

WEDNESDAY EVENING SESSION
December 5, 1973

The Twenty-third Annual Banquet was held in Salon Four of the Marriott Hotel, Chicago, Illinois. On behalf of the Society, Dr. John Wott presented a certificate of appreciation to Captain George Toop, captain of the IPPS 1973 charter flight to England, for his efforts in making the trip a memorable occasion.

The award for the best undergraduate paper was presented to Mr. Richard Randall of Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

Dr. William Snyder, Secretary of the International Board of Directors, made the following presentation:

DR. SNYDER: President Tukey, members of the Eastern Region and guests. Mr. Leslie Hancock, Chairman of the Award and Merit Committee, could not be with us this year and I have been asked to act in his stead to present the Award of Merit for 1973.

The recipient of the Award this year joined the Society in 1952 which missed by one year being an honorary charter member of the organization. At an early age, he indicated an interest in plant materials by identifying and labeling the plant materials on the campus of the academy, which was the equivalent of high school, that he was then attending. He served in the military in World War II and subsequently received a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree from Yale University. He is one of those individuals who could have pursued either the academic or the commercial field and been successful in whichever he chose. He chose to become a commercial nurseryman and is an excellent plantsman who has done a lot of selection and breeding and introduction of new plant materials, especially trees. He is the author of several books and numerous articles in the American Nurseryman and in our own Proceedings. He has received a number of awards: the Commercial Citation from the American Horticultural Society, the Thomas Roland Medal from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, which is awarded for exceptional skill in the field of Horticulture. He is the past-President of the New Jersey Association of Nurserymen and is a past-President of A.A.N. He is the immediate past-President of our own Society — Mr. William Flemer.

The banquet speaker was Mr. William Valavanis, who spoke on "The Bonsai Art".