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# HERBERTIA

PROPERTY OF  
AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY



**1953**

## P R E F A C E

The *Narcissus* articles for this SECOND NARCISSUS EDITION were assembled by the NARCISSUS COMMITTEE—Mr. Grant E. Mitsch, Chairman, and the other Committee Members. The NARCISSUS COMMITTEE is to be congratulated for an excellent job. The Committee has appropriately voted the 1953 HERBERT MEDAL Award to Mr. E. A. Bowles, V. M. H., the eminent authority on *Narcissus* and the *Galanthaeae*. On account of the infirmities of advanced age, it has not been possible for Mr. Bowles to send in his autobiography in time for inclusion in this issue.

There is a wealth of *Narcissus* lore in this SECOND NARCISSUS EDITION beginning with Mr. Wilson's interesting article on 40 years devoted to *Narcissus* breeding. The 1946 HERBERT MEDAL was awarded to Mr. Wilson in recognition of his outstanding achievements in *Narcissus* breeding. Mr. Quinn contributes a thought provoking paper on miniature and decorative daffodils, naturalizing in the Washington, D. C. region, and a comprehensive beginners' list of daffodils, Mr. Hannibal writes about *Narcissus viridiflorus*, the green *Narcissus*, and other fall-flowering *Narcissus*, Mr. Powell, about his 30 years devoted to *Narcissus* breeding, Prof. Ballard, and Dr. Cooley, on *Narcissus*, Mr. Tuggle, on daffodils in Piedmont, Virginia, Mrs. Evans, on old naturalized *Narcissus* in the South, Mr. Mitsch, on daffodils in Oregon in 1952, and Mr. Johnson, on daffodils in northern California.

The other amaryllids, as usual, are not neglected in this issue. Mrs. Morton reports on the 1952 New Orleans Amaryllis Show, and the dedication of the New Orleans Amaryllis Garden, Mrs. Parks and Mrs. Slaughter, on amaryllid activities in Houston. Mr. Jones writes on Texas Rain Lilies, Mr. Manley, and Dr. Thornburgh on the evaluation of Hybrid *Amaryllis* Clones, Mr. Freeman, on *Allium tanguticum*, Mrs. Henry, on *Amaryllis belladonna* var. *barbata*, Mr. Saxon, and Prof. Ballard, on *Hemerocallis*, Mr. Chandler, on *Calostemma* in Australia, Mr. and Mrs. Orpet, on *Amaryllis immaculata*, Mr. Howard, on *Crinum scabrum*, Mr. Hayward, on *Lycoris*, Mr. Woelfle, on *Hymenocallis*, Mr. Burlingham, on *Amaryllis belladonna* in Florida, and Mr. Gilmer, on Krillium and *Hemerocallis* culture. There are descriptions of two new *Amaryllis* L. species, articles on the viability of seeds of white-flowering Hybrid *Amaryllis* clones, pot-culture of *Amaryllis belladonna* L., and others.

On account of increased work in connection with his fertilizer business, Mr. E. Frederick Smith has found it necessary to resign as your Membership-Secretary as of January 1 of the present year. Mr. Smith, a real plant enthusiast, served the Society faithfully and efficiently since 1945 and he will always be remembered for his role in getting the organization soundly established. We are sure that we voice the sentiment of the members also in expressing the gratitude of the Society to Mr. Smith for his outstanding accomplishments, and in wishing him every success in all his future undertakings. The members will be interested to know that Mr. Smith has agreed to serve the Society in the future with his counsel when needed.

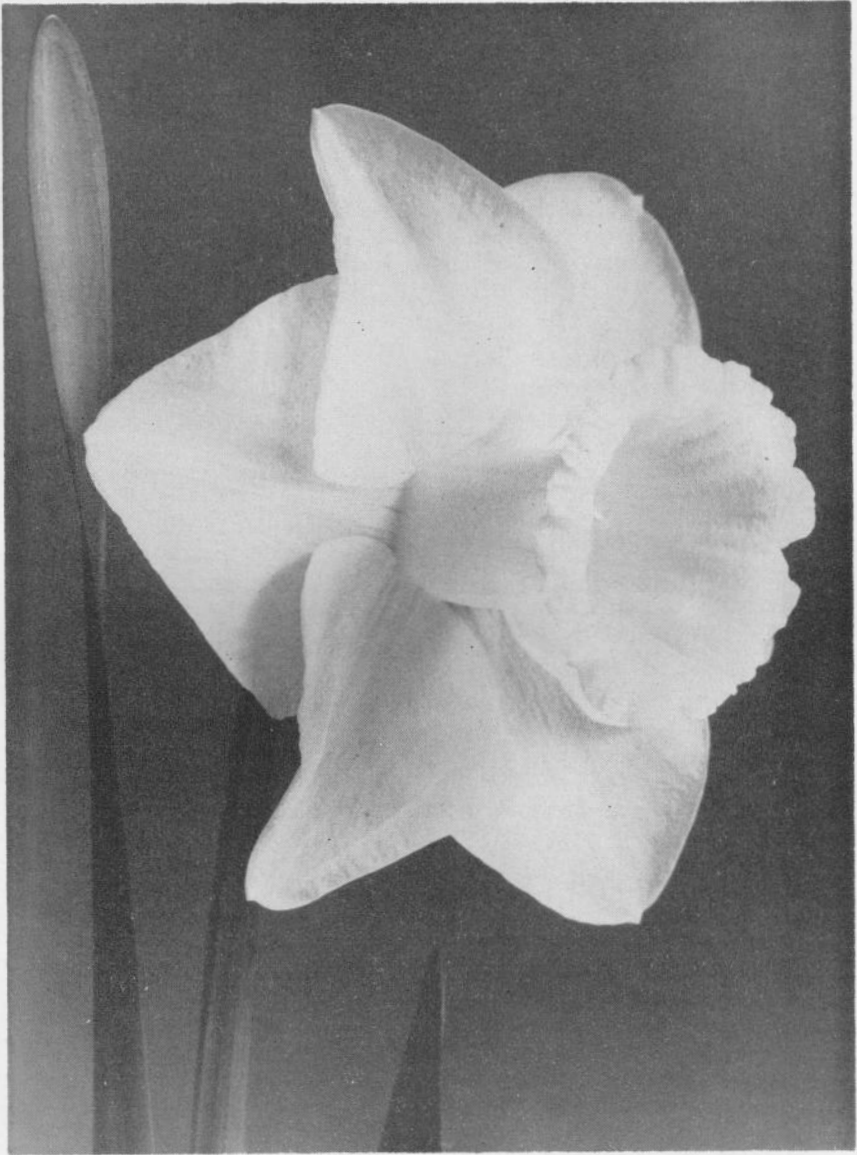


Plate 1

Hybrid *Narcissus*—EMPRESS OF IRELAND

SOME FAVOURITES AMONGST DAFFODILS  
I HAVE RAISED

GUY L. WILSON. *V. M. H., M. Agr.,*  
*Northern Ireland*

I have just spent a few winter evenings in turning over the pages of the books in which I have kept a record of my Seedling Daffodils since they began to flower in the year 1912. It has been interesting to recall a few of those that appealed most strongly to me. Some of those from selections in those earlier years that got as far as being named and distributed have of course since been superseded and have disappeared from show benches and catalogues, partly to make way for newer and better ones, for few indeed that appear year by year from breeders gardens at our shows are destined for such lasting fame and popularity as the noble KING ALFRED or FORTUNE or BEERSHEBA.

Nothing that flowered in 1912 ever got named though I can remember that some of the flowers that did appear were good enough by then existing standards to be immensely encouraging, and sufficiently exciting to ensure that having put my hand to the plough of daffodil breeding I should never look back as long as health and opportunity made it possible to continue.

In the year 1913 two flowers appeared which in due course were named—the first, No. 2/25 was a seedling from the old bicolor trumpet Grandee which was itself a plant of very distinct character: what the pollen parent of this seedling was I do not know, but No. 2/25 was a uniform soft yellow throughout with a remarkably fine broad flat smooth perianth of great substance standing at right angles to the rather slender trumpet—it was subsequently named Darius—but like its parent its stem was too short. I have always had a special love for white daffodils, particularly white trumpets, and so was immensely delighted by a seedling, No. 2/30, which came in a small batch from MADAME DE GRAAFF by pollen of a white trumpet named LOLAH bred by the late Ernest Crosfield. This was for those days a large white trumpet of fine form, as its wide spread perianth had firm texture and stood well out from the long gracefully flanged trumpet;—moreover it was very much whiter than MME. DE GRAAFF and seemed an advance on any white trumpets that I had seen—so in due course it was named WHITE DAME, and some bulbs were distributed;—but its stem was too short—a fault common to white trumpets of those days—and its texture though firm was rather ribby; it was soon superseded.

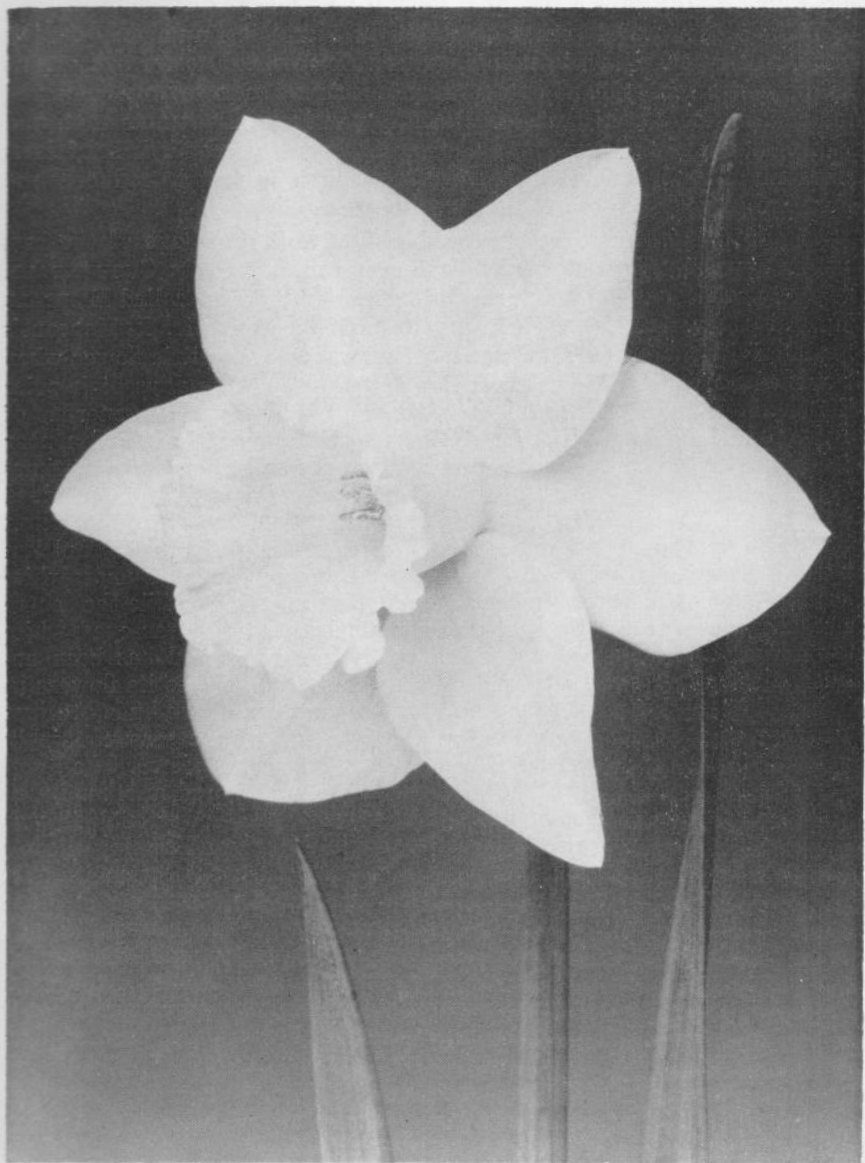
In the next season, 1941, amongst a fair sized batch of seedlings from MME. DE GRAAFF by KING ALFRED pollen, one appeared that was quite distinct from all the others, a beautiful flower of first rate exhibition quality, it was a quite large trumpet of exceptionally smooth waxy tex-

ture and clear soft rather lemon yellow self colour—it was a well balanced flower with a smooth flat perianth; and was a vigorous plant with distinct broad smooth foliage and fine large smooth bulbs, but unfortunately its stem was quite short. However, I named it HONEY BOY, and for some years it was a valuable exhibition flower and got fairly widely distributed, giving a good account of itself at shows in New Zealand.

I knew that a fine race of beautiful and vigorous varieties known in those days as “Giant Leedsii” had been produced from the old Leedsii MINNIE HUME by pollen of MME. DE GRAAFF and WEARDALE PERFECTION—so I had been making some crosses on MINNIE HUME, and it was also in 1914 that I flowered a few seedlings from this old variety by pollen of PEARL OF KENT, a large but short stemmed white trumpet bred by the late Rev. G. P. Haydon of Canterbury which caused something of a sensation when it appeared. One of these seedlings which I subsequently named IRISH PEARL was really about the best plant of its type that I had seen, as it was a large bold flower of beautiful form with broad flat perianth and frilled crown—it was, moreover, a most vigorous exceptionally free flowering and fast increasing plant. I subsequently disposed of the stock and in time lost trace of it, though I should not be surprised if it is still in circulation, as it was an excellent garden plant.

It must have been in either 1913 or 1914 that I flowered a few seedlings from Hispanicus Maximus and from amongst them one was kept though for some reason not numbered or recorded at the time; so far as I remember it improved considerably when grown on for a few seasons and was temporarily nicknamed “Max Orange,” subsequently christened GOLDBEATER—and it is interesting because it turned out to be the first seedling of my own raising that I have continued to grow and distribute up to the present time—I am sure that it came from self-fertilized seed of Pyrenean Maximus—it is like a larger and bolder and much more vigorous Maximus of deepest intense self gold, a very durable flower of entirely decorative type, carried on a tall strong stem that makes a splendid garden plant.

Nothing of particular note seems to have appeared until the year 1917 when a late and most charming and dainty flower turned up—its seed parent was an old type Leedsii named MISS WEISS, raised by William Baylor Hartland of Cork, while its pollen parent was a large poeticus seedling of Mr. Engleheart’s raising. Its perianth was just off white, while its almost flat saucer eye had a white ground shading to a cool apple-green centre and having a well defined narrow rim of soft clear pinkish orange. It proved to be a good doer and increased. I think it was next season that I sent a flower of it to Mr. Engleheart to see. I heard nothing from him for a longish time, and began to think that he had taken exception to my having used pollen from a flower that he had left on his stand at the close of a show—but in the end a delightful note came from the great man saying that he saw from his notes that I had sent him a flower of a “Hybrid Leedsii” like some he had raised but *better than any of them*. Need I say that I “wouldn’t have called the



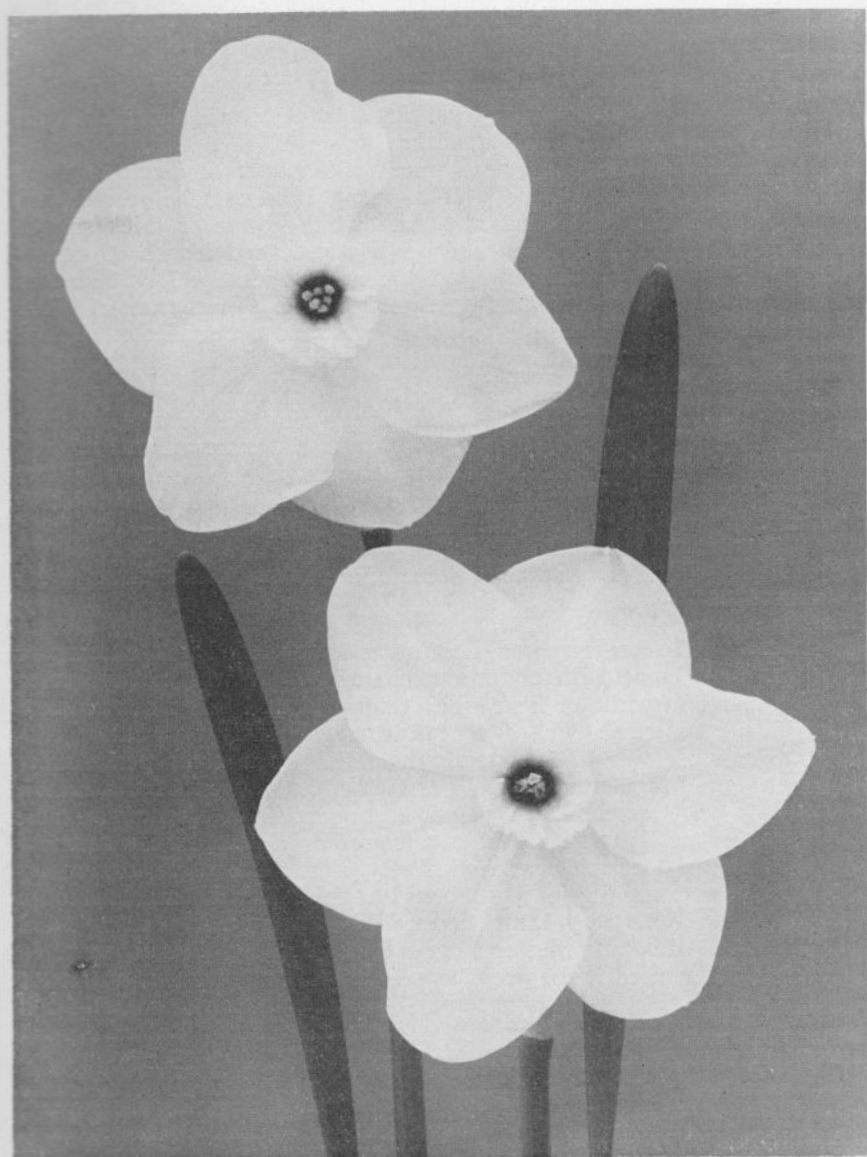
Hybrid *Narcissus*—CANTATRICE

King my uncle"! So my flower was named MYSTIC, and travelled far and wide. I still grow a row of it though I no longer distribute it.

Seedlings were of course flowering in increasing numbers year by year and I suppose I was getting harder to please, but so far as memory and my notes carry me, no outstanding landmarks seem to have appeared during the next eleven years—incidentally, readers might note that, and realize that it is not surprising that a high price per bulb is sometimes asked for a really outstanding novelty when it is first introduced and there are as yet very few bulbs in existence.

In 1928 however there appeared what I still think one of the best and most perfect little flowers I have ever raised, namely CUSHENDALL. Its seed parent was a small pure white green eyed flower called EMERALD EYE raised by Mr. Engleheart, and its pollen parent Mr. Engleheart's fine late Poeticus, DACTYL. EMERALD EYE was a lovely little flower when it opened properly, and was first listed at the for those days high price of £30, about \$85.00 per bulb—it was given me by my most generous of all Daffodil friends, the Brodie of Brodie. Unfortunately it had a poor constitution and often did not open its flowers perfectly, as is sometimes the case with these late small-crowned things, so I was fortunate indeed in getting it to seed to DACTYL, for CUSHENDALL is a much stronger plant and its flowers always open perfectly here. It is a flower of faultless form, quality and substance, with broad nearly circular snow-white perianth, its small crown having a cream coloured fringe while the centre is wholly moss-green. So it was easily much the best green-eyed white flower that had appeared anywhere up to that time, and has been enthusiastically loved and admired by all who see it. To see its flowers in their full beauty, it must be cut and brought indoors as the buds are just bursting, as the strong sunshine at the late end of the season quickly fades out the green colouring. As soon as I saw what a jewel I had got, I repeated the cross which had given it to me, and sowed another batch of seed, but more of that anon. Another very good flower of 1928 was DUNLEWEY, which was also bred between two flowers of Mr. Engleheart's raising, namely MITYLENE seed by KANTARA pollen, the latter being a very large rather short stemmed white trumpet. DUNLEWEY is a large white and cream Leedsii or 11-c which in a sunny climate would bleach to white throughout—it has good form and quality and has been a useful show flower in spite of its too short stem. It is one of the most vigorous, fast increasing and immensely free flowering varieties that I know, and makes a superb garden plant—its rather short stem becoming a virtue saving it from getting broken off by wind.

It has been truly said by such great breeders as Engleheart and P. D. Williams that it is more difficult to raise a good yellow trumpet of good constitution than any other variety of daffodil. In my early days I probably made more extensive use of KING ALFRED as a parent both for seed and pollen than any other variety, and yet with the exception of one or two fairly good ones, which I have since parted with, bred from MONARCH by KING ALFRED I can recall nothing of note. It was around the year 1927 or 1928 however that I flowered PRINCIPAL which



Hybrid *Narcissus*—FRIGID



was bred from CLEOPATRA by SORLEY BOY, the latter a yellow trumpet of fine form and substance, of unknown parentage, that appeared in a bed of mixed seedlings—PRINCIPAL, which is a flower of excellent form and habit and has a good stem, proved a good doer and in due course was awarded a First Class Certificate, and has been widely distributed.

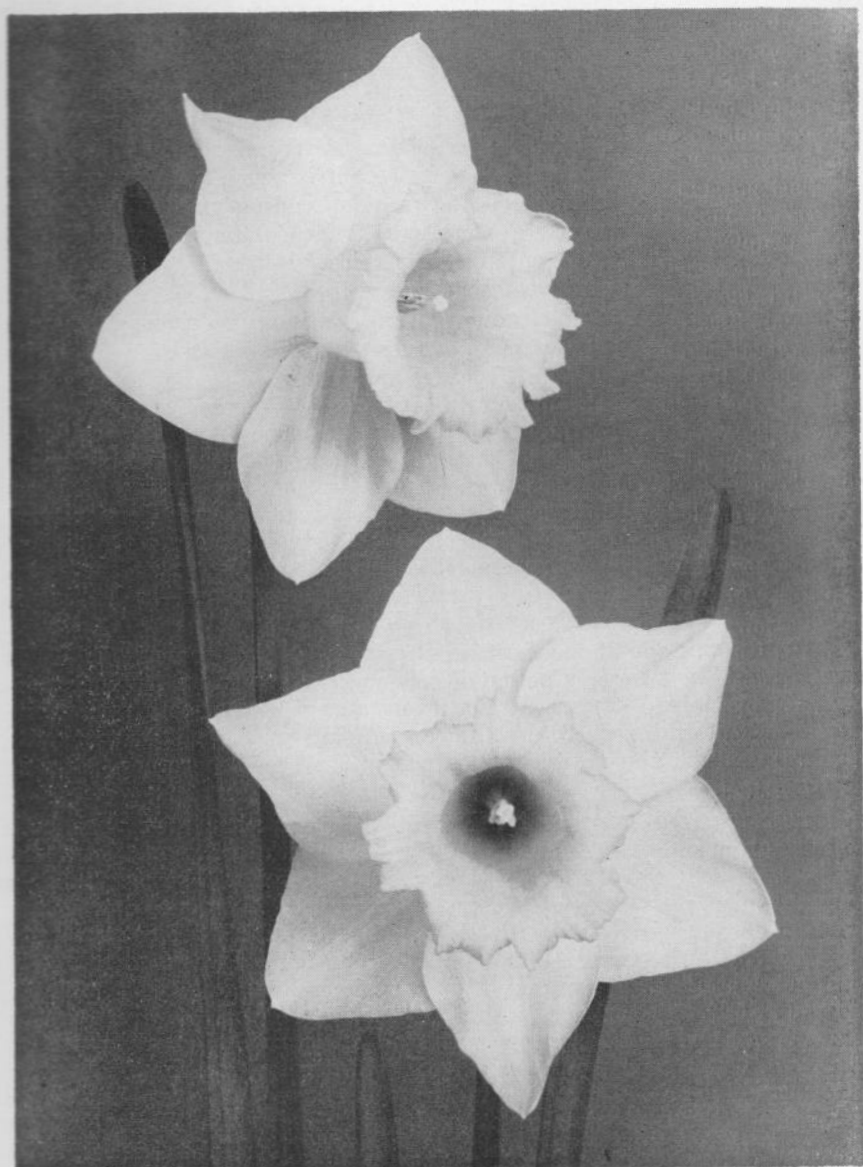
In 1929 a batch of seedlings from the well known and beautiful Mrs. E. H. KRELAGE by pollen of BEERSHEBA flowered. I still grow two of these: ARDCLINIS, the earlier, is a pure white flower of beautiful form and proportion that has done well in many places. The second one, SAMITE is later and taller and is a milk white flower of thick smooth velvety texture, beautiful form and quality and good length of stem—I think it likely that it came from a self-fertilized seed of Mrs. KRELAGE as I can see no trace of BEERSHEBA in its appearance or character. When I had sufficient flowers of it, it gained a First Class Certificate. I have always thought highly of it on account of its exceptional quality, and it has proved of some value in breeding.

In the following season, 1930, one of the most important flowers I have raised made its first appearance: this was KANCHENJUNGA: its seed parent was an unnamed flower bred by Brodie of Brodie from WHITE KNIGHT by CONQUEROR, and its pollen parent was Brodie's magnificent ASKELON. In my note at the time of its flowering I wrote:—

“A marvellous flower whose unfortunate fault is lack of sufficient substance”—

a criticism that I soon retracted, because as it developed in the next few seasons it soon came with abundant substance. It was a spectacular advance in size in white or near white trumpets, and I had not hitherto seen a flower in which such a very fine large widely flanged or bell-mouthed trumpet was so adequately balanced by a great perianth of immensely broad segments. Instead of lack of substance its fault is that, particularly on two-year-down plants a proportion of its flowers come with a cockled petal, but the perfect ones are a noble sight. Fortunately it is a first rate doer and increases freely. Its chief value however is as a parent: it transmits its great breadth of petal and has produced a number of large or very large flowers of better quality than itself. TROSTAN a fine tall pale bicolor trumpet was another find of the 1930 season. I had marked it the previous season without giving it a number or recording its parentage in my book—I had evidently not thought it outstanding so merely put a small wooden label against it with the word “Keep” so that I could save it for another chance when digging up the seedling beds, so it was re-planted, and in spring 1930 it flowered again as a really very fine large pale bicolor trumpet on a 2-foot stem, quite outstanding for those days—I have always felt pretty certain that it was bred from KING ALFRED by ASKELON—at all events its vigour and fine length of stem were to prove of much value in subsequent breeding.

The fifth seedling that I selected quite early in season 1936 was ZERO. This came from a short stemmed sturdy growing rather rough pure white trumpet or trumpet-Leedsii seedling, by pollen of Engle-

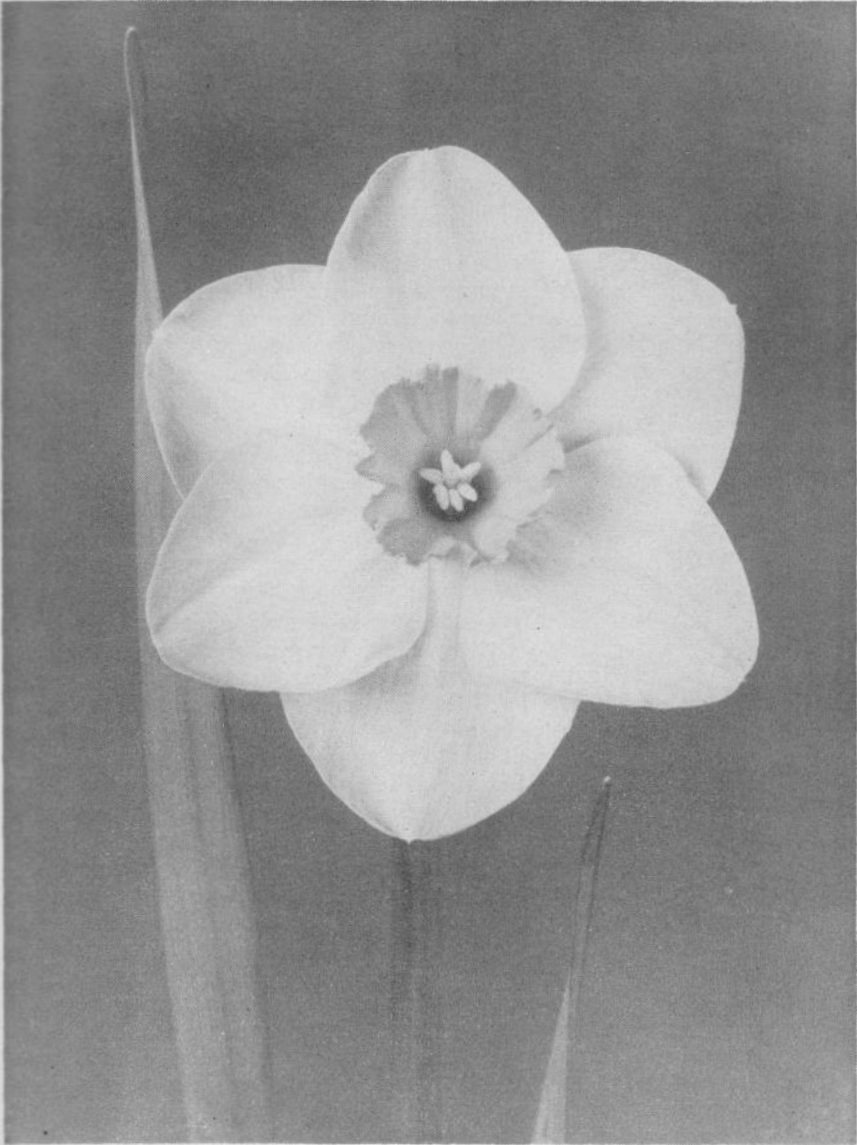


Hybrid *Narcissus*—FORESIGHT

heart's NAXOS, a very tall stemmed large crowned Leedsii of distinct character, which though now superseded as a flower, proved a most valuable breeding plant in helping to produce tall stemmed pure whites of fine quality. Curiously enough, though not itself an ice white, it had the faculty of giving green bases and great purity to a proportion of its progeny. ZERO, though many of its flowers are rather too rough for highest exhibition quality, is a spectacular flower on account of its great size and uniform icy whiteness—at its best it is a lovely flower as it has beautiful form and proportion its great spreading perianth standing away at right angles to the graceful somewhat slender and vase shaped crown which is almost of trumpet proportion, the perianth tube is deep green and the flower is short necked and well carried on a strong stem of adequate length—it is much admired and has been received with great acclaim in Japan. This same year also saw the birth of the white trumpet CANTATRICE [Plate 2] which many regard as one of the best things I have raised. It has great beauty and refinement of form, while its texture is quite unsurpassed having the smoothness of marble or polished ivory—it is a pure self white, and about the only improvement one could imagine would be to get a shade of that enchanting cold sea-green into the base of its trumpet. Anyhow in the Royal Horticultural Society's annual Daffodil Ballot which is conducted amongst the highest ranking exhibitors and growers only, it has now for seven successive seasons been voted the leading exhibition white trumpet—so I think it can be regarded as a really great daffodil.

TRUTH was one of the most beautiful flowers that came in 1933. It came from NAXOS seed by pollen of a short stemmed white trumpet seedling of unusual substance. It is a lovely and refined smooth pure white flower of beautiful form and finish carried on a very fine stem, not quite so large as ZERO and not quite so green in the base but rather better in texture.

It must have been in April 1931, the year after they were both selected, that I crossed a flower of TROSTAN with pollen of KANCHENJUNGA and got a very few seeds—from these, so far as I remember, only three plants grew—one of these outstripped the other two, and it was with increasing excitement that in the spring of 1936 I watched the development of an immense and tall stemmed bud. The largest daffodil bud I had ever seen—excitement rose to fever heat as a truly majestic flower began to open and display an immense and noble gracefully flanged and frilled long trumpet amply backed and balanced by a huge perianth. It was not fully out when I was due to leave for the London Show, and I hesitated much whether to cut it and take it with me, or leave it on the plant to develop and help me win the White Daffodil trophy at the Midland Daffodil Society's show the following week. I finally decided on the latter course, tied the flower to a supporting stake and covered it with a tall tubular glass "light," a few of which I had made for protecting special flowers. When I got home from London I found one of those horrible re-visitations of winter from which our fickle springs frequently suffer—there had been a hard frost, followed



Hybrid *Narcissus*—CHUNGKING

in the morning by violent hail, some of which still lay about. My heart sank, but I thought "At any rate that great flower will be safe under its cover;" but when I reached the plot where it was growing, I could not suppress a cry of dismay as I saw that the flower had been completely bent over by the frost and was hanging head downwards inside the "light" with its stem apparently broken where it had been tied. However closer examination revealed that the stem had not been broken—so although recovery seemed scarcely possible, we tied it up carefully with several supporting tieings and in due course the sap flowed again, and the stem became as strong as though nothing had happened and the great flower developed to its full size and stature and went to the Midland Show where it created a sensation as it was of a size and height with a stem over 2-feet, hitherto undreamed of in a white daffodil. The evening of the second day when the show closed, I went to stay with friends at Presteign, taking the flower with me, and the following day it accompanied us, still fresh and perfect, to the Hereford Daffodil Show to astonish visitors there! And that is the story of the birth and début of BROUGHSHANE! Well, I have raised other daffodils that I love better, but I doubt if any gave me more exciting thrills in its early days. It grows with immense vigour and has, with its length of stem, size and fine constitution been of great importance in breeding. I have been mating it with smaller pure ice-whites of good habit and am getting some grand large flowers of ample stature, better quality and habit. It has of course had many triumphs at shows both here and overseas.

Earlier in these notes I said that when I saw what a perfect gem I had got in my dear little CUSHENDALL, I repeated the cross between EMERALD EYE and POETICUS DACTYL, which had given it to me, and sowed another batch of seed. These flowered in 1936 and the best one of the lot was in due course named FRIGID. [Plate 3] It undoubtedly is one of the loveliest things that I have ever seen—an enthusiastic Japanese correspondent went so far as to call it the most beautiful bulbous flower he had ever seen. It is very late, later than CUSHENDALL, so late that I was able to show it at the Royal Horticultural Society's Chelsea Show in late May where it was awarded a First Class Certificate. It is larger than CUSHENDALL and whiter, being absolute ice-white throughout both perianth and crown except for a touch of vivid emerald in the eye—to see that at its best you must cut it as it is bursting and let it develop in a cool shady room—its broad perianth is rather more pointed than that of CUSHENDALL—it is a more vigorous grower and is very free flowering, the flowers being perfectly posed on tall stiff stems which carry them well above the foliage. It comes like a celestial benediction, along with POETICUS RECURVUS and the dear old double white "gardenia-flowered" poeticus right at the very end of the season. It flowers better on two year down established plants, and like the Poets probably will do best in the cooler and moister climates. It is of course far too late to compete at Daffodil Shows—it is just something to love in the peace of your own garden and the quiet of your own home.

In contrast with the lateness of FRIGID the next season, 1937, brought me FORESIGHT [Plate 4], which is the earliest flower of any

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Hybrid *Narcissus*—PREAMBLE

consequence that I have raised, and one that I greatly like. It came, I believe, from self-fertilised seed of *BONYTHON*, the late P. D. Williams' fine early bicolor trumpet. Relative earliness or lateness of individual varieties varies a good deal in differing climates. Here at any rate, however, *FORESIGHT* is ten days earlier than *FORTUNE*, it is a beautiful bicolor trumpet of perfect form and balance; a very fast increaser and extraordinarily free flowering—its fault is that the stem is rather short, but in spite of that I think that its extreme earliness will make it a valuable market flower, especially as it forces easily and also makes a perfectly beautiful pot plant, grown out of doors its perianth is cream white, but indoors it comes pure white.

Later in that same season I flowered several very good vivid orange scarlet and yellow 111-a seedlings from *MARKET MERRY*, by pollen of a smallish brilliant orange scarlet and yellow flower named *CLACKRATTLE* that I had brought from Mr. P. D. Williams' garden in *CORNWALL* when paying him a visit. One of these, afterwards named *CHUNGKING* [Plate 5] turned out to be the best of the batch. It is a fine flower of good size with broad circular rich golden perianth and well proportioned intense deep vivid orange red shallow crown; it is a most vigorous plant and extraordinarily rapid increaser. Like *CANTATRICE* the Royal Horticultural Society's panel of daffodil experts have for the past seven successive seasons placed it as the best exhibition 111-a.

The third and probably most important notable flower that appeared in 1937 was *CHINESE WHITE* which also owes its existence to pollen of a flower that was sent me from Mr. P. D. Williams' garden—this time a beautiful *SILVER COIN* seedling, which I used on the flat crowned New Zealand raised variety *SILVER PLANE*. *CHINESE WHITE* is now fairly well known as it has had much success at Shows both in Britain and overseas—it is a big well proportioned circular shallow-crowned pure white 111-c of first class quality and has also for the past seven successive seasons been placed at the top of its class as a show flower by the R. H. S. daffodil ballot. Personally I consider *FRIGID* when well grown to be a more exquisitely beautiful flower, but it is so late that it never appears in competitive classes at shows.

It was in the year 1938 that my bicolor trumpet *PREAMBLE* [Plate 6] first flowered as a very neat and most perfect smallish early bicolor trumpet. It must have been 5 or 6 years after that first flower that it seemed suddenly to grow up and reveal itself as a full sized or even large flower of absolutely superlative quality, faultless perfection and beauty. It was bred from seed of Mr. P. D. Williams' beautiful and very perfectly formed 11-c *NIPHETOS*, by pollen of *KANCHENJUNGA*. It has perfectly smooth and flat pure white perianth and rich chrome yellow trumpet of ideal finish and proportion. After a few days this colour passes to a more lemon tone, but the flower remains a distinct bicolor till the end of its life. It is exceptionally durable, I have more than once been able to exhibit it at three successive shows; and it is so consistent in high quality that practically every bloom would be fit for exhibition. It is perfectly posed with a short neck on a good sturdy stem, and flowers



very freely. Few flowers give me such unalloyed delight and complete satisfaction. I consider it one of the very best things I have raised.

1938 was also the birth year of MILANION which I think one of my best yellow trumpets. It came from ROYALIST by pollen of a seedling, and is a clear medium yellow flower of ideal form balance and quality, well posed on an excellent stem—it is extremely free of increase and bloom.

I have had quite a few of the intriguing and often charming pinky crowned flowers amongst my seedlings. INTERIM, one of the most interesting of these turned up in 1939. It was bred from a small dainty 111-c named CUSHLAKE, by pollen of a tall well formed 11-c named Dava, and is a fine vigorous plant making a large strong bulb and sending up a tall strong stem. The flower is more of decorative than show type, with clear white very slightly reflexing perianth, the petals slightly incurved at their edges while the neat cup is pale citron primrose with a band of salmon pink at the edge. It is proving an interesting parent and has given several seedlings with cups of definitely better pink colouring than its own.

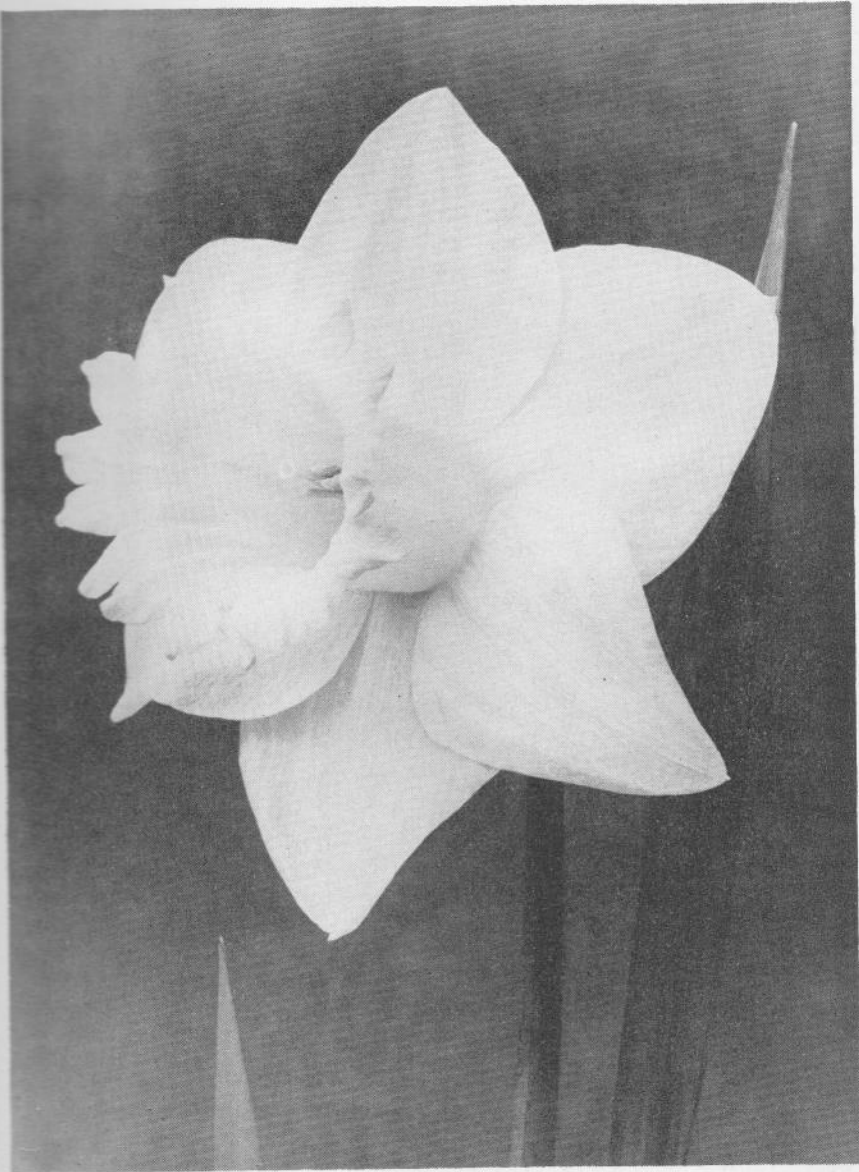
No further outstanding landmarks came to light till 1942 when a considerable batch of seedlings flowered which had been bred from a yellow trumpet named KING OF THE NORTH, raised by Brodie of Brodie, by pollen of P. D. Williams' striking and beautiful very pale lemon CONTENT. Breeders had for long been trying to produce deep Maximus gold trumpets like KING ALFRED or deeper, as distinct from the softer and less brilliant yellow of the once popular EMPEROR. I remember that the late Walter T. Ware had pointed this out to me many years ago, and I had heard that a nice cool lemon trumpet had been bred from KING OF THE NORTH by Brodie's cream trumpet NEVIS—so I thought I would try CONTENT instead of NEVIS. It was a lucky cross and gave me quite a batch of beautiful large very cool and clear limey or almost greenish lemons to choose from: they really were quite a new colour break, in their way as exciting as the pinks. The most strikingly coloured is the one I have named SPELLBINDER which is a very clear bright limey lemon self on first opening, the inside of its trumpet gradually passes to almost white giving the effect of a reversed bicolor—hence it is classed as belonging to division 1-d though the trumpet retains at the very edge of its fringe a sparkling rim of lemon. Another of this family is MOONSTRUCK [Plate 7], a real giant of truly heroic dimensions and yet not at all coarse as its texture is good, and its form and proportion perfect, also it is beautifully posed with a short neck on a tall strong stem. These varieties flower quite early in the season and when exhibited in the trade groups they make a most telling and distinct feature and attract much admiration. I hear from Mr. Grant E. Mitsch of Canby, Oregon that he has also bred some very fine flowers from the same cross.

In the following season a most lovely little late-flowering jewel came amongst seedlings from CUSHLAKE in division 111-b. It has slightly reflexing and waved clearest pure white perianth and a small shallow crown of cool viridian or almost sea green shading paler towards the rim

which is sharply edged by a narrow band of vivid salmon orange. It has a nice wiry stem, and is altogether charming if cut young as it opens and brought indoors. Its name is LOUGH AREEMA, after a little fairy lake, up in hills above the County Antrim Coast.

In 1946, amongst other red cups there came a very nice neat rather early smallish flower with clear bright yellow perianth and vivid orange red cup—I gave it a number but cannot have paid very much attention to it amongst a host of others till the past season when I discovered that it is completely and absolutely sunproof—it was fully out before I left home for the London Show and though there were six days of the most brilliant sunshine of the season, and it was quite unprotected during my absence, when I came home I found it looking better than ever, and without the slightest trace of fading. This was a gratifying discovery, as I had made the cross from which it came in the hope of getting sunproof colour. Its seed parent was a flower bred between one I called SUNPROOF ORANGE by pollen of TREVISKY, while its pollen parent was RUSTOM PASHA. SUNPROOF ORANGE, which I no longer grow, was a vigorous fast increasing but not very free flowering 11-a with a bright yellow perianth and a cup that opened only slightly orange but deepened to tangerine with exposure. TREVISKY has very bright colour which holds better than some, while RUSTOM PASHA opens with a somewhat greenish orange cup which the sun develops to a rich tangerine red that is practically sunproof.

In 1947 several fine flowers came from a smallish batch of seedlings bred from GUARDIAN by KANCHENJUNGA. Now GUARDIAN is bred from P. D. Williams' high quality 11-c NIPHETOS by pollen of the tall vigorous pale bicolor trumpet TROSTAN—it is a flower of excellent quality and fine substance with broad smooth white perianth, and very faint lemon almost white crown of nearly trumpet measurement—it is moreover a very vigorous plant of splendid habit carrying its flowers which are short necked, on strong stiff stems well above the sturdy upright foliage. Amongst its seedlings from KANCHENJUNGA pollen one was obviously outstanding even at its first flowering: a very large white trumpet of ideal form and proportion, short necked and perfectly posed on a fine strong stem. It has improved considerably since first flowering and a bloom that I exhibited at the London Show in April 1952 was judged to be the best flower shown in the competitive classes: a glorious and majestic great white trumpet of quite faultless balance, proportion, and perfectly beautiful form with immense very broad flat smooth perianth, the great major segments being of the ideal ace of spades shape, while the smooth perfectly balanced trumpet has a beautifully finished flange. It probably owes the beautiful form of its perianth in part to its grandparent NIPHETOS. I think it is perhaps the finest big white trumpet I have seen up-to-date, and have named it EMPRESS OF IRELAND [Plate 1]; so I hope it will maintain its good character. Unfortunately a daffodil fly took toll of it, so there are as yet very few bulbs.



Hybrid *Narcissus*—MOONSTRUCK

[Wilson—FAVOURITE DAFFODILS, continued from page 20.]

As last spring EMPRESS OF IRELAND appeared to be up-to-date about the climax of my efforts in breeding white trumpets, I think I had better bring this already lengthy and somewhat rambling tale to a close. Of course quite a number of things that promise to be fine have appeared amongst my seedlings during the five years since EMPRESS OF IRELAND flowered, but I daresay that as yet but few of them have fully grown up and shown the best that they can do. So it is perhaps best to wait and see before saying much of them—and of course I hope that still better and better flowers than any that have yet appeared may keep on coming to all lovers and breeders of daffodils as the years pass.