Historie and Culture &c." It is illustrated

with wood engravings and was published in London in 1884, possibly the first and best daffodil catalog ever published.

This is a unique item of daffodil literature and has been so prized by collectors that copies rarely come on the market and command high prices when they do. Our reproduction will be from the copy in the National Agricultural Library and will be faithful in every respect to the original. Publication is planned for next November, and copies will be mailed to all members in good standing at that time. It is not planned to offer copies as a premium for new memberships, although surplus copies will be placed in stock and offered to new members at the conclusion of the free distribution.

The Fall Directors' Meeting will be held in Williamsburg, Va., on Oct. 19.

MINIATURES

The Miniatures Committee is in the process of revising the A.D.S. Approved List of Miniatures. If you have any additions or deletions to suggest, please submit them before July 15th to the Chairman, John R. Larus, 67 Wyndwood Road, West Hartford, Conn. 06107.

"KING ALFRED AT ITS BEST"

Having planted surplus bulbs here and there about my place in Dutchess County for a number of years, it has been my observation that deep soil well endowed with rotted vegetation and year-round moisture seems to produce better results than any cultivation or fertilizer. Back in 1953, one of my brothers donated a small patch of daffodils to me. These had grown for years in a shady corner of a suburban New York home he acquired, producing much foliage, but never a flower. I divided and planted them in a wooded area, all gravel and sharp sand below and well covered with rotted leaves above. This area adjoins a swamp, so one need dig only a couple of feet to strike water even in summer. The bulbs bloomed, not in the following spring, but in their second and third years, and produced King Alfreds more than 5 inches across. They have never been moved, and possibly because of competition from tree and shrub roots, have never formed the large clumps of "foliage only" characteristic of King Alfred. Their blooms are more numerous and no longer as large, but still much larger than King Alfreds I have been growing with other 1 a's in open beds with stakes and name labels. Till one has seen King Alfred at its best, one cannot comprehend what this antique is capable of.

EDMUND C. KAUTZMANN



SILVER MEDAL TO HARRY TUGGLE

The Silver Medal for service to the Society was awarded at the 1968 convention in Portland to Harry I. Tuggle, Jr., of Martinsville, Va.

The citation in which his name was presented to the convention read: "He has been a more than enthusiastic devotee of daffodils as an amateur grower and hybridizer since the age of 16;

"He is a dedicated student of fine cultivars, and has grown, tested, and appraised many hundreds of new flowers as they have come on the market from wherever daffodils are grown;

"The broad and detailed knowledge which he has acquired over the years, and his ability to recall almost instantly the good and bad points of a vast number of cultivars, has been shared most generously with the Society's members in conversations, telephone calls, and through articles published in our former Yearbooks, and in *The Daffodil Journal*;

"Since 1959 he has collected and tabulated in minute detail the findings and opinions of other growers of daffodils, and has passed this information on to our members in the form of an annual symposium;

"He has always shared generously his bulbs, his ideas on better daffodil culture, and his understanding of the nematode problem and its control.

"Harry Tuggle was one of the founders of the American Daffodil Society, and served as acting secretary in the first sessions of the founding meeting in Washington, D. C. He was a member of that committee which set up the scale of points on which judging in A.D.S. shows is based, and he edited and supervised the production of the first issue of *The Daffodil Journal* as successor to the old *Bulletin*."

SOCIETY'S OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND CHAIRMEN FOR 1968-69

The official family of the American Daffodil Society for 1968-69, named at the annual convention in Portland, consists of:

General Officers

President: Dr. Tom D. Throckmorton, 1407 Woodland Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50309

First Vice President: Harry I. Tuggle, Jr., P. O. Box 1108, Martinsville, Va. 24112

Second Vice President: Walter E. Thompson, 2907 Southwood Road, Birmingham, Ala. 35223

Secretary: Mrs. Robert F. Johnson, 2537 W. 89th Street, Leawood, Kans. 66206

Treasurer: Wells Knierim, 31090 Providence Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44124

Regional Vice Presidents

New England: Mrs. William R. Taylor, Rte. 2, Joshuatown Rd., Old Lyme, Conn. 06371

Northeast: Mrs. Richmond S. Barton, 616 Walton Ave., Mamaroneck, N.Y. 10543

Middle Atlantic: Mrs. Richard N. Darden, Jr., P. O. Box 116, Newsoms, Va. 23874

Southeast: Mrs. John B. Veach, 390 Vanderbilt Rd., Asheville, N. C. 28803

Midwest: Mrs. Leon Killigrew, 415 So. Wabash St., Hobart, Ind. 46342

Southern: Mrs. Raymond L. Roof, 2015 Lone Oak Rd., Paducah, Ky. 42001

Central: Mrs. L. F. Murphy, Rte. 5, Salem Road, Mt. Vernon, Ill. 62864

Southwest: Mrs. Royal A. Ferris, Jr., 4125 Turtle Creek, Dallas, Texas 75219

Far West: Mrs. Gilbert Rowe, 1858 E. Calaveras St., Altadena, Calif. 91001

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1969: Mrs. Louise Fort Linton, 1950 Chickering Rd., Nashville, Tenn. 37215

1970: Mrs Ben M. Robertson, P. O. Box 123, Taylors, S. C. 29687

1970: Mrs. John Bozievich, 6810 Hillmead Rd., Bethesda, Md. 20034

1971: Miss Eleanor Hill, 1577 E. 22nd St., Tulsa, Okla. 74114

1971: William H. Roes, 1945 Hacienda, La Habra, Calif. 90631

Immediate Past President

William G. Pannill, P. O. Box 31, Martinsville, Va. 24112

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1970: Mrs. Charles A. Gruber, 124 Lincoln Terrace, Norristown, Pa. 19401

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- 1969: Mrs. E. E. Lawler, Jr., P. O. Box 327, Alexandria, Va. 22313
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1971: Mrs. Neil Macneale, 524 Abilene Trail, Cincinnati, Ohio 45215

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1970: Mrs. Robert B. Cartwright, 1216 Goodloe Drive, Nashville, Tenn. 37215
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- 1969: Mrs. Michael A. Gallucci, 1311 Monroe Avenue, River Forest, Ill. 60305
1970: Miss Mary A. Becker, 7221 Manchester Avenue, Kansas City, Mo. 64133
1971: Dr. William L. Brown, 6980 N.W. Beaver Drive, Johnston, Iowa 50131

Southwest Region

- 1969: Mrs. William D. Owen, 4565 Rheims Place, Dallas, Texas 75205
1970: Mrs. Betty Barnes, 302 Jackson Street, SW., Camden, Ark. 71701
1971: Mrs. S. F. Ditmars, 1220 W. Okmulgee, Muskogee, Okla. 74401

Far West Region

- 1969: Dr. Stan Baird, 1576 "E" Street, Arcata, Calif. 95521
1970: Mrs. Ernest S. Kirby, 621 Wesley Drive, Fullerton, Calif. 92633
1971: Jack S. Romine, 2065 Walnut Blvd., Walnut Creek, Calif. 94596

Committee Chairmen

Awards: Franklin D. Seney, 308 Longwood Drive, Newport News, Va. 23606

Breeding and Selection: Murray W. Evans, Rte. 1, Box 94, Corbett, Ore. 97019

Classification: Mrs. J. Robert Walker, P. O. Box 1264, Martinsville, Va. 24112

Editor of Journal: Mrs. George D. Watrous, Jr., 5031 Reno Road, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20008

Health and Culture: Willis H. Wheeler, 3171 N. Quincy Street, Arlington, Va. 22207

Judges: Mrs. Jesse Cox, Rte. 3, Box 122, Hot Springs, Ark. 71901

Library: Mrs. Howard B. Bloomer, Jr., 11111 Gunston Road, Lorton, Va. 22079

Membership: Mrs. Walter E. Thompson, 2907 Southwood Road, Birmingham, Ala. 35223

Miniatures: John R. Larus, 67 Wyndwood Road, West Hartford, Conn. 06107

Photography: Prof. Larry P. Mains, 17 Lantern Lane, Media, Pa. 19063

Public Relations: Mrs. Grover F. Roennfeldt, 1120 Craig Road, Creve Coeur, Mo. 63141

Publications: William O. Ticknor, 2814 Greenway Blvd., Falls Church, Va. 22042

Round Robins: Dr. Glenn Dooley, Western Kentucky State University, Bowling Green, Ky. 42101

Registration: Mrs. Kenneth B. Anderson, 4810 Palm Drive, La Canada, Calif. 91011

Schools: Mrs. Goethe Link, P. O. Box 84, Brooklyn, Ind. 46111

Supplies: Mrs. William A. Bridges, 10 Othoridge Road, Lutherville, Md. 21093

Symposium: Mrs. John B. Capen, Rte. 3, Box 215, Boonton, N. J. 07005

Test Gardens: Prof. Dan P. Thomson, Jr., 108 Strode Circle, Clemson, S. C. 29631

WHITHER THE SYMPOSIUM?

By Elizabeth T. Capen, *Chairman, Symposium Committee*

For many years members have considered that the Symposium reports were the chief fruits of the Society. Fanciers and beginners alike have relied on the recommendations of Judge Quinn, Charles Meehan, Harry Tuggle, and their teams of able evaluators to guide their buying.

In proposing a change of method, your new Symposium Chairman hopes to offer members a similarly valuable compilation. Two important features, the novelty report of Mr. Tuggle and the miniature evaluation of Dr. Scorgie, will continue as before. The innovation is really but an extension to the entire membership of the last item on recent polls, "Varieties Outstanding for Exhibition and Garden."

Such an evaluation is sometimes scathingly referred to as "a popularity poll." But, as the Society grows in membership, it seems to me that this may now prove to be the most reliable way to reach conclusions that the three originators of our Symposium heretofore were able to achieve only through their intimate knowledge of a few judicious and dedicated collectors.

The passage of time makes necessary this change, as I have noted in my own small region. Avid enthusiasts have moved, died, turned to other interests, or had to curtail their activities. And I am not at all sure who among the newer enthusiasts are the best evaluators.

So for this year, as a test, we propose to try the American way. We urge all members to become symposium reporters. You will find a ballot in this journal. Please report your favorites of those varieties you have grown for at least three years. List up to twenty-five of these, but do not hesitate to vote for less than twenty-five. You may not yet have found that many measuring up to your personal standards.

We expect that these votes will provide a Symposium very much like the ones we have had, particularly if you will consider early and late varieties and all divisions. Any registered variety in commerce is eligible, including miniatures.

We also hope to use your ballots to supply other valuable information. For one thing, there is the matter of regional performance. While many daffodils accept the wide range of growing conditions in the United States, there are many whose performance varies markedly in different zones. We hope to uncover these regional differences in performance and to make this information available for regional use. To implement this plan, we should like to have each regional vice-president appoint a member of his region to serve as regional representative on the national Symposium Committee, who will assist the national

project and relate it to his region. Please, RVP's, let me know your appointees as soon as possible.

Perhaps our regional reports will guide the neophyte of Texas, Maine, Montana, Arizona, those trying to make daffodil gardens in Virginia, Oklahoma, California, and Alabama. Daffodils will grow in all these states, but not all daffodils.

Our national report may point to the All-American Daffodil, that will thrive anywhere. But Dr. Throckmorton is particularly interested to see the results of the last question on the ballot, "What is your very favorite?" This is a question we all ask ourselves and that visitors often ask collectors. A compilation of everyone's favorite should be most interesting.

For the Symposium to be significant, it must have the largest possible number of reporters. Because of the change in administrations it was not possible to have the ballots in your hands ahead of your season. So, do send your ballot to me while your season is fresh in mind.

HERE AND THERE

TIDBITS FROM THE REGIONAL NEWSLETTERS

CENTRAL REGION (Mrs. L. F. Murphy, *Regional Vice President*)

A Southern Illinois Daffodil Society was organized in 1967 "to study and learn more about the selection, classification, culture, exhibition, and evaluation of the daffodil." Officers are Mrs. L. A. Mylius, Pres.; Mrs. Clyde Cox, 1st Vice Pres.; Mrs. Jesse L. Pickard, 2nd Vice Pres.; Mrs. L. F. Murphy, Secretary; and Mr. Venice Brink, Director. By December there were 41 members.

NEW ENGLAND REGION (George S. Lee, Jr. *Editor*)

Mr. Lee writes persuasively about tazettas, and tabulates 43 varieties offered in recent catalogues by seven dealers in this country, England, Holland, and Australia. The dealers represented were: Charles H. Mueller, Pennsylvania (8 varieties); Grant E. Mitsch, Oregon (3); Daffodil Mart, Virginia (16); deJager & Sons, Massachusetts (10); Broadleigh Gardens, England (16); Zandbergen-Terwegen, Holland (4); and J. N. Hancock, Australia (16).

NORTHEAST REGION (Mrs. Stanley A. Carrington, *Editor*)

The first daffodil show in America was held May 1, 1914, at Lawrence, Long Island, sponsored by the Garden Club of Lawrence.

The Westchester County Daffodil Society was formed in April 1967, and the following officers elected: Pres., Miss Dorothy P. Tuthill; 1st Vice Pres., Mrs. John H. Albert; 2nd Vice Pres., Miss Marion H. Tuthill; Recording

Secretary, Mrs. Lester M. Ilgenfritz; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Frederick Kemple; Treasurer, Mrs. Adolf Hufschmidt; Directors, Mrs. David Rosenbaum, Mrs. John Volz. Their goals are to learn to grow and show daffodils well, to know garden and show varieties, to recognize pests and diseases and study their control, and to become familiar with judging standards. Meetings are held monthly, September through June. Programs have been effective and well attended. A small daffodil show at a regular meeting was planned for 1968, and a larger show in 1969 is contemplated.

Twenty-nine members in the Philadelphia area gathered in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Gruber in Norristown for a Sunday afternoon preview of the daffodil season. Prof. Larry P. Mains showed slides taken by himself and also by Wells Knierim and Bill Pannill. These included some taken at Grant Mitsch's place, at various recent conventions, and some from England and Ireland.

Two pages of excellent "Suggestions for Daffodil Exhibitors" accompanied this Newsletter, and a request for additional educational material offered brought information sheets on daffodil classification, varieties, outdoor culture, and forcing.

Long Island Daffodil Day at Islip on May 13th promised to be informative, inspiring, and gay, if the attractive yellow and green programs were prophetic. Speakers were to be Mrs. Frances Parry and Mrs. Howard B. Bloomer, Jr., and the gardens to be visited included naturalized daffodils in a woods planting, planned gardens, and greenhouses.

MIDWEST REGION (Mrs. Goethe Link, *Editor*)

A Regional Meeting was scheduled in conjunction with the Regional Show at Cincinnati, April 19-20. Mr. Wilmer B. Flory "The Hoosier Will Rogers," was to be the dinner speaker. On the morning following the dinner there was to be a tour to the Cincinnati Nature Center, where daffodils by the thousands were planted by the former owner, Carl Krippendorf, beginning in the early 1900's. (See *The Daffodil Journal*, March 1967, p. 143-144.)

Mr. Flory, President of the Indiana Daffodil Society, took a poll in 1967 of the varieties that did well for members in their own gardens, and also those they liked best, as seen in the gardens of others. White Marvel, Daydream, White Lion, White Prince, Mulatto, Festivity, and Pipit received the most votes in the former category, and Pipit, Rockall, and Silken Sails won in the second category.

A form was included for voting for one variety liked best in 1968 and doing well in the member's own garden and two varieties seen in other gardens and liked best.

SOUTHWEST REGION (Mrs. Royal A. Ferris, Jr., *Regional Vice Pres.*)

The February issue has announcements of numerous shows and of a Regional Pow-Wow in conjunction with the Regional Show in Muskogee, Okla., on March 30-31. The Indian Nation Daffodil Society is an enthusiastic new society, and members did extensive bulb planting last fall in preparation for this show.

Mrs. Ralph Henry of Siloam Springs, Ark., contributed instructions for storing daffodils for a show.

HINTS ON BULB INSPECTION

By WILLIS H. WHEELER

Chairman, Committee on Health and Culture

By looking for symptoms, the average gardener should be able to detect daffodil bulbs infested or infected by certain organisms which are the normal causes of bulb losses.

The usual way to find the bulb-and-stem nematode, *Ditylenchus dipsaci*, in narcissus bulbs is to cut off with a sharp knife a thin slice from the tip or nose of the bulb. If the flesh is white, it can be safely assumed the bulb is not infested, but if the slice shows a browning of the flesh, more cuts should be made. If several of the succeeding slices also show browning of the flesh of the bulb scales (fig. 1), the bulb

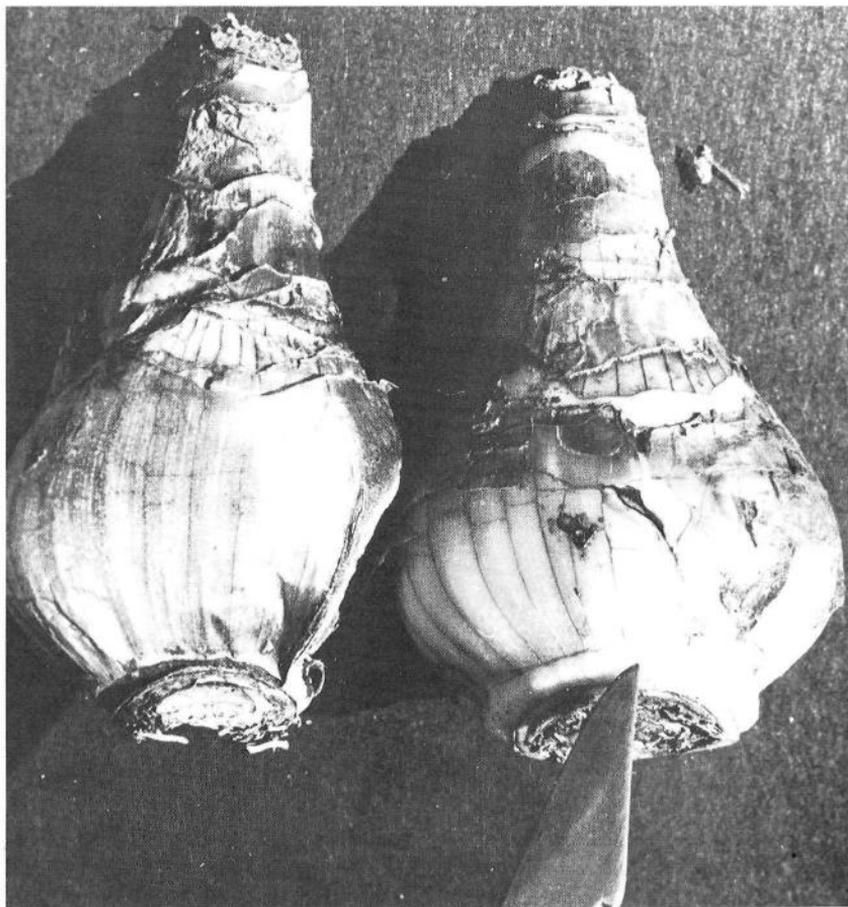


(1) Narcissus bulb cut from the tip to show nematode infestation.

is very likely infested and should not be planted. It would be well to submit such a bulb to plant pathologists at your state experiment station to determine if the bulb is in fact infested with nematodes. In that way you will know whether you bought a diseased bulb or whether a bulb of your own growing was infested. In the latter case, you will want to watch for evidence of nematodes in your own daffodil beds during the next growing season.

When you cut the tips off the bulbs you will probably notice some oozing or bleeding from the cut, but don't be alarmed. It soon stops and dries without apparent injury to the bulb.

A second destroyer of daffodil bulbs is the basal rot fungus, *Fusarium oxysporium* f. *narcissi*. Figure 2 shows two bulbs on September 15. The knife point touches the swelling basal root ring of the healthy bulb



(2) Left, basal rot infected bulb with no root swelling; right, a sound bulb.

at the right. On the left, the root ring has not formed, as the roots and the basal plate have been killed by the fungus. Figure 3 also shows a sound bulb on the right and a diseased one on the left. When the dry brown scale is carefully lifted by the knife blade, the white flesh of the healthy bulb is seen. Lifting the bulb scale on the diseased bulb shows the brown infected flesh.

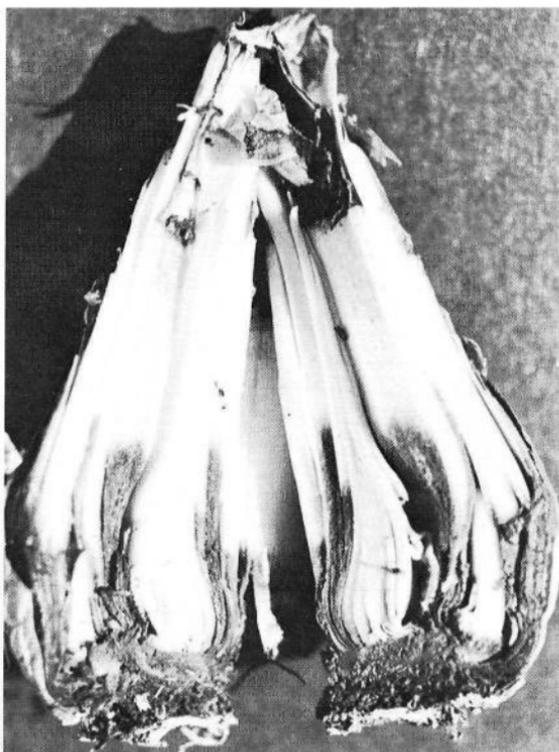
Figure 4 shows the infected bulb of figure 2 cut open. If such a bulb is planted it will decay in the ground, and in the spring there will be only a blank space where a plant should have been.

Figures 5 and 6 illustrate another narcissus bulb pest that can cause serious bulb losses if not controlled. This insect, the narcissus bulb fly,



(3) Left, basal rot bulb with dry scale lifted to show brown flesh; right, a sound bulb.

Lampetia equestris, hollows out the bulb center in its feeding activity. An infested bulb, if it grows at all, will only send up a few weak leaves from a small offset missed by the fly larva in its attack on the central part of the bulb. How can an infested bulb be detected? Figure 5 tells the story. In nearly every instance, the base of the infested bulb will show a depression, as is illustrated in the photograph. These entry holes are in evidence when the bulbs are lifted and minor exploratory surgery at that time will in most cases catch up with the larva before it has gone very far into the bulb. By such early surgery, bulbs can usually be saved. When September comes, a second symptom can usually be found. At that time the upper half of the bulb will usually yield to a moderate squeeze, as the larva has made a cavity in the bulb. Figure 6 shows what will be found when such soft bulbs are opened. A few infested bulbs planted in your daffodil beds can be the beginning of years of trouble from this destructive pest. And yours will not be the only garden that suffers. Your neighbors will also be victims of the bulb fly's depredations.



(4) Bulb of fig. 2 cut to show basal rot moving upward in the flesh of the scales.



(5) Two bulbs showing entrance holes in bulbs attacked by narcissus bulb fly larvae.



(6) Same two bulbs, cut open to show the larva in each. Photographs by Willis H. Wheeler

OLD FLOWERS IN A NEW GARDEN

By GERTRUDE S. WISTER, *Swarthmore, Pa.*

We live on part of a property that was bought by Swarthmore College in 1927. The old house was built in 1900 and was used by a succession of faculty families until it was torn down a few years ago. We assume that the ornamental plantings on the place were put in at a date closer to 1900 than to 1927. After 1927, certainly, the plantings were left on their own until 1948, when my husband built our little house, and a new phase of gardening began.

The land slopes down, quite steeply in places, to a creek winding through native woodland. On these wooded slopes our predecessor planted bulbs. All through the spring we are grateful to him for them and notice with interest how they are faring.

Excellent drainage is a characteristic of the woodland. Not only does the ground slope, but it consists of rich woods soil, liberally laced with stones. The leaf mold of years, combined with the stones, is a protection against drying out.

Snowdrops, of course, are the first of the old bulbs to bloom. The clumps had become very thick and many were blind, so we divided and reset most of them. We did this when they were just past flowering. Twice I have found a curious result of overcrowding. In each of two tightly packed masses, I have found a bulb, more or less in the middle and below the main mass, that has produced a new bulb above the mass. The new and old bulbs were 2 or 3 inches apart and were joined by the original growth from the old bulb. It seemed as if the foliage, in sending food below to store, was constricted by the pressure of the surrounding bulbs, and so a new storage unit was formed.

It seems curious that if two bulbs were able to respond to their desperate situation in this way, many of the others have not responded in like manner. Perhaps they have. It is very likely that the old bulb disintegrates as soon as the new one is established.

Most of the snowdrops are the cheap but lovely common snowdrop (*Galanthus nivalis*), but there are two or three flourishing small patches of the giant snowdrop (*G. elwesii*). I have never found any evidence that the snowdrops increase by seed.

The spring snowflake (*Leucojum vernalis*), that charming cousin of snowdrops, which starts to flower just a few days after they do, shows good evidence of seeding as well as of increase by division. My surmise is that a small original planting has spread well, obviously well pleased with the situation. There is a large mass of these delightful little flowers, which looks as if it had spilled down the hillside. The larger summer

snowflake (*Leucojum aestivale*) is present only in two or three small patches.

A few dozen Lebanon squills (*Puschkinia scilloides*) form one small patch. In spite of the limited number, the plants are thriving, and the pale, scilla-like flowers are more numerous and on longer scapes than this species ordinarily produces in dryer and sunnier spots.

Scillas and chionodoxas keep spreading through the woods at a rapid rate. Thousands of seeds germinate every fall. I find that I must remove the clumps that are close to other small plants, as the maturing foliage and heavy seed pods have a smothering effect.

As I look back on the tremendous spread of these delightful blue-violet flowers during the past decade, I wonder what they had been doing with themselves in the previous 50 years. It seems to me that although the bulbs survived, their spread, especially by seed, must have been hampered by the thick mat of gill-over-the-ground or ground-ivy (*Nepeta hederacea*), which is now almost eliminated in most of the area where there are bulbs. There has also been a welcome increase in bloodroot and jack-in-the-pulpit; mayapple is becoming something of a problem, and crinkleroot and yellow violets have appeared where none were visible before.

But now for the daffodils. They must have been planted in the largest numbers, and they cover about half an acre. Of course they have multiplied until they have formed large clumps of very small bulbs. In some years bloom is scanty, and never is it plentiful in proportion to the number of bulbs. In favorable years, however, there is a surprising quantity. We have dug out some of the clumps to make way for plant material to extend the season of bloom and give all-year foliage interest.

We still enjoy the old flowers. When we walk out through the woods in the spring, we can count perhaps 15 to 18 kinds, and the names of the old classification come to mind — trumpets, incomps, Barriis, Leedsiiis. We can pin down very few more definitely. We think we can be sure of Emperor, Empress, Sir Watkin, perhaps Barrii Conspicuous. There are two or three old doubles and a poet. Especially charming are a few old Leedsiiis.

How beguiling all these old flowers are, with their starry, sometimes twisted perianths! But alas, how frail! We look with deep regret at the thin texture of the perianths, especially noticeable in the Leedsiiis, and see how very quickly they fade. The elfin charm of these informal flowers is treasure out here in the woods, even though on the show bench they would look like nothing at all.

I wonder if breeders ever find starry perianths among their seedlings, or whether, with the addition of firmer substance, this characteristic has been bred out of the flowers. If this characteristic is gone, it is a loss

to the daffodil lover who grows the flowers not for blue ribbons, but for their grace in the garden. If it is possible to have firm texture as well as narrow, pointed tepals, perhaps we can hope that some day, when tastes change, we can have starry daffodils to enhance the spring.

HYBRIDIZERS' FORUM

From Hybridizing Robin #2

Seed harvest this past spring-that-was-more-like-winter (1967) was naturally lighter than normal. But it had some compensations. Although trumpets were very niggardly, both in results from hand pollination and open pollination, the large cups came through beyond normal expectation. Small cups which normally somewhat resist effort to get seed did very well indeed, and some poets which I have never been able to coax seed from did yield a few this year (1967). 6a Garden Princess came through with a row of full pods, and even little 6a Le Beau gave me a pod of four or five seeds, as did Charity May, Beryl, Roger, February Gold, Peeping Tom, The Knave, Snipe, March Sunshine, Little Witch, Mite, Jack Snipe, and Moongate. I have never had luck with Falaise, so in desperation put mixed pollen on it to get two pods of one and two large seeds each. The doubles Pink Cloud, Money Moon, Windblown, and Sunburst also gave a little seed. I had no seed from any of the triandrus hybrids, including Silver Bells and Harmony Bells, which I hand pollinated, but 7b Cheyenne surprised me with a pod of two seeds, and 7b Chérie gave two pods with a seed or two in them.

—EDMUND C. KAUTZMANN

As the seed crop for 1967 was practically nil — and a bad storm took down a huge tree that smashed most of the flats of one and two-year old seedlings — the only encouraging thing was finding good bulbs of some of the earlier crosses that were especially interesting (*i.e.* Dinkie x *N. triandrus concolor*, Limerick x *N. triandrus albus*, Arragon x *N. triandrus concolor*, etc.).

From 38 seeds of *N. fernandesii* I transplanted 31 nice bulbs, but they were all unusually elongated. I have noticed this before in an occasional bulb, usually a jonquilla, but have never seen an entire lot like this. Each one measured 3 to 4 inches between bulb plate and where leaves emerged, possibly because of excessively dry condition in the seedling bed where they were growing.

Some of us have been fortunate enough to get seed from several of the cyclamineus hybrids as pod parents; Dove Wings, Charity May, Jenny, and some others have proved to be pollen fertile, too. But every success represents a number of trials and failures. The point is to keep trying; although Coleman has a number that are yet to be introduced and Mitsch has several coming along, to say the least this field is not overcrowded.

—JANE BIRCHFIELD

Seed Distribution

Mr. Matthew Fowlds expects to have some extra seed from crosses using small species, and Mr. Charles W. Culpepper will again have seed from crosses of larger varieties. Members who would like to share in the distribution of either type of seed should send their requests to Murray W. Evans, Chairman, Breeding and Selection Committee, Rte. 1, Box 94, Corbett, Ore. 97019.

THE DAY THE DAFFODILS DIED

By BETTY D. DARDEN, *Newsoms, Va.*

An oppressive feeling of sorrow hung over our house that day. Each member of our family — Richard, the children, and I looked at each other sadly and wordlessly as families do when tragedy strikes.

The day before was St. Patrick's Day, normally a red letter day for us, because on that date the daffodil season starts in our flower beds — a glorious burst of color and fragrance. Early that morning and throughout the day, the daffodils had outshone Solomon in all his glory. Even the later varieties were opening. It was the "luck of the Irish," we said.

As the day wore on, the wind shifted to the North. Fine weather for daffodils, we thought. They thrive in cool weather. From suppertime to midnight, the temperature dropped uncomfortably. Then it registered freezing. Oh, well, nothing to worry about, our family assured one another. Daffodils can stand 32° or even 30° weather. Down the thermometer plunged — 28°, then 24°, and how much lower, we do not know. Some said it went to 14°.

The next morning, the flower beds were an incredible, ghastly sight. Almost every lovely daffodil was lying on the ground in frozen beauty. The silence was deafening. Buffy, Ann, and John picked some blooms and caressed them, as if to breathe life into them. The chilly stillness was broken only by the occasional snapping of the stems of the few remaining flowers. The footsteps and laughter of past days were gone. Gone, too, was the sound of bees feasting on the nectar. A lonely half dozen yellow trumpets stood erect beside the brick gate post, as if to defy the elements.

"Won't they come back?" friends asked.

"No, those daffodils won't come back this year," I said.

"Nothing can revive them," Richard added.

The children helped us keep vigil. Each day slowly turned into the next one.

Then, new leaves appeared as the latest varieties came from beneath

the ground. Two weeks later enough flowers had bloomed to take to the Tidewater Daffodil Show at Hampton. We won some blue ribbons on daffodils there, and again at Petersburg the following Wednesday.

On April 8th, our most thrilling personal triumph occurred. I had a previous commitment for that day, an appointment in Norfolk. Richard reluctantly agreed to carry the few remaining flowers to the Daffodil Show at Gloucester. Physically, I drove to Norfolk and back, but my heart was in Gloucester. After returning home, I spent the afternoon looking alternately at the daffodil beds and then at the clock. It was a long day.

At 6 p. m., the phone rang. It was Richard calling from the ferry landing at Scotland Wharf. "Just couldn't wait until I got home to let you know. I got lost going over and had only 45 minutes to get the flowers in the show. Then I discovered I'd left my glasses at home, but everything was fine. All our friends from Hampton and Newport News came to my rescue. Without them, I couldn't have made it. Some lent me glasses. Others put the flowers in containers and helped make labels. We did all right — and, guess what? — we won Best Bloom of the Show — with Verona. I'll be home in an hour."

MUSINGS AND MEANDERINGS

By POETICUS

We have properly been taken to task by those familiar with trade practices for our statement in the *March Journal* that most daffodil bulbs marked "Product of Holland" are actually grown in England. Such a misstatement would violate regulations of the U. S. Customs and the terms of the Plant Quarantine Act. We regret having jumped to conclusions, but we are still confronted with the published statement of one who should know, that "England grows almost as many acres of daffodils as do all the other countries of the world combined." If that is so, we are left to wonder what becomes of them. If they are consumed by the tight little British Isles, daffodils must surely be the common flower of the cottage and of the mansion, as Lord Aberconway once said, an Arcady of which we can only dream.

* * *

One of the prices we pay for growing old and precious in growing daffodils is the loss of that innocence with which we greeted the flowers when first we fell before their charms. With growing impudence, we decide that there are good daffodils and bad daffodils and to snub the latter is to prove to our fellows that our critical judgments are sharply honed and should be respected.

Not infrequently we are confounded by the individual who is not aware

of the proprieties and announces he likes the collar daffodils, the miniatures, King Alfred, or even worse. Who would have the heart to disillusion the gardener, unburdened by the weight of being a connoisseur, who writes in a glow of excitement:

"A friend of ours, who belongs to the American Iris Society, suggested we write and tell you of a daffodil we have growing in our yard. It is different from any we have seen before and I can't find any description fitting it in Park's spring-flowering bulb catalogue or de Jager's spring-flowering bulb catalogue.

"The daffodil is a double trumpet and quite frilly. The second row of trumpet petals have an edging of green. It looks as though someone had painted a thin tracing of green around the petals. The whole flower blossom is greenish.

"Our daffodils have been blooming a week now so if anyone from your society would want to see this daffodil in bloom it should be soon. Perhaps you have a chapter in Portland, Oregon. That is only 100 miles from us.

"Please let me know whether or not this daffodil is worth staking and keeping track of because we have so many scattered over our 1½ acres that I often lose track of special ones that I want to move to a special flower bed."

* * *

In the *Daffodil and Tulip Year Book* for 1966 (p. 26), Jefferson-Brown observed that as far as he knew Binkie was the first reversed bicolor, antedating Spellbinder by 6 years. On p. 184 of the *Year Book* for 1968, Alec Gray refers to this statement and notes that in the early 1930's he paid "Messrs. Barr £5 for a quite strongly reversed *2d*, a medium sized flower with quite a small cup."

Gray may have in mind a variety called Frilled Beauty which was bred by Mrs. Backhouse and introduced by Barr in 1929. Bulbs of this may still be found in the Nashville area and are believed to have been imported from Barr by the late Clarence Connell.

Div. *2d* has been in existence since 1950, but Frilled Beauty, which first appeared in the *Classified List* for 1931, was carried as a *2b* until the 1965 edition in which it is reclassified as a *2d*.

* * *

Many gardeners allow themselves to be shackled by the edicts of professional writers and lecturers as to what can or should be done to assure success in their horticultural enterprises. Thus they tend to deprive themselves of the experience to be gained from failure and the satisfaction found in experimental or adventurous gardening. So we are pleased to note in a column headed "Notes . . . and Notations" in the *Journal* for last June that J.N.B. challenges the notion that it is necessary to remove stones from the soil and ventures the more doubtful conclusion that daffodils will grow better in the company of gravel, stones, and rocks.

It is not for us to indulge in the prescriptions we do not care to accept from others, and we shall be content to observe that the Dutch bulb growers have somehow through scores of years managed to produce mammoth bulbs in their dune-sand fields in spite of the absence of rocks. Even in this country, the commercial production of bulbs has settled down in Virginia,

Oregon, and Washington where the soil is deep, the plowshare is safe, and the bulbs wax fat. On the other hand, we recognize that in their native haunts the species and natural hybrids are tolerant of rocks and grow there more happily than in most of the gardens to which their two-legged predators have removed them.

Two thoughts might be extracted from these reflections. Large bulbs satisfy the plausible opinion that larger bulbs produce larger flowers, whereas it may be true that the only enlargement resulting from a fat bulb is in the amount of transportation charges paid to obtain it. Our second thought is that if daffodil bulbs find comfort in association with rocks, our New England members have a great advantage over the rest of us and should stop their complaining.

CHICHESTER ROAD CHECK-OFF

From the Typewriter of GEORGE S. LEE, JR., *Executive Director*

The Royal Horticultural Society has announced that the current edition (1965) of the *Classified List and International Register of Daffodil Names* is now out of print and that a new edition is being prepared. The names of all daffodils registered since the last edition will be included, and raisers who have names to register should not delay in submitting them to the R.H.S. Registrar who, in this country, is Mrs. Kenneth B. Anderson, 4810 Palm Drive, La Canada, Calif. 91011. Forms and information may be obtained from her.

Revision of the *List* will also provide an opportunity to re-examine present entries for species, subspecies, and varieties in relation to the paper by Professor Fernandes of Coimbra, Portugal, which appeared in the *Daffodil and Tulip Year Book for 1968*. Every serious student of daffodils should have this monograph which represents a landmark in the classification of the genus and changes many previous conclusions. Copies of the *Year Book* are still available and may be obtained for \$3.50 post free from the Executive Director.

No date has been announced for publication of the new *Classified List*, but it may be assumed that the target date is the spring of 1969. However, additional weeks are required to deliver a shipment of copies to this country and get them into the hands of our members, so it is unlikely that copies will be available for use at shows before the spring of 1970. In the meantime, our supply of the 1965 edition is now exhausted, and further orders cannot be filled until the new edition is ready. The price and publication date will be announced in the *Journal* as soon as known. Anyone with unwanted copies of the 1965 edition is requested to mail them to the Society's office and \$1.00 will be paid for each used copy.

The membership roster will be published in the September *Journal* as usual. The closing day for copy is July 15, and the names of members who were billed for dues on December 1, 1967, or March 1, 1968, and have not paid them by July 15 will not be carried on the roster. In the past, this has always resulted in the names of a few members, some of long standing.

being omitted because their memberships were not renewed until after the deadline.

Every mailing of the *Journal* is followed by a few complaints of slow delivery, usually when one member learns that another received a copy much earlier. The slow handling of periodicals and newspapers is being protested by the large publishers and recently was the subject of a conference between the publishers and the Post Office Department. We hope that whatever improvement results will trickle down to the small fry. In the meantime, about all we can say is that each issue of the *Journal* is delivered to the local post office at one time and is trucked away the same day to a nearby central post office. The delays accumulate along the line, but we suspect that a good deal of delay takes place in the destination post office. That is the only way to explain why a number of copies that leave here in a single bundle destined, for example, to post offices in the Philadelphia area, are delivered on dates as much as a week or 10 days apart, and it is a fact that copies have been delivered in California earlier than in the Virginia suburbs of Washington, D. C.

Upon our return from the Portland convention, we were sorry to find a number of orders for publications (especially for *Classified Lists*) and requests for information required in connection with shows that were to be held even before our return. As a general rule all orders and inquiries are handled within 24 hours, but members should bear in mind that the presence of the Executive Director is usually considered necessary at meetings of the board of directors each spring and fall, and should anticipate their needs well in advance. At such times there is a brief blackout in the operation of the office, the length of which is affected by the fact that the Executive Director takes pride in traveling by the slowest available facility, and his absence is likely to be considerably more than the duration of the meeting plus a few hours spent in viewing the tops of clouds from a jet plane.

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THE R.H.S. DAFFODIL AND TULIP YEAR BOOK 1968

Each year The Royal Horticultural Society in London publishes in a bound volume a well-illustrated collection of articles and notes concerning the growing, exhibiting, and hybridizing of daffodils around the world. The 1968 edition should be known as the Zandbergen daffodil yearbook, as it is dedicated to our good Dutch friend, Matthew Zandbergen. Alas, it will probably be known as the yearbook with Professor Fernandes' new classification of the genus *Narcissus*. No doubt we owe Professor Fernandes a vote of thanks for straightening out the genus, but this is much like a child thanking his mother for straightening up his room. We will not know where anything is or what to call it. Professor Fernandes' taxonomical presentation is quite important and will require a separate review.

Emphasis is given to the two great London R.H.S. daffodil shows, and details are presented as to who won in each class and with what variety. It is good to see that many of the same varieties win in London that win for us, such as Kingscourt, Galway, Daydream, and Aircastle, and that fine old varieties such as Sweetness and Market Merry can have the London blues. British daffodil doings are told in articles by the Blanchards, J. M. deNavarro, Mrs. Lionel Richardson, J. S. B. Lea, T. O. Cowan and Rev. John J. Broadhurst. Subjects covered are England's season, miniatures, the Richardson seedling beds, hybridizing with poets, and daffodil hygiene. Rev. Broadhurst's article on the clergy is a slight amplification of the one that our recent editor, Kitty Bloomer, published in the June 1967 A.D.S. Journal.

Especially interesting is an article by J. S. B. Lea, regarding J. M. deNavarro. Mr. deNavarro is an American citizen who has spent virtually all his life in England. For 30 years he has grown, shown, and bred daffodils. Snowhill, Evenlode, Carinthia, and Sacramento are Award of Merit introductions of his. He, his daffodils, and the American Daffodil Society, should become better acquainted.

The book contains seven articles and a note about daffodils from Australia and New Zealand; the enthusiasm of the growers in these countries is apparent. Their shows make ours seem puny, and their amateur and professional hybridizers put us to shame (Grant Mitsch, excepted). A rare article from Tasmania discourses on Lawalli, a pink double daffodil, and a note from New Zealand tells a delightful story about Erlicheer, the fragrant multi-flowered double tazetta.

Willis H. Wheeler of Arlington, Va. describes daffodil shows in Hampton, Va., Gloucester, Va., Washington, D. C., and the Convention show in Philadelphia. Wells Knierim presents an article about his home show in Cleveland, Ohio. Both name winning varieties and their exhibitors.

Three articles on tulips take up about 10 percent of the book. Forty-two black-and-white illustrations and 7 color plates, 7½ pages of notes plus other small articles, a list of award winners, and new introductions round out the volume. Obviously the book will be enjoyed by any daffodil enthusiast. It may be obtained for \$3.50 from our Executive Director, George S. Lee, Jr., 89 Chichester Road, New Canaan, Conn. 06840.

W.O.T.

FLIGHT OF THE ROBINS

By DR. GLENN DOOLEY, *Bowling Green, Ky.*

The daffodil is a tough flower. What other flower could sustain an 11-inch snow covering only to have blooms in some quantity for a show one week later? For the most part the quality was not of the best, but there were a few fairly good flowers. And what flower can give one so much joy and pleasure in the early spring?

A later report on Erlicheer by Ruth Johnson of Leawood, Kans., is of considerable interest. She reported that this variety retained its foliage all summer. In November, bud spikes appeared and one bloomed at Thanksgiving. She also stated that some of the other plants had developed bud spikes but that there was no further progression to a bloom.

There is always that interest in the earliest blooms of the season. Franklin Seney of Newport News, Va., reported that *N. cantabricus foliosus* developed three buds and two bloomed by Thanksgiving. Also, there were paper white Narcissus in bloom at the same time at Hampton, Va.

By the time the Robin left Carl Amason of El Dorado, Ark., in early February, there were several varieties in bloom. He says that *N. jonquilla* is almost like a weed. *N. calcicola* is a dainty thing that he hopes will become a "weed," also. He has good luck with *N. bulbocodium romieuxii*, a pretty little hoop-petticoat that gives him excellent blooms most winters. Other varieties making good flowers were Golden Harvest, Armada, February Gold, Malvern, Meadowlark, and Cornet. *N. cyclamineus* is not a too difficult grower for him.

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Tom Martin of Ashland, Va., is trying out a new scheme for growing some of his daffodils. He has grown *Canaliculatus* in an excelsior and peat moss mixture by modified hydroponics. He replanted these bulbs in the middle of August. They were still green at that time. He planned to refrigerate them for six weeks and replant in November and grow again with this water method. He feels that the moisture keeps them green. He also reported that tazettas remained green through August. They were grown in the same manner as *Canaliculatus*, except for refrigeration.

Wells Knierim of Cleveland, Ohio, gave us a preview of the program for the convention at Portland. He certainly made us all envious of those who were fortunate to attend. Wells is also suffering from "space-itis." He is finding it to be an increasing problem to find a place where he can plant bulbs of the newer varieties. Perhaps if Wells would turn his garden on its edge he would have ample space for some time to come. He could then plant on both sides. However, surplus bulbs can be most useful in getting someone started in growing daffodils, or they can be useful in some community garden project or in a trial garden in some locality. Wells gave a report on the new test garden being started at the University Landscape Arboretum in Minnesota. The first bulbs were planted last fall. This is going to be an interesting experiment as the winter temperatures will sometimes drop to forty below zero. Wells feels that most varieties will take this treatment, with the exception of the tazettas. If you have surplus bulbs, the chairman of the Test Garden Committee would appreciate having this information. Surely, there are opportunities elsewhere for the development of test gardens.

Jack Romine of Walnut Creek reported on the enthusiastic efforts of the newly organized daffodil society for Northern California as they staged their

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first show. He also told how he planted daffodil bulbs in 3-gallon plastic containers. Jack used an unusual growing medium, Tello, composed of rice hulls, coffee grounds, and sludge mixed with sand and a helping of blood-meal. What is he trying to do, send a bloom into orbit in outer space? We hope he will give us an additional report as to what did happen.

Have you sent your request for a place in a Robin to the writer?

MEMO TO DEPARTMENT OF NOMENCLATURE:

Offered in a periodical which shall be nameless: "Great King Alfred," "Great White King Alfred (with long yellow cup)," and "Junior King Alfred."

Type proliferations: besides the "Long Trumpets," "Short Trumpets," and "Weatherproof Giants," that have been with us for some time, we found offered in 1967 catalogs not only "Collars" and "Split Coronas" but also "Butterfly Hybrids" and "Petticoat Splits."

Does anyone know the RHS position on "Petticoat Splits"? Would this indicate a trend? Shall we expect next year "Mini's" or "Mod's"?

E.T.C.

(Or "Midi's" and "Maxi's"?)

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