SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Camellia

SOCIETY BULLETIN

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Southern California Camellia Society Inc.

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The Society holds open meetings on the Second Thursday of every month, November to April, inclusive, at the auditorium of the new library of the Pasadena City College, 1500 Block East Colorado Street. A cut camellia blossom exhibit is always held at 7:30 p.m., with the program starting at 8:00.

CHAMPION YOUR CAMELLIAS

A Summary of Winning Tips For Show Entries From A Topflight Contender

William Stoeckle, of Concord California, who with Mrs. Stoeckle, is celebrated throughout the state for ability to take home "Sweepstakes," "Bests", and Blue, Red and White ribbons from camellia shows outlined a plan of winning action for Southern California Camellia Society Members at their January 12 meeting in Library Hall, Pasadena City College.

The Stoeckle's winning secret lies as much in cultivation of a mental attitude toward a show as in cultivation of fine camellias. "Many of the best blooms are left at home in the garden," Stoeckle admonished members, cautioning that a timid attitude about exhibiting camellias is unfair to contestant, the judges, and the show.

One of the first essentials to winning is to "bring along all your blooms." Stoeckle is a firm advocate of putting judges to work, and with an humorous illustration concerning a conversation between his wife a "pair of scissors" and himself, this likeable, entertaining speaker illustrated only too well; it is the business of the judge to decide whether or not a bloom merits award.

Pre-judging by the contestant in his garden can be detrimental to the purpose of the show. No one, the experienced exhibitor has discovered, comes to a camellia show to criticize a blossom. The miracle of the bloom is in itself enjoyment and pleasure enough for the public. Therefore bring as many as you can and the show will be a success.

The Stoeckle's immediate preparation for a show consists of covering a blossom on the bush with celophane or wax paper as soon as it has opened to prevent bruising or disfigurement by wind, rain, moisture or dust.

Using a sharp pointed scissors, the Stoekles cut their blooms as near to show time as practical. Then comes a series of steps absolutely essential to an award.

The blossoms are packed in strong cardboard boxes at least three inches in depth. Box bottoms are lined with unsterilized cotton obtainable at any druggists. Depressions are made in the cotton and the blossoms placed in the depressions. Spacing depressions so that leaves of one blossom can not interfere with the petals of another is a prime requisite of good packing. This means more boxes have to be used to accommodate all the blossoms. But when one has taken the better part of a year to prepare a blossom for show entry, any last minute expense and labor made to properly care for the bloom is nothing more than intelligent insurance. Since more boxes will be used, they must be strong enough to support one another without bulges or sags when placed in limited automobile spaces.

Entering the judging room requires a moment's spine stiffening on the part of all of us, but Stoeckle has a formula for eliminating fear caused by seeming confusion in judging rooms.

The Stoeckles prepare themselves along with the camellia by studying thoroughly the rule book regarding the show and all but memorizing the nomenclature book.

(Continued on page 2)

Their objective is correct classification of their blossoms so that none can be technically disqualified. "It is criminal," Stoeckle feels, "to see a bloom disqualified merely for lack of proper classification after all the years spent in raising the plant and bringing it to maturation." Many a magnificent bloom and potential award gainer has been disqualified simply because the contestant entered his bloom in the wrong class.

After the blossom has been properly entered, the contestant can relax and no more ordeals are in store until time to accept the award. The rule then to follow is to look as pleased as you feel.

Unstintingly, Stoeckle described in detail his technique in planting, feeding, watering, and otherwise caring for his plants. The Stoeckles' methods will be printed in the February issue of the Bulletin. Southern California Camellia Society members were presented "court's evidence," however, of the effectiveness of Stoeckles' growing methods. Kodachrome slides of a near hundred magnificent blooms from the Stoeckle garden were shown members at the conclusion of the speech.

(An editorial note: Care should be taken in transporting the bloom from garden to show to prevent exposure to carbon monoxide fumes. Carbon monoxide, even in small quantities can bleach a bloom. Larger doses will wilt the bloom entirely. A good circulation of air about the boxes containing the blooms while these are in an automobile en route to the show will eliminate carbon monoxide exposure and aid in prolonging the life of the cut bloom.)

CAMELLIA JOSHUA E. YOUTZ

—A Living Memorial

J. Ellsworth Youtz, originator of the sensational new Camellia introduced this season by Nuccio Brothers Nursery, Altadena, California, under the ad-interim title of "White Daikagura," has named the camellia in honor of his father, the late Joshua E. Youtz. This was done when the younger Youtz recently filed application for registration of the new variety with the Registration Committee of the Southern California Camellia Society.

This spectacular camellia is perhaps the most sought after variety in America today, and certainly is one of the most, if not the most, outstanding Japonica seedling to be introduced recently.

Mr. Youtz's action in so naming this magnificent camellia is a fitting tribute to that patriarch of camellia culture, well remembered by so many of the older camellia fanciers as the kindly old gentleman who was among the first to bring camellias into prominence in Southern California.

New society members will be interested to know that the Youtz garden surrounding the old homestead at Green and Terrace, Pasadena, contains some of the first in Southern California of such now popular varieties as Chanderli Elegans, Pax, Madam Hovey, Gigantea, and many other fine varieties now for sale at all good nurseries.

Mr. Youtz' decision to name this brilliant new camellia for his father is assurance that the name of Joshua E. Youtz will be most fittingly perpetrated through its identification with a camellia so outstanding it will endure as long as camellias are grown. It is, in fact, a living memorial to the man whose culture of camellias for so many years produced such top varieties as Hovey, Hahn, Adah Pearl, Victory, and Miss Pasadena.

Camellia Show

BROOKSIDE PARK

February 18 and 19

1950

The annual CAMELLIA SHOW as sponsored this year by the SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Camellia Society and the Pacific Camellia Society will feature

- **EXHIBITS OF APPROXIMATELY 20 OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S LARGEST AND FINEST NURSERIES**
- **PLANT AND CUT FLOWER AWARDS**
- **PATIO AND GARDEN LANDSCAPES**

by famed landscape artists showing at their best

"THE CAMELLIA IN WESTERN LIVING"

Fanny Morrison Hall

Brookside Park, Pasadena

~~Show opens at 10 a.m. each day.~~ **Admission** ~~25c~~ $1.00

RESEARCH PROGRAM

A ten point program, designed to fit the needs of commercial and home growers of camellias was launched by the Research Committee of the Southern California Camellia Society soon after its re-organization in the fall of 1947. Of necessity, results of some of the research projects will not be known for some time, since completion of certain tests requires full maturity of experimental plants before final conclusions can be drawn. Other projects, however, have already produced information of practical use to the grower.

— I —

Paramount among the Research Committee's ten projects were the studies undertaken regarding camellia tolerance for soluble salts in various soils and water throughout Southern California. Water shortage in Southern California and its various remedies have brought problems of complicated natures to growers and agriculturists of whatever kind. Anticipating probable major changes in chemical treatment of water throughout the southern part of the state, the Research Committee conducted a series of salt tolerance tests for camellias, results of which will be submitted to the Society by Dr. James Bonner and Harold Pearson of the Metropolitan Water District Laboratories this season. While total soluable salt concentration in soils and water was taken into consideration, particular attention was paid to known detrimental salts and their effect on camellia growth and maturation. Calcium sulfate, magnesium sulfate, sodium carbonate, and sodium chloride in various concentrations came in for close scrutiny. Final outcome of the research may result in new or even revolutionary methods of watering, fertilizing, soil building, and use of soil catalysts for both home and commercial growers alike.

— II —

Project II of the Research Committee's program, under direction of Dr. Carl Hamner of U.C.L.A., is looking into the matter of revitalizing injured plants. While this project will realize the greatest amount of benefit to commercial growers and shippers, many of the results should prove applicable to home garden practices. Dr. Hamner in conducting studies in chemical treatment of bruised and damaged plants, is using in his research 400 seedlings furnished by Rancho Descanso.

— III —

Project III of the program, concerned with study of varietal rooting responses, turned up as a by-product a fact of immediate and valuable interest to home growers. Chandler North, a student at U.C.L.A., working with Dr. Sidney Cameron of U.C.L.A., found that grafts can be successfully made at the same time a cutting is being induced to take root. Thus the home grower can kill two birds with one stone, make his rooting and graft simultaneously and save a few years in the process. Cameron and North are now determining rates of root growth between various cuttings and techniques for best rooting results. North, in addition, is experimenting with various rooting media.

— IV —

Point IV is a study of the cumulative effect of various root forming hormones on cuttings. Two hormones, known to be toxic at certain concentration levels when used singly on cuttings, were found to be capable of combination in such

a manner that, together, their concentration levels could be increased beyond the toxic stage and the beneficial aspects of these hormones similarly increased. Indol Buteric acid, and Indol Acetic acid were combined in concentrations greater than the levels at which it is known they will kill a cutting. It was found their stimulative effect increased when used in combination, but that their toxicity was not additative.

— V —

Point V in the program is a study of intense interest to all camellia owners and growers—inducing summer blooming of camellias. By controling the factors of humidity, temperature and light, Dr. Bonner found camellias can be induced to bloom at any time of the year. His research has already been published in technical journals, and when certain aspects of home application have been ironed out and made practical, the results of this research will be furnished Southern California Camellia Society members.

— VI —

Point VI of the program is probably well known to most members. One of the largest of the research projects, Point VI is concerned with a cooperative set up and manned by members. A careful, meticulous "box score" on temperatures and weather is being kept in strategic localities, and the reports are being compiled by the Research Committee. Analysis of the reports will result in recommendations regarding variety types for all parts of Southern California. For example, it is known that certain varieties will form buds and come to flower earlier in the warm coastal plain than in colder, interior-valley regions.

— VII —

Point VII in the program is a study by Dr. Bonner on the effect of use of various chemicals in prolonging the life of the cut blossom. Results of this study will be available soon for publication. One aspect of the study is that in addition to the use of chemicals in the water provided for the needs of the bloom, it has been determined that high humidity is a potent factor in prolonging the life of the cut blossom.

— VIII —

Point VIII is a complicated study, not yet complete, which seeks to determine the cause of leaf mottling and discoloration in camellia plants where such mottling is not genetic. Scions from plants showing mottling were grafted onto Colonel Fiery understock, and, simultaneously, understock was made of mottled plants and Colonel Fiery grafted onto it.

So far, it has been demonstrated that mottled Chandleri tryes transmit their mottling to both Colonel Fiery understock and scions. Results of this complex study will be presented as more is known. At present, the studies have produced a strong and interesting suggestion that mottling and discoloration is transmitted because it is caused by filtrable virus.

— IX —

Point IX is a continuing study of the effect of artificial light on the rapidity with which seedlings come into flower. Dr. Walter Lammerts, of Rancho Descanso, has already reported on the results of experiments in which continuous light greatly stimulated growth of seedlings and shortened time from

(Continued on page 10)

COLOR PHOTOGRAPHY OF CAMELLIAS

By Herbert V. Mitchell

If you are interested in photography as well as having the hobby of Camellias why not combine the two and enjoy your Camellias and photography the year around.

The equipment necessary is all standard and any that you do not already have will be easily available.

1. First and most essential item will be a 35 mm camera and color film.
2. A good sturdy tripod, to which add a tilting top.
3. The combination lens shade and filter holder. I prefer the Kodak lens hood for I can use an additional retaining ring allowing the use of two supplementary lenses at one time.
4. Supplementary lenses allowing closeup work. I prefer the Kodak 1 plus, 2 plus and 3 plus Portra lenses.
5. A gadget of my own making which is simply a piece of oak 2 inches square and 12 inches long. Near one end, which we will call the bottom edge, I fasten a brass plate which has been drilled and tapped for a one-quarter by twenty thread. This is fastened to the oak with flat headed wood screws so that the plate will mount on the tilting tripod top. In the other end and ninety degrees from the base plate, a hole is drilled to take a one-quarter by twenty stove bolt, 2¼ inches long. It is on this stove bolt that is mounted the next item.
6. Ball and socket tilting tripod top.
7. A cable release for the camera.
8. Exposure meter. I use a Weston Master. To aid in exposure determination, I also use a Kodak neutral test card, taking the reading on the grey side.
9. A steel tape measure.

To make this read as easy and simple as it is to perform, let's go through an example step by step.

The subject material is an open bloom on a plant in your garden. Set up the tripod and mount the tilting top on the tripod. Fasten the extension arm on the tilting top. Now place the small ball jointed tilting top on the end of the extension arm. Mount the camera on the ball jointed tilting top. The tripod and its accessories are now set up and ready for operation.

To prepare the camera for close-up photography, first determine the size of the picture area you wish to include in your finished picture. For example, let us say that this would be 6″ wide and 9″ long. Consult the direction sheet that you received with your Portra lenses and you will see a table marked "Subject Distance and approximate field size for Kodak Portra Lens 3 plus." In the column headed "24 x 36 mm negative" follow down the column until you find the picture area closest to 6 x 9 inches, which will be 6⅛ x 9¼. You will notice that I selected the larger area rather than the smaller, this to insure ample margin at the edges of the picture. Place the 3 plus Portra lens in the lens hood with the arrow pointing to the front. Now mount the lens hood on the lens. The next column to the left will give you the distance from the subject to the camera, this is to be measured from the front of the Portra lens to the point in the subject material that you wish to be the center of the focus. In this example

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CAMELLIAS AND COLD

Some Comments from Previous Bulletins

Cold and the effects of cold on garden plants and shrubs has Southern Californians in a fairly widespread state of speculation, household remedy exchange, and some worry.

While the effects of cold on Camellia plants in Southern California has been fairly well tested the past two winters, recurrence of low temperatures this winter and the probability of more cold before winter is over make a few remarks on the subject in order.

Statistics on the matter are reassuring in regard to the plant and the investment in the plant. but the statistics seemingly can't save the blossoms of some varieties.

The Camellia Bulletin during the month of January made telephone calls to various nurseries and came up with the following:

On the-no-cause-for-alarm side of the picture, it was found that Camellia plants in general can stand a temperature as low as 10-degrees. Furthermore, protection is not only troublesome and sometimes expensive, but generally out of line. Covering a plant with a cloth was warned against by all nurserymen. Where plants are exposed to severe winds during cold spells, a burlap and stake protection built a foot or two away from the plant was advised in some cases. Unanimously, nurserymen warned against interferring with normal circulation of air about the plant.

Lath houses, with their ability to retain radiant heat as it comes forth from the ground at night, keeping it around the plant, tend to preserve blossoms where plants in the open air might lose blossoms because of the cold.

Formal, imbricated varieties, such as Pink Perfection, lose blossoms more readily from low temperatures than do other varieties.

On the cause-for-alarm side of the picture, Camellia plants will suffer damage (though not necessarily death) where a warm spell immediately preceding a severe cold spell has caused new growth to start. Loss of the new growth can result in altering the shape of the plant and some retardation in growth the next year. Temperatures causative of this kind of damage, however, must be considerably lower than those experienced in Southern California so far.

Camellias and cold are not new fields of thought by any means. Last year the Camellia Bulletin not only explored the subject with thoroughness but printed a translation of comments on Camellias written over 12 years ago.

Editor Claude Chidamian, who in the last few issues of the Bulletin printed a splendid translation of "The Camellia" by G. B. Tirocco gives us a little historical insight on the matter of cold and camellias and what practices have been used to mitigate the effects of cold. Part IV of the translation, which was published in the November 1949 bulletin contains the paragraph "If by chance an unexpected frost, a sudden temperature drop, should strike the plants . . . it is an excellent and advisable practice to throw water early the next morning on all parts of the plants themselves. By this simple and economical means, the unfortunate effects of the cold may be partially modified."

(Continued on page 14)

FURTHER NOTES ON DDT SPRAYING

By Ronald B. Townsend

In Volume 11, No. 1, of the Southern California Camellia Society Bulletin, page 7 is devoted to a discussion relating to the effects of D.D.T. spray on camellias. The remarks of Dr. Lammerts, Chairman of the Society's Research Committee, need full explanation rather than the brief statements offered. A full statement of facts is in order:

During the Spring of 1946, the oak-moth larvae became so troublesome on oak trees throughout the grounds of the Huntington Botanical Gardens that D. D. T. spraying was recommended by County Agricultural agents in this area, subsequent to noting poor control of the trouble from the use of arsenate of lead and cryolite sprays. A 50 percent mixture of D. D. T. was purchased from three supply houses; viz. L. H. Butcher Co.; Stauffer Chemical Co.; and California Spray-Chemical Corp. The first two mentioned of these supply houses provided us with materials for our 1946 - 47 spraying program; the last of the three, for our 1948-49. Seasons immediately prior to this, no spraying of any kind was done in the areas under consideration for oak-moth control.

First applications of spray were made from March to May of 1946. Type of spray used was 50-percent wettable D. D. T. with no other material except water. The preparation consisted of 2-pound 50-percent D. D. T. to 100 gallons water. A second spraying, using identical materials, was done in June and July over a different area.

The first area sprayed is known as the North Vista of the Gardens. Throughout this section there were many of the early plantings of camellias, including numerous Japonica seedlings. The first variety showing what we believe to be effects from the D. D. T. spraying, were "Edward Rust", a semi-double white, —several plants. They stood from 12 to 18 feet high. A dying-back took place, beginning at the terminals of the upper portions of the plants, and working downward into the main body. The affected areas were pruned out, in the belief that no further die-back would be likely to occur. However, after the pruning, die-back continued, and it was then that drastic measures were taken as follows:- the plants were cut back to from one foot to eighteen inches above the ground, but they finally died.

Of the many Camellia Japonica seedlings in this area under question, twelve plants averaging 15-feet in height, also showed die-back and effects similar to those suffered by "Edward Rust". Of the 12 plants, 6 were cut back immediately to 18-inches above ground when leaf-drop was first noted. The other 6 were treated as the "Edward Rust" plants had been treated; i.e., cut back a little at a time as damage became evident. This undoubtedly offers some explanation for the recovery made by the first 6 mentioned: they made new growth the following season and have done so each succeeding season; whereas the latter 6 have died.

Another variety affected was the original "Dr. McLean" seedling. This, likewise, was to be eventually cut back, first halfway, then to 6-inches from

the ground, because die-back continued.* In the same area a grafted "Dr. McLean" was wholly unaffected.

Camellia saluenensis, variety "Apple Blossom" was affected to slighter degree: it died back very little, and largely where young growth had just taken place. After pruning, new growth commenced, and the plant recovered rapidly. In this area also, in addition to the aforementioned varieties, two plants of the variety "Cheerful" and two "Daikagura" suffered only leaf-drop, eventually recovering completely.

The second spraying took place in the area know at that time as the Test Garden. **Here, of course, a great many varieties are growing. The only plants fatally affected were "Edward Rust" and some Japonica seedlings, which reacted exactly the same as those in the North Vista. All were sizeable plants, well established. In another area, where the Mausoleum is located, two of the "Cheerful" and a "Pink Perfection" are established. During the spraying schedule of 1948, it was decided to test these varieties for D. D. T. spray-tolerance. They were sprayed upon directly. Within five days effects of the spraying were noted. One of the "Cheerful" plants had heavy leaf-drop, and die-back followed. Nothing was done to retard or remedy this condition, and today this plant is three-fourths dead, while another "Cheerful" and a "Pink Perfection" have continued in good health.

In still another, an isolated area, where three Japonica seedlings stood from 3 to 4-feet in height, just one plant out of that number showed immediate effects from the D. D. T. That one died to the ground.

The Superintendent of the Gardens decided in 1948 that no longer could risks be taken in the spraying of oak trees for oak-moth with D. D. T. in areas where camellias were planted under the trees. Entomologists from the University of California at Los Angeles suggested the use of a substitute material: 50-percent Methoxychlor. This is an analog or close relative of D. D. T. One of its differing characteristics is that it is supposedly less toxic to warm-blooded animals.

During the past Spring of 1949, it was noted that the newly hatched larvae of the oak-moth were dropping from the trees onto the young growth of the camillia shrubs. It was decided to try a section in the Camellia Garden as a control. The new material was prepared in the same proportions as the D. D. T. had been; viz. 2-pounds Methoxychlor to 100 gallons water. Within five days, defoliation had started on one variety, "Il Cygno". One plant defoliated about 90-percent and was pruned to within 10-inches from the ground. Others were pruned to various degrees, depending upon the amount of defoliation noted. The "Il Cygno" numbered five plants in all, and all were grafted plants. These were the only plants, and the only variety, affected by the spraying. Throughout the growing season, since that time, these affected plants have recovered and put forth new growth.

The above observations indicate that considerable research is necessary with D. D. T. materials, and its effects on camellia plants, before any definite or even brief conclusions can be found.

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* The following seasons, however, this showed signs of new growth, breaking from base.

**Now the *Southern California Camellia Garden.*

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA GARDEN TOUR DATES

Huntington Botanic Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino

Sunday, January 15	2:30 P.M.
Sunday, January 29	2:30 P.M.
Sunday, February 12	2:30 P.M.
Sunday, February 26	2:30 P.M.
Sunday, March 12	2:30 P.M.
Sunday, March 26	2 P.M.

The members of your Garden Committee are eager to put on dress rehearsals, so to speak, of the grand opening of the Garden when the general public will be invited to visit the Garden during the blooming seasons. There are now in the Garden something over 600 varieties,—in all over 1000 specimens,—and all but about fifty are of blooming size. That makes something worth looking at, especially when most of the plants are top rung varieties. We are proud to show them.

RESEARCH PROGRAM

(Continued from page 5)

seedling to flowering stage. The experiment now is being extended to determine the effect of flash periods of light, i.e. subjecting seedlings to 5-minute intervals of light every hour.

Jerry Olrich is planning to conduct the flash-period experiment in Sacramento. Initially he will use light of the same intensity employed by Lammerts (100 watt bulbs). Later, he will study the effect of reducing the intensity by using smaller bulbs.

Lammerts' experiments, conducted on approximately 1000 seedlings which resulted from spring pollinations and seeds planted in November, 1947, brought over 50 percent of the seedlings into bloom by the summer of 1949. This experiment when finally completed should result in facts of great value to the commercial grower.

—X—

Point X is a study of fumigation techniques and is undertaken as an aid to shippers, importers, and exporters of camellias. Gorton and Steinveden are carrying on experiments in which the effect of methyl bromide fumigant on cuttings and plants is being determined. They are at present concerned with the fumigant as used on plants shipped by air.

Results are not particularly conclusive, however, since they find very little damage if any to cuttings shipped by air. The experience of private and commercial importers with air express has been quite otherwise. Comparison of the two experiences indicates that damages to cuttings undergoing air shipment, heretofore attributed to the methyl bromide fumigant, are actually due to other factors in air shipment. Questions to be investigated are those of altitude and pressure. These two factors may have a detrimental effect on chlorophyl within the cuttings.

LOS ANGELES FORMS A SOCIETY

Incorporation papers were filed at Sacramento early in January to create a non-profit corporation known as the Los Angeles Camellia Society.

At a preliminary meeting, a board of directors was chosen consisting of Mr. Arthur Freed, Mr. Ralph Peer, Mr. William Wilson, Mr. Paul Weber, Mr Edward Armsen, Mr. William Huested and Mr. Jack Evans.

During the present year, the Los Angeles Camellia Society expects to hold its meetings at the Beverly Hills Women's Club, 1700 Chevy Chase Drive.

The first regular meeting was held Tuesday, January 17, and was attended by approximately sixty people. William Woodruff of California Camellia Gardens was principal speaker of the evening. Hundreds of excellent blooms were exhibited at the cut blossom show preceeding the meeting. A question and answer round table concluded the informative portion of the program. Plant raffle winners went home with White Daikagura, Adolphe Audusson Special, Donckelari Special, Glen 40, and F.G. No. 2.

The Society was formed for the benefit of camellia fanciers residing in Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, the West End of San Fernando Valley, Brentwood, Santa Monica and adjacent areas.

The next meeting will be held February 7 at the Beverly Hills Women's Club, Benedict Canyon and Chevy Chase Drives, and subsequent meetings will be held the first Tuesday of each month through April.

GIRL SCOUT GARDEN TOURS

Pasadena Girl Scouts, with headquarters at 505 South Knoll Avenue, Pasadena 5, are again arranging a season of Garden Tours.

This year, as in the past, the Tours are to be held on three week ends, March 10 and 11; March 17 and 18, and March 24 and 25. Outstanding gardens, representative of garden design as well as blooms and plantings, will be visited during the tour. Last year, over 5,000 persons enjoyed tours through 15 beautiful gardens of the Pasadena area.

Proceeds from the Tour are used in development of Girl Scout camp facilities. Tickets will be obtainable at the Garden or at the South Oak Knoll address and sell for $2.00 each for the series of three tours, or $1.00 for a tour during any one weekend. Gardens to be visited will be announced in daily papers.

An Editor Recommends

It is rather unusual that an employer has the opportunity to write a recommendation for a permanent member of his staff. Perhaps it would be a good idea as a regular practice, for a close scrutiny of staff members brings to mind those exceptional qualifications that are often overlooked or taken for granted. At any rate, Russell Mayfield has been called upon to edit the Camellia Bulletin, and I have been asked for a short introduction for the man.

I have known Mayfield for a number of years, having first encountered him as a budding newspaperman and successful editor of the Glendale College El Vaquero.

He dropped out of sight during the war, and we heard little of him. Then, after the conflict was over, he popped up again, with his casual grin and ready laugh. Had he been in the service? Yes, he had. In fact he'd been all through the Pacific conflict as a member of the 81st Division Ranger Battalion. It'd be a long story, but the outline is like that of many a Pacific veteran . . . Landings at Anguar, Pelelliu . . . Bloody Nose Ridge . . . Jap sniper . . . Base Hospital . . . Rest Camp . . . Purple Heart . . . Action again at Ulithi . . . , Korror . . . Oromoc Corridor . . . San Fernando . . . Hachinohe . . . Peace . . . San Francisco and discharge. When he does things, he is very thorough!

Now, as a working reporter and feature writer for the Ledger, he often exhibits unusual and unsuspected talents. For example, he gained some knowledge of physics and engineering at UCLA. But he was graduated from the school of letters and science with a degree in political science. He has also a fair foundation in law, acquired as a reporter for the San Diego Daily Transcript.

Mayfield has a photographic mind, a valuable asset to any reporter, most of whom "let notes remember the details, while the mind remembers major points." Special assignments have uncovered more than general knowledge of architecture, politics and history.

Thus, it is no surprise to us that the officials of your organization have decided to try him in the field of applied and specialized agriculture. If he doesn't know the field, he'll adapt himself swiftly enough to be of instant value as a representative.

I won't hesitate to recommend Mr. Mayfield to you. In fact, I thank you for the opportunity to review the qualifications of one of our best and most talented young staff members.

Don Carpenter
Editor, The Ledger
Montrose, California.

P. S. One word of warning! He's a rose fancier!

DTC

REPORT ON DIRECTORS' MEETING

THE SOCIETY'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS met for their regular monthly meeting at the home of Secretary-Treasurer Gale on Wednesday, December 14, with all directors present except Mr. Fink. Newly elected Director Peer was received and installed as a Director.

The question of trading of scions by members was discussed. It was decided to encourage such trading among members.

President Hill, Chairman of the Show Committee, reported that arrangements for the show to be held on February 18 and 19 were progressing satisfactorily. He stated that the theme of the show had been decided as "The Camellia in Western Living."

The advisability of obtaining a tape or wire recording machine to take recordings of meeting programs was discussed. The President was requested to make further investigation before action would be taken.

The Secretary-Treasurer reported that the present membership of the Society, including affiliates, was 902, of whom 540 were members of the Southern California Camellia Society. That of these 45 were nonpaying complimentary members, such as newspapers, libraries, universities, etc.

A letter from Mr. M. J. Witman, Membership Committee Chairman of the American Camellia Society, was read requesting that we take membership applications for that Society at our show in February. It was decided that such applications would be received but that no featured campaign for such memberships should be made as all such efforts should be devoted to our own society.

Mr. Tourje, Chairman of the Awards Committee, presented the committee approved draft of the regulations for the William Hertrich Awards. These regulations were approved and adopted by the Board.

Director Johnson requested that he be relieved as chairman of the Editorial Board. This was done, no chairman in his place being appointed at this meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer, acting Editor, advised that the December issue would be ready for the printer in about one week.

The President introduced Mr. James R. Mayfield for consideration as Editor. After some questioning by members of the Board the President was authorized to make such appointment as Editor as he thought best. No appointment, however, was made at this meeting.

The Board adjourned to meet again at the call of the President.

A brief transcript from the minutes.

C. M. Gale, Secy.

Further Notes On Research Committeemen

Dr. Karl Hamner

Birthplace: Salina, Kansas, graduated from Burbank High School, Burbank, California, attended U.C.L.A. (A.B. 1931) University of Chicago (M.S. 1934; Ph.D. 1935), was assistant professor of botany, University of Chicago, 1937 to 1940, was director of Plant, Soil, and Nutrition Laboratory, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Ithica, N.Y., 1940-1948. At present, he is chairman of the Division of Botany, U.C.L.A. Research fields include photo periodism, plant nutrition, and the nutritive value of plants.

Was a guest of Australian Government, 1949, Specialist Agricultural Conference at Melbourne, at which time he presented a paper on "Plant and Animal Nutrition in Relation to Soil and Climatic Factors."

Resides with his family at Westwood, West Los Angeles, California.

JERRY OLRICH:

California State Gardner, Sacramento. (biographical sketch not available at this time.)

EBON C. TOURJE:

La Canada, California, Retired Attorney, amateur camellia collector.

Camellias and Cold

We are again indepted to Mr. Chidamian for inclusion in the bulletin of notes on the effect of cold written by L. Dow Pender Jr., observing camellias in North Carolina and more particularly, on the effects of cold on camellia plants grown in that area. Mr. Pender says of the severe Atlantic Seaboard winters (severe by comparison with Southern California winters) "it is apparent that singles, semi-doubles, and peony-flowered ones (camellias) are somewhat more resistant to cold than the formal double or imbricated forms. This is another generality, not a hard and fast rule, though it is seen that after much cold the formal flowers are affected with brown centers."

In enlarging on the expression "protection" Mr. Pender warns against use of a cloth over the plant or "any elaborate overhead means of preventing frost from settling."

He argues, instead, for judicious employment of natural protection in trees (in this case, pines) which prevent white frost from settling and keep off early winter morning sunlight, a factor particularly damaging if not disastrous to plants after a night of freezing weather.

Claude Chidamian writing on growing Camellias in containers, said, "The potted camellias may even be used as house plants if the room temperatures can be kept between 35-degrees and 50-degrees during the blooming season and the humidity held reasonably high."

Summing up this information: (1) Camellia plants will stand temperatures as low as 10-degrees. (2) Damage to blossoms of some varieties will occur where the temperature drops below 32-degrees. (3) Ideal temperature range for blooming is between 35-degrees and 50-degrees. (4) Protection is best achieved by use of overhead foliage rather than cloth, or elaborate overhead means of preventing frost from settling. (5) Early morning sun is damaging to plants after a night of freezing weather.

CENTRAL SOCIETY MEETING

Central California Camellia Society had as guest speaker at their January 20 meeting Howard Asper of Rancho Descanso, Chairman of the Southern California Camellia Society's Inter-society Relations Committee.

Asper presented Centralians with a survey of his trip through the South where he visited all the large nurseries and gardens to make a study of Camellia culture below the Mason Dixon line. In the course of his travels he took many color pictures of camellias planted before the late unpleasantness between the North and South. The pictures were projected for the pleasure of Central Camellia Society along with pictures of recent plantings in the South.

Central California Camellia society schedules for its next meeting February 17, a session entitled "Dirty Fingers" from which it can be deduced the Society intends to get down to the root of matters.

Date for the Society's annual Camellia Show has been set for February 26, and will be held in the foyer of the Fresno Memorial Auditorium. Nine classes will be shown in competition, singles, doubles, peony, formal, etc., plus a special division for potted plants and flower arrangements.

Individual nurseries will exhibit, but not in competition. The San Joaquin Valley Florists' Association will also have an exhibit.

SAN DIEGO SHOW PLANS

"The Camellia—Gift of the Orient" has been selected as the theme for the third annual Camellia show sponsored by the San Diego Camellia society to be held in the Recital Hall of the Palisades building, Balboa Park, Saturday, Feb. 25, and Sunday, Feb. 26.

Under the chairmanship of Lucien Atherton, who also heads the society's planting committee for Camellia Canyon in Balboa park, the show promises to surpass the previous shows which have progressively moved into more pretentious quarters each year.

Decorations will follow the theme in providing an Oriental atmosphere. Commercial exhibits will include several of the San Diego Chinese and Japanese firms. Many exhibitors are expected from the Los Angeles area to round out the competitive displays.

This year's location in the Recital hall will triple the floor space of last year's show, and will provide better opportunity for everyone to enjoy the exhibits as well as to secure with less hurry information regarding the culture of camellias as practiced in the San Diego area.

Adequate and easily accessible parking will be available in front of the building. The same low price that has prevailed at all past shows, 25 cents, will insure a large family attendance.

Competition is not limited to members of the San Diego Camellia society. Everyone growing camellias, whether he be in San Diego County or not, is invited to participate. No entry fee is charged.

Blooms to be entered for competition must be registered-in Saturday morning before 10 a.m. The show will open on Saturday at 1 p.m. and will run until 9 p.m.; Sunday's show will run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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Chairmen of the various committees putting on the show, in addition to General Chairman Atherton, are: tickets and door arrangements, William E. Peyton of San Diego; planning and design, Harvey Short of Ramona; commercial exhibits, E. C. Miller of Escondido; reception and hospitality, Mrs. Jean Bovet of San Diego; registration, Miss Frances Wills of Lemon Grove; decoration, Mrs. A. P. Carlton of San Diego; ex-officio member, Society President Stanley W. Miller of El Cajon; property protection, Lt. Comdr. Charles Barnes, ret., of San Diego; demonstration and activities, Mrs. Alice Miller of El Cajon; awards and judging, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Carringer of San Diego

Chairmen of the entry divisions are: blossoms, Ed N. Harrison of Encinitas; arrangements, Mrs. Reuben Tellem of Ramona; plants, Mrs. Fred Hebert of La Mesa.

The usual arrangement of the single flower division will prevail—with each form of the flower a class and subdivisions in each class according to color.

Division II will be new to the San Diego show with a class for 3 to 6 blossoms of the same variety and one for 3 to 6 blossoms of different varieties. Two other classes for 6 to 12 flowers of the same and different varieties, respectively, will complete this division. Displays will be in low containers supplied by the contestant. No distinction wll be made as to form or color in judging this division.

Three new wrinkles will be tried in the arrangements division: one an arrangement for men only, another a breakfast tray arrangement, and the third a mantel piece featuring camellias.

MONTHLY MEETING

OF THE

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

WILL TAKE PLACE THURSDAY, FEB. 9th

In Library Hall of Pasadena
City College
1500 Colorado Boulevard
Pasadena, California

at which time

HAROLD PEARSON

CHEMIST WITH METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT

will discuss

"Salt Tolerance of Camellias"

CUT FLOWER SHOW AT 7:30 P.M. MEETING: 8:00 P.M.

Color Photography

(Continued from page 6)

it would be 12⅞. Measure this distance accurately. The next step is to set the camera lens at the distance on the footage scale indicated in the next column to the left, which is the first column of the table. In this example it would be 50 feet. The camera is now placed at the proper distance from the subject and is properly set for distance and focus. The next step is to frame the picture so that the center of interest will be in the center of the picture area. I find that the easiest way to do this is to sight over the top of the camera in the center line of the lens. Do not attempt to frame the picture through the view finder. Working at this close distance, parallax, which is misalignment of lens and subject through the finder, is so great that you would miss the picture area completely. As a helpful aid to assist lining up lens axis and subject, I frequently lay the tape across the top of the camera in the center line of the lens, this acts somewhat in the nature of a pointer and will help you center the picture.

When you have finished this operation you are ready now to determine correct exposure. Assuming the subject to be in the sunlight and well illuminated, determine the exposure with an exposure meter. The exposure meter should be used in the manner recommended by the manufacturer.

Using the proper film speed for the film in the camera, determine from the exposure meter the correct exposure. The next is an important point. Keeping in mind that the supplementary lens is a simple meniscus lens and has all its inherent faults, it is important to use the smallest aperture, *f* stop, possible. This will reduce the aberrations of the supplementary lens and increase the depth of field which at these close distances is very limited.

With the lens set to the correct aperture, set the shutter speed and with the shutter wound you are now ready to make the exposure. I have found it very helpful to use the cable release as it prevents camera movement.

In the equipment list, mention was made of the Kodak neutral test card. I have found this a very helpful aid in determining exposures when photographing Camellias on the bush. The card is held as close to the flower as possible, without damaging the bloom, and with the meter held about ten inches from the card you will get a very accurate reading.

The only precautions that I could add would be to make certain that the Portra lens is placed in the lens hood with the arrow pointing to the front. Before making the exposure, double check that the lens has been focused at the correct footage mark and that the shutter speed and lens aperture are correct according to your exposure meter. Working at such close range there must be no movement in the flower. If a breeze is blowing, wait until the flower has stopped moving.

☆

ITEMS OF INTEREST

THE SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY holds its meetings at Dartlee Hall, 3680 6th Ave., San Diego, at 7:30 p.m. on the second Friday of every month, November through May. A show is scheduled for February 25 and 26, 1950. The Society started a project last year in the form of a Camellia Canyon in Balboa Park. Approximately 100 plants of various sizes have already been set out. More are being planted every week-end. Much interest is being shown in this project by both the Park Board and the Society members. The officers for the year are: President, Stanley W. Miller, Rt. 1, Box 604, El Cajon; Vice President, E. F. Kohl, 718 "H" Ave., Coronado; Secretary, Mrs. Althea Hebert, 4710 Harbinson Ave., La Mesa; and Treasurer, Mrs. Gladys Stark, 3711 29th St., San Diego 4, all California.

THE POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY has set a tentative date for its show for March 4 and 5, 1950. Meetings are held monthly on the first Thursday, October through May, at the Pomona Ebell Clubhouse.

THE OREGON CAMELLIA SOCIETY has issued a very interesting yearbook, "Camellias as a Hobby." It is a 56 page book, illustrated in colors, black and white, and by sketches, has a long list of recommended varieties, a list of members with their addresses, as well as much information on culture in general. This Society votes annually a "Camellia of the Year." Those which have been already selected are: 1949, *Adolphe Audusson*; 1948, *Lotus,* voted on as Grandiflora Alba; 1947, *Magnoliaeflora;* 1946, *Nagasaki,* voted on as kenjaku; 1945, *Mathotiana* (Julia Drayton), 1944, *Lady Clare* (Grandiflora Hosea); 1943, *Kumasaka.* Mr. Morrie L. Sharp, 2222 S.W. Boardway Dr., Portland, Ore., is President and Mrs. A. E. Johnson, Rt. 3, Box 23, Beaverton, Ore., is Secretary.

NEW PINK SPORTS OF CHANDLERI ELEGANS

The sudden advent of delicate light pink sports of the Chandleri Camellia in three different localities and under three different names has deservedly aroused the interest and curiosity of camellia lovers.

Investigation indicates that the first such sport was noticed some years ago on a plant belonging to Mrs. C. M. Wilson at Pensacola, Florida. There seems to have been delay in propagating from this source and it is only in the last few years that it has been put on the market under the name C. M. Wilson. This sport is carried by several nurseries in California.

This tardiness in propagating and introducing the Pensacola sport casts much doubt upon its having been the source from which came, about five years ago—and the width of the continent away—a light pink Chandleri plant which appeared in the nursery of a Mr. Burkhard at Campbell, California. He had never mentioned to his wife whether the plant had originated in his nursery or had been brought in from elsewhere and his death, shortly thereafter, ended the possibility of securing first hand and authoritative information. Not knowing there was any other such sport, this one was given the name Grace Burkhard, and has been propagated by her and by Carter's

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BRITISH CAMELLIA AND MAGNOLIA CONFERENCE, 1950

The Royal Horticultural Society has announced a Conference devoted to Camellias and Magnolias, which will be held in London Tuesday and Wednesday, April 4th and 5th, 1950. These meetings will occur in the Lecture Room of the New Hall in Greycoat Street, with Lord Aberconway, President of the Royal Horticultural Society, acting as Chairman. The program is as follows:

Camellias In Cornish Gardens....Mr. G. H. Johnstone and Dr. W. L. Stewart
Forms of Camellia Japonica.....Dr. H. Harold Hume
Propagation of Camellias and Magnolias.....Mr. H. G. Hillier
Survey of the Genus Magnolia Together With Michelia and Manglietia.....Mr. J. E. Dandy, M., F.L.S.
Chinese Magnolias in Cultivation.....Mr. G. H. Johnstone
Camellia Species.....Mr. J. R. Sealy, B.Sc., F.L.S.

During the period March 25th to April 1st, inclusive, the Royal Horticultural Society will sponsor conducted tours of famous English gardens containing outstanding examples of camellias and magnolias. Participation in these tours is confined to persons who have signified their intention to attend the Conference.

From March 25th to March 30th, inclusive, the visitors will tour the renowned Cornish gardens. The itinerary is as follows:

Saturday, March 25—By train from London to Falmouth. Lunch and tea on train. Dinner at hotel.

Sunday, March 26—Lunch at Truro. Visit to the gardens of G. H. Johnstone, Esq., Trewithen, Grampound Road, and to the gardens of Mrs. F. Williams, Scorrier House, Scorrier. Return to Falmouth.

Monday, March 27—Visit to the gardens of Viscount Falmouth, Tregothnan, Truro. Lunch at Carlyon Bay, St. Austell. Visit to the gardens of Cmdr. H. H. Thomas, Heligan, St. Austell. Return to Falmouth.

Tuesday, March 28—Visit to the Truro Flower Show. Lunch at Truro. Visit to the Gardens of Charles Williams, Esq., M.P., Caerhays Castle, Gorran. Return to Falmouth.

Wednesday, March 29—Visit to the gardens of M. P. Williams, Esq., Lanarth, St. Keverne. Lunch at Penzance. Visit to the gardens of Mrs. Charles Williams, Trewidden, Buryas Bridge, Penzance, and to the gardens of Col. E. H. W. Bolitho, D.S.O., Trengwainton, Penzance. Return to Falmouth.

Thursday, March 30—Breakfast at hotel. By train from Falmouth to London. Lunch and tea on train.

Friday, March 31st and Saturday, April 1st, special motor coach excursions have been arranged to gardens in or near London. Visits to the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens at Wisley, and the Royal Botanic Garden at Kew are included.

The Royal Horticultural Society has extended a cordial invitation to all members of the Southern California Camellia Society and its affiliated Societies to

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attend this Conference. It is requested that members or their friends who desire to attend these meetings communicate immediately with

Secretary, The Royal Horticultural Society
Vincent Square
London, S.W. 1
England

by air mail.

The charge for the six-day excursion to Cornwall will be approximately $60.00 per person, including first-class train fare from London to Falmouth and return, hotels, meals and motor coach transportation. Reservations should be made at once.

The cost of the motor coach day excursions on March 31st and April 1st will be approximately $5.00 per day per person, including transportation, luncheon and tea. Reservations should be made as soon as possible, but not later than February 28th.

Due to the large number of visitors expected in London next year (British currency is now cheap), it will be desirable to arrange hotel reservations in London as far in advance as feasible. These reservations can be had through any travel agency or through Thomas Cook & Son, the agency in charge of the excursions.

Members or their friends intending to attend the Conference in London should advise our secretary, Col. C. M. Gale, 40 North San Rafael Avenue, Pasadena 2, in order that the California delegation may be brought together in London.

Nursery Catalog Plugs So. Calif. Society

One of the finest nursery catalouges to be issued for 1950 is that of Tuttle Brother Nurseries of 729 Atlanta Street, Altadena, Calif.

Magnificently illustrated, the catalouge contains 60 color plate illustrations, the accuracy of which camellia growers and owners can judge for themselves by study of the color reproductions of Gigantea and Glen 40.

Descriptions in the catalouge are thoroughly honest, with the plant's limitations as well as its virtues being impartially listed.

Best of all there is a plug for the Southern California Camellia Society prominently placed in the list of Tuttle Brother's camellia offerings. It reads "Join the Southern California Camellia Society. You'll be glad you did. We'll be glad to accept your application."

NEW PINK SPORTS

(Continued from page 19)

Camellia Gardens.

Another Chandleri mutation, and one not connected with either of the other two, comes from the Wm. B. Smythe Nursery at Ross, Marin County, California, where last winter a branch on a seven foot plant bore a light pink blossom with a noticeable white edge to the petals. Not knowing there were any similar plants elsewhere the sport was given the name Wm. B. Smythe, and will be put on the market by him later.

Whether these three introductions are identical or only similar will probably not be known until they are grown together under the same conditions of soil, fertilizer and climate.

Membership Application

To The Board of Directors,

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

40 N. SAN RAFAEL AVE., PASADENA 2, CALIFORNIA

I hereby make application for membership in your society and enclose $4.00 for the current year's dues.

Name (Please print or type) (Husband and wife combined same rate)

Street

City Zone State

Business

Sponsor Signed

Members receive the book, "The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature" revised every two years, and the society's magazine, published eight times yearly.

Open meetings are held on the second Thursday monthly, from November to April, inclusive, at the auditorium of the Pasadena City College Library, 1500 block East Colorado Street, Pasadena, Calif. Flower exhibit at 7:30 P.M., program at 8:00.

Application may be made by letter