AMERICAN CAMELLIA *Quarterly*

VOLUME 5 - NUMBER 2 APRIL 1950



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American Camellia Quarterly, Volume 5 - Number 2, April 1950

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American Camellia Quarterly

VOLUME 5 — NUMBER 2 APRIL, 1950

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A membership in the American Camellia Society will bring you a bound Yearbook that contains the latest information on culture, pest control, varietal nomenclature, history, descriptions and sources of new varieties, and exact scientific information on various subjects concerning camellias. Fifty cents of your dues is a subscription to the American Camellia Quarterly which replaces the News-Letter.

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1950 ANNUAL MEETING

The 1950 Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors was held at Southwestern Louisiana Institute, Lafayette, Louisiana on January 21 and 22. No check was made on attendance but there were people in attendance at the banquet from every state in the South, California, Illinois and New York. The Pageant was overflowing with beautiful girls and music. The banquet was served to 500 members of the American Camellia Society, Louisiana **Cameelia** Society and friends and everyone had a good time. If anyone went away hungry from the Cajun shrimp boil it was because they did not like shrimp.

The Directors handled routine business for the past and coming year and a Canvassing Committee reported that all incumbents from Unit Three were re-elected except that J. H. Price, Jr. replaced Kenneth G. Price in Mississippi. Mrs. J. H. Churchwell of Florida resigned and John N. Sewell of Jacksonville was elected to fill out her term.

The Directors re-elected all officers except the Vice-President for the Pacific Coast where Morrie L. Sharp of Portland, Oregon, was elected to replace Wm. Hertrich of San Marino, California.

The most important piece of business was the promotion of regulations concerning Accredited Judges which is discussed elsewhere.

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THANK YOU. The secretary wishes to thank all the members, new and old, for their patience with this office during the flood of mail during late December, January, February and March. We put on as much extra help as our limited office space would accommodate, but still the best we could do was to manage to handle correspondence on a 30 day delay basis. During the month of February, for instance, taking all 28 days, including Sundays and holidays, we handled an average of 50 memberships and requests for Yearbooks, per day, in addition to 25-30 letters about Certificates for Shows, Accredited Judges, flower identifications, requests for variety registration applications, cultural advice and normal correspondence. Many new members joined under the delusion that a 1949 Yearbook went with a 1950 membership, necessitating extra correspondence.

This is also a warning that the same condition will probably come to pass next season during the same period and your patience will be requested again.

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NOTE—The address of this office is Gainesville, **FLORIDA,** not Georgia. Money Orders made out to Gainesville, Georgia, cost us an extra 10c for cashing. Be sure your money order clerk uses the right state. Thank You.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS — If you change your address at any time during the year, please notify us at once. Failure to do so causes us to pay extra postage, extra correspondence and may cause you to lose your Quarterly or Yearbook. Please check the address label on this Quarterly to make sure your name is spelled correctly and that the address is correct. This name and address is the one that will be used in the 1950 Yearbook when it is issued in early winter.

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MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN — The 1949-50 membership campaign came to an end on March 31st. It is impossible to say at present just what the results were because we are still processing memberships that were received before that date. We can say that practically all those who had turned in 15 or more early, have been notified that plants will be made available to them and if they have not been received they will be delivered in early fall. A complete report will be made in the July Quarterly.

There will probably be a 1950-51 membership campaign starting from April 1 and some suggestions are

given to expedite reports on the campaign and the handling of memberships.

1. The State Chairmen should inform the local workers on the cost of Yearbooks, the fact that membership is by the calendar year and that the Yearbook for the current year, only goes with the membership for the current year, and that Yearbooks have to be sold with memberships.
2. All memberships must be transmitted directly to this office from the local worker with a copy of the letter of transmittal being sent to the State Chairman who will report to the National Chairman.
3. All memberships must be marked new or renewal. A number of new members have come in on renewal blanks and a large number have renewed at the shows using application blanks.

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ACCREDITED JUDGES

One of the prerequisites for the awarding of the Award of Merit is that at least three accredited ACS judges make the Award. There were at least four shows this past season where the award was made where this rule was not followed even tho the certificates were furnished with instructions that they could only be used if the judges were accredited.

In every case where the Chairman of Judges for a show requested a list of accredited judges it was sent or reference made to the News-Letter in which the lists were published. In spite of this, in some cases, State Garden Club accredited judges were used, and in others, substitutes were run in in the absence of an accredited judge.

In the first place an ACS accredited judge must be a member of the Society and in the second, either have made application to or have been recommended to be placed on the list. That was all that was necessary until the Directors Meeting in January when the rules were proposed and passed.

To be appointed an Accredited Judge a person must—

1. Have been a member of the American Camellia Society for at least two years.
2. Be approved by the State Director.
3. Each state is allowed a minimum of 15 Accredited Judges and a maximum of 2% of the membership for that state.
4. A list of the Accredited Judges will be published in each July Quarterly.

The judges who are already on the accredited list will be retained and vacancies filled if they occur, or additions made thereto if the state allotment is not complete.

All correspondence from the State Directors or Vice President pertaining to judges should be addressed to W. T. Wood, Exhibitions and Awards Committee, 240 Second Street, Macon, Georgia.

Five judges for the awarding of the Illges Medal will be appointed for each district, Atlantic Coast, Pacific Coast, Gulf Coast, by the Vice President for that district.

Their selection will be made with the greatest care. Growers of long and intimate experience with comprehensive collections of the best of the old and new varieties should be chosen—growers capable of critical and unbiased judgment.

All seedlings winning the Award of Merit are, of course, eligible for the Illges Medal and an originator of a seedling can, if he so desires, send kodachromes or miniprints (3) to the Chairman of the Exhibitions and Awards Committee so that one of these pictures can be forwarded to each Vice President for circularization among hte judges in his district.

The time has come to announce another step toward winning the Illges Medal. It has already been specified that to win an Illges Medal a variety has to be registered with the ACS and to have an Award

of Merit. Sufficient time has now elapsed to propose another step before a seedling can win an Award of Merit. This will be a certificate called Highly Commended and will only be awarded to a seedling that has never been shown before and has not been disseminated. Seedlings that have been shown previously will be eligible for the Award of Merit. After another year only seedlings that have won the Highly Commended certificate will be eligible for the Award of Merit.

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YEARBOOKS—The nearly 800 extra 1949 Yearbooks that were printed are just about gone but 1000 more are being printed and will be available within a few weeks. We also have several hundred 1948 Yearbooks on hand. 1948 Yearboks are $2.50 and 1949 Yearboks are $3.00 to members. When these are gone there will be no more printed and those who do not have them and are interested in camellias will find that they are full of interesting information. The 1946 and 1947 issues are out of print and it is reported that at least one pair of them were disposed of at a private sale at $5.00 each. If anyone has either of these books that they wish to dispose of, this office has had many requests for them.

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BINDERS FOR QUARTERLY — Very few indicated a desire to have a binder for the Quarterly. However, 200 have been ordered and will be delivered shortly. They will hold all issues of the News-letter and Quarterly to date, without mutilation of the publications, and may be had at $1.50 postpaid.

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NEW YORK CAMELLIA MEETING — Mr. Robert M. Jackson, a New York commuter who resides in Ridgefield, Conn., found that camellia culture was an enjoyable topic whenever he saw the two or three hobbyists that he knew. He decided that interest might be more general so he sent out letters to all ACS members in the metropolitan area, about 35 in all, suggesting that they, with any acquaintances with the same interest, join for dinner and an informal discussion. This met with immediate response from practically all in New York at that time of the year and 24 met on February 1st, in spite of the fact that the weather furnished one of the most disagreeable nights of the year. Practically all attending brought in flowers from plants in bloom, and of approximately 100 blossoms, at least 50 varieties were represented.

Following dinner, Messrs. R. M. Thomas, M. W. Swaney, T. R. Johnson and R. M. Jackson presented short written papers describing their activities. Dr. Swaney described the operations of a small electrically heated greenhouse. Mr. Johnson told of his success in rooting cuttings and described his collection of 200 varieties. Dr. P. W. Zimmerman of Boyce Thompson Institute followed with an informal discussion of his three new camellias of which he displayed flowers and described his hardy variety which has been thriving outdoors. Others attending, then gave brief reports on their activities and Mr. F. J. Lukmann, commercial grower, described a method for making corsages and presented a number of examples as well as new packaging methods.

All present at the meeting agreed that it had been most interesting and expressed the thought that the activity should be repeated.

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ONE MAN CAMELLIA SHOW—Mr. Don D. Parker of Amarillo, Texas, decided that although his city had very few camellia growers that it should not be outdone by the large cities in the Southeast and announced in the paper that his private greenhouse collection consisting of 103 varieties would be open to the public on Sunday, January 29th from 10:00 A. M. until 6:30 P. M. It was estimated that 1500 to 2000 flower lovers filled his greenhouse in a constant stream from 1:00 o'clock on.

PIKE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL CAMELLIA PLANTING PLAN

With the belief that the way to foster camellia culture was to reach the school children, a group of camellia growers inaugurated a School Camellia Planting Program as a beautification project for school grounds and as a memorial to the war dead of the community.

The program has been endorsed by the County School Board and includes both rural and municipal schools. The P. T. A., some particular class, or other organization sponsors the program and agrees to care for the plants. The plants are furnished upon application after agreeing to the stipulations.

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ARRANGING CAMELLIAS

Mrs. Guy Yaste, Pensacola, Fla.

The magic of camellias grows every year more widespread, so that today we find ourselves anxious for information as to their culture. Much interesting and reliable information on this subject is available; no one need wonder what to do to get camellias well established in the garden.

However, we frequently hear the question, "How can I arrange camellias?" Few of us are willing to cut much stem length from our newest and rarest plants. Yet our standard varieties and older plants can have some helpful pruning by cutting some stem length with blossoms. Sasanqua varieties grow very fast and their branches look well in camellia arrangements. These branches can be thinned to help form interesting line design. Other plant material can be used advantageously with camellias to create a clean cut distinctive linear pattern on which to build the rest of the design. Vertical arrangements are very popular and can be achieved by the use of flowering branches, sansevieria, pandanus foliage and other long slim leaves with camellias to help form your basic pattern. In any arrangement that features camellias, emphasis must be put on the camellias, while use of other plant material must be greatly restrained. Camellias are delightful to work with since they form natural focal points. In arranging an entry for flower shows, study your schedule carefully and fit your arrangement to schedule rules and scale of points. Camellias are aristocrats, and their containers should be suitable.

Since flowers function to enhance the attractiveness of the home, camellias offer limitless opportunity for creating beauty indoors. Study the best display areas in your home, and let your work show individuality and creative effort. As the blossoms are usually short stemmed, a pleasing and satisfactory arrangement can be made by placing them in low shallow containers. Long containers or round ones are useful, with camellias arranged in a circle or three-quarter circle. Water visible in the container gives a floating effect, which is cool and restful. Design can be achieved by use of color, size and varieties, such as the forming of a crescent, with the smaller camellias at the two ends, graduating to the larger flowers in the center of the crescent. Such an arrangement looks well on occasional tables and coffee tables. If candles are to be used on your dining table, camellias can be grouped around the bases of your candlesticks or candelabra very effectively. Albe Plenas scotch-taped on candelabra for wedding tables, with clusters of Alba Plenas banked around the base of candelabra and wedding cake, make a striking picture. This same idea can be carried out in red camellias and candles for the Christmas season and in pink for tea parties.

Get out your "tussie-mussies,"

those charming old-fashioned nosegay containers, and you will find them flattering with camellias. Arrange blossoms either in a low formal manner or with some stem height, emphasizing height in the center. A very beautiful table for the "bride-to-be" can be done with a series of "tussie-mussies," three or four placed length-wise down the table, joined by lengths of 2 or 3 inch satin ribbon in white, green or other chosen color, a few loops of ribbon and some camellias around the base of each "tussie-mussie." Narcissi or other small flowers can be used with camellias to fill the "tussie-mussies."

Low containers with upright handles are splendid for camellias. With little time and no effort, a few blossoms can be placed in such a container and will look well, the handle giving height interest. Epergnes are elegant containers for camellias; the different flower-interest heights give a charming effect. A silver compote placed in a flat silver tray, with camellias in both compote and tray, is quite lovely for your table, the compote giving height interest. Crystal may be used in the same manner.

Now that the camellia season is at its height, cut the blossoms and enjoy them in many ways. Beautify your home with them. Display your specimen blossoms and arrangements at the Camellia Show. Pack a few in good strong boxes and airmail them to friends too far north to have camellias in their gardens. Wear them; no lapel pin can compare with a freshly cut camellia on your suit. A halo of wired camellias for your daughter's hair will add charm to her formal attire. A wristlet of camellias (small variety) tacked on velvet ribbon, matching a pair of wired camellias in her hair-do will thrill her. For a very special occasion like a debut, camellias can be sewed around the neck line of an off shoulder formal, single camellias tacked here and there over the entire dress, to give a beautiful scattered effect.

To know the delight of creating beauty with camellias is now the gracious privilege of many of us. It is a joyous experience to gather camellias from our own gardens, arrange and place them so as to bring cheer and happiness to all who view them.

(Reprinted with permission from The National Gardner—20:11-12:18-19, 34. 1949)

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ADVERTISING — When we enlarged the News-letter last year and started using the color plate covers we thought that we could do this without extra expense to the Society with the idea that advertising would pay for the innovation. This does not seem to be the case because evidently our members do not patronize our advertisers, or if they do, they do not mention the fact that advertising in the Yearbook or Quarterly was responsible for their business. It cannot be possible that our commercial members think that ACS members are not a possible market for plants or fertilizer, yet at the same time a magazine which goes only to garden club members in Georgia can get 18 ads and our Quarterly which was delivered at the same time had only 11. The next time you buy plants from a dealer tell him you saw his ad and if he does not advertise ask him why. He could not send out an equal number of postcards at double the cost of one of our 1/4-page ads.

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PATENTED VARIETIES—When a variety is patented it confers on the patent holder the right to propagate the variety and to license others to propagate it. Any one who distributes scions from a patented variety is liable to prosecution by the patent owner. Remember when one of your good friends asks you for a scion from a patented variety and you give him one that you are both liable.



Miss Corinne Ranney of the Panama Limited, Camellia Queen Coed of the University of Illinois. (McComb Enterprise-Journal)

McCOMB, MISSISSIPPI RECEIVES NATIONAL PUBLICITY

On December 16, 1949, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Cotten of McComb boarded the Panama Limited of the Illinois Central Railroad with more than 400 camellias of all descriptions, provided by the Men's Camellia Club of Pike County. As each woman passenger entered the diner the following morning she was handed a booklet on the camellias of McComb and allowed to select the flower of her choice.

At Champaign, Illinois, thirty attractive girl students from the University of Illinois boarded the train and received camellias from Mr. and Mrs. Cotten. When the train reached Chicago it was met by a group of newsmen and Illinois Central Officials and this group selected Miss Corinne E. Ranney "Camellia Queen of Panama Limited."

On December 8th, a similar project had been undertaken on a trip to Jackson, Miss., in which 540 flowers were given to passengers on the City of New Orleans. Miss Barbara Jo Hughes assisted in the distribution of flowers on this occasion.

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ACHEVEMENT IN CAMELLIA SEED GERMINATION

Bess Skadron, Alhambra, California

In all humbleness and respect to al those who have worked years to accomplish the germinating of seeds swiftly, scientifically, and reason-



Miss Barbara Jo Hughes, Camellia Mascot of Pike County, Mississippi
(McComb Enterprise-Journal)

ably, I offer my method of swift germination of camellia seeds. I have tried for about three years to germinate camellia seeds in a short period of time. Since last September I have sprouted camellia seeds consistently in from six to seven days time. My method is very simple. The medium is sponge-rok, a product of Ceres of California. Take sponge-rok, moisten thoroughly, put in jar or between two glass dishes, place seed in sponge-rok and place in a warm light sunny spot. If you have a greenhouse with even temperature, fine, if not, the warm sunny spot in your kitchen window will be good, and joy to behold in one week a sprouted seed! I have tried both ways, removing hull, and leaving it on. In three weeks I have a tap root two inches long.

Again I can say sponge-rok is a real find for camellia growers who are always interested in producing a seedling. I dedicate my find to those who have worked years to attain new methods in seed germination. Growing seeds or plants is always a means of attaining better and finer quality, and beauty in all things grown.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON CAMELLIA SHOW

The sixth annual camellia show will be held Saturday and Sunday, April 8th and 9th, 1950, by the Amateur Gardeners, at the Seattle Art Museum, through courtesy of its Director, Dr. Richard Fuller.

Proceeds will be given to Dr. Fuller for the Art Museum as a gift to Seattle.

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Anne Lindberg was voted the "Camellia of the Year" for 1950 by the Oregon Camellia Society.

The practice of selecting the "Camellia of the Year" was started by the Club in 1943 when Kumasaka was chosen. Others selected have been, 1944, Lady Clare (Grandiflora Rosea); 1945 Mathotiana (Julia Drayton); 1946 Mikenjaku; 1947 Magnoliaeflora; 1948 Sode-gakushi (Lotus); 1949 Adolphe Audusson.

Before any camellia is considered it must have proven a good blooming hardy variety and be plentiful enough to be readily available.

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AMERICAN CAMELLIA CATALOG—The American Camellia Catalog is a loose leaf text describing 100 varieties, giving the history of the variety where known with the synonymy as it has been determined. With the text are 24 plates in natural color that are produced by silk screen spray painting and hand brush work over lithographing in the manner of the old European color paints. They are all done from original paintings by Athos Menaboni. The value of the plates alone is more than the cost of the publication.

Varieties are well cross indexed and there is a listing by form classification.

It is the intention of the publishers to continue this work from year to year.

We will state again that the American Camellia Catalog has no connection with the American Camellia Society, being a purely private enterprise, and that all requests or questions should be directed to Savannah.

NOTES ON GEORGIA CAMELLIAS

By James Stokes

Continued from last issue

"After some years, he got the 'William Blanchard' listed in his catolog, and some people had them grafted from my original plant, which is at least fifteen feet high at this date. It is a very prolific variety, and I cut the blooms with long stems, and carry them to people by the dozens, not one or two blooms. Everyone knows the variety as the "William Blanchard,' and that it is a Memorial to my father."

The Writer had considerable difficulty establishing the status of the variety **Eleanor Franchetti.** This variety was imported from Anders, France, by the late Peter J. Hjort, and it was introduced to the trade by the Thomasville Nurseries, **Inc. It is very likely of Italian origin.**

On the grounds of the late Mr. B. H. Wright of Thomasville are two very old plants, with history unknown, which produce showy flowers, clear pink in color, medium sized and from semi-double to single in formation. This variety has been named Martha Wright in honor of Mrs. Wright and introduced to the trade by the Thomasville Nurseries, Inc. Mr. Hjort states, "We have been under the impression that Martha Wright is an Akebono variation. It seems a little larger and lighter than Akebono. We have sent this variety to many places."

The origin of the variety known as Imperator (Georgia) is obscure. Mr. Hjort states, "It came to us many years ago from Fruitland Nurseries at the time the Berckmans still owned it and we have been told that the Imperator that firm now has is different, possibly is what we call California Imperator. Here we have three Imperators, the Georgia variety is a deep pink of medium size and peony formed; the California is a loose peony and much lighter pink; whereas what is known as

French Imperator is a huge, very dark red."

Mrs. C. O. Maxwell of Reno, Georgia is the fortunate producer of several fine varieties. A seedling of Enrico Bettoni has been named Pearl Maxwell. The flowers are formal double, 3½ to 4 inches, and of an exquisite shade of soft pink. It is reported to resemble a giant Pink Perfection, but is even more lovely and perfect in coloring. The bush is hardy, vigorous, and mid-season to late in flowering. It will be introduced by the Thomasville Nurseries, Inc. Patent is pending on this variety. Mr. Hjort considers this variety practically without competition in its class.

A second seedling of Enrico Bettoni grown by Mrs. Maxwell has been named Charles Maxwell. Its flowers are formal double, thick bodied, and about four inches in diameter. It is reported to be slightly darker than Prince Eugene Napoleon and superior to the latter variety in that its color is uniform. It is superior to many in that the petals have no tendency to fold backward as the flower ages. It will be introduced by the Thomasville Nurseries, Inc.

A third seedling of Enrico Bettoni grown by Mrs. Maxwell bears the name Martha Sanders. It is reported to be superior to Enrico Bettoni in that it is lighter in color and superior in form. Flowers are semi-double, salmon pink, and medium to large in size. This too will be introduced by the Thomasville Nurseries, Inc.

Sixty years ago Mrs. Louise Rouse of Meigs purchased a small camellia plant from the firm of Good and Reese of Springfield, Ohio. This plant was supposed to have been an improved variety and apparently belonged to a lot that had been shipped in from France with the original name lost. Mr. Hjort obtained propagation rights from Mrs. Rouse, and introduced this plant to the trade with the name Meigs Variegated. The original plant is now alive and is in the gardens of Mrs. Nat Williams of Thomasville. The name Meigs Variegated has been challenged since it is thought to be the same as the variety Arnalda de Brescia.

About twenty-seven years ago, out on Straw Road in the vicinity of Thomasville, the late Mr. F. L. Gibson observed a fine seedling camellia, about two and one-half feet tall, growing in the yard of a negress. It developed that this negress worked in the camellia gardens of the J. H. Wade Estate and that some years previously she had planted a seed collected from these fine camellias. After two years of endeavor Mr. Gibson was finally successful in purchasing this seedling for the sum of ten dollars. It was named Mrs. F. L. Gibson and introduced to the trade by the Thomasville Nurseries, Inc.

Mrs. Gibson comments as follows on this seedling: "The first year we had the plant it doubled in size. It is the fastest growing and the most prolific bloomer of any plant I know. It blooms from the first of October until March. The height of its blooming season is Christmas time, Most of the blossoms are red and white (a Christmas red) with long yellow stamens. It also has solid red blossoms and a deep pink streaked with red—all single petals. It produces an abundance of seed each year.

"I have about ten very beautiful seedlings from this plant—all entirely different. Thomasville Nurseries have the Gibson White and Gibson Red for sale. The Gibson Red and the Gibson White are seedlings from the Mrs. F. L. Gibson.

"I have had a new seedling to bloom this year for the first time. Mr. Hjort says it's the prettiest one he's ever seen. It is a cream white —most unusual. I have four more seedlings full of buds — blooming this year for the first time. I am anxiously watching them."

Mrs. Gibson has, for a number of years, been intensely interested in camellias. Her patience has been

rewarded during the 1949 camellia season by the appearance of flowers on the seedling which she describes as cream white and most unusual. This seedling has been named Frank Gibson and will be introduced to the trade by the Thomasville Nurseries, Inc. Mr Hjort describes this unusual flower as follows: "Large; incomplete double with small petaloids; one row of large pure white petals; high center of golden edged petaloids and a few short golden stamens. Nearest to yellow of any camellia ever seen. Very distinct and different from any other camellia. Seedling of unknown parentage. Patent is pending. This variety is practically without competition in its class." Mr. Dave Strother considers this variety to be one of the finest ever to come out of this State. Camellia enthusiasts seem particularly pleased with the gold pencil stripes on the petaloids.

The late Mr. Peter J. Hjort imported camellia seed from China and from these materials developed a seedling which the Thomasville Nurseries, Inc. has named Peter J. Hjort. The flowers are medium to large, semi-double, and pink with salmon undertone. The center of the flower has one compact ring of golden stamens. The bush is reported to be more vigorous than others of a similar flower color.

In the Quitman area Mrs. Albert Sheffield and Mrs. A. M. Adams have raised seedlings which are progeny of the prolific Mrs. F. L. Gibson. Both of these will be introduced by the Thomasville Nurseries. The variety known as Betty Sheffield is described as large; semi-double to loose peony form; white with few red and pink splotches and stripes; petals slightly waved; golden stamens interspersed with petals; and very regular in form. The variety Edna Earl is described as: small flower; semi-double, almost single; exquisite form and color; light pink, few stamens in center. Color and daintiness make this variety. The plant is compact and vigorous. This seedling was raised by Mrs. A. M. Adams.

Miss Beatrix Hoyt of Thomasville has a new seedling which has developed from Martha Wright parentage and has been named Bryan Wright. It will be introduced by Thomasville Nurseries and they expect to have a color plate made of this variety. It is described as a medium large; semi-double to loose peony form; light pink with coloring between that of Lady Hume's Blush and Pink Perfection; golden stamens interspersed among petals. This variety is exquisite in both form and color.

Behind one of the varieties that will be introduced by the Thomasville Nurseries is an interesting story as to how it acquired a name. Messrs. Dave Strother and Sam Hjort heard of a seedling in the yard of a negress in the Thomasville area. They proceeded to investigate and found that the seedling had excellent potentialities. Mr. Strother attempted to purchase the plant, but the negress decided that it belonged to her son who was in the army and that she couldn't sell it. Mr. Strother purchased six scions at about one dollar each. Three of these he kept for himself and the other three he gave to Mr. Hjort. From Mr. Hjort's scions this new seedling will enter the trade. In approaching the house of this negress it was necessary to drive up an alley which had a crude sign reading Ruth's Lane. This new variety will bear the cognomen Ruth Lane.

There is a story to the effect that a sea captain brought from France the camellia now known as Lindsay Neill and gave it to the Mott family of South Carolina. This plant or another produced from it was brought by Colonel Randolph Lawler Mott, probably in the 1840's, and planted at his home in Columbus. The variety Lindsay Neill is one of the truly great camellias. It has many desirable features and is spectacular at blossoming time. Mr. Lindsay Neill of Columbus gives the following in-

formation concerning its history, "When I went to work for the Muscogee Manufacturing Company, over fifty years ago, the original bush was there along with others; the Alba Plena, Lady Hume's Blush, and two or three common kinds.

"The one now called Lindsay Neill, to me was the most beautiful flower that I had ever seen. I began to root cuttings from it, I did not know anything about grafting in those days and I do not think much of it was being done by anyone. Then over a period of twenty-five or thirty years, I had perhaps rooted and given away to relatives and friends forty or fifty plants.

"Then came the Garden Clubs and the Camellia Shows, and it was required by the Camellia Shows to mark the name of those camellias entered. Our beautiful red and white one had no name, so several of the ladies belonging to the club decided to name it for me, and it has officially been named Lindsay Neill."

The variety known as Jessica (Georgia) entered the trade from Columbus. Its early history is rather obscure. Some years ago Mr. S. J. Katz named a small camellia Jessica, in honor of his wife, and to distinguish the Georgia variety from this one it is necessary to use the name Jessica (Georgia). Mrs. James Bartow Knight of Columbus gives the following information: "I have talked with two elderly ladies (ages 78 and 81) and they both say that the camellia Jessica was growing and blooming in the manse yard when they were little girls (7 and 9 years of age) and that it was called 'Japonica' in those days. They think that perhaps it was a seedling, but of course they do not know. Mrs. A. W. Heuer, 1449 3rd Ave., Columbus, is the owner of the Jessica that is in the yard of the old Episcopal Manse at 1120 1st Ave. The manse has been turned into an antique shop."

Mr. J. P. Illges gives the following information concerning Jessica: "I was probably the first one to graft Jessica and secure a variegated variety. I sent some plants to Mr. Wilmot at Gainesville for his test garden and suggested that he name it 'Dorothy M.,' and it is so recorded in Gainesville. To the best of my knowledge the Jessica plant was a seedling or unnamed variety purchased from Fruitland many years ago."

Mrs. James A. Griffin of Cordele writes as follows: "We have kept a record of our sales ever since we have had a nursery. Referring to our 1938 book, I see that on Dec. 1, 1938—Mrs. Reynolds Flournoy, Wildwood Ave., Columbus, and Mrs. James R. Lockhart, 1422 Edgewood Drive, Columbus, visited our nursery. I noticed they were talking about a new camellia—Jessica—that had won a blue ribbon (by Mrs. Lockhart) at the last camellia show. Mrs. Lockhart kindly offered to send me some cuttings of her fine new variety. She sent me six or eight. I grafted them—all lived. Some of our first grafts of Jessica became variegated, and we sold one to Mrs. P. E. Rahl of Columbus in November, 1940. Our grafts were produced in 1939." Mrs. Griffin reports that she has a good many seedling camellias and that three of these seem to be exceptionally fine. They are to be watched for another season and if worthy they will be exhibited in a camellia show.

Mrs. Reynolds Flournoy of Columbus has contributed valuable information on Jessica as follows: "The original plant of the camellia known as Jessica is in Columbus in the yard just south of the Episcopal Church. At one time this was the Manse, but the plant was planted by Mrs. Kaufman whose home it was before that time. It has been there as long as I can remember (many years).

"Mrs. Jessie Kite stopped and asked for cuttings of this plant and has a very fine specimen in her yard on her plantation at Ft. Mitchell, Alabama. Many plants have been rooted and grafted from her bush. The flowers were first exhibited by Mrs.

James R. Lockhart in the Columbus Camellia Show in 1938, and as it had no name, Mrs. Lockhart called it 'Jessica,' for Mrs. Kite."

Mrs. Flournoy is the originator of a fine white seedling which is now about ten years old. It has been awarded a Certificate of Merit and has won blue ribbons all over the State. It was named Charter for the Charter Garden Club of Columbus. It produces a flower of large size with several rows of petals and toward the center the small petaloids are intermixed with yellow stamens. This variety is a seedling from Leucantha but quite different, especially in its slender and pointed leaves.

Columbus enthusiasts are very modest. The writer communicated with Mr. J. P. Illges concerning new varieties that may have originated in the Columbus area. Mr. Illges overlooked mentioning the fact that he was presented the Award of Merit for the best seedling exhibited at the 1948 Middle Georgia Camellia Show. This seedling has been named Plumfield White and has been registered with the American Camellia Society.

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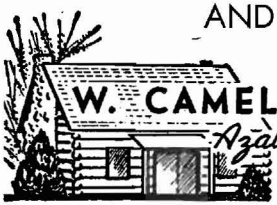
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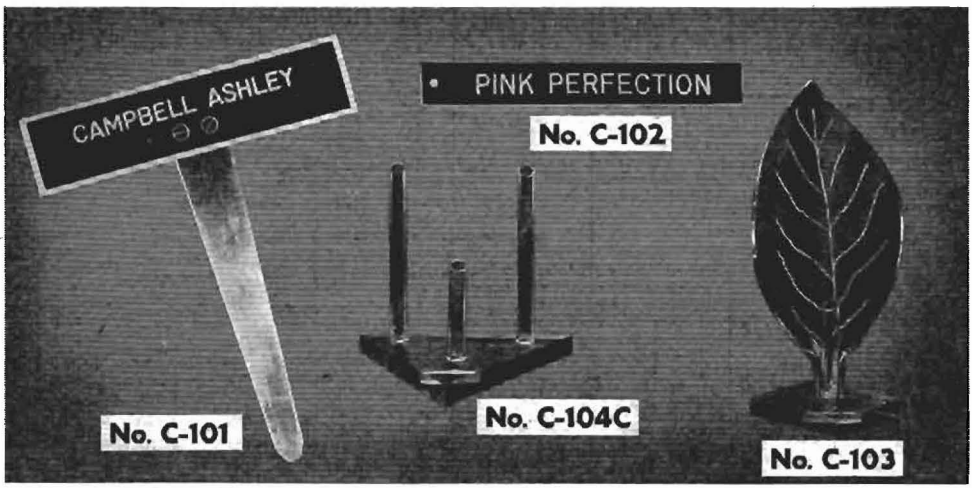
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