



THE FEBRUARY MEETING

of the

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

will be held on

THURSDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 14, 1946

in Odd Fellows Temple, 175 North Los Robles Ave., Pasadena, Calif.

7:30 p.m.—INFORMAL FLOWER SHOW. Last month's exhibit brought many beautiful specimen blooms to the exhibit tables. This month should bring still more. **Every one** will have something to exhibit. If you have just one bloom, bring it along! Last month's prize winner remarked at dinner table, "There just isn't anything to take to the meeting tonight". "That blossom is a beauty," replied her husband, "Why don't you take that?" She did—and took home "Duncan Bell" in unexpected reward. Let's make the February exhibit something to remember!

8:00 p.m.—"PROPAGATION—by seed, cuttings and grafts." **Bill Woodruff** will be the speaker of the evening. Starting life as a lawyer, his love of horticulture got the better of him. His association with the Valley Garden Supply Company of North Hollywood gives him an excellent background to discuss his topic.

Another, and special, hobby of Bill Woodruff's is the collection of data concerning camellia varieties and varietal names. He has a loose leaf book, typewriter paper size, containing some four thousand varietal names. In addition to his other topic, he will discuss the less known varieties among the top forty camellias in your recent vote. The top forty are listed elsewhere in this Bulletin, together with the number of votes each received. If there are any you wish to ask questions about, come prepared. Bill Woodruff has the answers—and this is your golden opportunity.

8:45 p.m.—Fifteen minutes with **Verschaffelt**. Carlo Galli will throw kodachromes of the original plates on the screen. Dr. Walter E. Lammerts, at the microphone, will add comments.

Vice President John Taylor will preside over this bang-up meeting.

Prizes, donated by Armstrong Nurseries, will be:

Exhibitor's prize: "Marchioness of Exeter."

Members door prize: "Mathotiana."

Public Address Fund: "Fancy."

Publications Fund: "Gov. Mouton."

THE JANUARY MEETING brought a rising crescendo of blooms to the exhibit tables—a crescendo which should reach fortissimo proportions in February. The meeting also brought chairs from under the platform and from various back rooms. The hall was filled. Next month it will bulge at the seams.

Prize winners were: Exhibitors Prize: "Duncan Bell" won by Mrs. Karl Leitz, Glendale. Members Door Prize: "King Lear" won by Elizabeth Clifford, Glendale. Public Address Fund: "Reticulata" won by Mrs. Hazel Potter, Covina. Publications Fund: "Rose Dawn" won by Gladys Dyar, Alhambra.

The Symposium on "Southern California's Choicest Camellias" presented by Bob Casamajor was excellent. The varieties discussed were choicest in the opinion of some of our own experienced growers from various communities hereabouts.

Moderator Casamajor led off with Pax, Margarete Hertrich and Candida Elegantissima. Mrs. Loyd John Taylor of Flintridge discussed Alba Plena, Empress and C. M. Hovey (Col. Firey).

Mr. Neely of Los Angeles discussed Mathotiana, Debutante and Vedrine.

Mrs. Carlo Galli of South Pasadena discussed Triphosa, Lady Hume's Blush and Adolph Audusson.

Mr. Asper of La Canada discussed Glen 40, Pink Ball and Duchess de Cases.

Mrs. Roy Bauer of San Marino discussed Ella Drayton, Pink Dawn and Elena Nobile.

Mr. Strother of Glendale discussed Herme, Pope Pius IX and Chandleri Elegans Variegated.

Mrs. McCaskill of Pasadena discussed Marchioness of Exeter, Betty McCaskill and Fimbriata.

This symposium was not only most interesting, but provided members groping after additional desirables with additional guidance by experienced growers. Discussion of the less commonly known favorites elected by the "hoi polloi" in the 74 ballots cast in our recent membership vote will be a feature of the February program.

Verschaffelt was as well received as ever. Some folk remarked afterward that we should devote a whole evening to these slides. We did, in December. Comforting thought: There are enough of them remaining to embroider all of the remaining meetings this year. Nice embroidery, we call it!

NEW LAPEL NAME PLATES—The Board of directors authorized the purchase of celluloid covered name plates, one for each member. Your lapel name plate is enclosed with this copy of the Bulletin. Keep it—and WEAR IT at all meetings.

RESULTS OF CAMELLIA POLL—The result in which members voted for the two camellias which are tops in their estimation, produced the following results; but generous by nature, we list not two but the top forty varieties. Program Chairman Ethel Campbell thinks the entire extremely interesting; it contained 183 varieties! Mrs. Campbell's own evaluation follows the list.

Variety	
1. Debutante	.....
2. Dai Kagura	.....
3. Alba Plena	.....
4. Gigantea (9); Emperor Wilhelm (40)	.....
5. Chandleri Elegans (39); Chandleri Elegans var. (5)	.....
6. Pope Pius IX (Imbricata Rubra Plena, Mrs. Harry Davis, Prince Eugene Napoleon)	.....
7. Il Tramonto (Laurel leaf, Lallarook)	.....
8. Lotus	.....
9. Fimbriata	.....
10. Te Deum	.....
11. Chandleri Elegans, var. Francine (Designated on ballots as Francine) (34 plus 44 votes for #5, places the Chandleri Elegans varieties at the top of the list.—Ed.)	.....
12. Col. Firey (Should this include 18 C.M. Hoveys also? Would bring it into the first ten)	.....
13. Herme (Jordan's Pride)	.....
14. Mathotiana (Julia Drayton)	.....
15. Blood of China (Victor Emanuel)	.....
16. Pax	.....
17. Purity	.....
18. Empress (7); Grandiflora Rosea (18)	.....
19. Finlandia	.....
20. Reticulata	.....
21. Marchioness of Exeter	.....
22. Glen 40	.....
23. C. M. Hovey (How many meant the true Col. Firey?)	.....
24. Arakishi (Aloha)	.....
25. Bella Romana	.....
26. Prof. Sargent	.....
27. Kumasaka (includes Lady Marian)	.....
28. Pink Perfection	.....
29. Pink Ball	.....
30. Elena Nobile	.....
31. Candida Elegantissima (Nagasaki, Mikenjaku, Empress of Russia)	.....
32. Fimbriata Superba	.....
33. High Hat	.....
34. Paeoniflora	.....
35. Emperor of Russia	.....
36. Anne Galli (Huntington Pink, Pink Bleichroeder, Casa Blanca)	.....
37. Mrs. Josephine Hearn	.....
38. Vedrine (Ruby Glow)	.....
39. Duchess de Cases	.....
40. Meredith Lake	.....
41. Haku Rakuten (White Crane)	.....

Suggestion that a second poll be when nature has spread the late varieties before our eyes, seems not bad. At that, the whole thing might be when the members have seen the Margarete Hertrich, Dr. McLean and R. Casamajor!! **Annahoo . . . Here are Campbell's comments:**

"The first 20 camellias listed are fine selections. They show ability by members to choose varieties comb



a high degree the characteristics sought in a flowering plant: good growing habits; free flowering; a long blooming season, or an early one when other bloom scarce; good form and color; good substance which resists shattering; long lasting blossoms which, as the botanists recently state, "fall off tardily." In camellias, adaptability to corsage work is also an important consideration.

Some of the top twenty varieties are expensive, but some are plentiful and inexpensive.

The second twenty is also an excellent one, including a few old varieties with outstanding qualities and many unusual varieties not so well known. It must have been that enough of our experts voted for the latter to bring them into prominence. (That makes you an expert if you voted for them!)

Evaluating the other 132 varieties, which received votes ranging from seven down to one, I feel that they represent either very bad old varieties or very, very new rare ones. Some indicate unusual tastes in camellias, for woodland types, those with long stems for cuttings, etc. Some rare varieties known to from one to ten members who own and enjoy them. Question: How can we dig out these rare varieties so the rest of the membership can become acquainted with them?

I think the whole list should be printed in the Bulletin sometime; it would be useful as a check list for lots of people."

That's a good suggestion; the list will be published in future Bulletins. "Don't let your subscription expire! . . . Answer-

Mrs. Campbell's question—How can we make rare varieties more widely available?

—The other day four of our camellia enthusiasts stood in the emporium of Mr. Hugh Evans and his friend Mr. Reeves. They

were drooling over a plant with gorgeous rose pink blooms. This Scared Scribe

had and drooled along with the other (Earliest English "law" considered

a scared man couldn't drool; gave the dried dry flour to chew, feeling that if

he could chew it he must be innocent. Showing his own weaknesses, this Scribe

was always scared in such emporia; nevertheless, he definitely drooled over that

(Fancy money was mentioned; Hugh Evans mildly stated that he'd been offered

more than that. One of our party, slightly annoyed, muttered something about the

probability of having more dead English-
men around, especially hoarders of beauty.

After that, ever, Hugh Evans said, "I'm

going to sell any of this variety until
it has propagated enough so eventually
everyone can have it. If I sell it now, two
or three will have it; if I wait, all can
have it."

Scoffers will grumble, "Yea, he wants to build up a stock and then cash in on it". Suppose the grower does cash in on his ability and foresight? We all like to do that. This Simple Scribe is just simple enough to believe that professional growers of Hugh Evans' calibre feel a responsibility for the wider distribution of beauty. . . . Now getting back to Mrs. Campbell's question: Be patient. Let the growers propagate in peace. Meanwhile, feast your eyes at the exhibit tables each month, and make lists and lists and lists. There'll come a day!

REPORT FROM OUR SAN DIEGO COMPONENT SOCIETY. The San Diego Camellia Society held its monthly meeting January 11 and really attracted a very fine crowd—an informal flower display was held before the meeting with many flowers being attractively arranged and while the Debutante was obviously very popular we do believe the Magnoliaeflora walked away with the honors last night.

We raffled off a fine specimen plant of Blood of China (donated by Reynard Way Camellia Gardens) which enriched our treasury by some \$25.25—Mrs. R. E. Lee being the lucky winner.

Stanley W. Miller was elected Treasurer so now we'll have the seven on our Board of Directors and a very capable officer to handle our monies.

Harvey F. Short gave us an interesting resume on the meeting of your group the night before after which we had a most instructive talk and demonstration on grafting by E. W. Miller, better known as "Doc".

In February we are invited to visit the Camellia Gardens of Mr. & Mrs. L. H. Boyle in Del Mar which should be in full bloom on the Sunday following the second Friday of the month—that will take the place of our regular meeting.

The following month we are graciously invited to visit Shorts Camellia Gardens in Ramona where their lovely blossoms are always a thrill to behold.

Everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy the meeting and enthusiasm over Camellias was surely the keynote of the evening.

Clarisse M. Carlton, Secy.

MEETING OF OUR OWN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS was held on Friday evening, January 25th, at the home of Director Mrs. Carlo E. Galli. The following applicants were voted to membership in the society:

Mrs. A. E. Collins, San Marino; Mr. A. E. Collins, San Marino; David Cook, No. Hollywood; Mrs. Cecil H. Eshelman, Sherman Oaks; Dr. Cecil H. Eshelman, Sherman Oaks; Gertrude Gerke, Sierra Madre, Cal.;

C. H. Gerke, Sierra Madre, Calif.; Mrs. Leo A. Heller, Los Angeles 14; Dr. Leo A. Heller, Los Angeles 14; Dr. W. E. Jenkins, Riverside, Calif.; Roger T. Karns, Pasadena 3, Calif.; Alexander H. Keith, Glendale 5; Geraldine Keith, Glendale 5; Grace Krebs, Whittier; Walter R. Lucas, Van Nuys, Calif.; Mrs. J. G. M. Mathewson, Pasadena 1; J. G. M. Mathewson, Pasadena 1 (Campbell seed); Mrs. J. W. Miller, Glendale 2; Dr. Jas. S. Montague, Los Angeles 14; Mrs. Thor Petersen, San Marino; Bill Powell, No. Hollywood; Dr. J. Walter Reeves, Los Angeles 14; Walter Allan, Summerville, S. C.; Mrs. Helen Arndt, San Marino; Grace E. Fahey, Van Nuys; Wm. L. Fahey, Van Nuys; Mr. John B. O'Brien, Alhambra; Grant H. Olaine, Palo Alto, Calif.; Ernest Vinson, Los Angeles 42; Mrs. Lyman B. Merrick, Gardena; Mr. Lyman B. Merrick, Gardena; L. B. Merrick Nurseries, Whittier.

Cecelia C. Back, La Canada, Calif.; Beverly Garden Supply Co., Los Angeles 36; Mrs. Lawrence H. Boyle, Del Mar, Calif.; Mr. Lawrence H. Boyle, Del Mar, Calif.; C. Breschini, San Jose, Calif.; Lillie M. Brutscher, El Monte; Dr. John H. Clairmont, Glendale 8; Tom Craig, Los Angeles 31; Mrs. G. Leslie Davis, Temple City; Mrs. C. C. Gabrielson, La Crescenta, Calif.; Mr. C. C. Gabrielson, La Crescenta, Calif.; Dorothy J. Garwood, No. Hollywood; S. Edward Garwood, No. Hollywood; L. M. Hathaway, Visalia, Calif.; Mrs. Thomas E. Johnson, Pomona; Mr. Thomas E. Johnson, Pomona; Gladys I. Kerr, Arcadia; Mrs. J. H. Long, Pasadena, Calif.; A. H. Patterson, Visalia; Lola Sanblom, Glendale 6, Calif.; Mrs. Wyn R. Shay, San Bernardino, Calif.; Mrs. Leonard G. Strater, Pasadena 5; Geo. E. Trebing, Los Angeles; K. T. Vangsnes, San Marino 9; Roy Wagner, San Gabriel, Calif.; Ruth W. Wagoner, Arcadia, Calif.; Mrs. James Wallace, San Marino 9; Beulah Walls, Alhambra; E. E. Wells, Glendale 8; Mr. E. A. Watson, Santa Ana; H. H. Wilson, Whittier, Calif.; Herbert G. Swim, Ontario; Bassett & Washburn Kentia Nurseries, Sierra Madre, Calif.; John B. Gordon, Madera, Calif.; Mrs. John B. Gordon, Madera, Calif.; Mrs. Roy M. Bauer, San Marino; E. T. Hall, Napa, Calif.

San Diego

Mrs. Jean Bovet, San Diego 5; Mr. Jean Bovet, San Diego 5; Harvey H. Atherton, San Diego 4.

Reinstated

Ed Arnesen, No. Hollywood; Henry B. Stribling, Santa Barbara; Mrs. Fay Waldref, Hollywood; R. W. Augspurger, Hollywood 28; Mrs. Ralph Cleman, San Gabriel; R. H. Messick, Montebello; Mrs. John B. O'Brien, Alhambra.

This brings our membership to 372. In passing, attendance at last month's meeting was 280. Not too bad a percentage,

though the first couple of members drawn for the door prize were somewhere else!

The Treasurer reported: General Fund, \$430.17; Publications Fund, \$508.82; Public Address Fund, \$20.00 minus. This means that the Address System is paid for except \$20.00, and the total in treasury is \$918.99. The prizes provided \$72.00 in November, \$69.25 in December and \$118.50 in January (this undoubtedly attributable quite largely to presence of "Reticulata" among the prizes).

This report led to the following actions by the Board:

1—After the Public Address System is fully paid for and a fund of \$25.00 earmarked for its maintenance, that Fund will be discontinued and in its place will appear "The Test Garden Fund". It will become the objective of our society to see that in addition to the varieties commonly available in Southern California, the Test Garden becomes the repository for all of the rare varieties obtainable. Some of these are already in the Garden, along with a practically complete collection of the commoner varieties. In this connection, tribute was paid to the cooperation of our professional members, who have aided greatly in rounding up the rarer varieties. Much credit goes also to Mrs. Galli whose scent for rare varieties has that of Mr. Legree's bloodhound backed off the stage.

2—Methods of conducting the prize distribution were discussed at length. Prize contributions for this year are already set up. The Board recommends to the next administration that Exhibitors Prize and Members Door Prize be contributed in 1 gallon size by professional growers; there being only two contributions, the varieties should be exceptionally good; that the Special prizes for the Test Garden and Publications Funds be purchased by the society, be of 5 gallon size, and as rare varieties as can be obtained.

3—The Board also recommends to next year's administration that the Exhibitors Prize be awarded upon some basis of merit, either the choiceness of the bloom or blooms, their arrangement, or the size of the exhibit. That, as now, Exhibitors prizes go only to amateur exhibitors.

4—The Board directed that the Editor and Secretary (who really is the Business Manager of this Garrulous Organ) study means for using some of this fund to accomplish one of the objectives stated for it when it was instituted—the improvement of the Bulletin. Undoubtedly, the growth of your society and the enthusiasm of its members call for a larger and better Bulletin. Problem, to distribute the work so it can be done each month "on the side", and on time, by people already too busy with life in general!

A REPORT OF THE HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Information Bulletin No. 2

THE INFLUENCE OF THE UNDERSTOCK UPON GRAFTED CAMELLIAS

Your Committee recently addressed letters of inquiry to selected persons, both commercial and amateur growers of camellias throughout the United States, who, it was believed, were sufficiently familiar with the art and effect of grafting camellias to make their opinions on the subject of especial value. The same or similar letters were directed to men who have made extensive scientific research along parallel lines. Most of the persons to whom letters were directed are men whose names are known generally to camellia collectors throughout the country. Two questions were propounded:

1st. Does the species, or variety, (not size) of understock used, affect the size, shape, and, or, habit of growth of the grafted camellia, or its foliage?

2nd. Does the species or variety, (not size) of understock used, affect the sizes, structure, or color of bloom of the grafted camellia plant?

These questions exclude the well known fact that for the first few years the rapid growth of the grafted plant frequently causes abnormal development of its upper structure and its foliage, and frequently its bloom.

Of the sixty persons to whom the questions were propounded, forty responded, which amply demonstrates the interest in the subject. Roughly, a third of this number stated that they were not qualified to answer.

Among the persons who expressed their views on the subject of inquiry, some are of opinion that neither the plant nor its foliage, nor its bloom, are influenced by the root stock used. Others are of opinion that both the plant and its bloom are influenced, while still others are of opinion that either the plant or its bloom may be influenced without the other being affected.

The opinion that the plant and its bloom are influenced by the species or variety of understock used in making the graft is analogously supported by eminent scientists whose scientific research over a period of years in citri-culture, avocados, peaches, and roses, has established beyond doubt that the root stock used in budding has a most definite bearing on the growth habits of the budded tree, and also its fruit, both as to quantity and to quality. In rose culture, the same conclusions apply to bush and bloom. It would be strange indeed if the same factors influencing the flora just referred to left the camellia unaffected.

It must, therefore, be conceded that the weight of authority favors the opinion that the camellia root stock is an element in determining the growth and bloom of the grafted plant. However, it must also be conceded that the mere diversity of opinion on the subject makes most desirable that some public agency adequately equipped to conduct scientific research undertake to determine by exact means what the influence exerted by the understock is. As one letter ably expressed it: "One fact scientifically determined is worth more than a dozen opinions."

There seems to be more or less uniformity of opinion that grafting frequently produces variegation or mottling of the petals. At this point, however, agreement ceases and theories are at variance as to whether this mottling is due (a) To the vigor of heavy understock transmitted to the resultant bloom; (b) the intermingling of different strains; (c) the presence of viruses; or (d) whether it is due merely to the process of uniting the scion of one species or variety to the understock of another species or variety. A popular opinion that the mottling results from the crossing of colors in the scion and understock loses credence when we consider evidence that mottling sometimes occurs even though both the scion and the root come from stock normally producing flowers of the same or very similar solid colors.

It should be stated that evidence points strongly to the existence of viruses which produce the mottling referred to. But that, too, should be established scientifically. And if, as a result of the general interest created by the Committee's inquiries, and the hearty and courteous cooperation the Committee has received from persons whose opinions the Committee has sought, scientific research along the lines discussed in this report can be stimulated, the efforts of your Committee will have been abundantly compensated.

In conclusion, it may be mentioned that a number of persons who replied to the Committee's inquiries expressed a preference as to understock used. The species *Sasanqua* was frequently mentioned. In consequence of this, the Committee made further inquiry to ascertain if the early blooming characteristics of the species *Sasanqua*, or other early blooming varieties of understock used, seem to influence the normal blooming period of the variety of grafts produced. Without exception, the replies were that so far as has been observed no change in the normal blooming period had been noted, although two well-considered replies stated that on principle it is to be expected that that period should be advanced.

Roster of Officers

Southern California Camellia Society

President:

DR. DAVID W. McLEAN
2508 South Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia
ATwater 7-2703

Vice President:

DR. LLOYD J. TAYLOR
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SYlvan 0-2088

Secretary:

THOR PETERSEN
1670 Las Flores Avenue, San Marino
SYcamore 9-3748

Treasurer:

ROBERT A. WARD
4947 Hartwick, Eagle Rock
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Directors:

ROY M. BAUER — ATLantic 1-2183
MRS. CARLO GALLI — SYcamore 9-2108
J. HOWARD ASPER — SYlvan 0-1998

Committee Chairmen:

Membership—
C. E. PEAK — STate 4-0426
Program—
ETHEL CAMPBELL — SYcamore 9-5256
Prizes—
MRS. VERN O. McCASKILL — SYcamore 3-4677
Reception—
JOHN A. HUDLOW — SYcamore 9-3504
Exhibit—
MRS. FLORENCE DOUGLASS — CHarleston 6-14
Nomenclature Research—
MRS. CARLO E. GALLI — SYcamore 9-2108
314 Arroyo Drive, South Pasadena
Horticultural Research—
ROBERT CASAMAJOR — SYcamore 2-7641
Camellia Book Distribution—
E. C. TOURJE — SYlvan 0-1630
Librarian—
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2035 Sherwood Road, San Marino

HONORARY MEMBERS

William Hertrick, Huntington Botanical Gardens
Dr. H. Harold Hume, University of Florida

AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY. The President, Dr. Hume, has called a Directors meeting at the De Soto Hotel, Savannah, Georgia, at 8 p.m., February 9th. This is during the Savannah Camellia Show. Your Pacific Coast Director had hoped to take in both, but through conflict of dates, will be tied up in a Board meeting in Chicago on that date—provided train reservations materialize.

Secretary R. J. Wilmot writes that intations to membership have been mailed to 2200 camellia fans throughout the country and that, up to January 9th, 208 members had paid in \$3391 in dues, assuring the existence of the society. Assuring, through national effort and cooperation more understanding and scientific future in the field of camellia culture.

