



WAR'S END! Little did the last Bulletin think the next one would be written while our troops are moving into Japan; that peace documents would be signed before it is off the press. The sudden impact of peace left us all but breathless. Only now are we realizing that the sudden stopping of "total" war production and home front activities reaches into the plans, the life, of every one of us.

We are fortunate that the better things of life, the beautiful, the cultured things, were not stopped, obliterated, by war. The decision of this Society to carry on has been more than justified. Not only has our own morale been contributed to. Our contributions to the Red Cross have definitely aided the war effort. The intangible contributions, we will never be able to estimate.

Quickly we swing into the ways of peace. With gasoline unrestricted, many burdensome activities and limitations removed, our Society should reach new heights in all its phases.

Too, we should remember that we speak one of the universal languages. There aren't many: music, art, beauty, flowers, camellias; science, including horticulture. The art and science of camellia culture will come to life again in Japan, perhaps—who knows?—revivified beyond anything in the past. New varieties may be forthcoming.

Let's move forward with a broad mental attitude. As in music and science we owe much to the Germans, so, in camellia culture, we owe much to the Japanese. While disciplining those nations, we do not have to make faces at every individual German or Japanese. While suppressing their objectionable traits, we should encourage their better ones—of which camellia culture certainly is one.

THE LI'L OL' CAMELLIA PLANTS are very busy setting their buds for this winter's blooms. So is the Camellia Society. It should be quite a season for both the plants and the Society.

The Board of Directors had its first bud-setting meeting on August 2, will hold at least one more prior to the general meeting on Thursday evening, November 8, at Odd Fellows Temple in Pasadena. It will be good to see the tables lined up along both sides of the big

room, and the camellias lined up on the tables, and the membership lined up—perhaps "milling" would be a better word—around the tables. They say (just a thought in passing) that camellias disbud themselves. But it might be interesting to single out a few of the largest buds on some of your early bloomers and nip out the neighboring buds, leaving just one on a branch. Then perhaps you'll have "bigger and better" blooms and can do a little strutting at that first meeting!

There were faces missing at the Board table on August 2, and we did miss them. Vic Wagoner had stepped out of the vice-presidency and Les Marshall had vacated the professional grower's directorship. Both were valuable men on the Board. No matter how great the furor and carnage, they were always genial, poised, unruffled, always pitching and hitting the ball, with both feet on the ground. Yes, we'll miss them.

At that, the freshman directors did pretty well. Dr. John Taylor took over as vice-president, and Howard Asper as director. First the novices were initiated by being towed around the Galli's garden. It didn't take much horsepower to tow them. When it was too dark to see camellia plants any longer, they were led to the patio porch (it was unusually unusual weather), and the meeting was held out of doors. It was a long and busy session, but we felt that everyone enjoyed it.

THE FIRST BUD SET was the Li'l Green Book. Mrs. Galli and her collaborators were all there; gave a splendid report. When you members receive your copies, you will little realize the amount of research, time, effort that went into it. Several all-day meetings of the committee, in addition to quarts of midnight oil burned by each, in going over catalogues, lists, correspondence, between meetings.

It took a keen huntsman to track down a given variety in the Society's first book. The novice, especially, and most of us are just that, had to look through the given color in every classification. This time the basic classification is by color.

Blossom classification was a poser. The good old Abbe Berlese worked out the greater d-

Roster of Officers

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Honorary Members:

CORPORAL MARK ANTHONY
(Foreign Service)
WILLIAM HERTRICH
DR. H. HAROLD HUME

daddy of all classifications. But they had lots of leisure in those good old days (wasn't it in 1838?). The good Abbe's classification was a bit complicated. There are others, more recent ones, some of them good for the botanist who knows the language, for the camellia fancier whose natural bent is toward science. For the fancier who wishes to read as he runs, most of them are rather tough going.

Your committee rolled up its mental sleeves, sailed into this problem with "wim and wigger." Also with courage and a keen sense of values, a good background of knowledge of camellias and camellia lore. Result, a classification which seemed to the Board both comprehensive and simple enough for the average amateur grower. The Board adopted it, made it official as far as this Society is concerned.

"The book" makes no pretense to being a camellia bible. We do believe it will be a helpful guide to amateurs in this section. It is now in the capable hands of Thor Petersen, who has worked out the format. The book will fit nicely into your pocket or handbag. It will mail in a legal size envelope—soon—to all members. To non-members it will cost a dollar.

THAT BRINGS US 'ROUND, almost in spite of ourselves, to blossom number two, which some old meanies may consider not a blossom but a thorn. Dues. Even worse. Increase in dues! The Board has talked now and again about increasing the dues. First, one dollar a year is almost an insult to anyone who thinks in terms of camellias. Can't buy much of a plant for a dollar! Moreover, it cheapens the whole

Society when you can attend six valuable meetings, see six rather wonderful flower shows, participate in six sets of prize contests—all for the sum of one, of one single dollar. Sounds almost like a sideshow barker when you put it that way. Yet again, as our membership grows, our activities not only grow, they really "amplify." They are important activities: some of them will make history; all of them will enhance camellia culture and appreciation. And they all call for a treasury.

Annahoo, the Board voted, unanimously, too, that the dues for the coming year shall be: single membership, two dollars; joint membership (of husband and wife), three dollars.

JUST TO GET YOUR MIND OFF THAT, let's return to THE BOOK, which William Hertrich opens with one of his masterly articles, itself worth the price of admission. And then there is NOMENCLATURE. Ah, there's a rub indeed! Topic of much discussion the world over, from earliest days to the present moment. It reminds one of Mark Twain's remark about weather: "Everyone talks about the weather but no one seems to do anything about it." Committees of societies up and down the coast; in the South, we'll even bet a reasonably small sum there are committees in the East and a few in Europe. But little happens regarding nomenclature.

University of Florida really is doing some thing about it—is carrying on a real research not only in the growing and comparing of thousands of plants, but in delving back through camellia catalogues and literature yellow with age. The Verschaeffelt plates, which you will

see in the form of color slides during the coming season, show not only that many beautiful varieties have been lost but that many current varieties are not those which carried the same names back in the middle of the 19th century. Send for the 1944-45 report of the University of Florida research; you'll enjoy it. Address R. J. Wilmot, Asst. Horticulturist, University of Florida Experiment Station, Gainesville, Fla.

Well . . . our brave book committee immediately ran smack into this problem of nomenclature; the problem of duplicate—and wrong—names. Sensibly, the committee followed Wilmot's rules for the naming of camellias. Here they are. We think you'll agree they are logical, sensible rules.

"1. A name should apply to only one variety. If by chance the same name is used for two different varieties, the older one has priority.

"2. Only one name should be given to a variety.

"3. A name once applied to a variety should not be used again, even though the one to which it was first applied may have disappeared.

"4. Names in whatever language they were first used should not be changed, modified or used in translated form.

"5. When new varieties are named and introduced, adequate descriptions should be published in dated catalogues or recognized horticultural journals.

"6. Names should be short; two names at most are sufficient.

"7. Latin or Latinized names should not be used for horticultural varieties. Such names are reserved for botanical species.

"8. To indicate the originator or introducer of a variety, rather than to make his name a part of the variety name, it should be placed in parentheses after the name, thus: Tricolor (Sieboldi); Elegans (Chandler).

"9. It is inadvisable to use a name that closely resembles in spelling and pronunciation any name in use or that has been in use.

"10. Varieties should not be named and introduced unless they are different from or superior to varieties already in propagation.

"It may be pointed out that a fixed sort of any variety propagated by a grower may be named as a new variety. It should be propagated for some time before introducing it, to make sure that it is fixed, will not revert to the original and has not been 'previously' named."

REGISTRATION OF VARIETIES. Wilmot's rule No. 5 is the safeguard for new varieties insofar as origin and nomenclature are concerned. Our first registrations were filed by William Hertrich, whose botanical descriptions would stand in any court. Your committee early became aware that descriptions by growers less learned in botany would become a problem. It seemed desirable to have a form couched in simple language, so devised that the veriest

tyro could give a water-tight description. An eminent botanist said it couldn't be done. Your committee presented one at the recent Board meeting; it was adopted and is now on press. So is the certificate of registration, which will be issued upon recommendation of the committee and ratification by the Board. Registration will cost two dollars; one dollar to government and research institutions; will guarantee, of course, nothing beyond registration of the description and its publication in our Bulletin. Although the committee will endeavor to weed out flagrant duplications of name, or renaming of known varieties, no committee could hope to guarantee the veracity of a new variety.

DESCRIPTION OF HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SEEDLING NUMBER 64

Camellia Japonica Var. "Doctor McLean"

This vigorous shrub of dense growth is one of many chance seedlings grown in the Huntington Botanical Gardens. It is at present about 7 ft. tall by 4 ft. across. Twigs are light brown, foliage thick and leathery. Leaf blades vary in shape and size: they are mostly broad, oblong, shiny on both sides, dark green above, lighter shade on the under side; 8 to 10 cm. long by 4.5 to 5.5 cm. broad. Margins smooth near base, serrate above, teeth black tipped, apex short, caudate, base more or less cuneate. Petiole 10 to 12 mm. long, and stout. Flower buds nearly globose. Flowers *delicately double*, peony shape, 8 to 12 cm. in diameter, 5 to 6 cm. high. Bracts and sepals pubescent. Floral petals vary considerably in size and shape. The outer ones the largest, about 4 cm. long by 3 cm. broad, obovate to spatulate and undulate, becoming progressively narrow toward the center of the flower where they merge with stamens and form a dense arrangement of petaloids and stamens. Petals number 40 to 50; petaloids often number twice as many. Color of petals, deep pink, with pronounced venation of a deeper shade.

This seedling is about seven years old and has produced flowers for the past three years. It blooms in mid-season and forms a beautiful, ornamental shrub.

It gives me great pleasure to name this variety "Doctor McLean," after Dr. David W. McLean, in appreciation of his splendid efforts and the success achieved in promoting unified understanding of the camellia during his term of office as president of the Southern California Camellia Society.

—WM. HERTRICH, Curator
Huntington Botanical Gardens
February 24, 1945

NEW MEMBERS. The following were voted to membership: Mr. and Mrs. Duquaid J. Cameron, Pasadena; Mrs. O. E. Floyd, Pasadena; C. W. Hicks, Colton; Mrs. Chas. C. Humphrey, Pasadena; Mrs. Carl E. Miller, Pasadena; Dr. A. E. Moore, San Diego; Will Payne, San Bernardino; Walter Pritchard, San Bernardino.



65 A. Middlebrook
Mrs. & Mrs. Wm. D. McArthur
Ernst Paaden, Calif.

Bulletin

CAMELLIA

Southern California
Camellia Society

ACTIVITY IN SAN DIEGO. Mrs. Clarisse M. Carlton wrote the secretary some time ago from San Diego, made inquiry regarding the establishing of a San Diego chapter of this Society. Upon receipt of the secretary's reply, she embarked upon a campaign to secure a sufficient nucleus of members to launch the local chapter. Last reports were that the San Diego chapter is about ready to "push off."

MARK ANTHONY, charter member and wartime honorary member, is still in Italy. Upon termination of actual warfare, the University of Milan (???) offered a scholarship for some lucky G.I. Mark was one of forty candidates, after the initial weeding out. He was still in the running when the group had been weeded down to eight. He was finally selected as the recipient and is busily engaged until September. The post-graduate course is in botany, horticulture, et al.

Congratulations, and nice going, Mark! But hurry home. As a special inducement, we'll promise you a nice bright spot on one of our programs!

CULTURAL NOTE. This proliferation of profundity could not conceivably reach its conclusion without a cultural note. In this unusually unusual weather, when the soft growth droops if you so much as turn your back—

when, indeed, even old growth (including this scribe) droops a bit—don't be afraid to water. Don't let the plants dry out. Flower buds are making; that is a chemical phenomenon, and all chemistry, all biotic synthesis, calls for water. Lack of water in this burning weather means lack of flowers, dropped buds, next winter. Each location is a law unto itself; but, generally speaking, keep them reasonably moist—not wet, but reasonably moist.

STILL ON A HIGH INTELLECTUAL PLANE, we wonder if you know the personnel of your Horticultural Research Committee. Robert Casamajor is chairman. (Here we have the president of the Southern California Horticultural Institute working for us.) Other members are Howard Asper, E. C. Tourje, Thor Petersen. Watch this committee. It is going places.

HONOR ROLL

CPL. MARK ANTHONY, 39265286

A.P.O. 91; c/o Postmaster, New York

CPL. PAUL SHEPP, Transportation Corps

CPL. ED ARNESEN, Army Air Force

Pfc. JAMES ROLANS, Air Force Engineers