

on the show stand, owing to losing colour very quickly. It is difficult on this account to secure a strong vase.

One point well brought out at this show is the fact that too many stems in a vase is a mistake. The ideal number we should say was ten, and these so placed as to enable everyone to be closely examined without handling. Where 20 stems are placed in a vase it becomes necessary for the judges to lift them out, which occupies valuable time, and is apt to lead to confusion and cannot possibly serve any useful purpose. We have always advocated using sweet pea foliage when staging blooms, and after seeing the National and other shows, we are confirmed in this view. There is nothing that can set off the blooms to greater advantage than their own foliage, provided it is not overdone.

The judges, Messrs. Fox, Trevethick, and Dr. Carbary, are to be commended for wisely setting a high standard for the national competitions. Acting on this resolve, the entries in the single bunch classes were found to be, with few exceptions, unworthy of an award, and none was made, and the society has resolved that for the next year's event these classes shall be deleted entirely, and a New Zealand novelty single bunch class substituted.

The arrangements for the show since its inception have been in the hands of Mr. E. A. Osmond, of Stratford, the hon. secretary, and this gentleman also carried out satisfactorily all the arrangements for the holding of the exhibition—a big task for any man. Mr. Osmond, however, has accomplished his work, and is deserving of commendation for his indefatigable labours. The following were the principal events for competition:—

GROUP A—(Open.)

“Weekly Graphic” Cup, value 25 guineas; presented by Mr. H. Brett, and 30/ cash, for 18 distinct waved varieties.

1st prize, Mr. A. Goring Johnston, Palmerston North. The varieties shown were Dazzler, Zephyr, Mrs. H. Sykes, Helen Lewis, Etta Dyke, Senator Spencer, Tom Bolton, Nancy Perkin, Elsie Herbert, Apple Blossom, Well Done, Miriam Bea-

ver, Rewa, Countess Spencer, Geo. Stark, Mrs. C. W. Breadmore, Constance Oliver, Marie Corelli, Paradise Ivory. We understand this was Mr. Johnston's first effort and he is to be congratulated on his win, more especially as he managed to secure the prize, beating several veteran growers. Mr. G. C. Holder, Porirua, was

a close second, showing good vases of Helen Lewis, Maori Belle, Miriam Beaver, Evelyn Hennis, etc., and Mrs. Brown Clayton, Auckland, was third. The blooms in this stand were a bit off colour, probably through being too loosely packed, and showed the effects of the long journey.

N.Z. Championship Class. For 12 bunches, waved:—

1st prize, the N.Z. Championship Cup, presented by Wellington patrons, the Society's gold medal, and two guineas in cash. This coveted honour was won by Mr. G. C. Holder, Porirua, with a magni-



SOME OF THE TROPHIES AT THE NATIONAL SWEET PEA SHOW.

The Taranaki Challenge Cup, on the left, valued at 20 guineas, was presented by Taranaki patrons of the Society for twelve bunches in the maiden growers' class, and was won for the first time by Mrs. H. J. Douglas (Hamilton). The handsome trophy in the centre is the Wellington Rose Bowl, valued at 20 guineas. It is awarded for twelve bunches in the championship class, and can only be held by the winner from year to year. It was won for the first time by Mr. G. C. Holder (Porirua). On the right is the Yates Cup, valued at 10 guineas, presented by Messrs. A. Yates and Co. It is open for competition to all (grade excepted), and has to be won three times before becoming the absolute property of the holder. This year it was won by Mr. J. Goring Johnston (Palmerston North).



THE "WEEKLY GRAPHIC" CUP.

This trophy, valued at 25 guineas, was presented by Mr. H. Brett for 18 distinct varieties with waved standards. The cup, which has to be won three times before becoming the absolute property of the holder, was won for the first time by Mr. J. Goring Johnston (Palmerston North).



A SPORT FROM MRS L. J. LIPSCOMBE

Grown by Mr. A. E. Osmond (Stratford).