



Mr. R. D. KENT,

President, The National Rose Society of Australia.

President's Message

The year 1980 is the beginning of the eighth year of The National Rose Society of Australia, and from the traditional seven years of infancy has emerged an amicable unity of the State Societies in many matters relative to the fostering of the cultivation of the rose. By communication, an important and much-emphasised word in the modern vocabulary, we are now all much more informed and certainly more aware of the difficulties encountered in rose husbandry in extremely diverse climatic conditions within this small continent. This mutual understanding must surely have assisted the Society in its discussions and decisions during the past few years.

And now as we look forward to future matters that may be considered to be beneficial to the rose, it would seem that, in a country so ideal for propagation, we should give our attention to ways and means of encouraging the hybridization of roses particularly suited to Australian conditions. The proposal of a Trial Ground at Werribee under the sponsorship of the Victorian Government in conjunction with The Rose Society of Victoria is most interesting and commendable; however, it will be realised that an essential to the fulfilment and success of this proposal is the implementation of Plant Patent Rights throughout the Commonwealth. Action by all States may be the incentive necessary to attain this goal and by so doing, the bonds of friendship might also be strengthened as is often the case when all are striving mutually towards one objective. During the last few decades, the world has realised that our nation, though small in numbers, has become prominent in many fields, and there seems to be no reason other than lack of incentive, why we should not also gain recognition as horticulturists, especially as pertaining to a flower of universal renown.

The next General Meeting will be held in Brisbane in October, 1980, which coincides with the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Queensland Rose Society, and for those who may be able to join us on this auspicious occasion, I can assure them that our hospitality will ensure that they receive a very warm welcome to our sunny State.

My message for 1980 is to extend to all, my sincerest wishes for health and happiness in your rose garden, wherein you not only derive personal pleasure and satisfaction, but you also share the beauty of Nature with your neighbour, your locality and your city, and to achieve this, I wish each and every rosarian — "Many Beautiful Roses"!

ROLY KENT, President