

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



'Howard Asper'

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: \$6.00.

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THE CAMELLIA REVIEW

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THE COVER FLOWER

C. hybrid 'Howard Asper'

This month's cover flower is the 1964 winner of the Southern California Camellia Society's Edwards Metcalf Hybrid Award for the best new camellia hybrid shown during the 1963-1964 season. It is a C. japonica 'Coronation' X C. reticulata 'Lionhead' cross made by Howard Asper of Escondido, California and propagated and introduced by him. The salmon-rose, loose peony form flowers reached sizes of 6" to 7" in diameter during last blooming season. It won Best Hybrid award in every show in which it was entered. The plant is extremely vigorous with large glossy foliage.



The Editor has no thoughts for this month that are worth the space used or the expense of printing. He does have three suggestions, however, all worthy of space and expense of printing, that are set forth in bold face type as follows:

- 1. 1965 S. C. C. S. dues are now payable. Statements will be sent out after the Christmas mail rush. You will save the Society the expense of mailing these statements, however, if you will sit down now and send your check for \$6.00. It's the same \$6.00 now that it will be later.
- A copy of CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE will make an excellent Christmas present to a camellia friend. We will send the book to you for your own presentation or mail it direct to the person for whom it is intended, with a letter telling that it is from you. Price \$2.25 per copy or \$1.70 per copy for 12 or more.
- 3. If you enjoy your membership in S. C. C. S., which gives you CAMELLIA REVIEW and CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE, tell your camellia friends and suggest that they join the Society. Those living in the Los Angeles area also have the advantage of attending the meetings. The \$6.00 a year dues is a small amount for people who enjoy camellias and camellia growing. Incidentally, a membership in S. C. C. S. would also make a good Christmas present.

Harold E. Dryden

A. C. S ANNUAL MEETING

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA — JANUARY 21, 22, 23

Joseph H. Pyron

Executive Secretary of A. C. S.

REGISTER NOW

You will be doing yourself and our host, the Men's Camellia and Garden Club, a real favor if you register and make hotel or motel reservations in advance for the 1965 Annual Meeting of the American Camellia Society in quaint and lovely Tallahassee, capital city of Florida, January 21, 22 and 23.

We take it for granted that you are planning to attend this meeting in sunny Florida and camellia-rich Tallahassee. If there is any doubt in your mind, dispel it immediately by reading a mere synopsis of the wonderful program the Men's Camellia and Garden Club has arranged for us — plus the very great plus that a few days in Florida in January is magic for body and soul.

Registration still costs only \$20 per person, despite the fact that costs for everything keep going up and up. Registration includes admission to everything, transportation to and from all events, and an attractive brief case filled with your official program and mementoes you will long treasure as reminders of a few delightful and educational days spent in Florida's immaculate and delightful capital, where smoke and dust are unknown, and crystal-clear air is mellowed by golden sunshine, and camellias thrive the year round out-of-doors.

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

for the

AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY'S ANNUAL MEETING January 21-22-23, 1965

THURSDAY — JANUARY 21

- 8:00 A.M. Registration in the lobby of the Duval Hotel. (Registration Desk will also be open at 12 Noon on Wednesday, January 20.)

 After registering, Thursday morning will be free for visits to nearby nurseries and Tallahassee's many places of interest.
- 2:15 P.M. Buses leave at 2:15 and 2:45 for a visit to famous Killearn Gardens, approximately 5 miles from the Duval Hotel, which displays one of the nation's finest collections of camellias, azaleas and other exotic plants.
- 3:45 P.M. Buses leave Killearn Gardens at 3:45 and 4:30, returning via the home of Mr. and Mrs. Payne H. Midyette for a view of wild fowl and Camellia gardens and greenhouse.
- 8:00 P.M. A. Group Meetings: Duval Hotel and Tallahassee Federal Savings & Loan Association. Showing of slides at Tallahassee Federal Savings & Loan Association and award of first, second and third prizes for best slides.
 - B. Artistic design lecture and demonstration on balcony of Tallahassee Federal Savings & Loan Association.

FRIDAY — JANUARY 22

9:45 A.M. Visit to Wakulla Springs, distance 10 miles. Buses leave at 9:45 and 11 A.M. Boat trips over deep spring and into primeval jungle.

(Continued on next page)

12:30 P.M. Buffet luncheon at Wakulla Springs Hotel.

ΩŘ

9:30 A.M. Visit to camellia nurseries and greenhouses at Thomasville, Moultrie and Albany, Georgia where delegates will see more blooms and plants than on any similar tour possible in the United States. Nurseries and greenhouses to be visited: Thomasville, Wilkes, Shackelford and Camellia Farms. Buses leave Tallahassee at 9:30 A.M. Luncheon will be served at Camellia Farms at 1 P.M.

You must make a choice as to which trip you will take by 12:00 Noon Thursday, so that ample preparations can be made for transportation and luncheon in advance.

6:30 to Cocktail Party, Capital City Country Club.

8:00 P.M. Buses leave Duval Hotel at 6:30 P.M.

SATURDAY — JANUARY 23

9:00 A.M. Business Meeting and Report by Governing Board, Duval Hotel.

10:00 A.M.

to 12 Noon Visit to The Grove, typical antebellum mansion, and thence to the Governor's Mansion for coffee. Bus transportation furnished.

2:30 to Preview of The Camellia Show, Tallahassee Federal Savings & 4:30 P.M. Loan Association, for registered delegates and guests only.

4:30 P.M. Camellia Show open to public, 4:30 to 9 P.M.

7:30 P.M. Annual Banquet of The American Camellia Society, Student Union Building, Florida State University. An hour of outstanding professional entertainment. No business except introduction of new President and his introduction of officers and Directors. The Governor of Florida, Mayor of Tallahassee and President of the Men's Camellia and Garden Club will briefly welcome you to Tallahassee and the meeting. Buses will transport registered delegates and guests to the Student Union Building.

SUNDAY — JANUARY 24

9:30 A.M. While the Annual Meeting will end Saturday evening, most of the registered delegates and guests will remain over until Sunday. Those who wish to visit private gardens and greenhouses will be most welcome to do so. Transportation will be provided.

Note: Your registration badge will be your pass into all events and on all

"SCIONS" "SCIONS" "SCIONS"

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official bus trips. When you reach Tallahassee, please go to the Registration Desk in the lobby of the Duval Hotel, where you will receive an attractive brief case containing this badge, the official program and other information and material you will want. Those who have registered in advance will have to tarry only long enough to pick up the brief case with its contents, which will be ready and waiting. Those who have not registered must, of course, go through the formalities at the hotel. Wear your registration badge at all times, because without it you can not be admitted to any official part of the program.



Reflection Pool at Killearn Gardens, Tallahassee, Florida

REGRESS REPORT ON SOIL MIX

Reg W. Ragland Orange, California

Note that I have entitled this piece a "Regress" report rather than a "Progress" report, because (a) I have made previous reports on the subject of a soil mix program; (b) somewhere along the line I have "goofed" in carrying out the program; and (c) I have chosen to abandon it.

In the March 1962 issue of CA-MELLIA REVIEW (Volume 23, No. 5) I made a report on my use (commenced in 1960) of a variation of the University of California soil mix for container-grown camellia plants. That mix called for 25% fine sand and 75% peat moss, but the U. C. Manual 23* at page 69, states that "other materials, such as redwood sawdust or shavings, or rice hulls may be substituted for all or part of the peat moss provided they too satisfy the physical and chemical requirements already mentioned and explained in more detail in Section 6." I assumed, without actually knowing, that I could likewise substitute another organic material, namely fir bark. So, I adopted a mix consisting of:

- (1) 25% fine sand
- (2) 25% German (or Holland) peat moss
- (3) 25% rice hulls
- (4) 25% fir bark.

I said in that report that I believed that such a mix would be ideal for container-grown camellias, but I qualified my opinion by stating that the chief problem in connection with the use of such a low-nutrient mix would be fertilization, and that I would have to work out a fertilizer program that would be right for that particular kind of mix. It may be that I should have also qualified my opinion by saying that I made no investigation or inquiry of experts as to the possible

consequences of using 25% fir bark in the mix.

I made a further report on soil mix in the May 1963 issue of CA-MELLIA REVIEW (Volume 24, No. 6) in which I recommended a specific fertilizing program for the mix I was using. I had followed the program in the season of 1961-1962 and again in the season of 1962-1963 and my plants looked good and seemed to be flourishing. True, I had substandard blooms in both seasons, but I attributed this to the fact that in both seasons we had an abnormally large number of desert winds which seemed hotter and dryer and lasted longer than ever before in our location, which was near the west end of the Santa Ana Canyon.

I was so disgusted with the weather conditions, combined with the fact that my business duties were occupying so much of my time during the camellia season, that without realizing it I was not looking close enough at my plants. My good friends Bill Woodroof and Cece Eshelman woke me up. They stopped in to see me one Saturday afternoon in the latter part of March and, as usual, we went to the lath house. They looked over my plants, looked at each other, and then looked at me. One asked, "Why are you starving your plants?" The other asked, "Don't you like them any more?" Then I looked at the plants a really good look such as I had not given them for a long time. Sure enough, they looked poor, hungry and unloved.

It was not the fault of the U. C. soil mix. I repeat what I said in my first report that it is an ideal mix for container-grown camellia plants, but only if one is able to work out a fertilizer program that is right for the mix.

Manual 23*, at page 89, after listing the twelve chemical elements necessary in adequate but not excessive quantity for a fertile soil, says that "a good soil mix must therefore contain them, or the growing procedure must provide for their supply during plant growth. This function is made possible in part through the breakdown of organic matter, native mineral soils, and fertilizers in the complex activities of soil microorganisms, as well as fixing atmospheric nitrogen to make it available to the plant." (emphasis supplied)

Again, at page 105, the Manual* says, "the proper use of nitrogen is probably the most important factor in the nutritional success or failure of this or any system of soil mixes . . . Organic forms are desirable from the standpoint of providing slowly available nitrogen over an extended period of time, perhaps making it unnecessary to apply additional nitrogen during the period of release. The rate of breakdown is dependent upon many factors, such as temperature, type and population of soil organisms, nature of material supplied, and type of soil treatment." (emphasis supplied) My plants, after looking very healthy over an extended period of time, all of a sudden began to look as though they lacked some essential nutrient and probably it was nitrogen. It could have been that the fir bark used up too much of the nitrogen which was being supplied, or it could have been that the rate of breakdown of fir bark was wrong. On the other hand, neither of these things may have been the reason for the failure of my program. The point I desire to establish is, one should not use the U. C. soil mix unless he has a good working knowledge of the chemical ingredients which he uses in the mix and of the

nutrients which he uses with it. It seems to me that it is almost a laboraory job requiring the knowledge and skill of a soil chemist. One can waste a lot of time in attempting to adopt and follow a program, as I did, using the mix on a trial and error basis.

I have loved camellias for many years, and there have been times during these years when they seem to fully return my love. But I am quite sure now that they made me happy only when, and as long as they were happy. So I am going to quit trying to make guinea pigs of them. I just want them to be beautiful camellias again. So, I repotted most of my plants again — this time in a mix consisting of 50% peat moss and 50% Devil's Gate Dam soil which, I understand, is a combination of sand and silt containing a fair amount of decayed oak leaf mold. I am going to fertilize this mix with cotton seed meal. I was wrong before and may be wrong again, but I am going to keep on trying — this time on a "dirt farmer" basis.

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SOUTHERN CALIF. CAMELLIA SOCIETY

820 Winston Ave.

San Marino, California 91108

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^{*} Manual 23, Division of Agricultural Sciences, University of California, entitled "The U. C. System for Producing Healthy Container-Grown Plants"

THE PENINSULA CAMELLIA SOCIETY A BRIEF BUT SIGNIFICANT HISTORY

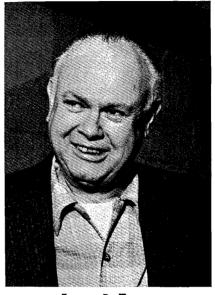
Howard E. Burnette* Castro Valley, California

Perhaps this article should begin with "once upon a time", because in proof-reading this manuscript it seemed a bit unreal that so many events had swiftly become history in what has seemed to be such a short time. However, a longing glance into a mirror quickly returns us to the realm of reality . . . and we are grateful that we have camellias with which to grow old in a graceful manner.

Just as we have been experiencing a population explosion and a resultant building boom in northern California, so has the picture changed abruptly in our regional camellia circles. During the past three or four years there have blossomed forth four new camellia societies to join with the Camellia Society of Sacramento and the Northern California Camellia Society, as well as the Fresno "border-line" group, to form quite a galaxie of camellia shows, providing much enjoyable fellowship.

Our Peninsula society is one of these new groups and naturally we were flattered when your Editor asked us to provide him with an article outlining our society's brief history.

When one undertakes an assignment such as this, it is intended to cover a bare historical significance



Everett P. Tenney

rather than attempt to give credit to all who may have had a hand in the formation of such a society. In this particular case we feel that we would be remiss if we neglected to single out one of our founding members who has contributed much to the furtherance of the society's original goal. His unstinting efforts should not go unrewarding. Yet, he has preferred to work in a somewhat anonymous manner; preferring to remain in the background while others have taken historical recognition as officers of the society. Therefore, we hope to offset this fact by using this article to praise the dedicated efforts of Everett P. Tenney of Belmont. It is a known fact that without Ev Tenney's able direction our society would have been misdirected as to the original intent and purpose of its founding.

One evening in January 1961, Z. A. (Bob) Tryon of Belmont called on

^{*}Howard E. Burnette of Castro Valley is currently president of the Peninsula Camellia Society and has been an avid camellia fancier for the past eleven years. Prior to his becoming a charter member of the Peninsula group, Mr. Burnette had served two terms as vice-president of the Northern California Camellia Society. His current activities encompass memberships in seven camellia societies and with the help, tolerance and understanding of his good wife, Bettye Jo, has been a consistent winner of silver in competition during the past three years.

Ev Tenney to discuss some ideas on the formation of a local camellia society in San Mateo County, which is a part of the San Francisco Peninsula. Since this county is blessed with some fifty or more garden clubs, it was felt that from this wealth of material there would be enough of a nucleus to warrant the formation of a specialty group.

Shortly after this original discussion, Bob Tryon's wife was guided by Mrs. C. Ray Wilmore (who was then Director of the Bay Ocean District of California Garden Clubs, Inc.) and proceeded to campaign the numerous garden clubs via mail and personal contact, It wasn't long before enough interest was shown to set up an organizational meeting. From this meeting there evolved a set of by-laws authored by Ev Tenney. Ev had previous experience as a board member of the Northern California Society as well as a couple men's garden clubs and with this previous background wrote our by-laws about as fool-proof as any layman could hope to do. We were fortunate to have garnered eight or ten charter members who had been active in other camellia societies to sort of steady the tiller while the ship was being launched.

Perhaps we should say that the formation of Peninsula Camellia Society was a "whirlwind courtship" . . . the by-laws were given a first reading in February 1961, and received final approval in April of that year. So you see this group was eager to move.

The following charter officers led this active group which staged a successful show at Redwood City on February 10-11, 1962 . . . President, Z. A. Tryon; Vice-President, Kai Freitag; Secretary, Mrs. W. J. Hocking; Treasurer, Everett P. Tenney; Directors, Mrs. Melvin Moore, Fred Wickard and C. Ray Wilmore.

Our first show was hampered by

rain but it was well attended and proclaimed a success. In fact, this show was awarded "Best First Show" and "Best Camellia Show" ribbons by the California Garden Clubs, Inc. Our general show chairman was Kai Freitag and an outstanding arrangement section was headed up by Mrs. George (Marian) Panaretos of Hillsborough. Results such as this have helped us grow from the charter group which numbered less than twenty members to a current membership roll of forty-one.

Many problems have been overcome in the perpetuation of our group as such and although some problems are of a recurrent nature it looks as if the "bird will fly". From a charter meeting year in San Carlos and a successful first show in Redwood City we have now become firmly entrenched in San Mateo. Here the David D. Bohannon Organization and the merchants of the Hillsdale Shopping Center have afforded us the facilities and backing necessary to stage a show successfully. Therefore it is only appropriate that our shows should be staged around a "Hillsdale" theme.

Whereas our 1964 show was themed "Hillsdale Camellia Magic", the 1965 edition has been tabbed "Camellia Splendor... in Hillsdale". For this show we hope to encourage several of the Hillsdale merchants to display our silver trophies in their store windows prior to our show date. Our 1964 show drew well over 9000 door count and undoubtedly generated considerable consumer traffic through this fine shopping center.

Little wonder that it has surprised many people in camellia circles as to the staging and presentation or approach which we have used to a considerable degree of success. After all we have selected dates which were previously tried and abandoned by another group in our area. However,

(Continued on next page)

with "modern thinking" which has been coupled with Ev Tenney's writer's cramp we seem to have arrived.

Who but Ev Tenney would consider inviting people to compete in an upstart production? This approach has led to many top quality blooms and lively competition from Sacramento, the San Joaquin Valley, Santa Maria and from that "gibbing fellow" in San Marino.*

For our 1964 show we decided to retire all of our original perpetual trophies and replaced them with permanent, usable pieces of silver plate. We hope to further our coverage in this direction for our 1965 show. The competitive show categories will be revised as the need arises or the popularity proves their feasibility.

Perhaps you are thinking at this point that this article has taken on the look of a convention nomination speech but it is intended to be no more than justifiable testimony of the unselfish acts of a good friend. Whenever it is necessary to rely on someone's generosity, it is always Ev Tenney who can be expected to give willingly of his time, talent and treasure. Among Tenney's treasures must be included his wife, Marcella, who seems to enjoy watching his wholehearted participation in his many and varied camellia activities.

Having a prolific mind, Ev Tenney always seems to come for h with something just a little bit different to enliven our constituents' interest. For instance, our 1965 show will probably have a special competitive exhibit table for our judges' blooms. Perhaps here we can have a team of laymen as judges . . . to even the score maybe? Also, we have considered a team of "super-judges" to float around the room in free-lance fashion to be sure that no outstanding blooms have been overlooked. To enliven our monthly meetings again it was Ev Tenney who introduced a bloom competition which has led to much spirited battle over point awards towards year end trophies for Best Japonica and Best Reticulata. Since my wife and I won both of these trophies this year, we can expect really rough competition in the year ahead. Since it is so important to know how to show a bloom, we hope to encourage more members to enter their blooms in the shows.

And so, in the brief but lively history of the Peninsula Camellia Societv. Everett Tenney has served on our board of directors as Treasurer for two years and as our corresponding secretary for one year. As if this wasn't enough, he has carried over this year as our corresponding secrealthough retiring from the board. He has been Chairman of Judges for our three shows while handling numerous other assignments to help keep the wheels in motion. We had the pleasure of working with Ev Tenney on our 1964 show and found that although our life patterns are quite dis-similar, we functioned very smoothly and effectively as a team. Being the society's current president, we have had no alternative but to continue this arrangement for our 1965 show.

Why not mark your calendar for FEBRUARY 20-21, 1965, and plan on attending our HILLSDALE Show? . . . we may be lacking in official greeting but we guarantee you a degree of warmth in hospitality second to none . . . considering the limited funds which we have at our disposal this is quite a feat . . . SEE YOU AT THE HILLSDALE COMMUNITY CENTER in SAN MATEO in 1965!

CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE will make an excellent Christmas present to a camellia friend.

What's Behind The Green Thumb

ALVIN L. GUNN

Each day that passes puts us one day closer to SHOW TIME, so let us take a good look at our plants. Are there any where the leaves are yellow or with little black spots around the outer edges? Did all of the plants have good growth, or are there a few which had an inch or two of weak growth, with some branches not growing at all? Is there a plant which you have hidden behind others which has lost most of the leaves in the center, with only a few leaves on the end of the branches? Any of these conditions mean it is time to transplant.

To start the procedure, mix enough soil to replant these cripples. A good soil mix is two parts peat moss (preferably German), one part sandy loam, and a half part coarse sand. Wet the peat good the day before for easy working. Mix them together, breaking up the clods to give an even consistency.

Now you are ready to tackle the plant. Any easy way to get the plant out of a can is to hit the can on all sides with a mallet. This loosens the roots from the sides, and it is usually easy to lift the plant from the container.

Now let us join Marjorie Washburn's root washer club. With a coarse spray from the hose, wash all of the soil from the roots. If the plant has been in the mix for over two years, any peat which was there has completely broken down.

The amount of roots will dictate the size container that should be used. A container two inches larger in diameter is considered about right. If the container is too large for the

roots, the soil will turn sour, and the plant will not do well. Pack enough mix in the bottom of the container to bring the top of the roots about 1 to 2 inches from the top of the container. Put the plant in the container spreading the roots out as much as possible. Fill the container with the mix, then start packing the mix firmly around the outer edges of the container. Bouncing the container on the ground will sift the mix into the center root area. If the plant is too large and heavy, get your wife to bounce it for you; this will keep you from injuring your back. Wash the mix into the center with a coarse spray from the hose, pack the soil firmly around the roots covering the top roots with less than half an inch of the mix. Flood the plant a couple of times, and place it in a cool part of the lath house.

Don't fertilize for a few months, or spray with any pesticides. The plant should be pruned before the spring growth. Do not over water the newly transplanted plant.

Camellia for-get-me-nots

Don't stop watering because the weather has cooled off.

There are still some aphids to keep washed off.

Keep those plants disbudded.

Pin back the leaves which interfere with a flower opening with a wooden snap clothes pin.

Bring those flowers to the meetings, that's the way to tell the good uns from the bad uns.

Have a question? Send me a card.

WHAT CAMELLIA SHOW JUDGES LOOK FOR

Harold E. Dryden

Camellia shows have one point in common with base ball games. As with umpires, "the decision of the judges is final." I saw Yogi Berra rush out to the first base umpire to protest a decision in the first game of this year's World Series. He knew that his action was pointless insofar as a change in the decision was concerned. Exhibitors in camellia shows don't have this opportunity to protest to the judges, but they know as they mutter under their breath or to all who will listen as they view the show after the ribbons have been placed that for all practical purposes, they are talking to the birds.

There is an important difference, however, in the approach to decisions by baseball umpires and camellia show judges. Umpires' decisions are split second ones, made on the basis of one fast look at the play and without opportunity for consultation with other umpires. Camellia judges work in teams, usually of three, and the award of ribbons is made after discussion of the relative merits of the different blooms. The decision reflects the judgment of at least two of the three judges and in the majority of cases it is unanimous. The following statements are not personal views but are based on the experiences of having participated in judging teams in a considerable number of camellia shows during the past ten or so years.

The judges start with some rules to guide them. In the rules for the Descanso Gardens show, for example, it is provided that every variety will be judged against the highest standard of that variety and will take into consideration, on an equal point basis, the following criteria: Color, Form, Size, Substance and Texture, and Condition. That is, a maximum of 20 points can be given a bloom under every category. There is always a

waiver for Condition in Southern California shows, to the effect that the Show Committee may vary the judging for Condition of the bloom when prevailing weather warrants such action.

Theoretically, the judges would determine points under the five categories, add them up and award the blue ribbon to the bloom having the highest number of points. Actually, of course, that is not done, for at least two reasons. First, it would take too much time. Second, and more significant, this detailed approach is not necessary because in the majority cases the blue ribbon flower "stands up and looks at you". The judges subconsciously are aware of the five categories and reach their decisions in agreement on blue ribbon flowers with no apparent study of the blooms.

What, then, do the judges look for and what is their approach in their selection of the blue ribbon flowers in the varieties that require study, and of the second and third place blooms that usually do not stand out so vividly? The first step usually is to select by the process of elimination the three or four blooms that stand out among the others, from the standpoint of the five categories of size, condition, form, substance and texture, and color. Eliminated from consideration are blooms where the size is not up to the standard for the variety, where condition is unsatisfactory because of lack of freshness or blemishes, where the form leaves something to be desired, where the flower lacks the substance that is normal for the variety, or where the color is washed out and not the normal one. Then begins the detailed consideration of the blooms remaining in competition, which may involve ironing

out points of difference among the

three judges.

With regard to size, the bloom must meet the standard for the variety to win a blue ribbon. Mere size in itself will not win a ribbon, because size carries no more weight among the categories than do the other four. For example, a smaller bloom that meets the standard (large, very large or medium) but is superior in form, freshness, etc. will win out over one whose chief asset is its size. This point is important to remember when picking for the show. Other things being equal, the larger bloom will always win.

Color is seldom a factor in solid color varieties. Shades of a color will vary for a variety due to climatic conditions and to fertilizer treatment. When a flower is faded out, however, it is usually out of competition. The 'Mrs. D. W. Davis', for example, with the delicate soft pink shade and otherwise good under the other categories

will win over an otherwise good flower that has lost the pink shade. When two blooms are very close, judges are often influenced in their choice by the brightness or solidness of the color, and exhibitors should have this in mind when picking for the show. Size, condition, form, etc., should not be sacrificed, however, for the factor of color unless the color is "washed out".

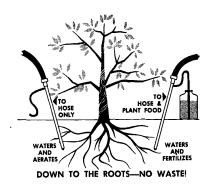
The place where color is important is in variegated varieties. For the purpose of show competition, variegation is considered to be a spot of white on the flower, no matter how small a spot. More than one bloom with a small spot of white has been forced out of competition in the solid color group, where it might otherwise have been a ribbon winner, and into the variegated group where it has become an also ran. To be a contender, a "variegated" bloom should have enough white to make

(Continued on next page)

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P.O. BOX 3272 STATE ST. STN. HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIF. the white a distinctive part of the flower. Here is one point on which there is not clear agreement among judges; that is, as to how much white the bloom should have and how it should be distributed. A few judges whom I have observed seem to feel that the more white the better, regardless of how it is distributed on the flower. Most of them, however, look at the pattern of variegation, always with the idea that if the pattern is equally attractive and symmetrical in two or more blooms, the one with the most white will win.

This point, both with regard to differences in views of judges and to the importance of the variegated pattern, is well illustrated with 'Adolphe Audusson Special'. Most outstanding blue ribbon flowers that I have seen in this variety have been predominantly white (which, of course, is the essential feature of the 'Special') with a solid margin of color at the outside edges and a few flecks of color attractively placed on the white background. Sometimes, however, the predominance of white without the variegated pattern has earned the judges' nod. 'Mercury Variegated' is another variety where these conditions apply. 'Ville de Nantes' and 'Donckelarii' frequently produce blooms with what I call variegated patterns, and these are the ones to pick even to some sacrifice of size.

Most variegated varieties do not have enough white to cause what I call the pattern of variegation to have the significance that is discussed above. When such is the case, the amount and distribution of white will influence the judges but has less weight than among the varieties where the white is the important factor.

How about form? Most flowers entered in shows, in fact that grow on the plant, conform to the specifications with regard to form. It is only under three conditions that I think

of where form is a factor. First, some flowers, beautiful in all respects, deviate in form to the extent that they might be considered to be sports. These flowers are usually disregarded by the judges, sometimes to the criticism of the exhibitor. The first peony form of 'Mrs. D. W. Davis' to be shown in this area was "thrown out" by the judges on this basis. When it was determined subsequently that this sporting was normal, the peony form was accepted until the form was recognized as a separate variety, Second, some varieties regularly throw two forms neither of which can be stabilized as a separate variety. A prime example of this condition in California is 'Mathotiana' which produces both open and rose bud center semidouble flowers. 'Mattie O'Reilly' has flowers that range from semi-double to peony. In such cases the exhibitor is at the mercy of the judges' preferences provided the blooms are equal in all other respects. I do not recall ever having voted against a rose bud 'Mathotiana' or having seen others do so when it was equal or even slightly inferior in all other respects to the open center flower. When it is a choice between a full peony and a looser form of a variety, the looser form is usually preferred by the judges.

The third condition in which form is a factor is in a few varieties that possess characteristics that do not always show up in the flower. The perfect 'Guilio Nuccio', for example, has four rabbit ears that make it a different flower from the simple semi-double of the variety. 'Margaret Short' is described as a semi-double with "irregular, upright fluted petals". Without them, the flower lacks what makes it distinctive. The exhibitor must know such characteristics of his varieties and be guided accordingly in picking for shows.

Next is condition. In the process of judging, this category actually re-

ceives first consideration in the step to pick out the best three or four blooms for detailed consideration. A bloom not in good condition has no place in a camellia show and except in extenuating circumstances that will be described later is summarily dismissed from consideration by judges. In thinking about condition we must make a distinction between the natural freshness of the flower and bruises or abrasions caused by other objects. Some judges look first at the stamens of the flowers to determine the freshness of the pollen. If the pollen is brown, that flower is at an immediate disadvantage. The ideal flower is one that is picked on the morning of or the evening preceding the show. If it is evident that the flower has passed its peak, it can not compete against flowers that are inferior in other categories but have freshness. This consideration is related to the question of picking blooms early in the week and keeping them in refrigeration only to the extent that a person so doing must have the know-how to put on the show tables, flowers that look as though they were picked yesterday. Whether they keep through the second day of the show is not important from the standpoint of judging, because the judging is based on conditions as of the time of judging.

As previously stated, there is one extenuating circumstance that may be recognized in judging Condition, but that has to do with condition caused

by outside influences. We have had heavy winds just preceding show dates, and all the steps that one could take to guard against damage of the flower by adjoining branches could not protect against bruises. Likewise. hot winds have taken the "life" out of blooms. Under these conditions, judges are advised to be lenient. The exhibitor must not be lax in his protection of blooms, however, because the winds may not come and furthermore, even if they do come the flower that is unblemished will win over the one that is blemished whatever the reason for the blemish.

To summarize on condition. The flower can be a little below size and still win a blue ribbon. It can be a little off the desired color. A 'Guilio Nuccio' can have only three rabbit ears and possibly get by. But a flower in poor condition, either because of the age of the flower, the lack of proper care in picking it ahead of time and keeping it in refrigeration, carelessness in picking which causes bruises, or failure to protect it from damage while it is opening faces disapproval in the eyes of the judges.

Just a word about Substance & Texture. If the flower has this quality, it will stand up to be counted. Some flowers have substance to a greater extent than others. If the flower does not stand up as it should, as in the case of Condition, don't take it to the show table.

(Continued on page 28)

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MORE RETICULATAS IMPORTED FROM CHINA

The March 1964 issue of CAMEL-LIA NEWS, the publication of the Australian Camellia Research Society, contains an article by R. H. Griffiths of Klontarf, New South Wales in which Mr. Griffiths relates his experiences in importing reticulatas from China. To quote from Mr. Griffiths' article:

The start appeared to be easy when a friend, returning from a visit to China, gave me the name and address of a reliable contact in that country. My first letter brought no response. Months passed and I felt that the adventure was almost over before it had started, so I commenced negotiations to obtain supplies from the United States. Then one day a letter came from China asking whether I wanted "Sprouts of camellias for beverage or camellias in pots for admiration." I hastened to reply "for admiration please." that they were a special type from the interior, and to make doubly sure, I forwarded a copy of "The Camellia, Vol. 11" (Leslie Urguhart Press) which illustrated some reticulatas listing their names in Chinese characters. This seems to have caused a sensation in Chinese camellia circles. I also enclosed a map of China outlining Yunnan Province.

Back came a catalogue in Chinese, illustrating a reticulata bloom in red, white and green on a blue background. This was my Christmas present for 1962. I then started hunting Chinese — my wife came along too to restrain me. First stop was the Chinese Consul, who took one look at the catalogue, became somewhat agitated and showed me the door. Turning into the Haymarket Post Office I happened to see a Chinese standing in a doorway and eagerly pulling out the catalogue I dashed forward, only to be dragged back and reprimanded by my wife. Later I tried a Chinese bus conductor, the

interpreter of the Commonwealth Bank, a Chinese market gardener and finally the Oriental Department of Sydney University. Here at last part of the catalogue was translated — but only that part listing and describing the varieties. Alas, two pages are still untranslated. People tell me in hushed voices that it is Red Chinese propaganda which caused the agitation of the Consul, However I can make out on the back page one thing that reads pH = 5.5.

In one letter I was informed "There are about twenty-seven types available in the original plantations, out of this number it is most known in the market only fourteen types". Chinese characters were appended in order to make it perfectly clear to me what these varieties were. Subsequantly sixteen reticulatas were released to me including 'Tsao Tao Hung', 'Tali Cha', 'Shih Tzu Shou', 'Tse Pao', 'Ma Yeh Chih', 'Liu Yeh Yin Hung', 'Mou Tan Cha' and one called 'Snow Lion'. From the photographs forwarded many were over 60 inches high, the tallest being 90 inches.

The Plant Quarantine authorities assured me they could treat such large plants, so I asked for them to be sent. For some weeks it was not possible "because of insufficient air freight space at this moment from Yunnan" to get them moving on their long iourney. The route chosen was from Yunnan to Canton, about 1500 miles, up the coast to Hong Kong, where I briefed an acquaintance on the finer points of bare-rooting and packing, thence by Quantas to Sydney. The shipment reached Hong Kong in March 1963 from where I learned that the name tags had become adrift.

Then I discovered there was no Sphagnum moss in Hong Kong, so with the confidence of an ignorant (Continued on page 21)

CAMELLIAS: THEIR FEMININE PROTAGONISTS

PART VI

Margaret Howard Thompson

Last year we circled the globe visiting camellia women in France, England, Australia, New Zealand, Southeastern United States, and Los Angeles, California, where we met our International Lady of Camellias, Monique Peer-Morris, Before we end this series we must stop a little longer here in Western United States to visit a few of the women who are doing so much to perpetuate interest in camellias. These unassuming camellia friends shudder at my writing about them as important in the camellia world. Yet they are important to me because, through them, you in the rest of the world can visualize the activities of typical Western camellia women. The women I've chosen to tell you about live as far north as the Washington-Oregon state line and as far south as San Diego, California, near the Mexican border.

West Coast camellia women are similar to their counterparts around the world. They grow, propagate, display, paint, photograph, lecture and write about, and just plain enjoy the beautiful camellias which grow remarkably well in the West. Even our Southern California desert areas can grow sturdy plants if some protection from the sun and heat is provided. Our first stop is in the Northwest at the home of Mrs. Al Johnson in Beaverton, Oregon. Beaverton is a small town in the Willamette Valley, a few miles south of Portland (the largest city in the state). Portland is situated on the Columbia River, the dividing line between Oregon and Washington. Mary Johnson's interest in camellias took root in 1925 while a high school student in Corvallis. Her father, Sam Dolan, raised some of the first camellias in that area. Her initial interest has grown through the succeeding years, until today she and her husband are so advanced in camellia propagation that they are working with interspecific hybridization. The Johnson's small garden has several hundred plants with seedlings in every nook and cranny. For the past several years, Mary Johnson has lectured at various clubs on general topics about the cultivation of the plant. Some seasons she has given as many as twelve lectures. The Johnsons display their blooms at shows and in 1962 won the Oregon Camellia Society's Sweepstake Award. Mary rightfully shares the honor of growing the prize blooms because she does most of the hybridizing and growing of seedlings, as well as helping with the mundane tasks of watering, pruning, disbudding, and fertilizing. Together the Johnsons introduced the japonica 'Serenade' and two new varieties: 'Pink Poodle', a long-lasting small 3" soft pink japonica; and 'Snow Bunny', a 2" white miniature japonica. Mary is anxiously waiting for her first quality hybrid.

Traveling south approximately 1000 miles to the San Francisco area, we stop for awhile with Miss Louise Arner Boyd in San Rafael. My research for this series on women in camellias introduced me to through an interesting article in the 1960 ACS YEARBOOK. The author, our Southern authoress, Mrs. M. J. Witman (Lilette), from Part IV of this series on women, tells of her visit to Miss Boyd's home which overlooks San Francisco Bay, Miss Boyd is world famous for her exploraiton and knowledge of the Arctic regions which she has chronicled in three

(Continued on next page)

books. She holds honorary degrees from Mills College and the University of California and has received countless medals and awards for her outstanding contributions to the body of knowledge on the polar regions. In her garden grow some of the oldest camellia plants in California; the first was planted by her grandmother in 1873. A featured camellia variety to be found in her garden is the lovely white 'Lotus'. Two enormous lath houses are devoted exclusively to the 'Lotus'. The bushes were planted some thirty years ago and have grown to tremendous proportions. They produce glorious blooms every season, to the delight of their owner who prefers white camellias. Many more interesting details about Miss Boyd's garden and home can be found in "A Famous American Explorer and Her Camellia Heritage." Read the article in the 1960 ACS YEARBOOK, and you'll understand why I chose Louise Arner Boyd to represent the many women around the world who follow professional pursuits in business, science, and the arts yet go to the camellia for relaxation and enjoyment of the beauty of God's creations.

A few miles farther south in Fresno, California, lives Mrs. Milo Rowell, known for her lovely camellia water colors. Her painting hang in the homes of many Southern California camellia hobbyists. Of particular inerest is the fact that at least two of her water colors are in Japan. One hangs in a temple in Tokyo — a 'Marguerite Turner' personally selected by Rev. S. Azabu, who visited the Rowells in Fresno. The second, a sasanqua water color, hangs in the villa of Mrs. Ishibashi in Tokyo.

The Rowells combine their travels with visits to camellia friends and recently visited Japan, Australia and New Zealand. They've also visited the gardens in England and are planning another English garden tour in Spring, 1965. These visits to see ca-

mellias around the world fill the mind with memories of beautiful blooms seen here and there. But Agnes Rowell through her paintings gives the viewer a permanent record of camellia beauty. For this contribution which increases interest in the camellia, we salute her and other women around the world who use their artistic talent to paint our favorite flower.

As I bring you to the Los Angeles area, I find I'm unable to select two or three camellia women to write about. There are so many women here making contributions to the hobby, Limited magazine space, however, permits only thumbnail sketches of a few representatives. For instance, there is Mrs. John Taylor (Delores) of La Canada, who approximately ten years ago so successfully handled a show for the Pacific Camellia Society that each subsequent treasurer silently thanks her. Of course, the promotional and financial wizardry of Delores Taylor is only one of her contributions. She shared the gardening tasks with the late Dr. Taylor and together they won many awards and trophies. Most of us feel that the beauty she personally expressed with her camellia hats and other uses of blooms in her raven black hair added another facet to our enjoyment.

Mrs. Caryl Pitkin (Mildred) of San Marino should also be introduced because of her competent and faithful service as secretary of the Southern California Camellia Society for four years. This position in the approximately 1000 member society requires many hours at the typewriter because Southern Cal publishes its own magazine six times a year, publishes and distributes a nomenclature book, and sponsors research, Many women take over the secretarial responsibility in our local societies, and through Mildred we salute their hours of addressing envelopes for meeting announcements, checking membership rosters for the printer, taking minutes at meetings, and performing countless other tasks. Without them the societies would find it difficult to continue.

A few women in my area can recognize and name hundreds of varieties. To represent them I've chosen Mrs. Al H. Dekker (Rose Marie) because she can name all the varieties and knows whether a bloom is up to size, form and color. She is one of the sixteen California women listed in the 1962-63 ACS YEARBOOK as an accredited ACS judge, Rose Marie has been an official judge at countless shows both in California and the South. She is the favorite member of any judging team. The Dekkers share their interest in camellias and each cares for the plants. You would recognize their gardening chores as quite a task if you could see the terraced hillside in Glendale which rises sharply from their house and garden area. Most of the camellias are planted on the hillside and make a beautiful setting, especially during the blooming season. Rose Marie is an important member of the Dekker team which has won many awards and ribbons at various shows.

Our Southern California area can also boast of a lady commercial grower — if her genial husband doesn't mind my stretching the truth a little. Mrs. Les Marshall of Marshall's Camellia Nursery in San Gabriel helps her husband grow strong, healthy

plants. She makes all the camellia cuttings at the nursery and pots between 10,000-15,000 a year. She also raises the seedlings, but is only allowed to tie the graft after Les has placed the scion. The azaleas at Marshall's nursery are in Elsie's complete care and her plants are exquisite. The Marshalls have introduced many new varieties, such as 'Arlene Marshall', 'Royal Trumpeteer', 'Fiesta', 'Ruffles', 'April Showers', 'Harvest Time', 'First Prom' — Elsie dreams up most of the new names.

Many of our camellia ladies decorate the halls in which the meetings and shows are held. I remember most vividly the room at Disneyland Hotel which Mrs. Vern McCaskill decorated for the 1961 annual meeting of the American Camellia Society. Her delightful use of white birds suspended from the ceiling caused visitors to the show to gasp at the beauty, Billie also set several tables for dining using colorful linens: exquisite crystal, china and silver; and a beautiful camellia arrangement exactly right for the holiday or occasion being depicted. Billie McCaskill, wife of the owner of McCaskill Gardens in Pasadena, graciously donates her artistic talent to whatever task camellia members ask her to perform. In this she represents the other talented women in our area, such as Rose Gish, Elsie

(Continued on next page)

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Billie names the introductions from McCaskill Gardens. You're familiar with their beautiful 'White Nun', 'Lady in Red', 'High Wide'N Handsome', to name just a few of the more recent new varieties. She also has taken an active part in the organization of the Southern California, American, and International Camellia Societies and is a charter member of each. In the American Camellia Society, Billie held the offices of Director of Southern California and Director at-Large. She was 1st Vice President of Southern California Society for two years and Vice President of the Flower Arrangers Guild for a year. As an ACS judge, she judges at two or three shows a year.

Many women around the world share their camellia blooms with friends, shut-ins, churches, weddings, funerals, community meetings of all types. Here in Southern California, Mrs. Reg Ragland of Orange represents the many Western United States women who love to share the beauty of their garden with others. Lollie decorates luncheon and dinner tables for church and club groups. She takes countless blooms to shut-ins each season in the form of her now famous "camellia pie." By covering an aluminum pie plate with colorful foil, she can fashion a bed of damp moss for the flowers. The camellias remain fresh for days, and the shut-in is relieved of arranging and watering chores. My memories of her handicraft include the beautiful headdresses and wristlets she and her committee fashioned for the Camellia Queen and her attendants at the 1959 Orange County Camellia Show. As one who loves to share the beauty of the camellia with others, Lollie expresses for all how much our hobby means to us:

I love the people who love camellias and am deeply grateful for all the wonderful friends we have made. The world of camellias has opened new horizons of beauty and strong bonds of affection.

Traveling 120 miles south to San Diego, we find two California women to represent the many in that area who further interest in camellias in a variety of ways. Let's meet first Mrs. Althea T. Hebert, who is the President of the San Diego Camellia Society. She is the first woman president of that society and one of the few women anywhere to be selected for top position in a camellia group. Althea came up through the ranks. In 1949 and 1950 she was secretary. Since then, she has served on the Board of Directors several times, held many chairmanships in the society and for their annual show in Balboa Park. In 1956 she served as Show Chairman of the 9th Annual Camellia Show. She and her late husband joined the San Diego Camellia Society at its first public show in 1947. Althea does all her own gardening and continues to raise prize blooms each year. Congratulations to our efficient Lady President for the outstanding manner in which she handles the duties of her office.

Our Southern California counterpart of the ladies from Down Under who are interested in the horticultural aspect of raising camellias is Mrs. Stanley Miller from El Cajon near San Diego. Her interest began in 1934 because of her husband's intense desire to learn all he could about the plant. Since she was already interested in gardening, the challenge of camellia culture could be pursued to its fullest. Today the Millers grow approximately 2500 plants on five acres. Alice grafts and raises seedlings, some 5000 to date. Since she began showing them, her seedlings have won ribbons in shows every year but one.

Alice Miller found herself to be a

scientific researcher as she grew her seedlings. For many years she kept careful records of parent, date harvested, date of two leaves, date transplanted, etc. Similarities of seedlings from different mother plants were noted. Also a mother plant having a certain type seedling one year would have another seemingly identical each year following - and none of them resembling her. Few seedlings resembled the mother plant and yet others were unmistakable. At first Alice kept all her seedlings; but when space gave out, she decided that a seedling worth space must have something out of the ordinary: unusual or outstanding color, size, form, texture, markings in the flower; or health, vigor, form, color, texture and size in foliage or shrub. At times none of these might be out of the ordinary but the flowering period would be a deciding factor. Another factor she watched was age. Some plants improve with age while many do not. Certain weather gives a glow, making a flower breathtakingly beautiful. Other weather develops dull, uninteresting flowers. So her search continues for a new variety which possesses all the important factors.

Since 1949 the Millers have won sweepstakes three times and have had flowers on the Court of Honor table at least once a year — sometimes oftener. They enter competition at the San Diego and Descanso Gardens shows. Alice says that growing camellias is a truly fascinating hobby, and you can feel her enthusiasm when you read any of the several articles she has written for the ACS YEARBOOK and the CAMELLIA REVIEW.

Our trip around the world is over. My thanks to all of you who shared your camellia interest with us. As we part may I salute all the women who love camellias: the single women who find the propagation of the flower an exciting hobby; the married women who share a joint interest in the hobby

as co-gardener and also those who support their husband's hobby by performing small tasks in the lath house, assisting at meetings and shows, entertaining camellia friends in their homes; and widows who maintain the collection begun years ago and expand their interest by remaining active in a society. To these important women belong the blue ribbons and silver cups for furthering world interest in the camellia. May they continue their strong support through the years — thus allowing their love of people, beauty, and nature to build a path toward a better world.

MORE RETICULATAS (Cont'd.)

I instructed a bale of Sphagnum to be air freighted. When I discovered this put me in the millionaire class, other arrangements had to be made. In any event my friend in Hong Kong did an excellent job and the plants arrived in very good condition. After treatment they went into an insect-proof glass house where some still remain until Plant Quarantine authorities are satisfied with their health.

To count to date: from the United States, eight received — five lost; from China, sixteen received — seven lost. Additionally another shipment of twelve plants was received from China last December and these include 'Hentienko', 'Large Spinel Pink', 'Early Peony' and 'Blue-Red Prune Osmanthus Leaf'. Most of the surviving plants are doing well and of these 'Large Cornelian', 'Chang's Camellia' and 'Lionhead' all appear very similar to the original American imports of 1948-1950. I am anxiously waiting for flowers to see whether or not they can be separated.

Efforts to obtain further shipments have met with no success, replies to my latest letters being evasive and inconclusive, and I do not feel confident of further plants from this

source.

IF I WERE LIMITED TO 20 VARIETIES . . .

Camellia hobbyists are frequently asked "What is Your Favorite variety"? That question is almost impossible to answer. We thought we could obtain some indication of preference among blue ribbon winners by asking for answers to the question "If I were limited to 20 varieties of C. Japonica, here's what I would select." Following are the answers. Reg Ragland said in listing his 20, "I am certainly glad that I am not limited to 20 varieties of C. japonica, because I like so many of them it would be extremely difficult to select 20." Bill Goertz said "If I could have only 20 plants I would have two of each of the first 10 listed."

Dr. Lee Chow (Bakersfield)

MATHOTIANA CLARISE CARLTON PEARL'S PET FIRCONE VAR ADOLPHE AUDUSSON VAR REG RAGLAND VAR **DEBUTANTE** CO-ED JULIA FRANCE GENERAL LeCLERC BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME EDWIN FOLK MAGNOLIAEFLORA ROYAL TRUMPETEER WHITE EMPRESS EMMETT BARNES LOTUS CARTER'S SUNBURST **IWANE** HELEN K

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CARTER'S SUNBURST
GUILIO NUCCIO
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REG RAGLAND
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ANN SOTHERN
ANGEL
WHITE NUN
GIGANTEA

TOMORROW
TOMORROW'S DAWN
BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME
JULIA FRANCE
BALLET DANCER
MRS. D. W. DAVIS
SAWADA'S DREAM
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Bill Goertz (San Marino)

BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME SPRING SONNET
GUILIO NUCCIO VAR
WHITE NUN
LAURA WALKER VAR
MATHOTIANA SUPREME
ADOLPHE AUDUSSON
SPECIAL
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REG RAGLAND VAR CARTER'S SUNBURST CLARISE CARLTON CHARLOTTE BRADFORD

^{*} Now a resident of northern San Diego County.

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MRS. D. W. DAVIS GUEST OF HONOR

TE DEUM

CARTER'S SUNBURST

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PARTY DRESS NINA AVERY

MELODY LANE JULIA FRANCE

REG RAGLAND WHITE NUN

SPRING TRIUMPH - Sh wt SUNSET GLORY

BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME KRAMER'S SUPREME

LAURA WALKER CORONATION

ECCLEFIELD Caryll Pitkin (San Marino)

BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME

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DRAMA GIRL

ALICE WOOD

Reg Ragland (Orange County)

ADOLPHE AUDUSSON VAR BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME

C. M. WILSON

CARTER'S SUNBURST

CLARISE CARLTON DEAR JENNY

DIXIE KNIGHT

GRAND SLAM

GUILIO NUCCIO

HAZEL E. HERRIN

KRAMER'S SUPREME MATHOTIANA SUPREME

REG RAGLAND VAR

SPRING SONNET

TICK TOCK

TIFFANY TOMORROW

TOMORROW'S DAWN

WHITE NUN

WILDWOOD

Every one of these lists is worthy of consideration by one who is just starting to build a camellia collection. Of possible greater significance is a composite of the seven lists. Two things should be considered in their

(Continued on next page)

MARSHALL'S CAMELLIA NURSERY

(AT THE SIGN OF THE CAMELLIA)

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use. First, none of the seven has included any of the most recent camellias (introduced within the last two years) with the exception of TIF-FANY and CLARK HUBBS which had good coverage last year in Southern California camellia shows even though few people had blooming plants. Second, some of the selections are related to growing conditions in that person's home area or to the person's particular likes: for example, on the latter Dr. Lee Chow is very fond of miniatures and has included two of them in his list of 20. These few cases do not lessen the value of the following composite list as a starting point for looking at flowers during the coming camellia season for guidance in building or adding to a collection. For varieties having both solid color and variegated forms, both have been included as one variety.

Included in all 7 lists:

BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME REG RAGLAND

Included in 6 lists:

CARTER'S SUNBURST GUILIO NUCCIO

Included in 5 lists:

WHITE NUN

Included in 4 lists:

CLARISE CARLTON, CORONA-TION, JULIA FRANCE, KRAM-ER'S SUPREME, MATHOTIANA SUPREME, TOMORROW, WILD-WOOD

Included in 3 lists:

BALLET DANCER, CLARK HUBBS, DEBUTANTE, LAURA WALKER, MARIE BRACEY, MRS. D. W. DAVIS, SPRING SONNET, TIFFANY

Included in 2 lists:

ADOLPHE AUDUSSON SPEC-IAL, ADOLPHE AUDUSSON VAR, C. M. WILSON, ONETIA HOLLAND, TOMORROW'S DAWN

Included in 1 list:

ALICE WOOD, ANGEL, ANN

SOTHERN, CHARLOTTE BRAD-FORD, CO-ED, DEAR JENNY, DIXIE KNIGHT, DRAMA GIRL, ECCLEFIELD, ÉDWIN FOLK, ELIZABETH LEBEY. EMMETT BARNES, EMMET PFINGSTL, FIRCONE VAR (min), GENER-AL LECLERC, GIGANTEA. GRAND SLAM, GUEST OF HONOR, HAWAII, HAZEL E. HERRIN, HELEN CHRISTIAN, HELEN K, IWANE, JENNIE MILLS, JÓSHUA E. YOUTZ, LADY IN RED, LOTUS, MAG-NOLIAEFLORA, MATHÓTIANA, MELODY LANÉ, MRS. FREE-MAN WEISS. NINA AVERY. PARTY DRESS, PEARL'S PÉT (min). PINK DIDDY, R. L. WHEELER, ROYAL TRUMPET-EER, SAWADA'S DREAM, SHIRO CHAN, SPRING TRI-UMPH, SUNSET GLORY, TE DEUM, TICK TOCK, WHITE EMPRESS

Temple City Camellia Society

The Society will hold its initial meeting of the 1964-1965 season on Friday evening, November 20th at 8:00 P.M. in the Lecture Hall of the Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia.

The guest speaker of the evening will be Edwards H. Metcalf who will discuss the hybrid camellia. Mr. Metcalf has been a connoisseur of miniature and hybrid camellias for many years. His collection of these two types of camellias is one of the largest in California and he is, therefore, able to speak with authority on his subject.

In view of several outstanding new hybrid introductions during the past several years, coupled with constant scientific research in an effort to produce even better hybrids, this meeting should prove interesting to all camellia enthusiasts and their friends.

MY FIRST ONE

Lucien C. Atherton San Diego, California

Twenty seven years ago, I purchased my first camellia plant. It was, as you might suspect, a 'Pink Perfection'. It was and it is still one of the most enchanting and beautiful of camellia blooms. It was growing in a six inch clay pot. In those days camellias were grown in clay pots, a feature that produced odd effects and designs in the root system. Unknown to me, this lovely blooming plant had been propagated in an area under conditions totally different than those of the city area of San Diego. Apparently this variety is allergic to our wonderful San Diego climate.

What care and conditions did it require? Accurate and reliable cultural information was scarce, even being treated as a trade secret by many nurserymen. Rumors and homemade suggestions were many.

Camellias needed cool root conditions, so I placed ice cubes in the container. Following another suggestion, I fed my 'Pink Perfection' a cup of tomato juice once a month for a while, which I presumed furnished acidity and necessary vitamins. I kept it dry. I kept it wet. I starved it. I overfed it. I gave it a varied diet. A heavy feeding of steer manure in

September, I was told, would guarantee large and abundant blooms. I moved it from place to place. I transplanted it often. It insisted on living and produced one to six blooms per year.

Some years and a hundred or more plants later, with more suitable cultural information, I transplanted it into a sixteen inch redwood box. This beautiful, full, four foot bush was now in a good mixture with conditions that produced fine results in my other plants. But not with my 'Pink Perfection'. It began slowly to go back, dying slowly until two years later not a leaf remained. Saddened at losing the fight, I cut it off ten inches above the soil level. This stump served as a handle with which I dragged it around to a back corner. I tilted the box on its side until I would have time to clean it out. Some time later, needing a box, I was amazed to find several healthy shoots growing from the stump. In spite of what I found, I would not recommend such radical pruning.

I righted the box, moved it out of the way into a spot where it had plenty of sunlight, and gave it the

(Continued on page 27)

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CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SHOW SCHEDULE--1965

February 6-7 — San Diego Society at San Diego February 13-14 – Pomona Society at Pomona February 20-21 — Peninsula Society at San Mateo (Hillsdale Shopping Center) February 27-28 L. A. Camellia Council at Descanso Gardens, La Canada March 6-7 -Temple City Society at Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia March 6-7 — Sacramento Society at Sacramento March 6-7 – Kern County Society at Bakersfield March 13-14 -Northern California Society at Pleasant Hills March 13-14 — Modesto Society at Modesto

March 14 -Central California Society at Fresno

March 20-21 —

Delta Camellia Society at Antioch

S. C. C. S. COMMITTEE **CHAIRMEN FOR 1965**

President Robert F. Dickson has announced the following Committee Chairmen to administer the operations of S. C. C. S. for the next camellia

PROGRAM — Alvin L. Gunn INTER-SOCIETY RELATIONS — A. Wilkins Garner **HOSPITALITY** -Mrs. Deloris Taylor

PLANT PROCUREMENT — Fred Sinclair TICKET SALES — Berkeley Pace BLOOM PLACEMENT — Robert Smiley

MEMBERSHIP — Fred Byers JUDGES — Pat Novak

REFRESHMENTS — Walter Scott AWARDS — Wilber Foss HUNTINGTON GARDEN — Al Dekker PUBLICITY — Bill Goertz NOMENCLATURE —

William Woodroof

The first meeting of the 1964-1965 season will be held on Tuesday, November 10th at the San Marino Women's Club, 1800 Huntington Drive, San Marino. The program will consist of individual instructions on how to graft, propagate seedlings and cuttings, pollinate camellias and make corsages with camellias. The instructions will be given by members of the Society who are experts, and will take place simultaneously so that those attending can select the particular activity or activities in which they are interested.

Colonial Williamsburg Garden Symposium

The 1965 Williamsburg Garden Symposium will be held March 21-26 in the one-time colonial capital of Virginia and will be co-sponsored by Colonial Williamsburg and the American Horticultural Society. The activities of the Symposium will center around the theme "New Horizons in Horticulture". It is open to both amateur and professional gardeners. Participants will see slide-commentaries by 12 outstanding horticultural and landscape design specialists from greenhouse management to the raising of orchids. On the practical side, clinics will offer solutions to individual gardening problems, and experts will give demonstrations. Special tours will take visitors behind-thescenes to see Colonial Williamsburg's extensive garden and planting operations. Further information can be obtained from Mrs. Mary B. Deppe, registrar, Williamsburg Garden Symposium, Post Office Box C, Williamsburg, Va. 23185.

Howard Asper Has More Hybrids Coming

Howard Asper has announced that he will have more hybrid camellia introductions to follow the sensational 'Howard Asper' that is attracting so much attention this year. He prèsently plans on a group of three introductions in 1966, which he has named 'Dream Girl', 'Show Girl' and 'Flower Girl'. 'Dream Girl', a 'Naruma-gata' X 'Buddha' cross, is a warm salmon pink with 'Buddha' form. 'Show Girl' and 'Flower Girl' are 'Naruma-gata' X 'Lion Head' crosses, Both are pink with semi-double to peony form. These hybrids combine the floriferousness of the sasangua with the flower form and size of the reticulata and will be something new for the camellia hobbyist.

He is also building up stock on a new reticulata which he has named 'Moutancha'. A cross of 'Chang's Temple' X 'Moutancha', the flower is a 'Moutancha' pink with single to semi-double form.

MY FIRST ONE (Continued)

same treatment as the other plants. It grew into a healthy plant and today, fifteen years later, is about four feet tall and three feet across, still growing in the same sixteen inch box. It has gone through some sick and unhappy times, but always comes through with renewed vigor. During a good season I will get four to six nice two and a half inch boutonniere blooms. It blooms anytime from September to May. The sight of a bloom always gives me a pleasant surprise.

That is the story of my 'Pink Perfection', my first camellia virus infection. It won't bloom. It won't die. I cared for it. I threatened it. I wouldn't part with it. It has taught me some valuable lessons about camellias and about life in general.

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WHAT CAMELLIA SHOW JUDGES (Continued)

A word now about entries in the multiple groups — the 3's, the 5's, etc. Bear in mind that this is a single entry, as a unit of 3 or 5. It will stand or fall on its weakest link, which is the poorest flower of the group. If it is a solid color variety, the judges look for similarity among all the flowers — in size, color, form and condition. Two potential blue ribbon flowers in the Division for single entries and a third flower that happens to be on the plant cannot be made into a group of three with expectation of winning a blue ribbon. If the variety is a variegated one, there is the added factor of matching variegation among the blooms. I once participated in the selection of five blooms of 'Donckelarii' for a blue ribbon. All five looked as though they came from the same mold — in size,

color, form and variegation. That is the objective. It is not always possible, of course, and entries with less than that in matched variegation have won blue ribbons. But never with an entry of two or four good ones and the last one just put in to fill out the group.

An exhibitor cannot always pick blooms as he would desire, because he is limited to what is on the plant. It would be unfortunate if everybody limited his entries to flowers which meet the rigid requirements for blue ribbons, because the beauty of a camellia show is in the tables of beautiful flowers, not all of them with ribbons but every flower a beauty to look at in its own right. When there is a choice of blooms to pick, however, the exhibitor should take the time to study the different blooms that are on the plant and take to the show the one that he would rate number one if he were one of the judges.



An invitation to Join American Camellia Society

Annual Membership \$6.00

The American Camellia Society is a worldwide scientific, horticultural and hobby organization of more than 7,500 members in 40 states and 15 foreign countries. The Society was founded as a non-profit organization in October, 1945.

Among other benefits, membership entitles you to five issues of THE CAMELLIA JOURNAL issued in January, March, July, September and November. Each issue of 32 to 40 pages of interesting articles, news and photographs, has a four-color reproduction of a new variety on the cover.

Each December, members receive a handsome cloth bound Yearbook of some 350 pages, containing the latest information on both greenhouse and outdoor culture, breeding, disease control, history, arrangments, and descriptions of gardens. There are several full color plates of new varieties in addition to numerous photographs illustrating the articles. A roster of members is published in each Yearbook. All new varieties registered with the Society are described.

The American Camellia Society will welcome you to its program of mutual pleasure and interest.

AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

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OLDER VARIETIES FEATURED

As a step toward neutralizing some of the attention that is directed in these days of so many new introductions to the new varieties, the Southern California Camellia Society built its last March program around the theme of the "old varieties". Recognizing that old is a relative term, it was decided that for the purpose of the meeting, "old varieties" would be those that were introduced prior to 1950. A special table was set up for displaying these varieties and separate judging was accorded them. Results were as follows:

Large and Very Large: 'Elegans', 'R. L. Wheeler', 'Flame', 'Ville de Nantes', 'C. M. Wilson', Medium and Small: 'Dr. Tinsley', 'Prince Eugene Napolian', 'Herme', 'Hana Fuki', 'Nina Avery'.

During the discussion of these older varieties, with particular attention being given to those which are now popular and seen on exhibit and show tables, the following varieties were mentioned. Dates of introduction as shown in CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE are shown.

'Alba Plena' 1792 'Are-jishi' 1891 'Aspasia Macarthur' ('Paeoniaeflora') 1850 'Beau Harp' 1949 'Berenice Boddy' 1946 'Blood of China' 1928 'C. M. Hovey' ('Col. Fiery') 1853 'C. M. Wilson' 1949 'California' 1888 'Casilda' 1947 'Cheerful' 1884 'Colletii' 1843 'Comte de Gomer' 1860 'Covina' 1888 'Daikagura' 1891 'Daitairin' 1941 'Debutante' 1900 'Donckelarii' 1834 'Dryade' (min.) 1849 'Edwin H Folk' 1948

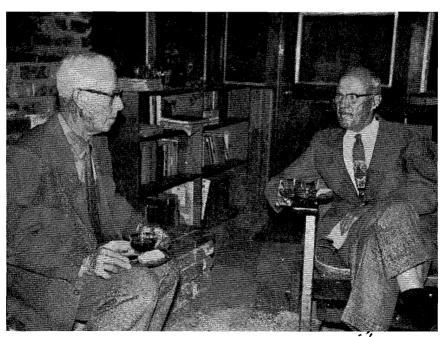
'Eleanor Hagood' early 1900's 'Elegans (Chandler)' 1831 'Emmett Barnes' 1949 'Emperor of Russia' 1856 'Eugene Lize' 1908 'Fleurette' (min.) 1945 'Fred Sander' 1913 'Frizzle White' 1935 'Gigantea' 1840's 'Glen 40' 1942 'Hana Fuki' ('Mrs. Howard Asper') 1930 'Herme' 1875 'Hishi-Karaito' 1934 'Horkan' 1816 'Iwane' 1891 'J. J. Pringle Smith' 1942 'Joshua E. Youtz' 1915 'K. Sawada' 1940 'Kimberly' 1923 'Kumasaka' 1896 'Lady Hume's Blush' 1806 'Lady Mary Cromartie' 1840 'Lady Vansittart' 1887 'Lallarook' 1893 'Lotus' 1909 'Magnoliaeflora' 1886 'Margarete Hertrich' 1944 'Marion Mitchell' early 1900's 'Mathotiana' 1840's 'Mattie O'Reilly 1947 'Mercury' 1911 'Mrs. Chas Cobb' early 1900's 'Mrs. Freeman Weiss' 1944 'Mrs. Tingley' 1949 'My Darling' 1942 'Nagasaki' 1889 'Nina Avery' 1949 'Oniji' 1935 'Prince Eugene Napoleon' ('Pope Pius IX') 1859 'Princess Baciocchi' 1930 'Princess Irene' 1840's 'Prof. Chas. S. Sargent' 1925 'Purity' 1887 'R. L. Wheeler' 1949 'Sierra Spring' 1948 'Te Deum' 1890 'Tinsie' (min.) 1930 -(Continued on next page)

'Vedrine' early 1900's 'Victory White' 1939 'Ville de Nantes' 1910 'White Empress' 1939 'Yuki Botan' ('Pride of Descanso') 1895

At today's camellia society meetings where plant drawings are held, it is usually easy to determine the "hot numbers" of the day by looking over the names of the varieties up front on the table. This action at the 1945 meetings of the Southern California Camellia Society would have caused camellia collectors to seek scions of the following varieties: 'Fimbriata', Baciocchi', 'Princess 'Francine' ('Elegans'), 'Star Dust' 'Alba Plena', 'Col. Fiery' ('C. M. Hovey'), 'Ruby Glow', 'Gov. Mouton', 'Rev. John Bennett', 'Alexander Nowlin', 'California', 'Finlandia', 'Julia Drayton' ('Mathotiana'), 'Pink Ball', 'Uncle Sam', 'Gypsy', 'Fimbriata Superba', 'Cleopatra', 'Cameo Pink'. Some people wonder whether some of the "hot numbers" of today will be as fleeting in popularity twenty years from now as have been those of twenty years ago.

In the 1940's people well up and well known in the camellia hierarchy also picked their favorite 20 camellias. At the February 1946 meeting of the Southern California Society Howard Asper gave his favorite 20 as follows: 'Debutante', 'Kumasaka', 'Francine', 'Enrico Betoni', 'Madame Hovey', 'Te Deum', 'Pope Pius IX', 'Col. Fiery', 'Prof. Chas. S. Sargent', 'Julia Drayton', 'Alba Plena', 'Lotus', 'Caprice', 'Mathotiana Alba', 'Pax', 'Daikagura', 'Emperor Wilhelm', 'Laurel Leaf', 'Herme' and 'Candida Elegantissima'.

In the September 1947 issue of the S. C. C. S. Official Bulletin (predecessor to CAMELLIA REVIEW), Herbert Swim, now known international (Continued on page 32)



Les Marshall and Al Dekker sipping their coffee after camellia society directors' meeting.

HOBBIES WITHIN A HOBBY

One of the pleasing things about the camellia growing hobby is the opportunity it affords for making a specialty out of some phase of the hobby. All people who grow camellias undertake, of course, to grow good camellias, of top quality that will at least satisfy their own ego if not win blue ribbons in shows. Even those who claim to grow for their own pleasure show their supreme happiness when they win a "Best of Show". Likewise, most camellia hobbyists plant seeds, always with a hope that a superb new flower will come forth but with the full knowledge that the plants will be good root stock for their grafing program. These are par for the course for a camellia hobbyist. A few, however, have gone beyond this general program and are doing something special that gives them added interest in the hobby. This article tells about a few such people in California who have this added interest of a hobby within a hobby.

Bill Woodroof probably heads the list in this group. He actually has two of these hobbies within a hobby. Many years ago he became disgusted with the dual names of so many camellia varieties. Instead of following the usual practice of griping about the situation, he set about to do something about it. Working with other people in California as well as in other States, he sought original information with regard to names and built up the source material that now makes possible the publication of CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE by the Southern California Camellia Society. Money within the means of the Society could not buy the time he spends on this hobby in writing and talking with people and in maintaining the records.

This activity led to his second hobby within a hobby. His nomen-

clature activities naturally put him in contact with people throughout the United States who are bringing in new camellia varieties. He receives scions of many new varieties that have originated outside Southern California and grows them to test how they will react to Southern California growing conditions, He makes a report every year at one of the Los Angeles Area camellia societies, and his reports are heeded by most camellia people in the area in their selection of new varieties to add to their collections.

Alton Parker, while a resident of this area (he now lives in Sebastopal in the Napa Valley of Northern California), did much the same thing although he acquired his new varieties in a different manner. In his trips to A. C. S. meetings he met many camellia people in the South and as is natural with camellia people everywhere he acquired many scions of new varieties. During the camellia blooming season his collection was a center of interest for people who wanted to see what these new varieties looked like. He organized and became the sole member of the "You Oughta Have " Society as his enthusiasm for a new camellia developed in his conversation

Frank Reed became a convert to the use of gibberellic acid because of his natural inquisitiveness and his desire to learn what happens when one tries something new. He has pioneered in the use of gib in Southern California. Now that he has determined what dosage of gib will produce early and larger blooms, he is setting out to experiment with other elements to determine what they will do to camellias. His pleasures from winning blue ribbons and giving his flowers to the "little old ladies of

(Continued on next page)

Pasadena" are equaled if not exceeded by the pleasure he derives from these experimental activities.

David Feathers, in the San Francisco Bay Area, lives in his camellia world for hybridizing. He grows the usual varieties of course and his yard is a testimonial to his success in this regard. When he shows his collection and the results of his work to others, it is apparent that his real interest in the hobby is in his hybrids of the first, second, third and beyond generations. He has developed some good new hybrids in his work.

Many camellia fanciers live on small parcels of land and do not have room for large numbers of camellia plants. They face problems in deciding what new varieties of camellias to acquire. Harold Harwood of San Marino has solved this problem for himself by deciding that he will concentrate on red camellias. He is new at the hobby and the author of this article set out to help him get a start by offering him scions. Mr. Harwood was firm in his selections and could not be swayed by enthusiastic talks

about the merits of some pinks and whites. Some people might desire pink, others white, others variegated. The idea is the same, a formula for selection when selectivity is necessary because of space limitations.

Other instances could be told of people picking out a point of primary interest to supplement their pleasure in just growing camellias. It's like putting chocolate syrup on chocolate ice cream.

OLD VARIETIES (Continued)

ly as a rose hybridizer but then active in camellia circles, listed the following twenty varieties as his favorites: 'Glen 40', 'Eleanor Hagood', 'Pope Pius IX', 'Margarete Hertrich', 'Debutante', 'Mrs. Chas. Cobb', 'Gen'l Geo. Patton', 'Pax', 'C. M. Hovey', 'Fimbriata Superba', Reticulata (the name then given to the variety we now know as 'Capt. Rawes'), 'Marchioness of Exeter', 'Prof. Chas. S. Sargent', 'Te Deum', 'Gloriosa', 'Alba Plena', 'Purity', 'Gigantea', 'Francine', 'Fimbriata'.

MESSAGE TO MEMBERS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Dues for 1965 are now payable. Please save the Society the expense of mailing statements by sending in your dues now. Write your check now and send it to

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Directory of Affiliated Societies

Camellia Society of Kern County
Bakersfield.
Meetings held 2nd Monday of the month, October through April, in Police Building, 1620 Truxton Ave., Bakersfield.
Camellia Society of Orange County
Camellia Society of Orange County
Meetings held first Thursday of month, October through April, in Orange County Farm Bureau Building, 1916 W. Chapman, Orange.
Central California Camellia Society
Central California Camellia Society
Meetings held at Heaton School, Del Mar Ave., Fresno on Nov. 18, Dec. 16, Jan. 27, Feb. 24, Mar. 24.
Huntington Camellia Garden
Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, Oxford Road, San Marino.
Pomona Valley Camellia Society
Pomona Valley Camellia Society
Meetings held 2nd Thursday of each month, November through April, in the
Pomona First Federal Savings & Loan Assn. Bldg., Garey Ave. & Center St.,
Pomona (1 block South of Holt).
San Diego Camellia Society
President: Mrs. Althea T. Hebert; Secretary: Mrs. Carol Bradford, 5707 Jackson Dr.,
La Mesa.
Meetings held 2nd Friday of the month, November through May, in Floral Association Building, Balboa Park, San Diego.
Southern California Camellia Society
President: Robert F. Dickson; Secretary: Harold E. Dryden, 820 Winston Ave.,
San Marino.
Meetings held Second Tuesday of every month, November to April, inclusive at the San Marino Women's Club House, 1800 Huntington Drive, San Marino.
Temple City Camellia SocietyTemple City
President: Harry S. Putnam; Secretary: Mrs. Violet Shuey, 5813 N. Golden West Ave., Temple City.
Meetings held on 3rd Friday of November and December and 4th Thursday January
through March.

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