

SOUTHERN  
CALIFORNIA



CAMELLIA  
SOCIETY

A Non-Profit Corporation

Volume VIII—Number 7

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

March, 1947

# *Camellia Show Souvenir Number*



## AN EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION

In this issue of the Bulletin the Southern California Camellia Society wishes to express its deep appreciation for the most generous response given by the public to the efforts of the Society, as expressed in its Camellia Show, to stimulate a desire to make all of our gardens more beautiful and thereby aid Southern California to live up to its name of being the "Garden Spot of the World." The tremendous ovation with which the Show was greeted is ample evidence that the public shares the pride which the Show Committee and the Society has taken in producing an all-Camellia Show on a most dignified level—a level to which the camellia certainly is entitled. The Show was arranged and administered entirely by volunteer personnel from the membership of the Society. No exhibit space was sold; no donations were solicited or accepted. The entire cost of the Show was defrayed from the sale of admission tickets.

In this expression of appreciation we wish to especially thank the Judges who labored to judge all entries by

the highest possible standards. No mean task was theirs, and they fulfilled it admirably. Our appreciation goes also to the many garden clubs of this area for their cooperation; to the press, radio and other agencies of publicity for their splendid assistance and cooperation; to distant garden and camellia clubs for their exhibits, interest and cooperation. Our profound thanks go also to the amateur exhibitors, and to all those willing workers who gave so generously of their time and effort in order that our Show might be the success which it proved to be.

Finally, we wish to express our deep gratitude to the commercial exhibitors, the list of whose names constitutes a veritable "who's who" of the outstanding camellia growers and distributors in this area.

We trust that every Lover of Flowers found in the Camellia Show an aid and, above all, an inspiration to greater use and enjoyment of that grand shrub—the Camellia.

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DR. H. HAROLD HUME, Provost, Division of Agriculture, University of Florida

## The March Meeting

THE MARCH MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY, INC., will be held on Thursday, March 13, 1947, in Odd Fellows Temple, 175 North Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena.

7:30 P.M.—Informal Flower Show.

8:00 P.M.—Dr. James Bonner, California Institute of Technology, will report the progress of his research with camellias.

8:40 P.M.—Round Table. Four of our experts will answer and discuss your questions. Get questions in early, in writing.

9:15 P.M.—Prizes:

Amateur exhibitor's prize, Chandleri Elegans Variegated.

Member's Door Prize: Emperor of Russia.

Publications Fund, Anita.

Test Garden Fund, Mathotiana (Julia Drayton).

The prizes are donated by Carter's Camellia House, San Gabriel Blvd., San Gabriel.

### GARDEN TOUR, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 15

The following gardens will be open between the hours of 2:00 and 5:00 p.m.

#### TO MEMBERS ONLY

Dr. Walter Reeves, 893 North Gainsborough Drive, San Marino. (Going north on San Gabriel Boulevard, Gainsborough Drive is the first right intersection north of Huntington Drive; it circles to the left; the Doctor's residence is on the left side of the street.)

Mr. Charles S. Jones, 800 Flintridge Avenue, Flintridge.

Dr. L. J. Taylor, 810 Highland Drive, Flintridge.

Rancho Del Descanso, 1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada.

#### MEMBERS ONLY

# Contact Effect of D.D.T. Spray on Camellias

William Hertrich, Curator  
Huntington Botanical Gardens

In the spring of 1946 some of our native oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*; *Q. Engelmanni*) became perilously infested with oak moths, necessitating spraying for control of the infestation. Two different kinds of materials were used for spraying: in one section, Criolite; in the other, D.D.T. (Dampo No. 50. Water-mix spray powder containing 50 per cent D.D.T.: 1 lb. to 100 gallons of water). The latter proved the more effective of the two.

Under these oaks are growing many shade-loving plants and about three hundred and fifty varieties of Camellias, largely Japonicas. In addition are some *Camellia reticulata*, *C. sasanqua*, and *C. saluenensis*. A few of the Camellias were affected by the reaction of the D.D.T. spray as follows:

The semi-double white variety locally known as "Edward Rust" became defoliated about two weeks after the spraying of the oaks. About four weeks after the spraying, some of the twigs began to die back. This circumstance noticeably progressed over a period of five months. At the end of this time, the "Ed. Rust" Camellias, ranging in height from ten to sixteen feet and with a trunk diameter of from three to five inches, died to the ground level. At this time some of the main roots were still alive. Whether or not they will sprout during the current spring growth will be interesting to observe.

The variety *Daikagura* was affected only slightly, dropping some foliage and showing a few dead twigs.

The only other *Japonica* variety affected was "Cheerful." Some of its

foliage dropped about one month after the spraying and a considerable amount of foliage became spotted with light green spots over the entire surface, but especially on the under side.

There are many *Japonica* seedlings (single pinks and reds) which were affected two to three months following the spraying of the oaks. Foliage would drop heavily, particularly after warm weather. Some plants began to die back at that time and others are still dying back. Some were cut back fifty per cent, others at ground level. No new growth has appeared as yet on those plants which were cut back. However, some very small seedlings, one to two feet high, which also were affected and died back to ground level, have shown new growth below the ground.

One variety of *C. Japonica*, "Dr. McLean" (the original seedling), became affected in similar manner three months after the spraying, began to die back, and finally, as an experiment, was cut at ground level to watch its subsequent behavior. Two other plants of the same variety on the other hand, which were grafted two years ago, were not affected at all.

Generally speaking there was a noticeable and decided effect of die-back on the *Japonica* seedlings after the D.D.T. spraying. Although the species known as *Saluenensis* was not affected by the D.D.T. spray, a variety known as "Apple Blossom" closely related to *Saluenensis*, dropped its young foliage, but has since recovered.

## March Meeting-Special Event

With all the splendid successes which the Show enjoyed, there seems little room for disappointments. However, we cannot permit the occasion to pass without expressing regret that what had been expected to be one of the "smash hits" of the Show—a gorgeous display of *Reticulata*—was thwarted by the capriciousness of Mother Nature, who failed to have the flowers open in time. However, it may be just as well, because:

One of the outstanding features of our March meeting will be a very special exhibit by the University of Cali-

fornia, at Berkeley, featuring blossoms of that most prized *Camellia*, *Reticulata*.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Jack Whitehead, Curator of the Botanical Gardens at the University, we will have on display a magnificent showing of blooms from the *Reticulata* tree on the campus at Berkeley: that patriarch of all *Reticulata* on the West Coast.

Note: It is to be regretted that we will be unable to issue guest cards for this event, and that admittance will be made only to those holding membership cards in this and affiliated societies.

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Il Tramonto  
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Martha Brice  
Reticulata

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# *The Effect of Colorado River Water on Camellia Culture*

Agricultural Chemist, Metropolitan Water District

Harold E. Pearson

Your Program Chairman, Mr. Huff, suggested that I might give you an idea as to where the Colorado River water is used in Southern California, perhaps with the thought that those who don't have to contend with it can get up and leave! I will make my remarks general so they may be used by people who use water other than that of the Colorado River.

The use of Colorado River water started in 1941, principally in Santa Monica, and on a trial basis in several other cities; since that time the cities haven't received free water any more, and Colorado River water has been used where and as it has been needed.

Assuming that most of you are from this general area, I will say that Pasadena is using about 40% Metropolitan (Colorado River) water. It is not distributed evenly—most of it comes to the southern portion of the city where you may be getting 70% Colorado water; and in the northern part you may be getting only 15 to 20%, or none at all. So don't blame all your troubles on the Colorado River!

This water is used in the harbor area and in the northeast portion of Los Angeles. Santa Monica uses it 100%. The Orange County cities, Anaheim and Santa Ana, have used it 100% since 1944. Laguna Beach uses our water about 85% of the time. Beverly Hills uses about 30%. In all cases, it is a mixture of local water and our water, the percentages varying as I have indicated. In Long Beach they use about 25% of our water, but most of it is used on the western side of American Avenue. For those who are vitally interested in the distribution of the water in the Pasadena area, I have a map that will show you just where the separate distribution systems are, and I can tell you after the meeting just what kind of water you are getting.

The Metropolitan Water District began experimenting with camellias and other plants in 1942. We wanted to find out whether some of the claims of the users of the water were true or not, particularly with the acid-loving

plants where difficulties were encountered with such plants as begonias, azaleas and a few of the ferns. We have not had any complaints with regard to camellia culture, but since the camellia is an acid-loving plant, we began experiments to find out if it would be affected.

We have propagated camellias from cuttings. The water seems to have no adverse effect on the propagation of cuttings. Plants obtained from cuttings were grown to maturity, and we find that the camellia does fairly well with our water. There are two or three things that must be taken into consideration with the use of Colorado River water. The water in itself is not toxic to plants. You can grow them in a culture solution containing the water. But over a long period of time as you irrigate with it you will find that Colorado River water tends to make the soil more alkaline. There is some misconception as to the exact meaning of alkalinity in California. When I speak of alkalinity I mean high pH. You know that some of these acid-loving plants like to grow in acid soil . . . that is, with a pH of 5, 6 or 6½ (See Chart No. 1). However, besides pH there is a second factor which may enter into the picture of Colorado River water, and that is the accumulation in the soil of minerals from the water. These minerals, if allowed to accumulate, will produce a concentration of salts in the soil which will cause burn, as shown in Elvin Carter's slides. Any excess of salts in the soil, regardless of whether they are fertilizer salts or not, will cause burn. The plant can't draw up the water fast enough to satisfy its needs, and consequently the plant dries out beginning at the leaf tips and progressing along the leaf and as the root is unable to supply the plant with the requisite amount of water.

The effect of using any water in Southern California that contains dissolved minerals, is that if these minerals accumulate in the soil, the excess causes injury to the plant. In order to remove these, give the soil a good leaching. Pour a lot of water into the soil occasionally around the plant; once in the middle of summer put an excess amount of water around the plants' roots, and you will wash the

\*Digest of a talk given before the February meeting of the Southern California Camellia Society.

accumulations away. Then you must remember you are also washing away part of the fertilizer materials. Consequently, you may have the plants suffering from the lack of certain foods. If you look at Chart No. 2 you will find the essential elements for the growth of the plant. First there is nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. The plant needs also calcium, manganese, iron, magnesium and zinc. If you have an alkaline soil you may find part of the reason for poor growth is due to the fact that plants can't obtain enough of these materials. Therefore, you acidify the soil and it makes the iron, manganese and zinc more available. Part of the chlorosis shown in Mr. Carter's slides is due to an insufficient supply of these minerals.

Now you know that you can use sulphur to acidify the soil. I would suggest that you use a mixture of cottonseed meal and sulphur, perhaps 5% sulphur and 95% cottonseed meal. The exact ratio does not matter. I suggest this in order to dilute the sulphur. It is easy to use too much sulphur. Let me warn you that you can acidify the soil too much, and this makes the phosphorus unavailable, also you get a greater solubility of aluminum and zinc in the soil, and these may become toxic. Don't get the plant root in an environment too acid. Most plants cannot stand a pH below 4. Most of them can tolerate from 4½ to 9½ pH. A plant suffers if these elements are not available because its nutrition is disturbed.

In addition to applying sulphur to soils, I find it helpful to mix acid peat with a compost of leaf mold or other compost medium. This acid peat will neutralize the alkaline water and keep the soil acid for a long time. Just as soon as the water hits the acid peat it is neutralized and made slightly acid. You can do the same thing if you want to add an acidifying agent such as

ferrous sulphate, but I don't recommend it for general purposes. The action of the sulphur is quite slow and sometimes it helps if you give the plant a little iron sulphate; as the bacteria begin to oxidize the sulphur, the soil will become acid and stay that way for some time.

We might remember in connection with the use of sulphur: don't repeat the application too often. Once you have applied sulphur, the second application acts much more quickly and the pH will go down rapidly—within 2 or 3 weeks.

Frequently people think that by simply acidifying the soil they are correcting the soil condition. In most cases, you must accomplish acidification with a good leaching, and I would suggest that you do this leaching just before you apply fertilizer. When you have removed excess minerals from the soil and have diluted the soil solution, the fertilizer materials will be more readily available to the plant and give better results.

In leaching you are likely to remove from the soil not only nitrogen, potassium and some phosphorus, but also some calcium and magnesium. These are essential elements. Consequently, when you use a soft water such as Colorado River water, which is low in calcium and magnesium, the need for adding these elements becomes apparent. Use gypsum at the rate of 5 pounds per 100 square feet around your camellias planted in the soil preferably in the late summer or fall. Part of the calcium and magnesium have been removed in softening the water, and sodium substituted for them; this is one of the elements that tends to accumulate in the soil, and it is the occasional removal of sodium that is necessary for continued culture of plants with Colorado River water. This removal does not have to be made very often. In winter, rain provides a good

*Camellia Show*

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natural leaching. One or two extra heavy irrigations in the summer will accomplish the same purpose during the growing season.

One should provide some way for the water to go down below the roots, because minerals added to the soil either in a fertilizer or by irrigation are going to accumulate in that soil unless some means of drainage is provided. If you have hardpan or adobe soil lacking drainage, dig a hole underneath the camellia plants and fill with gravel, rock or sand; then the winter rains and summer leaching will drain away the harmful minerals. I have a little demonstration I would like to show you of how this leaching works, because I want particularly to leave with you the idea of leaching once in a while to get rid of either too much fertilizer or too much mineral.\*

\*The demonstration consisted of a large tube filled with white sand impregnated with a rather heavy concentration of a dye. There was a clear glass pitcher containing water impregnated with a much weaker percentage of the same dye, which gave the water a delicate pink color.

This water was poured through the sand in the tube. As it emerged into another clear glass container it was seen to have a much darker pink color, imparted by the dye leached from the sand. The principle might be explained as follows:

Suppose that a single watering of a plant leaves in the soil a single unit, of whatever size it may be, of alkali salt; the salt is left when the plant absorbs and utilizes the water. Thirty waterings will leave the soil thirty units of alkali. Now the soil is given

a thorough leaching with the same water, containing one unit of the alkali salt; the leaching washes away the thirty units of alkali and deposits one unit which the leaching water itself carried. After the leaching, the soil holds one unit of alkali instead of thirty units!—Ye Ed.

In conclusion, I wish to impress upon you some good cultural practices: 1. Water more thoroughly and not quite so often. Don't sprinkle your plants a little bit every day. Water them once or twice a week or once every three or four days, depending on weather conditions. 2. Keep the soil moist—not too wet—not wet enough to cause root injury. 3. Provide good drainage and use it occasionally by leaching. 4. Maintain soil fertility. 5. Keep greenhouse or lath house temperature a little lower and humidity a little higher by sprinkling leaves and walkways.

#### CHART 1

##### pH Yardstick for Soils

Alkaline—pH 9.0 or higher  
Moderately alkaline, 8.5  
Slightly alkaline, 8.0  
Neutral, 7.0  
Slightly acid, 6.0  
Moderately acid, 5.0  
Acid, 4.0 or lower.

#### CHART 2

##### Plant Needs from the Soil:

Nitrogen  
Phosphorus  
Potassium  
Calcium  
Magnesium  
Sulphur (sulfate)  
Iron  
Manganese  
Zinc

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# *The Interested Observer Reports*

We are overdue on the report of an improved method of growing camellias from seed, and although it may be too late to be of any benefit to those who contemplate using seed harvested during the fall of 1946, it will be worth pigeonholing the information for use next year.

One of the members of the society discovered, perhaps "stumbled across" is a better term, a method of cutting the usual and customary time for germinating camellia seed from weeks and months to days, and passes it on for the use of those of us who wish to use the information. By word of mouth the method has leaked out, and some of the larger and more progressive camellia growers, as might be expected, are now employing the discovery and thereby not only saving time otherwise spent in waiting for seed to germinate, but quickly bringing germinated seed to plants, which at the end of a few months look more like plants in their second year.

The member who "stumbled across" this new method modestly reports that being delayed in the "starting" of the seed which he expected to plant in the orthodox manner he placed the seed in a jar of wet peat moss to keep them moist during the interim. It was, he says, thirteen days later before he got around to this task. When he emptied the seed from the jar, imagine his astonishment when he discovered that of something over four hundred seed thirty-three were germinated—some of them with tap roots up to two and one-eighth inches in length. These germinated seed were removed and the rest put back in the peat moss. In a few more days ninety-nine seed were found to have germinated, then eighty more, and soon only a few of the original 400 remained ungerminated. Some

of these on examination were found to be without cotyledons; some were obviously culls, and some were probably just plain cantankerous or sterile.

Fortunately, this man had enough seed under way so that he could indulge his curiosity for experimentation, because he promptly sought to determine whether it was desirable to permit the tap root to grow in its natural manner or to pinch it off at some point during its development. By doing the latter he discovered that not only do the young seedlings seem to not resent handling and having their tap roots pinched off, but that they actually thrive under this treatment. Moreover, that the young seedlings when pinched off immediately begin to throw out lateral roots at the point at which the tap root is broken. The reason for this is readily understandable. The entire vegetative force which nature has stored in the seed for the purpose of sending down that tremendous tap root is now thrust into the laterals. These lateral roots in turn soon throw out fine fibrous roots and fill a small pot in an amazingly short time, which brings us to a most important point. It is well known that these small fibrous roots are the ones which absorb the nourishment in the soil and feed the parent plant, and this is exactly what happens to these tiny seedlings. They begin to feed and grow fat.

As we get it, the best results have been obtained from pinching off the tap root at approximately three-quarters of an inch to one inch from the seed and then placing the seed in a two or two and a half inch pot of wet peat moss and coarse sand, or, to conserve space, in small shallow containers made from tar paper. The top side of the seed should be level with

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the surface of the mix. When the roots reach the edge of pot the seedling will have reached a height of three or more inches, and several little leaves will have developed. Transfer the plant at this stage to a somewhat larger pot of mix containing soil and leaf mold as well as peat moss and sand. Then begin to feed the young plant your favorite fertilizer in liquid form. Because of the fact that fertilizers vary, it is not possible to lay down a hard and fast rule, but try a quarter of an ounce in a gallon of water twice a week. Don't permit the peat moss to dry out as it is too difficult to re-saturate it.

Use of heat stimulates the germination and that is one reason why the method above described is so easy: the jar of wet peat containing the seed may be placed in any warm spot. There is no muss. Heat applied to the tender young seedlings is most beneficial, but not necessary. The seed should be started as soon after harvesting as possible, and when this is done, especially when heat is used on the young plants, there appears to be no period of dormancy during the first winter, and therefore the very mild fertilizer seems to have no detrimental effect.

## *The Fannie E. Morrison Horticultural Center*

Fannie E. Morrison came to Pasadena from Boston. She was a lover of both flowers and animals and had already contributed substantially to the Pasadena Humane Society when her physician, Dr. Phillip Schuyler Doan, interested her in the problem of providing a suitable place for the holding of flower shows. Dr. Doan was the first president of the Flower Show Association, which was already in existence; flower shows had already been held in Carmelita Park, the Busch Gardens and Civic Auditorium. Robert Casamajor acted as the intermediary between the Association, Mrs. Morrison and the Pasadena City Manager, C. W. Koerner.

Mrs. Morrison donated \$55,000 for the Horticultural Center buildings early in 1938; the City of Pasadena set aside

about 4½ acres for the project, leased the land to the Flower Association with permission to erect the buildings, and delegated to the Park Department the task of servicing them. The buildings were completed in 1938.

The entrance building, number one on the map, is 40 feet wide and 154 feet long; building number two is 36 feet wide by 84 feet long; building three is 36 feet wide by 84 feet long; building four is 36 feet wide by 98 feet long, while Camellia Grotto, number 4A on the map, is 36 feet wide and 26 feet to its greatest depth.

The central patio is 78 feet wide by 109 feet long, while the landscaped area in back of building four contains about an acre.

See map on next page.

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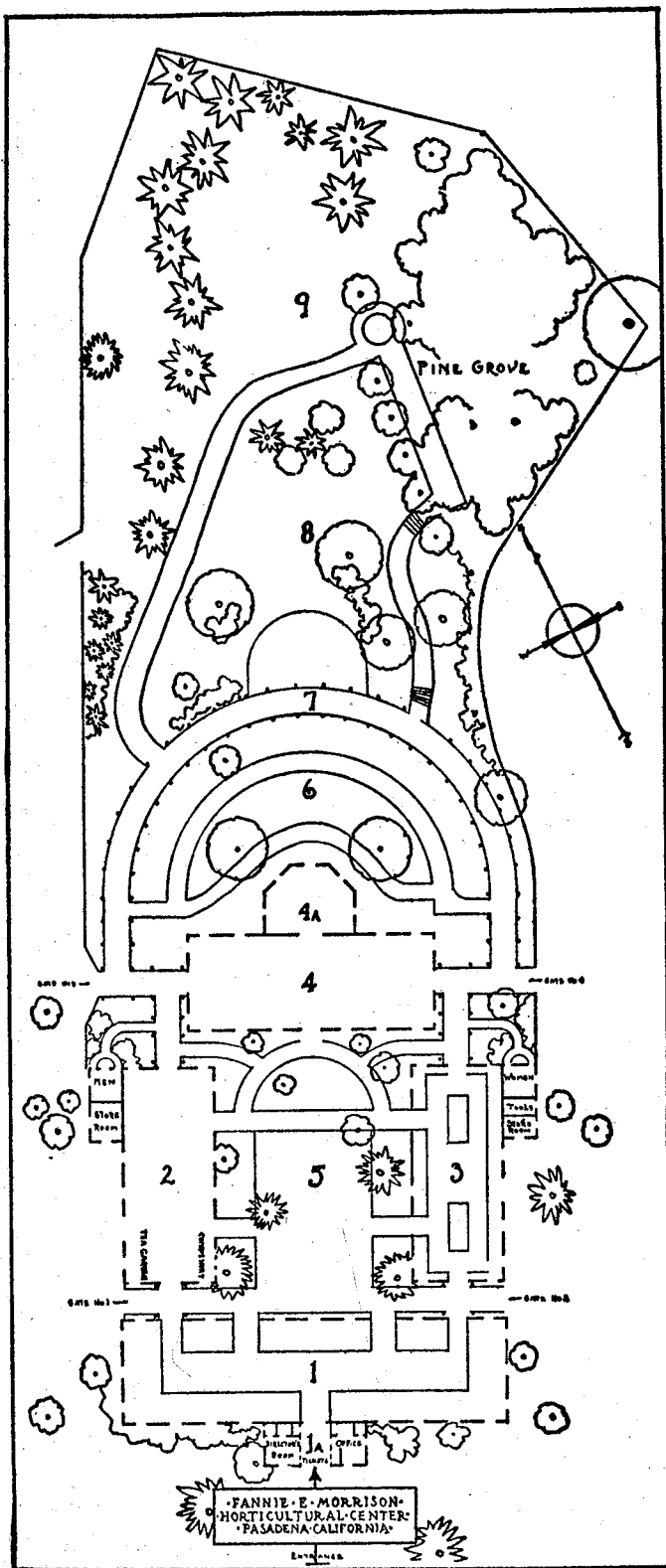
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3. Amateur Exhibits  
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Commercial  
Growers
4. Flower Arrangements
5. Nurseries Exhibits  
Garden Settings
6. Commercial and  
Garden Club  
Exhibits
7. Promenade

# The 1947 Camellia Show

## Prologue

THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY'S FIRST BIG ALL CAMELLIA SHOW did not spring full grown from a lightning-riven oak. When 32 Charter Members met on January 9, 1940, to organize the society, they had no more than settled in their seats and elected a chairman when they started discussing the possibility of putting on a camellia show! Each active year since then has brought the same suggestion to the fore. After exhaustive discussion by the Directors, the decision has been in effect—Not yet. Let's learn to creep before we try to walk. Twice the society has exhibited in the Spring Flower Show, twice joined with the Horticultural Institute to put on a camellia show at a joint meeting of the two societies to honor the camellia.

Last year the Directors reached the conclusion that another year should see the fulfillment of the society's sustained hope for a show of its own. Dr. John Taylor, then Vice-President, and Howard Asper, drove north with their wives to take in last year's northern camellia shows. Both had had extensive previous experience with flower shows; now they observed all-camellia shows, in preparation for the activities of the coming year.

The Board of Directors in September '46 authorized a survey of the possibilities for a show to be held the fol-

lowing February, appointed a committee to make the survey. This committee reported to the Board in November, at which time the committee was enlarged and the chairman, elected by the committee itself, confirmed. Dr. L. J. Taylor was confirmed as Director of the show. It was voted that a list of professional exhibitors should be prepared, together with a budget of probable expense, for submission to the Board at a special meeting to be held the following week. The Board approved the show committee's providing for advance sale of tickets to members and others to cover the amount of this budget; this was a "hedge" against one uncontrollable factor which might cause the show to fail financially—bad weather.

At the special Board meeting, Director Taylor reported having renewed his contacts with the professional exhibitors and presented an excellent list of those committed to participation; he also reported that pledges of advance sale of tickets, which had gotten an excellent start at the November meeting of the membership, had been increased to more than enough to cover the budget visualized. It is interesting to note in passing that the total expenditures, when the show was over and the books closed, was very close to that estimate. . . .

### CAMELLIA SHOW COMMITTEE

Howard Asper	C. Leslie Marshall	Ebon Carl Tourje
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William F. Huff	Dr. Lloyd J. Taylor	Chairman

### CAMELLIA SHOW SUB-COMMITTEES

Schedule and  
Classification  
Mark Anthony  
Entries  
Col. C. M. Gale  
Awards  
Mrs. J. W. Miller

Judges  
William Hertrich  
Art  
Tom Craig  
Flower Arrangement  
Dolores Taylor  
Nomenclature  
William Woodroof

Exhibits  
E. F. Elmer

Publicity  
William F. Huff

Printing  
Thor Petersen

Properties  
John A. Hudlow

Transportation  
Howard Asper

Maintenance and  
Dismantling  
Henry Prucha

Finance and Gate  
Robert A. Ward  
Rules and Regulations  
Ebon Carl Tourje  
Reception  
Dr. Hazel Merrick  
Outside Area Exhibits  
C. Elmer Peak

### SHOW DIRECTOR, DR. LLOYD J. TAYLOR

Director of Judges, William Hertrich  
Director of Flower Arrangements, Mildred Bryant Brooks

### JUDGES OF EXHIBITS

William Hertrich, Chairman  
O. E. Hopfer, Lovell Swisher, Richard Westcott, Jack Evans

### JUDGES OF FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

Mrs. William Hertrich, Lillian Higman, Judy McQuiston

The Board gave the "go" signal and the mad rush was on! The Show Committee met first in September and, through the winter, spent long hours planning various details, organizing and coordinating the activities of the various subcommittees, trying to foresee all exigencies, risks and hazards. Two meetings were held with the sub-chairmen, to coach them in the activities of their committees and to work out contacts and coordination between the groups of personnel.

As the zero hour approached, enthusiasm increased. No instance has come to light of any member turning down a request for help.

The smallest committees were those on Properties and Printing. Chairmen, Jack Hudlow and Thor Petersen, respectively, did their work single-handed and, in addition, dug holes, moved plants and "props," aided the entire committee and others. Many other "Old Faithfuls" did likewise. Henry Prucha joined Thor and Jack in taking a couple of days off to help set up the show; Robert Ward spent his entire vacation, purposely taken at that time, in show activities.

The second smallest committee was that on "Outside Area Exhibits;" Elmer Peak and Mrs. Peak handled the voluminous correspondence alone, together. The largest committee was the Reception committee, under the direction of Mrs. D. W. McLean, consisted of ninety members, serving in two-hour shifts; numerous were the comments of the "cash customers" as to the competent and courteous treatment received at the hands of this committee.

Setting up the show, translating plans into actuality, fell into the capable hands of Director John Taylor and the numerous subcommittee personnel. Enough could not be said regarding the excellent cooperation given our workers by the Pasadena Park Department, under whose jurisdiction the Fannie E. Morrison Horticultural Center is actu-

ally operated. For days, park department personnel moved props, dug, shifted, cleaned up, and proved a strong sustaining force. For several days, commercial exhibitors had men doing the ground work for their part of the show. Mrs. Robert Ward who, in addition to other staggering duties, served as special reporter for this Bulletin, ascertained the number of man hours spent in preparation of the first of the four buildings occupied by the show. Imagine, if you will, four buildings and a large patio all in process of preparation at one and the same time. Trucks coming and going; equipment, props, plants and heterogeneous paraphernalia being carried, "wheelbarrowed," set up, dug in, all over the place, until finally, presto, there it stood—fairylane come to earth! Read Mrs. Ward's report of "what it takes":

"We all know that in staging any kind of show, the finished production is the lasting impression. From the birth of the idea to the final preparations, the hours of work and detail form an interesting picture. Take for instance just ONE building of the camellia show. You have the roof, sides and ground. In just a few minutes the place is active with workmen, shovels, trucks, trowels, while scenes and gardens are constructed. But not within a few hours nor a day. Five and a half days were required to get the building ready for the show.

In compiling the working statistics for that one building these figures were available. A total of 93 men used 695 working hours in constructing sets and planting. In many instances, plants were taken from the pots and actually planted. Trees were constructed by using old tree trunks and live tree limbs. Thirty-six huge trucks were used in hauling supplies to that ONE building alone. Keep that one building in a corner in your mind and multiply it by three more such buildings plus a

large patio, and the magnitude of preparation for the camellia show might bloom before your eyes. Makes a big blossom, doesn't it?"

Recognizing the camellia show as a civic event of major importance, publicity agents gave warmest support. In the Home and Garden Magazine of the Los Angeles Times on February 4, appeared a full-page spread, containing two superb color pictures and an article, "Meet Miss Camellia," together with an announcement of the Show.

## *The Show - - Curtain*

Came the morning of the Show. The General Chairman of the Show committee had been called to Chicago, missed the final days of active preparation which turned plans into actuality. Arriving home by plane at 3:30 on the morning the show opened, he got his view of the almost finished product a couple of hours before opening time. Although he had pictured something pretty fine, the actuality choked him up, made speech impossible. Well—

The Entries Committee flew frantically from one division to another; many volunteer workers aided in receiving and labeling last-minute amateur entries; judges went busily about their work; in the flower arrangements building all was intense last-minute industry.

Finally, in the midst of this beehive activity, as startling as though it had not been feverishly expected—the gong! The big doors swung open. The people poured in. This was it! **The Show was on!**

In an hour, the four buildings, patio and promenade were full to capacity. From noon until the closing gong at 10 p.m., the public poured through the show 5000 strong. As the committee personnel took their tired way to their parked cars, they spoke with dread of the mob that would surely descend upon the show next day; past history of all shows in the area is that Sunday is the "heavy" day.

Sunday morning's opening bore out the prediction of heavy attendance. The weather, however, was cloudy; rain threatened. By midafternoon it was pouring; the good old "cats and dogs" sort of rain. People still flocked in in sufficient numbers to keep the buildings comfortably filled. Show personnel agreed that only the weather had prevented an unmanageable "jam." Rain, feared in advance as a possible blight to the show, proved almost its

The February 9 issue carried an outside cover ablaze with camellia blossoms in color. Other newspapers throughout the city and the southland area carried stories; radio programs spread the tale; Tom Brenneman presented camellias instead of orchids; garden club and garden sections of women's clubs, to the tune of some four hundred, announced the show to their members. One of the outstanding jobs of the entire show was done by William Huff, Chairman of Publicity.

salvation! All in all, the weather had been most kind. An unusually cool, cloudy period had held back camellia bloom until just one week before the show; the committee was worried lest there be a scarcity of material. Three or four days of fine, warm weather popped the buds and provided material in profusion. Now this "unusually unusual" rain actually came to the rescue!

Attendance at the show was 10,594; of these, 404 were children, and 319 had complimentary passes. In addition, five military patients attended, by special invitation, to the McCornack General Military Hospital in Pasadena.

Visitors to the show first entered Building No. 1 (see map). Here they received souvenir programs and were registered for the door prizes. At this writing a complete breakdown of the more than 10,000 registration cards is not ready. Superficial examination shows the visitors to have come not only from local areas but from many states and several areas in Canada. A number of visitors stated they had come by train, plane or auto from distant states especially to see the show.

The door prizes were large camellia plants, one for each daylight session and one each evening. The winners were:

Mrs. J. S. Vosburg, Glendale. Camellia California Donckelaari donated by Rancho del Descanso.

Mrs. Mildred Franse, Los Angeles. Camellia Alba Plena donated by Valley Garden Supply Co.

Mrs. E. T. Nellar, Los Angeles. Camellia Maraschino donated by Marshall's Camellia Nursery.

Mrs. Florence Freedmond, Los Angeles. Camellia Cameo Pink donated by Mark Anthony's Camellia Garden.

**Building No. 1** was devoted to commercial exhibits and presented a scene of beauty which drew many "ohs" and



"ahs" as visitors got their first view from the doorway.

The exhibits in Building 1 were:

Valley Garden Supply, Ventura Blvd., Van Nuys. Exhibit suggested the use of the camellia as a landscape plant and the allied plants that may be used in combination to complete a lovely garden picture.

Armstrong's:

A huge white glistening heart, banked with all varieties of Camellias, depicting the romance of the Camellia, backed with beautiful specimen Camellia plants in colorful array.

Germain's:

Depicting a picture showing the adaptability of the Camellia in growing and thriving beautifully in both shade and sunlight. Backed by beautiful large specimen Camellias.

Rancho del Descanso:

A woodland scene showing the Camellia growing happily in its natural surroundings under the majestic oak trees. That portion of the exhibit presided over by Harry Wammack showing the "manufacture" of grafted plants had throngs milling around to see and ask questions. Dr. Walter E. Lamerts had prepared an exhibit showing the steps incident to hand-pollination of camellias; this, too, was a point of major interest.

Paul J. Howard:

Showing the use of the Camellia as a background to an intimate patio with tiny pool, garden figures and lovely garden furniture to complete an interesting garden patio picture.

Evans and Reeves:

Lovely garden corner using large Camellias as background, with bordering of lovely deep shades of primroses and other colorful flowers.

Coolidges:

Portraying a picture of Camellias planted in a garden under an oak tree around the terrace of an attractive balcony.

Gilliland Gardens:

Depicting a naturalistic setting of specimen Camellias and featuring blossoms of the lovely new Camellia, General Isenhower.

Foothill Gardens:

Portrayal of a formal garden with a fountain of floating Camellias depicting coolness and serenity of the shade garden.

Many visitors thought this large first building housed the entire show, were surprised when invited by the Reception Committee to move on and see more. An exit at the extreme left led to Building No. 2, one at the extreme right to No. 3.

**Building No. 3** housed the amateur exhibits, cut flowers, and the exhibits of certain commercial growers.

As one entered, the room presented a blaze of color. Along the left wall ran three tiers, bleacher-fashion, covered with amateur entries of cut flowers and blooming plants; at the far end, the Pomona exhibit of closely massed blossoms seemed like a solid sheet of color.

Down the center of the room was a two-sided, two-step bleacher, crowded with cut-flower exhibits, amateur and commercial. This was broken in the center of the room by the stone fountain, also built up in three tiers, covered with camellia foliage as a background for cut flowers.

The right wall of the room was lined with a long, covered table platform, above and on which were commercial exhibits.

The high point of sustained interest was a display of labeled blossoms of Camellia Japonica, arranged on the tiers of the fountain in the center of the room. This exhibit was made by the Southern California Camellia Society, Inc., for the benefit of the public in the identification of varieties and as a nomenclature aid. At the top of the fountain were also displayed the trophies awarded for the most outstanding potted or boxed plant in bloom in the amateur class, for the most outstanding cut flower in the show, for the most artistic floral arrangement using camellias, and for the sweepstakes award.

The cut flowers and plants in the competitive amateur division consisted of blossoms in each color and form, potted and boxed plants, grafted plants, and blossoms from seedlings. The flowers and plants were many and varied—and were exceptional.

There were also on exhibition fine plants and blossoms of Dr. McLean, Robert Casamajor, and Anne Galli which originated at Huntington Gardens.

Mr. Wilkie and Mrs. Wm. Viney displayed many exquisite blossoms and plants.

On one wall of the building Mark Anthony exhibited outstanding Camellia prints, and O. L. Eakin, Jr., portrait artist of Warner Bros. Studios, exhibited eight outstanding Camellia portraits which were airbrush renderings using aniline dyes.

Beautiful blossoms were shown by the Pomona Valley Camellia Society; the valentine motif of the exhibit of the Pacific Camellia Society was charming.

The commercial growers exhibiting in this building were as follows:

Mark Anthony: a beautiful display of cut flowers.

Marshall's Camellia Gardens: a fine and large display of cut flowers.

(Continued on page 19)



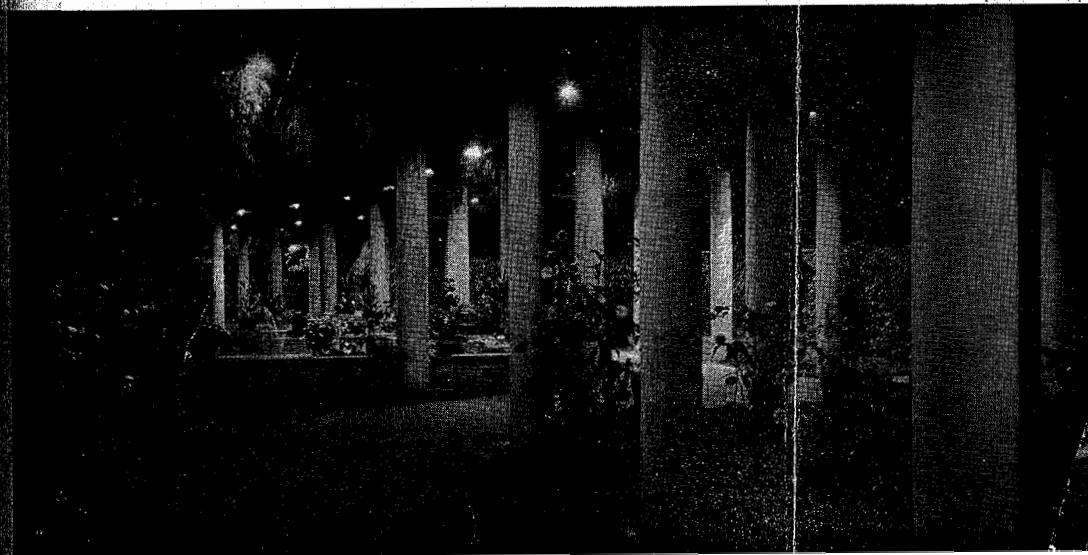
Central Patio

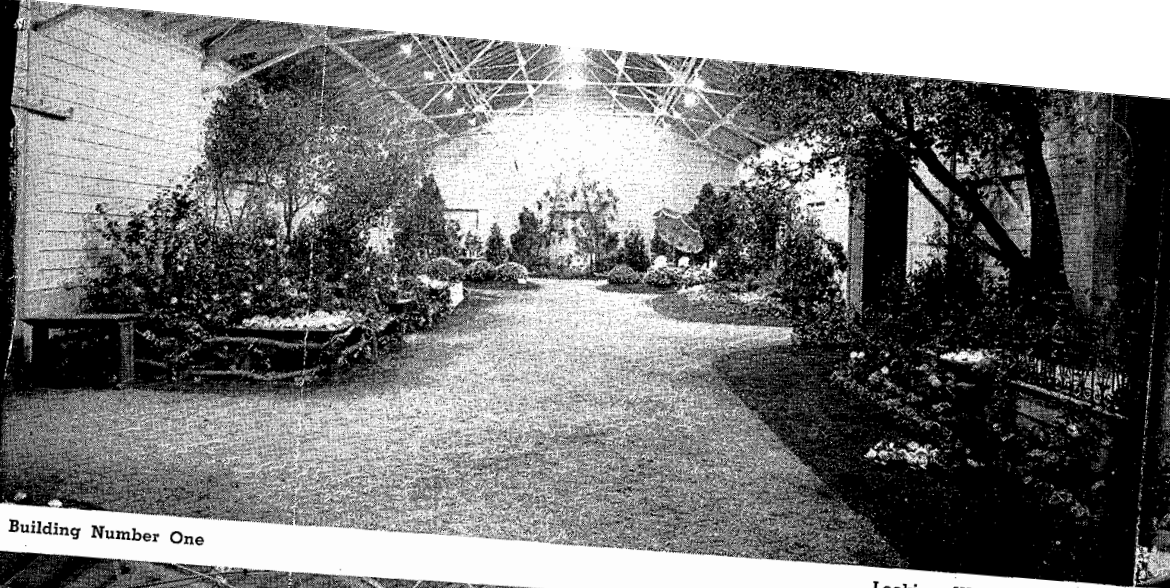
*Southern California's  
First Large Scale All-Camellia Show*

held in the  
Fannie E. Morrison Horticultural Center  
Brookside Park, Pasadena, California  
February 8th and 9th, 1947  
under the auspices of the

*Southern California Camellia Society, Inc.*

Views by Ernest H. Brooks, Photographer  
South Pasadena, California





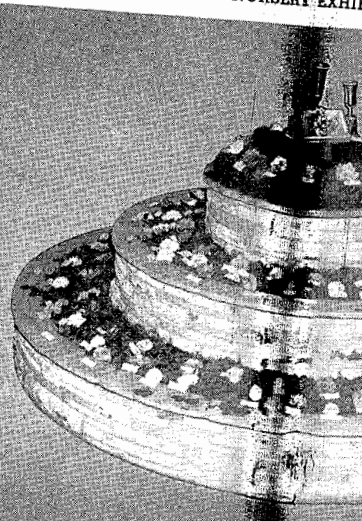
Building Number One

Looking West — NURSERY EXHIBITION

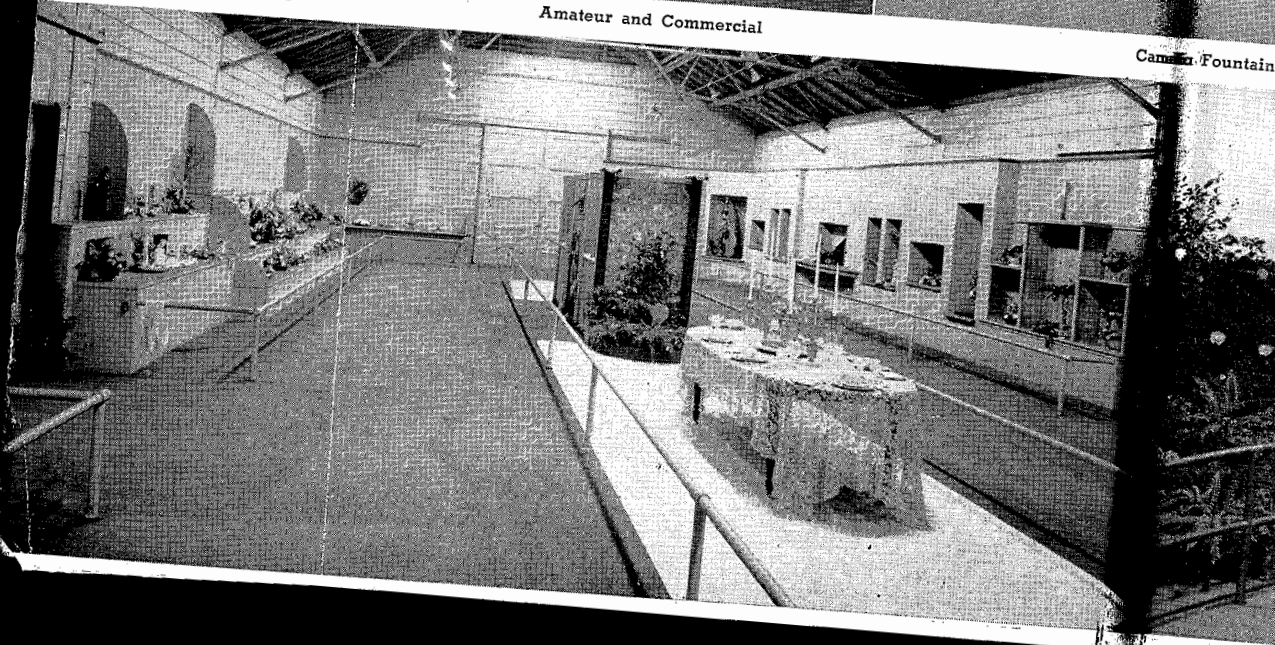


Building Number Three

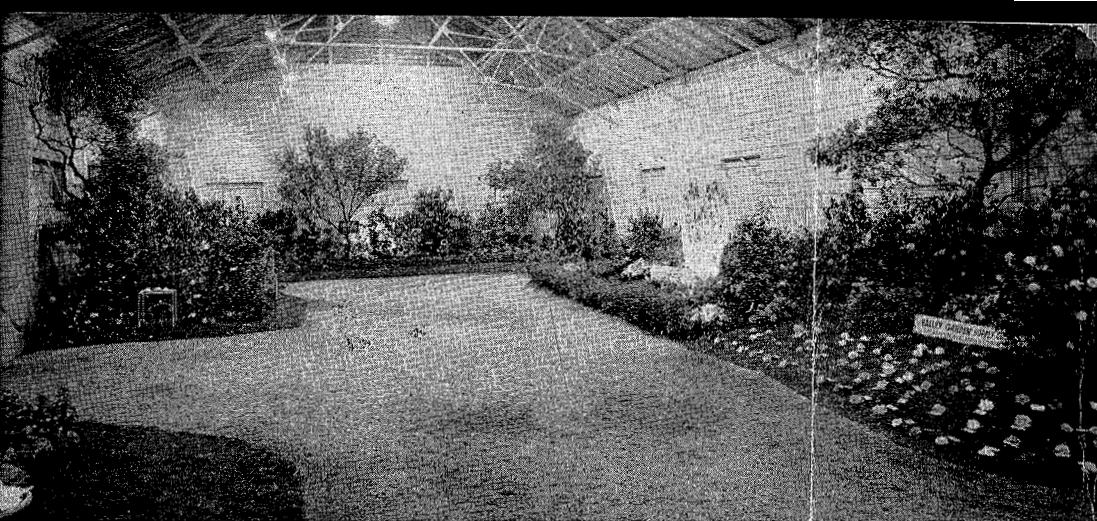
Amateur and Commercial



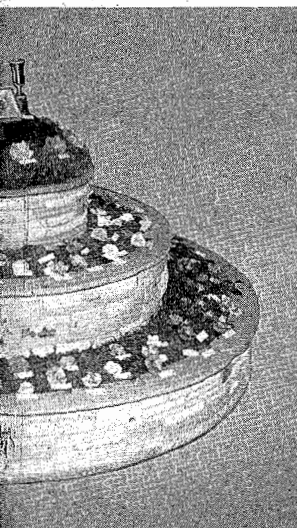
Camera Fountain







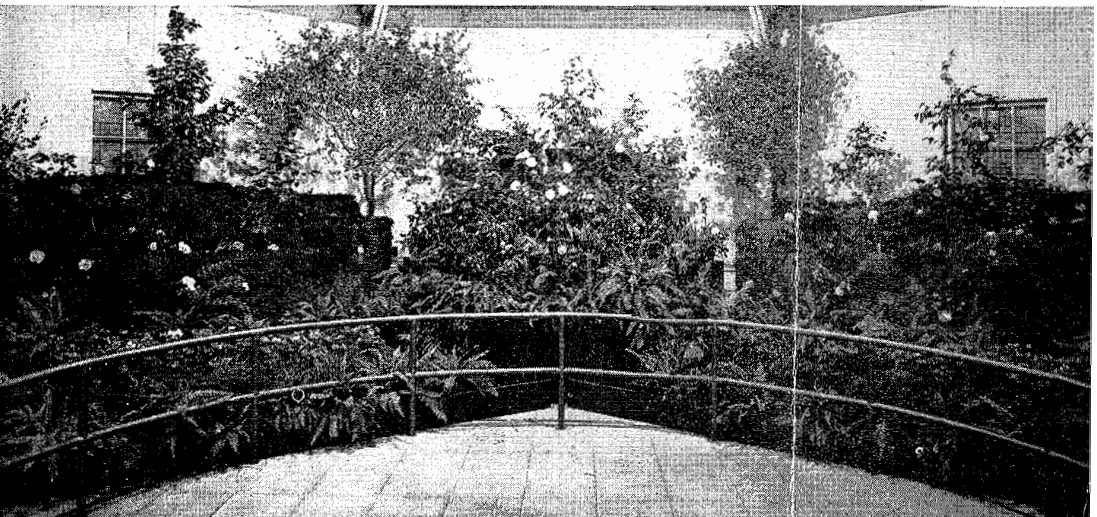
EXHIBITS — Looking East

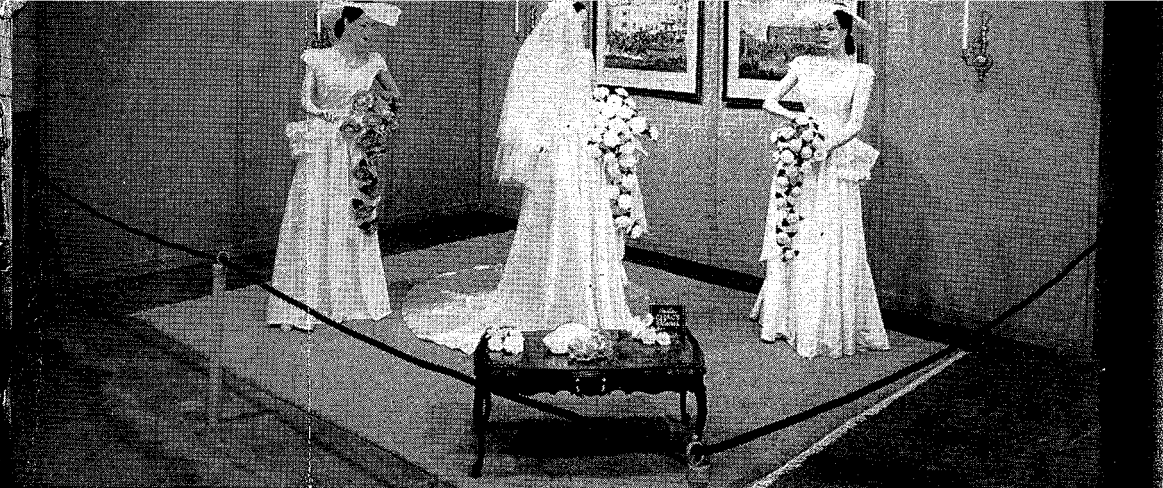


Fountain



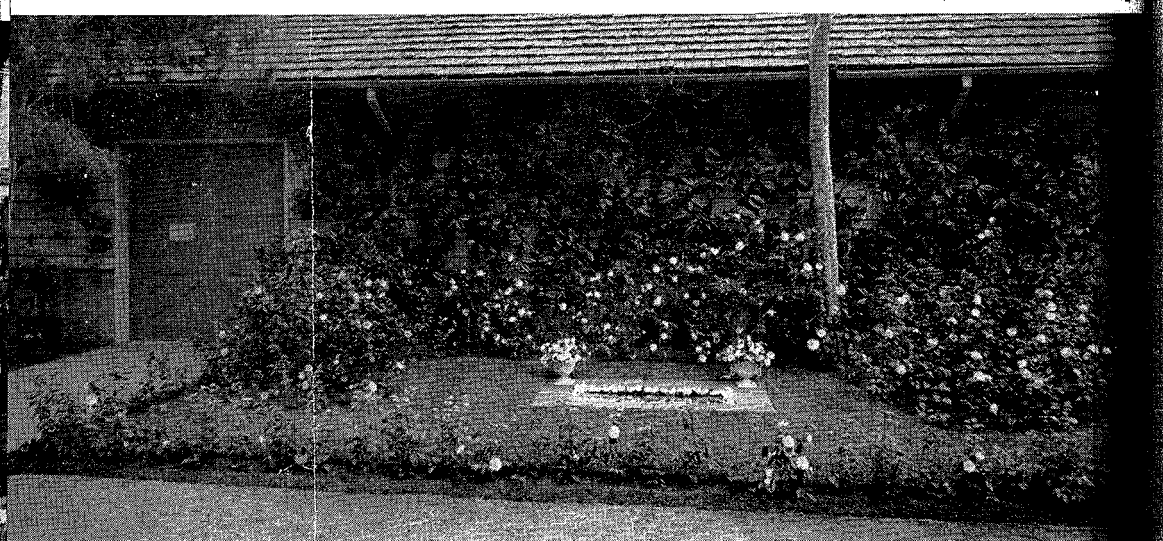
Amateur and Commercial





Bridal Exhibit by I. Magnin, Pasadena

Flowers by Cedric's, Los Ang



Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Jones Exhibit





**Shepp's Shade Gardens:** a lovely exhibit of cut and tailored flowers in many varieties using *Chandleri Elegans* as a background.

**Clarence Hearn:** a fine display of cut flowers featuring his seedlings.

**Carter's Camellia Gardens:** a novel display of Camellia corsages contained in transparent boxes and displayed on black velvet drapes.

**McCaskill Camellia Gardens:** The background of this display was a lattice work of green vine with a Camellia blossom at each intersection. At each corner of the exhibit was a massed display of Camellia plants with a large and varied collection of Camellia flowers in the center.

**Mrs. Carlo E. Galli:** very fine exhibit of cut blossoms and specimen plants shown in three tiers with a black background.

**Boyle's Camellia Garden, Del Mar, California,** showed twelve camellia plants in twelve stages of the operation of grafting. This, and the printed grafting instructions detailing the twelve steps, proved of consuming interest to the visitors.

The exit at the far end of Building three led into a patio on the right of which were amateur entries of large blooming plants, graced by the tall *Debutante* massed with bloom which won for Secretary Elmer Peak the President's Cup. On the left was a pathway to the large central patio; beyond was the entrance to Building four. Straight ahead lay a stone terraced patio beautifully outfitted with plants and patio furniture by Marshall's of Sierra Madre. Beyond this stretched the long curved Camellia Promenade enclosing the lawn and garden landscaped by Ralph Smith of Pasadena. For the view from the Exit of Building three, see Figure One.

**The Camellia Promenade,** covered by a pergola supported on white pillars, was a veritable camellia lane, some seventy-five large camellias in containers having been placed between the white pillars by the Charles S. Jones estate. The Promenade ended in a stone terrace matching that at its beginning; this also was outfitted by Marshall's. The lighting effects in these patios and in the large central one about which the buildings stand, were ingeniously and beautifully developed by Nightingale.

**Building Four** was the Flower arrangement building.

The designers of the Flower Arrangement room were Mildred Bryant Brooks and Carmen Denton Edgar. Sensitive to the intrinsic quality of elegance in the Camellia, these artists styled the room to emphasize the character of the blossom.

The niches for the professional flower arrangers were repainted in muted colors to bring harmony to the building and a compatible background for the camellia compositions.

By invitation, twenty-one professionals and thirty-one amateurs contributed their talent to the success of the Show and created designs of sensational beauty.

Many of the amateur arrangements competed in finesse and imaginative quality with those of the professionals. A dignified background for the camellia theme was achieved through the use of tall marble columns on either side of the entrance to what was once referred to as the Orchid Room, but which has been renamed "Camellia Grotto" (4A on the map). In the center section, the rose marble was repeated in panels flanked by slender dark green fluted columns with simple Ionic capitals. Against these were massed tubbed white camellias and maiden-hair ferns.

A focal point of interest in the center of the room was a fully set dinner table; this exhibit was made possible by the generosity of Col. and Mrs. C. M. Gale who furnished the exquisite appointments. The table centerpiece featured camellias and azaleas under a glass bell.

The East and West entrances were dramatized by austere cone arrangements with white Ionic columns against a background of grayed chartreuse. These were built of rich green camellia leaves with a single row of blossoms spiraling from the base to the tip of the cone. In these, as in the entire room, the regal quality of the blossoms dictated the styling.

**The "Camellia Grotto,"** opening off of the flower arrangement room at back center, was banked with foliage and blossoms. Prepared by E. C. Tourje, J. I. Case and Lawrence Washburn, this exhibit won much praise—and a Special Award.

**Building Two** contained Feature Exhibits which excited rapturous comment.

A Bridal Party consisting of mannequins representing a bride and two attendants was prepared by Magnins, under the direction of Miss Lowe, Manager of I. Magnin's, Pasadena. The gowns were the very latest creations. New feature in all white weddings, with V neckline and off-the-shoulder models. Bride in lovely ivory satin with new feature of beaded peplum and introducing a very new feature the bride's satin hat matching the gown, with fingertip veil. The Maid of Honor and the Bridesmaid were wearing white taffeta faille with new peplum and bustle-back effect.

The bridal party's flattering wide-brimmed hats were of white starched lace with open crowns. Their lovely cascade bouquets were designed and made by Verne K. Kackson, nationally known teacher of floral art, of Cedric's Flowers, Los Angeles, and were copied from the Duchess of Kent's wedding. The Bride's bouquet was all white *Purity Camellias*; the Maid of Honor, all *Chandleri Camellias*; the Bridesmaid, all *Pink Perfection Camellias*.

In front of the bridal group, on a beautiful table, was an exhibit by Podesta and Baldocchi, of San Francisco, an outstanding floral piece designed by Edward Goeppner. It consisted of a pink satin heart with black and pink maline ruffle, banked solid with *Pink Ball Camellias* having a black and pink satin tie. Accompanying this lovely heart of camellias was a dainty hat of *Pink Ball camellias* with pink satin bow nestled in its ruffle.

Opposite the Bridal Party was displayed a lovely Wedding Tea, prepared by Bullocks, Los Angeles, under the direction of Mr. Minister, General Merchandise Manager of Home Stores and Mr. Elrod of the Studio of Interior Decorating, both of whom attended throughout the show. This exhibit consisted of: Sideboard, Old Colony; Break Front, Tibbingham of England; Imported banquet cloth, just arrived from England and never shown before.

The centerpiece of the buffet tea table was designed and arranged by Miss Northrop of Whitford's, Pasadena. It was a gorgeous display of Francine and Elizabeth Arden camellias interspaced with white hyacinths, arranged in a lovely silver and crystal tree, with flat bowl around base.

The Old Colony sideboard was graced by a beautiful all-white arrangement of *Alba Plena camellias* backed with gladioli and stock, prepared by Hanssens of Glendale.

This Scribe stood spellbound before the exquisite beauty of these exhibits. Finally, coming out of his trance, he stood for a considerable period watching the trances of other visitors. Their reaction followed a set pattern. A long-drawn breath or "ah-h-h" at the door; then a bee-line to one exhibit or the other, and a long trance in which every detail was taken in. Amateur photographers were especially busy here; several people made sketches.

The remainder of Building Two, partitioned off, was on the prosaic side. Not so ornamental, the coffee shop, but comforting at intervals, both to tired show visitors and to even-more-tired show workers!

**The Large Central Patio** was a beautiful thing to behold, from whichever of its many approaches one chose. One of its conspicuous features was the large number of huge camellia plants in pottery containers, part of the celebrated collection of over two hundred such plants owned by our Vice-President, J. Walter Reeves.

The garden settings throughout the patio were designed to be the center and focal point of the entire picture, using each building as a floral annex to a lovely garden depicting the theme of the show: "Winter Garden Romance."

There one found many distinctive individual gardens of *Camellias* banked with azaleas, pansies and other colored flowers, embellished by sculptured garden pieces placed by the internationally known sculptor, Nishau Toor.

One of the patio gardens, shown by Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Jones and designed by Ethel Campbell, signified the debut of their new seedling *Mary Charlotte*, named after their daughter. The debut, a group of massed blooming plants of the new seedling, was placed beside a fountain and pool of quartz and rock, harmonizing soft colors with the pinks and whites of rare camellias. *Mary Charlotte* had as her distinguished guest another new *Camellia*, *Berenice Boddy*, named after the charming wife of Mr. Manchester Boddy.

Another garden setting representing a corner in a "back yard" garden, was designed and staged by Mr. and Mrs. V. Katlenbach, assisted by Mr. Wirz of Oak Park Gardens, was beautifully done. With a bird bath of floating *Camellias* backed by specimen *Camellias* and bordered by azaleas.

A beautiful *Camellia* garden with many rare and colorful specimen *Camellia* plants bordered by hundreds of pansies, was prepared by Tuttle Brothers.

In another spot one found a large collection of tubbed camellias bordered by a planting of begonias, by Carter's *Camellia House*.

A corner garden by Mark Anthony and Les Marshall showed many new varieties of *Camellias*, labeled so *Camellia* lovers could pause and list new varieties to enhance their own gardens.

A beautiful banking of *Camellias* and azaleas interspersed with ferns was incorporated across the back of the front building by Evans & Reeves.

At the far end of the patio was the restful beauty of a lawn and garden setting with a banking of soft pink azaleas around a sculptured "St. Francis," flanked by two white metal settees and three large pink azaleas.

At night the patio was ingeniously and artistically lighted by — Night-ingle, specialist in garden lighting. The softly lighted garden spots, with hidden "floods" emphasizing points of special interest, served as a fairyland border for the central space of lawn where a blazierd crackling fire gave the scene an air of peace and beauty—of "Winter Garden Romance."

### List of Commercial Exhibitors

Germaines, Paul J. Howard, Evans & Reeves, Armstrong Nurseries, Coolidge Rare Plant Gardens, Tuttle Bros. Nurseries, Valley Garden Supply Co., Carter's Camellia Gardens, Rancho Del Descanso, Gilliland Gardens, Mrs. C. E. Galli, Mark Anthony, C. Leslie Marshall, McCaskill Gardens, Paul E. Shepp, Pasadena Foothill Gardens, Charles S. Jones, Cloyd Marshall's Sierra Madre Nursery, Clarence Hearn, Carter Camellia House.

## Epilogue

With the show an accomplished fact, gone down in Southern California Horticultural history, it is interesting to look back, to evaluate it through the eyes of both workers and visitors.

Thor Petersen and Henry Prucha were seen doing much gum-shoeing around during the show. "Hey," they now report, "did you know there were 819 plants exhibited in the show, and 2386 blossoms on those plants? Did you know there were 182 flower arrangements exhibited by 28 persons and using 1250 blossoms? Did you know there were 4291 individual blossoms in the amateur cut flower entries? Did you know that the grand total of Camellia blossoms in the show, both cut and 'on the hoof' was 7931?" No, Thor and Henry, we didn't; and we wouldn't now if it hadn't been for your patient counting—bless your chubby little hearts!

Comments overheard at the door were interesting, sometimes amusing, sometimes enlightening. One person looked at the price of admission, the ticket takers at the door; watched an exhibitor enter with fresh blooms and a vessel of water. This visitor made no comment; strolled around to the back, accumulated a watering pot and some camellia foliage, and calmly strolled through the gate unquestioned! "Why didn't you run forward and stop her?" we asked our informant. "Oh," she replied, "I'd have been so embarrassed!"

"Wonderful." "Beautiful." We must tell Gladys and Henry to be sure to see it. "I hated to leave" . . . Then along came a lady who tip-toed to look in through the crowded gate and remarked, "I saw the announcement in Sunset Magazine and they didn't say anything about an admission charge. I've come all the way from Bakersfield, but I'm not going to pay any dollar to look at flowers," . . . and away she went. Hal Hill, able Business Manager

of the Bulletin, talked with many visitors at the registration table; also stood both inside and outside the entrance, deliberately eavesdropping! Here are Hal's impressions:

### INTERESTING HIGH-LIGHTS OF OUR OUT OF TOWN GUESTS!

One-hundred and thirty-five visitors from 28 states, two from the Hawaii Islands, and eleven from six cities in Canada attended our show. Some came from Washington State and Idaho just for the event. Many were Camellia lovers, and hundreds of others had never seen any or at most a half-dozen Camellias. The newcomers were well inoculated and from the comments are well on their way to becoming "just another Camellia bug."

Two visitors from New York were motoring through Pasadena and followed the Camellia arrows, and they were enthusiastic in their praise stating the "most beautiful flower display" they had ever seen and the "most interesting stopover" on their tour of the country.

A retired industrialist from the East was so smitten that he plans on making Camellia growing his hobby, and his new home with two acres in Southern California will soon be a busy spot. His pockets were full of pamphlets and his questions just as numerous. Another "bug" on his way!

A family from Canada registered, and a few minutes later, another Canadian group signed up. I told them I had registered some "Mapleleaves" and they soon got together. Same town! - old friends! - new hobby!

"Gosh, I thought they grew from bulbs", and "look at the size of that bush"! "Well, I never knew there were so many varieties, - all I ever saw was a pink perfection and all the buds fell off" - and so on - - - !

"Do you actually grow them from seeds? Will they grow in Vermont?" Next year, it is suggested that there be three experts with **"Information"** on their badges, so the many questions can be properly answered.

On Monday, Dr. J. Walter Reeves conducted about twenty-seven out-of-town guests through the Cal-Tech Camellia Research Laboratories and Huntington Camellia Test Garden. This trip was a fitting climax for those out-of-town guests who were fortunate enough to stay.

Many who worked to make the show a success are buzzing with ideas for improvements for shows to come. To take full advantage of these, the show committee will, by the time you read this, have held a dinner and evening meeting of all personnel for an open forum on show experiences and show ideas. A stenographer will take these down. Each member of the General Show Committee and each Sub-Committee chairman will hand in a written report of his sphere of activity, how he went about his job, how that work could be more effectively done next year.

Before winding up this story by printing for the record the names of Cup and Award winners, Ye Editor has two or three things on his mind. First: Deepest appreciation to those who aided in rounding up the material for this record. Without the assistance of Mrs. L. J. Taylor, E. C. Tourje, Bob and Anita Ward, Thor Petersen, Hal Hill, Henry Prucha and William Woodroof, this Show Number of the Bulletin would have been impossible.

Second: As Chairman of the Show Committee, he wishes to render heartfelt praise and thanks to all of the show workers, from the President and Show-Director L. J. Taylor on down to the humblest. A show of this calibre doesn't just happen. It takes sacrifice and work. One instance is worth citing as an example: John Lodge, of Pasadena, was one of our Charter Members. Not on any committee, John nevertheless turned up when the show was being set up; turned to with the others and worked continuously for fifteen hours! Hats off to that sort of spirit and to all those who possessed it!

## *The Winners*

### Report of Awards Committee

Mrs. Harry Wammack, Mrs. Carl Leitz,  
Mrs. J. W. Miller, Jr. (Chairman).

1. Grand Sweepstakes Winner—Lynn Helm, Jr., San Gabriel. (13 first prizes, 8 second prizes, 4 third prizes. Total—59 pts.)
2. Most outstanding Plant. Debutante—C. Elmer Peak, Sherman Oaks.
3. Best Cut Flower of Show.  
Div. I, Class 5, 3 Red Rose Form—Mathotiana Rosea. Mrs. Chesley Osborn, Pasadena.
4. Best Amateur Flower Arrangement.  
Div. 15—Flame Camellias Using Figurine—Marion Conroy, Van Nuys.
5. Blue Ribbon, Outstanding Seedling.  
Div. A, Verne McCaskill, East Pasadena.  
Div. B, Pink Seedling No. 197—Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Jones, La Canada.

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- Div. 1, Class 4-B.  
First—J. Wm. Back, La Canada.  
Second—Lynn Helm, Jr., San Gabriel.  
Third—Mrs. Chesley Osborne, Pasadena.
- Div. 1, Class 4-C.  
First—J. Wm. Back, La Canada.  
Second—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord.  
Third—John R. Lodge, Pasadena.
- Div. 1, Class 4-D.  
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Second—John R. Lodge, Pasadena.
- Div. 1, Class 5-A.  
First—Mrs. Robert A. Ward, Los Angeles.
- Div. 1, Class 5-B.  
First—Mrs. Chesley Osborn, Pasadena.  
Second—Mrs. J. C. Sheppard, San Marino.  
Third—A. C. Thompson, Rosemead.
- Div. 1, Class 5-C.  
First—Lynn Helm, Jr., San Gabriel.  
Second—Edna B. Ketchum, Pasadena.  
Third—John R. Lodge, Pasadena.
- Div. 1, Class 5-D.  
First—John R. Lodge, Pasadena.  
Second—Lynn Helm, Jr., San Gabriel.
- Div. 1, Class 6-A.  
First—A. C. Thompson, Rosemead.  
Second—Mrs. Lloyd S. Porter, Arcadia.
- Div. 1, Class 6-B.  
First—John R. Lodge, Pasadena.  
Second—Mrs. Lloyd S. Porter, Arcadia.  
Third—Lynn Helm, Jr., San Gabriel.
- Div. 1, Class 6-C.  
First and second—John R. Lodge, Pasadena.
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First—Mrs. Lloyd S. Porter, Arcadia.

Second—A. C. Thompson, Rosemead.

Third—Mrs. J. C. Sheppard, San Marino.

**Div. 2, Class 2-D.**

First—Lynn Helm, Jr., San Gabriel.

Second—Winston Hines, Temple City.

**Div. 2, Class 3-A.**

First—James Loyal.

Second—J. Wm. Back, La Canada.

**Div. 2, Class 3-C.**

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Second—J. Wm. Back, La Canada.

**Div. 2, Class 4-A.**

First and second—J. Wm. Back, La Canada.

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**Div. 2, Class 4-B.**

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Second—Mrs. Victor Wagoner, Arcadia.

**Div. 2, Class 4-C.**

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Second—Lynn Helm, Jr., San Gabriel.

Third—J. Wm. Back, La Canada.

**Div. 2, Class 4-D.**

First—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord.

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**Div. 2, Class 5-C.**

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Third—Lynn Helm, Jr., San Gabriel.

**Div. 2, Class 6-A.**

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First—C. Elmer Peak, Sherman Oaks.

Div. 9, Class 1-6-B.  
First—Lynn Helm, Jr., San Gabriel.

Div. 9, Class 2-2-B.  
First—C. Elmer Peak, Sherman Oaks.

Div. 9, Class 2-2-D.  
First—C. Elmer Peak, Sherman Oaks.

Div. 9, Class 2-4-A.  
First—C. Elmer Peak, Sherman Oaks.

Div. 9, Class 2-6-C.  
First—C. Elmer Peak, Sherman Oaks.

Div. 9, Class 2-6-D.  
First—C. Elmer Peak, Sherman Oaks.

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Third—J. Wm. Back, La Canada.

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Third—Mrs. Berkeley F. Jones, Pasadena.

Div. 22.

First, Second, Third—Mrs. R. M. Bauer, San Marino.

## *Interested Observer Rides Again*

Came a day when Ye Editor was engaged in one of the most time-consuming and exacting of editorial duties, that of sitting under the old oak tree, smoking his corncob pipe with one hand, chewing a fresh-picked straw with the other and doing some plain and fancy ruminating on the side.

Like the burst of an atomic bomb came a blinding flash of inspiration. Why not make the March Bulletin a Souvenir Camellia Show Number? Still blind, the editor went to work on it.

Came the show! Thousands of square feet of floor space covered with exhibits. Thousands of camellia fans milling around. Thousands of data to collect. Thousands—and thousands—of words to be scribbled. What to do! On the point of atomic dissolution himself, Ye Ed groped for a solution. Suddenly, groping in mental darkness, the editorial hand struck something solid.

Wearied from past exploits, the good old Interested Observer was these days doing quite a bit of corncobbing and straw-chewing himself. Could I.O. be lured into action? Would Interested Observer ride again? Old I.O. was approached with an adroitness surpassing that of a sorely beset heroine of the Lone Prairie approaching the retired two-gun cowboy. And Interested Observer rode again!

Boy, how he ride!

He made Paul Revere's little scamper "through every Middlesex village and town" look like a walk around the block. If you would ride with him, cinch your belt, settle comfortably in the saddle and sink your spurs deep for a romp from one end of the big state of California to the other.

**From Los Angeles**

"Please find enclosed \$4.00 for two memberships.

"When is the next meeting?

"The Show was Wonderful!"

**From San Jose**

"Inclosed you will find a check for two dollars for my 1947 membership dues.

"I get a lot of pleasure in reading the regular Bulletin, which keeps me informed of the doings at the meetings, which I cannot attend because of the distance.

"The officers and directors are a very active and capable group and deserve a lot of credit.

"If the Curator of the Test Garden should be looking for a particular variety for grafting purposes and I should have it, I would be happy to mail a scion or so for the cause . . . Sincerely yours, C. Breschini."

AMONG THOSE DISTINGUISHED GUESTS who honored us by "taking in" our show, was Jerry Olrich whose magic is responsible for the magnificent condition of the parks and gardens around our state capitol in Sacramento. Come in, Jerry:

"This is a little late but I just returned to work Monday, the 17th. I left Los Angeles Friday. I attended the Southern California Camellia Society meeting Thursday evening with Mr. John Edwards of Milbrae, California.

"Among those who attended your Show from the Sacramento area, were Miss Marie Bosworth, Secretary and Coordinator of all Sacramento Garden Clubs; Mrs. Sutter, former Secretary of the Sacramento Camellia Society; Mr. Arthur Mohr, President of the Sacramento Camellia Society and Mr. John Edwards who accompanied me from Milbrae.

"Your show was a really fine show and may I be one of those who extend sincerest congratulations.

Hurriedly,

(Signed) JERRY OLRICH."

## VIEWS OF THE SHOW

C. D. Cothran, President

Pomona Valley Camellia Society  
affiliated with

Southern California Camellia Society

The "Show" had been talked to our members in glowing terms for three months, and our expectations had grown greater and greater as we talked. The day had arrived, and we were on the grounds. Were we to be disappointed and slightly apologetic in future contacts with our members? We certainly were not!

The only other Camellia show I ever attended was in Catania, Sicily, in March of 1935. I was a camellia enthusiast even then, having a Chandleri, two Covinas and a Rosita planted at my home in Pomona. The Italian show was beautiful, but my principal recollection of it is some very fine displays of Alba Plena and Bella Romana blooms. There were other camellias, of course, but mainly small red and pink forms of which I remember little. The entire display was housed in a small room in a park building.

Perhaps my expectations were based on this small show I had seen in Italy. In comparison to the present show the only thing I can think of is a covered wagon compared to a modern streamlined automobile. The several buildings filled with blooms, the lovely patios, the hundreds of specimen plants in bloom—but why go on? It beggars my poor powers of description.

I saw lots of notebooks in evidence, which probably indicates a complete collapse of the person's defenses against the insidious Camellia virus (I hope Mr. Wammack will pardon the plagiarism). I had a notebook also, and used it frequently. Since each person's list would differ considerably, I am going to list a few varieties which I do not

now have, but which I hope to have in the near future.

Anne Galli I must have; to me, it and Mrs. Keating were tops of the show. General Eisenhower and Fimbriata Superba; aren't they gorgeous? Strawberry Blond, Lady Jane Gray, and the beautiful Rosa del Rancho. The brilliance of Vedrine, Glenn No. 40, and Derbiana are difficult to equal. The blushing Berenice Boddy modestly made itself a place. I should think General Patton ought to be a large, rugged and blood-red bloom, but the glowing pink that the name is attached to is certainly tops.

But if I continued I would shortly have all of the varieties listed. Let's end the "Views" with two thoughts. First, a tribute to our parent society and its hard-working members for such a glorious spectacle. Second, let's wish that the show may be held again next year, and that we are all able to attend!

I should pay tribute to our own Tom Johnson of Johnson's Nurseries at Pomona, and Miss Elizabeth Whitehead for their beautiful arrangement of the Pomona Valley Camellia Society display. Also to Mrs. Laura Whitehead, Pomona Nurseries; Reeves Nurseries, Paul Hartman, Clark Thomas, Lynn Honaker, and others who contributed the blooms. Our blooms have been a little late this year and it took cooperation to make the display possible. My thanks to all of you."

A PLUG, Gentle Reader, could be a round mass of Pre-Volstead rubber, used to stop the drain hole in the kitchen sink. But it isn't. It's a reminder to patronize our advertisers—and to tell them why you do so. Thus you will help them, your Bulletin and your society—and thus yourselves!

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## SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY NOTES

As might be expected, our old friend (meaning one of long standing) "Doc" Miller writes to tell us how much he and our other friends down there enjoyed seeing the Show. Our ties with the members of the San Diego group are close, and perhaps their judgment is biased as a result of the affection which exists between our members. But "Doc's" comments are nevertheless sweet, because we know that at their February meeting held just after our Show, the talk among their members was pretty much about their trek to Pasadena and that "without exception, all agreed it was the finest thing they had ever attended. One person was impressed by the cooperation of the commercial and amateur growers as evidenced by the exhibits. Another thought the quality of the blooms was very outstanding. Still another spoke of the versatility of the camellia as shown in the flower arrangement exhibits, and of the number of new seedlings. A general nursery owner and operator was amazed at the number of people who apparently are interested in camellias.

"As to the features which attracted attention we were unanimous in placing the bridal display first. The flower arrangements were given much praise. The attractiveness of the commercial grower displays with their numerous varieties caused us all to increase our "want list." The quality of the amateur blooms and plants was evidence to me that the commercial grower is not the only one who really makes a study of the art."

Needless to say one of the outstanding exhibits of the Show was that entered by Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Boyle, a better account of which will be found elsewhere.

### "CAMELLIA GROTTO"

Don't let us hear anyone again refer to the semicircular alcove off the floral arrangement building at the Fannie E. Morrison Horticultural Center as the "Orchid Room." It is now the "Camellia Grotto." Believe it or not, that lovely woodland glen effect which so charmed the thousands of visitors who thronged through its cool, moist, refreshing beauty was an eleventh-hour inspiration by Dr. Walter Lammerts ably worked out by Bill Stringfellow, a newcomer in our midst from Sierra Madre, who with a corps of assistants worked night and day to finish this inspiring display, and get "swept up" just as the gong sounded for the start of the show. It is amazing what the

boys accomplished with the fine specimen camellias obtained from Lawrence Washburn and E. C. Tourje, and the other plants and greenery shanghied hither and yon. We're going to hear more about this young Stringfellow whose efforts were such a large factor in bringing to this exhibit a special award of merit.

## PACIFIC CAMELLIA SOCIETY HAS BEAUTIFUL DISPLAY

The Pacific Camellia Society of Glendale used a valentine motif for its display at the Camellia Show, which was most effective and created much comment.

The brilliant red hearts made a perfect background for the exquisite white blooms while the large heart, decorated entirely with blooms of Emperor Wilhelm, was outstanding.

The lovely corsages in heart-shaped containers of cellophane were exceptionally attractive, and nearly every woman who looked at them remarked about their beauty.

Mrs. Paul C. Berger was chairman of the committee on arrangement, and was assisted by Mrs. A. J. McKenzie, Mrs. David Winans, Mrs. Frank Douglas and Mrs. T. B. Nichols. Mr. David Winans and Mr. Fred Daniels gave the always needed male assistance.

Several pats on the back for the fine spirit of cooperation being displayed by this enthusiastic, up and coming young group, which is serving its community so admirably under the able, inspired leadership of Dr. John Clairmont and his fellow officers and directors.

## OUR VISITORS FROM HERE AND THERE

Of course, there just isn't enough paper to give special mention to the many visitors from most of the states, and on up from neighboring Canada to the north. The unstinted praise of the wayfarers from Victoria and Van-

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couver, B.C. joined that of our friends from Michigan, and Georgia, and New York. It was all sweet to the ears of those who had worked hard to make this first show a success. We cannot, however, refrain from making special reference to Mr. Norman Mansfield of New Orleans, who missed his own show in order to catch a plane to visit ours (fancy that, now). He paid us a wonderful compliment. He stated to Director Taylor that he had made a point of "taking in" all the camellia shows for many years past, and that he had seen most of them, but that this one was the most outstanding and beautiful it had ever been his privilege to visit. Thank you, Mr. Mansfield. It could not have been a finer compliment, and coming from you makes it doubly treasured.

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY NOTES

Rivalry may exist between the northern and southern parts of the state in some respects. We can't answer that, because we can't be expected to know everything. But if any rivalry exists between our camellia societies, it is limited to effort on the part of the members to outdo each other in courtesy and the display of a genuine spirit of genial cooperation. If this statement needs proof, please read the following excerpts from a letter just at hand from our friend and rival, Harold L. Paige, of Oakland, California, Vice-president and Show Chairman of the northern group. It makes us swell with pride, and we will continue to treasure it as one of the finest compliments we could receive. Mr. Paige says:

"The most stimulating educational feature of the trip was the tour planned for Monday, through the Cal. Tech. laboratory, the Huntington Test Gardens, the Manchester Boddy gardens and laboratories and the Tourje and Taylor

private gardens. The information received on research projects under way was greatly appreciated.

"The most enjoyable single feature of the show itself was the great number of large camellia trees in full bloom, used both in the outdoor exhibits and in competition, and as part of the large-scale landscaped exhibits. It was interesting to see newly developed varieties, some of them still not on the market, and an excellent opportunity to check on differences in well-known varieties as they grow in the North and the South.

"We were, of course, impressed with the garden center which lent itself so well to the holding of a camellia show. I was particularly impressed with the fact that you were able to drive trucks right into your exhibit building and use a crane to deposit and pick up full-sized trees and other landscaping material. This fact could not help but impress a group which must carry its exhibits up a flight of steps and arrange them in a room with hardwood floors which must be protected from dirt and water.

"We were impressed too with your outstanding publicity, which brought visitors from the extreme East, North and South for the sole purpose of seeing your show.

"The show and our entire trip were much more successful than we had anticipated—and we had anticipated a great deal—and we all felt very much rewarded for the time and effort we spent in making the journey south."

Members of the Northern California Society to honor us by making the trip down to the show included:

Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Hopfer, President of the Society, Oakland.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. Paige, Vice-president & Show Chairman, Oakland.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert V. Mitchell, Director, Oakland.

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Mr. Ernest Higgins, Berkeley.  
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. L. Stoeckle, Concord.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Griffith, Director, Hayward.

Mr. Alfred Stettler, San Francisco (Manager of S. F. Show).

Dr. J. H. Willmore, San Rafael.

L. P. Glaudon, San Anselmo.

Vernon James, Elliott Nurseries, Los Gatos.

Gordon Courtright, Berkeley.

John Edwards, Millbrae.

Sorry their Secretary, Mr. D. L. Feathers, was unavoidably prevented from joining the caravan. Better luck next time, Mr. Feathers. We missed you.

From AMY C. MITCHELL, Oakland, California (whose husband, Herbert V., took pictures, took pictures and—took pictures).

"We enjoyed your Show immensely and wish to thank you for all the kindnesses extended to us while we were in Pasadena. All of your members were so kind to us we didn't want to come home.

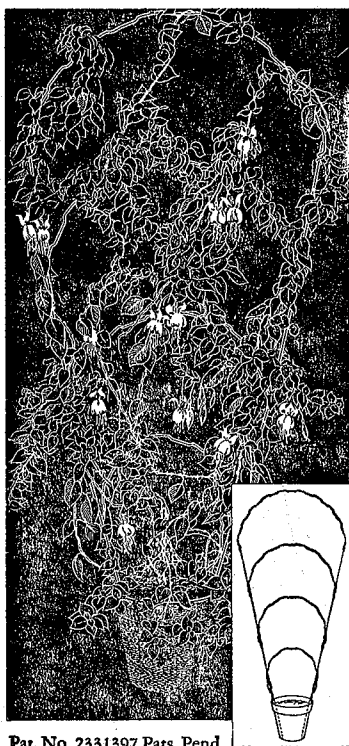
"In spite of the fact that exhaustion has temporarily replaced enthusiasm, we will attempt to briefly give you some of the facts on the Stoeckels' successful "Operation Camellia" invasion of Southern California territory.

"Mr. and Mrs. William L. Stoeckle

of Concord, California, now known as the "Cake Box Kids," have added another collection of prize-winning ribbons to their rapidly-growing assortment.

"The Stoeckles left their Concord home Friday about six p.m. laden with six large cake boxes and one small traveling bag. With high hopes they headed for the San Francisco Airport firm in the belief that the wonders of modern air transportation would soon have them in Los Angeles. On their arrival at the airport, to their horror they found all planes grounded by fog. By good fortune they were able to leave only a half hour late on a Constellation which was headed for the East Coast. On arriving over the Los Angeles area they were unable to land due to fog and were finally landed at Palmdale. They then started by bus ride to Lockheed Air Terminal. Having carefully carried the cake boxes on their laps during the plane trip, they suffered innumerable agonies on the bus trip watching baggage and cake boxes jammed together on the seat of the bus. By the time they arrived at their destination some of the boxes were pretty badly mashed.

"On arriving at their hotel at 3 p.m., the Stoeckles did their best to salvage the blooms so they would be suitable for competition when the show opened. Fortunately, few of the blooms were



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completely damaged, and they were able to enter fourteen classes at show time on Saturday.

"The excellence of their flowers and their careful packing paid rich dividends, for they won twelve ribbons. Eight first, three second and one third prize. Their joy on learning of their winnings can be attested by all those present in the room who heard the squeal of delight by Mrs. Stoeckle. To say they were pleased is a gross understatement."

AT THIS POINT, Gentle Reader, the gallop is over. THE INTERESTED OBSERVER has completed his roundup of Camellia Show news. Turning his tired pony into the corral, he hangs his dusty sombrero on a peg by the bunkhouse door and—reaches for his corn-cob pipe.

#### THE OAKLAND CAMELLIA SHOW

That very young and enthusiastic group of camellia lovers, known as the "Northern California Camellia Society" held their second annual "Camellia Show" February 22nd and 23rd in the 20th Century Club in Berkeley.

This show, the second in as many years of their existence, would indeed have been a credit to an organization much older and with a far greater membership than that group can boast.

The organization and set-up of this show showed careful planning and the general orderliness of the whole picture was a real demonstration of what can

be accomplished by a group of flower lovers, who take pride in presenting a perfect picture for the public's approval.

It was a revelation to see our friends from the North in action, under the capable supervision of our good friend, Mr. Harold Paige, director of the show, getting ready for the opening bell, and to see the show completely finished and ready for the judges with so little confusion.

The distinction of "Best Camellia in the Show" was won by the variety "Frizzle White" an entry from Los Gatos.

The Stoeckels, as usual, were there with their super blooms and walked away with Grand Sweepstakes, with Mr. Feathers, secretary of the society running second.

Other strong contenders were Mr. Griffith and Mr. O. E. Hopfer, the latter being their dynamic and most gracious president.

Much has been said of southern hospitality, but if the treatment accorded outside guests to this show was any criterion of northern hospitality, just please make mine northern.

Judges of the exhibits were Mr. James of Los Gatos, Mr. Mohr of Sacramento and Lloyd J. Taylor of Los Angeles. They were most ably assisted in this work by the very efficient help of both Mrs. Herbert V. Mitchell and Mrs. O. E. Hopfer.

The "Southern California Camellia Society" extends greetings and best wishes for all future activities of the northern group.

—Lloyd J. Taylor

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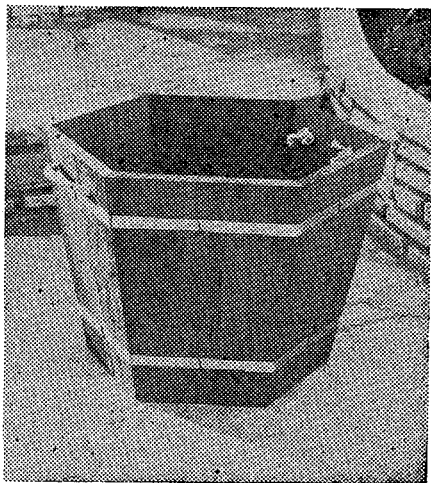
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