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—Photo by courtesy Mr. W. Hastie.

Patience and Optimism

Our world of today seems to be ever a-racing, bustling and hurrying in a headlong blindness with little or no thought of whereto? why?, or is this maddening pace even really necessary? Impetuous for an immediate result, without the patience of thought to pause and ponder whether or not the ultimate end is in the best interest. The loudest pundits of new ideas and concepts are invariably those who want to make a "quick dollar" or derive some fringe benefit of favour and honour.

It would be a disaster and a disappointment to all Australian rosarians if the birth of the National Rose Society of Australia were tainted with any such quibbling.

Our Australian Society is yet an infant body, having just celebrated its first birthday. Its progress has been good, without any touch of the spectacular, and it will need careful nurturing and understanding in its immediate formative years.

Undoubtedly the National Rose Society of Australia will in time grow to pre-eminence in the world of roses as each of the founding State Societies gives of its best and melds its thoughts and actions to this end. The main consideration at this stage of our development is one of patience and tolerance towards each other's ways and ideas. A warmth of understanding and a deepening of friendship must be generated amongst us as we consider, in complete co-operation, the suggestions put forward in the mutual interest of the new Australian body and our own State Societies.

Let us display a goodly optimism about the future, and believe our respective State biases, be they conscious or otherwise, can be and will be resolved.

The purpose of our existence is primarily to popularize and further the cause of the Rose—"that wondrous product of the Creator's hand, which in itself knows no human prejudice." Maybe our own flower can point us the way to our ultimate goal —

"The Rose transmits its own scent without a movement."

To experience the aroma of togetherness we must copy the Rose —

"The Rose irresistibly draws people to itself, and the scent remains with them;

A Rose does not preach—it simply spreads its fragrance"

— (Mahatma Gandhi)

HUGH GRAHAM, President.