

T. A. STEWART MEMORIAL AWARD FOR 1953

The award of the T. A. Stewart Memorial Plaque for 1953 has (on the vote of all the Australian State Societies and the New Zealand Society) been made to Mr. R. T. Hamilton, the Honorary Editor of the Australian and New Zealand Rose Annual, and a member of the National Rose Society of Victoria.

As the very capable Editor of the Annual, Mr. Hamilton amply fulfils the essential condition of the Award, which states it shall be made to "a person who is deemed . . . to have given outstanding service to the rose in Australia or New Zealand." He has been responsible for the issue of seven editions of the Annual, and under his hand the very high standard which the publication has always attained has been fully maintained. His name is probably better known to rose growers in Australia and New Zealand than that of almost any other rosarian by reason of the position he holds and the task he carries out so capably.

In addition to his work in the wider sphere, Mr. Hamilton has been a member of the Executive Committee of the Victorian Society for sixteen years, and has been a member of the Society for twenty-five years. He has an outstanding knowledge of roses and their culture, gained through practical experience as a successful grower. Mr. Hamilton is one of the Society's most successful exhibitors and has, on a number of occasions, won the awards for the best rose, the best bunch and the two Amateur Championships at the Victorian Society's Shows. As a hybridiser, he has had considerable success, his best known variety being "Rod Stillman," which has proved to be one of the outstanding varieties grown today. He hopes soon to make available another variety, a dark red climber, which he has called "Black Magic." Mr. Hamilton is an excellent lecturer, and is always ready to give others the benefit of his knowledge and experience.—A. W. Jessep, President N.R.S. of Vic.