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The Society holds open meetings on the Second Tuesday of every month, November to April, inclusive at the San Marino Women's Club House, 1800 Huntington Drive. A cut-camellia blossom exhibit at 7:30 o'clock regularly precedes the program which starts at 8:00.

Application for membership may be made by letter. Annual dues: \$5.00.

DIRECTORY OF AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

- Central California Camellia SocietyFresno, Calif.
 Meeting Place: Elementary School Auditorium, Fresno State College
 Secretary: Mrs. Maynard Munger, 5140 N. Fruit, Fresno
 Date of Meeting: 3rd Wednesday of each month through March. Exception—December meeting on 3rd Monday.
- Camellia Society of Kern CountyBakersfield, Calif.
 Meeting Place: City Hall Annex, Room 3, 1620 Truxton Ave., Bakersfield
 Secretary: Mrs. Alvin Reimer, 119 Jeffry St., Bakersfield
 Date of Meeting: 2nd Monday of the month, Oct. thru May
- San Diego Camellia SocietySan Diego, Calif
 Meeting Place: Floral Association Building, Balboa Park
 Secretary: Mrs. Russell H. Parker, 3927 Loma Alta Dr., San Diego 15
 Date of Meeting: 2nd Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
- Pomona Valley Camellia SocietyPomona, Calif
 Meeting Place: Claremont Women's Club, 345 W. 12th, Claremont
 Secretary: Mrs. George Bill, Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut
 Date of Meeting: 2nd Thursday of each month, November through April
- Temple City Camellia SocietyTemple City, Calif.
 Meeting Place: Women's Club Auditorium, Woodruff at Kauffman, Temple City
 Secretary: Gertrude S. Rose, 6025 North Muscatel, San Gabriel
 Date of Meeting: 4th Monday of each month, Nov. thru April
- Camellia Society of Orange CountySanta Ana, Calif.
 Meeting Place: YWCA Building, 1411 North Broadway, Santa Ana
 Secretary: Mrs. Geo. T. Butler, 1121 Orange Ave., Santa Ana
 4th Wednesday, Nov. to April
- Huntington Camellia GardenSan Marino, Calif.
 Huntington Library and Art Gallery, Oxford Rd., San Marino
- Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley.....Arlington, Virginia
 Meeting Place: Alternates between Alexandria, Virginia; Washington D.C.
 and Chevy Chase, Maryland
 Corresponding Secretary: Mrs. Milton H. Brown, 2220 N. Trenton St.,
 Arlington, Virginia
 Date of Meetings: 1st Monday of month, October through April.
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Camellia Reviewer

ELIZABETH BEEBE

Camellia Year

It starts right off here in Southern California with a fanfare of plans for the big ACS meeting here in February. Of that, much more both in other pages of this Review and in the February issue.

January, 1956, also will see the issuance of our newly revised Nomenclature Book—a small brochure which started so modestly in 1942 and has grown to this 104-page book, source of authentic information for camellia growers everywhere.

February with its combined camellia shows during the convention is but the starter for dozens of other camellia shows through the spring.

1956 will see the announcements of the first All-America Camellia Selections also, a project that will continue for years and years. We almost said “forever” but refrained prudently though camellias might well be as “forever” as the sun, moon and stars.

And with prospects of more wonderful and outstanding cultivars, and more and more interest in camellias and experiments with them, we feel that a “Happy New Year” is too mild a term. We’ll just get out all the printers’ marks and say

☆☆ HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! ☆☆

Camellian Justice

One of the blossoms that won an award at the SCCS December meeting came from a plant won at a meeting a couple of years ago. Nice—no? You see, it pays to attend.

What Do You Know?

Wonder if readers who know interesting circumstances about parent plants of fine varieties and their locations would write up their information and send it in to us. We think it would be interesting to have such a

record of the permanent sites of plants that are the source of so much pleasure.

Just a Little Info

It occurs to us that many of the prospective camellia people who are to come west for the ACS meeting may be visiting this area for the first time and may be confused by all the names of locations they are hearing about—Temple City, La Canada, Altadena, etc. These are only three of the many towns located so closely together down here that you may have to look fast to see a sign on a street corner announcing the boundary of one of them. The city of Los Angeles encompasses many square miles and the county covers a tremendous space within which there are both incorporated and unincorporated villages. All of these are within easy motoring distances (discounting traffic).

The main heart of Los Angeles lies on reasonably flat land with Hollywood but a mere acceleration of the pedal from the City Hall. In the opposite direction, still on the flat land you can reach Temple City with all its camellias very quickly, and with a slight turnoff to the northwest find yourself in San Marino and among the camellias of the Huntington Gardens. There of course you can mix your camellian pleasure with treats of viewing art treasures and rare manuscripts.

As the contour of the coast slopes upward toward the mountains, Pasadena creeps into the foothills along with other towns like Arcadia, Sierra Madre, Altadena and La Canada. For the ACS meeting, the spotlight focuses on the combined camellia shows which will be held in La Canada where the beautiful Descanso Gardens are located. (Be sure to pronounce it “Can-ya-da” before you get corrected.)

“Los Angeles” sounds singular but

(Continued on Page 28)

VISITING NURSERIES IN CALIFORNIA

By JERRY OLRICH

State Gardener

California is blessed with thousands of nurseries that either raise or sell just about any plant known to man. In this vast number of nurseries there are a few who specialize in growing camellias. The few I am going to mention doesn't mean that you can't purchase camellias at any of the others. I would say that you can purchase a camellia plant at any nursery in the state. They are even sold in some of our desert areas and seem to do very well with a little additional care.

In writing this article there is no intent to slight some while mentioning the ones that follow. I am only writing of those that I have visited and have come to know.

Sometimes I wonder just how many million camellias are grown and sold in California—I guess the only one who could answer this question is the

Good Lord Himself. As for any individual to find out would be next to impossible, or would at least take an enormous amount of time and work.

In mentioning these nurseries and also a little about them, I will try to write this as if I were on a tour and visit each in order of ease of getting there.

Starting at Sacramento. (I am sorry to say that Sacramento, where



Subtle propaganda for further use of camellias is this charming cherub who awaits feathered friends and human admirers as he reigns over a quiet pool in a corner of the McCaskill's gardens in Pasadena. Pink Tanya and other sasanqua varieties make a background of rare beauty.

the oldest "camellia show" is put on every year, does not have a camellia grower of any consequence since the Camellia City Nursery and the Camellia Hall closed out their business. But I feel some mention should be made about the old Camellia City Nursery which had grown camellias for many years in this locality. They had introduced many varieties and imported many from far off places, such as Japan. I see no need in saying much more about something that is passe.) I would get in my car and drive north on Highway 99E to eight miles north of Yuba City where the Vistica Nursery is located, where many fine old varieties are grown. Although this nursery has never introduced any new varieties, it does a good job of growing the older ones.

In leaving Vistica Nursery, I would continue on north where one of the pioneer nurseries of Northern California is located in the City of Chico. Lindo Nursery has grown camellias for many years and has introduced quite a number of new varieties. I will only mention one as its name always intrigues me: "Old Maid Taylor." Lindo was started by George Peterson's father and operated many years under the Petersons, but several years ago passed into other hands.

In the northwest corner of California in the City of Eureka is located the Cottage Gardens Nursery where many fine camellias were grown and got their start. Ville de Nantes was imported from Nantes, France, and was first introduced to us from there. Debutante also got its impetus and was grown by the thousands. Captain Rawes Reticulata really got a push here. Before it was known to the general public, the Kausen brothers who operate this nursery imported thousands of scions from France.

Leaving Eureka, we head south through the beautiful redwoods until we reach the small town of Ross.

Here we come to the Smyth Nursery which is quite small in comparison to many I am going to mention, but it makes up for it by the quality. Operated by just a man and wife, it's surprising how many plants have gotten their start here. A few of their introductions are: "Ernie Pyle," "Kreenna," "Strawberry Blonde Sport." It is the first nursery in this area to propagate "Lotus" to a large extent. The sport of Elegans, "C. M. Wilson," was found here at about the same time it was elsewhere.

After leaving Ross, we head south through the City of San Francisco and reach Palo Alto where John E. Edwards has a very nice location for a nursery under some beautiful oaks. This is the home of the "Governor Earl Warren" camellia. Edwards has only introduced this one, but grows the popular ones by the thousands.

On leaving Palo Alto we continue on south to a little town of Campbell on the outskirts of San Jose. Located here are the Burkart Camellia Gardens, where "C. M. Wilson" was first noted and admired. This nursery is very small and the only reason for mentioning it is because of such a lovely sport of Elegans.

A few blocks away is the James Rare Plant Gardens where some very good plants are grown. Mr. James has introduced "Lady Kay," "Ave Maria," "Breath of Spring," "Julia Stafford" and a few others. This is another Mr. and Mrs. operation and what a nice nursery and nice couple.

After leaving Campbell, we head north toward the City of Oakland and on the southern edge just before we get into the City of Hayward is the Domoto Nursery, known as the home of Distinctive Plants. This nursery lives up to its name as it has done much with camellias. I would say that Toichi Domoto's father, Tom Domoto, started the importation of not only camellias but many rare plants from Japan and Europe. It was here that

the first sport of "C. M. Wilson," a white Elegans, named "Shiro Chan" was found. Some of the varieties that were introduced are "Flowerwood," "Mrs. Nellie Eastman," "Flame," "Akebono," "Oniji," "Pink Otome," "Pink Ball," "Kuro Tsubaki," and many others. Some of the above were introduced by Mr. Domoto's father, Tom, and are deserving of mention.

After bidding goodbye to Mr. Domoto, we head east to the city of Stockton where we reach the Port of Stockton Nursery wherein you will see many fine camellia plants. I don't know of any new varieties that originated here. One interesting note is that Mr. Raffles, owner of this place, was very successful in budding camellias, but would never tell anyone this secret.

Still heading east we come to Riverbank and the Riverbank Nursery, operated by another team of man and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Staley. Mr. Staley's mother, who passed away several years ago, introduced and grew many fine camellias. Some introductions of this nursery are "Lazetta," "Esther Moad," "Knight's Ferry," "Sonora," and quite a few others too numerous to mention.

After leaving Riverbank we head south through the San Joaquin Valley towards Los Angeles. The first city we reach after crossing the mountains is San Fernando where on the eastern edge of the city in the foothills are the California Camellia Gardens where many fine camellias are grown and sold. Hundreds of varieties were imported from the southern states and introduced from here to the trade. It was here where the first "Glen 40" variegated was first found. "Chastity" also was originated at this nursery.

Leaving California Camellia Gardens we take Highway 118 and head east until we get to the small town of La Canada where Rancho Descanso is located with its thousands of

camellia plants growing in the ground. This ranch which should rightfully be known as a park is really worth seeing, not only to see the camellias, but this is where Descanso Distributors got its start which is now located in Chino which I will describe later.

After leaving Rancho Descanso we still continue on east and go on to Altadena where Nuccio's Nursery is located in the foothills in the northern section of Altadena. Many fine plants got their start here. "Joshua E. Youtz," a white Daikagura, and "Katherine Nuccio," are a couple of their introductions. The Nuccios are quite modest, but I am told that they have introduced several others.

Heading farther east we come to Coolidge Rare Plant Gardens located in Pasadena. Many fine camellias came from here as this nursery has been in business a good many years. Mr. Harvey Short who has grown many new varieties from seed is introducing them to the public through this nursery. Some of their introductions are: "High Hat," "General George Patton," "Masterpiece," "Pink Clouds," "Bride's Bouquet," "Frosty Morn," and many others. A look through this nursery is a must.

Going a little farther east, close to Santa Anita race track, we come to McCaskill's Gardens, located in the eastern part of Pasadena. Vern McCaskill grows many camellias and has introduced many good varieties, many are quite popular. Some of his introductions are: "Betty McCaskill," "Gigantea," "Finlandia," "Pax," "Mattie O'Reilly," and many others which are good and are still being propagated and sold.

(Continued in the February Review)

Attending the ACS meeting in Southern California in February will give you a wonderful opportunity to see some of these wonderful gardens.

NEW VARIETIES SHOULD BE REGISTERED

By HAROLD DRYDEN
Chairman, Registration Committee SCCS

Now is the time when camellia fanciers who planted camellia seeds several years ago are watching their seedlings with buds to see what the first bloom will be, or if last year's potential prize winner repeats itself. Probably the first bloom will convince you that the plant will make good understock for grafting. Some people will be lucky enough, however, to get a bloom that is worth keeping, at least for another year's watching. And some people will decide that the plant they have been watching for a year or two has what it takes—form, color, substance, size maybe, and the kind of plant that people like. That's the time to think about registering the new variety. Maybe the new variety is a sport rather than a seedling. It makes no difference. It also should be registered.

Registration of a new camellia variety will do two things. First, the Registration Committee will check the nomenclature to be sure there is no conflict with names already being used. That may be important, particularly if the grower has plans to market the variety. Registration establishes the new variety and name in the public records.

Equally important, registration is an effective way to announce the new variety to the public. Following acceptance of registration, *Camellia Review* carries an announcement of the new variety, with description of the plant and bloom and the name of the grower. This is important for commercial growers. It is a means of personal satisfaction to the amateur. One can rightly feel a warmth of satisfaction when he grows a bloom that wins a "best flower" award in a show. But far greater is the feeling of satisfaction when one originates a new variety that is good enough to perpetuate. Registration and public announcement of the new variety enhance this satisfaction.

The Secretary of Southern California Camellia Society will send registration forms to those who request

them by telephone or letter. The forms are intended to be self-explaining. If there are questions, however, the Chairman of the Registration Committee will answer them. The committee will act promptly on all applications for registration so that the new varieties may be announced during the current camellia season.

January Meeting Promises Special Interest

Caryll Pitkin, Program Chairman announces that the speaker for January 10th, the first meeting of the new year will be Joe Littlefield. Mr. Littlefield will talk on "Complementary Plantings for Camellias."

Although for local persons Mr. Littlefield needs no introduction, it should be recorded that he is rated highly as a Garden Consultant, writes garden columns for fifteen newspapers of this southland area including the Pasadena Star-News and is heard regularly on the radio and both heard and seen in a weekly TV program. His talk to the SCCS promises to be of most constructive interest and he is expecting to bring along some illustrative material.

A banner crowd is a foregone conclusion.

