

THE

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society

Camellia Review



Hybrid 'Carl Tourje'

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Southern California Camellia Society Inc.

An organization devoted to the advancement of the Camellia for the benefit of mankind—physically, mentally, and inspirationally.

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, San Marino. 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.

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Camellia Reviewer

ELIZABETH BEEBE

1959 Is Here

Who wants a crystal ball to see the future? Today is the important time and we shall try to follow the ancient philosophy of living so that today is the satisfactory realization of yesterday while providing for a happy tomorrow.

In other words, we'll happily read the kind words many of you have offered us about the Review, while working to make the next month's number a better one. Probably turning over a new Review instead of a single leaf should be our 1959 Resolution.

On the Cover

The beautiful hybrid adorning the Review cover this month is a seedling that was propagated at the Huntington Gardens. It was named 'Carl Tourje' in honor of the man who has done so much to aid in the development of the Huntington Camellia Garden and was also the editor of "Camellia Culture."

The reproduction was taken from the exquisite water color done from the actual bloom by the noted Australian artist, Paul Jones.

Camellia Paradise

A spot that sounds as dream-like as Shangri-La is Dr. and Mrs. G. E. Fisher's Halcyon Plantation down in Union Springs, Alabama. Buying this old plantation in 1951 they remodeled the 100-year-old home and planted some seven or more acres in camellias and azaleas beneath the old pines. Some of the choicest varieties of camellias are kept in greenhouses and yield many prize winning blossoms.

The word "halcyon" means peace and must apply perfectly to these 5,000 acres with slightly rolling terrain and serving as quail preserve.

Dr. Fisher has introduced many rare and beautiful varieties of Camellias and ships all over the United States and into many foreign countries. W. H. Garner, Editor of the Union Springs Herald says, quote: "Dr. Fisher's love of beauty and the sheer joy he derives from placing his rare Camellia scions into the hands of those who appreciate their rare beauty keeps him constantly busy in his Camellia garden."

Don't Forget Our Kodachromes

It is always pleasant to report the borrowing of slides from the SCCS Kodachrome Library. On December 10th our affiliate, the Central California Camellia Society, displayed, quote: "a fine selection of slides of lovely blooms in living color. We appreciate the fact that they were made available to us." We hope that our amiable Kodachrome Librarian, Gulita Cooper, will continue to be very busy checking slides in and out. It is dreadful to think of so much beauty being tucked away in files when all any group has to do is to request their loan.

That Irresistible 'Onetia'

Our confirmed column readers (thank you—all) may remember our reporting last year about the trouble that the Hollands of 'Onetia Holland' fame had with bees boring into their camellia buds for pollen. This year it seems that the bees gave them the go-by and the birds have taken over, descending in flocks to pick at the buds. Of course we recommend a cat to take care of this problem. We do hope this will be the end of such camelliannoyances. It ought to be for after the birds and the bees what is left?

No Forgetting This

Some years ago the sister of the famous humorist, George Ade, remarked, "George doesn't know any more than anyone else, he just writes

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JANUARY OPENING AGAIN FOCUSES INTEREST ON HUNTINGTON CAMELLIA GARDENS

By HAROLD DRYDEN*

About the middle of January, the camellia garden section of the Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino will again be opened to public viewing. The camellia gardens today are a far cry from the undeveloped canyons that existed in 1944 when the Southern California Camellia Society and the Huntington Gardens directors agreed to collaborate in the use of the Huntington grounds and facilities for a through its Garden Committee, would provide new camellia varieties in the form of plants or scions. The Gardens, represented by William Hertich, then Curator, would grow and test these varieties under the favorable conditions existing beneath the oak trees. The Gardens and the Society would thus contribute to camellia knowledge for the benefit of all camellia growers.

The concept of a "test garden" did not prevail long. It became apparent that the ideal growing conditions and the opportunities for landscaping offered a challenge to the Huntington Gardens and the Society to develop for the people of Southern California a camellia garden that would be unsurpassed in this area. The Gardens made more land available for camellias. The Garden Committee of the Society extended its work in obtaining new varieties of merit. When the Gardens are opened to public viewing around the middle of January, people will have an opportunity to see the largest and finest collection of camellias open to public view anywhere in the world.

The Gardens now have about 1500 varieties of camellias. Most of them, of course, are *camellia japonicas*. They have all the *reticulatas*, nicely grouped for the convenience and admiration of visitors. The *japonicas* will be at their peak of bloom during January and February. The *reticulatas* will be at their best in late February and March. Bill Wylam, who supervises the camellia gardens,

reports that visitors from other states who grow camellias never fail to visit the Huntington Gardens, and acclaim it as a must part of their visit to Southern California. He wonders whether people who live near-by value it as highly.

Howard Asper, superintendent of the Huntington Botanical Gardens, has big plans for the future. New ground is being made available, particularly for planting *Sasanquas* in masses of color. The program of obtaining scions and plants of new varieties will be continued, toward the objective of having in the gardens all varieties of merit. The most exciting part of the program for the future, however, is in hybridizing.

The Gardens are now carrying on a modest hybridizing program, under the direction of Harvey Short, who with the help of the bees has introduced so many beautiful new *japonicas*. In his new program, however, Mr. Short will abandon the bees and will do his own pollenization. The purpose of this program will be to determine what will come from interspecific hybridizing, using *japonicas*, *reticulatas*, *pitardii*, *saluenensis*, and whatever else seems to offer an opportunity to create something new. Some interesting seedlings have already appeared. Some are more than interesting, such as the hybrid 'Carl Tourje', which is the subject of this month's Camellia Review cover. This beautiful hybrid is a product of *pitardii* X

(Continued on Page 4)

THE BIG SHOW IS COMING

Enthusiasm has begun to mount since we have blooms beginning to appear in our gardens, in the anticipation of our Camellia Show to be held at Descanso Gardens February 28th through March 8th.

Many capable committee chairmen have been chosen and are working hard toward a greater show than ever. Al Parker, who is the chairman of the Rules and Regulation Committee, has met with his committee and they have had their rules and regulations approved by the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Camellia Council. The schedule of entries has been simplified for easier and quicker registration for all.

Ernest Pieri is registration chairman and will do an excellent job, as he knows and loves camellias and holds the esteemed position of President of the Temple City Camellia Society, which is an active and growing society.

This will be a greater year than ever before for commercial and garden club displays. All displays are planned to be outdoors along the beautiful paths in the Descanso Gardens intermixed with the cut flower displays. Caryll Pitkin, President of the Southern California Camellia Society, is chairman of the commer-

cial displays. Any groups or societies wishing to plan a display should contact Mr. Pitkin as soon as possible to arrange for a space and location within the show's specified area.

Our 1959 show will be more spectacular than those in the past because the blooms are to be displayed in Display Shelters of new and interesting type along the walks and in among Descanso Camellias, and the commercial and garden societies displays.

Mr. Al Gunn, our placement chairman, a capable camellia worker and collector, is working out easier and better ways to have the blooms placed in their proper categories.

Your blooms will be received by Alfred Krueger's efficient and careful committee on receiving, and his helpers are working hand in hand with the placement committee to see that your entries are carefully kept in the best condition.

Mr. Wilber W. Foss, your Show Chairman, and the above-mentioned chairmen together with additional chairmen that will be brought to your attention in the next Review, cordially invite you to look forward and plan to participate in making this the 1959 Show the greatest show ever.

The next Review will carry all rules and regulations and division entries in the schedule of the show.

JANUARY OPENING from Page 3 the *reticulata* 'Chang's Temple'. Mr. Asper believes that we may expect future results of this program that will be equally exciting.

Members of the Southern California Society can be proud to be a part of this ambitious program to establish at the Huntington Botanical Gardens a camellia collection that will be unsurpassed anywhere. And they are denying themselves some real pleasure if they do not visit the gardens during January, February and March to see the beautiful blooms on display.

* Mr. Dryden is Chairman of the SCCS Garden Committee.

DECEMBER SCCS MEETING ENDS 1958 IN BLAZE OF GLORY

It is regrettable that all of the members of the SCCS could not have attended the December meeting, for every part of it was eminently satisfactory and satisfying.

There were, for instance, the piles of "Camellia Culture" books for distribution representing the culmination of one of the Society's major projects. There was the award of the Margarete Hertrich plaque to a pleased August Kramer. And there was the outstanding inspirational talk by Mr. Milo Rowell.

And as the focus of the meeting and the reason behind it all, the plethora of camellias on exhibition quietly but proudly yielding their loveliness to the unbounded admiration of every person present.

Small wonder that many of the large audience remarked, "This was the finest meeting we've ever had."

Bringing to a halt the usual hub-

bub and chatter, President Pitkin called the Society to order promptly at eight. He paid tribute to the Society affiliate, the Central California Camellia Society, honored at this meeting. Bill Johnston, President of that Society, spoke briefly of his pleasure in attending.

William Wylam as Chairman of the Hertrich Awards Committee then presented August Kramer with the Margarete Hertrich Award. His lovely seedling 'Kramer's Supreme' is a



August Kramer is the happy recipient of the Margarete Hertrich Award for the best seedling of 1958. William Wylam, Chairman of the Hertrich Awards Committee, gives Mr. Kramer his congratulations as he presents it for the already popular variety, 'Kramer's Supreme'.

worthy winner and its success is a very gratifying climax to all the years Mr. Kramer had worked with camellias.

Another excitement of the evening was the distribution of "Camellia Culture," the book sponsored by SCCS and long and eagerly awaited. President Pitkin gave a brief history of the book, stating that when the idea of such a book was broached and sanctioned three years ago no one had any idea of how broad the project would become nor how much work it would entail. He called Carl Tourje to the front, giving him tribute as Editor and remarking that his name would be widely known for his work. "I thank you for all of us," the President concluded.

Mr. Tourje replied, saying he more than appreciated Mr. Pitkin's words. He also publicly thanked the Society, the 55 authors who contributed to the book, the Camellia Culture Committee and all others who had worked with him. "It was three years of effort," he concluded, "And I do not believe they have been in vain." He then read a wire he had received that day from Carol Woodward, Editor of Outdoor Publications of the Macmillan Company stating that on December 9th (that same day) "Camellia Culture" had gone on sale in all the bookstores and wishing him all success. Mr. Tourje received a big hand of applause and retired, later on to be besieged for autographs on newly bought books.

Continuing with the agenda of the evening, Al Dekker, Program Chairman, introduced Mr. Milo Rowell, well known lawyer of Fresno, California, long identified with camellias.

Mr. Rowell began with what he called "three digressions." The first was his description of the Nickerson Color Fan which has been widely accepted as a standard color chart for camellias and retails at a modest price. In the second digression, Mr.

Rowell called attention to a booklet put out by the University of California Extension Service on How to Grow Plants in Containers. Mr. Rowell's third suggestion that all should join the ACS was his third digression.

For his talk of the evening Mr. Rowell more or less turned the tables on camellias. Most of the talks on camellias are on what *growers* do for camellias. It was very refreshing and delightfully surprising to have Mr. Rowell's subject, "What Camellias Do For Me." Because this talk turned out to be of such general interest to all camelliaphiles, the Review is happy to print it on page 9 of this issue.

Harvey Short had brought a fine selection of plants for the sale and cheers and applause greeted Mrs. Viney when she drew her own number and Col. Caroll Gale (Ex-Treas.) who was No. 1 winner.

Awards for the evening's exhibits were as follows: In the Over 4" Class, Bill Johnston (visiting President of the Central California Camellia Society) won first with his 'Diakagura'. Second went to A. W. Garner with an 'R. C. Wheeler'. Third was won by Reg Ragland with a 'Tomorrow', fourth to W. F. Goertz for his 'Mathotiana Supreme', and fifth to Reg Ragland for an 'Emmett Barnes'.

In the Under 4" Class, Martin A. Johnson won first with an 'Alba Plena', Frank Reed had a second with his 'Emily Wilson', third went to J. Lamb for his 'Fire Falls', fourth to Bill Johnson for his 'Debutante', and fifth to Reg Ragland for a 'Peter Pan'.

Of *Sasanquas*, A. E. Krumm took first with a 'Little Gem', Ed Metcalf won second with a 'Bettie Patricia', and A. E. Krumm took third with a 'Cleopatra'.

And so ended the December SCCS in a blaze of glory both to those who had seen their efforts succeed so happily and to those who had been fortunate enough to benefit by them.

'KRAMER'S SUPREME' HAS A RICH HERITAGE

The winning of the Margarete Hertrich Award is very gratifying to August Kramer who has been a nurseryman since 1895 when he was fifteen years old. Then it was that he bicycled about Farmingdale, New York, taking orders for nursery stock. Later he graduated to selling pot plants from a spring wagon and horse, and in 1896 he and his brother built two greenhouses where they raised Geraniums and other miscellaneous plants.

Although flourishing in a business way, Mr. Kramer's health broke and he was advised to come to California to enjoy a milder climate. 1915 found him selling automobiles in Fresno.

However, the Kramer Brothers could not turn away from horticulture and in 1916 they purchased land in Ontario and raised flowers and nursery stock. Ten years later they bought 53 acres on Red Hill at Cucamonga, their present site, and began specializing in Camellias and Azaleas. The Award that Mr. Kramer receives this year represents years of public recognition of his skill and knowledge.

Noticing this particular seedling because of its vigorous and erect growth and the large size and rich color of its blooms, Mr. Kramer took steps to asexually reproduce it.

Out of the thousands of camellia seedlings Mr. Kramer tested in the past thirty years, none has compared with 'Kramer's Supreme', a first prize winner at camellia shows, including being judged "the best pro-

fessional bloom" at the Los Angeles Camellia Council Show held at Descanso Gardens in 1957.

The blooms are large, double-peony form (from 4½ to 5½ inches when fully opened), a distinctive Turkey Red in color and good keeping qualities on the plant and as cut flowers. It is a mid-season, late January and February bloom (where grown and observed). The plant has vigorous, upright growth, is fast growing and densely foliated, with large glossy spinach-green leaves that are from ovate to broad-elliptic, from medium long pointed to tapering, the edges coarsely serrated. The dense foliage with the beautiful serrated leaves add grace and charm to this new introduction.

Mr. Kramer says, "I am proud to be the inventor of this fine camellia which will find its way into the heart and home of every camellia lover. It will be propagated exclusively by Kramer Bros. Nurseries, Upland, California".

HOLLAND'S NURSERY

Home of the 'Onetia Holland' Camellia

A few 2-yr grafts 'Onetia Holland' — \$15.00 each.

F.O.B. Nursery plus \$3.00 crating charge.

SCIONS — 3 to 4 eyes each — 2 for \$5.00

563 E. 24th STREET

UPLAND, CALIFORNIA

HERTRICH AWARDS

SEEDLINGS AND MUTANTS

The following are the members of the Hertrich Awards Committee that will function during the present blooming season: A. H. Dekker, Dr. Clark E. Hubbs, E. H. Metcalf, William E. Wylam, and R. F. Dickson, Chairman.

All indications are that the competition from now until the season ends will be rather interesting. More flowers have been entered than in recent years, and although most of the entries are from Southern California, it is the hope of the committee that some new entries in the future will come from other sections.

Now that two years have passed since the last publishing of rules governing these awards, a mention of the more salient points is in order. There are many who have joined camellia societies since the rules were given in the *Camellia Review* of October 1956, and it is hoped that the following will be of use to them and also serve as a reminder to the "old timers."

1. *What flowers are eligible?*

Any flower that has not been available commercially prior to entering. It must be an established camellia seedling or mutant outdoor grown by the entrant.

2. *Who may enter flowers?*

There are no restrictions; professional or amateur has an equal opportunity.

3. *When do entries have to be made?*

The rule is: "To be eligible for competition during a blooming season a variety must have been listed with the Hertrich Awards Committee prior to the preceding October first".

4. *Is there an entry fee?*

There is no fee to enter.

5. *How does one go about entering?*

Obtain an entry card from the committee. Fill it out. Return it with 35mm transparency of the bloom, taken with a ruler to show size. Also, a 35mm transparency taken of the entire plant that produced the bloom.

From the above you will have noted that entries for the 1958-59 season closed last October first. But, more important, now is the time to lay the groundwork to enter for future seasons. Be sure to make the slides of the flower and the plant.

A minimum of three (3) blossoms must be shown by the exhibitor during the competing blooming season. They may be entered collectively or individually on succeeding occasions. All horticultural varieties to be eligible for an award must have been judged during two blooming seasons.

6. *Where are blossoms shown?*

Flowers may be shown at any regular society meeting or accredited camellia show.

Here is the only change in the rules as they were last published. "No flower shall be eligible for a Hertrich award after having been judged in competition for three (3) seasons."

If you have something new and you feel that you have something outstanding, why not enter it and try for one of these celebrated awards?

The Margarete Hertrich for a seedling.

The William Hertrich for a mutant.

WHAT CAMELLIAS DO FOR ME*

By MILO ROWELL

When Al Dekker asked me to speak to the Southern California Camellia Society, my automatic reaction was: "What can I tell the experts?" And then I had a second thought which was: "I was a program chairman once and Al Dekker is a real good friend — I just have to say YES and do my best." With this in mind I had no answer when his next question was: "What is your subject?". So I said: "Anything you suggest." Why not? I might as well go down before the Tourjes, Woodroofs, Shorts and Aspers on one subject as well as another. Then the friendship, understanding and diplomacy of Al showed its true fine hand. Hence the subject "WHAT CAMELLIAS DO FOR ME."

Who could go wrong on a subject such as that? Who could dispute me? And besides — Happy Day — I could really talk about anything. Find me a lawyer who doesn't like to talk.

Most every one of you is enchanted with the beauty of Camellias, as am I. In the garden we all enjoy the beauty of the plant itself; we are overwhelmed by its annual display of flowers. We like them in both foliage and flowers for home decoration, and I'm sure every man gets a real thrill to have his very best blooms displayed on his very best girl.

I suppose one reason we are so proud of our Camellias is that they require a reasonable amount of study and knowledge, a reasonable amount of skill and care, and reasonable patience. With these very pleasant requirements, the field of enthusiasts is somewhat limited and quite naturally it's limited to people who have the same basic quality that we ourselves have.

Now everyone of us knows without question that our own particular pleasures, hobbies, idiosyncrasies and skills are the very best, so — all others having the same ones as we have, are both smart and charming people. It's always wonderful to know so many smart and charming people as our friends, so the companionship

of camelliaphilos is a wonderful thing.

But when you stop to think of it, every other hobby organization should give the same satisfaction that we get if that's all there is to it. Yet we know that at least in the horticultural groups there is more wholesome good will and less jealousy, more giving and less taking, than in most other organizations that I know.

This sharing and giving of camelliaites is a wonderful thing to behold. When one visits another and particularly admires a flower, the first thing is: "Have a scion." Soon your garden is full of plants that remind you of all these wonderful friends, and when you work among your camellias at the same time you visit with your friends. You may not be quite as crazy as I am, but I can have a wonderful visit with friends hundreds or thousands of miles away while caring for a particular plant. I can relive a happy visit of years before and dream of a reunion to come, but best of all I feel their presence and the warmth of their friendliness right then and there. This does a great deal to me and I'm sure to you also.

Other times, when I'm in the garden visiting my friends, I begin wondering why we, as a group, are different from other hobbyists. Basically, humans are gregarious but require periods of solitude. Most hobbies provide both. We also need activity (physical) and relaxation (mental), but most hobbies also provide these needs. We also need challenge.

For many years I did not appreciate the function of "challenge" to humanity. It is easy to observe the natural instinct of laziness, but the requirement of challenge is not so readily apparent. The challenge must be within our capability of solution, but also must require substantial effort, both physical and mental. To diverge from the individual to the broad scope of humanity. The easiest examples are the extremes. On the other hand there are the Eskimos who have such an excessive challenge for mere existence that their entire effort throughout each day, year and generation is expended on existence and care for the succeeding generations. Their environment is not such that a crop can be grown, harvested and stored for future consumption. There is no excess of goods beyond the need for survival, to support intellectual curiosity. As a result, no higher civilization has developed from those whose environment creates an excessive challenge.

On the other extreme, when the environment offers no challenge, we likewise find no development of a higher civilization. The Polynesians and others in the tropical areas of the Pacific found the essentials of living (such as food and protection from the elements) so readily at hand that no planting, cultivating, food preserving, permanent housing, or other substantial effort was necessary. Thus there was no challenge. From this environment no higher civilization has yet developed.

We of the intermediate climatic areas of the world could only exist when we labored to grow crops by planting, harvesting and preserving food for winter; when we built protection against storms and freezes, both in housing and in clothing. Having a challenge for survival, which we met and solved through ingenuity and intellect that gave us spare time beyond mere survival over many

centuries. We have as a part of our nature a strong drive to meet challenge and derive a strong satisfaction in solving such challenge. This drive and satisfaction seem to be carried into every facet of our living, even into our hobbies.

Just look at those of us who live in an arid climate, such as Los Angeles and the San Joaquin Valley, who grow Camellias which are plants naturally found in the summer wet forests of the world. Look again at those of us who are moving the hardiness boundary northward from Virginia to Long Island or Los Angeles to Lake Tahoe. Look again at the amateurs who grow hundreds and thousands of seedlings in order to develop one or two of particular beauty, color, hardiness, form or odor, just so we can distribute it to our friends. The only reward is the inner satisfaction of accomplishment of producing something that makes living more beautiful and satisfying, partly for ourselves, but mainly for others.

To me, the excess of this element or characteristic in camellia fans and other horticultural hobbyists, involving the creation of new beauty for all the world to enjoy, without economic reward, is probably the principal difference from other voluntary groups and strongly cements our attraction to and love for each other.

So, "WHAT DO CAMELLIAS DO FOR ME?" That's easy to answer. They make life more pleasant. They satisfy nearly every desire natural to man beyond those basic to existence and those concerned with the ultimate.

1. They require some reasonable physical exercise. But this is not unreasonably demanding.

2. They provide nearly as much and nearly as little mental effort and ingenuity as I may care to give them.

3. They build up my satisfaction with my desire to create beauty, both

in growing my camellia and in developing new beauty.

4. They provide a reminder of good friends: as I care for them or enjoy their beauty, or exhibit them to others, I can relive the pleasures of friendship and experiences of delight.

5. They satisfy my desire for solitude combined with a close association with nature.

6. They provide a meeting place with that segment of humanity that

pleases me most — those who enjoy nature; who appreciate beauty; who need challenge; who have the ability to conquer the challenge; who are creative; who above all get so much satisfaction in accomplishment and in friendship and in giving, that no other reward is desired.

* The basis of a talk given by Milo Rowell of Fresno, California which highlighted the December meeting of the SCCS.

JANUARY 13 STARTS THE SCCS YEAR OF 1959

Starting the year 1959 with more camellia blossoms for the monthly exhibit, and enthusiasm building up to the Big Show, the SCCS will meet on January 13th.

At this meeting our affiliate, the San Diego Society, will be honored. A brief history of this society follows:

The San Diego Camellia Society was formed during the late summer of 1945—and on October 12th, 1945, the Southern California Camellia Society granted the Charter. Each year a Camellia Show has been held, and on February 7th and 8th, 1959, the twelfth annual show will be presented in Balboa Park. Some years ago several of the "hardy" members got together and planted the Camellia Canyon — back of the House of Hospitality in Balboa Park, which Camellias are still in existence for the pleasure of visitors. The huge lath house in the Park has been renovated this year, and large Camellia plants were purchased by the Society and presented to the Park. The Lathhouse is soon to be completed as far as plantings are concerned and then will be open to the public. Our meetings are held in the Floral Bldg. in Balboa Park, the second Friday of each

month, November through May — which is the dinner meeting of the group. We think we are the only Society which uses a gavel made of Camellia wood.

The idea of a camellia wood gavel was that of both Stanley Miller and Ferris Jones and between them the project resulted in the presentation of such a gavel to the Society's President Bill Gibson. The gavel is inscribed "San Diego Camellia Society." Adding a final apropos touch is the fact that the camellia wood used came from a plant of the Society's first President, Mr. J. W. Sefton.

Many San Diego members are expected at this January 13th meeting.

Highlighting the meeting will be the talk on Flower Arrangements by Rose Gish, General Chairman for Flower Arrangements both for ACS and for the Joint Camellia Shows at Descanso Gardens.



TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY SHOW

The Eleventh Annual Camellia Show sponsored by the Temple City Camellia Society will be held this year in the Security First National Bank Building on the corner of Las Tunas Drive and Primrose Ave. in Temple City. The show date is Saturday and Sunday, February 21 and 22, and the show will be open to the public from 1:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, and from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday. This year, the show will not be held in conjunction with the Camellia Festival and Parade as in the past. The Festival will be one week later on Saturday and Sunday, February 28th and March 1st.

Blooms will be exhibited by members of the local Society along with members of the neighboring Camellia Societies. Camellia hobbyists interested in entertaining their blooms are invited to do so. Due to lack of space again this year, each entrant is limited to fifty (50) single *japonica* entries. This will allow the placement committee more room on the display table for the flowers and will show them off to a better advantage.

Mr. Peter Folino, Show Chairman, announces that there will be a Court of Honor table this year, where the judges will bring the outstanding blooms. From this group the "Outstanding Bloom in Show" will be selected. A rosette will be given to all the blooms selected for the Court. Also, he says that due to the increasing popularity of miniatures, there will be a professional trophy given along with the amateur trophy in this division. All divisions will remain the same as in the past shows as follows:

- DIVISION I. Single Blooms
- DIVISION II. Multiple Blooms
- DIVISION III. Hybrids
- DIVISION IV. Miniatures and Boutonnieres
- DIVISION V. New Introductions

All flowers entered will be displayed in low containers furnished by the society. The growers will have their exhibits on display also.

Mr. Folino also wishes to inform you that competitive entries will be accepted Friday night, February 20th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., and on Saturday morning, February 21st, from 6:30 to 9:00 a.m. sharp. **ABSOLUTELY NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR COMPETITION** after that time. If all entrants will have their entry cards filled out in advance and questionable varieties checked out in their current Nomenclature book, a lot of time and confusion will be saved.

You may get your entry forms and schedules for the show from Mr. Ernest Pieri, Registration Chairman (Atlantic 7-5977), or Peter Folino (Atlantic 7-7598). Be sure to tell them how many cards you will need and they will be mailed to you.

OK — SO I TOOK IT EASY - - - NOW WHAT?

By C. W. LATTIN

In the last issue of the Review I covered with particular emphasis the care that should be taken in picking a camellia flower.

Nothing can be quite so useless for a corsage, flower arrangement and especially a camellia show as a bruised flower. With this as a premise let's go back to the time when the flower was cut and safely transferred to its bed of soft dampshredded paper. If you intend to use it in show competition the job is far from completed — if not, turn over to the page of the next article — you don't have to read any further.

To be able to get a flower safely to a show without so much as the pollen being scattered on the petals is not luck, but instead, it is the result of planning, preparation, execution and most of all extreme care.

Blue ribbons generally don't come easy — Sweepstakes Trophies based on blue ribbons are that much harder, so I offer as a suggestion three steps I have found best to follow.

First Step: Cross File Card System

I have all my plants (all container grown) numerically arranged and *not* in a hit and miss arrangement by name. Each variety starting from No. 1 has a number. For each of these numbers I have a typewritten 4 x 6 card prepared as below:

GUILIO NUCCIO	605
1 3 5 6 7 11 12	

The reason for and the value of this card is four fold—

1. Two or three days in advance of a show—with cards in hand—you carefully check each variety for flowers. Depending on the number and condition of the flowers you check the show classification at the bottom with a soft pencil. If one flower is

to be shown check (1) or, if three of a kind check (3), or if both check both, and so on.

Still keeping the card in numerical order you take the next variety that has or will have flowers open by show date. Those variety numbers on which you will have no flowers, withdraw the card from file and place to one side — *but keep in order*. You may need it later for unexpected blossoms.

2. After the survey has been made you can then retire to the comfort of your easy chair to make out your entry blanks. *Always have your entry blanks prepared before show date.*

For each number checked prepare an entry card, be it for one, three, twelve or all. After the entry card or cards for a variety have been prepared, you stick them on the check card with a small piece of masking tape in the space between the name and entry numbers below. Repeat process for each check card.

After all entry cards have been prepared and check cards are still in numerical order you may think you can take it easy— but you can't — there are other things to do. I will describe these in the second and third suggestions later after giving you the next steps with the check cards.

3. Taking your check cards with

attached entry blanks attached on the day you pick — (easy does it) — you make your rounds. As each flower is picked and laid from upper left to right in a picking box, a small $1\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ inch paper is tucked along side with the variety number written on it. If an entry has faded, been bruised or the bud not opened enough the check card and entry blank can be laid aside. If just one of the entries for the variety is not to be entered remove the entry card from the check card. You can be sure you will make up too many entry cards but you will have enough to do at the last moment making cards for unexpected flowers. After all flowers are picked the boxes are arranged end to end starting with Number 1.

3. The 4×6 cards (with entry cards still attached) are then re-sorted alphabetically. Thus in one sort all cards are alphabetized. It is then a simple procedure to take card by card and refer to the number — check for the flower of that number in the picking box and transfer it *very carefully* to the transportation box in which it is to be carried to the show.

Entry cards are removed from the cross file card and placed with the flower or flowers on this last sort. By doing this all flowers are alphabetically arranged for easy placement on show tables. Keep your single, 3's, 5's etc. entries in separate transportation boxes. After all resorting is completed, the check cards are laid aside until after the show. Some rainy day or night the pencil check marks can be erased and all cards put back in numerical arrangement to be ready for use the next time they are needed.

Second Step:

Preparation of Picking Boxes

Picking boxes can be almost anything, but strong corrugated cardboard boxes preferably with a coating of paraffine on the inside are cheapest, but baker's wooden bread trays are best. They should be the same size and of sufficient quantity to assure proper placing of flowers so none touch any other. They should be of proper depth (at least $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches) so if they are cross-stacked the bottoms will not rub against the flowers in the box below. Each box should have at least $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of $\frac{1}{8}$ inch shredded *letter writing paper* in the bottom. I choose this type paper because it has sufficient buoyancy and remains resilient for many hours even though dampened with water. Shredded newspaper and cotton are in my opinion — NO GOOD, they become soggy, pack down and give no buoyancy. *These boxes should all be prepared in advance of the day you pick.*

Third Step:

Preparation of Flower Transportation Boxes

Here again you must plan in advance. Just any old box will not do. After studying the problems over the last few years I believe a box or boxes, made as described in Figure 1 is "the answer to the maiden's prayer." If not the maiden, at least the competitor who has his desires set on blue ribbons and Sweepstake Trophies.

The box will hold fifteen 5-inch flowers and a larger number of smaller ones without touching. It is made of a fine grained wood. The ends and sides together with a $\frac{1}{8}$ inch plywood bottom are fitted tightly together. *There are no hand holds.* As diagrammed, there are two cleats on the bottom — one at each end to permit stacking the boxes one on top of another, and also, to eliminate any

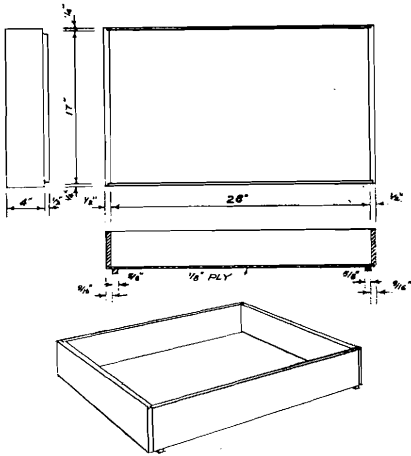


Fig. 1. Flower Transportation Box

sliding. Anyone who has attempted, as I have, to take flowers one mile or a hundred miles by automobile knows what a sudden stop can do to boxes that are stacked and not kept from sliding — goodbye blue ribbons. Boxes fall — flowers are bruised and all your “take it easy” practices have gone to waste. Around the bottom perimeter of each box I stick a 1/2 inch strip of ground cork. When the boxes are stacked the weight of them makes them become almost air tight. The size and the inside height of your automobile generally dictates the maximum number of lids required. I get two stacks of boxes in the trunk of my car and two inside where the back seat has been removed so I need only four tops. The top is made the

same way with cleats and cork stripping to make them air tight. For neatness, the boxes and lids are painted inside and out with a hammer tone grey plastic paint. The same type of shredded paper is used as in the picking boxes. To keep this paper from sliding from side to side, or front to back, use fifteen or more 1 inch square patches of the ground cork. Place them in an equally spaced pattern so as to cover the bottom. When storing boxes and tops in the off season be sure that they are stacked absolutely flat so that they will not warp. In addition, weight the lids down.

The cost of this box will vary greatly. If you have the know-how you can make them, as I did, for less than one dollar each. If made on the outside they may cost as much as \$4.00 each. Give yourself a summer project and play it safe next time.

It is very important not to put too much water on the shredded paper. Do not sprinkle water over the top of any white or blush pink flowers — will “yellow them up” for sure.

One last little trick or precaution and then I am through. Go to a salvage store and buy some 3 x 3 x 16 inch foam rubber. Put two of these under each stack of transportation boxes in your automobile. Road bumps are greatly reduced — your flowers actually ride on air.

The best of luck—you will need it.

Camellias in the Huntington Gardens

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Camelliana

The Hybrid Camellia

To all real camellia enthusiasts who look for better and finer development of the genus *Camellia*, we recommend an immediate reservation for Vol. 12, No. 1 of the **Camellia Bulletin** published by the Northern California Camellia Society. This issue is entitled "The Hybrid Camellia" and inasmuch as the Editor is David L. Feathers, widely known for his own work in hybridizing, it is safe to say that these 40 pages contain more real knowledge and information of current camellia hybridization than can be found in any other publication.

Mr. Feathers states his premise succinctly in his introduction, quote: "The mere fact of hybridity is not, in itself, an unqualified recommendation, for the joy of breeding has not been completed until the bad faults have been bred out and the ultimate result is a plant that is universally satisfactory as a whole." The growing interest in experimentation Mr. Feathers feels is natural as each year is bringing something new and exciting. The possibilities and potentialities are unlimited and with already a fair start in this field there is real hope of producing the much wanted yellow camellia, more fragrant camellias, new and distinct color tones of loveliness in flowers, and hardiness to withstand foreign types of climate.

Contributors to the issue aside from Mr. Feathers who gives some of his own data in his article "Adventure Into Camellia Hybridizing," are Ralph Peer, ACS President, who writes on the "History of Interspecific Hybrids," J. Howard Asper, Superintendent of the Huntington Gardens who contributes "Notes on Camellia Hybridization," Walter Hazlewood and E. G. Waterhouse, both of New

South Wales; Charles Puddle of Bodnant Gardens in North Wales, Great Britain; Mary Johnson of Beaverton, Oregon reporting on Hybridizing in the Northwestern part of the United States; Vernon James; Roy T. Thompson (Co-Editor of the Bulletin); Alpha M. Hartman, all of California; Dr. Brian W. Doak of New Zealand; and Dr. P. L. Hilsman of Georgia who offers a detailed study of Species and Hybrids for Cross-Pollination. All offer individual information on hybridizing and many of their individual hybrids are described.

With this there are 40 black and white illustrations of hybrids discussed. The favorite *Camellia x williamsii*, 'Donation', is an enticing color cover.

As we said at first, you had better get your copy of this Hybrid Issue right now for it is sure to be sold out. Order through the SCCS Secretary. See page 30.

From New Zealand

Whenever another Bulletin from the New Zealand Camellia Society lands on the Editor's desk it is like a shining star above the earthbound other mail. The November 1958 issue is no exception.

One most interesting angle about these magazines is their great variance from American publications. Beginning with their cover flowers, many unknown camellia varieties are written about. This issue's cover is a *C. japonica* 'Begonia'. The description of it states that it is a long season paeony form bloomer of delicate pink "undeterred by extremes of weather" and "standing the sun better than most." It is interesting to note that 'Debutante' and 'C. M. Wilson' are listed under "New Varieties" and far from camellias being a new introduction in New Zealand, mention is made of 30-foot, 50-year-old camellia trees in Wanganui.

(Continued on Page 17)

CAMELLIA TRILOGY COMPLETED BY HERTRICH'S THIRD VOLUME

The last volume of "Camellias in the Huntington Gardens," written by William Hertrich, Curator Emeritus of the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, is now available.

This trilogy on camellias stands by itself as reference work on accepted and established camellia varieties and is a monument to Mr. Hertrich's five decades of work with camellias cultivated in the Huntington Gardens.

This third volume includes for the first time in this series a history of *C. Sasanqua* and allied species.

Over 350 pages of the book are devoted to descriptions and page photographs of camellias arranged alphabetically. Of these there are 205 descriptions and plates of *japonicas*, many of which are quite recent introductions. There are 55 plates and descriptions of *Sasanquas*, varieties which were chosen for their diverse uses in landscaping. There are six descriptions and plates of *C. hiemalis*, two of *C. vernalis* and one of *C. reticulata*.

A new and most helpful aid to reference is the inclusion of known origins of the cultivars. This is of historical interest as well as, in some cases, enabling growers to obtain plants from the original stock.

The camellia world is very fortunate in having the magnificent camellia garden as part of the Huntington Botanical Gardens, but doubly fortunate that none of its beauty like that of the little violet has been born to blush unseen. Through William Hertrich it has been perpetuated in these three volumes to act as information and inspiration to any who can acquire the books. There is nothing haphazard about the Huntington Camellia Gardens. They were planned and are continuously increased and improved by men who have long been associated with camellias. Therefore the 1500 plants there now represent the best selection of camellias obtainable and Mr. Hertrich has chosen the best of these to live in his Camellia Trilogy.

The page photographs done expertly by Frank Reinhart are invaluable as complement to the descriptions.

Of course the intriguing characteristic of camellias is that there is no end to them. However, just as one peruses the old camellia prints of a hundred years ago, it is safe to predict that a hundred years from now camelliaphiles will pour over the Hertrich books, and find prototypes of the camellias in their own gardens. With a bright frontispiece of that good old favorite, the 'Adolphe Audusson Special', Volume III of "Camellias in the Huntington Gardens" takes its place beside Volumes I and II to round out the handsome Trilogy of camellia books of today which will still live for many to-morrows.

This last book as well as the other two can be purchased through SCCS. See page 30.

CAMELLIANA from Page 16

The original group of 50 camellia enthusiasts who formed the Society in 1957 has grown to about 400 now. The president, Col. Tom Durrant, is the SCCS foreign representative and he expresses the belief that with the admirable climate, adequate rainfall and generally suitable soil types, camellias will flourish in New Zealand as nowhere in the world. Everyone is invited to join the Society (contact the SCCS Secretary for details) and the three Bulletins for the year will more than repay you.

NEW DISPLAY STRUCTURES TO ENHANCE FLOWER EXHIBITS AT BIG JOINT SHOW

With the advent of the big annual Camellia Show to be held at the Descanso Gardens in La Canada February 28th through March 8th, sponsored by the Los Angeles Camellia Council which is made up of representatives of six Camellia Societies of Southern California, problems of flower display were immediately encountered. At the first show, three years ago, the flowers were set on display tables out in the open on the wide grassy area of Descanso, shaded by large live oaks. This open air display was not too satisfactory as the weather was unpredictable and the lack of protection was very hard on the blooms.

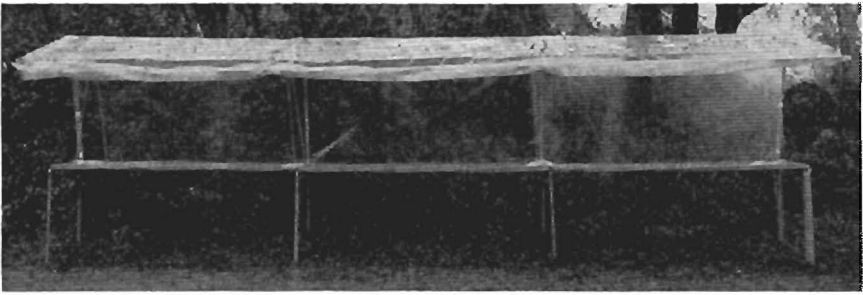
Consequently for the past two shows, long covered runways and tents have been set up. This improved conditions but was still not too happy an arrangement. Plans in effect now, however, promise to solve the prob-

lem both for the grower and the viewer.

The original idea of the new display tables was born when John Threlkeld, Manager of Descanso, was leafing through a magazine and saw a picture of the Boston Festival of Arts which is held annually outdoors in a Boston park. Working from this idea, Mr. Threlkeld and Jess Tomory,



Proof that there is more to a camellia show than the placing of pretty flowers on a table is this view of some hard working V.I.C.'s (Camelliaites), who are smoothing up one of the 105 display tables made by donated camellia labor. From left to right here are Dr. William Stewart, Director of the L.A. State and County Arboretum and the Descanso Gardens and Kelly Kriegbaum of the Temple City Camellia Society wielding a sander and electric drill respectively. Wilber Foss, General Chairman of the Big Joint Camellia Show, is busy with another sander and Al Dekker, Program Chairman of the SCCS, sets screws with a fast left hand.



Frontal view of a 24-foot section of a flower display table. Note the thinness of the polyethylene cover showing the oak tree trunks and the camellia plants behind the tables.

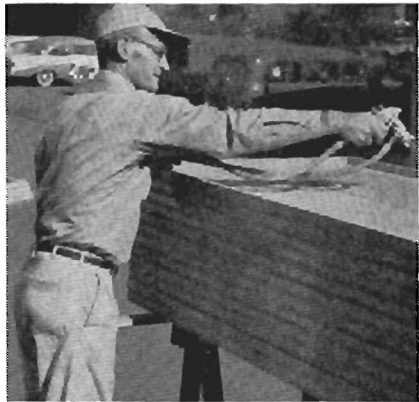
equipment maintenance man at the gardens, worked out specifications until the project became clear and workable.

Camellia enthusiasts are now donating Saturday time in the making of 105 of these display tables.

The design is basic in simplicity, providing a standard table on which to display the flowers, covered by polyethylene film to provide protection from the elements. In the event of rain the polyethylene unrolls to the ground, allowing a completely covered passageway for persons viewing the camellias.

Perhaps the greatest single benefit from this type of display is that flowers show their true colors without being subjected to the distortion of artificial lighting. Also of great benefit is the situation under which the exhibition will be presented, being constructed along the flower decked trails of Descanso Gardens. In fact, it might be called a flower show within a flower show.

For other organizations sponsoring flower shows, some details of this design may be of interest. The framing is standard $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch galvanized pipe in all vertical positions and in all horizontal positions, $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch galvanized pipe. They are joined together by $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch reducing elbows, except at one spot where the table supporter joins the upright,



Al Parker, on the Executive Board of the Pacific Society and Chairman of the Rules Committee for the Big Show, shows unexpected prowess with a spray gun as he paints display tables.

where it is welded to the $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch pipe. The table supports are welded to the $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch pipe and are 1-inch by $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch strap iron.

The tables are $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch standard exterior plywood edged with 1 x 1 smooth Douglas fir which is screwed securely in place. The units are supported at the top by $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch galvanized pipes suspended between the two upright sections. This suspension is done by drilling the elbows in the very center with $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch holes into which are inserted $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch metal pins. The $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch pipe is then placed over the pins. The frame is held together



Finished flower display tables set up at the Descanso Gardens where the Big Joint Annual Camellia Show will take place the last part of February. These tables will be used for the first time then. Light falling leaves make intriguing patterns on the polyethylene cover and this may lead to their planned use for additional shade if necessary.

by tightly stretched venetian blind cord.

The polyethylene is stapled with 1/2-inch staples to the back of the tables with a thin wooden strip overlaid to prevent tearing out. The polyethylene is stretched over the top and each end secured by using two strips of Mystik cloth tape reinforcing the polyethylene. The tape and polyethylene are punched and a small piece of

venetian blind cord secures the polyethylene to the pipe through the tape. A network of venetian blind cord supports the polyethylene on top.

To give rigidity to the structure, the table legs are inserted in the ground 12 inches. A jig has been made to the exact size and dimensions of the table legs, which facilitates their being placed squarely. A 3/4-inch pipe is driven into the ground the exact required depth and then the table legs merely inserted in the holes. Additional rigidity is given by sinking two 2 x 4's at one end only where the legs are tightly secured. This gives side sway rigidity to the entire structure.

It will be noted in the picture that the main upright support is bent to a slight degree at the point where the table support is welded. The function of this is to allow run-off of water from rain or sprinklers. The drop curtain is controlled by a series of pulleys and cord much the same as ornamental bamboo shades. When the curtain is in the down position it is secured from wind whipping by metal pins driven into the ground and tied to the bottom roller of the curtain.

For displaying camellia cut flowers, tables will be covered with moss to a depth of one inch. The moss will be moistened and the cut flowers laid directly on the moss. The lasting qualities of flowers thus displayed is

(Continued on Page 21)

C. japonica 'Coral Pink Lotus'

Also many other fine varieties including

Marjorie Magnificent
Guest of Honor
Shiro-Chan

Guilio Nuccio
Rosemary Kinzer
Mrs. Freeman Weiss

Billie McCaskill
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NEW STRUCTURES *from Page 20*

more than twice as great as those displayed in paper cups. For other types of flower displays tables are used unmossed as would any other table be used.

The sample exhibit tables will be on display in Descanso Gardens continuously during the flower season for those who would like to come and inspect them or obtain further details of their construction. It is expected that these tables and frames will be used for other activities such as outdoor art shows, potted plant shows, flower arrangement shows, florist's cut flower displays, and possibly other uses which have not even been considered as yet.

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NORFOLK TO BE HOST TO ACS

The Annual Convention of the American Camellia Society will be held in Norfolk, Virginia March 19, 20 and 21st of 1959.

Headquarters will be the Monticello Hotel on Granby Street in Norfolk and in the event the hotel is filled, there are three other hotels within one block, namely the Fairfax, Commodore Maury and the Thomas Nelson Hotel.

The ACS Program follows. If additional information is desired, write the Convention Chairman, Mr. A. J. Parsons at P.O. Box 4034, Norfolk, Virginia.

THE ACS CONVENTION ACTIVITIES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

Thursday, March 19, 1959

- 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Registration, Lobby Monticello Hotel. Registration Fee of \$20.00 entitles each registrant to one ticket for each event listed.
- 10:00 A.M. Buses leave Monticello, Fairfax, Commodore Maury and Thomas Nelson Hotels for Coleman Nursery.
- 11:30 A.M. Buses leave Coleman Nursery for luncheon at the Planters Club, Suffolk, Virginia.
- 1:00 P.M. Buses leave Planters Club for walking tour of two outstanding Virginia Camellia Gardens — "Flowerwood," the garden of Mr. and Mrs. Henry McRae Pinner, and the garden of Dr. James M. Habel, Jr., Suffolk, Virginia.
- 4:00 P.M. Leave Suffolk and return to various hotels.
- 5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M. Reception for Past Presidents of the American Camellia Society in the Colonial Room of the Monticello Hotel.
- 8:15 P.M. Leave by bus for Municipal Auditorium for demonstration of every phase of Camellia culture. Also reports of important committees of the American Camellia Society.

Friday, March 20, 1959

- 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Registration, Lobby Monticello Hotel.
- 10:30 A.M. Buses leave from Monticello, Fairfax, Commodore Maury, and Thomas Nelson Hotels for visits to the garden of —
Mr. and Mrs. Alan J. Hofheimer
Mr. and Mrs. Alison J. Parsons
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene M. Worrell
Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Mason
Mr. and Mrs. John V. Gettle
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Heutte
- 1:00 P.M. Buses will leave for Norfolk Municipal Gardens, the greatest collection of Camellias in the United States.
- 1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M. Barbecue — Norfolk Municipal Gardens.
- 4:30 P.M. Buses leave Norfolk Municipal Gardens for the Monticello and other hotels.
- FRIDAY NIGHT Open for Get-togethers of various State organizations.

(Continued on next page)

ACS FALL BOARD MEETING

By RALPH PEER*

This year the American Camellia Society chose the dates November 20th and 21st in Charleston, South Carolina for its semiannual Board Meeting. These dates coincided with the Annual Meeting of the South Carolina Camellia Society, and the holding of its Fall Camellia Show. With only two exceptions, all ACS Directors were present, or represented by proxies.

It was decided to extend the Maryland - Washington, D.C. Territory so that it now includes the counties of Alexandria, and Fairfax, in Virginia.

Mr. Milton Brown was named State Director for the Maryland - D.C. Territory as the successor to Com. Domer who died recently.

After considerable discussion, the Board decided that Accredited Judges, named in the future, will be required to pay a fee of \$5.00.

The Fall Camellia Show turned out to be the best ever held in South Carolina, due perhaps to the fact that unseasonably warm weather had made at least forty varieties of *japonica* available for this competition. The Best Flower of the Show was a rare full double mutation of 'Mrs. D. W. Davis'.

More than two hundred and twenty persons, including the ACS Board, attended the luncheon given by the South Carolina Camellia Society, on November 22nd, at the Fort Sumter Hotel. The ideal weather, the extraordinarily fine show and the wonderful South Carolina hospitality made this an outstanding, never-to-be-forgotten Camellia Event.

*Mr. Peer is President of ACS.

ACS CONVENTION *from Page 22*

Saturday, March 21, 1959

SATURDAY MORN.	Open for shopping and visiting with friends.
3:00 P.M.	Buses leave hotels for Norfolk City Auditorium for visit to Camellia Show.
3:30 P.M.	Show opens.
5:30 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.	Buses leave show for return to the Monticello and other hotels.
7:00 P.M.	Cocktail Party — Monticello Hotel.
8:00 P.M.	Banquet and Annual Meeting of the American Camellia Society at Monticello Hotel.

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“Camellia Culture,” the Camellia Lover’s Own Book

Reviews of “Camellia Culture” all rate it highly as an invaluable addition to Camelliana. For instance, John Koehne, Editor of the Newsletter of the Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley says, quote — “My, it is a fine book. One thing that appeals to me so far is its ease of reading, undoubtedly due to its editor’s hard work. It also gives one the impression of its really being an up-to-date work, not just a rehash of old articles. This is due certainly to the pieces being written by authors who are current camellia researchers. The color frontispiece is really beautiful.”

Among national publications, the December House and Garden Mag-

azine recommends it as, quote — “A complete job for a race of flowering evergreen shrubs that is becoming more widely known not only in the south and far west, but in colder regions where camellias once were only florists’ plants. For the specialist, an ideal gift.”

Ralph Peer says, “This is the most wonderful reference book on camellias that has ever been or is likely to be printed.”

It is safe to say that never before have the answers to so many camellia questions been answered in as authentic a manner in one book as in this “Camellia Culture.” The SCCS as well as the book’s Editor, C. E. Tourje, is accepting well deserved congratulations.

Don’t delay — order your copy today from the SCCS Secretary.

NEWS, NOTES AND NOTICES

Temple City Society

At the January 26th meeting, the Temple City Camellia Society will have its second annual event of the year, the Dime-a-Dip Pot Luck Supper. It will be held at the Women’s Club House in Temple City and will be open to the public. Please phone Myrl Stocksclaeder (ATLantic 6-0923) for reservations so she will know how many to plan for. The time is 6:00 p.m. Also, there will be a “Scion Auction.” Bring some choice scions and also some understock if you are interested in learning to graft, as it will be taught and demonstrated right at the meeting. This will be a big night for newcomers and affords the chance to acquire some really desirable grafts.

Don’t forget to bring blooms for the display tables and the “Bloom of the Month” will be from the Chandleri group. Dues are still due and will pay you up for the full year of 1959.

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Camellia MAIL BAG

From Beaumont, Texas

Mrs. Joe Thiele and Mrs. W. M. Bills write:

We enjoy the Camellia Review so much and hope you can find a spot for the following: The second Annual Meeting of the Texas Camellia Society will be held in Beaumont, Texas on January 10 and 11, 1959 and it is time to start making plans to attend. The Southeast Texas Camellia Society will be host and no stone is being left unturned to make this a super show. First and foremost will be a beautifully staged and executed camellia show, then garden tours, many social affairs and plenty of good fellowship. Plan now to come and join in the fun. Here are some early blooms reported in this Gulf Coast area: 'Are-Jishi', July 4, August 5, 14, 31, September 6, 10, 13 and 14; 'Are-Jishi Var', August 24, September 5; 'Daikagura Pink', September 15; 'Daikagura Red', September 10, 15 and 27; 'Daikagura', September 15; 'Daikagura-Ward's', September 12 and 19; 'Donckelarii Red', September 27; 'Conrad Hilton', September 13, 18 and 24; 'Joshua E. Youtz', September 19 and 21; 'Kiku-Toji', September 22 and 28; 'September Morn', August 28, September 28 and 29; 'Woodville Red', September 3 and 12.

From Marinette, Wisconsin

Franklin Wedge writes:

The varieties we have in the greenhouse are slowly increasing in number so that right now we have the following in addition to the original 'Cheerful' that started it all: One 'Alba Plena', one 'Glen 40', one 'Debutante', one 'Rose Dawn', one 'Purple Dawn', one 'Queen Bessie', one 'Pink

Perfection', three 'Elegans', and two unknown. I have also ordered 100 seeds from the Society and hope in a few years to have quite a collection.

Raising Camellias in a greenhouse this far North seems to really confuse the poor things as they apparently lose all sense of season. The 'Glen 40', normally a late blooming variety, finished blooming in April on schedule but new growth and buds came along quickly and we had a gorgeous bloom in late August with 40 or 50 more buds that we expect almost any day. The 'Alba Plena' has been blooming steadily since mid September and I hope will continue until Christmas. I presume our cool night temperatures and shorter day light hours are both somewhat responsible.

We wonder what these plants would do if suddenly transplanted to Australia. Their timing is as unpredictable as the Mad Hatter's. Much more exciting, we'd say, than the steady bloom and dormancy seasons of Southern California camellias. Perhaps, Mr. Wedge, you can inveigle your varieties into blooming all year round. That would be a good news item. Especially from Wisconsin.

From New Orleans, La.

Mrs. John McCormick writes:

I think your Camellia Review is just wonderful and I treasure every issue.

Thank you, Mrs. McCormick. Your note made the Editor glow (till the next frustration came along).

Don't miss out on a bit of news about all the 1959 camellias coming along. Send your dues in without delay.

To The Ladies!

By CHARLOTTE M. HOAK

Begin the New Year aright.

You need make no mistakes for you have your Camellia Bible on hand and can refer to it readily every time you are confronted with a problem. Confronting the most unprecedented dry spell in Southern California it is going to take all our spare water to keep our cherished camellias alive.

At a meeting of the Rose Society a week or so ago I heard a leading authority get up and claim that roses and camellias could be grown in the same bed. I was astounded at his assertion and being "from Missouri" you will have to show me.

I have had a strenuous struggle to keep my few camellias alive. Some I have sent to a local park with a request that they be planted in the shade. On an eastern exposure in front of a fine old-fashioned house which has been painted white, I am planting camellias fronted by *Amarinum Howardii* and blue *Agapanthus* (also evergreen). The edging is the large leaved saxifrage. This house fronts on Marengo Street, the famous South Pasadena Street of Jacarandas. I have been trying to persuade the owners to use *Camellia Sasanquas* on their front trellises. Across the street directly, I have cleaned up my three oak trees and am planting *Sasanqua* camellias along the fence under the checkered shade. I should have to call my place the Three Oaks. At this belated period perhaps I still may. I raised mine all from acorns.

We are thanking our lucky stars that we were not among the 13 cosmopolitan cities which fall for the Colorado River bath water, rich in sodium and lacking in trace minerals. I am adding iron, Nuccio's recommended, and before I set a single plant am having a soil test made to determine just how acid the soil is six inches below the surface. Lloyd Casper of Burkhard and Cole is doing my analysis for me. 'Donation' and 'J. C. Williams' are going into

this bed. 'Billie McCaskill' and 'Jack McCaskill' are going to keep them company.

I can't refrain from a parting shot at our leading ground cover, the Algerian ivy. On two places we took out fully three truck loads. Go out and look at the wretched burned stuff which is occupying so much space in the parkway of our select San Marino. Don't think I am prejudiced against it. Just go out and take a look.

Now this is what I am going to do to my rose bed which is partially in the shade and partly in the sun. I am leaving the roses which are in the full sun where they are. They end with an espaliered Cl. 'Talisman' planted in honor of Dr. William Jonson. Up at the shade end of this rose bed I am planting some of my favorite camellias. Roses and camellias do not take the same sort of soil conditions so for my camellias I am digging deep generous holes and filling with specially prepared composted soil. Roses do not require the same pH as camellias. Camellias love the shade and partial shade so my chosen few are going to be taken out of their root-conforming containers and placed in a new happy home. Come back and see what has taken place in this new set up January 1960 provided we are not deprived of the good water from the deep Raymond Basin wells.

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FOR SALE

The Secretary of the Society has the following books for sale:

Our own book **"Nomenclature,"** 1958 edition. Free to SCCS members. \$1.50 post paid on order or \$.90 each in lots of not less than twelve. Some copies of the 1954 edition of **"The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature"** still available. \$.50. The **Sasanqua** issue of the Camellia Review, \$.50. **Rare Species and Hybrids** issue of the Review, \$.50.

"Camellias in the Huntington Gardens," by William Hertrich. Vol. I, II and III, \$10.00 each. Set of 3 Vol., \$25.00.

"Flower Arrangements of the O'Hara School," the 1952 edition. Printed in English in Japan in folder form this book has six pages of descriptive matter and twenty-four colored prints in the Japanese manner. \$4.60.

"Camellias, Kinds and Culture," by H. Harold Hume, \$6.00.

"Camellias in America, 1955," by H. Harold Hume, \$25.50.

"Sasanquas in Japan," \$.50.

"The Mastery of Japanese Flower Arrangement," a 307 page book, profusely illustrated. Many prints in color. Printed in Japan. \$8.50.

"The Hybrid Camellia," Vol. 12, No. 1 of the Northern California Camellia Society, Inc. Edited by David L. Feathers and Roy T. Thompson. Postpaid \$1.00 or 75¢ each in quantities of 25 or more.

"Camellia Culture," publication of the SCCS edited by Carl Tourje. \$11.50 postpaid.

"The Old and New in Flower Arranging," by Marie Stevens Wood. \$2.00.

"A Revision of the Genus Camellia" by J. Robert Sealy, \$10.00.

REVIEWER *from Page 2*

it down." This is in a way applicable to Mr. Milo Rowell and his wonderful talk "What Camellias Do For Me" for the December SCCS meeting. What he said was not new but the ideas were expressed and presented so clearly and effectively that one felt like nudging his neighbor or giving a friend a knowing glance and at the end, was confident that he was one of those smart and charming persons Mr. Rowell had mentioned. Al Dekker shares the spotlight too for if he had not been Program Chairman and if he had not had the inspiration to entice Mr. Rowell to talk and had not helped suggest the subject, the Society would never have experienced this inspirational event that will be long remembered.

Cold Note

Cold climates do not deter enthusiasts in their efforts to grow camellias
(Continued on Page 32)

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REVIEWER from Page 30

and much experimentation is taking place all the time in testing varieties for hardiness. In this regard it is interesting to note that from a statistical study he has undertaken, Milton Brown of the Valley of the Potomac Society believes that the late blooming camellias with rose form, formal double and full double flower forms are hardier in northern areas than previously thought.

Thanks for the Memory

Of ascending the wide low steps of the Clairmont home between fairy-like *Sasanquas*. No sturdy, thick and rugged foliage plants these, but airy graceful branches whose dainty pink and white blossoms were like little stars in a firmament all their own. Their own space without missiles.

A Camellia Cheer

To Alice Wood of Temple City whose courage and bright outlook have brought her through a difficult 1958 and who will be royally welcomed back into camellia circulation in 1959.

For the Love of Camellias

"Something accomplished, something done has earned a night's repose," were the immortal words of old Henry W. Longfellow. And this would seem applicable to William Hertrich whose 3rd volume of *Camellias in the Huntington Gardens* is now off the press, concluding camellia toil of several years. Anyone who supposes Mr. Hertrich might feel this way however does not know him. Of course he may take it easy for a few days over the holidays but he already has new activities in mind. "I haven't chosen which one is first as yet," he says.

"What is your main thought now that the big camellia project is done?" we asked.

"It was hard work," he replied simply and we were sure he was re-

calling the years of scrambling up and down the garden's hillsides through early morning chill and dew, looking through plants to choose the best examples of blooms, carrying them carefully to his office, examining them, arranging them for the photographer and then tearing them to pieces for his descriptions. Later on there was the choosing, the writing, the research. O yes, "It was hard work" was a real understatement.

"And which variety do you really care for the most?" we asked in our best interviewing manner. "Now that's hard to say," was his reply. "But — (and then there was that twinkle in his eye which will always be a part of William Hertrich) I guess I like the 'Margarete Hertrich' pretty well."

Camellias Turn To Words

Each year the Japanese write more and more camellia poems. The Westerners have not as yet reached the poetic camellia plane but if they continue to be as inspired in prose as they have been this past year we'll all be so busy reading, our camellias will go to the mercies of the "yard boys." What with our own "Camellia Culture," which completes the circle of the cultivation and care of camellias, the 3rd Volume of "Camellias in the Huntington Gardens," the fine detailed expose of camellia hybrids from the Northern California Camellia Society, Robert Sealy's learned botanical book on camellias, Morrie Sharp's good revised reference picture book of "Camellias Illustrated and How to Grow Them" and the bright Sunset Magazine Camellia book, it's time to turn off the TV and sink into your easy chair. And to be sure you'll have a Camellia Review within reach, quick, pay your SCCS dues.

O, the Camellia Life is a wonderful Life

says

Liz

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