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INTERNATIONAL CAMELLIA TIJDSCHRIFT



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# THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

to all members of the International Camellia Society.

- *Le Message Du President À Tous Les Membres De ICS*
- *Il Messaggio Del Presidente A Tutti I Membri Dell'ICS*
- *Mensaje Del Presidente A Los Miembros De La ICS*

The Presidential address to congressionists at Rotorua was delivered at much the same time as the Editor was completing compilation of this No 11, 1979, I.C.S. Journal. Covering, as it does, Mr Savige's thoughts on several topical and vital aspects of Society affairs it is now presented as his 1979 message to all Society members.

It is with considerable pleasure that members of the I.C.S. are welcomed to the 1979 Convention at Rotorua, held in conjunction with the New Zealand Camellia Society's National Show. This is the third convention held in consecutive years, and it is becoming noticeable that to continue to hold such conventions annually will eventually become too much of a burden, both on those entrusted with the organisation and on the finances of the attending delegates. Therefore, your Board of Directors will be examining other periods of time to be implemented following the 1980 convention in Kyoto, Japan, and the 1981 convention in Santiago de Compostella, Spain, which are already well into the final organisation stage.

The I.C.S. Registration Authority is in the formative stages with the first two memos on nomenclature problems in the hands of the advisory panel. First results will be published in *The International Camellia Journal* in 1980.

Regarding the Japanese Convention, this has been completely planned in a most capable manner by Vice President Yoshiaki Andoh, and includes a tour suitable for a "once only" visit to Japan which covers a wide range of the most interesting and important features of the country.

In Spain, the Marques de Figueroa reports that the idea of an International Camellia Convention in Spain in 1981 has aroused considerable interest in both Spain and Portugal, and it is expected that it will draw considerable local support.

I would like to dwell a little on the future of the I.C.S., particularly as far as its operation is concerned. As members are aware, since the 1973 convention in Sydney, the re-structuring of the Society finally brought all its executive

offices, with the exception of the Vice Presidents, to Australia, in particular in the Sydney area. This of course was mainly done for expediency, the close grouping of the executive members permitting regular meetings, early decisions, and more information.

It is believed that a similar format will give the best results in the future; however it has led to some criticism, and it has been said in some quarters that it is only an Australian society. This is far from fact as every effort has been made to reach all important decisions on an international basis and in this regard the annual face to face meeting of the International Directors has been the basis of true internationalism. Nevertheless, the time is approaching when consideration will have to be given to a new executive located in another country. The present executive members, stalwart workers though they be, are but human and feel that before long they will have done their stint and wish to pass the task on to other hands.

Because of the annual meetings of Directors that have been held, the loss of continuity inherent in such a move will not be so important; the most important matter is to find five good men and true, living in reasonable proximity, willing to accept such tasks. This matter should be examined at the Rotorua conference so that a concrete plan can eventuate by the time of the Kyoto Convention. All members are asked to give this matter their consideration and pass their opinions to the Director for their Region.

Finally, my wishes match those of the Marques de Figueroa, who has said that he expects our future relationships to be long lasting and sealed by the indisputable and everlasting power of the Camellia.