

TWIN CITY IRIS SOCIETY
NEWS AND VIEWS
(Undernourished Junior Size Edition)
July, 1963

It's auction time again, and that event always calls for an issue of the News and Views. But look who's pinch-hitting for your editor this time. No, she isn't mad at us or sick or anything like that. It's just that we moved up the auction date at the unanimous request of everyone who attended the June meeting, and when we did we ran headlong into a collision with your editor's vacation schedule. So your president volunteered to come to her rescue, just for this time. The show report that would normally appear in this issue will be included in September instead.

Before proceeding to the auction details, a small preachment seems in order at this time. Folks, this auction is the most important event in our annual calendar because our very existence depends on it. This is the one event that provides the income necessary to keep us going. Our dues are held at a minimum so that any iris lover can afford to join us, and if that were our only source of income we would fold up immediately. The auction permits our members to support the society painlessly because they can buy their plants at prices usually well below the going retail rates, and at the same time provide us with the income that keeps us in existence. We need your support.

Our 1963 auction will be held on Thursday evening, July 25, at our test garden site, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stan Rudser, 2548 Douglas Drive in Golden Valley. For those who don't know their way to the Rudsers' it isn't hard to find. One easy way is to take Highway 100 to 27th Avenue North. Turn west and go about a half mile to Douglas Drive. Turn south and start watching house numbers. You can't miss our test garden sign. Any stray mosquitoes will be sprayed in advance, and in case of rain there will be room for us to get inside.

We will have the inexpensive rhizomes out on tables and available for sale as early as 6:00 for the benefit of early bargain hunters. Auctioning of the more valuable varieties will get under way by 7:30 and will continue until everything has been sold or until the auctioneers' voices give out and become inaudible, whichever occurs first. Free refreshments will be available on the grounds. We are also holding a mail auction this year. It was designed primarily for those who find it impossible to attend the regular auction, but of course anyone can bid by mail and also come to the auction. The details are enclosed on a separate page.

As in past years, we will welcome contributions of saleable plant materials by our members. It would be very helpful to your auction committee if these contributions could be turned over to Urban Ipsen, 6515 Knoll Street, a day or two before the auction date, or to your president if that is more convenient. But if this is impossible, just bring them to the auction and we will appreciate them anyway. Iris rhizomes contributed should be cut and trimmed into saleable condition and marked with the variety name, color, and catalog price. You can write on the leaves with a ball point pen. They don't have to be expensive varieties, but perhaps needless to say they should be reasonably good ones by modern standards. Plants other than irises will also be welcomed. In previous auctions we have had daylilies, chrysanthemums, house plants, and what have you, and somebody is always ready to bid on them.

We are also soliciting contributions of iris rhizomes for another purpose this year. Last year we received quite a number of valuable varieties to be set out in the test garden. Now we are harvesting about 250 very desirable rhizomes which will be sold in the auction. We want to do the same thing again. Members who can spare rhizomes, even very small ones, of varieties now valued at \$4.00 or more are urged to bring them to the auction and turn them over to Mrs. Bakke. They will again be set out in the test garden to be seen and appreciated in bloom there next spring, and then harvested and sold in next year's auction.

So hustle out into your garden with a spading fork! First dig out and throw away all those droopy old dogs that you were so ashamed of last spring. Then reduce the size of all the overgrown clumps of your better varieties, salvage the good rhizomes, and contribute them to the auction. Now look at all the vacant space you created. Doesn't it bother you to have all that good land going to waste? So on July 25 load your friends and neighbors into the car, come to the test garden, and treat yourself to some fine new irises to fill up all those holes. Still need a persuader? Here it is. At last year's auction Ricky Anderson bought the rhizome that produced his Princess on the court of honor in this year's show!

SEE YOU AT THE AUCTION!

G. F. Hanson
President