



MR. ALEX TAYLOR, S.M.A.

T. A. Stewart Memorial Award, 1977

This very great honour has been awarded to Mr. Alex Taylor, of The Rose Society of New South Wales, and he is a most worthy recipient.

Alex has been a member for seventeen years of this Society, and during that period has served most faithfully as a member of the Board of Management, Vice-President, Exhibitor, Judge, and for the past three years, has most worthily served as President. In 1976 he was elected President of The National Rose Society of Australia, a position which he held with honour and dignity.

Untiringly he worked for two years organising the Australian Rose Championship, and was rewarded by the magnificent display and the tremendous success of perhaps the most beautiful show ever staged in New South Wales.

In furthering the love of the rose, Mr. Taylor is a keen hybridizer, and has some very fine blooms to show for his efforts.

New South Wales rosarians are delighted that Alex shares with other great rosarians who have received this, the greatest honour a rosarian in Australia can receive.

REFLECTIONS ABOUT THE ROSE—(Continued).

ness to me to meet members of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Rose Society and to see so many husbands and wives enjoying together the challenge of growing and showing beautiful roses. In demonstrations for show preparation, to see these gentlemen arranging roses with such gentleness, strength, and dexterity has made me realize a little what the rose, in turn, was doing for them.

The more we love the rose the more we will know the secret of what it does for us. I think it keeps us young. Over and above the beauty and fragrance of the rose, I think another quality that attracts us to it is perpetual youth. Older than mankind perhaps, yet each year after pruning we have a young plant with fresh growth of vigorous shoots, lovely reddish-brown foliage, spring and autumn roses. All they ask, for perfect growth, is loving care and good climatic conditions.

My reflections have travelled a long distance in time and space, and I ask myself then, what is a rose? A radiant rose is, for me, a reflection of the love and beauty of the Creator. It is His gift to me, praising by its very being, and prompting me to sing with joy: "How Great Thou Art".