

OBSERVATIONS

From The Sidelines

By Kathryn H. Bogle

What would the Portland Rose Festival be without the rose? The rose and rose-growers among home owners in the community are essential to keep Portland the "Rose City."

Al Schamel is current president of the Portland Rose Society, the organization responsible for the rose shows in the community each year. Visitors to the shows are counted in the thousands. They come from far and near to get a close-up view of the most beautiful roses grown by the expert and the amateur.

"One of the more consistent winners of blue ribbons and silver trophies at the rose shows of recent years," Schamel said, "is Michael Rice." Rice is a Black man exhibiting roses he grows in his garden in N.E. Portland. "He knows so much about growing roses and bringing a rose to the peak of perfection, that he was made a judge of rose gardens in 1975 for the Rose Society," said Schamel.

Rice, a transplant from Connecticut, has been in Portland for many years. He works now, since his retirement from cooking on the railroad, only on a contingent basis. He is Chef at the Hilton or at Gold-

bergs, he does a little catering when he has time, and does a lot of rose-growing all the time.

Rice is up early every day pruning, clipping, spraying, mulching or putting an umbrella over his 120 bushes in his San Rafael street rose garden. Modest about his accomplishments, Rice acknowledges he has won innumerable ribbons and trophies as he continues to exhibit blossoms. His judging assessments are kept for complete rose gardens opened and entered for competition among other listed rose gardens.

As a grower, Rice likes the results he gets from hybrid teas. He has won many of his awards for arrangements of a single rose, but he has also won prizes for arrangements of three, five, and up to 12 roses coming to perfection at show time.

"I have no real favorite name rose," he declares. "I like them all and treat them all the same way." Rice chuckles and admits that it was "Pink Favorite" that won for him another trophy this year in the rose garden. Pink Favorite won in a three-bloom display - but, - prizes were awarded Rice also, for an exhibit he made of a floribunda and a climber.



MICHAEL J. RICE

(Photo: Alfred Monner)

decision was clear. His wife and family backed him with their encouragement and help and Hadley is happy and proud to have them beside him all the way.

Baker Hadley is well known as Hadley the musician. He is a saxophonist in some after hours and is a sometimes orchestra leader. His group, the "Fabulous Majestic," has won many trophies for popularity. The five-piece band is versatile and plays Jazz, Pops, and Rhythm and Blues.

Hadley as a Rosarian has visited Seattle and other cities of the Northwest including Vancouver, B.C. They have looked in on Honolulu inviting the Hawaiians to come to the parade and join the rose festivities.



MICHAEL JORDAN

Roses, roses - everything is coming up Roses! The Rosarians exist to tell about the Portland celebration of the rose.

This volunteer organization, made up of 220 business and professional men of the Portland metropolitan area, in 1980, includes three men prominent in the Black community: a dentist, a baker and an elementary school principal.

The three Rosarians mentioned are: Dr. Clarence Pruitt, Hurtis Hadley and Michael Jordan.

Jordan, in 1977 was the first of the three to join and be knighted into the civic group. Rosarians work the year round in support of public relations for the City of Roses. The Rosarian members are "greeters" and sometimes their committee assignments take them to cities all around the state, and to cities outside the state to promote the growing of the rose, the exhibiting of the rose and the June-time festival of the rose - in Portland.

Enthusiased over the chance to make his spare time both interesting to himself and worthwhile to his community. Jordan outlined his views and his experience to Pruitt and to Hadley. Both men joined the Rosarians in 1978 and were knighted this year.

Jordan, a native Oregonian, was educated at University of Portland with advanced degrees from Portland State University. His parents



DR. CLARENCE PRUITT

are George and Martha Jordan, both educators themselves. Jordan has been a teacher for several years in Portland Public Schools and is now a principal at the Jim Bridger elementary school in Southeast Portland.

Jordan, with his family, makes his home in Lake Oswego.

Dr. Clarence Pruitt, well-known dentist of the City, is a professor of Prosthodontics at his alma mater, the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center School of Dentistry. Pruitt speaks enthusiastically about his commitment to the community through his Rosarian association.

Hurtis Hadley, a baker with 19 years experience, has his own successful bake-shop in Milwaukie. Hadley began making pastries and beautiful goodies just after he was graduated from Jefferson High School. He started at the Bohemian and moved up to the Bakery department at Albertsons. There he received a three-year well rounded training course in addition to the day-to-day experience.

Hadley was awarded his first Joe Albertson store, "the Bakery Department is mine," in Beaverton where he stayed nearly three years. He then moved on to Albertson's Cully Blvd. store where he was the baker for about the same length of time.

In 1977 the opportunity for



HURTIS HADLEY

Hadley to buy the Milwaukie location, shop and plant, and his

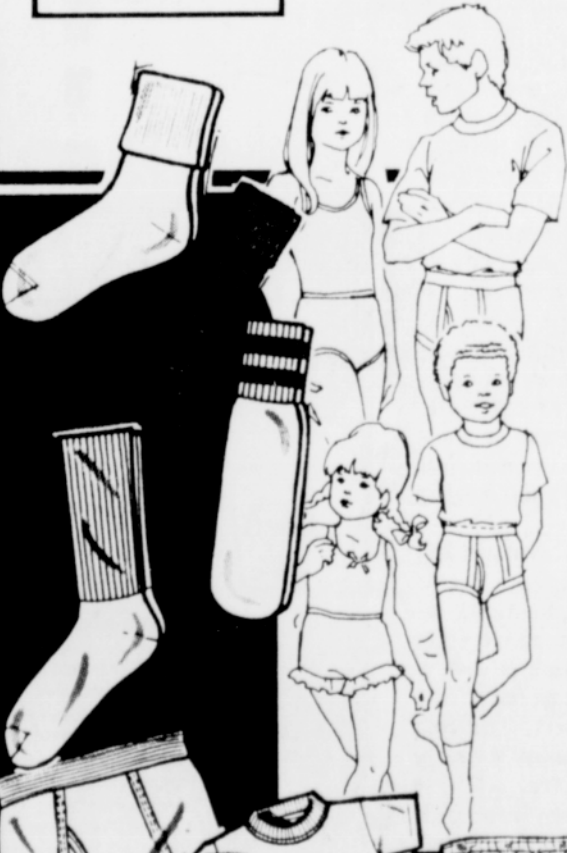
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