Message from New President of American Pomological Society

At the annual meeting of our Society in Lake Delton, Wisconsin I was elected President. It is with a sense of humility that I accept the position in this, one of the oldest societies devoted to the fruit industry with a particular interest in varieties. It was my interest in varieties that first attracted me to the Society.

Because of distances involved we do not have many of the membership at our annual meetings. It is my hope that we can keep in closer touch with members in local areas where meetings are held in conjunction with State Horticultural Societies and feature the A.P.S. at these meetings. If possible, there should be something of special interest for A.P.S. members. The American Pomological Society plans to meet with the Arkansas Horticultural Society in December 1969 and with Nigara Peninsula Fruit and Vegetables Growers in Ontario, Canada in December 1970. Members will be kept informed of the programs as they develop.

Fig. 1. O. A. Brandt, President, A.P.S., 1969.

At this time, on behalf of members of this Society, I would express a special word of thanks to George Kessler who has served as our President for the past two years and continues to serve very capably as Editor of "Fruit Varieties and Horticultural Digest." He has given many years of devoted service on our behalf. I would also thank all those working on the executive board, advising committees and chairmen of standing committees. Any suggestions on ways to improve the Society will be carefully considered. May we all work together for the betterment of the fruit industry.

—Ollie Bradt,
President

About Pears

In a letter to the editor, C. P. Norbury, fruit grower of Sherridge, near Malvern, England, writes as follows:

"Your article on the above (Van Mons Leon Le Clerc) was extremely interesting to me, as I had always confused this pear with Leon Clerc De Laval. Mr. T. Rivers, grandson of the raiser of Conference pear, the most widely grown pear in Europe, told me that it was a chance seedling of Leon Clerc De Laval; but from the illustration which you give, and from the illustration which I have since looked up in Decaine, there is little doubt that Conference is a seedling of Van Mons Leon Le Clerc."