

# TECHNICAL SESSIONS

## THURSDAY EVENING SESSION

October 18, 1962

The Third Annual Meeting of the Plant Propagators' Society — Western Region, opened at 7:45 P.M. at the Educational Center, California State Polytechnic College, San Dimas, California, with remarks of welcome by Herman J. Sandkuhle, Jr., President, Western Region. This was followed by a brief report from Don Hartman, President, International Plant Propagators Society. Program Chairman, Percy Everett, introduced the Moderator for the evening Symposium, O. A. Batcheller, Head, Department of Ornamental Horticulture, California State Polytechnic College, Pomona, California.

### SEEDS AND THEIR ROLE IN MODERN PROPAGATION

MODERATOR BATCHELLER: Seeds have always played an important role in the history and development of countries, as food, as articles of commerce, for religious rites, and for decoration.

If anything, the seed in the 20th Century has become more important, and today represents the most costly of all agricultural crops produced, with some  $F_1$  hybrid seed selling for over \$1000 per ounce. Despite the cost of planning, development, processing, packaging and care, the modern day seed is still a better buy than its predecessor, as rated by yield and returns.

Unlike most products sold today in easily observed plastic packages, the seed is "an unknown." "a picture or description in a catalog that should come to life," "the promise of a seed company." This built-in future, as developed by the great seed companies, needs all the protection and care possible so that the embryo may develop to its greatest potential. To assist us this evening in our discussion on "Seeds In Their Role in Modern Propagation" we have a well-known panel of experts:

Dr. Walter Lammerts, Horticulture Research Division, German's, Livermore, California.

Mr. J. C. Eden, Forest Technician, State Forestry Nursery, Davis, California.

Mr. Dara E. Emery, Horticulturist, Santa Barbara Botanic Garden, Santa Barbara, California.

Our first speaker tonight will be Dr. Walter Lammerts, who will discuss the subject of embryo culture. Dr. Lammerts.