



THE DECEMBER MEETING

of the

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

will be held on the evening of December 13, 1945, in Odd Fellows Temple,
175 North Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, California

TIME SCHEDULE:

7:30 P. M.—Informal flower show. Cut specimens on the tables, marked with name of variety and exhibitor, by 7:30. The lucky exhibitor of the evening will take home *Camellia Gypsy*, a beautiful thing, donated by Leslie Marshall.

7:45 P. M.—Prizes donated by the Leslie-Marshall Nursery on Rosemead Boulevard. *Camellia Fimbriata Superba* (oh, boy!) for the members door prize. *Camellia Cleopatra* for the public address fund. *Camellia Cameo Pink* for the publications fund. One ticket purchase—short and painless!

8:00 P. M.—CAMELLIAS OF A BY-GONE DAY. Kodachrome slides of plates contained in the "Monograph on the Genus *Camellia*," by Samuel Curtis, F.L.S., published in the early part of the century, when there were about 25 known varieties. These will be followed by slides of plates in the 1938 volume of Verschaffelt. Dr. Walter E. Lammerts will be at the microphone to provide information concerning the specimens shown, from his own translation of the Verschaffelt text. These are, so far as we know, the only kodachrome Verschaffelt slides in captivity—made by our own photographer on the spot! Something one definitely should not miss—what?

9:30 P. M.—Adjournment to informal flower show, the social half hour some of us enjoy so much—and the homeward trek.

Roster of Officers

Southern California Camellia Society

President:

DR. DAVID W. McLEAN
2508 South Santa Anita Avenue, Arcadia
ATwater 7-2703

Vice President:

DR. LLOYD J. TAYLOR
810 Highland Drive, Flintridge
SYlvan 0-2088

Secretary:

THOR PETERSEN
1670 Las Flores Avenue, 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 0-1998

Committee Chairmen:

Membership—
C. E. PEAK — State 4-0426

Program—
ETHEL CAMPBELL — SYcamore 9-5256

Prizes—
MRS. VERN O. McCASKILL — SYcamore 3-4677

Reception—
JOHN A. HUDLOW — SYcamore 9-3504

Exhibit—
MRS. FLORENCE DOUGLASS — CHarleston 6-14

Nomenclature Research—
MRS. CARLO E. GALLI — SYcamore 9-2108
314 Arroyo Drive, South Pasadena

Horticultural Research—
ROBERT CASAMAJOR — SYcamore 2-7641

Camellia Book Distribution—
E. C. TOURJE — SYlvan 0-1630

HONORARY MEMBERS

William Hertrick, Huntington Botanical Gardens
Dr. H. Harold Hume, University of Florida

AS THE NOVEMBER MEETING WAS ABOUT TO OPEN, the janitor of Odd Fellows Temple told us, "If your meeting fills all of the chairs, the attendance will be 250." The meeting did, and the attendance was. The best opening meeting of any season to date.

Mark Anthony gave a most interesting recital of his adventures and observations while in Europe with the Army engineers. He showed colored reproductions of camellias from old volumes in Italian libraries. It would be interesting to have kodachrome slides of these plates. "Our own photographer on the spot" would be glad to be of service.

Robert Cundy talked on the use of camellias in garden planning, and answered many questions on culture. A question regarding planting under walnut trees, and the use of walnut leaves in mulch, greatly interested ye editor, who recently acquired a collection of walnut trees. The majority of the learned agree with Mr. Cundy that 'tis not wise. One horticulturist, who certainly is one of the most horticulturest horticulturists hereabouts, says any hard-barked tree, including the walnut, furnishes acceptable leaves for mulch. Think we'll have to make a leaf mould entirely of walnut leaves and find out for ourselves!

THE AWARDING OF PRIZES under the new system was expeditious and painless—and the respective funds came close to the all-time high—72 dollars.

Performance of the public address system was tops. Either its performance or the eloquence of Chairman Jack Hudlow, or both, may have influenced the audience in the matter of prize tickets. The audience gave an enthusiastic hand to Mr. Don Richard Merrick, who built and provided the public address equipment for us.

All in all, it was a fine opening meeting.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carlo E. Galli on November 10, and had a busy and constructive session.

Secretary Petersen reported on the chaotic meeting of our San Diego component, of which more anon. He also presented the names of the following 43 applicants, who were elected to membership:

Mrs. J. H. Asper, La Canada; Lucien Atherton and Mrs. Lucien C. Atherton, San Diego; Mrs. H. C. Bauman, Los Angeles; R. Bleecker, De Luz; Mrs. Robert Casamajor, Pasadena; Mrs. Geo. O. Chapman, Van Nuys; Delbert C. Colby and Lois H. Colby, Pasadena; M. R. Culbertson, Rivera; James E. Cunningham, Altadena; W. G. Cuzner, San Marino; Harry Eckles, Hollywood; Mrs. E. E. Emerick, Glendale; Benjamin J. Foltyn, San Gabriel; Al Gamper, La Canada; John Harn, Arcadia; Johnson Nursery, La Mesa; Mrs. Chas. Jurack, Arcadia; John C. Kohnen, San Marino; Mrs. Anna Kryger, Pasadena; James A. Morris, So. Pasadena; Stewart Mertz, Los Angeles; W. E. Parsons, Pasadena; James Rolens, So. Pasadena; Dr. L. H. Redelings, Pasadena; Mrs. L. H. Redelings, San Diego; Mrs. J. Segar, Hollywood; Bessie M. Stoner, San Gabriel; Miss Rhoda I. Wilkinson, Pasadena; F. D. Williams, Beverly Hills; Albert Wirz, San Gabriel; J. E. Youtz, Pasadena; E. F. Elmer, San Gabriel; James A. Gough, Pasadena; Albert K. Jannoch, Altadena; Dollie H. Kauffman, Glendale; R. Sanford Martin, Glendale; L. Tuttle, Altadena; Roma Coolidge Mulvihill, San Gabriel; J. I. Mulvihill, Pasadena; Chas. O. Petersen, Van Nuys; Dr. Jas. S. Montague, Los Angeles.

Treasurer Ward reported that he had revised his membership roster, dropping 30 persons who had not paid 1945 dues. This revision, with the addition of the 43 new members, makes a present membership of 290. Bob also reported an excellent financial situation. The balance

the general fund as of that date was \$292.77. The public address fund totalled \$36 and the publications fund \$310.97. The publications fund reflects the fine work of E. C. Tourje, chairman of distribution for the recently published camellia book, of which the chairman sold 195 copies. One hundred copies had been sold before he took over.

THE CHARTER MEETING OF THE SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY, a component of the Southern California Camellia Society, was held in the Board of Directors Room of the San Diego Post and Savings Bank on Saturday evening, November 10. Visitors from the parent society were Secretary and Mrs. Petersen, Treasurer and Mrs. Ward, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Casamajor and Henry Prucha.

Mr. J. W. Sefton nominated Thor Petersen to act as temporary chairman, to call for the nomination of a temporary secretary. Mrs. Clarisse M. Carlton was nominated and elected. Sefton was then nominated for the presidency, and was elected. The meeting was turned over to the new president, who called for nominations and election of the remaining officers prescribed by the by-laws of the parent society, under which the new organization will function until new by-laws can be drafted in harmony with those of the parent society.

The following officers were elected: Lucien C. Atherton, vice-president; Clarisse M. Carlton, secretary and temporary treasurer pending the later election of a treasurer; board of directors—E. W. Miller, Austin P. Carlton, L. H. Redelings.

The meeting date was set for the second day of each month.

Thor Petersen presented the charter to the new society and outlined the objectives and activities of the parent society.

Robert Casamajor spoke of the activities of the Horticultural Research Committee, and stated one would be formed in the south, so there might be valuable cooperation between the two.

The visiting group then put on the first program of the new society, showing a selection of the Verschaffelt kodachrome slides. They were much enjoyed, and the hope was expressed that more of them might be shown at the next meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8 p. m.

The cavalcade from the north visited camellia clubs and fanciers all the way to San Diego and back, making a full two-day trip which was pronounced one of the best ever.

Charter members of the new component are: T. Alderson, Mrs. W. T. Alderson, Lucien Atherton, E. D. Brooks, Mrs. E. D. Brooks, Edwin H. Brownell, Austin P. Carlton, Clarisse M. Carlton, Dr. C. E. Collins, Mrs. C. E. Collins, Anna Gombel, John C. Holman Jr., R. E. Lee, S. R. E. Lee, Dr. A. E. Moore, Dr. L. H. Murray, Richard L. Pinnell, Dr. L. H. Redelings, L. H. Redelings, Joseph W. Sefton and F. Stoner, all of San Diego; Ruth M. Glendon, Jolla; Johnson's Nursery, La Mesa; E. W. Miller, Coronado; Stanley W. Miller and Mrs. Stanley W. Miller, El Cajon, and Harvey F. Hart, Ramona.

THE CHARTER FOR THE AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY was approved by a Florida

Circuit Court judge on October 24. After signing the charter, the judge handed the secretary of the society a check for three dollars and became a member! Seems like a good idea to this scribe. Invitations are being sent out by the national secretary. If you get one, fine. If you do not, your check could be handed to our secretary or treasurer, who will see that your application is forwarded. Dues are as stated in the November Bulletin.

The president, as ex-officio member, attended a recent meeting of the Horticultural Research Committee. Howard Asper read a report on his investigation of flower blight, which appears in this Bulletin. E. C. Tourje reported the replies to his widely-sent questionnaire concerning the possible effect of root stock upon grafted camellias. We hope to publish the final findings in a later issue.

The committee discussed a proposed conference, to be held on the campus at University of California in Los Angeles (U.C.L.A., to you), for the purpose of considering the postwar expansion plans of the Department of Horticulture and Ornamental Floriculture. The committee voted that our society should be represented, our board of directors concurring, by Robert Casamajor, and drafted a resolution urging that a man of wide reputation should be engaged to head the department under discussion, and that his immediate assistants be men of acknowledged reputation and ability.

The U.C.L.A. conference was receptive toward this suggestion, concurred in by other organizations represented. A committee was appointed to draft the plan in detail and set up a budget to implement it. When the proposals have been approved by university authorities, they will be referred to the legislature for enactment of the needed appropriation. That is when our—YOUR—active support will be needed if our area is to have a top research and teaching staff in the field of horticulture and ornamental floriculture.

IMPORTANT! Your program chairman, Mrs. Ethel Campbell, asks that every member send to her (address given in roster, page 2 this Bulletin) a list of your 20 favorite camellias. Later, the returns of this vote will be given and the winning varieties will be discussed with regard to their good and bad traits. This will make an important, interesting and valuable meeting if YOU send in your list.

SEE HOW MANY OF YOUR FAVORITES WILL BE IN THE WINNING TWENTY!

HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Information Bulletin No. 1

*FLOWER BLIGHT OF CAMELLIAS

This blight, which occurs occasionally on camellia flowers, is a fungus growth and is known botanically as "Sclerotinia Camelliae," commonly called "Flower Rot."

It belongs to a large group of parasitic fungi, many of which cause plant diseases, and is much less likely to occur on plants in the open ground than in close association under lath. There seems little likelihood that many camellia growers will experience it in their gardens, but all should be on the watch for it, especially those who sell cut flowers.

There are three stages in its life-cycle which



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most directly concern the camellia grower: (1) spores, (2) fruiting bodies (apothecia), and (3) hard tissue growths (sclerotia), in which the spores lie in the dormant period.

First found in February, 1938, near Hayward, Calif. The fruiting parts of this fungus are cup-shaped or saucer-shaped bodies (apothecia), which grow close to the ground, and they were found in abundance under lath. None were found under plants grown in the open, neither were hard tissue growths (sclerotia) found. All varieties (50) seemed equally susceptible but only flowering plants were affected.

Symptoms

Infection may occur soon after tips of petals become visible or at any time thereafter. Irregular brownish specks appear first, rapidly enlarge into large spots, and finally the whole petal or flower becomes dull brown. If infection is near the petal base, the entire center of the flower may be killed. Small, dust-like spores (microconidia) are produced on fallen flowers in shiny black streaks or masses. Hard, dark brown to black tissue growths (sclerotia) form at the base of the petals, often uniting to form a laminated structure, simulating the imbricated petal arrangement.

Life History

Hard tissue growths (sclerotia) lie dormant on the ground or covered with soil or mulching

materials during summer, fall and early winter. Some become active in early spring; others remain dormant another year, or possibly longer. The fruiting bodies (apothecia) are produced during wet weather and rising temperature, and are stimulated by spring applications of barnyard manure, peat, etc. The stems may be long or short and the disks to $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter. They discharge the spores in small explosions which, when carried to the flowers by the wind or otherwise, invade the petal tissues.

In tests, flower spotting occurred 24 hours after artificial inoculation. The controls were unspotted.

Control

Since the spores alone cause infection, no control may be effected by destroying all fallen flowers by burning. Spraying of ground during the season when the fruiting bodies (apothecia) are formed, using a very strong fungicide may prove worth trying.

*This is an abstract of an article called "Fungal Blight of Camellias," by H. N. Hansen and H. Thomas, in *Phytopathology*, vol. XXX, No. 2, 166-170. Reprints may be secured. The Horticultural Research Committee has no arrangements to treat a few cases of this disease without charge, if not too distant from Pasadena in order to determine the efficacy of the control suggested, and would appreciate being advised by members if it is discovered by them on a specimen of a diseased flower submitted.

