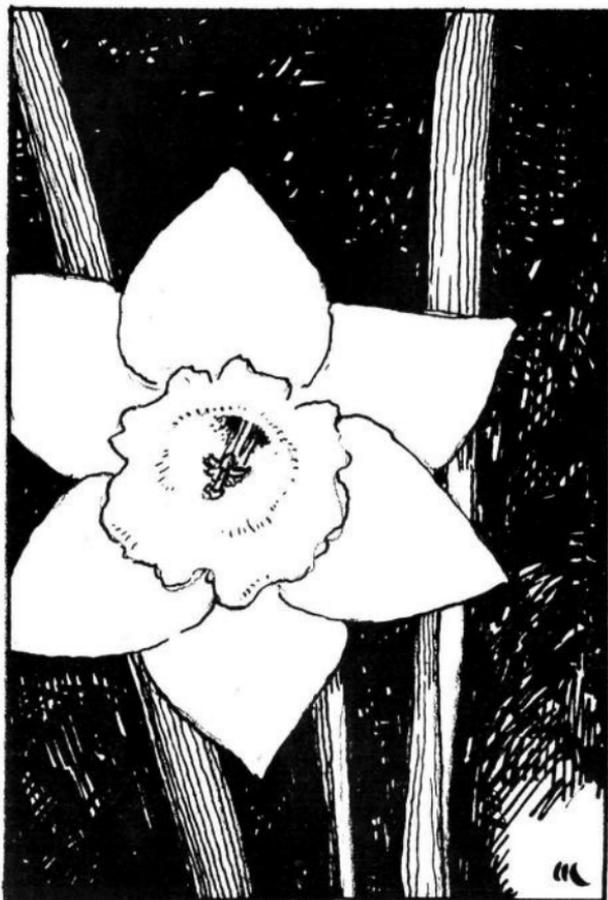


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<i>Individual Annual</i>	\$5 a year or \$12.50 for three years.
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THE COVER DRAWING

is one of several made by B. Y. Morrison in 1950 so that a selection might be made for use on the schedule of the first National Capital Narcissus Show that year. Two of the other drawings have been used frequently; this one has not heretofore been reproduced.

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VIRUS DISEASES IN NARCISSUS IN THE NETHERLANDS

By C. J. Asjes, *Laboratorium voor Bloembollenonderzoek*
(*Bulb Research Centre*), Lisse, *The Netherlands*

INTRODUCTION

Research during recent years on virus diseases in narcissus in Great Britain as well as in the Netherlands has given results that force a reorientation of the knowledge of virus symptoms and the causal viruses.

According to data from Great Britain it has been possible to isolate from narcissus of different origins more than 12 viruses which may damage a crop to some extent or not at all. It appears that a harmful effect of one virus is different from that caused by another. Moreover, the sensitivity of a cultivar plays an important role in the nature of harmful symptoms, which may be caused by one virus as well as by a mixture of different viruses. Usually more than one virus is present. Certain mixtures of different viruses sometimes do not cause conspicuous symptoms; others can be very detrimental to a sensitive cultivar. It mostly depends on certain viruses present in

a mixture, and the sensitivity of a cultivar whether or not severe symptoms develop. The quantity of virus in a single infection or in a mixture of different viruses also determines the severity of harmful symptoms.

It would be an ideal situation if symptoms caused by different viruses singly or in a mixture were known for all cultivars grown. The extension of our knowledge of virus diseases in narcissus enables us to know virus symptoms that will appear in quite a lot of cultivars; it also makes us less surprised if symptoms happen to differ from those we expected. We hope that eventually our knowledge will extend so far that a surprise will be an exception, but an enormous amount of research has yet to be done. We only have to mention that the causes of "chocolate spotting" and "silver streak" are not yet known, just to imagine how far we are from an ideal situation.

VIRUSES IDENTIFIED IN NARCISSUS OF DUTCH ORIGIN

In research on virus diseases in narcissus in the Netherlands, seven viruses have been isolated to date: narcissus mosaic virus, narcissus latent virus (its identity only recently has been detected in narcissus of Dutch origin), narcissus yellow stripe virus, tobacco rattle virus, tobacco ringspot virus, jonquillus mosaic virus, and *Arabis* mosaic virus. The virus diseases of so-called "chocolate spotting" and "silver streak" can be added to this series, but the nature and identity of the causing viruses are not known yet. The extent to which the viruses mentioned occur in narcissus grown in the Netherlands can differ very much from one place to another.

A remarkable fact is that the estimation of the presence of narcissus mosaic virus is changing. Formerly it was supposed that the presence of the narcissus mosaic virus is very prevalent, especially in trumpet narcissus. However, this has been shown not to be true. In Rembrandt and King Alfred, two cultivars of this group, the narcissus mosaic virus is present on a limited scale. The spread is less than had been supposed, if one only considers the number of years that these cultivars have been grown: Rembrandt since 1930 and King Alfred since 1899. Symptoms of "convincing mosaics" in plants of cultivars of trumpet daffodils in the latter part of the growth season, therefore, are not necessarily caused by the presence of narcissus mosaic virus.

The idea that this virus is very common in all trumpet daffodils has probably arisen because of confusion about the identity of filamentous particles in electronmicroscopic preparations. It proved to be true that narcissus latent virus was predominantly present, if one only thought of the identity of narcissus mosaic virus. The serological identity of these two different viruses could not be detected because the antisera used contained antibodies against both viruses. Use of test plants, like *Gomphrena globosa* L., which reacts to narcissus mosaic and not to narcissus latent virus, has made it possible to separate the two viruses. Usually narcissus latent virus is present in plants of trumpet narcissus, mostly in limited quantities, at least in our experiments.

From the foregoing it might be concluded that symptoms of narcissus latent virus, will be "convincing mosaics." Actually we do not know, because other viruses can also be present. One of those is tobacco ringspot virus. With more advanced methods for isolation of viruses more agents can be detected than had been supposed in older times. The effects of narcissus latent virus, tobacco ringspot virus, and others like tobacco rattle virus,

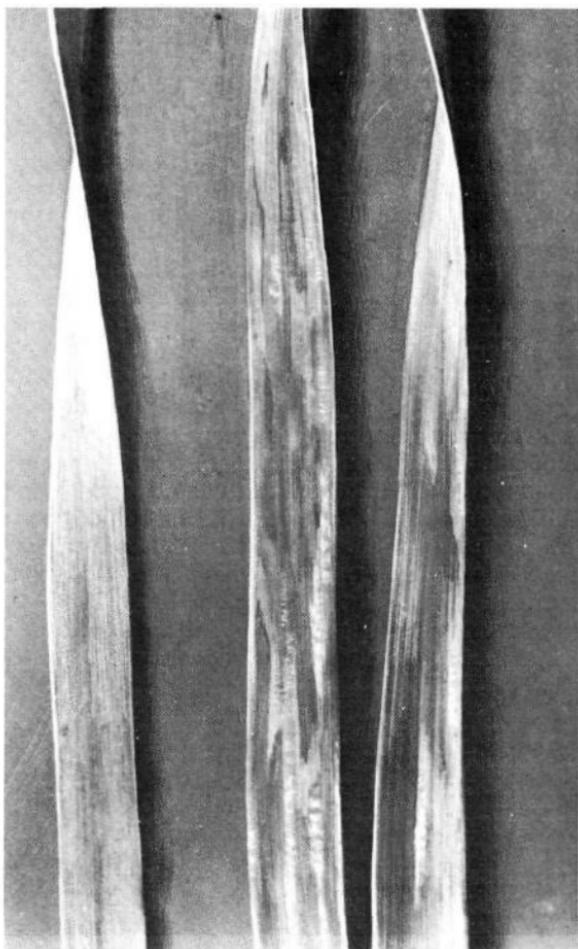
narcissus mosaic virus, as well as narcissus yellow stripe virus, have to be investigated more thoroughly. Damaging effects of narcissus yellow stripe virus may have been overemphasized in the past, in comparison with the effects of other viruses infecting narcissus which have become known in more recent research. According to publications on narcissus virus research from the 1930's and 1940's, it was clear that narcissus yellow stripe virus had the most harmful effects on growths of plants of certain cultivars. Recent research indicates that this virus can be masked under certain conditions; that is, no visible symptoms can be recognized. Moreover, symptoms originally thought to be caused by narcissus yellow stripe virus, can also be caused by one or more other viruses. This has led to the idea that other viruses can also cause remarkable damage in certain cultivars of narcissus. Research on this matter is continuing.

SYMPTOMS

It has been evident in judging symptoms that the influence of certain viruses, like narcissus yellow stripe and tobacco rattle virus, even in mixtures with other viruses, can still be recognized. Symptom expression is dependent on the sensitivity of a cultivar and on growth conditions in a general sense. Masking of recognizable symptoms has been shown to be possible. Research done in the 1930's and 1940's was mainly concerned with narcissus mosaic and narcissus yellow stripe. It is only from research done during the last 10 to 20 years at Lisse, that the different identity of both viruses has become known. The symptoms of these virus diseases are known by several names: gray-disease, 't grijs, yellow stripe mosaic, etc. On the basis of present knowledge these two viruses might not be the only ones causing these symptoms, because tobacco rattle virus, or large quantities of narcissus latent virus might also be involved. Thirty or forty years ago workers had to do much more judging visually than at present when there is a more rapid confirmation of an investigator's observations because of more advanced methods of isolation and identification.

Research in recent years has shown that symptoms of narcissus mosaic virus are mainly masked, or only appear during the latter part of the growth season. The possibility of recognition of this virus with the help of characteristic symptoms need not be the same each year. Depending on growth and climatic conditions, it is possible to see fairly recognizable symptoms one year and not another year in the progeny of a known plant; the third year, characteristic symptoms seen the first year may reappear. One should not be surprised by a total masking of symptoms due to narcissus mosaic virus under certain conditions in the field.

The recognizable symptoms of this virus in certain cultivars and conditions are a "mosaic-pattern," which begins to appear in the upper parts of the leaves in the latter part of the growth season, quite a long time after flowering. This mosaic-pattern gradually changes in part to a pattern not only having lighter green-yellow discolorations but also a deep-brown color in the upper parts of the leaves. This type of symptom expression can be recognized in the cultivar Mount Hood. It is doubtful if symptoms which tentatively are called "mosaics" and appear before flowering time, can be caused by the virus mentioned. Mosaics appearing later in the growth season in the cultivar Golden Harvest need not necessarily be caused by narcissus



Symptoms of narcissus yellow stripe virus in a most characteristic expression. Left: healthy.

mosaic virus. So it is evident that other viruses in narcissus will cause mosaics as well.

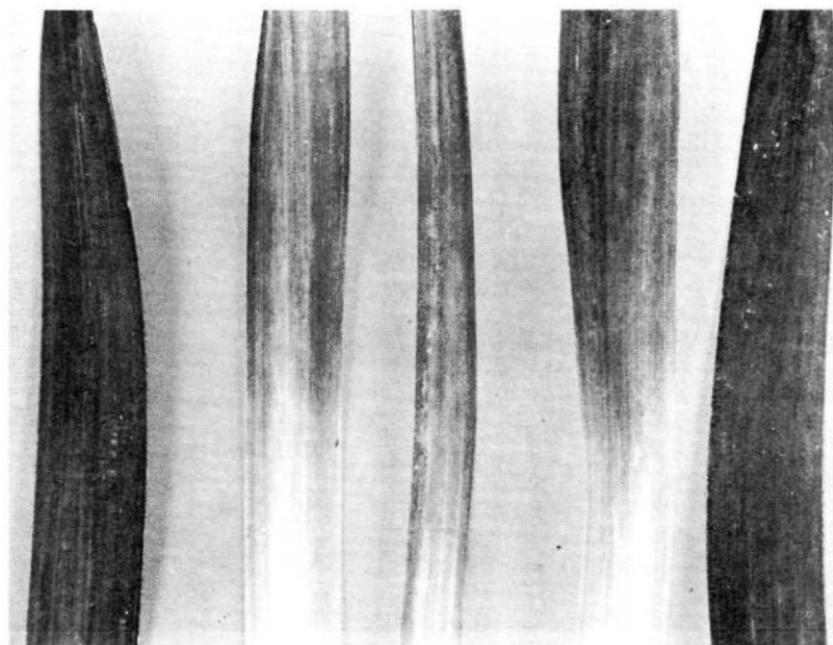
The identity of narcissus latent virus has only become known during recent years, so it is hardly possible to know changes in symptom expressions in plants of several cultivars during a growth season, if there are any at all. The name of the virus suggests that no symptoms can be detected, but there might be a different view when more cultivars are investigated than the one in which this virus originally was found. More research has to give a more definite answer.

Narcissus yellow stripe virus can be recognized in sensitive cultivars in an early stage of growth before flowering time. In certain cultivars there are most characteristic symptoms present. Clear yellow-green streaks run parallel to the longitudinal direction of the leaves, sometimes interrupted, and the leaf surface in the upper parts of the leaves is roughened. In cases of severe

infections, leaves are shorter. Both sides of one leaf can show different symptoms. Flower stems of many cultivars also show the symptoms mentioned. In certain cultivars another characteristic recognizable symptom caused by narcissus yellow stripe is color breaking in the flower which is present much more in the perianth than in the trumpet.

In the latter part of the growth season, masking of the symptoms mentioned probably does not occur, although a milder appearance under drier field conditions has been evident. In cultivars more tolerant to narcissus yellow stripe virus, masking of symptoms occurs more regularly. The fact of the occurrence of masked symptoms of this virus has only become known in recent years, so it is hardly possible to mention cultivars in which this phenomenon occurs. Magnificence is one, and King Alfred is also tolerant to narcissus yellow stripe. This tolerance makes it difficult to select disease-free plants. More research about symptoms of this virus in tolerant cultivars has yet to be carried out.

In recent research we have paid more attention to symptom expression of tobacco rattle virus in narcissus. In milder infections, symptoms can only be recognized in the lower parts of the leaves just above soil level. Symptoms can be seen most clearly before flowering time. After that, growth causes a gradual disappearance of characteristic symptoms. Milder symptoms consist of a mosaiclike variable lighter green discoloration of leaves and flower stems, in which presence of lozenge-shaped figures is most characteristic. Only a few such clear recognizable shapes may be present. The symptoms are clearer near to soil level of the plants.



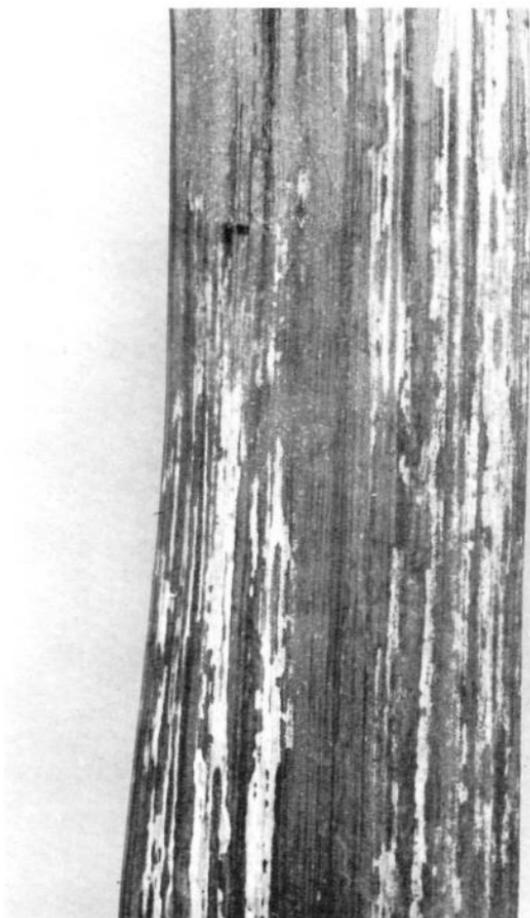
Symptoms of a mild infection of tobacco rattle virus: mosaiclike patterns and lozenge shapes in the lower parts of the leaves.

A more severe infection also gives symptoms in the upper parts of the leaves. The lower parts not only show mosaiclke discolorations and lozenge-shaped figures, but also long, quite wide pale-green to white streaks. The streaks can be present from below soil level up to the tops of the leaves. The streaks sometimes are slightly sunken.

Sometimes more evident symptoms are present on flower stems. This is true both for milder and more severe infections. Cultivars which are quite or very sensitive to tobacco rattle virus often show severe symptoms, whereas in more tolerant cultivars, the mild symptoms predominate. Severe symptoms often resemble those caused by narcissus yellow stripe virus. However, many times only tobacco rattle virus could be isolated. The situation is more complex if both tobacco rattle virus and narcissus yellow stripe virus are present. In cultivars sensitive to both viruses the most severe infections are imaginable.



Symptoms of a virus disease mainly caused by tobacco rattle virus (a severe infection).



Symptoms of "silver streak" in narcissus.

There is no definite knowledge yet about symptoms caused by tobacco ringspot virus and Arabis mosaic virus.

Symptoms of "chocolate spotting," for which the real cause is not yet known, appear late in the season and are more severe after short periods of much sunshine and high temperatures. The spots on the leaves are chocolate brown. The tint, form, and size may differ for some cultivars. Initially, confusion is possible with the fungus *Stagonospora curtisii* (Berk.) Sacc. However, the tint of the spots caused by *S. curtisii* is more reddish brown, and later in the season these symptoms will be very characteristic (Eyefleck disease). The cause of the symptoms of "chocolate spotting," e.g. in Rembrandt, is viruslike, and may be due to the presence of more than one virus.

"Silver streak" is also most apparent late in the growth season and under about the same conditions as "chocolate spotting," namely after quite short periods of much sunshine and high temperatures. The "silver streaks" are

an end expression of quite obscure streaks. They begin to appear at the top of the leaves, and may affect the whole surface of all leaves in severe infections. There are sensitive cultivars, like Golden Harvest, as well as very tolerant ones in which "silver streak" is seldom found, e.g. Rembrandt. This variability of sensitivity to "silver streak" among different cultivars is true also for "chocolate spotting." The situation differs for each cultivar.

Finally, a few remarks about symptoms in narcissus that are not caused by viruses, but that sometimes seem to be viruslike. We of course know there is at times a little damage from the hot-water treatment. Such an injury causes light-green irregular rounded spots on the tops of the leaves. This variegation and roughening is restricted to the upper parts of the leaves and does not reappear the following season, if the crop is not hot-water-treated again. The ridges sometimes present are lighter green, but not discolored.

Symptoms caused by a species of mites, *Steneotarsonemus laticeps* Halb., may also have a viruslike appearance. The feeding marks of the mites are visible on the leaves as yellow streaks and blotches often minutely speckled brown. The symptoms can cover the whole length of the leaves.

TRANSMISSION OF VIRUSES IN NARCISSUS

Very important for the dispersal of virus diseases in the field is the mode of spread by a species of animal or fungus (i.e. vectors) by which the different viruses are transmitted from one plant to the other.

In research from the 1930's and 1940's it had been stated that "mosaic" could be transmitted by aphids. Probably this type of "mosaic," however, was not caused by narcissus mosaic virus. In experiments of recent years in Great Britain as well as at Lisse investigators found that this virus could not be transmitted by aphids. The group of viruses to which it belongs according to the length of its particles, suggests that the narcissus mosaic virus can be transmitted by the contact of plants. However, in experiments at Lisse, in which plants with this virus were planted between healthy narcissus for several years, the mode of spread by contact between plants could not be confirmed.

We think it doubtful to assume that experience with test plants is an ultimate proof for transmission by contact. We could not confirm that the virus can be easily spread by cutting and still less likely by pulling flowers. It would not be surprising if a species of animal or fungus will be shown to be responsible for transmission of narcissus mosaic virus.

Narcissus latent virus is supposed to be transmitted by aphids. In experiments at Lisse it proved to be true that narcissus yellow stripe virus is transmitted by aphids. Tobacco rattle virus, as well as tobacco ringspot virus and Arabis mosaic virus are transmitted by different species of nematodes which live in soil. Several Dutch growers have successfully injected soils with Shell DD as a control measure against transmission by free-living nematodes.

INSPECTION OF STATE OF HEALTH OF NARCISSUS

As the knowledge of viruses and virus symptoms advances, it will be possible to take better and more adequate measures for the control of some types of virus diseases. In the Netherlands the system applied by the Bulbs Inspection Service (BIS) makes it possible for knowledge from recent scientific research to pass quickly to the growers with the help of inspectors.

The experience of the inspectors is integrated in their daily work and is a rich source of inspiration for research. In this way the state of health of Dutch narcissus has been considerably improved.

The work of the BIS has been carried on for decades. It is a remarkable fact that financial funds for this work are supplied by the growers themselves. At present inspection of bulb crops is compulsory. Withdrawal from inspection is legally not possible. Inspection by the BIS is being done by a great number of practical experts. These people repeatedly visit the growers during the growth season as well as during storage periods. They give advice and may urge the growers to eliminate diseased plants or bulbs from the crops. It might be supposed that during inspection a situation of uneasiness is provoked, but this seldom occurs. The growers know that a considerable improvement of the state of health of Dutch narcissus has been achieved by the activities of the inspectors of the Bulbs Inspection Service.

One aspect of the activity of an inspector has to be given more attention, namely, the impossibility of his acting with ultimate knowledge of the symptoms of all diseases, not only of virus diseases, but also of those caused by fungi, bacteria, nematodes, etc. As far as virus diseases are concerned the work of the inspectors has been made more difficult by certain facts. Quite recently the presence of certain viruses in narcissus has been given attention, viruses which we did not know of about 10 years ago. The variability of symptoms caused by different viruses and virus mixtures in the great number of cultivars required by the trade, and the influence of different growth conditions on the symptoms of virus diseases in narcissus is evident. It requires a long time for inspectors to become familiar with those variable symptoms. An inspector of course can take no action until he has seen disease symptoms in a crop. With advancement of knowledge the inspectors will be more able to explain measures to be taken because of hidden deficiencies as well. In doubtful cases the inspectors can ask for advice at the Bulb Research Centre at Lisse. The people at the Centre are able to give more information about a cause of a disease with the help of methods of serology, electron microscopy, and use of test plants. Then the most adequate measures available can be determined.

Independently, narcissus growers can ask for advice at the Bulb Research Centre. It is good to note that people use this possibility more and more!

We hope that it has become sufficiently clear that many problems still remain, notwithstanding all efforts done in scientific research and inspection services. Therefore it is difficult at this stage to apply regulations, such as: a) selection of virus-free plants and maintenance of pathogen-free planting-stock in an ultimate sense; b) application of special propagation methods to free the plants of virus; and c) prevention of spread. With negative selection much has been achieved in building up stocks of the few virus-free plants of certain daffodil cultivars in the narcissus crop in the Netherlands and more can be done with the help of advanced knowledge of virus diseases by the growers, the inspectors, and the scientific investigators. It is a task of the investigators to make other people aware that there are still more things in virology than are known in a virologist's philosophy. At least they have to try to do so. The foregoing about virus diseases of narcissus in the Netherlands has been an attempt to make this clear to myself, and it is my sincere wish that it will be clear to other people as well.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEASON, 1971

THE LATE OREGON SEASON

By GEORGE E. MORRILL, *Oregon City, Oregon*

Twenty airline miles to the northeast of Oregon City, but 32 miles by city street and county road and 1500 feet higher in elevation, is the "daffodil hilltop" of Murray and Stella Evans. Those of you who have visited them know that they live on top of the world with a beautiful view of hills and valleys with Mt. Hood in the distance.

I wanted to see the Matador seedlings of Harry Tuggle but I quickly found that I lack the descriptive powers and command of words that Harry had. Many of the seedlings were in bloom on my first visit and others were blooming four weeks later. Some had several florets per stem. Perhaps as bulb size increases, more will come with multiple florets. To me, none were outstanding. Murray says he lacks the knowledge to evaluate them properly so plans to send the blooming size bulbs to the Rosewarne Experimental Station in England for further tests.

Murray is doing quite a bit of work with doubles and many buds were large and fat when first seen. Later these bloomed into very full doubles, some with pink shades of coloring. It was a pleasure to walk in the well-kept fields and enjoy looking at the seedlings from other lines of breeding as well as the many cultivars which he grows.

Mrs. Kirby's rock garden was visited again in late April. Buds seen earlier had developed into nice flowers with Bebob, Pixie, Pixie's Sister, April Tears, and Lintie making fine displays. It was in Mrs. Kirby's garden that I first saw that fine white trumpet, Panache. She does considerable hybridizing so had many seedlings blooming. Some of the nicer first-year blooms were pinks with Rose of Tralee, Mabel Taylor, and Accent used as pollen parents.

Two other ADS members in this vicinity are the daughters of Grant and Amy Mitsch. Both are interested in hybridizing and Grant says Eileen has some fine things coming along. Elise (Mrs. Richard Havens) is interested in the smaller kinds as well as the larger ones. Judging from the crop of seed that was harvested from her efforts this year, she will soon be busy selecting the good ones. She and her husband have purchased a farm a few miles from Canby and are planning on growing some of the Daffodil Haven stocks.

What more can be said of Grant Mitsch? We all admire him for his ability to remember so much detail about his many clones. I have never seen him make notes regarding any of them; he just stores the information in his head for future use. One is lost with admiration when looking at the many good flowers he has selected for growing on for future evaluation. Many, of course, will go back into the seedling mixtures, but the better ones will be registered and introduced.

I had supposed the cool, wet spring would result in ideal pink color but Grant said it was not quite warm enough for the best color to develop. Many fine pinks with wide, flaring cups bloomed for the first time this year. These are flowers that make a good showing in the garden and are liked by many for that reason. The weather was such that the red-cups did color

well this year. Grant mentioned that, for the first time, he seemed to be blooming some doubles of fine quality.

I grow some 180 cultivars but most of these I have had for many years. Many of the older ones are in a bed that, for one reason or another, has not been lifted for six years. During this period some have succumbed to stripe, others have multiplied only a little, still others have become so crowded that they no longer bloom. But there were three that were outstanding for the way the bulbs had increased and yet they were still blooming. These three were Carlton, Gold Crown, and a rather small Mitsch seedling which we call "Jewel."

I have been having trouble getting my little seedling bulbs to grow to blooming size so very few bloomed this year. There was nothing outstanding among those that did bloom. My older jonquil hybrids were again enjoyed as they bloomed in late midseason. One or two will probably be registered when stocks have increased sufficiently.

New cultivars included a group from Bill Ticknor of which I liked Foxhunter and Homefires especially. Mitsch's Piculet and Chat were different and delightful. White Pigeon lived up to its reputation. The highlight of the season for me was the blooming of the Gerritsen split-coronas. Others of you may have obtained this dozen which he offered to American buyers. In their first year of bloom here they tended to have shorter stems than we usually expect and to be somewhat alike. Yet each one had its own individual characteristics and shade of color. I especially liked Cassata, Colorange, and Ice Crystal. Since Mr. Gerritsen said he had never used any American cultivars in his breeding work, I pollinated all the flowers with Accent and got seed from some.

The daffodil season closed for me early in May with the blooming of a very late strain of *N. jonquilla* and a few *Albus plenus odoratus*. Now the seed crop has been harvested and the bulbs will soon be mature enough for lifting. Another year has passed with a few disappointments and many delights. I will be looking forward to meeting many of you in Portland next April.

WEATHER AND DAFFODILS IN THE CENTRAL REGION

By KAY H. BEACH, *Edwardsville, Kansas*

The Central Region has an east-west extent of about 900 miles and north-south is about the same. It has a continental climate untempered by a nearby ocean, and often it seems to have just weather—not climate—because extremes of heat and cold, wetness and dryness, calm or high winds can shift with such rapidity. Kansas is one of the places where it is said: "You don't like the weather? Just wait a minute." Our prevailing winds are from the southwest, and at least one bad hot wind is to be expected during the daffodil blooming season. This or a bad hailstorm may cause cancellation of a show or garden tour.

It seems Wichita and Des Moines were blessed with particularly favorable weather in 1971; higher moisture and cooler temperatures combined to let the blooms develop more slowly, hold up longer, and develop better pink and red color.

Robert S. Campbell, an attorney in Wichita, has 1½ acres, part of which is an east slope that flattens out into a little valley. His favorites are the poets, but the list of available varieties is short. Actaea always does well, and Red Rim was very good this year. He has a 500-foot circular entrance drive along which many daffodils are planted. He had the idea of planting peonies and daffodils alternately to extend the period of bloom in one area. The peonies have flourished but they compete so strongly for nutrients, and shade the daffodils so much, that the latter will have to be moved if flowers are to be expected. (I had the same idea a decade ago, with similar disappointing results.) Mr. Campbell also belongs to the North American Lily Society, and lives across the road from one of the finest iris gardens in Kansas, that of Dr. Hugo Wall, who has just retired from the University of Wichita faculty. The report is that lilies and perhaps daffodils are going to occupy more of his time in the future. We would certainly welcome him to daffodils.

Our Regional Vice President, Mrs. William L. Brown, reports a fine, long, cool, moist season in the Des Moines area. Her newer varieties are in beds, but most of the older ones have been naturalized. We all know that a variety producing a few excellent blooms for the show table when carefully grown in beds may make no show at all when naturalized or may just disappear. Some "good doers" over the years are: Sweetness, Geranium, Thalia, Dunkel, Binkie; these of Mitsch's: Willamette, Sacajawea, Sunlit Hours, Flying Saucer (wilts in the wind); Lobuloris and Minimus did well, but Tenby quickly petered out when naturalized.

Mrs. Brown has observed that where daffodils are near hickory trees, even when not seriously shaded, they do not thrive. I have heard the same thing about walnuts (which are in the same family). Is there real evidence against walnut or hickory?

Mother and I drove to Hartford for the convention, and by the time we returned home we had seen daffodils in 20 states and the District of Columbia. St. Louis and southern Illinois mid-season blooms were hit by an 8-inch snow and freeze. It was pleasant to visit with Venice Brink in Nashville, Ill., and to see the cut specimens he had in the house. You may remember he specializes in Poetaz. It was past peak bloom and what was left gave testimony to the storm.

The L. F. Murphys in Mt. Vernon bewailed the destruction of the snow too, but a surprising number of varieties had a flower or two still in near-show condition. Newer bulbs are planted in beds with pine needle mulch; others are cultivated in rows or naturalized, making delightful effects with other spring flowers and blooming shrubs. The Murphys are like other hybridizers who can hardly wait to see their new seedlings bloom.

About 50 miles south at Eldorado we visited the garden of Mrs. Clyde Cox. The storm hit there too, but not before she had cut a lot of blooms so she could exhibit in the Kentucky State Show. Daffodil buffs seem to be interested in at least one other kind of flower, too. Mrs. Cox has a big collection of hemerocallis and belongs to the American Hosta Society (which I hadn't even heard of).

The Greater Kansas City Daffodil Society of about 20 members plans to alternate a show with a garden visitation. This year we visited on a rainy Sunday afternoon, the rain coming at every garden, but letting up while we were in cars going to the next place! The Sam Streets were originally from

"across the pond." Some years ago they visited England and Ireland, saw the famous breeders and their plantings, and brought back a lot of new bulbs. Sam has been active in our group, ordering from Wilson, Dunlap, Jefferson-Brown, and most recently from Mrs. Richardson. Her attendance at Hartford, and her wonderful collection of new or even un-named specimens added greatly to the convention. In Kansas City gardens her mixed seedlings for naturalizing included some very nice doubles and red and white 2b's.

Elnora Short and her mother were charter members of our group and have a collection of no telling how many varieties accumulated over the decades, but some new bulbs are added each year from Oregon, Holland, or Ireland. Older ones that thrive so well they still win ribbons are Jules Verne, Red Goblet, Daviot, Oklahoma.

Ruth Strickler said her garden was substandard in 1971, perhaps due to the early drought. Festivity, Paricutin, and Moonrise were exceptionally good. A clump of Moonrise which had no flowers in 1970 had 14 fine blooms this year. Reverse bicolors put on a very good display.

Mary Becker, former Regional Vice President, has a beautiful yard developed as a unit with her brother's next door. Iris, hybrid peonies, and many other perennials are combined with daffodils of all the classes. Some newer pinks were particularly good this year.

Ruth Johnson, ADS Secretary, reported that in 1971 the old tried and true varieties seemed to outdo the newer sorts. Miniatures were somewhat below par, but most of them cease to bloom or disappear in four years or less. They do not self-seed here. Some apparently "bury" themselves too deep, with disastrous results. Local variations in blooming dates are particularly evident when comparing Ruth's garden with those in the Independence area. Ruth is on the southwest edge of metropolitan Kansas City, where the untempered winds blow off the prairie, but the mass of heated buildings (not to mention pollution) make Independence 10 days earlier.

We aim at mid-April for a show date so the Johnson garden will furnish trumpets and cyclamineus while across the city small-cups and poets will be available.

My own garden is flat with rich black Kaw River bottom soil. Each year there is this demonstration of the effect of micro-climate: Charity May in a sheltered sunny spot against the east foundation of the house regularly blooms about 10 days earlier than a clump planted the same year in the open less than 40 feet away. A price that we paid for the trip to Hartford was that the fall 1970 bulbs hadn't bloomed before we left, and were finished on our return. I did see some fine color in Mitsch's pink and red-cup seedlings. Oh well, there is next year — unless they blossom while we are in Portland at the 1972 convention. I hope to see you there.

Agnes Zerr contributes: "Even before the chill and cold of winter have left us, the brave little daffodils venture out and usher in the spring above the cold brown earth. Their bright yellow cups and trumpets are like rays of sunlight on a dark dreary day.

"While I love all daffodils regardless of when they make their appearance, the early-flowering ones give me the greatest joy.

"Sometimes as early as late February I have found *N. juncifolius*, *Minus*, and *Lobularis* in bloom. *N. rupicola*, another miniature, is a doll a little later. Next comes *N. cyclamineus* and its derivatives. Peeping Tom doesn't

just peep, he looks right at you. Baby Doll, Little Witch, and February Gold arrive in March. Foresight, Armada, and precious little Moongate follow after, and then such a burst of blooms who can keep up with the flood of opening flowers? You will reap a rich reward if you plant some of these on a southern exposure."

POT LUCK ON DELMARVA

By MEG YERGER, *Princess Anne, Maryland*

The highlights of our daffodil season begin with the selection and planting of the bulbs the year before. We always promise ourselves the whole daffodil budget will be spent on only one bulb, that of a new introduction we are curious to learn about. This way there is only one hole to dig and prepare, so more time for picnics and parties! Needless to say the catalogues have the same effect on us that a cafeteria has and we become greedy, but we do concentrate on whites, miniatures, and reverse bicolors. The planting holes are prepared in May or June, complete with labels, and then covered with an upside-down clay pot to mark the place. Then, when the bulbs arrive in the fall, they can be planted at once, even if a crowd is arriving for a party.

At planting time in 1970, we had our first experience with a bulb that "wasn't right." Its neck was soft when squeezed, but it was a 1968 introduction and expensive, so, contrary to the advice of experts, we decided to try to save it in spite of suspected nematodes. What we did might be interesting in view of the fact that it gave two supremely beautiful blooms and fine upstanding long-lasting foliage in our 1971 garden. The larger nose of the double-nosed bulb had to be cut all the way back to the shoulder of the bulb and even then the "potato eyer" from the kitchen was used to take out the last bit of discoloration, the smaller nose had no sign of trouble. The idea of cooking daffodils in the kitchen had no appeal to me, so we decided against the hot-water treatment. We dipped the cut surfaces of the cleaned bulb in alcohol before dusting with sulphur. As nematodes are said to move horizontally through the soil, the bulb was surrounded with a 7-inch clay pot from which the entire bottom was knocked out. As usual, a 12-inch-deep planting hole was prepared with 0-25-25 fertilizer in the bottom and filled with a soil, peat moss, and granulated charcoal mixture to within 7 inches of the surface. The bottomless pot was set in place with a trowelful of soil mixture at the bottom. Next went a handful of sand and a good sprinkling of 6% chlordane dust. Then the bulb was firmly set in place and chlordane sprinkled again. The friable soil mixture went in then to within a couple of inches of the top of the pot where a ring of granulated sugar was poured in because someone once said "Nemos don't like sugar." As a precaution against ants that might be attracted by the sugar, another dose of chlordane was added, then the final covering of prepared planting soil and a mulch of aged hardwood sawdust.

At our daffodil show the bloom was beaten by the older less expensive *Passionale* which scored 95 and won a Garden Club Federation Award of Merit as well as the ADS Gold Ribbon, but to me the highlight of the 1971 season was seeing this bulb respond to treatment.

Until last year, the bulbs we moved from Pennsylvania 10 years ago had been left undisturbed while we concentrated on new introductions, but we were jolted into feeling guilty about all of them when *Tresamble* won the

Olive W. Lee silver bowl with bloom from one massive clump of 40 bulbs. Having won such recent honor, it deserved roomier quarters and a big meal, and so as not to show partiality, every variety acquired prior to 1962 was moved. They were dug and divided and planted with a serving of 0-25-25 for each and a topping of mulch. What a highlight for our 1971 season they became after that good meal!

It was intriguing to see how well these older varieties performed in spite of the vicissitudes of the 1971 season, which put daffodils on their mettle to prove their value in the garden. Beginning with Jessamy, which bloomed on January 3, the season was about 3 weeks early right along, which threw some daffodils into the uncomfortable situation of being in bloom in a snowstorm after the middle of March. In the middle of April, violent winds for 3 days battered and tore blooms and blew a terrace table into the most choice bed of reverse bicolors.

In spite of it all the garden was breathtaking in between times. The "oldies" that had been moved performed for all they were worth. Some that had been eased out of the limelight by newer introductions stood up tall and spoke for themselves again. The 1b's Mirth and Frolic were as superb as they must have been when Grant Mitsch decided to introduce them. Silverdale and Coolin had bloom after bloom of the beautiful stature and substance that place them among our favorite 1c's. Olivet and Dunlewey were so showworthy they won the right to be retained among the 2c's in the "white garden." We prefer them to Pristine because they require no attention at all to give good blooms, whereas Pristine has required a lot of anxious care to get her to win a blue ribbon.

Perhaps because they had been relegated to some rather out-of-the-way locations, some of the old 3b's had more protection and showed their appreciation by standing tall with beautiful pose and unblemished faces. Among these were Cadence, Blarney, Limerick, Snow Gem and, yes, even Firetail. Snow Gem won an Award of Merit from the Garden Club Federation with a score of 95 or more, as well as the ADS Gold Ribbon.

Cathedral was in an American Bred collection which won the ADS Red, White, and Blue Ribbon. The others in the collection were old ones too — the 7b's Kasota and Cheyenne and the 8's Hiawasse and Matador. Gold Crown, which we have had since Mitsch first listed it, although it was not registered until 1965, Estrellita (she smiled right through the snowstorm), White Wedgwood, Geranium, and Actaea all won blue ribbons.

A number of varieties bought more recently as new introductions proved themselves very well. The ones that stood up again and continued in bloom 2 or 3 weeks after having been flattened by the terrace table are surely five-star candidates for desirability. These include Amberglow, Chat, Dickcissel, Oryx, Pipit, Verdin, Eland, Celilo, Beige Beauty, Irish Coffee, Marcola, and Otterburn.

We are astonished at the durability of the minatures. Five of them, Small Talk, Little Gem, Tête-a-Tête, Cyclataz, and *N. calcicola*, were in bloom in the snowstorm, and our color slides show them looking blithe and gay if a bit startled! They all have personalities. Mite is determined to belie its name and grows just as big as it can. Pixie's Sister and her unnamed, unnumbered sister seedling vie with each other to see who will have the most blooms on a stem. The second sister has a little longer cup but a smaller bloom than Pixie's Sister — it is different enough so that we wish

Mitsch would name and register it. We used to have Pixie and are sentimental in regretting its loss because we got it as a new introduction and found it more help than any other variety in stimulating the interest of other people in growing miniatures. If she only had a number or a name Pixie's second sister would love to do the same!

The rest of our miniatures as well as many of our larger daffodils are quite old, not only in date of introduction but in length of time they have been with us. The first hundred were listed in 1959 when I got my ADS Judging Certificate, and even though they were moved from Pennsylvania 10 years ago, we still have most of the varieties. It is truly a season's highlight to greet so many old friends in the garden each morning. After seeing how vigorous they were in spite of this season's weather it was tempting to add some more "oldies," particularly pinks and poets, which we had passed up along the way. So, again we have been greedy with our order and again there is our garden — with too many upside-down flower pots marking the planting holes — and really we meant there to be only one!

OUR DAFFODIL SEASON, 1971

By DOROTHY and ALEX SCHAPER, *Binghamton, New York*

The beginning of the season in our little spot in the south-central part of New York State seemed discouraging as we left in the rain for the convention in Hartford on April 28. Our daffodils were just breaking through the ground, four to six inches high. Satellite was the only bloom. Ironically, we tried to think of it as a good omen.

On our return home a week later, the daffodil miracle had occurred. The rainy cool days had brought the most beautiful color we have ever had. The pinks and reds were really brilliant. Our first blooms following Satellite were Bartley, Little Beauty, and Wee Bee. Then, May 6, the explosion started with our older plantings, many of which had been in the ground for 10 years. Prologue and Shah, newly planted, came at this time. Others came beautifully fast. Our peak bloom was approximately May 10. We found our own versions of My Love and Slieveboy just as nice in our eyes but on a much smaller scale than the giants from Chambersburg which we saw at the Hartford show. One of our very personal joys was to see that Chinese White and Gold Crown had recovered from years of neglect in a root-filled shady border. Two years ago they were moved to a more favorable location and this year they were outstandingly beautiful. Although our season was a week later than usual and the bloom period shorter, we have never had such an abundance of lovely daffodils to enjoy and share with our friends. We cut at least five thousand blossoms.

One evening after a perfect spring day in our garden, we were glancing through the May 8 issue of *The New Yorker* magazine and read "Irish Sketches — a hundred thousand at a glance" by John McCarten. It was a delightful article on Mrs. Lionel Richardson of Prospect House in Waterford, Ireland. We hope you will look it up if you have not read it. We know you will enjoy the folksy visit in words and also refresh your memories of her at the Hartford meeting.

In conclusion we have learned that no matter what the weather conditions may be, the daffodil never, never lets one down. It has more determination and bounce than any other flower that grows.

DAFFODILS IN THE 1971 CONNECTICUT SEASON

By MICHAEL A. MAGUT, *Trumbull, Connecticut*

The weather at the beginning of the season was normal. The first daffodil to open was Missouri on March 31. The weather then became cold, wet, and cloudy. Little Beauty opened on April 11 and remained in good condition for several weeks. Following in rapid succession were Scarlett O'Hara, Peeping Tom, Inishkeen, Mount Tacoma, and Cantatrice.

We went to the Tidewater Show in Newport News, Va. and saw some beautiful flowers. I was most impressed by the stems of Fiery Flame, a Richardson variety, which was very orange throughout the cup and perianth. The best variety in the show was a Bill Pannill seedling called Williamsburg. I rather liked a lovely white Stormont better.

Back home, I think one of our best flowers this year was Passionale. It had its usual good form but better color than in recent years. Another pink with an excellent perianth and good pink color was Seltan. New to me was Estrellita, an early and long lasting 6a. Blooms were in good condition for two weeks and secondary blooms came late in the season. Several yellow trumpets were excellent in form and color. Rushlight, Grape Fruit, Daydream, and Stronghold were best. A first-year bloom of Grape Fruit took a first place in the National Show in Hartford. Also gaining firsts were Leitrim, Birma, and Horn of Plenty. Horn of Plenty seemed better this year than before with several stems of two blooms, quite large and very white. My wife, Pat, garnered two firsts with Revelry, which had lovely form, and Ludlow.

New to me this year was Perimeter. It had excellent color contrast and substance. Wahkeena and Descanso showed good color and contrast. Glengariff, new in our garden, was in good form and the white edging on the yellow trumpet makes it a lovely novelty.

At a local bank show, a week before the National Show, we showed a good Golden Castle, a variety like Hollandia that is double only in the cup. It is a large flower, light golden yellow throughout. Pink Supreme was the best pink, Cantatrice the best white and Elizabeth Bas the best split-corona.

Valdrome, Ahoy, and Evolution with excellent color contrast and substance seemed best among the split-coronas. Pick Up with a white perianth and orange corona was quite unusual.

Among the doubles Papua with lovely petals of two shades of yellow, and Andria, which I liked better than Acropolis, were best. Magic, new to me, was a nice white and orange. Falaise again showed two flowers on one stem.

Several pinks were very good. Queensland had a nice clean pink cup and good flat petals. Satin Pink produced many stems of good flowers. Drumboe had excellent white overlapping petals with a pale pink cup. Accent had excellent color and good perianth. Tillicum had a nice white perianth with a good flat orange-pink cup. Evans 239/6 was the last pink to open, with a very large expanded salmon pink color and a good perianth.

Stainless and Snowhill were the purest white with green eyes. Celilo, the one stem of which the puppy missed on his romp through the bed, had lovely form and color. Brahms exhibited good size, a nice perianth, and good yellow-orange edged cup. Newcastle had excellent substance and form but showed yellow down the center of its petals. Libya had a lovely deep

red-orange cup and straight petals with good substance. Karachi, a nice all-yellow with a dark center, was appealing. Ninth Lancer was perhaps the best in its class with excellent overlapping perianth.

Thoughtful, with several yellow blooms to the stem, and Horn of Plenty were the best among the 5's. Coral Crown with a very red cup drew the attention of visitors. It's too bad that the perianth was not better. Fairy Tale, Glenwherry, and Pride of Erin showed lovely color contrast and texture.

Cardigan, a white and yellow 2b had excellent substance and good color. It stood out in a new bed. Blarney had excellent color and form and Glengormley was a nice 2b with an excellent perianth and nice orange cup. Love Dream showed a lovely red cup against a very white perianth.

Stratosphere was a late blooming 7 that produced many tall stems with 3 florets on several of the stems. Suzy also produced several large florets with orange cups against the yellow petals.

The season was extended almost to June with Geranium, Lord Tedder, Platinal, Blanquet, and Albus plenus odoratus being the last to bloom.

All in all it was a most memorable season, particularly since we were privileged to meet and make so many friends in Virginia and at Hartford.

HYBRIDIZERS' FORUM

From the Hybridizing Round Robins

There are any number of things that the experimental breeder *should* be working on but that will earn him no thanks. I have in mind such things as varieties that are not necessarily improvements in flower quality but that have different bloom season or greater vigor. On a local basis this could be most important.

—Robert E. Jerrell

One miniature seedling caused a good bit of interest at the WDS luncheon meeting on March 27: truly miniature in size, pure white flower, cup so frilled it verges on being a "split," perianth segments not much longer than half length of cup, wide in proportion and very reflexed. Very green in cup throat—really an odd little thing but it gives promise of being very floriferous and a clump of them in a suitable place could be very effective.

—Jane Birchfield

Sure Method

The following is from the Australian Daffodil Society Newsletter, April 1971; the giver of the advice was not identified, but he was said to get good harvests with his hybridizing programs with both daffodils and gladiolus.

"Do you know the correct method to obtain magnificent pods full of seed? Firstly, take a pocket knife and use it to clean out all the dregs from your stinking pipe. You then forget to wipe the blade before folding and putting in your pocket. A few moments later you see a fine bloom of Royal Oak and decide that you really must have some pollen off this. The pollen is removed from the flower with the blade which has a bronze coating of brown goo left from the last job. The pollen adheres to the blade very well and defies the wind which springs up at that very moment to blow it off.

Now this very potent pollen and goo is carefully transferred onto a flower or two of this and that and in a few weeks magnificent pods full of seeds appear. Always use Erinmore—a fine Irish tobacco—and success is assured. Not only do you have lovely full seed pods but every thrip, aphid, or any other harmful thing will keep well away from the area where naturally the heavy smoking takes place.”

From the Seed Broker's Mail

My health has been poor for some time and now I am confined to the Infirmary in Capital Manor and will not be able to harvest any seed. I regret that I shall not be able to continue work with the daffodils any longer but I enjoyed the work while I was able to do it and my association with the Daffodil Society.

— Matthew Fowlds

WHO WILL BUY OUR DAFFODILS?

By DAVID LLOYD, *London, England*

The following article, reprinted by permission from the Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society for May, 1971, covers much of the subject-matter dealt with by Mr. Lloyd in his address at our convention in Hartford.

Perhaps the saddest and most chastening moment in a gardener's life is when he returns home from a visit to Wisley and contemplates his own feeble efforts, but no doubt the main purpose of Wisley is the distribution of seeds of discontent whereby we are goaded towards higher things. It is useless to remind oneself that Wisley is nourished by the subscriptions of sixty-odd thousand Fellows and the labours of a platoon of students; humiliation bitter and all-pervading sears the soul. And feelings akin to these no doubt affect many who see those highly priced and captivating new daffodils at the spring shows, arrogantly outshining in their well-groomed splendour the tired old pensioners growing at home. As Wordsworth might have been heard to say at a Daffodil Show, "But then my heart with sorrow fills; I can't afford such daffodils." And indeed the contrast between these pampered aristocrats and the daffodils which are sold in the shops grows more marked each year, for Britain's most fashionable and expensive florists are at one with the street markets in parading the ancient varieties which bearded men in deerstalkers raised in the eighties and nineties. New roses and bigger and better freesias adorn the shops, but those same daffodils which Grandmamma bought are still trotted out in each succeeding spring.

Why should this be? Is it because of complacency and lack of enterprise that the bulb trade is failing to re-tool with modern daffodils, or are none of the products of the great raisers of the past forty years suitable for commercial exploitation? Should these be left to be enjoyed by a handful of educated gardeners as though they were works of art beyond the reach of the public at large? In the case of those daffodil lovers who appreciate the vast improvements which have taken place there is but one reaction to such questions. We are amazed and aggrieved that men should be so apparently blind to facts which are so plain for all to see at the spring shows and else-

where. On the other hand it can fairly be argued that the ordinary person who buys a bunch of daffodils cares very little what they look like as long as they are fresh. If the public are content with 'Carlton' why go to the trouble and expense of giving them something else which may show no increased profit?

These are persuasive arguments, but they need cause no despair in those who would further the cause of the modern daffodil. The public are shrewder judges of flowers than most of us suspect and are by no means unwilling to try something new, as has been clearly shown by the success of 'Baccara' and 'Super Star' among roses and the viridiflora hybrids among tulips, and daffodils like roses gain in popularity every year. Indeed, as MR. A. A. BRUNT of the Glasshouse Crops Research Institute points out in the current *Daffodil and Tulip Year Book*, between 1953 and 1969 the commercial acreage of daffodils in England and Wales increased from 2,800 to almost 8,700 acres, which is rather more than two and a half times the Dutch acreage, and the area devoted to narcissus exceeds that of any other single ornamental crop in Britain. There is no reason why the public should not come to realize the merits of the newer daffodils, and why the new pink-crowned cultivars for example should not come to be accepted and enjoyed, provided always that it is worth someone's while to market them.

It is here that one is brought face to face with the almost total divergence between the interests of the raiser and those of the commercial grower. The daffodil, unlike the rose, has an exasperatingly slow rate of increase, since the only method is by means of the offsets which form on the mother bulb, and from the time the seed of a new cross is sown it takes fourteen years or so for the raiser to have even a dozen bulbs to sell. It takes twenty-five years or more for a grower to be able to sell the bulbs by the hundredweight or to market the cut flowers on a large scale. Not unnaturally therefore the raisers, whose life-span providence has not seen fit to extend concentrate on novelty sales to other raisers and specialists rather than on seeking to embellish the barrows of the future. Most if not all of the great hybridists began their activities as a hobby and fortunately most of them had the means to indulge it, for there are many easier ways of earning a living than by raising new daffodils. Gradually a cult developed which spread to Australia, New Zealand and latterly, in a typically large-scale way, to the United States, and daffodil shows became the means of encouraging a growing body of amateur exhibitors. Here in London these are to be seen on the day before a show, sitting in the chill of a Westminster evening and coaxing recalcitrant petals with costly sable brushes, pausing but to receive admiring comments from friends intent on their defeat. As though at a strip show they gaze covetously at things even pinker, smoother and more shapely than they have seen before. It is a tiny, private, fascinating and expensive world.

For the most part bulbs of the newest cultivars are sold to these enthusiasts for show purposes, although there are certain enlightened bulb-dealers who buy and offer them to a larger market once the price has begun to decline. There is no thought in a raiser's mind of making a fortune in Covent Garden, still less of breeding a flower for that very purpose, for he could not possibly afford to grow on a large commercial stock himself so as to keep it under his own control. His new treasures are grown under ideal conditions and carefully protected from wind and hail, with success on the show-bench as the first and only criterion.

Whereas to a raiser the beauty of a flower is all, a commercial grower is more concerned with the beauty of a healthy profit and loss account. How many flowers will a cultivar give per bulb? Will it force? Will it stand packing? Will it flower at the right time for the market? Will the offsets adhere to the mother bulb after lifting and drying, or will the seller be left with baskets full of unsaleable bits and pieces? These are some of the tests by which the profitability of a flower is gauged, those of the cut-flower being much more exacting than those of the dry-bulb trade. Moreover those growers who do try to popularize the newer daffodils very naturally wish to acquire the whole stock of a new cultivar so that they may control it, but the raiser, intent on the specialist market, is more often than not unwilling to oblige.

If the newer daffodils, which at their best represent one of the most significant advances in horticulture, are ever to take their rightful place in commerce some means must be found of reconciling, at least in part, these two conflicting interests, and each side must make concessions. It would be unrealistic blithely to suggest that commercial growers should undertake a large and wholly speculative capital investment in new bulbs, but it would be equal folly for them to assume that the public will for ever be content to buy their present cultivars. Surely it would make commercial sense to try a small-scale initial investment in the most promising of the newer cultivars in order to test public reaction, and no doubt other suggestions could be made by those more qualified to offer them.

Meanwhile raisers both amateur and professional might in their turn descend from their ivory tower for a while and reflect on whether their activities are really serving the cause of the daffodil in the long run. Does it for instance make sense to go on raising daffodils with no end in view save the show-bench, when improvements in this very restricted field are becoming ever harder to achieve and when the specialized needs of commerce offer a wider scope and a greater challenge? For the cult of exhibition for exhibition's sake may not only limit but in fact impede the progress of the daffodil. Novelties may and indeed do win high awards and attract high prices when in truth they are valueless for any purpose except most careful cultivation for show purposes. Judges of competitive classes, like Guards sergeants on a kit inspection, are obsessed with seeking out minute imperfections and damn a beautiful new flower on this score alone, preferring a dull bloom free from casual damage. Again, in England at all events, it is becoming the fashion to exhibit the most bloated and overfed specimens of life seen anywhere outside a Japanese wrestling match, and these Strasbourg geese of the daffodil world are all too often acclaimed by the judges. There is a danger that the thirst for prizes may blind us to the poet's concept of a daffodil as a lovely, graceful thing, for when mere size becomes a be-all and end-all, form and shape go by the board. It is also sad to note that although the Narcissus and Tulip Committee of the R.H.S. is empowered to recommend awards to daffodil for forcing and as cut flowers for market, not for years past has any flower been put up for any such award.

Surely the time has come for all who are in a position to influence the development of one of our most popular flowers to take a long, hard look at what is happening, or rather at what is not happening, and to resolve to climb out of their entrenched positions and fraternize a little with the other side.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM THE EDITOR

As previously announced, the Roster is being issued in separate form, as a supplement to this issue.

* * *

Inside the front cover of each issue of the Journal the following statement appears in very small print: "Articles and photographs (glossy finish) on daffodil culture and related subjects are invited from members of the Society." In the March and June issues of this year comments on cultivars that had especially impressed members during the season were invited, in editorial italics. We suspect that few members read the small print, but are disappointed that more did not respond to the requests for postcard-sized notes on specific cultivars; there are times when for lack of a very short item space must be left blank.

Some people think they "can't write"; some wait for special invitations, not realizing how delighted and grateful an editor is at receiving an unexpected contribution or offer to write on some special topic. Some have good intentions but are forgetful or lazy.

To encourage the timid, the undiscovered, or the just plain lazy, and in the hope of bringing in both new writers and new ideas, we are offering herewith modest prizes for the most interesting postcard contributions received before October 15, 1971, on any topic related to daffodils. If you do not have a postcard, or wish to send in more than one item, 150 words will be considered the limit for each.

—ROBERTA C. WATROUS

"WHERE CAN I GET . . . ?"

Since the publication in the last issue of the Journal of a list of varieties desired by members, your Bulb Broker is happy to say that one request has already been filled, and the following requests have come to our attention. If YOU are looking for a specific variety, and can't find it, send your request to Bulb Broker Mary Lou Gripshover, 2917 North Star Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43221.

VARIETY:
Grey Lady 3b

Locarno 1b

N. bulbocodium serotinus
(The Giant Hoop-Petticoat)
Sealing Wax 2a
Raindrop 5b

Hexameter 9

Twinkle 3a

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L. P. Dettman, Grassy Flat Road, Diamond Creek,
Victoria 3089, Australia

SYMPOSIUM BALLOT

Ballots are coming in well but more would always be welcome. If you have not sent in yours, we need it and will count it if you send it soon.

—ELIZABETH T. CAPEN

SEED OFFER

Fifteen requests for daffodil seed had been received by the Seed Broker by August 1. No seed of miniature crosses are available this year but there will be a considerable amount of seed from crosses of standard daffodil cultivars from C. W. Culpepper of Arlington, Virginia, and from open pollinations collected by Murray Evans. These latter seeds are from crosses made by bees who had excellent parents available to choose from.

Persons wanting to "grow their own" should send a note and a couple of stamps to William O. Ticknor, Seed Broker, 2814 Greenway Blvd., Falls Church, Va. 22042.

HERE AND THERE

Jesse E. Cox, husband of our Chairman of Judges, died in a Hot Springs, Arkansas, hospital on June 27, after a long illness, and just a few days after he and Laura Lee celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Word has also been received of the death of Dr. Helen C. Scorgie, "in January, just a few days before her 89th birthday." Dr. Scorgie was especially interested in miniatures, and conducted both Round Robins and Symposiums devoted to miniature until a few years ago.

Newsletters have been received from the New England and Southern Regions and the Central Ohio Daffodil Society. From the New England Region: "Libbie Holman Reynolds died at her home in Stamford, Conn., on June 18. Her property, known as Merriewood, consisted of 75 wooded acres which displayed hundreds of thousands of naturalized daffodils. The grounds were always opened for several days each spring for the benefit of one of Mrs. Reynolds' various charities, followed by a day when her friends were invited to a private showing . . . Mrs. Reynolds joined the ADS in 1967 and attended the convention in Portland in 1968."

The Southern Region Newsletter reports the dedication, by the Bowling Green Garden Club, of a memorial garden and marker honoring the memory of Mrs. Paul L. Garrett, who was a charter member of ADS and served as Chairman of Judges for some years.

A Midsouth Daffodil Society has been organized in Memphis, Tenn., with 183 members.

The Central Ohio Daffodil Society will have a fall meeting and bulb sale on September 9.

The Westchester Daffodil Society staged a display of one daffodil of each division and class as part of the First Annual Cherry Blossom Festival in Mamaroneck, N.Y. Mrs. Ilgenfritz wrote: "It took *some* doing to keep it fresh for a week with daffodils we had refrigerated since May 4, and the blessed late ones. The late season helped."

The fall meeting of the Middle Atlantic Region will be at The Chamberlin, Old Point Comfort, Fort Monroe, Va., on September 18.

The Greater Kansas City Daffodil Society will have a picnic and bulb auction in September. Ruth Johnson and Kay H. Beach gave a program on daffodils for the "Friends of the Garden Center" of Kansas City.

The Johnny Appleseed Award of the Men's Garden Club of America has been awarded to B. L. (Barnie) Kennedy, of Atlanta. He is an ADS member and judge, and also judges roses, dahlias, and hemerocallis. He hybridized the Patricia O'Neal dahlia and a dwarf liriopse, both very popular. In announcing the award The Gardener concludes: "He is a most unselfish person, giving his time and energy to help others with their horticulture problems, sharing his garden with all. He has encouraged many to be gardeners and has given unselfishly of his time and garden products in the true tradition of Johnny Appleseed, for which this award is made."

We thought the April 1971 issue of the Australian Daffodil Society Newsletter an especially interesting one, possibly because it included a short article by its editor, Lindsay Dettman, which had been taken from our own March issue: "King Alfred." We plan to reprint one or more articles from the Australian publication in coming issues of the Journal.

Members interested in daffodils on textiles and wallpaper are directed to Gourmet, "the Magazine of Good Living," March, 1971, page 41, and House & Garden, April, 1971, pages 99 and 116.

THE RHS DAFFODIL YEAR BOOKS

The RHS has decided that, despite the previous decision to discontinue the Year Books, they shall nevertheless be published, although in a less luxurious format and no longer entitled "Year Books," for a trial period of two years. Dates of publication are likely to be Autumn 1972 and 1973.

Each edition will consist of 128 pages, including 12 pages of illustrations, with a limp cover, and the cost will be in the region of \$3.00, plus postage and packing.

The trial period of two years has been decided upon in order to see whether an increased circulation can be achieved, and whether the new publication can become an economically viable proposition. If it fails to do so, the Year Books will be gone for good.

Meanwhile, a stopgap publication, to bridge the gap between the 1971 Year Book and the new book to be published in 1972, will be produced this Autumn. It will be very much an "economy" production, containing reports of the RHS 1971 Shows and the season in the British Isles, together with a list of new registrations. The cost will be about 75 cents plus postage. Further details will appear in the next issue of the ADS Journal.

The Editor is always very willing to consider any suggestions as to contents, especially from overseas, and if any members of the ADS would care to let the RHS know what sort of features they would like to see included, such letters would be warmly welcomed.

— DAVID LLOYD

OUR MEMBERS SEE DAFFODILS ABROAD

Although the following accounts were written for more limited audiences, we believe their interest warrants wider circulation.

SPRING, 1971

By JANE MOORE, *Poquoson, Virginia*

(Written for the Middle Atlantic Region Newsletter)

It seems that whenever you decide to do something you want very much to do that you must miss other things that you enjoy. Some years it's the choice between exhibiting and judging but this year Roxie, my husband, and I chose to go to Ireland, England, and Holland and miss most of the daffodil season in this country. For that reason I cannot report on shows in our region but will share with you some of the highlights of our trip. We went this year because we could make the trip, attend the RHS Show, which we have wanted to see for years, and return in time for the ADS convention in Hartford.

Our miniatures started blooming around March 10 but we saw very few of the standard varieties. On the first day of spring I cut and brought into the house one each of the 12 varieties which had opened: Lemon Doric, Ceylon, Moonmist, Gold Crown, Erlicheer, Woodgreen, March Sunshine, Sweetness, Nancegollan, Harmony Bells, Galway, Yellow Warbler, and an Armada × Paricutin seedling. This is the third year of bloom for the seedling — five blooms which I thought had better color and form than Ceylon even though it lacked the distinction of a Rose Ribbon winner.

On March 24 we left our flowers to go to Ireland. Later we heard there had been snow here a few days after we left. All our friends had warned us that we had planned our trip too early and we would freeze and see no daffodils. Since it was our first trip abroad we thought we could sightsee and forgo daffodils for the first week or two. While waiting for the bus at JFK Airport to go from one airline to another I was very cold, but the next morning when we landed at Shannon the weather was balmy and everything was the most beautiful green you can imagine — truly the Emerald Isle — with daffodils, hyacinths, and forsythia blooming everywhere. This was true not only in Ireland but for the next five weeks we saw daffodils, hyacinths, primroses, wallflower, and all the spring shrubs blooming profusely. For the next week I needed a lightweight raincoat because it rained a little every day — perhaps that is why the daffodil stems were so long and the colors so deep. On our day in Waterford it rained all day but, in spite of it, we had to see the Richardson daffodils. Mrs. Richardson was in London for the Competition but we had a warm invitation and Colonel Thoburn most graciously showed us the plantings. The Colonel is a most interesting and entertaining gentleman with a marvelous sense of humor. I had seen Richardson flowers at conventions, I had seen slides of the plantings, but nothing can give the true picture except to see it. Words fail me to describe the care and perfection of placement of each bulb in each bed, the immaculateness, the protection, as desired, from rain, sun, or wind, the healthy foliage, and the magnificent blooms.

Then we flew to London and it was cold. Masses of daffodils were in full bloom along The Mall, in Hyde Park, St. James' Park, Kensington Palace Gardens, and in window boxes throughout the business districts. Leaving London we headed north in our little rented car. A very fortunate error in directions led us to Spalding in Lincolnshire, which is the center of the commercial bulb growers in England. I was told that more daffodils are grown commercially in this area than in Holland, and I believe it because there were vast fields of blooms for miles around the town. Here the British bulb industry has a 20-acre show garden (Springfields). We were allowed in although they were opening to the public later in the week.

On our way back to London from Scotland we spent an afternoon with Jean Jefferson-Brown and the three children. We were sorry to miss Michael, who had gone to Harrogate to make some preparations for that show. Charming, vivacious Jean with the help of Robert, who stole our hearts, drove us to all their fields to see the blooms which were at their peak. The rolling countryside around Worcester is beautiful and the large fields of daffodils were spectacular. Looking at a long row of doubles in one of the fields I realized how pretty they can be and wished I could raise them so well.

Our next daffodil stop was at Broadleigh Gardens, where Mr. Stagg was busily preparing for the RHS and Harrogate shows. He invited us to roam about the gardens for as long as we liked. Again it was raining but that did not deter us as we wandered enchanted around the gardens for several hours. As you know, Mr. Stagg is interested in all plants and, in particular, the alpine plants which complement daffodils or vice versa. These gardens are so skillfully and artistically planned that you feel that each bulb and plant is where it would like to be.

The RHS Show (April 20-21) was a thrilling experience — more beautiful and larger than I had anticipated. The people we met were so nice and the trade stands and competitive classes were interesting and appealing, showing many varieties that I was seeing for the first time. Roxie was intrigued by the bonsai and alpine exhibits but I stayed mostly with the daffodils. The entries for the Engleheart Cup seemed perfect to me. Mr. Lea was the winner and his flawless white, Inverpolly, was best bloom. The loveliest Rose Royale I have ever seen was in Mrs. Richardson's entry. Several places I saw the fascinating pink cyclamineus, Foundling, and I thought one of Mr. Blanchard's seedlings was a real beauty.

After a week in Holland where we enjoyed the picturesque scenery and then a few days in Hartford at the convention where daffodils were abundant we returned home to find only a stray one or two in bloom. It was fun, however, to go around the yard, count the number of "deadheads" per variety, and, especially, to note which ones my neighbor (with my permission, of course) had cut.

EARLY RHS DAFFODIL SHOW VISITED

By RUTH PARDUE, *Columbus, Ohio*

(Written for COGS Corner, Newsletter of the Central Ohio Daffodil Society)

The RHS Daffodil Competition was held March 31 and April 1, 1971, in London. It was my privilege to be able to view it this year and I would like to share my reactions with you. We had arrived in London on March 28, a

bright sunny morning. The trip into London was a preview of things to come. The forsythia, hyacinths, and daffodils were abundant. Hyde Park was full of yellow trumpets. I had not expected to see spring this far along, for when we left central Ohio it was still quite wintry.

Upon entering the Show Hall, the first exhibit I saw was the Michael Jefferson-Brown Silver-Gilt Medal winning display. His long window-effect display was appealing, and the vases of Charter, Arbar, Andalusia, and Entrancement were quite nice.

The competition among the amateur growers was keen. I will not try to list all the winners. Newcastle took 1, 2, and 4, with Trousseau third in the 1b class. The 2a (red predominating) was won by Shining Light (Board) exhibited by W. A. Noton. The 2b class was won by Mr. Noton, with Cold Overton, which was clean, clear, and had a nice long stem. In the open competition this cultivar took second to Canisp. I noted that the amateurs' flowers tended to have extremely long stems (the balance was affected in some cases). Rockall won the 3b (red predominating) class, and this specimen had the longest stem I had ever seen. Angel won the 3c class and was very smooth and flat.

The open competition provided me the opportunity to see things I had read so much about and some things that I'm sure we will hear more about.

The two outstanding classes of the show were Class I, for 12 blooms of one's own breeding, and Class II, 12 blooms, not fewer than 3 divisions. Mrs. Lionel Richardson won both, and the Best Bloom of the Show came from the first class — Irish Light, 2a. This variety was also shown in the other collection and won in the single-stem class. The color is so intense and the contrast is beautiful. The other varieties in Class I were: Ennismore 1a, Perseus 1c, Celtic Song 2b, Golden Aura 2a, Rainbow 2b, Avenger 2b, Verona 3c, Falstaff 2a, Carrickbeg 1a (a beautiful yellow), Fiery Flame 2a (unusual coloring), and No. 238 (Kilworth \times Arbar), a giant Hotspur-type variety.

Class II showed Golden Chance 2a, Irish Light 2a, Irish Rover 2b, Verona 3c, Golden Aura 2a, Empress of Ireland 1c, Royal Jester 2a, Montego 3a, Rose Royale 2b, Carrickbeg 1a, Hotspur 2b, and No. 247 (very much like Irish Minstrel).

In the pink classes Rose Royale and Celtic won, both exhibited by Mrs. Richardson. Another pink of note was Highland Wedding, shown in a display. The band of pink around the cup is very nice.

Other outstanding varieties which won were Monk Silver by Mr. Noton, which is a clear, pointed 3c with a lovely green eye. Loch Hope, exhibited by J. S. B. Lea in the class of 6 blooms, was a clear 2a with a nice goblet cup and quite refined. Cool Autumn exhibited by Mr. Noton was an exceptional 2b with a very flat perianth.

Gay Challenger was everything the catalogue description says it is, and Andalusia was quite outstanding. There was one Andalusia shown with two blooms on the stem, but it had been disqualified as not characteristic.

It was nice to see Mr. Mitsch's Honeybird as a first-place winner shown by Mrs. Richardson. Golden Aura was lovely with its rounded and overlapping segments.

The classes were very lovely, but to me the Gold Medal display by Mrs. Richardson was breathtaking. The size of the exhibit is quite large. There were seven tiers, and on each tier there were a minimum of 20 vases. Each

vase contained 6 to 24 blooms of one variety. The quality and freshness of the blooms on this last day of the show was outstanding.

My only disappointment was that I could not stay until the other RHS Competition, but the sight of my own first flowers of the season opening the day I returned to Columbus was reason enough to come home.

In a Round Robin letter Jack Romine mentions visits to Wisley, the gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society:

"The bulbocodium meadow was in full bloom both times I visited there this past April. It was very heady stuff to see such a sight. While I was walking through with Chris Brickell, the new head of the gardens, I asked if he ever spotted any natural hybrids, and he immediately took me to a *N. bulbocodium* × *N. triandrus albus* seedling. I like this little fellow and am pleased that I have a number of seedlings of my own now growing from *N. bulbocodium obesus* × *N. triandrus albus*.

"At Wisley I also saw the Daffodil Trial beds. The daffodils were superbly grown, and were blooming with a uniformity I seldom see. There had been a winter drought and as a consequence there was hardly a smooth, exhibition-quality perianth in the entire planting, but the coloring was unbeatable."

TAKE TWELVE FROM ELEVEN

By ELIZABETH T. CAPEN, *Boonton, New Jersey*

I shared with most fanciers a jaundiced view of the misshapen oddities that began appearing among us a dozen years ago under varying names, some of which matched the flowers in weirdness, but that now are officially entitled "Split-Corona Daffodils" and placed in Division 11 of the Classified List.

By 1967 it seemed space should be found for these curiosities in our test-teaching plots, that aim to illustrate classification and the development within each class. In a similar spirit, we have planted other things we have not admired: King Alfred (it dies, not liking cold north clay) and some of those unfortunate "pinks," so loudly touted but so distorted; and so, too, we keep Hyperion, the King Alfred of the daylily world. Having at hand such famous—or infamous—ones becomes a teaching gimmick, perhaps a mute defense for the fancier. When a guest tells you, as some do, "These are all very nice, but not any better than King Alfred—or Hyperion—or such—" there is no answer so convincing as showing the contenders side by side. So, just to have some—good or bad—for the curious, I ordered 12 samples of split-corona daffodils, some from the U.S.A., some from Holland.

Four years later, I believe the newcomers have a story worth telling. This year no class in our test plots compared in vigor. Foliage was strong, blue-tinged. Flowers, held well above the foliage, had excellent pose, size of bloom to match the foliage, and color of carrying power. These qualities are vitally important to spring gardens, and we noticed that guests were drawn to this row. The 11's commanded so much attention from a distance, that it seemed well to take a closer look and record their performance and appearance individually.

So we did, but keep in mind that these 12 were not the best or newest. Practicing what I preach, "Never buy a \$25 bulb, if there still is a 25¢ one

you want," I ordered the dozen cheapest and easiest available. Here they are:

Gold Collar (Gerritsen, 1956) Early, corn yellow, 21½" high, producing after 4 years 7 blooms of medium size and no especial distinction of form.

Canasta (Gerritsen, 1957) Midseason, 22½", with even, white perianth, slightly reflexed. Big, flat, brassy yellow crown provided sharp contrast, while prominent stamens and style added interest. In 1969, we had to discard some for health but had 5 blooms this year from what remained.

Split (Gerritsen, 1957) Early, 21½", two-toned white, frilled but not flat, was reminiscent of a double petunia. Only 2 flowers 2 years down, but 11 in 2 more.

Elisabeth Bas (Lefeber, 1958) Rot on arrival.

Papillon Blanc (Lefeber, 1960) A slow starter, producing no blooms the first 2 years, but 8 in 2 years more. An eye-catching flower, 20¼" tall, creamy white with a flush of ochre in the flat cup. But, it is the green eye, with the cluster of ¼-inch stamens and the long-lasting lateness of this one that appeals.

Estella de Mol (Lefeber, 1960) In '69, we had to discard 3 fans and by 1971 had only 2 blooms, but this is one of the few of the class that I have seen anywhere that I should recommend for exhibition. This is a fascinating flower, different, but for the purists. It is so precisely cut that the crisp yellow, frilled corona appears to lie before and behind the white segments alternately. Smaller and shorter than others — 17".

Mol's Hobby (Lefeber, 1960) A tall (22"), large gold that draws people, especially the iris fanciers, who see in this before the petals drop another Royal Gold (the 50th anniversary selection of the American Iris Society) or better. It does at this stage resemble an iris, but what I see is that this plant has the strongest foliage here, fountain type to 1¼" in width. H. 22". The flower has a 4-inch light yellow perianth and sepals reflexed and a 3-inch rich gold cup so deeply cut as to appear double, and as the one above, having that rather eerie quality of a continuing ruffling that appears to weave in and out of petals and sepals.

"Hillbilly." Did not survive.

"Hillbilly's Sister." Grassy by 1969; 3 flowers of no merit in 1971.

"Artist." Produced 15 blooms, 22½" high, with pale yellow perianth, darker cup, and great irregularity.

"Ice Cap." Produced 8 creamy white flowers 21" high in 4 years. Form follows class definition; perianth is flat; there is great variation in the flat split cups, while the long pale style and stamens enhance an impression of over-all muddiness.

"Trillium." 15½" high. 4 blooms in 2 years; 2 in 2 more. Looks like a malformed 2c, with weak, uneven, hooded perianth and a heavily fluted but not flat cup.

As one looks over this list of 12, it seems to me the first question is, "Why so many unregistered ones?" It just did not occur to me when ordering to check registration, and so it was not until planting by date of introduction, as I do in our test beds, that I discovered that 5 of these 12 had not been registered at all. I infer that, in exploring for a new form in daffodils, some growers had stock on hand they did not want to acknowledge but did not mind selling.

Then, as I look over the detailed tabulation, many mentions of slow starters and discards for health seem in conflict with my original general

statement of the eye-catching vigor of the whole group among the block of about 850 cultivars now under test, receiving as like treatment as we can manage. One could deduce that some of these 11's require a few years to do well.

Let me summarize:

1. A new style daffodil has been launched, the split-corona, but only registered cultivars are recommended.

2. They have, as a type, exceptional vigor, even flamboyance.

3. While some are blousy, others are precisely sculptured.

4. Some seem to need a few years to become acclimated.

5. Of the above: I should award a blue for exhibition to Estella de Mol, a red to Papillon Blanc, and the yellow to Mol's Hobby. For landscaping, 1st prize would go to Mol's Hobby, 2nd to Canasta, and 3rd to Gold Collar.

While begun, as I told you, just to have some of the horrible examples at hand, this test has interested me to try more. Perhaps some of you will join me, and we can compare notes in another few years.

HANDLING BULBS FROM NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA

By GEORGE S. LEE, JR., *New Canaan, Connecticut*

(Adapted from New England Region Newsletter)

Even daffodil bulbs imported from the British Isles require a period within which to become acclimated before producing typical flowers. The length of time will be related to the contrast between conditions of soil and climate where the bulb was produced and those where it is to be grown. Another variable will be the variety itself; highly bred exhibition novelties may take several years to settle down. A third factor present in the case of bulbs from Australia or New Zealand is the seasonal difference between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. Obviously a bulb which is accustomed to waking up in September is disconcerted to find that its kith and kin have long since gone to rest and won't be seen again until a lot of snow has been shoveled.

However, daffodil bulbs are quite adaptable and will accommodate themselves to any place you choose to make your home. They just need a bit of patience and understanding. Bulbs from Down Under are usually received here in March and the problem is whether to hurry them into bloom the same year only six months since they last bloomed, or delay the flowering until the following spring which means a stretchout of 18 months. The conclusion of experienced growers is that the latter is much better for the bulb than pushing it into bloom with an inadequate resting period.

Guy Wilson was once asked what he did with bulbs from the Antipodes and he wrote: "People send me odd bulbs from Tasmania and New Zealand practically every year and I have come to the conclusion that the best method to treat them is to keep the bulbs which arrive here dormant in our spring season, in my warm linen closet, at a temperature as near 80° as it can provide and so keep them dormant right through the season right up till the late end of our planting season—say late in October—then plant them out of doors when they will come along in our own spring season and be able to ripen their foliage better in our summer than if we had

planted them on arrival in spring. I used to plant them in spring and found that they could not ripen their foliage properly in autumn, and made terribly weak bulbs; also they seemed to get virus very easily (I suppose from virus-carrying insects that were about in summer). If they reach you around April, I am sure you will have no difficulty in your warm climate in keeping them dormant until your late fall."

Of course, many bulbs are shipped from the British Isles to Australia and New Zealand and Mr. Phillips, ADS member in New Zealand, writes from his experience as follows:

"It is far better to endeavor to persuade the bulbs to wait the extra six months required to bring them into line with the new seasonal requirements rather than make them hurry up to make up the lost time. Daffodils make little root growth when the temperature is above 73° F. and are best stored in open bags in an airy cupboard above this temperature. A cupboard or shelf above the refrigerator or deep freeze could be the ideal spot. Examine bulbs each week to see that there are no signs of decay and remove any offsets that are ready to detach. This prevents sweating at the junction with the parent bulb. At normal lifting time or a little later if the bulbs are keeping well, plant them in the normal way, preferably where they will receive the early morning sun but not the afternoon or late sun. On the eastern side of a low hedge or wall would be excellent. It is advisable to plant a little deeper than usual and ridge the rows up about 3" above the level of the bed. The deeper planting helps to retard the bulbs. If properly treated the bulbs should flower at the normal time in the spring, but the first season's flowers are not likely to be up to the usual standard and the foliage may look rather sickly for awhile, but in the second year things should be back to normal. It is best to lift the bulbs after the first year and treat them in the normal way. There is nothing difficult about acclimating daffodils; they are probably more tolerant than most bulbs."

From one experience with Australian bulbs some years ago, this observer can confirm that the adjustment to new seasons is taken in stride by the bulbs. The question is to extend the dormant period long enough to prevent the bulb from throwing up leaves and flowers before our winter sets in, and yet not keep them out of the ground so long that they become soft and dried out. The alternatives should be weighed at least weekly beginning about Sept. 1. With each passing week the danger of flowering lessens while the process of dehydration approaches the point of no return, and eventually the judgment must be made that the bulbs should be returned to the soil. This hard decision was avoided in one case by placing the softening bulbs close together (and labeled) in a dish filled with moist peat moss. The container was placed in the refrigerator where the bulbs put down roots and regained their plumpness. After two or three weeks when all danger of growth outdoors had passed, the bulbs with their clumps of short roots and peat were carefully set in the soil and citizenship in the Northern Hemisphere conferred.

A number of years have elapsed since about fifty collections of New Zealand varieties were imported from Phillips by members in different parts of the country. It would be of interest to have reports from these members and from others who may have subsequently brought in bulbs from Down Under, describing how their bulbs were handled, the results, and suggestions based on their experiences.

MY LIFE AND HARD TIMES WITH MINIATURE DAFFODILS

By VIRGINIA DURBIN, *Wachapreague, Virginia*

In the early 1930's Wayside Garden's catalog description of Angel's Tears convinced me that I had to have that in my garden. Never mind the depression. I invested in three bulbs and planted them, probably much too deep, almost in a clump of *Iris cristata* at the base of a limestone birdbath. Spring came and went as springs do but Angel's Tears did not appear. For years afterward I stuck to King Alfred, Emperor and Empress, *N. poeticus*, "trumpet Major," Albus Plenus Odoratus, jonquillas, and Will Scarlett.

By 1952, having seen several daffodil shows in Boston, Mass., and Alexandria, Va., and experienced the attraction of miniatures in bloom, I plunged again. I bought Angel's Tears, Queen of Spain, Minimus (*N. asturiensis*), Raindrop, Elfhorn, *N. pseudo-narcissus obvallaris*, *N. watieri*, Nylon, and Cyclataz and planted them at the base of a large walnut tree in a week-end garden in Essex County, Va. Minimus bloomed on February 18; *obvallaris* in late March and was never seen again; Angel's Tears on March 27, one far from impressive bloom; Queen of Spain in early April; Raindrop on April 14. At the end of April when I thought all returns were in, Elfhorn surprised with one tiny trumpet. Nylon never bloomed, though for several years long floppy foliage kept hope alive. In 1958 *N. watieri* and Cyclataz produced a single bloom each. They made a telling part of a collection of miniatures which won a blue ribbon in the Garden Club of Virginia show in April. And there I was, a successful grower of miniatures never having had a single lesson.

Little did I know. My colony of miniatures under the walnut tree soon proved that in Virginia wild violets grow and increase faster than miniature daffodils. Moved into a less crowded bed Minimus increased modestly and even set seeds for several years, then declined sharply. New bulbs, planted in pots in 1969, produce few blooms.

Queen of Spain, lovely thing, bloomed for several seasons — beginner's luck — then vanished altogether.

Angel's Tears, called now by its Latin name, *N. triandrus albus*, I continue to grow — better say, attempt to grow. Planted often in various ways, it never blooms with the vigor and look of well-being which even the frailest flowers can display.

Jonquillas, as everybody knows, are good doers in the South. They are very much at home on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, where they increase and bloom generously but never too many. I have several variations in blooming time and size though in appearance they are look-alikes. The earliest bloomer in March is said to be from Louisiana; those found here and brought by me from other gardens bloom in April. One bought under the name *N. jonquilla* Helena took six years to bloom; it is very small and produces single blooms well into May.

N. nanus. This small trumpet I have grown here for 10 years, unpotted. The ratio of blooms to bulbs remains low — about 4 to 10, and this is maintained by frequent dividing and replanting. Patches of it furnish welcome scraps of color in mid-March.

N. × tenuior. Bought in 1958 and in 1961, this straw-colored late bloomer has held its own planted in the open under an apple tree.

N. bulbocodium var. *conspicuus*. Ten bulbs of this were planted in a pot on the south side of an enclosed well in 1962. Their record reads: 1963, no bloom; 1964, 1 bloom, April 23; 1965, 1 bloom, April 16; 1966, 1 bloom, April 2; 1967, 1 bloom, April 10; 1968, 5 blooms, beginning April 5; 1969, 9 blooms, beginning April 9. This boring history was interrupted by taking up the bulbs which had increased to crowding, replanting a few in the pot and scattering the others here and there in the same area. The past two seasons they have produced a dozen or so blooms and it seems safe to assume they are established.

A fall-blooming small tazetta from Greece. I had the pleasure of finding this in 1962 on Mykonos, where it grows wild. Complicated but interesting efforts to import a few bulbs resulted finally in carefully planting a handful with no, repeat, no results. Lifted 2 years later the container yielded nothing but gritty sand which was all I could substitute for the rocky mountainside of Mykonos. But I treasure a post card from my Greek friend. "I didn't forget you. I keep the money but I couldn't find some dry bulbs. There are so many I cannot discriminate them. I will send you late in Sept. or Oct. when in blooming. I will take them off put in pot and let them die. This is the only way to be sure I send you the proper flower."

Canaliculatus. In 14 years I have bought this five times from the Washington Daffodil Society club order, from the Heaths, from White Flower Farm. I have had bloom three springs. I now have masses of foliage. Once a show entry which looked a sure winner lay limp in its saltcellar when the show opened, water forgotten or spilled. But that cannot explain its difficult ways. Fortunate growers who have superb blooms patiently explain to the have-nots how they do it and the have-nots go and try again and feel sure the haves left out the real secret. (Yes, I ordered just a few this year.)

Other species miniatures I have grown for a year or two from time to time are *N. juncifolius*, *N. cyclamineus*, *N. scaberulus*, and *bulbocodium* varieties other than *conspicuus*. None of them are established.

As for the hybrids: Wee Bee 1a. A record of more than 10 years shows it an early, dependable bloomer. A good show variety. Has not increased but stays.

Tanagra 1a. Another early trumpet bought in 1961. Disappeared after a few years. I would like to reorder.

Little Beauty 1b. No bloom from first planting. Bought again in 1966. Faithful bloomer since. Too early for shows. Does not refrigerate well but delightful out of doors.

W. C. Milner 1c. Bought in 1963. It has increased generously and is effective in several places in the garden and in small arrangements in mid-March. Long lasting but not a good show flower. Here it turns white just before it fades.

Xit 3c. This lovely thing has increased moderately for 11 years in my garden. A classic show variety. I have never seen a yellow Xit.

Pencrebar 4. Bought in 1955. All of 10 or 12 blooms in the spring. For reasons known only to the placement committee a vase of three entered in a show was disqualified. From rage or disgust the bulbs never bloomed again. Replanted, fed, watered, then neglected completely, they finally disappeared.

N. jonquilla Flore Pleno 4. First bought in 1954. No bloom. Probably planted in too deep shade. Bought from another source in 1963 and has

bloomed well and increased moderately since. I plant "extra" bulbs here and there in the garden and now, lacking a hidden-treasure map, I cannot find them. They may have been pulled out for wild onions, but I hope to be happily surprised some spring.

April Tears 5b. My 11-year record shows everything from "no bloom," "late, April 25," "not very good" to a show ribbon here and there. At its best a garden gem and a sure winner in shows. On April 26 this year, after shows, I had a clump of five or six superb blooms on the north side of the well. Next year —

Hawera 5b. Bought in 1957. Late. It has not increased but stays.

Frosty Morn 5b. Bloomed well for 2 years then no. Bought again.

Mary Plumstead 5a. Satisfactory and beautiful. Poor this year?

Raindrop 5b. One of my first and happiest ventures. I agree with Alec Gray: "Perhaps the most beautiful of all the miniatures." Bought 1953 from the Heaths. Bloomed well and increased moderately well until 1966. This year foliage only. Why? It cannot be bought now.

Tête-a-Tête 6a. Now a dependable and sturdy bloomer; my first try was not Tête-a-Tête.

Jumblic 6a. Engaging little charmer. Here since 1965. The only increase has been from buying more stock, hoping for a plantation of Jumblics.

Sundial 7b. Since 1964 the most (the only?) reliable jonquilla hybrid I have tried. It blooms and so far it stays.

Bobbysoxer 7b. Bought in 1960, turned out to be something else. Bought again. Blooms, but is it Bobbysoxer?

Kidling 7b. Bought 1960, furnished tiny bloom or two in 1966.

Flomay 7b. Bought in 1958. Never bloomed.

Pease-blossom 7b. Bought 1958. Never bloomed.

Last fall I planted my new miniatures in pots and for the first time kept them in an enclosed porch. Most had made foliage when on New Year's Eve a windstorm blew off part of the enclosure. Outside they froze, a total loss, the first time I have been sure of loss from freezing. Squirrels and coons are known to dig up some bulbs outside but may be blamed for some losses from cold.

Miniatures are not only difficult to grow they are difficult to buy. The few sources of supply are often sold out before orders are filled. Certainly miniatures furnish more hard times per bulb than standard daffodils. Doubtless it is folly to keep trying with them in a country garden but I like miniatures and who knows, next spring all of them may bloom.

FLIGHT OF THE ROBINS

By DR. GLENN DOOLEY, Bowling Green, Ky.

There is always much daffodil information available at the close of each season. It would be marvelous to have this information available. This column would be vastly improved. There is a need of more balanced information from every area of this country. There is always an invitation to come and join in a Robin. Would you know that daffodils are treated as annuals in the Rio Grande Valley in Texas? I would not have known it either, but Grace Parks of Ottawa, Kansas, gave this report. Her family

winters in this area most winters. It would be interesting to have some cultural experimentation and information in this area. I have also read and seen pictures of tourists buying daffodil blooms in Mexico City. Where were these grown? Could it be that certain mountainous areas would favor daffodil culture? Does anyone know?

Meta Belle Eames of Chico, California, tells of visiting a large planting of daffodils in her area. This old planting dominates a hillside. She recalls that Mrs. R. O. Backhouse was plentiful and with deep pink cups. This variety was a forerunner of the modern pink-cup varieties of today. I recall buying one bulb in the late 1930's for \$1.25. I have several hundred bulbs that were derived from that one bulb. While its blooms do not compare in quality with many of the newer pinks, it is very effective in quantity.

Grace Parks reported a most excellent season for her area in Kansas. She stated that the colors in the pink cups were quite vivid for many varieties, and that the reverse bicolors really did that last season. Some lime-yellow varieties such as Lemon Fancy and Mulatto also reversed. Honeybird was the best of the lot.

There is frequent expression of love for the small and tiny varieties. Several in various Robins mentioned Tête-a-Tête. This little gem blooms early with a great deal of consistency. Jumble usually follows it a few days later. Bambi and *N. asturiensis* are among the first to start a daffodil season where the winter climes dominate. April Tears and Hawera come much later. There are nice dainty flowers which will captivate one.

How does one tell Pixie, Pixie's Sister, Baby Moon, Baby Star, and *N. jonquilla* apart? asks Lucy Christian. This poses a tough problem for anyone confronted with judging them in a show.

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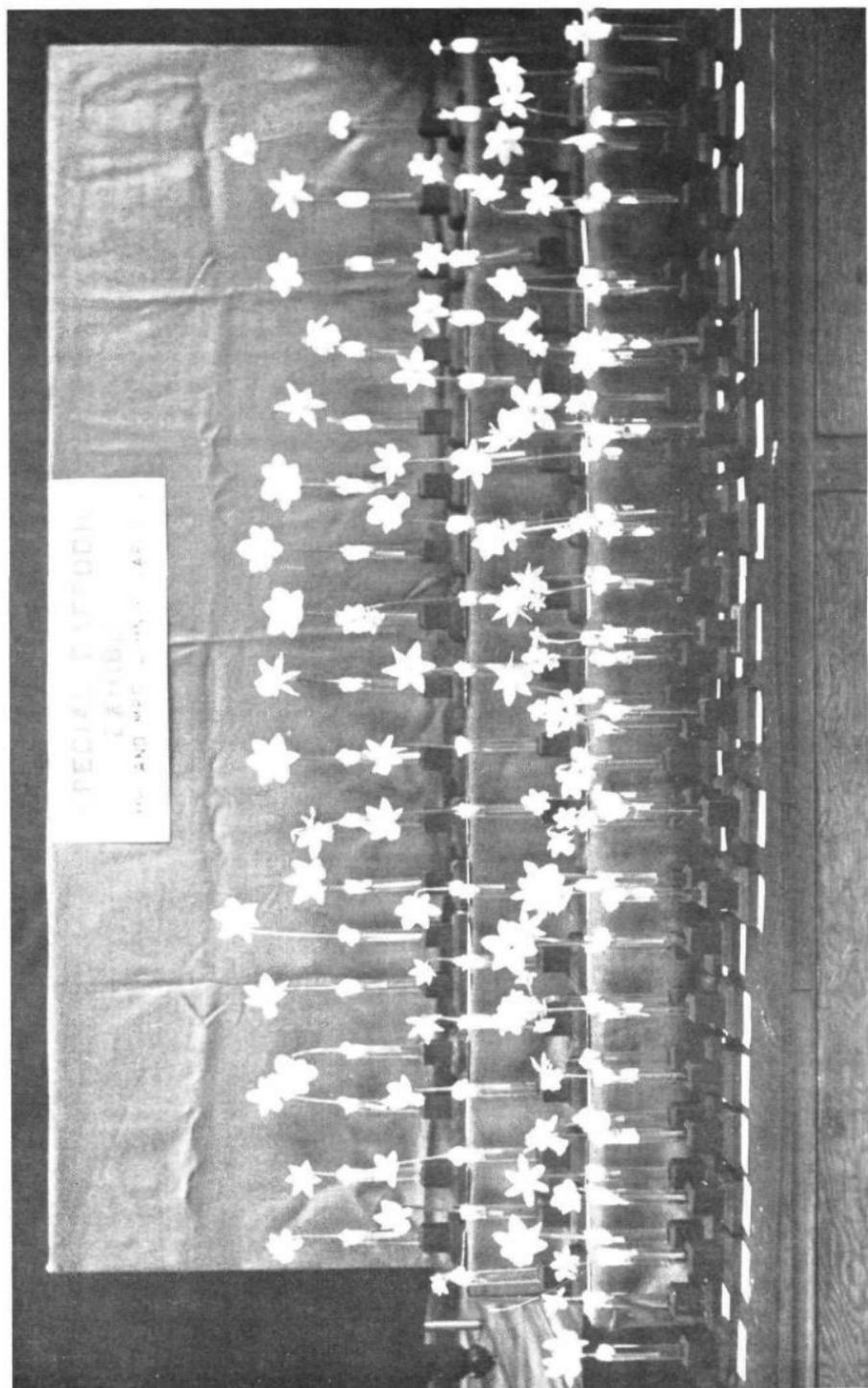
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Miniature and small daffodils at the Hartford Show. Photographed by Paul E. Frese

THE 1971 ADS DAFFODIL SHOWS

By PEGGY MACNEALE, *Cincinnati, Ohio*

In undertaking this report of the 1971 ADS shows, I decided that it might be of interest to try and make it a bit statistical. So, if anyone is upset because there are few award winners mentioned (except Quinn and Watrous medals and Bronze Ribbons) do not blame the hardworking awards chairman, Frank Seney. Just blame me.

Twenty-nine show reports were received out of 31 shows held. By making a chart of the award-winning daffodils, I came up with the following picture:

The Carey Quinn Silver Medal was awarded in nine shows, and the Gold Medal in the National Show at the Hartford convention. In eight out of the ten collections, Festivity was seen. Cantatrice figured in half of the shows. A number of others were represented three or four times, but altogether one hundred and fifty-two different cultivars were chosen by the 10 winners to make up these 10 collections. Winners were: Mrs. K. C. Ketcheside, Arkansas State Show; Mr. and Mrs. Maurice C. Abercrombie, Atlanta, Georgia; Mrs. W. C. Sloan, Middle Tennessee; Mrs. L. F. Rooney, Jr., Oklahoma State; Mrs. A. G. Brooks, Tidewater (Newport News) Va.; Mrs. F. Warrington Gillet, Baltimore, Md.; Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Ticknor, Washington, D.C.; Mrs. Charles Bender, Chambersburg, Pa.; Mr. C. H. Anthony, North Shore (Manchester), Mass.; and last but not least, Richard Ezell at Hartford, Conn. It is worth noting that Mr. Ezell won the ADS Green Ribbon at the Chambersburg, Pa. show two days before he came to Hartford, so doubtless George Lee's observation in the New England Newsletter about Mr. Ezell's baby (strapped to his back) giving good advice, is well taken.

The Watrous Silver Medal was awarded in only four shows. Mrs. Charles Anthony, who was one of the winners, also won the Gold Watrous Medal at Hartford. As a matter of fact, she won the Gold Medal first, and then the Silver one a week later in Manchester, Mass. The other three Watrous medal winners are: Mrs. Henning Roundtree at Gloucester, Va.; Mrs. R. L. Armstrong at the Tidewater Show in Newport News, Va.; and Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Ticknor at Washington, D.C.

Contrary to last year, when Tête-a-Tête seemed to be the universal favorite, no one miniature was hands-down favorite this season. Thirty-two cultivars and species made up the five winning collections, and eight of them were represented three times each. Tête-a-Tête was in only two of the five collections. It was strange that Hawera was not in any of the medal winning collections, though it figured in a number of Lavender Ribbon awards. The above-mentioned eight were: Quince, Sundial, Small Talk, Xit, Minnow, Halingy, Snipe, and *N. triandrus albus*.

The Bronze Ribbon was also awarded in five shows, including the one at Hartford, which was reported on in the June Journal, and for which Dr. W. A. Bender also won the Tuggle Trophy. The other four winners were Mrs. W. S. Simms at the Southeast Regional Show in Atlanta; Mrs. Fred Allen, Jr., at the Southern Regional Show in Nashville, Tenn.; Mrs. A. G. Brooks at the Middle Atlantic Regional Show in Newport News, Va.; and Mrs. Harry Wilkie at the Midwest Regional Show in Dayton, Ohio. Almost invariably the flowers which made up these Bronze Ribbon collections seem to be the tried-and-true varieties. Mrs. Allen's collection included Mt. Hood

and Beryl. Mrs. Simms made good use of Blarney's Daughter and Galway (though she also had Accent). Mrs. Wilkie's prize winners ranged from Arbar and Playboy to Passionale and Festivity. Mrs. Brooks showed what can be done with these familiar names: Binkie, Therm, Cantatrice, Court Martial, Kingscourt, Snow Gem, Ceylon, Border Chief, Ormeau, Silver Chimes, Trevithian, and Charity May.

Going on to the other ADS awards, the chart showed that as far as the Gold Ribbon went, Div. 2 stole the shows. 2a daffs in the leading position were Aerolite, Chemawa, Court Martial, and Leitrim. Festivity was the *only* 2b to win (except for pink 2b's), but it achieved the Gold Ribbon six times. Pink Isle came next as winner at two shows, with other pinks each winning once: Passionale, Precedent, and Rose Royale. Truth and Easter Morn were tops once each also, and likewise Daydream. The 1's and 3's divided the honors at all of the other shows: Arctic Gold, Luna Moth, and Viking in the 1a's, and Cantatrice and Williamsburg in the 1b's; Aircastle, Ariel, Redstart, and Rockall took the Gold once each, and so did Tranquil Morn and Crystal River.

When it came to the White Ribbon for three stems, representatives of Division 5, 6, and 7 came to the fore and captured top honors in 10 shows. Harmony Bells took the White Ribbon on two occasions, and these others each once: Rippling Waters, Tresamble, Bushtit, Charity May, Jack Snipe, Pipit, Sweetness, and Trevithian. The rest of the White Ribbon winners were widely scattered among the first three divisions: 1a, Viking; 1b, Descanso and Preamble; 2a, Galway; 2b, Kilworth, Manco, Wahkeena; 2b pink, Precedent; 2c, Ave (twice a winner); 2d, Bethany (three shows), Binkie; 3c, Wings of Song. Three stems of Evans seedling PF 303 (Effective \times Festivity) also won this award for Bill Pannill at the Tidewater Show in Newport News, but the report does not say in what division this vase was entered.

My chart showed some further interesting items. The Purple Ribbon was awarded 23 times, and the whites were the most popular flowers to be used throughout all the collections. Cantatrice aided in winning six of the awards. Empress of Ireland figured in four winning collections, Beersheba in three, and Glenshek in two. Seven other white trumpets were also in evidence: Ardclinis, Panache, Queenscourt, Finola, Rashee, Vigil, and even old Kanchenjunga. The 2c's also were used extensively, with Ave, Zero, and Snow Dream each seen in two Purple Ribbon collections, along with Canisp, Easter Morn, Early Mist, Wedding Bell, and Woodvale once each. 1a's, 2a's, 2b's, and 6a's were also popular choices, although the pinks fell down on the job — only *four* pink cultivars found their way into any of the Purple ribbon collections, with Accent being used twice. It was interesting to see that one collection of Div. 8 won this award for Betty Barnes at the Arkansas State Show. Cultivars featured were Canary Bird, Early Splendour, Klondyke, Matador, and Silver Chimes.

The Red, White, and Blue Ribbon was awarded 19 times, showing that this is a popular entry. From the chart I found there is no dearth of cultivars produced by American hybridizers, as 69 different ones were used in these award-winning collections. Accent was used in five instances, Festivity, Precedent, Radiation, Coral Ribbon, and Flaming Meteor each in three. Let anyone think that one could not win a Red, White, and Blue without the aid of Grant Mitsch, however, let him read on — three times this ribbon went to collections that included not a single Mitsch cultivar! Mrs. Merton S.

Yerger, in the Princess Anne, Md. show captured hers with three Powell introductions: Hiawassee, Kasota, and Cheyenne, plus two from O.B.F.: Matador and Cathedral. Bill Pannill in the Tidewater Show had three of his own named cultivars: Intrigue, Golden Cord, and Williamsburg, and two from Evans: Yosemite and Tilicum. In Washington, D.C., in a class with six entries, Bill and Laura Ticknor won the ribbon with a collection of five locally-bred daffodils: Snow Gem (Culpepper), Chevy Chase (Watrous), two all-yellow 2a seedlings raised by Lyles McNairy, and a white trumpet seedling, Vigil \times Empress of Ireland, raised by the Ticknors.

Coming to the Maroon Ribbon, it is a different story — it is Mitsch all the way, as one might expect. The surprising aspect of this award, however, at least to me, is that this award was given only nine times this year. In so many shows there was either no entry, or the ribbon was not awarded. Perhaps the timing is wrong for some shows, or there is not the interest among ADS members in acquiring enough different reverse bicolors to make up a prize-winning collection of five cultivars. The cost of some of the newer bulbs is undoubtedly a factor, too. In any case, the nine winning collections were built upon fifteen different cultivars. Pastoreale and Nazareth were most in evidence, being used six times each.

The Green Ribbon was likewise awarded at only nine of the 29 shows reporting. To me, this is a mystery, as it is such good practice for staging a Quinn medal collection some future year. Maybe the answer is that competitors would rather enter their flowers singly, hoping to garner twelve separate blues towards the Silver Ribbon. As a judge, I would prefer to see a number of entries in all collection classes scheduled instead of such a multitude of single stem entries that the judging is slowed down. I believe, too, that the impact of the collections on the visitor is an important consideration. The show committee is, after all, staging this with one eye on winning more people to growing more daffodils. While a Carey Quinn medal may be beyond the ambition of the average gardener, the Green Ribbon is within the grasp of almost any daffophile.

The Miniature Gold and Lavender Ribbons for miniatures, as stated before, proved only that a great many different named varieties of miniatures are now being grown in all parts of the country, with none being a consistent favorite. The Miniature Gold Ribbon was awarded in 27 out of the 29 shows reporting. Tête-a-Tête, Xit, Snipe, and *N. rupicola* were the winners three times each. Mite and *N. triandrus albus* won twice each, and 11 others were tops in one show each. The Lavender Ribbon, awarded at 15 shows, went to collections that featured a total of 30 different miniatures. Sundial was seen in 10, Hawera in eight, Mite and Xit in four, and *N. jonquilla* and *N. bulbocodium* in five shows each. One unusual item that might be mentioned is that though *N. rupicola* won three Miniature Gold Ribbons, it was used in only one of the fifteen Lavender Ribbon collections!

So much for the statistics on the shows, taken altogether. Some of the special features of each show should be reported, starting with the earliest, held March 17-18 in Birmingham, Alabama. Entitled "Prelude to Spring," it was just that, as the weather was "something else" — rain, snow, and freezes until the very days of the show. This change brought out flowers and visitors — the best attendance of any year. The Walter Thompsons made a clean sweep of ADS awards, and visitors saw hundreds of lovely flowers, with all horticulture classes having at least one entry except 3c and 3d.

March 17, the House and Garden Club of Macon, Ga., held a show at the Macon Garden Center. The schedule cover features a Cardinal proferring a daffodil as a Welcome (title of show). 100% membership participation resulted in 224 entries, which shows what can be done when everyone pitches in.

March 20 and 21 were the dates for the Arkansas State Show in El Dorado. Mrs. O. L. Fellers won the Rose Ribbon with a "large cup miniature" described as pale lemony-green with a red-rimmed cup. The Arkansas Daffodil Society has created several special awards to suit the needs of the area, and these have stimulated competition in some classes which had been poorly represented. As a result, space allotted to these classes has had to be expanded, and the total entries came, this year, to 324. We would like to have had a description of the educational exhibits, as they were reported to be very interesting.

The Texas Daffodil Society show at the Dallas Garden Center on March 24th had 346 entries. One of the few shows which offered a Junior award, it was won by Andy Loughborough with a stem of Binkie.

The fourth annual show by the Northern California Daffodil Society was held March 27 and 28 at the Lakeside Park Garden Center in Oakland. Even though the show date was past peak bloom, there were 345 entries in the daffodil classes, including five junior entries. The Junior award was won by Gary Craig, with Cheerfulness. The Rose Ribbon was also offered at this show, and achieved by Jack Romine. His seedling, numbered 70-1, was described as having a white and yellow split corona, with white perianth. This Northern California Society has also established some of its own special awards, such as a runner-up trophy, and a new trophy for the single best white. Educational and cultural displays arranged by Miss Margaret Frost added interest to this show. She used containers of soil with explanations of how to prepare it and how to plant daffodil bulbs. There were also pictures of daffodils in all the Divisions. A commercial display from Grant Mitsch, and 39 arrangements all combined to make this show deserve a reputation of "going great and getting bigger."

The Southeast Regional Show in Atlanta on April 1 and 2 was also a big success, in spite of the worst ice storm in a decade the week before. 1147 flowers in 626 entries were the finest ever seen in an Atlanta show. In memory of Larry Mains, who had been a frequent visitor to these shows, a colorful specimen of his namesake "Larry" was displayed on the winners' table. "Larry," from a description by Harry Tuggle in *The Daffodil Journal* of September 1969, is a Board small-cup with a fine white overlapping perianth and a large flat cup banded more than half-way into a yellow, then green, center. It is unusually sunproof, and was selected by Larry Mains from among F. E. Board's seedlings, apparently some years ago.

The Garden Study Club of Hernando, Mississippi, held its show on April 2 at the DeSoto County Youth Building. Although only a few ADS awards were given, there was a Junior award, which was won by Rebecca Scott with Amateur. Educational exhibits of the daffodil anatomy, growth cycle, and the different divisions, as well as tools and fertilizers for growing daffodils, were displayed along with the usual ADS publications, catalogs, and books.

The annual show of the Garden Club of Gloucester, Virginia, held April 3 and 4, attracted 515 horticulture (daffodil) entries and 56 arrangements,

and yet it was reported to be smaller than usual, due to the cold spring! Miniature exhibits are increasing each year, so both the Lavender Ribbon and the Watrous Medal were awarded. Mrs. H. deShields Henley won the Rose Ribbon with her seedling #88-70-3, which was from open pollinated Charity May, resulting in a cyclamineus perianth (white) with a yellow cup.

The show sponsored by the Middle Tennessee Daffodil Society in the new Botanical Hall at Cheekwood, in Nashville, must have been beautiful beyond belief. Over 1000 flowers in the competition for the ADS awards and *twenty-three* special awards! 400 flowers in commercial exhibits, and 12 arrangements: all displayed in a flower-show hall designed especially for such events, attracted a huge turn-out. Show committees in other cities will envy Nashville's facilities: workrooms with water and sinks, a walk-in cooler to keep commercial displays that arrive early, a display hall with red carpeted stage, plus two meeting rooms, and even a darkroom for the photographers. Let's have another ADS convention in Nashville real soon! The Tennessee group does a lot of work with young people, so of course the Junior Award had competitors. Jana Talbot won it with a specimen of Gossamer. Congratulations to everyone connected with this show — it must have been thrilling to be involved in such a successful project.

The Huntington Council of Garden Clubs staged its show April 3 and 4 in the Junior League Community Center in Huntington, West Va. In celebration of Huntington's centennial year, it was decided to hold the show earlier than usual to give growers of earlier blooms a chance to compete. This cut the total number of entries to 198, but 13 clubs were represented by 42 exhibitors. Eight of these were new to the game, and brought 22 entries. There were even three non-members with five entries. A good educational gimmick was the reprinting of 1000 copies of publicity articles written about forcing, holding, and grooming specimens. The visiting public availed themselves of all of these, indicating that this is a public relations idea that might well be adopted by other show committees.

The Civic Center in Muskogee, Oklahoma, was the site of the Oklahoma State Show April 3 and 4. Would that every community had such interest and cooperation. Fifty-five entrants brought in 509 entries, and this included a number of junior exhibitors. Two boys from Dallas did very well — Danny Boon won the Miniature Gold Ribbon with *Tête-a-Tête*, and Andy Loughborough repeated his triumph of the Dallas Show by winning the Junior Award again, this time with a stem of *Tahiti*. Ten other junior exhibitors from the Oklahoma School for the Blind all entered King Alfred blooms, and won honorable mentions. In future years they will be given bulbs of fragrant cultivars to plant, so their entries can be more varied and more interesting to them. The Rose Ribbon was also awarded at this show, to Mrs. Betty Barnes, for an "orphan" that sounds like an intriguing miniature: two florets with pale yellow color and lots of substance, and small cups with red edge and green center.

A daffodil show honoring "Our Jonquil City" was held April 6 and 7 in Smyrna, Georgia, co-sponsored by the Whispering Pines Garden Club Council and the Cobb County Center Merchants' Association. Mrs. W. S. Simms not only won the Rose Ribbon, with a flower from *Broughshane* × (*Rosy Sunrise* × *Mabel Taylor*), described as having a deep rose frill, but she won the Educational Award with an outstanding display of daffodil parents and their children. The very attractive gold and green program in-

dicates that there were five classes for junior exhibitors: two in horticulture and three in arrangements.

The Tidewater Virginia Show at Newport News on April 10 and 11 set a record in that *all* ADS awards were given. 451 entries, including three in the Quinn class, demonstrated the beauties of a wide range of cultivars. Both old standbys and brand new seedlings were exhibited. It is also obvious from the report that a number of the exhibitors grow miniatures, as each of the three ADS awards for miniatures was won by a different person. Bill Pannill won the Rose Ribbon with a seedling from Brussels \times Empress of Ireland, described as a "shining white flower with broad petals and small roll at the end of the trumpet."

Brown County, Indiana, is James Whitcomb Riley country. It is renowned for its beautiful hills, and small towns with names like Bean Blossom and Gnaw Bone. To the west is Bloomington and its busy university, and to the east is Columbus, Indiana, home of so many modern buildings that it is an artists' mecca. All of this combines to make the Nashville, Indiana, daffodil show a unique event each spring. Tourists and artists descended this year, as always, upon Nashville on April 17, to see the show put on by the Brown County Garden Club. They not only saw a beautiful show, with 230 entries, but as they left they were given fresh daffodils which had been part of the colorful display of blooming shrubs, trees, and flowers at the doorway to the show. It was truly a welcome to Spring.

The new Adena Daffodil Society, in combination with the Central Ohio Daffodil Society, held a show in Chillicothe on April 17. Despite a late, cold, dry season, the quality of bloom was very good. Mrs. Reginald Blue set up an educational display of daffodils which she had grown from New Zealand and Irish imports, and these, along with an exhibit flown in by Grant Mitsch, caused much interested comment. Worthy of note is the assistance given exhibitors and judges by Girl Scouts of Troop 1289. The girls will receive some bulbs to plant in the fall as a thank-you for their help.

Also on April 17 was the sixth annual show of the Somerset County Garden Club in Princess Anne, Maryland. This was held in the lobby of a bank, and had for its theme "Gardeners' Gold." 266 daffodil entries, 20 arrangements, and an excellent educational exhibit by Mrs. J. C. W. Tawes on the "Do's and Don'ts of Daffodil Culture" were the features of this show.

From all over Kentucky ADS members gathered on April 17 to stage a two-day show in Madisonville. The result of this "Spring Happening" was 452 daffodil entries and 45 arrangements. Mrs. Luther Wilson won the Rose Ribbon (alas, no description was given). The schedule indicates that the KDS offers several special trophies. Two of interest are 1) a novelty collection of ten cultivars registered, or under number, since 1960, and 2) an Old Friends collection of ten cultivars registered 25 or more years ago.

The fourth Delaware State Show was held in Wilmington on April 20. Kathy Andersen won a number of the ADS awards, and has a son dogging her footsteps. Don Andersen, out of a total of eighteen junior entries, won the Junior Award with a specimen of Majorca. Mrs. LeRoy Collins put up an outstanding educational exhibit on Classification of Daffodils. It is nice to see a show chairman rewarded with Best in Show: Mrs. Robert Weeks won the Gold Ribbon with her Daydream.

The Southwest Ohio Daffodil Society sponsored the Midwest Regional show at Dayton, on April 21. This was about the right date for those in the southern area of the states, but too early for the Cleveland members.

Even so, 436 entries poured into the Dayton Museum of Natural History. Wells Knierim had very few flowers in bloom, but his Perky was perfect, and won for him the Olive W. Lee Memorial Award, which is offered at one show per year at the discretion of the donor.

In Baltimore, on April 21 and 22, the Maryland Daffodil Society held its show, and reported a total of 444 entries. The Rose Ribbon was awarded to Mrs. Ferdinand Chatard for a 3b seedling from Blarney's Daughter \times Impala. It has a wide white perianth and a yellow cup with rim of deeper yellow. An outstanding collection of pinks was especially noted in the report of this show. Exhibited by Mrs. Quentin Erlandson, the color was unusually good. Also reported was the fact that the MDS has a number of special awards, including one for the most blue ribbons in the 3-stem classes. This was won by Mrs. Thomas W. Smith.

The Norristown Garden Club's 26th (!) annual daffodil show was held at Plymouth Meeting, Pa., on April 23 and 24. This event must be anticipated by a good number of people, as well over 2000 visitors were clocked. 444 daffodil entries and 66 arrangements, plus 26 other horticulture entries were staged on tables with royal blue covers (fireproof and disposable), and the tables were arranged in curved and angled lines rather than straight rows. The show committee involved the whole community in several special exhibits: Labeled daffodil specimens by Charles Mueller, Trappe 4-H Club, Schuylkill Valley Nature Center, Horticulture class of the local Vocational-Technical School, and the Norristown Art League.

Only a little younger is the Washington Daffodil Society, which held its 22nd show at the National Arboretum on April 24 and 25. As one might imagine in respect to this area, there is special interest in miniatures and seedlings. Sixty-three entries (135 blooms) in the 16 classes provided for miniatures, and 25 seedlings in 7 of the 10 classes for the Rose Ribbon made the competition for these ADS awards very keen indeed. Mrs. George D. Watrous, Jr. won the Rose Ribbon with her seedling #645-1 (*N. fernandesii* \times *N. triandrus concolor*), which is a cluster of small bright yellow florets.

The same weekend, in a snowstorm, the Western Reserve Daffodil Society put on a show at the Cleveland Garden Center. Wells and Mary Knierim do a staggering job of running this show almost single- or double-handed, and the report is so modest that I must amplify it, since I was privileged to be there. Some perfectly beautiful flowers were exhibited, with the bulk of them being brought from further south in Ohio, as Cleveland was still in the grip of winter at the time of the show. In other words, the show was large on quality even though small on quantity. Even so, the tables looked well-filled, and visitor reaction was ecstatic. The Cleveland Garden Center is a marvelous place for any kind of show—no further educational exhibit is necessary.

The Chambersburg (Pa.) Garden Club show on April 27 and 28 was titled "Blueprints for Gardeners." Dr. William Bender's educational display carried out this theme by emphasizing that daffodils correctly labeled in the garden will be correctly labeled in a show. As a further comment on this garden club's influence, let me quote George Lee's New England Newsletter, June 1971 issue: "Probably the most significant event in the history of Chambersburg, Pa., since Gen. Lee held a council of war there preceding the Battle of Gettysburg is the interest in daffodils and the eruption of prize-

winning specimens from which no show east of the Mississippi can feel secure."

The Harford County Daffodil Show, held in Emmorton, Md., on April 28, was a small show (154 daffodil entries), but acclaimed as not only lovely but educational. Unfortunately the show chairman was not able to write details, due to having broken her right wrist just after the show.

The Long Island Daffodil Show, sponsored by the South Side Garden Club, was held April 28th at Islip, N.Y. 369 entries in the daffodil horticultural section and 32 arrangements were staged in a garden setting. A fine educational display featured poor and good specimens to illustrate the ADS scale of points.

On April 28 and 29 at Downingtown, Pa., the Garden Class of the Woman's Club staged their spring show in their clubhouse. The story here is the same reported everywhere: a cold, late spring, so that it was hard to plan how much space would be needed for the different classes. As it turned out, there were 231 entries, with an outstanding range of cultivars exhibited. It was considered to be a beautiful and successful show. Children were encouraged to participate in the arrangement classes, and all Downingtown fourth-graders will be given Peeping Tom bulbs this fall to grow on the school grounds. These can be exhibited in next year's show, so this is a beginning of junior horticulture entries as well.

The National Show at Hartford came next on the calendar, but this was pretty well covered in the June Journal. As an exhibitor I can say that the work space was generous, and entering this show was a pleasure. There were 523 entries altogether, with two competing for the Gold Quinn Medal. The stem of Crystal River that won the Gold Ribbon for Mr. Ezell was taken from his prize-winning Quinn entry. Dr. Bender's entry for the Tuggle Award was outstanding in quality. Paeans of praise to all committee members who worked on this show.

The last show of the season, held by the North Shore Garden Club, was the next weekend, May 6 and 7. This being their third annual show, they report that in comparison to the first two, there were more 3-stem entries this year. A wide range of types, on the whole, with lots of miniatures, were exhibited.

And so, with apologies for the length of this report, we head into the winter sunsets, furiously planting bulbs which we hope will rate us a mention in the September Journal of 1972.

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