

GREETINGS FROM THE NEW A. P. S. PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Members:

Our annual convention held at Grand Rapids in conjunction with the Michigan State Horticultural Society on December 2-4, 1952, followed our practice of joining with a state group in holding a combined meeting. The convention was in many ways even more successful than usual because of the excellent facilities, an especially fine program, the large and comprehensive exhibit of equipment and supplies for the fruit grower and a large attendance. We were cordially welcomed by our hosts and several of our members took part in the program.

The presentations of the Wilder medals by President Tukey to Dr. Dorsey, Dr. Potter, Mr. Fraser and the U.S.D.A. were highlights of the combined Michigan Horticultural Society — American Pomological Society banquet, at which Stanley Johnston was toastmaster.

While the A.P.S. membership attendance was not large, the interest was keen with at least seven states represented. Members met at breakfast and luncheon where matters of particular interest to the Society were discussed.

As you know, much of the important work of the Society is carried on by its committees and the reports of the chairmen indicated that the members take their work seriously. There were some changes made in the list of officers and committees with commendation for those retiring and good wishes for those newly named. A full report of the business meeting will be included in the forthcoming proceedings of the Michigan State Horticultural Society. A complete roster of officers and committee chairmen will be published in the next issue of *Fruit Varieties and Horticultural Digest*.

As your newly elected president, I am keenly aware of both the honor and the responsibility that you have given me. I will need your help in making the

Society even more helpful to the fruit growing industry in the future than in the past. One thing you can do now is to help increase our membership. Is it too much to ask each one of you to secure at least one new member?

If you have any suggestions for the good of the Society, they will be appreciated.

With the Season's Greetings

A. S. Colby, President

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Comments on the Macadamia

I have just read the very interesting note on the macadamia in *Fruit Varieties and Horticultural Digest*. We have a very definite interest in this fruit here in California and we have some phases of research under way on this nut. Our present studies are concerned primarily with evaluation of local seedlings and named varieties from Hawaii. Some preliminary work also has been done on various aspects of the propagation problem.

In the mentioned article, reference is made to the structure of the fruit in which the shell is implied to be endocarp structure. Morphological studies in Hawaii have shown the hard shell to be true seed coat structure, the fruit being classified as a follicle and not as a true drupe, as one might conclude from casual examination. The edible portion of the nut, therefore, is the embryo.

There are numerous inquiries about this nut as a possible tree crop in California. The tree certainly is well adapted to many areas here, but I am not certain that economic considerations will allow its development into a commercial industry in California.

—C. A. Schroeder

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