

American Pomological Society

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the American Pomological Society was held jointly with Kentucky State Horticultural Society, which celebrated its 100th anniversary during the first week of December in Louisville, Kentucky. Several A. P. S. members participated by presenting talks in the open joint meetings. Dr. H. B. Tukey, one of our past presidents, and now head of the Department of Horticulture at Michigan State University, was main speaker at a banquet sponsored by the host Society. The annual Wilder Medals were presented by Mr. Stanley Johnston, chairman of the Wilder Medal Committee, at the same banquet.

The highlights of the meeting were as follows:

A national apple and peach variety survey was completed in 1956 primarily through the efforts of John Bregger of Clemson, South Carolina, and Chairman of the Committee for Variety Nomenclature, Registration and Appraisal. This survey was made at the request of American Association of Nurserymen and was financed by that organization. A condensed version of this survey will be published in a future issue of the Fruit Varieties and Horticultural Digest.

The *Committee for True-to-Name Inspection*, which has been doing such an outstanding piece of work for the fruit industry in a number of eastern states under the guidance of its chairman, A. P. French, of the University of Massachusetts, expects to expand into Michigan this year. A group of new specialists is now being trained in preparation for taking over, in 1960, the work of the present committee.

The group includes F. O. Hartman of the Ohio State University, C. M. Ritter of Penn State University and H. A. Rollins, Jr. of Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

A wealth of valuable information concerning tree fruit selections and varieties available for exchange purposes at the various Agricultural Experiment Stations was assembled during the year by the *Plant Materials Exchange Committee for Tree Fruits*. This material was distributed to breeders and testers throughout the country.

Three committees were dissolved: Committees for Pomological Organizations, Spray Residue Research, United States and Canadian Relationships.

In recent years the American Pomological Society has been publishing its *Annual Proceedings* jointly with the State Society with which it meets each year. Because this practice is too costly, it was voted to discontinue the Annual Proceedings as such, and to publish an annual report in the Fruit Varieties and Horticultural Digest.

Although the *Fruit Varieties and Horticultural Digest* is the costliest activity of the A. P. S., the general feeling among the members is that it is also the most important activity and that it should continue in its present form.

Annual dues were reduced to \$3.00. This reduction in dues was felt to be necessary first, because of the discontinuance of the Annual Proceedings. Secondly, it is hoped that it will stimulate a considerable increase in membership.