



MR. C. V. HOLYOAKE.

THE T. A. STEWART MEMORIAL AWARD FOR 1958

Mr. C. V. Holyoake, the recipient of the T. A. Stewart Memorial Award for 1958, has been interested in rose growing since the early 1920's, and became an active advocate for the N.R.S.N.Z. when, as President of an Auckland Horticultural Society, he was able to greatly assist the then infant society with its first shows.

He was elected to the Executive Committee of the N.R.S.N.Z. in 1945, and filled the position of chairman for several years. He was also elected National President for two terms — a distinction earned by only one other member since the inauguration of district societies.

In 1945 Mr. Holyoake was appointed to a committee formed for the purpose of organising district societies and ever since has been an enthusiastic campaigner in this connection.

Because of the extensive travelling he did between 1945 and 1954, it was not possible for him to compete at rose shows, but he has probably seen more than most people, and most of the outstanding new varieties are represented in his garden. He is an official judge of the Society.

In 1954 he took over the duties of National Secretary. As he had an intimate knowledge of the workings and problems of the district rose societies and was personally acquainted with a great many of their leaders, he brought to the task an understanding which probably could not be surpassed by any other member. His interest in the Society is exemplified in the development of the Newsletter, a popular medium for the exchange of views and news between the widely scattered membership as well as keeping them in touch with the latest developments in the rose world.

During the years Mr. Holyoake has been a member of the Executive Committee, the membership has grown from a few hundreds to over 4,000, and it may safely be said that he played a major part in bringing about this rapid development, and in successfully co-ordinating the activities of the membership. Loyal assistance by Mrs. Holyoake, his home in Wellington was always an open house for both New Zealand and overseas rosarians.

The New Zealand Society recognised Mr. Holyoake's outstanding services in 1955 by making him one of its first life members. This year, 1958, he has attended the International Rose Conference in London as New Zealand's delegate, and also acted as a rose judge at a National Rose Show.