Mrs. P. R. Moore, Jr., vice-president of the Middle Atlantic region, welcomed the convention by reminding us that while Virginia's tourist slogan is "Virginia is for lovers," the more apt phrase this week was "Williamsburg is for daffodil lovers." She concluded her welcoming speech by presenting to the convention a new daffodil—the 2c Williamsburg, a Bill Pannill seedling. It had form and stateliness, qualities so prized by the 18th century residents of this community.

William O. Ticknor added his welcome and stated that one major reason he and Laura Lee had accepted the challenge of serving as chairmen of the 1973 convention was the anticipated and fully-realized pleasure of working with the members of the Tidewater Virginia Daffodil Society. He expressed special appreciation for the work of the vice-chairmen, Mr. and Mrs. P. R. Moore, Jr.

Dr. Bender, paying tribute to the efficiency of the Society's Executive Secretary, George S. Lee, commented, "The ADS runs well with very little interference from the president." He conducted the annual business meeting, at which the incumbent president, and first and second vice-presidents were reelected.

The Board of Directors had authorized the Society to contact the Royal Horticultural Society about the possibility of adopting the color coding scheme of the ADS Data Bank into the RHS Classification system. (See the January Journal.) Dr. Tom Throckmorton was flying directly to London at the conclusion of our convention to present the matter to the RHS.

The Society reported a deficit for the year of slightly less than $3.00, which was shortly made up by Mrs. Alice Battle, top bidder for a current print-out of the Data Bank. Dr. Bender gave as a sure-fire antidote for possible future financial ills the prescription: Rx: "Each one of you go home and get a new member!"

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the ADS Silver Medal for service to the Society to John R. Larus, a charter member and former president. He was especially commended for his work with miniatures, his outstanding educational exhibits in the Connecticut and Massachusetts shows, and the fact that under his leadership miniatures have been raised from the status of "little weeds" to an outstanding part of every show.

Guided by our indefatigable tour director, Frank Seney, on Friday seven busloads of conventioneers visited two beautiful estates and the Daffodil Mart. At noon, lunch was served at the Gloucester Yacht Club.

At Elmington, home of the Rhoads family, many bypassed an opportunity to view the interior of the house for a closer look at the two small gardens enclosed with boxwood. Growing through a thick ground cover of vinca were various division 3's mixed with Cheerfulness. Many different older cultivars could be identified, but the total impact was one of pure white.

The busses approached Little England, which was built in 1716, along a white fence enclosing a veritable river of tazettas. The formal gardens at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Pratt were enclosed in boxwood and contained many labeled varieties of daffodils. Walking along flagstone pathways, we also admired a profusion of azaleas.

Most of our time here, however, was spent among the named beds in the white-fenced display gardens sloping down to the York River, reminding us of the days when Little England was a thriving commercial bulb farm. The