

# Flashing Light

At the Connecticut Florists Short Course it was reported by Dr. Sid Waxman that two seconds of light every minute during the night would keep chrysanthemums vegetative. The response of the plants to the flashing light was the same as those which were given four hours of light in the middle of the night. Assuming approximately a twelve hour dark period, this would mean about 24 minutes of light or electricity per night as compared to 240 minutes, a saving of about  $\frac{9}{10}$ .

This would also mean that you would need about  $\frac{1}{30}$  of the amount of power coming into your greenhouse for lighting of chrysanthemums. A special time could be constructed that would allow, for example, with one normal circuit the lighting of 30 benches. That is lighting one bench for two seconds and moving to the second bench and the third bench and so forth.

The saving appears to be very large. We are planning to have a demonstration of this at the Florist Short Course this January. We suggest that you try this on one bench and see how it works. If you wish more information, write to Professor Sid Waxman, Department of Horticulture, Connecticut University, Storrs, Connecticut, or to us.

R.W.L.