



THE ANNUAL MEETING, last of the 1944-45 season, was held in the Odd Fellows Temple, Pasadena, on the evening of April 12. Attendance was 181, the largest closing meeting to date. Large library tables lined both sides of the room, carrying a large exhibit of cut camellias; there were many fine specimens, not overlooking Reticulata.

During the short business session, the annual election was held, William Hertrich presiding. Chairman of Nominating Committee J. Wm. Clark then installed the newly-elected officers and the president resumed the chair.

Dr. William E. Lammerts, College of Agriculture, University of California at Los Angeles, gave a most interesting talk on camellia species, graphically illustrating the "camellia family tree" by tabulation on the blackboard.

Mrs. Elsie Schildwachter and Kenneth I. Lewis showed kodachrome slides of camellias, fuchsias and a few Mexican orchids in their native habitat.

Prize winners were: members' door prize, Hertenstein, San Gabriel; exhibitors' prize, John Harn, Arcadia; Red Cross prize, Tom Finery, Burbank; book fund prize, Geo. Wideman, San Gabriel.

ORGANIZATION NOTES. Membership—At close of 1941-42 season, 103; the society was active during the season of 1942-43; 1943-44, 144; 1944-45, 256. **Book Fund**—1943-44, \$117.95; 1944-45, \$145.50; disbursed for typing, \$4.00; balance at close of April 12 meeting, \$285.85. Work on the book is progressing well.

Red Cross Donations—1941-42, \$71.40; 1942-43, inactive; 1943-44, \$129.35; 1944-45, \$143.75. Total contributions from meetings, to and including April, 1945, \$370.85. This is something to feel good about.

General Fund—At close of April 12 meeting, \$45.52.

Membership in the society is distributed over communities, including Bakersfield, Santa Barbara, Ojai, Encinitas, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Coronado, and Eugene (Oregon), in addition to many nearer communities.

Lapel tags were worn at the last meeting—a step in the right direction. Membership Chairman Jack Hudlow accomplished the difficult task of tagging folks at the door. One of the comfortable things about our meetings has been the informal camaraderie with which one chats with familiar but unnamed persons during the tour of the exhibit tables. It was even nicer, at the April meeting, to be able to glance down, lapel-ward, through the bifocals and learn the names of these now familiar personalities.

Last meeting of the old Board of Directors was held on April 8, a busy session which burned—well, almost—midnight oil. Reports from the various committees demonstrated a "live and going concern." It is surprising and gratifying to see the many directions and ramifications our interests and activities have taken. Much time was given to discussion of the technique for registration of new varieties, an activity we hope will become of paramount importance in the camellia field. A form is being prepared by the committee which will enable even a novice to register a botanical description which will protect the identity of a new variety through the years.

The board also discussed the desirability of providing, by either rental or purchase, a loud speaker system for our meetings.

The board elected Dr. H. Harold Hume to honorary membership in the society. Dr. Hume is Dean of the College of Agriculture, University of Florida; received his A.B. from Guelph College of Agriculture in 1898; A.B. and A.M., Iowa State College, 1899; honorary Sc.D. from Clemson in 1937. He served as horticulturist in the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station from 1899 to 1904, held the same position in North Carolina from 1904 to 1906, was secretary and then president of the well known Glen Saint Mary Nurseries Company from 1906 to 1930. He returned to research in 1930, serving as Assistant Director of Research in the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station in Florida until 1938, when he became Dean of the College of Agriculture, taking on also the duties of Provost of the College in 1943. He was president of the Florida State Horticultural

Roster of Officers

Southern California Camellia Society

President:

DR. DAVID W. McLEAN
1702 Marengo Ave., South Pasadena
Pyramid 1-1659

Vice President:

DR. LLOYD J. TAYLOR
810 Highland Drive, Flimtridge
Sylvan 0-2088

Secretary:

THOR PETERSEN
1670 Las Flores Ave., San Marino
SYcamore 9-3748

Treasurer:

ROBERT A. WARD
4947 Hartwick, Eagle Rock
ALbany 5721

Directors:

ROY M. BAUER — Atlantic 1-2183
MRS. CARLO GALLI — SYcamore 9-2108
J. HOWARD ASPER — SYlvan 0-1993

Committee Chairmen:

Membership —
JOHN A. HUDLOW, SYcamore 9-3504
Program —
MRS. VERNE O. McCASKILL, SY. 3-4677
Nomenclature Research —
MRS. CARLO E. GALLI, SYcamore 9-2108
314 Arroyo Drive, South Pasadena
Publicity —
ROY M. BAUER, Atlantic 1-2183
Horticultural Research —
ROBERT CASAMAJOR, SYcamore 2-7641

Honorary Members:

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

Society from 1910 to 1922. Dr. Hume has contributed much to camellia literature; especially outstanding is his article on Camellia Classifications in the National Horticultural Magazine of January, 1944. In welcoming him to honorary membership, our society honors not only Dr. Hume but itself.

The Board of Directors, April 8, voted that an amendment be prepared to establish the society's library and provide for a librarian. The secretary was authorized to order the two Gerbing Camellia Books for the library. Into it will go also a file of the society's publications and technical documents.

The following were voted to membership:

Lee R. Anthony, Alhambra; Lucien C. Atherton, San Diego; Mrs. Milo D. Aylward, South Pasadena; Mrs. Gates Baldwin, San Marino; Gerhard Burde, Pasadena; Fred M. Burton, Eugene, Oregon; G. Leslie Davis, Temple City; Alfred C. Deane, South Pasadena; Grace E. Johnston, Burbank; Harold H. Kopperhafer, Burbank; Robert Kerr, Arcadia; Caro Krebs, Whittier; Don F. Kuhn, Altadena; Wyn R. Shay, San Bernardino; H. F. Stoner, San Diego; and William E. Wylam, Pasadena.

DESCRIPTION OF HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDEN SEEDLING NUMBER 45

Camellia Japonica Var. "Robert Casamajor"

One of the eight seedlings grown from a plant imported by the Huntington Gardens in 1918 from the Yokohama Nursery Company in Japan. This seedling is now about 18 years old and is of medium growth, fairly open. It was transplanted in 1942 from the Oriental

Gardens to its present location in the New Vista, with the result that its growth has been somewhat checked. The semi-double flower correspond somewhat with those of the parent plant (sometimes found in the trade as *M. Jannochi*) but are of a deeper crimson, and petals are often more numerous. The stiff, stocky leaves measure up to 8 cm. in length and about 4 cm. across, rounded to cuneate at base, short caudate at apex. They are glossy, dark green above, and a lighter green beneath. Margins are smooth near base, serrate above, teeth black-tipped; petioles 8 mm. long. About 15 flower petals are somewhat reflexed to broadly spatulate, slightly undulate, color dark crimson; up to 4.5 cm. long by 3.75 cm. broad, united at base, up to 1 cm. Numerous long stamens are united to the petals at the base for about 1 cm. The crimson flowers hold their color well in bud and do not become purplish.

This seedling is an improvement over parent plant inasmuch as its color is better and it differs in the construction of the flower; the foliage is shorter and broader. Therefore it is worthy of a name of its own. It gives great pleasure to name this variety "Robert Casamajor," after Mr. Robert Casamajor, very active member of the Southern California Camellia Society and an outstanding amateur horticulturist of broad experience who made a great contribution in the culture of the camellia in Southern California.

—WM. HERTRICH, Curator
Huntington Botanical Garden

February 24, 1945

CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA TEST GARDEN has made remarkable progress during the past season, despite wartime handicaps. In addition to the clearing of the camellia canyon and cutting of a new path along its top, 100 seedlings have been transplanted to this place where they are rooting splendidly for reception of grafts at later dates.

There were approximately 80 known varieties in the Huntington Botanical Gardens prior to the inception of the Test Garden project. In 1944, 35 varieties were grafted to seedlings in the canyon. In 1945, 75 varieties were grafted, again using donated scions; in 1946, 100 plants were donated, and 25 more have been promised. This makes a total of 283 varieties now in the Test Garden list. Some selections were made by amateurs, some by professionals, some by garden clubs.

One cash donation of \$35 reached Curator William Hertrich, to be spent for rare varieties. The committee furnished a list with names of growers from whom the varieties could be obtained. An interesting episode followed. The grower, prominent in the activities of this society, refused absolutely to accept money for these plants, although they are not yet ready for release on the market. "I feel," said he, "that this project is so important to the public and to the camellia industry that I simply insist on donating the plants you want."

These are the days when the grafters are anxiously raising the glass jars over the February and March grafts. We've had pretty good luck by giving the plant a teaspoonful of cottonseed meal at this point, and a bit of water. In dry weather, or a dry "Santa Ana" wind, this is not helpful for initiating the tender new growth to a harsh world. Another school of thought among grafters is that as soon as the bud appears and buds begin to swell, the jars may be removed; foliage then develops in the open air and the anxious jar-raising, later, is avoided. We tried that last year. A hot, dry wind came up during the day, and the result gave us some anxious days. However, we note that this year some of our foremost grafters have lined up with this school of thought.

Have some of your plants developed a fringe of small brown spots around the leaves of the new growth? This is now thought to be due to alkali poisoning. Perhaps the switcher from rain water to our alkaline tap water, at this time of year. The plant with heavy soil and poor drainage is the one most apt to suffer. Two treatments of iron sulphate, two weeks apart, using one teaspoon to the gallon of water, have been suggested. "Acedate" is a commercial form.

If a choice scion turns up and you can't wait for next February or March to use it, late

June and early July is the season for split bark grafting. 'Ware the hazards of hot, dry environment during the summer, however.

Shocking how many camellia fans have recently been bitten by the cymbidium bug. Latest is Jack Hudlow, bitten so hard it is said to have drawn considerable blood. Only last Sunday we started on a harmless little cymbidium slumming tour, soon found ourselves being trailed by three fanatics with the feverish eyes and nervous manner symptomatic of the disease—none other than Jack, Henry Prucha and Thor Petersen. Shocking. And rather too sad to see the exacerbation of symptoms as Bob Casamajor, whose cymbidium "ranch" we all visited, gave voice to his usual, "Nope, sorry, can't sell that one." Bet we'll be having an occasional short cymbidium talk on camellia programs yet. Yes, **shocking**.

Dr. Lammerts obtained from the library of Harvard University two old editions dealing with camellias. One, published in 1819, listed 25 known varieties. The other, published 30 years later, was in six volumes, had over 600 color plates of varieties mostly developed in Italy, although there were American and other varieties. Some we still have, running true to form; some of the names are now applied to something quite different, and some varieties we still have under entirely different names. Some have been lost entirely—and some of those were "honeys." There was one yellow one.

Dr. Lammerts and this dizzy scribe spent a Sunday afternoon and evening photographing about 150 of these plates, selection made by a special committee of eight. The kodachrome slides turned out well; you'll be seeing them at meetings of the society next season.

Other interesting program material will undoubtedly develop from experimental work now going on at Caltech. Bob Casamajor's Horticultural Research Committee is in close touch with it.

Dr. Hume is said to be preparing a book on camellias. This one will be well worth watching for.

Our own Lil' Green Book will have quite a list of varieties this time. Quite a problem, how to present it for ready reference. Remember? The old book listed varieties according to the ancient and honorable classification by form of flower. One had to search the book for a given name, if one happened to be a novice and not know whether it was semi-double, peony or anemone in form. Committee is still debating whether to list alphabetically or by color groups, listing form and other characteristics by symbols after the name. Annahoo, it bids fair to be a good book.

CHEERIO!

R. J. Wilmot
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida

Bulletin
CAMELLIA
Southern California
Camellia Society

FROM HERE AND THERE. Application has been made by Coolidge Nursery for registration of new variety "Camellia General Patton." This is a seedling of Purity, other parent unknown, and is said to be of more beautiful form than Purity and of fine pink color.

Suggestion received that the society provide for its members a list of desirable camellia varieties in various price ranges, with an eye to succession of bloom, variety of color and fitness for sunny or shaded positions; this as a guide to beginners. Such guidance would have been most welcome to this scribe back in the days when. He'd have had fewer nice large plants, however, on which to graft fine varieties later on.

In that connection, William T. Wood, Macon, Georgia, conducted a "1945 Symposium of Outdoor Camellias"; many of our members received the ballot, listed their selection of ten best varieties. The outcome of the vote: 1—Mathotiana; 2—Chandler Elegans; 3—Alba

Plena; 4—Herme (Jordan's Pride); 5—Don laari; 6—Pink Perfection; 7—Debutante; Daikagura; 9—Professor Sargent; 10—Empre 11—Victor Emmanuel; 12—Magnoliaeflora. This is a good list, though location must always enter into the selection. Pink Perfection, Permint Stick, etc., drop their buds here; bloom well in the more moist north; Emp Friedrich Wilhelm blooms well here, in north blooms best under glass.

★
HONOR ROLL

CPL. MARK ANTHONY, 39265286
A.P.O. 91; c/o Postmaster, New York
CPL. PAUL SHEPP, Transportation Corps
CPL. ED ARNESEN, Army Air Force
Pfc. JAMES ROLENS, Air Force Engineers
★

