AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

NEWS-LETTER



July 1946

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From: The Office of the Secretary

Although July may seem somewhat out of season for thinking about Camellia Shows I would like to bring up the subject at this time. If I can be notified I will list in future issues the dates and places shows will be held during the season. Since the next issue will be in October it is not too soon to start bringing this information together. I would also like to have a list of qualified judges for the Committee on Exhibitions and Awards. Frequently this office is asked to recommend judges and it is time to start a roster covering the various areas. If you are qualified please send in your name or if you know of a qualified judge who is not a member of the Society send in his name.

Dr. Hume, as Chairman of the Committee on Certification of Varieties, asks a poll of the membership on what shall be done about new varieties submitted for naming. Shall plants be sent in to one or more trial gardens for comparison with current varieties and records made of their behavior over a period of a year or two before they are released? Shall flowers be passed around the Committee for examination and this be considered sufficient? Or shall anyone who produces a seedling they feel is superior or different be allowed to name it without further ado?

It is true of roses, iris, dahlias, gladioli, chrysanthemums, and other flowers controlled by societies that some system of testing is used. Camellias are somewhat different in that a long period may he required between planting seed and enjoying a first flower and it may work a hardship on the grower to have to wait for it to pass through a testing period. There are, however, very few growers competent to judge whether or not a seedling produced by them is different from or superior to other varieties already in the trade because very few are familiar with all the thousands already in cultivation. They cannot even be certain that the name they propose to use is not already in use. This is forcefully brought out by the use of local names on old established varieties or the statement found in nursery catalogs that they are listing Lady Vansittart and Lady Vansittart Variegated when the type Lady Vansittart is variegated.

The Garden Club of Norfolk was awarded the Massie Medal given by the Garden Club of Virginia for the outstanding work of the year for its work in camellia culture as evidenced by the Norfolk Camellia Show which was held March 16-17, 1946.

The Men's Garden Club of Savannah received a horticultural award for their Camellia Show which was held February 9-10, 1946. There were 4168 flowers on exhibition and 2200 paid admissions. A majority of the members became members of the Society, which affiliates their organization. Appointment of Standing Committees

The By-Laws of the Society set up eight standing committees, appointments to seven of which have just been made.

The following accepted appointments to the Committee on Certification of Varieties, of which Dr. H. H. Hume is Chairman: Alabama, Hoyt W. Lee, C. R. Stephens; California, 1. R. Cody, Dr. David McLean, A. E. Morrison, H. C. Swim; Florida, J. R. Rosa, Filo H. Turner; Georgia, H. T. Conner, S. C. Hjort, D. C. Strother, J. P. Illges; Louisiana, E. A. Mcllhenny, Mrs. Gahagan Pugh, Dr. King Rand; North Carolina, S. L. Marbury; Oregon, H. H. Harms; South Carolina, Walter Allan, Dr. H. G. Mealing; Texas, R. A. Merritt; Virginia, M. A. Hartigan, Jr.; Washington, John W. Schaefer.

The following accepted appointments to the Finance Committee; T. J. Smith, Chairman, T. E. Fletcher, and A. W. Solomon.

The following accepted appointments to the Research Committee: R. J. Wilmot, Chairman, Mrs. Sheffield Phelps, Dr. David Mcl.ean, B. Y. Morrison, and Roger B. Thompson.

The following accepted appointments to the Committee on Commercial Interests: J. C. Bailie, Chairman, James Ferger, Glen F. Harris, and C. N. Hastie, Jr.

The following accepted appointments to the Trial Collections Committee: A. J. Nitzschke, Chairman, Mrs. M. M. Chism, Ira S. Nelson, Wm. Hertrich, and Jerry Olrich.

The following accepted appointments to the Membership Committee: H. T. Conner, Chairman, Miss Mary Bell Glennan, Norman Mansfield, David Robinson, and Cly T. Smith. The following accepted appointments to the Publications

Committee: R. J. Wilmot, Chairman, Kenneth Sprunt, J. L. Cope, H. S. Wolfe, and W. T. Wood.

The Sacramento Camellia Show sponsored by the Sacramento Camellia Society was held March 9-10, 1946. More than 6000 attended.

Summer Grafting

How many of you have tried summer grafting? According to the old literature grafting can be done any month during the year that the plant" are dormant. In a talk to the Southern California Camellia Society February 14, 1946, Mr. W. E. Woodroof told how successful summer grafting could be. He recommends the use of a bark graft rather than the usual deft because the bark is loose at that time. The stock is cut off in the usual manner and a vertical line cut down the stump the length of the taper on the scion. The tapering cut on the scion is only made on one side and the cut side is turned in. The bark on each side of the cut on the stump L" loosened and the scion is pushed down and tied in place. The graft is then covered in the usual manner.

R. J. Wilmot,
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July 1, 1946.