



Frank Mason, New Zealand, winner of the T. A. Stewart Memorial Plaque for 1952.

## T. A. STEWART MEMORIAL PLAQUE

For forty years the 1952 winner of the T. A. Stewart Plaque, Mr. Frank Mason, Feilding, New Zealand, has grown roses and his name is well known in Australia and the British Isles as well as in his own country. He truly deserves the description, "rose enthusiast."

Mr. Mason has been an executive member of the National Rose Society of New Zealand almost since its inception in 1931, and is a past-president. No man in New Zealand has done more for roses and his personal efforts have resulted in the formation of a third of New Zealand's district rose societies, of which there are now seventeen. His name appears in many show schedules as the donor of trophies and prizes. The district society (Manawatu) to which Mr. Mason belongs and is a past president, competes each year for the Frank Mason Rose Bowl.

When the Massey Agricultural College Rose Trial Grounds were started in 1943, it was Mr. Mason as chairman of the N.Z.N.R.S. trial grounds committee who visited the grounds regularly as development took place. His advice, his gifts of budding stock, budding eyes and plants cannot be adequately measured. He searched New Zealand, collecting and presenting the major portion of the many worth while old varieties which are to be seen flourishing there today. One of his greatest pleasures is to visit Massey for the first blooming of the season with its blaze of colour of upwards of 1000 varieties from species to the latest novelties. A large proportion of the novelties are given to the College by Mr. Mason each year.

For many years Mr. Mason has been one of New Zealand's senior judges at shows all over the Dominion. During his younger days as an exhibitor one of his keenest competitors was Mr. Frank Penn, who was awarded the plaque in 1950.