AMERICAN CAMELLIA *Quarterly*

VOLUME 5 - NUMBER 3 JULY 1950



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CAMELLIA JAPONICA • GOVERNOR MOUTON

American Camellia Quarterly, Volume 5 - Number 3, July 1950

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American Camellia Quarterly

VOLUME 5 — NUMBER 3 JULY, 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.

Annual Members—$3.00; Sustaining Members—$10.00; Commercial Members—$10.00; Life Members—$100.00; Patrons—$200.00. Make payment to American Camellia Society, Box 2398 University Station, Gainesville, Florida.

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Address communications to American Camellia Society, Sam. P. Harn, Secretary, Box 2398, University Station, Gainesville, Florida.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

The untimely death of Mr. Roy J. Wilmot, Secretary of the American Camellia Society, has necessitated the appointment of an acting secretary, and Mr. Sam P. Harn of Gainesville, Florida has been chosen for the position.

Mr. Harn comes to us with a background of public relations that will help the Society very materially. He is a graduate of the University of Florida, College of Agriculture. For many years he was manager of the Gainesville Chamber of Commerce, District Governor of Kiwanis Club, Editor of the Kiwanis Bulletin, and at one time on the staff of the Florida State Plant Board. He has been recommended by officials of the University of Florida, as well as by many business firms in Gainesville. He is well equipped to take over the duties of secretary, and the many things he expects to accomplish for the American Camellia Society will speak for themselves.

Mr. Austin Griffiths, Jr., who has been at the University of Florida studying for his Master's Degree with Variety Synonymy as his thesis subject, and now a staff member of the Dept of Horticulture, Agricultural Experiment Station, has been appointed Assistant to Dr. H. Harold Hume, who has taken over the editing of the next three Quarterlies and the 1950 Yearbook. We are pleased with this arrangement and members can be assured that these publications will be coming through as usual.

Arthur W. Solomon, President

TO DELINQUENT MEMBERS

The value of a continuing membership in this Society should be self-evident to past members—as it is to the great majority of camellia growers. However, the fact remains that each year a certain percentage of our membership becomes delinquent and consequently drops out of the Society. As our membership totals increase so does the percentage of delinquent members. In an effort to retain many of these, it has been deemed advisable to include all delinquents in our mailing list for this July Quarterly. While they are not actually entitled to receive this publication, it is sincerely hoped that upon looking it over they will take note of this and make every effort to renew their memberships promptly.

Only by knowing the total membership at an early date is it possible to arrive at the number of Yearbooks that will be required for our members. Therefore, it behooves those delinquents wishing a copy of the 1950 Yearbook to send in their renewal at once. The Yearbook goes to press in early August and we must know beforehand the number to order. Furthermore, those sending in renewals before that time will be included in the membership lists printed in the Yearbook. This will not be possible for renewals received after July.

The Society provides the necessary means for continuing and advancing interest in the camellia. Enlargement of our program and services is possible only through a stable, dependable membership. An increase has been taking place, with membership more than doubling in each succeeding year since the Society's inception five years ago. However, to sustain and nurture this growth, it becomes essential that every effort be made to retain past members. The loss in membership through delinquencies is to a degree a natural process; however, once a camellia lover, always one and therefore, let us **all** resolve that once an ACS member, always one.

1951 ANNUAL MEETING: Plans are under way for the next annual meeting of the Society, February 9-10, 1951 in Savannah, Georgia. Headquarters will be located at the De Soto Hotel. For further details see October and January Quarterlies.

1950 ARRANGEMENT CONTEST OF THE AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

The full details for this year's Arrangement Contest will appear in article form along with pictures of the winning arrangements in the 1950 Yearbook. However, this will serve as preliminary notice to entrants and other members of those having been awarded the highest honors.

The most outstanding entry in the 1950 Arrangement Contest was submitted by Mrs. Furman Stone of Atlanta, Georgia. The pre-eminence of this arrangement carries with it the top award, a camellia plant of rare variety.

CLASS I

An arrangement of composition symbolizing Peace, featuring white camellias with other white flowers. No foliage.

1st: Mrs. E. A. Williams; Charleston, S. C.
2nd: Mrs. Grover Meaders; Macon, Georgia
3rd: Mrs. Vaughn Nesbitt; Shreveport, La.

CLASS II

Camellias and other plant material in your favorite design. No restrictions.

1st: Mrs. Furman Stone; Atlanta, Georgia
2nd: Mrs. M. H. Maner; Columbia, S. C.
3rd: Mrs. Wm. J. Speas; Tyler, Texas

CLASS III

An arrangement or composition featuring camellias with bold or striking foliage for the modern home.

1st: Mr. C. V. Rainwater, Jr.; Beaumont, Texas
2nd: Mrs. R. E. Barr; Beaumont, Texas
3rd: Mrs. J. A. Douglas; Jacksonville, Florida

First and second place winners in each class will be awarded a camellia plant of good variety. Third place winners in each class are to be awarded a free annual membership in the American Camellia Society. Those winning the plant awards will receive these upon the beginning of the fall shipping season.

In addition to entrants placing in this contest, there are an additional thirteen arrangements that were of excellent quality and have been given "Honorable Mention" and "Highly Commended" recognition. Further details with illustrations and valuable comments upon the many top quality entries will appear in the next Yearbook.

SHREVEPORT MEN'S CAMELLIA CLUB AFFILIATES

The Men's Camellia Club of Shreveport, Louisiana, at its monthly meeting April 12, 1950, voted unanimously to become affiliated with the American Camellia Society.

Shreveport's Men's Camellia Club was organized in November of 1949 with a membership of 8 men. One month later the membership was 79. January paid up membership showed nearly 150 members. By the end of February the membership was 250.

At the April meeting a constitution and by-laws were adopted and officers elected for the coming year.

It was decided to hold meetings for the year 1950-1951 on the first Monday of each month, September through March, except January when the meeting will be held on the second Monday.

The following officers and directors were elected:

President, Rev. Frank Walters; Vice - President, Dr. C. Raymond Mays; Secretary, Mr. Fred Hamiter; Treasurer, Mr. Phil Rosenblath.

Directors: 1 Year—Judge R. D. Hendrick, Mr. Guy Kendricks, Dr. Bob Womack; 2 Years—Mr. M. A. Abernathy, Dr. Joe B. Heard, Mr. McIntyre Prescott; 3 Years—Mr. Don George, Mr. Grady McLemore, Mr. M. V. Cousins.

CAMELLIA FLOWER BLIGHT SURVEY IN SOUTHWEST

Extract from
"Camellia Flower Blight Survey
In Florida" by P. E. Frierson,
Florida State Plant Board

At the time of promulgation of the quarantine regulations restricting the movement of camellia plants and flowers from areas known to be infected with the camellia flower blight (**Sclerotinia camelliae** Hara) into southeastern sections "free" of this disease, the quarantine officials of the Southern Plant Board adopted a resolution for further action. This was a petition to federal officials to interest themselves in the flower blight problem and requesting that a survey be made of camellia plantings of the Southeast during the blooming season to determine whether the disease had made an appearance in yet undetermined sections.

Following this request, officials of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, United States Department of Agriculture, agreed to participate in a survey of camellia plants in nurseries and on private properties throughout the southeastern states. Both state and federal inspectors took part in this survey for the purpose of ascertaining the degree of incidence of this disease. Suspicious flower specimens collected were sent to specialists of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils and Agricultural Engineering at Beltsville, Maryland, for examination and final identification.

It was known, of course, that the disease was already present in a private collection located in Fulton County, Georgia. However, following the completion of the survey it was reported that camellia flower blight, in addition to this, had been found on one property in North Carolina and on several properties in one locality in Louisiana. It is indeed encouraging to note that these two restricted areas are the only additional ones within the region found to be infected. However, this finding must remain qualified as the results of a single year's survey can not result in a complete and totally accurate knowledge of the existence of this disease in the South. In any case, though, the report of this preliminary survey is certainly much more promising than it might have been.

Growers throughout the camellia areas are well advised to be on the lookout for this flower disease and to take necessary steps against infection. The Yearbook for 1946 contains a description of the disease, illustrations of its appearance on flowers, and known methods of control. Additional information on this disease will appear in the 1950 Yearbook.

ORDER PLANTS EARLY: Demand for nursery grown camellia plants is holding up and there are indications that it is increasing because more and more they are being used in landscape plantings instead of being set out as individual isolated specimens in gardens. Consequently those interested in securing specimens for their gardens or collections during the coming planting season will be well advised to place their orders early. As in other years it may be a case of first come, first served and often times first come best served.

ACCREDITED JUDGES: The announced plan to publish a list of ACS Accredited Judges in this July Quarterly has of necessity met with delay. The listing will appear in complete form in the October Quarterly. This should still provide sufficient time prior to the camellia show season to allow chairmen to consult this listing in the selection of their judges.

EARLY OR LATE? Mr. Maxwell Bramlette of Woodville, Mississippi, recently sent in this note of interest: "We had two perfectly formed Alba Plena blossoms which came into maturity June 2, and lasted through June 8, 1950."

WINNERS AND AWARDS 1949-1950 MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

Person bringing in the greatest number of new members in the entire nation:

J. M. Jones of Savannah, Georgia, with 84, wins a plant of the outstanding seedling of the year which is being awarded by Judge A. W. Solomon, President.

Person bringing in the second greatest number of members in the entire nation:

H. T. Lashley of Greenville, S. C., with 80, wins a camellia plant to be donated by W. T. Wood, Vice-President for the Atlantic States.

Person bringing in the third greatest number of new members in the entire nation:

W. M. Levi of Sumter, S. C., with 78, wins a camellia plant to be donated by S. J. Katz, Vice-President for the Gulf States.

Person bringing in the fourth greatest number of new members in the entire nation:

Mrs. W. D. Haas, Jr. of Bunkie, La., with 52, wins a camellia plant to be donated by William Hertrich, immediate past Vice-President for the Pacific States.

Person bringing in the fifth greatest number of new members in the entire nation:

M. R. Murray of Ft. Valley, Georgith, with 45, wins the new seedling, Charlotte Bradford, to be donated by J. S. Bradford, Wayside Nurseries, Ocean Springs, Mississippi.

Persons bringing in the greatest number of new members in their respective states. Directors of each state will award a camellia plant to these winners.

ALABAMA: J. H. Johnson with 29; plant to be donated by H. W. Lee.

FLORIDA: J. N. Sewell with 29; plant to be donated by Mrs. J. H. Churchwell (Immediate Past Director).

GEORGIA: J. M. Jones with 84; plant to be donated by Dr. W. G. Lee.

LOUISIANA: Mrs. W. D. Haas, Jr., with 52; plant to be donated by T. K. McKnight.

MISSISSIPPI: Mrs. Mary A. Robertshaw with 40; plant to be donated by J. H. Price, Jr.

NORTH CAROLINA: Mrs. L. G. Fox with 26; plant to be donated by Mrs. R. L. McMillan.

OREGON: H. H. Harms with 20; plant to be donated by D. C. Strother (Director at Large).

SOUTH CAROLINA: H. T. Lashley with 80; plant to be donated by C. N. Hastie, Jr.

In addition to the above awards a city, town, or incorporated hamlet will be designated as the ACS Camellia City which has the greatest number of new members for 1949 in proportion to its population. The winning award consists of three outstanding varieties of camellias to be given to the Chamber of Commerce or other civic body designated by the Mayor of the City.

The town that wins this recognition is Bunkie, Louisiana.

Finally, all those listed below, having obtained a minimum of 15 new memberships for the Society, are entitled to a camellia plant for each 15 members of their totals.

Alexander, J. F.	Tallahassee, Florida	15
Catts, Mrs. Erwin C.	Atlanta, Ga.	40
Caveness, Mrs. Roy O.	Raleigh, N. C.	16
Clapp, Mrs. Lois	Savannah, Ga.	15
Clark, Mrs. Niles C.	Waterloo, S. C.	17
Davis, Mrs. R. W.	Ruston, La.	15
Dozier, W. E.	Macon, Ga.	17
Gunn, Mrs. J. Ellis	Alexander City, La.	15
Edwards, John K.	Pensacola, Fla.	20
Fetzer, Mrs. G. W.	Springfield, Ga.	18
Fox, Mrs. L. G.	Rockingham, N. C.	26
Geiger, Mrs. A. A.	Atlanta, Ga.	16

Haas, Mrs. W. D. Jr. 52
Bunkie, La.
Harms, H. H. 20
Portland, Oregon
Hastie, C. N. Jr. 13
Johns Island, S. C.
Houser, Mrs. F. M. 41
Perry, Georgia
Johnson, J. H. 29
Andalusia, Ala.
Jones, J. M. 84
Savannah, Ga.
Jones, R. O. 16
Newman, Ga.
Keith, Mrs. J. W. 17
Statesboro, Ga.
Lashley, H. T. 80
Greenville, S. C.
Levi, W. M. 78
Sumter, S. C.
Madame et Mademoiselle 15
Abbeville, La.
Mann, M. M. 23
St. Matthews, S. C.
Manning, Mrs. Houston 35
Latta, S. C.
Martin, Charles Y. 15
Thibodaux, La.
Martin, Milton E. 16
Columbia, Ala.
Matthews, Emory C. 28
Macon, Ga.
Mays, Dr. C. Raymond 33
Shreveport, La.
McKinney, Thomas M. 15
McCormick, S. C.
Meaders, Mrs. Grover A. 27
Macon, Ga.
Murray, Mrs. M. R. 15
Ft. Valley, Ga.
Murray, M. R. 45
Ft. Valley, Ga.
Perryman, C. J. 15
Thomson, Ga.
Pratt, Fred 24
Camden, S. C.
Roberson, C. M. 15
Macon, Ga.
Robertshaw, Mrs. Mary A. 40
Greenville, Miss.
Robinson, Mrs. Frank 16
Anderson, S. C.
Sadler, B. H. 17
Fairfield, Ala.
Sewell, J. N. 29
Jacksonville, Florida
Taylor, Mrs. G. C. 15
Arcadia, La.
Tucker, Mrs. H. W. 21
Baton Rouge, La.
Willard, Mrs. W. B. 18
Raleigh, N. C.

If, acording to individuals concerned, discrepancies exist in this listing, we would appreciate being advised of the matter and will undertake immediate corrective steps.

With the above qualification in mind, this listing may be considered as a final report on the past year's membership campaign. This serves as notice to all contestants of their standings and plant entitlements. To those who have not yet received their plant awards, please rest assured that this is being taken care of and that the plants will be forthcoming immediately upon the initiation of this fall's shipping season.

Now—on to his year's campaign and may it be even more successful!

NOTE OF APPRECIATION: Plants that were awarded as prizes to the first and second place winners of the 1949 Arrangement Contest have been generously contributed by the following nurserymen and a private collector:

Thomasville Nurseries, Thomasville, Georgia; Newbud Azalea Gardens, Inc., Atlanta, Georgia; Portland Camellia Nursery, Portland, Oregon; S. D. Coleman Nurseries, Ft. Gaines, Georgia; Central Georgia Nurseries, Macon, Georgia; and J. P. Illges, Columbus, Georgia.

The sincere and wholehearted cooperation shown by these growers is appreciated. Thank you, gentlemen, for your support and kindness.

CAMELLIA SHOW DATES: We have received some advance notices on dates for next season's camellia shows. Please report these dates as soon as possible to Mr. W. T. Wood, Chairman, Exhibition and Awards Committee, 240 Second Street, Macon, Georgia, with a copy to this office. Some of the magazines go to press several months ahead of publication date and want this information early. This also allows the many camellia followers to work out their show attendance schedule and dates so as to avoid possible conflicts.

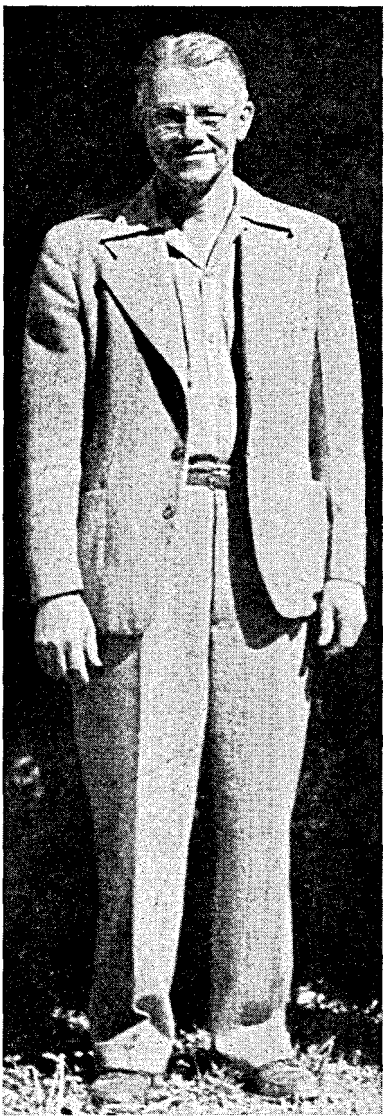
ROYAL JAMES WILMOT

January 9, 1898 - May 7, 1950

With the passing of Mr. Wilmot, the American Camellia Society lost its Secretary and a most valuable member. He was born in Rochester, New York, graduated from the University of Tennessee, with the degree Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in 1922 and received the Master of Science degree in Agriculture from the University of Florida in 1931. He had an excellent educational background for his work in Ornamental Horticulture and in addition a generous share of native ability, an eye for form and color and an exceptionally retentive memory. From 1927 he was associated with the Florida State Plant Board giving much of his time to plant fumigation research, in which field he became an authority. In 1933 he became Assistant Horticulturist in the Horticultural Department of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, a position he held throughout the remainder of his life.

Mr. Wilmot was responsible for bringing together the large collection of camellia species and varieties now growing at Gainesville, Florida on the grounds of the Agricultural Experiment Station, an undertaking that began several years before the Society was organized in September 1945. This planting was started and has been maintained and added to from year to year since its inception in an effort to straighten out the tangled synonomy of the group and in this connection he did a great service for camellia growers.

With the organization of the American Camellia Society he became its executive secretary and until his death spared neither time nor effort to make it a success. The Yearbooks 1946-1949 are a monument to his interest and untiring service. So long as camellias are grown Mr. Wilmot will be remembered for his fundamental studies of their culture.



His contributions to the camellia field were the result of only part of his efforts. He was a specialist in ornamental horticulture with a wide knowledge of the field, particularly as it related to the climatic and other factors of the region in which he worked. The Southland and Florida in particular are the richer horticulturally because of his zeal and knowledge. Those who knew him best esteemed him most.

ATTENTION SHOW CHAIRMEN!

The Exhibition and Awards Committee of The American Camellia Society announces the 1951 Arrangement Contest.

Purpose: To stimulate interest in general use of camellias in arrangements in homes and shows.

Rules: 1. The contest is open to any member of the American Camellia Society or to any member of a club affiliated with the American Camellia Society. A non-member of the Society may only submit an arrangement that is entered in a show given in cooperation with the A.C.S.

2. Photographs must be on glossy paper, size 5x7 inches. A brief analysis of the design, with a detailed description of the container and plant material is required. Clip this information written on a separate sheet of paper to the photograph. Please do not write on photograph. Photographs of arrangements made at home, or of those entered in a show held in cooperaiton with The A.C.S. may be used.

3. An exhibitor may make only one entry in each class.

4. All photographs submitted will become the property of The American Camellia Society.

Classes: 1. An arrangement or composition of camellias in the Chinese manner.

2. An arrangement or composition of camellias in the English manner. Late Georgian.

3. An arrangement or composition of camellias in the contemporary American manner.

Note—Other flowers, foliage and acessories, optional in each of these classes.

Judges: Three nationally known judges will decide the winners. Judges' decisions shall be final.

Prizes: First in each class, a camellia plant.

Second in each class, a camellia plant.

Third in each class, a year's membership in The American Camellia Society.

Most outstanding entry in the contest, a camellia plant.

Winning photographs and others of merit will be reproduced in the Yearbook of The American Camellia Society. Before April 1, 1951 send photographs and descriptions to:

Mrs. W. T. Wood
A.C.S. Arrangement Contest Chairman
3875 Overlook Avenue,
Macon, Georgia

Exhibitions and Awards Committee
A. J. Nitzschke
Morrie L. Sharp
Wm. T. Wood, Chairman

Dr. Hume, in his book CAMELLIAS IN AMERICA says "Eastern Asia is the ancestral home of all camellias. How far back their culture in that region dates there is no way of knowing, but there can be no doubt that they were grown in gardens many centuries before Europeans saw them in the port towns of China and Japan."

About 1700, the camellia first became known in England through John Cunningham, a physician employed by the English East India Company.

"In 1792, Captain Connor of the East India Merchantman Carnatic on a voyage from China brought two camellias, Alba Plena and Variegata, to England. These two were followed by Rubra Plena in 1794, Incarnata, Lady Hume's Blush, and Carnea in 1806, and many others in the next thirty-five years." So it is reasonable to suppose that camellias were available for use in arrangements in the Georgian period although they are not listed among flowers used at that time, by one of our most valuable sources of information on Period Arrangement.

The classes of the Arrangement Contest for 1951 were chosen because of the wide interest in camellia history, and in the hopes that they will cause further study and research on this subject.

The Chinese treatment of camellias in decorations should be inter-

esting and because of our English ties and relationships, the use of camellias in that country was chosen.

"Contemporary American" covers a wide field, so arrangers, let fancy fly, and make the 1951 contest the most distinctive of the series.

Marie Wood, Chairman

LET'S TAKE CARE OF OPPORTUNITY NOW

Dr. W. G. Lee, Macon, Ga.

Having made talks in several cities and towns in the Southeast on the subject of camellias and azaleas, I am aware of the fact that the great development of the Garden Club movement has created a better and more happy social relationship among individuals, and has brought about a desire for beautification through the use of flowers and shrubs. With knowledge accumulated over the past quarter of a century, it seems only natural that every township in the Southeast should make a practical use of this information by having an all out beautification program.

Since my major interest is in camellias and azaleas, I shall confine my discussion of beautification to the use of these two shrubs. In recent years the interest in camellias alone has grown by "leaps and bounds." The more than eighty nurseries in the area where Mobile, Alabama is located have completely sold out everything except their stock plants before the end of each season. Many Camellia Clubs have been organized, not only in the seven southeastern states, but in the Pacific States of California and Oregon. Shows staged by these actively interested groups are outside the comprehension of anyone who has not seen them. Many of these shows have elaborate buildings laid out by the Fine Arts Department of State Educational Institutions. They are not only elaborate and artistic, but the same building is laid out year after year on a different pattern. For the past three years the Middle Georgia Camellia Show has been staged in the Macon Auditorium, which has a seating capacity of 4,500. The floor plans have been designed by students of the Fine Arts Department of the University of Georgia, and an honorarium of not less than $75.00 has been awarded each year to the student whose plan was selected. As the result of two years of careful planning and execution under the described plan, the Macon show in 1948 had 4,000 individual blossoms on exhibit, in addition to many artistic arrangements and displays of prints and paintings, and was awarded the Purple Ribbon of the Garden Club of Georgia for the best horticultural exhibit of the year.

This brings me to the main point of my story, viz.—City Beautification. Why confine beautification to our own gardens and an annual Camellia Show? Since a few of our cities have made a definite beginning in city beautification, it behooves us to take advantage of the opportunity to make a virtual paradise of our cities for many weeks each year, to the great pleasure of visitors as well as our own citizens. There are in our section of the United States about nine states in which these plants may be grown in profusion out-of-doors without protection. It is not unusual for me to have camellias blooming though in small quantities at times from August until the middle of May.

Azaleas and camellias are both evergreen shrubs which can be cut and trimmed into different shapes. The camellia, with its more than 3,000 varieties, can furnish dwarf plants, which will barely grow to a height of five feet, or large ones, that will grow quickly to the height of a second story window. There is not a more attractive evergreen for use around the home, in the downtown parks, cemeteries, etc., than **Camellia japonica,** even if it never has a blossom, because of its lustrous foliage, ranging in size from a tiny artistic leaf to one almost as large as the leaf of **Magnolia grandi-**

flora. It is not unusual to find a 20 year old plant with as many as 500 or more blossoms open in a single day. Inasmuch as all buds of a camellia bush do not mature at the same time, there is continuous blooming over a period of time.

Some of our cities have already recognized their opportunities and have made great progress in beautifying their parks and playgrounds through the use of camellias. As evidence of this statement, I wish to call your attention to Savannah, Georgia, where my wife and I, at the invitation of Mr. Arthur W. Solomon, spent a gorgeous day in April inspecting Victory Drive, Bonaventure Cemetery, and smaller downtown parks of that lovely old city. Another is Mobile, Alabama, already famous for the annual garden tour of her Azalea Trail. New Orleans, Louisiana, has many of her downtown parks planted with these shrubs which exercise a powerful influence in attracting visitors from all over the nation to this unique city.

My own city, through the influence of the Beautification Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, secured an appropriation of $11,000.00 for municipal park plantings of azaleas and camellias. When Mr. A. E. Barnes was selected Chairman, he asked me to assist him in the selection of plants to be used. We rode over five states and bought 270 grafted camellia and 2,700 azalea plants, which were planted in late October and early November, 1947. They bloomed in such profusion the first year that the public was loud in their praises of this municipal experiment in city beautification. The results today are so gratifying that the new administration is offering the Chamber of Commerce the privilege of expending $10,000.00 a year for two additional years for furthering this effort.

It has not been my intention to omit the use of sasanqua camellias in my discussion of city beautification. With the many new varieties now available, this plant lends itself most attractively for planting in parks and gardens.

For many years following 1861 the South has not been financially able to have her cities and road sides as beautifully landscaped as her people would have desired. But now that new industries are bringing more capital to our southland, we should avail ourselves of the opportunity offered by our climate and natural resources to have a garden spot in every city and township.

HIGHLY COMMENDED: Mr. R. J. Broun, proprietor of The Camellia Patch, 2273 Cascade Road. S.W., Atlanta, Georgia, has individually taken upon himself one of the most unselfish and exemplary means for advancing the Society's membership. In a sincere effort to aid the general membership campaign of last winter, he ran an advertising program in the local paper offering to sell **any camellia in stock** at **one half price** with a new membership for the American Camellia Society.

This outstanding, generous salesmanship brought in a total of at least 65 new memberships, even including some out-of-state people. Mr. Broun gives much of the credit for this individual campaign to Mrs. Erwin C. Catts of Atlanta in that she was the motivating spirit behind the plan.

To both of them the Society wishes to convey its hearty congratulations and many thanks for an exceptional job well done. The Society would indeed be fortunate in possessing additional members interested and sincere enough to get the many commercial men thoroughly with us and to convince them of the fact that "promoting the society is promoting their own business as well."

CAMELLIAITIS

A SERIOUS HUMAN DISEASE

John Sutlive*

Women have babies. Men have camellias. Of course, some women have camellias, too, but they don't carry on about them like men do. Women take their camellias in stride, just like they do their children; men like to fret and fume, and especially talk about the bushes on which they lavish such attention. And, woman's opinion to the contrary notwithstanding, it's easier to keep a flock of kids groomed and moving in the right direction than it is to keep a like number of camellias healthy and upright.

Time was when I looked down upon some of my friends who talked, slept and ate camellias, as perhaps slightly touched in the head. Since in a moment of weakness the virus infected me, I know now that they are really touched in the head, myself included. It was such a simple start for such a terrible addiction that day I admired a big red flower with purplish edges in the garden of a friend. Had I known what was going to happen, he never would have gotten in my yard when he showed up several days later with a fine specimen plant of the Mathotiana. Little realizing what lay ahead, I planted the bush according to directions. These in themselves were so minute and so exacting that I should have been warned that what I was being initiated into was no ordinary garden enterprise. Most people can take flowers, or they can let them alone. But this, emphatically, does not apply to camellias.

No man ever stopped at one camellia; you just don't have a camellia; you either have none, or you have many. In my garden there soon appeared as companions to the lovely but lonely aforementioned Mathotiana, a Duchess of Sutherland, an Alba Plena, a Colletti, and as my familiarity with these aristocrats of floriculture grew, a camellia that now permits me (you get to talk to the darn things) to call it simply "Donk," instead of the more formal Donckelarii. And, praise heaven, as if this weren't enough, soon I took under my wing an orphan, nameless, foundling, left on my garden doorstep—a seedling of uncertain parentage but carrying the hopes that can only be lavished on a camellia.

Having assembled a little family, I relaxed to enjoy it, not realizing yet what cares and tribulations went with guardianship of a camellia garden. But before long, naturally and inevitably, I learned that the sun must be exact in duration and intensity, and the shade of the proper density, if the plants were to mature as such plants should. The moisture in the ground under the mulch had to be kept just right, and the depth of the mulch itself, to say nothing of its composition, was a matter of as much scientific exactness as any baby's formula.

Then came the bugs. I had long realized in a vague sort of way the eternal conflict between man and the insects, in which man had to call forth his most scientific methods of destruction else the world be taken over by the much lower and more hardy forms of life. Just as they say the fighting in Spain was a trial ground for the great battles of World War Two, the fighting between the insects and me could have been the testing ground for a much vaster conflict. There were aphids, beetles, and (whether these be vegetable or animal, I don't know) scales. And there wasn't an ant within two blocks of my house that didn't establish a homestead under the mulch. Valiantly, and with a touch of the spirit that won the wilderness, I started out to beat the insects with spray and dust, balking only at giving each leaf an individual hand bath, feeling that being soap and water attendant to a bush was be-

low my editorial dignity, and certainly much below the point that my girth would permit me to bend comfortably.

The things I learned. Beauty in a beetle is but a camouflage of destruction. How those little bugs, with coat of a metallic sheen that compared with the jewelry of ancient Egypt, could put so many holes, in so many leaves in so few hours, was amazing — disheartening and disgusting. I almost threw in the spray gun when I was told that the presence of aphids and ants on some tender new growth came about because the ants were attracted by the aphid cows, which they milked. Having an insect dairy farm on my hands when all I wanted was simple, non - lacteal, but beautiful blooms, was almost too much.

But conquer I did through the sprays and dusts and the application of various formulae to the roots, all calculated to insure and enhance those flowers that bring such satisfaction to the soul come winter, if the winter is not too cold. Once, however, I almost lost out. That was the day when I came in from the garden and the lady of the house, engaged in a bridge game with three other ladies, asked in a casual, polite sort of way what I had been doing. And I, replying in that one-track mind way peculiar to camellia victims, astonished the ladies and broke up the game when I said: "Giving the 'Duchess' a dose of salts."

P.S.

Last Saturday in this spot I wrote a piece about camellia culture, which is another word for madness. A lot of people were kind enough to say they liked it. Two took positive action. Judge Arthur W. Solomon, president of the American Camellia Society, extracted $3 dues from me, and Arthur Funk called to confer on me the degree of D.D.C. —Demented Doctor of Camellias.

* Reproduced from and with permission of the Savannah Evening Press, June 17 and 24, 1950.

GROWING CAMELLIAS FROM SEED

Mrs. Joel W. Mann, Valdosta, Ga.

About eighteen years ago when I began collecting camellias for my garden, I did not realize how much these small plants (and they were very small then) would mean to me in future years. They have grown into trees, and in addition to their gorgeous blooms are producing lots of seed.

I find growing seedlings a most interesting hobby. Not being a technical gardener, I pass along to you my way of growing them which I assure you is quite simple and has proved successful with me. If you gather the seed when ripe and plant immediately, you will be amazed how many will come up; but, if seeds are put away until a more opportune time, the results will not be so good.

I crack the seeds slightly with a nut cracker near the eye, and plant in a partially shaded place about one and one-half inches deep. The seed will come up in thirty to forty-five days. When the plants are large enough to transplant, pinch off the tap root just below the small cluster of roots. This, I learned, after many disappointments, in trying to move plants when the tap root had grown deeper than the height of the plant. If you will dig and move the plants each year for about three years, this root pruning should produce blooms in that time. Be sure to plant under slat frames or in a partially shaded place.

Do not be discouraged if your first seedling is not a "sweepstakes" winner. Just keep on planting as you can never tell just which seed will be that lucky one. The ones that are mediocre can be cut down and used for stock in grafting.

One of my first seedlings bloomed in 1946. It seems to get prettier each year. I have named it ANNE SMITH as a living memorial to my friend's lovely young daughter who lost her life in the Winecoff fire in Atlanta.

Because so many have been interested in this beautiful camellia, and wanted plants, I decided to let Mr. Sam Hjort of the Thomasville Nurseries propagate it. As I do not wish to commercialize on this plant, I am giving all funds received on it to the Cancer Fund in the hope that it may help save a life as precious as Anne's.

MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION*

With the thought that a breakdown of our total membership into individual state and country representation may be of interest, the following itemized list showing distribution of membership is presented:

ALABAMA	789
ARIZONA	2
ARKANSAS	20
CALIFORNIA	342
CONNECTICUT	6
WASHINGTON, D. C.	6
DELAWARE	1
FLORIDA	646
GEORGIA	1638
ILLINOIS	16
INDIANA	1
KANSAS	2
KENTUCKL	3
LOUISIANA	712
MARYLAND	8
MASSACHUSETTS	12
MICHIGAN	2
MISSISSIPPI	478
MINNESOTA	1
MISSOURI	1
NEW JERSEY	17
NEBRASKA	1
NEW YORK	29
NORTH CAROLINA	385
OHIO	5
OKLAHOMA	2
OREGON	52
PENNSYLVANIA	21
RHODE ISLAND	1
SOUTH CAROLINA	1188
TENNESSEE	27
TEXAS	223
VIRGINIA	188
WASHINGTON	42
WISCONSIN	2
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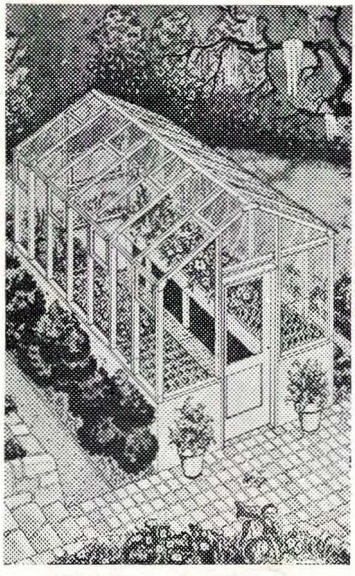
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