

Northern California Camellia Society

A Non-Profit Organization

Volume 1, No. 2

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

November, 1947

THE NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting of the Northern California Camellia Society will be held Monday evening, November 3, 1947, at Chabot School, Chabot Road and Patton, Oakland.

7:45- 8:00 p.m.—Display of Camellia blooms grown by members.

8:00- 8:05 p.m.—Announcements.

8:05- 8:35 p.m.—"AZALEAS AND THEIR USE WITH CAMELLIAS"—Charles O. Phillips.

8:35- 8:55 p.m.—"OREGON CAMELLIAS IN COLOR"—Projection by Director O. E. Hopfer. Descriptive comments by President Harold L. Paige.

8:55- 9:05 p.m.—Intermission.

9:05- 9:35 p.m.—"PROPAGATION OF CAMELLIAS FROM CUTTINGS"—W. H. Hall of Camellia Hall Nursery, Sacramento.

9:35- 9:50 p.m.—Question and Answer period.

9:50-10:00 p.m.—Drawing of DOOR PRIZE, a Camellia Reticulata plant, donated by a local florist-nursery, and EXHIBITOR'S PRIZE, an Alba Plena plant, donated by Uliana Nursery, Oakland.

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE AND PAYABLE

Directions FROM SAN FRANCISCO: Take E train at Bay Bridge Terminal and transfer to Chabot School
to Chabot School
FROM EAST BAY POINTS: Go out College Avenue to Chabot Road, turn east and drive 6-tenths of a mile to Patton. OR drive out to end of Broadway, to Y-intersection of Patton and Broadway Tunnel Road, turn left on Patton and drive one block to Chabot Road.

THE FACTOR MOST OFTEN NEGLECTED IN CAMELLIA CULTURE

By Gordon W. Richmond, M.D.

Chairman, Horticultural Research Committee

The generally poor appearance of camellias growing in the East Bay area this summer (1947), after an unusually dry winter and spring, prompted the Horticultural Research Committee of the Northern California Camellia Society to try to determine why the plants looked so pale and unhealthy and seek some way of improving their condition. The somewhat pale appearance of the foliage, of course, indicated chlorophyll deficiency.

Acidity

There has been considerable talk about "pH." For the benefit of those who are not familiar with this term, I shall try to explain. The pH value is

a convenient way of expressing the acidity or alkalinity of a solution and is measured by the Hydrogen ion concentration—in other words, the number of Hydrogen ions per unit of solution. Since this number may be extremely large and awkward to handle, the logarithm of the reciprocal is used and is found to have values from 1 to 14. "1" represents a strong acid solution—high concentration of Hydrogen ions. "7" is the value for distilled water—neutral. "14" represents a strong alkaline solution—very low concentration of Hydrogen ions.

Now let us consider the pH of water. The water molecule, as you

*Dr. Richmond gave this talk at the October 6, 1947, meeting of the Northern California Camellia Society.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

ROSTER OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Harold L. Paige (OL 2-5040)
5651 Oak Grove Av, Oakland 9

VICE-PRESIDENT

D. L. Feathers (KE 2-4488)
5316 Trask St, Oakland 1

SECRETARY-TREASURER

- Barlow W. S. Hollingshead (Orinda 2054)
12 La Cintilla Av, Orinda

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN—

PROGRAM

D. L. Feathers (KE 2-4488)
5316 Trask St, Oakland 1

MEMBERSHIP

J. D. Black (HU 3-2432)
6 Lorita Av, Piedmont

HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH

Dr. Gordon W. Richmond
(Richmond 5318-W)
439 Dimm St, Richmond

LAKESIDE PARK CAMELLIA PLANTING

O. E. Hopfer (AN 1-5737)
1872 Brentwood Rd, Oakland

DIRECTORS

L. P. Glauden (San Anselmo 2044R)
21 Yolanda Dr, San Anselmo
O. E. Hopfer (AN 1-5737)
1872 Brentwood Rd, Oakland
Herbert V. Mitchell (HU 3-8327)
535 Alcatraz Av, Oakland
Arthur J. Tucker (AN 1-7580)
6415 Ascot Dr, Oakland

DOOR PRIZES

H. G. Sanders (KE 3-2211)
4138 Eastlake Av, Oakland 2

BLOOM DISPLAY

Harold A. Wescott (TR 2-5382)
575 Juana Av, San Leandro

RECEPTION

Arthur J. Tucker (AN 1-7580)
6415 Ascot Dr, Oakland

OFFICIAL BULLETIN—

EDITOR

Mrs. Barlow Hollingshead
(Orinda 2054)
12 La Cintilla Av, Orinda

The Northern California Camellia Society is a non-profit organization of camellia fanciers interested in the culture, propagation, and development of camellias. Meetings are held on the first Monday in each month from October to May inclusive, at 8 p.m., at the Chabot School Auditorium, Oakland. Membership is open to all those with a serious interest in the subject. Annual dues \$5.00. Membership application blanks may be obtained from Barlow W. S. Hollingshead, Secretary-Treasurer, 12 La Cintilla Avenue, Orinda, California.

Camellia Culture—

know, is composed of two atoms of Hydrogen and one of Oxygen. But the atoms are not combined in this way. Instead they appear as ions—one Hydrogen or acid ion and one OH or basic ion. In distilled water, for which the pH is 7, the acid ions and the basic ions are in balance—are equal in number. For a pH less than 7, there is an excess of Hydrogen or acid ions, and the water is said to be on the acid side. For a pH greater than 7, there is an excess of OH or basic ions, and the water is on the alkaline side.

Most cultural advice stresses the pH of the SOIL. But, as was brought out above, pH is a function of SOLUTIONS. Therefore, when we speak of the pH of the soil, we mean the pH of the liquid phase of the soil.

Current Cultural Practice

The camellia grower adds leafmold, peat moss, pine needles, and acid

fertilizer to the soil and assumes that he has satisfied the acid requirements of the plant. In this he may have succeeded at first; but during the long, dry California summer, he applies gallons and gallons of city water, which in the East Bay has a high pH—8.3 to 9.4 for the samples tested—depending upon the location. Such a pH value is on the alkaline side. He also adds a mulch and an occasional shot of acid substance, supposedly to keep the soil acid. It is obvious that no matter what acidity he starts with, especially with potted plants, after sprinkling with alkaline water throughout the dry months, he neutralizes the acid elements in the soil and replaces them with the alkaline elements of the city water supply.

It has been recommended that the grower apply Aluminum Sulfate, cider-vinegar water, or acid fertilizer once a month or oftener to counteract the poisoning effect of this alkaline water. But let us analyze this and see

(Continued on Page 10)

FOR THE RECORD

As stated in the October issue of the BULLETIN, there has been no written record of the activities of the Northern California Camellia Society covering the first two years of its existence other than the Minutes of the regular meetings and the Judges' Books for the First and Second Annual Camellia Shows. For this reason, the history of the 1945-46 fiscal year, including a report of the First Annual Camellia Show, was recorded in the last issue of the BULLETIN, and an account of the activities during the 1946-47 fiscal year, including a report of the Second Annual Camellia Show, follows.

First Regular Monthly Meeting—1946-47

On Monday evening, October 7, 1946, the first regular monthly meeting of the 1946-47 series was held in the Auditorium of the Lakeview School at Grand Avenue and Perry Street, Oakland.

The following persons were elected to membership:

E. L. Buttner, Piedmont
 Toichi Domoto, Hayward
 Dr. George W. Hahn, Berkeley
 Bruce Harless, Berkeley
 Dr. W. Scott Pollard, Ross

A Nominating Committee, composed of James H. Cobbledick, Sr., Chairman, Dr. Robert Cutter, and Charles W. Ehlers, was appointed for the purpose of presenting nominees for election of officers at the December meeting.

President Hopfer then asked for consideration of a proposal that a Board of Directors be appointed to conduct the routine business affairs of the Society. It was felt, he explained, that too much time was consumed in the business part of the program, thus curtailing the time that could be devoted to furthering the knowledge of growing camellias. After general discussion, a Committee on By-Laws, consisting of D. L. Feathers, Chairman, Harold L. Paige, and Eugene T. Nebiolo, was appointed

to give the matter further study and to report their findings at the December meeting.

The meeting then adjourned to hear Vernon James of Elliot's Nursery, Los Gatos, give a talk on "Camellia Propagation," demonstrated with specimen material. Mr. James explained how to make a coldframe for summer rooting, how to take a scion, how to root, and how to graft.

Finally, a series of colorful camellia kodachromes from President Hopfer's collection, covering many unusual and rare varieties, were shown and were greatly enjoyed.

Second Regular Monthly Meeting

On Monday evening, November 4, 1946, the second regular monthly meeting was held and the following persons were elected to membership:

John H. Beers, Berkeley
 Miss Louise A. Boyd, San Rafael
 Mr. and Mrs. V. Cheda, San Rafael
 James J. Gillick, Berkeley
 Louis P. Glaudon, San Anselmo
 F. A. Grimmelman, Oakland
 S. E. Higgins, Berkeley
 Rev. George H. Holt, Berkeley
 Samuel J. McGibben, Piedmont
 Alfred L. Perry, Berkeley
 Will D. Robertson, Oakland

The speaker of the evening was Mr. Toichi Domoto, well-known floriculturist and nurseryman of Hayward, who gave an enlightening lecture on "Camellia Sasanqua." This lecture has since been published in the April issue, Vol. VIII, No. 2, of the JOURNAL OF THE CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY. Mr. Domoto covered the history, habits of growth, types of blooms and foliage, culture, propagation, and use in the garden. To illustrate his talk, Mr. Domoto displayed a breath-taking array of dainty and colorful Sasanqua blooms of many named varieties, which varied in form, color, and growth habits. Mr. Domoto also presented the Society with two fine Camellia Sasanqua plants to be used as door prizes.

Third Regular Monthly Meeting

On Monday evening, December 2, 1946, the third regular monthly meeting was held and the following persons were elected to membership:

Dr. Carl B. Bowen, Oakland
Peter Milan, Hayward
Dr. J. H. Willmore, San Rafael

On the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, a motion was unanimously carried to retain the following incumbent officers until the annual election at the May meeting:

O. E. Hopfer, President
Harold L. Paige, Vice-President
D. L. Feathers, Secretary
Arthur J. Tucker, Treasurer

Chairman Feathers, reporting for the Committee on By-Laws, reviewed the suggested changes and explained that the proposed By-Laws were in a form consistent with the By-Laws of similar societies, as well as being in a form that would require little or no change, in case the Society were later incorporated. In accordance with the existing By-Laws governing amendments, the proposed By-Laws could not be voted upon until the following meeting.

The meeting then adjourned to listen to and observe a most interesting and instructive grafting clinic, conducted by Mrs. Kreena Smyth of the Smyth Nursery, Ross, Dr. H. V. Allington, and Herbert V. Mitchell. Various grafting methods, such as cleft and side graft, were demonstrated, using actual plant material. Grafting was explained so simply that many members were inspired to try it.

Fourth Regular Monthly Meeting

The fourth regular monthly meeting was held on Monday evening, January 6, 1947.

The principal business of the meeting was to vote upon the proposed changes in the Constitution and By-Laws. After further discussion, a vote was taken and the proposed amendments were unanimously carried, becoming effective immediately.

In accordance with Article IX of the new By-Laws, the four officers of the Society automatically became its first four Directors. President Hopfer then appointed three additional Directors—Louis P. Glaudon, W. M. Griffith, and Herbert V. Mitchell—to complete the Board of seven Directors for the interim period ending with the Annual Election of Directors at the May meeting.

The meeting then adjourned to listen to a panel discussion on "Hybridizing," highlighted by a most comprehensive and informative lecture by Dr. Walker Wells, illustrated with crayon and blackboard drawings.

Fifth Regular Monthly Meeting

On Monday evening, February 3, 1947, the fifth regular monthly meeting was held and the following elections to membership were announced:

Mrs. A. S. Alexander, Belmont
A. R. Borchardt, Oakland
H. Raymond Hall, Piedmont
J. D. Kaufman, Oakland
Peter L. Overmire, Berkeley
H. G. Sanders, Oakland
Dr. Glendon Terwilliger, Oakland
Joseph Uliana, Oakland

So many fine specimens of camellia blossoms were displayed by members that the exhibit turned out to be a veritable camellia show.

The speaker of the evening was the distinguished Dr. G. J. Hall of Sacramento, popularly known as "Camellia" Hall. His subject was, "I Have Room for Just One More Camellia." Dr. Hall, with characteristic generosity, explained his methods of growing, grafting, fertilizing, and disbudding—all the things he does so well. Dr. Hall also presented the Society with two fine camellia plants from his Sacramento nursery, to be used as prizes at the March meeting.

A technicolor sound-film was shown, revealing the results obtained by use of DDT and Weed-No-More on the lawn and garden of a private home. This very excellent film was

made in Hollywood for the Sherwin-Williams Company of Emeryville and was obtained by our President, O. E. Hopfer.

In addition to the usual door prize, there was an exhibitor's prize, open only to members displaying blooms. The door prize was a 2-year graft of Eugene Lize on 5-year understock, and the exhibitor's prize was a gallon-size plant of *Fimbriata Superba*, both donated by Gordon Courtright, East Bay Nursery, Berkeley.

Second Annual Camellia Show

The Second Annual Camellia Show of the Northern California Camellia Society was held at the Twentieth Century Club in Berkeley on Saturday and Sunday, February 22 and 23, 1947, opening at 2 p.m. on Saturday and closing at 6 p.m. on Sunday.

Close to three thousand visitors attended and every fifth woman visitor was presented with a camellia corsage through the courtesy of the Toichi Domoto Nursery, Hayward. The color and balance of the over-all picture, from the entrance and from other angles, gave visitors a thrill of aesthetic pleasure. The exquisite beauty of the individual entries of specimen blooms, camellia arrangements, and potted plants caused many an exclamation of delight. Camellia fanciers agreed that a high standard of exhibits was attained, both in specimens and arrangements.

Camellia blooms were entered from many California localities, including the Counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Los Angeles, Marin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Sacramento.

Altogether, the Second Annual Camellia Show was even more successful than the First Show, for which major credit again went to Show Manager Paige and his committees of volunteer workers.

O. E. Hopfer, Chairman of Publications, handled the advertising and printing and took care of the Judges and Awards. Mrs. Hopfer was in charge of hostesses. D. L. Feathers acted as Show Secretary and Chair-

man of the Committee on Horticultural Entries. Arthur J. Tucker was Chairman of the Reception Committee. Mrs. Tucker had charge of camellia arrangements. Mrs. Herbert V. Mitchell, Chairman of the Registration Committee, was assisted by Mrs. Barlow Hollingshead, Mrs. Harold L. Paige, and Mrs. Gordon W. Richmond. Mrs. Mitchell also acted as Judges' Clerk.

Show Manager Paige was especially grateful to the following additional members who helped with the heavy work involved in staging the Show:

Herbert V. Mitchell
Dr. H. V. Allington
E. L. Anderson
Dr. Robert Cutter
Dr. Myron Grismore
Barlow Hollingshead
Dr. Noble H. Logan
Peter Overmire
W. L. Stoeckle
Dr. Walker Wells

Again the Society is indebted to Mrs. William J. Roth of San Francisco for her many camellia arrangements, which demonstrated her artistic ability in creating distinctive flower arrangements.

Judges of specimen blooms were Mr. Vernon James of Elliot's Nursery, Los Gatos; Mr. Arthur E. Mohr, President of the Sacramento Camellia Society; and Dr. Lloyd J. Taylor of Flintridge, President of the Southern California Camellia Society.

Dr. Taylor was accompanied by his beautiful and charming wife, Dolores, who wore a halo hat of fresh camellias — *Alba Fimbriata* on Saturday afternoon and *Kumasaka* on Saturday evening.

CLASSES AND AWARDS

Specimen Group

1. SINGLE. One Bloom.

VARIEGATED

1—None

3—Herbert V. Mitchell, Oakland (*Amabilis*
Vgt)

RED OR ROSE

1—None

2—W. J. Eva, Sacramento (Christmas Red)

3—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Benten)

WHITE

- 1, 2—None
- 3—A. R. Carstensen, Sacramento (Amabilis)

2. SEMI-DOUBLE. One bloom.

PINK

- 1—O. E. Hopfer, Oakland (Regina des Gigantes)
- 2—Mrs. W. Sorrick, Orinda (Grandiflora Rosea)
- 3—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Magnoliaflora)

VARIEGATED

- 1—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Adolphe Audusson Vgt)
- 2—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Candida Elegantissima)
- 3—Ed Bedell, Sacramento (Anita)

RED OR ROSE

- 1—O. E. Hopfer, Oakland (Adolphe Audusson)
- 2—Herbert V. Mitchell, Oakland (Adolphe Audusson)
- 3—Barlow Hollingshead, Orinda (Ville de Nantes)

WHITE

- 1—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Lotus)
- 2—Barlow Hollingshead, Orinda (Lotus)
- 3—Mrs. Gordon Richmond, Richmond (Lotus)

3. ANEMONE FORM. One bloom.

PINK

- 1—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Francine)
- 2—Ralph S. Roy, Jr., San Anselmo (Francine)
- 3—Louis J. Macchia, San Carlos (Francine)

VARIEGATED

- 1—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Chandler's Elegans)
- 2—Mrs. W. Sorrick, Orinda (Emperor Wilhelm)
- 3—Ed Bedell, Sacramento (Chandler's Elegans)

RED OR ROSE

- 1—A. R. Carstensen, Sacramento (Vedrine)
- 2—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Jarvis Red)
- 3—Ed Bedell, Sacramento (Prof. C. S. Sargent)

WHITE

- 1—None
- 2—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Supresse Nobilissima)
- 3—Dr. Walker Wells, Piedmont (Waratah White)

4. PEONIFORM. One bloom.

PINK

- 1—Harold L. Paige, Oakland (Marchioness of Exeter)
- 2—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Debutante)
- 3—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Debutante)

VARIEGATED

- 1—Ed Bedell, Sacramento (Pink Lady)
- 2—W. J. Eva, Sacramento (Daikagura Vgt)
- 3—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Peoniflora)

RED OR ROSE

- 1—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Goshoguruma)
- 2—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Emperor of Russia)
- 3—W. M. Griffith, Hayward (Imperator)

WHITE

- 1—None
- 2—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Nobilissima)
- 3—W. J. Eva, Sacramento (Supresse Nobilissima)

5. INCOMPLETE DOUBLE SYMMETRICAL. One bloom.

PINK

- 1—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Pink Jordan's Pride)

- 2—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Rose Dawn)

VARIEGATED

- 1—W. M. Griffith, Hayward (Herme)
- 2—Ed Bedell, Sacramento (Herme)
- 3—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Herme)

RED OR ROSE

- 1—W. M. Griffith, Hayward (Julia Drayton)
- 2—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Covina)

WHITE

- 1—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (K. Sawada)

6. COMPLETE DOUBLE

SYMMETRICAL. One bloom.

PINK

- 1—Mrs. W. Sorrick, Orinda (Biho Pink)
- 2—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Otome Pink)
- 3—Mrs. M. W. Kirk, Berkeley (Ecstasy)

VARIEGATED

- 1—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Laurel Leaf)
- 2—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Matosi)
- 3—A. R. Carstensen, Sacramento (Laurel Leaf)

RED OR ROSE

- 1—Louis J. Macchia, San Carlos (Col. Firey)
- 2—O. E. Hopfer, Oakland (Te Deum)
- 3—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Pope Pius IX)

WHITE

- 1—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Alba Supreme)
- 2—Ed Bedell, Sacramento (Alba Plena)
- 3—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Alba Plena)

7. SINGLE. Three blooms.

RED OR ROSE

- 1—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Benten)

WHITE

- 1—None
- 2—O. E. Hopfer, Oakland (Sierra Belle)

8. SEMI-DOUBLE. Three blooms.

PINK

- 1—W. F. Harrison, Berkeley (Grandiflora Rosea)

- 2—Dr. Noble H. Logan, Oakland (Enrico Bettoni)

- 3—Mrs. W. Sorrick, Orinda (Grandiflora Rosea)

VARIEGATED

- 1—C. Breschini, San Jose (Donckelari)

- 2—O. E. Hopfer, Oakland (Grandiflora Rosea Vgt)

- 3—Dr. Walker Wells, Piedmont (Southern Donckelari)

RED OR ROSE

- 1—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Flame)

- 2—O. E. Hopfer, Oakland (Adolphe Audusson)

- 3—Louis J. Macchia, San Carlos (Wakanoura Red)

WHITE

- 1—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Lotus)

- 2—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Finlandia)

9. ANEMONE. Three blooms.
 PINK
 1—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Francine)
 VARIEGATED
 1—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Chandler's Elegans)
 2—Mrs. W. S. Snook, Orinda (Chandler's Elegans)
 3—Misses Daniel, San Anselmo (Chandler's Elegans)
 RED OR ROSE
 1—Anna Buzzini, San Rafael (Prof. C. S. Sargent)
 2—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Prof. C. S. Sargent)
 3—O. E. Hopfer, Oakland (Prof. C. S. Sargent)
10. PEONIFORM. Three blooms.
 PINK
 1—O. E. Hopfer, Oakland (Kumasaka)
 2—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Debutante)
 3—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Pink Ball)
 VARIEGATED
 1—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Peoniflora)
 2—Floyd R. Bourlier, Oakland (Marquis d'Exeter)
 3—O. E. Hopfer, Oakland (Governor Mouton)
 RED OR ROSE
 1—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Goshogumura)
 2—Floyd R. Bourlier, Oakland (Imperator)
 3—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Daikagura Red)
 WHITE
 1—None
 2—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Nobilissima)
11. INCOMPLETE DOUBLE SYMMETRICAL. Three blooms.
 PINK
 1—Dr. Walker Wells, Piedmont (Herme Pink)
 VARIEGATED
 1—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Herme)
 2—Barlow Hollingshead, Orinda (Hikari Genji)
 RED OR ROSE
 1—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Julia Drayton)
 2—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Covina)
 3—Dr. Robert Cutter, Berkeley (Mathotiana Rubra)
12. COMPLETE DOUBLE SYMMETRICAL. Three blooms.
 PINK
 1—Mrs. W. Sorrick, Orinda (Biho Pink)
 2—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Otome Pink)
 3—Louis J. Macchia, San Carlos (Lady Hume's Blush)
 VARIEGATED
 1—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Elizabeth Vgt)
 2—A. R. Carstensen, Sacramento (Laurel Leaf)
 3—H. G. Sanders, Oakland (Pink Elizabeth Vgt)
 RED OR ROSE
 1—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Pope Pius IX)
 2—Toni M. May, Oakland (Pope Pius IX)
 3—Dr. Gordon Richmond, Richmond (Ella Drayton)
- WHITE
 1—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Alba Fimbriata)
 2—Dr. Noble H. Logan, Oakland (Alba Fimbriata)
 3—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Alba Plena)
13. SIX BLOSSOMS OF DIFFERENT VARIETIES
 1—C. Breschini, San Jose
 2—D. L. Feathers, Oakland
 3—Dr. Walker Wells, Piedmont
14. SIX BLOSSOMS OF ONE VARIETY
 1—Dr. Walker Wells, Piedmont (Marchioness of Exeter)
 2—Ralph S. Roy, Jr., San Anselmo (Chandler's Elegans)
 3—W. F. Harrison, Berkeley (Grandiflora Rosea)
15. TWELVE BLOSSOMS OF DIFFERENT VARIETIES
 1—Dr. Walker Wells, Piedmont
 2—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord
 3—Dr. Noble H. Logan, Oakland
16. TWELVE BLOSSOMS OF ONE VARIETY
 1—W. L. Stoeckle, Concord (Peoniflora)
 2—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (Pink Star)
 3—Carlos G. White, Oakland (Tricolor Sieboldi)
17. THREE CAMELLIA PLANTS, POTTED OR BOXED
 1—Dr. H. V. Allington, Oakland (C. M. Hovey, Flame, Harlequin)
 2—Dr. Robert Cutter, Berkeley (Alba Plena, Mrs. Wm. Thompson, Regina des Gigantes)
18. BEST CAMELLIA PLANT IN CONTAINER
 1—Dr. Robert Cutter, Berkeley (Flame)
 2—A. J. Tucker, Oakland (Pink Star)
 3—Barlow Hollingshead, Orinda (Peoniflora)
- Special Awards**
 MOST OUTSTANDING FLOWER IN AMATEUR CLASSES
 C. Breschini, San Jose (Frizzle White)
 MOST OUTSTANDING PLANT IN AMATEUR CLASSES
 Dr. Robert Cutter, Berkeley (Flame)
 SWEEPSTAKES AWARD—W. L. Stoeckle (63 points)
 RUNNER-UP—D. L. Feathers, Oakland (51 points)
 THIRD—O. E. Hopfer, Oakland (19 points)
- Non-Competitive Exhibits**
 Non-competitive exhibits of camellia plants and specimen blooms, each one highly instructive and of outstanding beauty, were entered by Camellia Hall Nursery, Sacramento;

For the Record—

East Bay Nursery, Berkeley; Toichi Domoto Nursery, Hayward; Elliot's Nursery, Los Gatos; McDonnell Florist, Oakland; McDonnell Nursery, Oakland; Saratoga Camellia Nursery, Saratoga; Smyth's Nursery, Ross; and Uliana Nursery, Oakland.

Complimentary Exhibits

Complimentary exhibits of choice and rare blooms were entered by the Sacramento Camellia Society, the Southern California Camellia Society, and Oakland Gardening Company, Oakland.

Remarks

Two-thirds of the amateur exhibitors of specimen blooms lived in Alameda County and won one-half of the award points. One-seventh of the exhibitors lived in Contra Costa County and won one-third of the award points. QUESTION: Why should such a minor fraction of amateur exhibitors win such a large slice of the specimen awards? Was it due to cultural skill? comparative pH of the water supply? difference in weather and soil conditions? Many of you will say — and perhaps rightly — that it was due to the camellia-growing genius of the Stoeckles of Contra Costa County, sweepstakes winners. But Alameda County has its D. L. Feathers and O. E. Hopper, runner-up and third in number of award points, respectively. Remember? Perhaps this knotty problem should be turned over to Dr. Gordon W. Richmond and his Horticultural Research Committee.

Sixth Regular Monthly Meeting

The sixth regular monthly meeting was held on Monday evening, March 3, 1947, and the election of four new members was announced:

James D. Bingham, Oakland
Dr. G. J. Hall ("Camellia" Hall),
Sacramento

Theresa J. Marston, San Rafael
Mrs. R. J. Welch, Berkeley

Treasurer Arthur J. Tucker reported that 2,850 tickets had been sold, at an admission price of 25c, for the Second

Annual Camellia Show. After all costs of the show were deducted, there was a net profit of \$65.92.

A. E. Morrison, Agricultural Commissioner of Sacramento County, was guest speaker, illustrating his talk with camellia kodachromes, most of which were taken during his recent trip through the deep south, in the States of Louisiana, Alabama, and Florida.

Mr. Morrison felt that the people of Lafayette, Louisiana, were more camellia-minded than any place else in the United States. (Lafayette, California, please note!) Their Camellia Week is their BIG week, during which there is a contest for a queen, called "Queen Camellia"; a parade with camellia floats; a spectacular evening pageant; and a big camellia show. The whole countryside participates.

Kodachromes of specimen blooms entered in southern camellia shows, pictured alongside the same variety grown on the Pacific coast, revealed notable contrasts in some cases.

In the southern states, Chandler's Elegans and Emperor Wilhelm generally show an open center with stamens, while in California, these varieties show a tight pompom center of small petals. To determine whether the southern variety is the same as the California variety would require growing their plants under our conditions and our plants under their conditions, to see whether the plants revert to the same type.

Laurel Leaf in the south has reflexed petals that are almost hooked, while Laurel Leaf on the West coast is flat. The latter, Mr. Morrison said, may be the same as the southern variety Comtesse Lavinia Maggi.

The southern Ville de Nantes is mostly white, or much white, with a form similar to Donkelari, and is altogether different from the California Ville de Nantes, which is a brilliant red semi-double with occasional variegations and with twisted, folded, and deeply serrated petals.

In Louisiana, some camellias show considerable amounts of purple. Purple Dawn, Adolphe Audusson, and William Penn are blue and white, and Mathotiana Rubra is blue and red. Mr. Morrison thought the purple coloring might be due to the mineral content of the water, which is high in iron and sulphur.

Reticulata, Mr. Morrison said, does not seem to do well in the south.

Mr. Morrison announced that the 1949 meeting of the American Camellia Society may be held in Sacramento, the "Camellia City." This seems fitting since some of the earliest California plantings of camellias occurred in or near Sacramento. At Hood, for example, the Edingers have three huge camellias—Wakanoura, Purity, and Pink Perfection—that are more than 25 feet in height.

According to Mr. Morrison, camellias were first introduced into California on February 8, 1852. These plants were taken down the east coast to Panama, across the Isthmus of Panama, by steamer, then to San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, and Victoria—a band three-fourths the distance around the United States. There is even a record, Mr. Morrison added, of some camellia plants in Alaska. Thus they have been grown under almost every conceivable condition.

Trial gardens of camellias, in addition to the Huntington Test Gardens in Southern California, Mr. Morrison said, may be established on the west coast. A trial garden, he explained, must be placed in a university or in some place where scientific care can be given and where plants of the same variety, collected from various sections of the United States and of the world, may be grown side by side under the same conditions, to see whether they revert to the same type. Kodachromes were shown of such a trial garden at the university at Gainesville, Florida, which is under the direction of Dr. R. J. Wilmot, Secretary of the American Camellia Society.

Seventh Regular Monthly Meeting

On Monday evening April 7, 1947, the seventh regular monthly meeting was held and the following elections to membership were announced:

Mrs. Louis Buzzine, San Rafael
Ed T. Carlson, Berkeley
Herbert J. Cornish, Palo Alto
Mrs. Emma Fisk Gilman, San Anselmo

Mrs. Louise M. Goodban, Danville
Ray P. Hunter, Oakland
Archie G. Isaac, Oakland
Vernon R. James, Los Gatos
Otto A. Jeschien, Berkeley
Emil Reinhardt, Piedmont
Mrs. Norma I. Starr, Berkeley
Lee B. Sutliff, Berkeley
Mrs. Mable V. Wagar, Oakland
Donald H. Wonder, Berkeley

Kodachromes were shown of the 1947 Southern Camellia Show at Pasadena, staged in the traditional grand manner of Southern California. Four buildings, comprising the Fannie E. Morrison Horticultural Center, were used, one building for cut flowers, one for commercial nursery displays, one and one-half for flower arrangements, and one-half for coffee shop. The large central patio, about 80 feet wide and 110 feet long, together with the south patio and promenade, and a landscaped area of about an acre, were used to display potted and boxed camellia plants and to stage patio gardens featuring camellias.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Stoeckle of Concord entered their super blooms in the Pasadena Show and won twelve ribbons—eight first, three second, and one third award.

Members of the Northern California Camellia Society who attended the Pasadena Camellia Show reported that the splendor of the show was matched only by the sincere southern hospitality shown by the officers and members of the Southern California Camellia Society. Those in attendance from the San Francisco Bay area were:

Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Hopfer
Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. Paige

Louis P. Glaudon
 Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Griffith
 Mr. and Mrs. Herbert V. Mitchell
 Ernest Higgins, Berkeley
 Gordon Courtright, Berkeley
 Vernon James, Los Gatos
 Alfred Stettler, San Francisco
 Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Stoeckle, Concord
 Dr. J. H. Willmore, San Rafael

The Northern California contingent were taken on a conducted tour of the California Institute of Technology laboratory where experiments on growing camellias were in progress; the Huntington Test Gardens, which in about five more years will be one of the sights of the camellia world; the private gardens of E. C. Tourje and Dr. Lloyd J. Taylor; and the Manchester Boddy gardens, covering some 11 or 12 acres at Rancho del Descanso, La Canada. At the Rancho, the group was conducted through Dr. Lammert's laboratories and were shown his extensive camellia and rose hybridizing project. The information received on research programs under way in Southern California was greatly appreciated.

Eighth Regular Monthly Meeting

On Monday evening, May 5, 1947, the eighth regular monthly meeting was held and the election of the following members was announced:

Mrs. LeRoy A. Brown, Centerville
 Dr. Charles V. Covell, Oakland

President Hopfer announced that the officers of the Society had met with Mr. Mott, Superintendent of Parks of the City of Oakland, on April 22, 1947, for the purpose of considering a proposal that a camellia garden be established in Lakeside Park, Oakland. Since all present were in favor of such a project, various sites were considered and a suitable site selected. Preliminary plans were agreed upon for laying out the grounds and securing and planting camellias. It was expected that actual

planting would begin in the fall of 1947 and that all members of the Society would be invited to take an active part.

This being the annual meeting for the election of a Board of seven Directors, President Hopfer appointed a Nominating Committee, composed of James H. Cobbledick, Sr., Chairman, H. G. Sanders, and Charles W. Ehlers, to propose names for the election of Directors. From a list of ten candidates, the following persons were elected Directors of the Society for the ensuing year:

Dr. H. V. Allington
 D. L. Feathers
 Barlow Hollingshead
 O. E. Hopfer
 Herbert V. Mitchell
 Harold L. Paige
 Arthur J. Tucker

The meeting then adjourned to hear a very helpful and informative talk on the subject of camellia plant diseases and pests by Mr. Gordon Laing of the California State Department of Agriculture.

Organization Meeting of the Board of Directors

On May 14, 1947, an organization meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the home of Director Herbert V. Mitchell, 535 Alcatraz Avenue, Oakland.

A vote was taken and Mr. Louis P. Glaudon, San Anselmo, was unanimously elected a Director to succeed Dr. H. V. Allington, who resigned.

The main business of the evening was the election of officers from the seven members of the Board of Directors. The election results were as follows:

Harold L. Paige, President
 D. L. Feathers, Vice-President
 Barlow Hollingshead, Secretary-Treasurer

Camellia Culture—

(Continued from Page 2)

what happens. The small feeder roots are very near the surface, in fact, are often right up into the mulch. He is advised not to cultivate since the

feeder roots are very delicate and are easily injured. So, he adds acid fertilizer or Aluminum Sulfate as a dry powder and washes it down with water on top of these delicate roots. For a short time the acid concentration is very high and may do considerable damage, since the pH may go as low as 3.0, in the concentration at which the acid treatment reaches the feeder roots. Since the plant is watered frequently, the fertilizer is gradually leached out and the pH rises and approaches that of the city water supply, which was found to have pH values from 8.3 to 9.4. This swinging from acid to alkaline reaction cannot possibly be good for a plant.

Another disadvantage to these cultural methods is that it is possible to build up an excess of an undesirable element in the soil. For example, Aluminum Sulfate is used a great deal, and it might be interesting to explain how it acts. Aluminum Sulfate is the salt of a strong acid—Sulfuric Acid—and a weak base—Aluminum Hydroxide. When dissolved in water, it ionizes; that is, the Aluminum ions and the Sulfate ions separate. Inasmuch as Aluminum Hydroxide is a weak base, its molecules do not ionize completely in solution. Therefore, some of the Aluminum ions combine with some of the OH ions of the water, leaving an excess of Hydrogen ions, which render the solution acid. Too much Aluminum Hydroxide in the soil is poisonous. If Sulfur is used, the pH may go too low and kill the plant or result in locking up all the necessary elements, thus denying them to the plant. If fertilizer is used too late in the season, too much Nitrogen may be available to the plant and force new growth at an untimely period.

Seeking Solution of Cultural Problem

After much consideration of the problem, the Research Committee set up the hypothesis that the great amounts of alkaline city water used in sprinkling during the dry months is a highly important factor in accounting

for the unhealthy condition of East Bay camellia plants in summer.

In seeking a solution to this problem, the Committee decided to study the city water. It was found that the pH of the water coming from the East Bay Municipal Utility District varies considerably, depending upon the reservoir from which it comes and upon how much Mokelumne water is mixed with it. It was also found that lime is added at the filter plants to harden the water slightly. And during the year, the pH varies as do the buffers.

Since a pH of 4.5 to 5.0 is considered to be ideal for growing camellias an attempt was made to maintain such a pH for the water applied in sprinkling. In March 1947, the addition of 85 per cent Phosphoric Acid—30cc to 100 gallons of city water—gave the desired pH. Later, about the middle of June, it was noticed that the pH tests were running lower and lower, so the proportions were changed to 15cc to 100 gallons of water, to maintain the desired pH. Then in September, it was again necessary to change the proportions, this time to 10cc to 100 gallons.

For testing the pH of the water, the Committee is using pHydrión papers, manufactured by the Micro-Essential Laboratories of New York, and available through a local chemical supply house. There are several pH ranges available and they are quite accurate. I have checked them against a laboratory pH meter several times.

Treatment Given Experimental Plants

The treatment given the experimental plants was as follows: The first of March, the plants were given one feeding of acid fertilizer. No Nitrogen was given after that feeding, in an effort to limit SECOND GROWTH. I am of the opinion that second growth is abnormal except in very young plants. In the past I have found that any great amount of second growth caused the first-growth flowerbuds to drop, resulting in few if any blooms.

Since the plants were in containers, the Committee assumed that any nutrients present would be leached out during the dry months. Potassium acid Phosphate was then applied once a week at the rate of 2 lbs. to 100 gallons of city water. This proportion is completely soluble. For convenience, the solution was prepared in 5-gallon carboys and then mixed with city water in the ratio of 1 to 10 with a proportioner on the hose.

By putting the nutrients and acid in water, the plants can readily use what they need and are not damaged by a high concentration. Any nutrients washed out can be replaced at each watering and the pH of the soil cannot long remain much different from that of the water. Any nutrient can be increased or withheld, according to the needs of the plant. Next year, it is planned to experiment with Potassium or Ammonium Nitrate to supply Nitrogen for new growth.

You are probably wondering about experimental controls. I must confess I did not run any controls this year on my own camellia plants because they all looked so sick. However, the Committee is carrying on experiments using controls to determine whether acid alone is sufficient or whether it is better to add Potassium or Phosphate, or the Trace Elements as well. The Committee would like to know what are the signs of deficiency of certain elements and what are the symptoms of poisoning by the various nutrients. The results of these experiments will be reported next year.

Results of Preliminary Experiments

This year, my plants have many more buds than ever before and they are much larger. The leaves, also, are larger, thicker, and deeper green in color. And there is shorter growth with better spacing of the leaves. Besides, there is NO bud drop yet, even on plants which have pushed out second growth. On the other hand, when the plants bloom, I may want to pull in my horns!

Since it was not possible to bring my plants to the lecture room, I took some kodachrome pictures. The first series shows the great increase in size and texture of the leaves put out this year in comparison with those of last year. And this year's second growth, appearing after six months of the new treatment, shows even greater contrast.

The second series of slides shows the result of Magnesium treatment of yellow mottling. The complete disappearance of mottling in the second growth following treatment can be observed.

The third series shows leaf structure by transmitted light. This is a very valuable procedure in determining the health of plants. An ordinary flashlight may be used. A healthy leaf is uniformly dark green, with veins standing out sharply as bright lines. Unhealthy leaves are yellowish or uneven in green coloring matter, with green concentrated about the veins, causing them to appear darker than the surrounding leaf substance.

Cultural Recommendations

In conclusion, I should like to emphasize three points:

- (1) More attention should be paid to adjusting the pH of the water.
- (2) Nutrients should be added only in SOLUTION and in SMALL amounts FREQUENTLY.
- (3) Toxic substances should be avoided.

Remarks

I should also like to emphasize that this is merely a preliminary report. There is much work yet to be done before the Committee can hope to find the answers we are seeking. However, the statements made tonight are intended to stimulate discussion and further experimentation. Anyone who wishes to take exception to my statements will be welcomed as a new member of our Committee. After the meeting, the line will please form at the right!