

AMERICAN CAMELLIA *Quarterly*

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American Camellia Quarterly

VOLUME 7—NO. 4

OCTOBER, 1952

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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 and a subscription to the American Camellia Quarterly.

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PREVIEW OF 1952 YEARBOOK

ARTHUR C. BROWN

Unless the unexpected happens, the 1952 edition of the American Camellia Yearbook should be in the possession of all members early in December. It is our hope and expectation that members of the Society will be pleased with our efforts to publish a well-balanced volume that covers many phases of camellia culture.

The 1952 edition will be well illustrated. In addition to a number of black and white pictures there will be eight color plates. The book will contain between fifty and sixty informative articles written by able and competent individuals who are well informed in their particular fields. The majority of the articles will be of a popular nature—we have even included a poem on camellias!

The American Camellia Society is an organization whose members for the most part are amateurs and hobbyists. It is this group that the Editors had in mind when the current edition was planned. However, representatives of this group should bear in mind the fact that the success that they have experienced in growing camellias is due in no small measure to the labors and findings of research investigators. It is desirable, therefore, that provision be made in each issue of the Yearbook for publication of articles of scientific and historical nature. Some of the technical information developed by scientific investigators over a period of years is scattered here and yon in publications of various kinds and can be found only after a tedious search through such literature. Some equally valuable information remains in the form of manuscripts or notes because the workers were unable to find a medium for its publication. The Yearbook should provide this medium. It should serve as a repository for technical and historical papers in order that they may be readily available to laymen and professionals alike.

To members of the Society who are beginning to think about the purchase of Christmas presents, we would like to suggest that the gift of a 1953 membership to someone who is not a member of the Society, or a Yearbook of a previous issue, would make a very nice present. Copies of the 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1952 editions of the Yearbook will be available at three dollars a copy.

The Editor takes this opportunity to express his thanks and appreciation to Austin Griffiths, Jr., Associate Editor, for his invaluable aid and counsel in the preparation of the 1952 Yearbook. Although pressure of professional duties made it necessary for him to relinquish the position as Editor, he has continued to give unstintingly of his time and talents to Yearbook matters and problems. His talents are many and wide in scope. He participated to a considerable degree in the preparation of the 1948, 1949 and 1950 Yearbooks. He served as Editor of the 1951 edition. He possesses a fund of information on the camellia in all of its phases seldom encountered in one individual. Your Editor, as well as all the members of the Society, are indeed fortunate in having Mr. Griffiths available as technical consultant and advisor.

REQUIREMENTS FOR HOLDING A SHOW

IN COOPERATION WITH THE AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

1. Application for cooperation should be made as early in the year as possible to W. T. Wood, Chairman of Exhibitions and Awards Committee, 240 Second Street, Macon, Georgia.
2. At least three judges in the Horticultural Division shall be selected from the list of accredited judges of the Society.
3. The proposed show schedule and the list of proposed judges should be submitted to the Chairman of the Exhibitions and Awards Committee not less than ten days prior to the show date.
4. Suitable arrangements should be made to take applications for membership in the American Camellia Society during the hours that the show is open to the public.
5. The name of the American Camellia Society shall be used on all schedules and announcements.
6. Necessary certificates of awards should be ordered from the Secretary, Box 2398, University Station, Gainesville, Florida, after approval from the Chairman of Exhibitions and Awards Committee has been received.

American Camellia Society Awards should be presented only as outlined below:

GOLD CERTIFICATE—This award is intended for the sweepstakes winner in horticultural classes. It is recommended that the certificate be awarded on a basis of the greatest number of blue ribbons. Red ribbons should be counted only in case of a tie.

SILVER CERTIFICATE—This is to be awarded on the same basis as the Gold Certificate, except that it is to be presented to the runner-up of the sweepstakes winner.

HIGHLY COMMENDED CERTIFICATE—This is to be awarded to a seedling when three accredited judges consider such a seedling as clearly distinct from and notably superior to any variety now in commerce.

(Note: When this award is given, the show chairman should report all details to

William T. Wood, Chairman, Exhibitions and Awards Committee, 240 Second Street, Macon, Georgia.)

AWARD OF MERIT—This award is not to be presented at shows. It is available to seedlings that have previously been awarded a Highly Commended Certificate, and is a second step in the competition for the Illges Medal.

(Note: Additional awards may be offered by the local committee if desired. Cash prizes are not prohibited, but it is suggested that ribbons, plants, garden books and similar awards are often equally or more desirable.)

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOLDING A CAMELLIA SHOW

It is not compulsory to follow any particular schedule but we do recommend the

1. No exhibitor shall receive more than one premium in any one class. following:
2. Any prize may be withheld at the discretion of the judges whose decision shall be final.
3. With the exception of the artistic arrangement classes, all flowers shall have been grown by the exhibitor.
4. Exhibitors must have had in their possession at least six months the plants from which flowers are taken.
5. Amateur and commercial exhibitors shall show in separate classes.
6. Some shows are subdivided into the following divisions:
 - a. Flowers shown by growers having a maximum of twenty plants.
 - b. Flowers shown by growers having more than twenty plants.
 - c. Where there are as many as three flowers of any one variety entered, they should be judged as a separate class in their appropriate subdivision.
 - d. Where classification by form is employed see 1952 Yearbook for various systems used.
7. Combining points for sweepstakes award of both flowers grown out-of-doors, and flowers grown under-glass should not be allowed. It is obvious that a grower exhibiting in both classes has a decided advantage over exhibitors who grow only under one or the other method.
8. After your show is over, a detailed report with as much information as possible should be made in duplicate, with one copy being sent to the Secretary at the Gainesville office and one copy sent to the Chairman of the Exhibitions and Awards Committee.
9. Good articles on show management are in the A. C. S. Yearbooks of 1946 and 1949.

SHOW DATES

1952-53 SEASON

<i>Fall Shows</i>		<i>January</i>	
Hattiesburg, Miss.	Nov. 1	St. Simons Island, Ga.	9
Darlington, S. C.	Nov. 15-16	Panama City, Fla.	10
Laurel, Miss.	Nov. 29	Cordele, Ga.	10-11

<i>January</i>	
Abbeville, La.	10-11
Slidell, La.	10-11
Summerville, S. C.	10-11
Tyler, Tex.	11
Orlando, Fla.	17-18
Pensacola, Fla.	17-18
Tallahassee, Fla.	17-18
Savannah, Ga.	17-18
Waycross, Ga.	17-18
Covington, La.	17-18
Lafayette, La.	17-18
Hattiesburg, Miss.	17-18
Georgetown, S. C.	17-18
Beaumont, Tex.	17-18
Dothan, Ala.	22
Biloxi, Miss.	22
Beaufort, S. C.	22
Boston, Mass.	22-23
Greenville, Ala.	24-25
Jacksonville, Fla.	24-25
Americus, Ga.	24-25
Moultrie, Ga.	24-25
Thomasville, Ga.	24-25
Shreveport, La.	24-25

North Charleston, S. C.	24-25
Moncks Corner, S. C.	24-25
Sumter, S. C.	24-25
Mobile, Ala.	31-Feb. 1
Guyton, Ga.	31-Feb. 1
Charleston, S. C.	31-Feb. 1

February

Bessemer, Ala.	7- 8
Atlanta, Ga.	7- 8
Augusta, Ga.	7- 8
Perry, Ga.	7- 8
Gainesville, Fla.	14-15
Columbus, Ga.	14-15
Shreveport, La.	14-15
Jackson, Miss.	14-15
Columbia, S. C.	18-19
San Diego, Cal.	21-22
Macon, Ga.	21-22

March

San Jose, Cal.	1
Sacramento, Cal.	7- 8
Greenville, S. C.	7- 8
Berkeley, Cal.	14-15
Dallas, Tex.	20-29
Norfolk, Va.	21-22

1953 ARRANGEMENT CONTEST

The July Quarterly carried a preliminary announcement which is repeated herewith.

ARRANGEMENT CLASSES TO BE USED FOR 1953 CONTEST

CLASS I

A composition of camellias in the elegant manner

CLASS II

An arrangement of camellias stressing simplicity

CLASS III

An arrangement or composition of camellias—no restrictions

Note: Other plant material and stands or bases permitted in each of the above classes. Accessories permitted in Classes I and III. All backgrounds should be plain.

Pictures of arrangements in competition for national awards should be 5 x 7 inch black and white glossy prints. All such pictures should be mailed immediately after the show to Mrs. W. T. Wood, Chairman, Arrangement Contest Committee, 3875 Overlook Avenue, Macon, Georgia. Do not write on back of photographs, but give descriptions and proper identification in an accompanying letter.

Winners of the contest will be reported and their arrangement pictures printed in a publication of the American Camellia Society.

For 1953 a silver bowl has been donated for sweepstakes winner. Winners of first prize in each class will be awarded a membership in the American Camellia Society for the following year. Winners of second and third prizes in each class will be awarded a copy of the *American Camellia Yearbook*.



This beautiful sterling silver bowl, which is nine inches in diameter and five inches high, will be given to the sweepstakes winner of the 1953 American Camellia Society Arrangement Contest. The handsome trophy will be suitably engraved. The generous donor wishes to remain anonymous. It may be stated, however, that this award is expected to be an annual feature of the contest.

MOLES, CONTINUED — (OR CONTINUOUS)

SAM P. HARN

Since writing the outburst on moles in the July Quarterly, I find that the pests worry lots of us "little people." Letters came from many friends. Some expressed sympathy; others suggested remedies. It seems that mole trouble is in a class with the common cold, hiccups and nosebleed. Everybody has a cure that will always work. It would cheer you to read every letter in full, but the editors order me to limit this to a simple symposium.

Our secretary, Jill Roberts, is amused with all this mole furor. She says any garden can be kept mole-free with one pronged trap. To prove her point she presents me once a week with a dead mole in a paper bag.

J. V. Gettle, Norfolk, says an old gardener from Ohio told him to plant castor beans all over the garden and this works. (Maybe so, but I want to see my camellias.)

Frank Griffin, of *Camellian* fame, reports he has tried everything but TNT. The best he has found is castor-bean meal, which is good for the plants and bad on moles.

Mrs. Anna L. Harris, Rockingham, North Carolina, writes that she has had the very same experiences and results as reported in the Quarterly. In addition she has planted castor beans until she was living in a tropical forest. She has fertilized with castor-bean meal, but all in vain. (So there you are! Take your choice!)

Sigmund Katz, Covington, Louisiana, after wiping away his tears of grief for me, gives his advice. He lives where camellias grow big and it takes a man to dig one up. His Louisiana moles cannot yet do a man's work. He says get some carbon bisulfide ("High-Life"), saturate a ball of absorbent cotton about one fourth the size of a golf ball, make an opening in the mole run with the forefinger (of either hand) and insert the poison ball. Cover with dirt and repeat in runs every twenty or thirty feet. There are many more words, but he ends with the thought that when your mole dies from this poison, he is already buried, and this saves extra work. (If it works, I say!)

Mrs. R. C. Lloyd, Ocilla, Georgia, has placed tin guards around her plants, but the smart Georgia moles simply dig under and up. Her cat caught a mole one time. But mole-cats are hard to find. She joins me in asking for advice.

Robert Park Erdman, "The American Camellia Catalog" man, Savannah, has lost over a hundred plants from moles. He has tried everything—poisoned bait, traps, wire-screen guards and finally he ran a rubber hose from the exhaust pipe on his car into the mole runs. He had a mole terrier that caught one a day and did more damage than the moles. He favors a fourteen-inch, wire-screen guard.

You should read the letters from Mr. and Mrs. Clifford T. Schwalb, Dothan, Alabama. Each one wrote a full page. The missus felt a sense of social inferiority when the Schwalbs were "moley" and their friends were not. They live next to a golf course, and Mr. Schwalb did look a little foolish driving his car among his camellias.

How could the golfers know he was fumigating with exhaust fumes? She prefers using tung meal, which can be applied in comparative privacy.

Mr. Schwalb says the scientific name for Molitis (or Ringworm-of-the-yard) is *Talpidaetitis*, and that may be true. He, too, was frustrated by the cat-calls from Number Sixteen green. And the golf pro came over and exploded gas bombs on the property line to keep moles off the golf course. After trying everything so far mentioned he has found that tung meal placed in mole runs really will rid one of moles. He has been mole-clean for over a year and he is knocking on wood with his fingers crossed.

Mr. A. Griffiths, Anaheim, California, has used the exhaust-pipe treatment, but abandoned this for the perfect control—fish heads. You take them while they are fresh and bury them in the mole runs. If your supply of heads runs short, cut up whole fish that have been given you by fishermen—uncleaned, of course.

Dan McCarthy, Florence, South Carolina, congratulates me on having such rich soil in Florida that will support a mole. He suggests two remedies—(1) Buy a dozen rotten eggs, drop one egg at intervals in the run and step on it after covering, thus breaking the egg. He concedes this is a dirty trick to play on even a mole. (2) Mix one-fourth Paris green with three-fourths table salt. Place this in mole runs. These pests are meat-eaters and seem to relish a little salt with their meat. The Paris green is incidental in that it incidentally kills the mole. (P. S.—Dan, this is also a dirty trick.)

Dee Deffeyes, Casper, Wyoming, writes in Southern vernacular as follows: "And de Lawd, seein' Brother Samuel's plight twixt de yearbook and de moles, said unto him, 'Sam'l, tell dat printer man to hold fo' pages for a few words regardin' raisin' camellias in sno-boun' Wyoming.' And dat man Sam'l took de ice pack off'n his haid, mopped his po' hot brow, looked out'n de winder, spied dem wicked moles holdin' dere convention in his cameelia garden, raised his eyes to hebben, and said in a low voice, 'Lawdy, Lawdy, tween dem fast moles and dat slow-movin' Frenchman, what is po' Sammy gwine ter do?' An it come to pass in later days dat de printer made de deadline and de moles disappeared, and dey bof lived happy ever after." (You will enjoy more of Brother Deffeyes in the Yearbook.)

Dr. Walter C. Hava, Waveland, Mississippi, has expressed deep sympathy from a fellow sufferer. He favors a combination of mole traps and rat terrier—with a dog guard placed around the traps. Best of all, Dr. Hava sent his copy of *Home Garden* magazine which contained a complete report on mole control. The Editor of this fine magazine has tabulated results of a nation-wide survey. Permission has been granted to reproduce in full this "Battle Report."

EDITOR'S BATTLE REPORT

When we suggested the problem of moles in the garden as a topic for the report of the month we anticipated that there would be wide divergencies in the 'cures' recommended. The thing that did surprise us, however, was the large number of readers who had tried many different methods before discovering the one which, in their individual cases, had been the most effective, even if not completely successful. The evidence submitted seems to point to the conclusion that there is no one sure method of control that will work under all conditions. The encouraging thing is that so many gardeners, when they persisted long enough, did eventual-

ly find a control which worked satisfactorily for them. In many instances, complete eradication was apparently obtained.

Taking all the methods for which success is claimed, and breaking them down into percentages, we arrived at the following: POISONS, 24%. These were of several kinds including, in addition to "brand name" preparations, arsenate of lead, strychnine, Paris green, Red Squill and others, applied to various baits and dropped into the runways. REPELLENTS, 20%. Castor Oil Beans lead; others were Corn smeared with turpentine, moth balls, carbolic acid, table salt, Garlic (a clove planted with each 4 or 5 flowering bulbs) and lye dropped in the runways; a trench soaked in kerosene and refilled with soil around the whole garden area.

TRAPS, 15%. The choker type seemed to work better in light, sandy soils and the spear or prong type in heavier soils. One reported mouse traps placed under tar paper near a compost heap. GAS, 13%. Cyanogas leading, with car or power mower exhaust a close second, and one of carbid crystal gas exploded in the runways. DIGGING, 8%. Watching, waiting, heaving out with a fork, and swatting. MECHANICAL MEANS, 6%. These included running wire underground around the garden beds; barriers of clay and gravel or broken glass; planting bulbs in cans and toy wind mills or small cans placed on sticks in the runs so that the varmints would be disturbed by the vibration; also bottles placed in the runs so that the wind would cause them to whistle.

CATS AND DOGS, 5%. FLOODING, 4% — by inserting hose in runways. MISCELLANEOUS, 5%, including planting Onions with Melons; Daffodils with Tulips; Orange peelings; open cans of garbage set flush with the soil. There was just one who thought that the best thing to do was to become a philosopher and learn to live with the interesting velvet-furred little friends.

Throughout there was emphasized the great necessity of never touching traps, baits, or repellents with the fingers, and the extraordinary sensitiveness of moles to smells, sounds (even faint ones), and to light entering the runways.

And that should end the story, except for one minor postscript. The writer appreciates the concern of a few on the reported injuries to his dog and his grandson. There is no dog and the grandson did not monkey with a moletrap. A few also took issue on the statement that I caught a blind mole and asked what else could be expected. These good people have forced the confession that the first story carried a few "exaggerations" while making a studied effort to be cute. Adlai and Ike and Harry take such liberties, too.

NOMENCLATURAL NOTES—2

AUSTIN GRIFFITHS, JR.
Department of Horticulture,
Florida Agricultural Experiment Station

"OLEIFERA"

For the past several years, now, the camellia trade has been troubled with a lack of understanding relative to the term "Oleifera" and what it represents. It has recently become possible to clarify this situation through information determined over the past two years. Some phases of the problem have already been treated in various published accounts by others; however, in an effort to present this subject in all its ramifications, the following detailed discussion is provided.

A camellia variety listed as Oleifera was imported by the late E. A. McIlhenny of Avery Island, Louisiana, from Robert Veitch & Son, Ltd., Exeter, England, in 1931 and again in 1937. Mr. McIlhenny first catalogued this variety in 1935. In his 1941 catalogue, the variety was listed and described, and a note was included stating that this stock of Oleifera had originated from the type plant then growing in Kew Gardens,

Surrey, England. In the years following, this variety became widely disseminated and known throughout the Southeast as *Oleifera*.

Although obtained and released to the domestic trade in the belief that this camellia represented the true "*Oleifera*" species, known botanically as *Camellia oleifera*, it soon became realized that McIlhenny's *Oleifera* was actually a horticultural variety of *C. sasanqua*, and evidently of Japanese origin. While it was known that this "*Oleifera*" had no relationship to *C. oleifera*, the correct name for it was undetermined; and several more years passed in which the variety continued as "*Oleifera*" for lack of a better name.

Early in November of 1950, while looking over the sasanqua varieties at Semmes Nurseries, Semmes, Alabama, the writer's attention was drawn to a variety labeled Narumi-nada. Plants of this variety were growing among those of several other varieties, all of which had been imported from The Yokohama Nursery Company of Yokohama, Japan, late in 1940 by T. Kiyono, the former owner of the nursery. Mr. Kiyono had at that time imported seven sasanqua varieties, among which was one named Narumi-gata (Narumi Beach). It was evident that Semmes' Narumi-nada was nothing more than a spelling corruption—most likely through misreading a faded label—of Narumi-gata. This variety, seen in flower at that time, was unquestionably identical to McIlhenny's *Oleifera*. Thus, it was there determined that Narumi-gata is the correct name for what has been carried in the trade as "*Oleifera*."

Although it has now been established that Narumi-gata is the correct name for this sasanqua variety, the nomenclatural problem does not end there. In some sections of the Southeast where the variety has been distributed in the past as McIlhenny's *Oleifera*, there are *two*, distinct flower types that may be encountered. Except for the variation in flower form and color, these two flower types are identical in *all* respects. One of these flower types we know represents the true, original varietal type; however, the remaining variant must be designated by name to distinguish it from the true Narumi-gata.

Typically, the flower of Narumi-gata is cup-shaped with a white ground color that becomes shaded toward the margin with lavender-pink overtones, as shown in Figure 1. This is the original or parental form and is properly known as Narumi-gata.

The second flower type encountered is one characterized by its flatness and darker, lavender-rose border. This is a striking flower and quite distinct from the cup-shaped and paler colored Narumi-gata. It is more flat in form and is richly colored with a wide border of lavender-rose, as shown in Figure 2. In the writer's experience, this latter flower type is the one most frequently observed along the Gulf Coast section; but its occurrence is apparently dependent on the variety stock source, of which there are evidently two—E. A. McIlhenny and S. J. Katz.

During the late 1930's, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Katz of Covington, Louisiana, became seriously interested in sasanquas; and in following years they have built up an outstanding—and most praiseworthy—collection of varieties available in this country. The sasanqua imports of Mr. McIlhenny were among those that received their early attention. One of these, the McIlhenny *Oleifera*, was acquired as a small, grafted plant. Scions from this plant were used in grafting another plant now in the Katz collection. These two plants have developed into fine specimens, over ten feet in

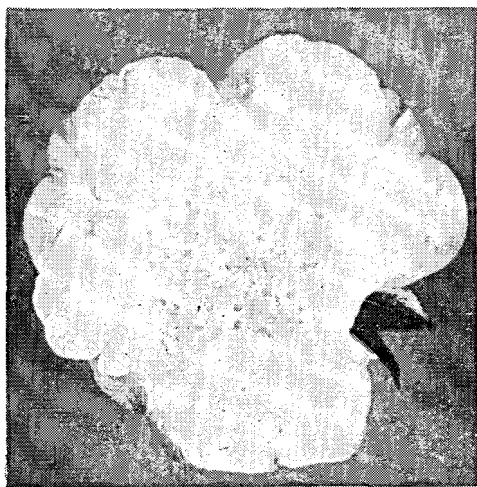


Fig. 1. Narumi-gata

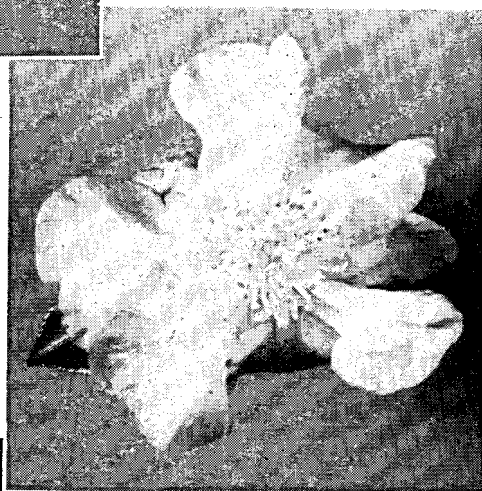


Fig. 2. Covington



Fig. 3. *Camellia oleifera*

height at the present time. *Both* of these plants produce *both* flower types; and in line with personal observation, Mr. and Mrs. Katz have reported that these two flower types seem to be restricted to their respective branches on each of the old plants at Covington. On the other hand, Mrs. F. E. Simmons, the late Mr. McIlhenny's daughter, and Mr. Anicet Delcambre, Superintendent, of the McIlhenny Nursery at Avery Island have reported that such a second flower type of their "Oleifera" is not known at the Nursery or elsewhere to them—nor is this variant form of Narumi-gata known in Japan, according to reports from there on this problem, or known in the Kiyono importation or West Coast importation of Narumi-gata made in 1930 by F. M. Uyematsu, of Star Nurseries, Montebello, California.

In the writer's experience all plants of the McIlhenny Oleifera that are definitely traceable to the McIlhenny source produce the cup-shaped, paler colored flower-type—with the exception of the Katz parent plant at Covington. Conversely, all plants of this "Oleifera" that are definitely traceable to the Katz source produce either flower type, but these are predominately of the flat, darker colored flower type. In the camellia varietal gardens here at the University of Florida, there are three plants of this "Oleifera" included in the collection—one from the McIlhenny source, and two from the Katz source. The McIlhenny plant produces only the cup-shaped, paler colored flower type; one of the Katz plants produces only the flat, darker colored flower type; and the other Katz plant produces both flower types. This latter plant is a two-scion grafted specimen—one scion produced a limb that bears only the cup-shaped, paler colored, typical flower; the other scion produced a limb that bears only the flat, darker colored, second flower type. To date these two flower types have never been observed occurring together on any one branch. While it is evident that this second flower type is a sport of the parental type, the apparent segregation and limitation of each flower type to its respective limb suggests the possibility of some rarely occurring mutation having produced the original sport on the parent Katz plant at Covington.

At the present time no name has been applied to this second flower type of McIlhenny's Oleifera. It is decidedly worthy of recognition and distinction by name. Only in this way will it be possible to acquire the particular flower type desired. Since it has been shown that the cup-shaped, paler colored flower type is the original one and correctly designated as Narumi-gata, some other name must be selected for designating the flat, darker colored flower variant. A name commemorating the origin of this sport would be logical for use in distinguishing it from Narumi-gata and for general application in the trade. Accordingly, the sport variety of Narumi-gata is here given the name for this purpose—Covington.

As noted above, Mr. McIlhenny imported his "Oleifera" from the Robert Veitch nursery firm in England. The English source of propagation for this variety had been the so-called type plant in the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. This reference to a "type plant" was made in the belief that the plant at Kew represented the original or typical form of the species, *C. oleifera*, a native of China. Somehow the Kew plant had become known in England under this completely erroneous identification, when actually it was a horticultural variety of *C. sasanqua*, a native of Japan. There were early Japanese importations of sasanquas into England and this Kew plant was undoubtedly from one of these in which Narumi-gata had been included, whether realized or not at that time. Since this "Oleifera" and its sport are now to be known in America as Narumi-gata and Covington, respectively—what of the term "Oleifera"?

With the sasanqua variety and its sport properly named and distinguished, the

term "Oleifera" may now be applied without confusion to the proper camellia—*C. oleifera*. This species has been disseminated under many names, none of which are correct, in this country. These misnomers include the following: White Sasanqua, Korean Sasanqua, White-flowered *Camellia reticulata*, *Camellia hongkongensis*, and other equally confusing and incorrect designations. Both *C. hongkongensis* and *C. reticulata* are red-flowered species; the other names were applied only in a local effort at identification. One other name, *C. oleosa*, while incorrect was at least an accepted synonym for *C. oleifera*. The true *C. oleifera* has been fully described elsewhere and these complete descriptions are generally available for reference. It is enough, here, to say that plants of this true species are readily identified by their stiff, dull green leaves in which the serrulate margins are characterized by large and small alternating serrations, especially near the leaf tips. The flower of *C. oleifera* is relatively small, from slightly more than one inch in diameter to over two inches in diameter, pure white and consisting of five to six petals or as many as nine in some plants.

Most, if not all, of the plants of this species to be found in America at the present time were produced from seeds imported from China under the wrong name or no name at all. These seedlings are a diverse group of plants, with variation in foliage and flower size and flower form extending over a wide range. None of these plants, however, have been selected and given a proper horticultural name. At least two that have been under observation are worthy of naming; but the general run of plants of this species are rather insignificant flowering shrubs, when compared to other garden camellias available. Except for an occasional selected plant, the only factors favoring this species from the gardener's standpoint are (1) its early flowering, October through December; (2) the slight fragrance, possibly of a pleasing quality to some; (3) the numerous flowers, in many cases a veritable mantle; and (4) the vigor of growth in most plants.

The only plant of *C. oleifera* known to be in this country and possessing a possibly valid *horticultural* name is the variety Kagiku. A plant carrying this identification is in the University of Florida camellia collection. It is unquestionably *C. oleifera* and resembles what might be called the usual form of species. This plant was acquired from Semmes Nurseries in the 1940's. The former owner, T. Kiyono, has reported that Kagiku was obtained more than twenty-five years ago, either through an indirect or direct Japanese importation from Jisuke Minagawa of Saitama-ken, Japan. Whether Kagiku (Fragrant Chrysanthemum) is actually a named varietal selection of *C. oleifera* or the rootstock of this "Kagiku" is not known. The name has not been located in camellia literature now available.

Possibly the largest plant of *C. oleifera* in America is one located at Camellia Nurseries in Tallahassee, Florida. This specimen is a large, spreading plant well over ten feet in height. Its flowers are of the small, 5-petaled type usually encountered in representatives of this species. Figure 3 illustrates foliage, flowers and fruit taken from the Tallahassee plant.

In summary, then, it has been shown that the term "Oleifera" as employed in the past was incorrectly applied and should be replaced by two sasanqua varietal names—Narumi-gata and Covington. The true *C. oleifera* species has been incorrectly known by several "names," none of which were applied in recognition of its true identity. The species, *C. oleifera*, or as it may popularly be referred to—oleifera—is herein identified and what may be its only horticultural, named selection known in America is the variety Kagiku.

A SAD, SAD TALE *

FRANK E. WALTERS, *Shreveport, Louisiana*

A very interesting "wake" was held at the home of our President, Bob Womack, recently. All the Board Members of the Men's Camellia Club were greeted through the gaps in the bushes by our sad and long-faced president.

For the occasion the President wore dark trousers, a grey shirt and a "crying towel" attached to his belt—a towel which he most generously shared with his mourners.

As the members entered they were led around the yard to view the "remains." "They would have been wonderful grafts—those poor, dead stumps." Standing aside, alone, was Aubrey Harris—weeping quietly. He was heard to say between sobs—"They look so natural, don't they?—just like those at my house."

After we had paid our respects to all that was left of Womack's grafting hopes for another year, we were seated around an uncovered refreshment table under a Sweet Gum tree where our "not too somber" Secretary Ford poured. The camellia bushes in the refreshment area were artistically adorned with vari-colored blossoms of hibiscus.

The terpsichorean floor show was provided by "blighted-blossom" Mays, who entered with his chin dragging between his knees. His act was an interpretative one to show how low one can get in body and spirits when one fools with camellias. For a pleasant half hour this "grafter" of sad countenance regaled us with stories of his trials, tribulations and failures in growing and grafting camellias.

"Lame duck" Harris attempted to convince all present that his bad back was the result of lifting an outboard motor—but everyone present knew it came from stooping to see if just ONE graft would take. He had performed an experiment this year for the benefit of "Camellia Mankind." He tried banking his grafts and scions with several different kinds of materials (sand, peatmoss, terralite, dirt, nothing) to see which was best for the promotion of callusing and growth of a graft. RESULT—they all died!

The "wake," however, was enlivened by the optimistic spirits of Hamiter, Rosenblath and McLemore, and the President was cheered enough to hold a lively and profitable business meeting. In the cool of the evening this forlorn group departed for their own homes to lift their jars and hope that the poor, little, green shoot they beheld would one day be a big and lusty addition to the camellia family.

* "The Reverend" was the first president of the Men's Camellia Club of Shreveport, Louisiana. Reprinted from the club's June *News Letter*.

A WELL KNOWN CAMELLIA PEST

SAM P. HARN

There is one camellia pest that I do not find discussed in any camellia literature. This is the *Desiromnibus Continualli*, commonly known as the Armor-plated Scion Scrounger. Actually, it is only a highly developed super cutworm.

This is an extremely large insect, with only two legs, that is well distributed all over the camellia growing area. Contrary to general conditions, the male is more troublesome and more prevalent than the female. The Scrounger does not acquire wings in any stage of its life history, but it manages to get about with the greatest of ease. New Scroungers are only produced asexually through grafting. Cuttings or cutting remarks have no appreciable effect in any way.

The Scrounger stays dormant until the cool weather sets in; in other words, he does not hibernate—he aestivates. This is also different from most pests. Along

in early December he emerges from the woodwork of houses and begins his destructive operations. He continues to infest camellia plantings until late March. His most damaging peak month is January. The pest is easily spotted and identified, but you do not always see him operate. He carries in a hidden sheath a knife-like tool with a sort of sharp blade. He will often cut a scion so quickly that his damage will not be noticed by some owner of fine plants standing quite nearby. On the other hand, he does not seem to mind operating openly on the bush and on the owner at the same time.

When I first discovered this pest I was not very concerned. There did not appear to be so many of them, and one or two did not seem to be so bad. I tried the standard remedy for parasitic insects and sprayed with a good soap emulsion. This had no appreciable effect. As a matter of fact, the Scrounger carries with him a supply of soft soap which he excretes in great quantity with ease, and this he uses on the owner as a sort of counter-spray (with excellent results).

Experiments are now being carried on for better control methods. Nurserymen are quite interested in favorable progress of this control program. The pest does not seem to infest commercial plantings, however, as badly as he does private gardens. The finer the varietal collection, the more menacing becomes the Scrounger.

Some well-known collectors have tried placing signs at strategic points in the garden as a sort of scarecrow. It can be stated that this does have a deterring effect of about as much value as a scarecrow has on crows. A few young Scroungers may be frightened temporarily but, as they reach full adulthood and develop a true thick skin, the effects of the sign lessen.

Other collectors have tried the idea of growing so many camellias, and thus producing so many scions, that the work of the Scrounger will be comparatively unimportant. This is only a stop-gap, and does no good as a control measure. It reminds me of the cotton farmer asking the country banker for a loan of a million dollars to grow cotton in the boll weevil belt. When he explained his idea to the banker he said, "I aim to grow so doggone much cotton that the boll weevil just can't eat it all."

One or two other channels of inquiry are being pursued. A drastic remedy is to reduce camellia collections to only such varieties as Professor Sargent, Sarah Frost and Semi-double Blush. This is not recommended by anyone connected with this Society. It was suggested, in fact, by a nurseryman selling roses exclusively. Another possible control method is for every camellia owner to become adept at prestidigitation, which is the scientific name for common sleight-of-hand. It is thought that a collector could then be able to cut scions from a Sarah Frost (grown for this purpose) while making the Scrounger believe he was getting a scion of a rare variety. This is known to be one hundred per cent effective only when the pest operates by mail, as he sometimes does.

The true large Scion Scrounger must not be confused with the smaller and more prevalent Scion Receiver and Scion Exchanger. These two species are quite similar in appearance to the destructive pest, but are rather generally considered to be harmless and by some are declared to be beneficial in promoting camellia growing. Some nurseries are concerned somewhat by these little fellows, but they probably do increase camellia growth, and thus offset any temporary damage. Both Receivers and Exchangers often develop into Collectors, sometimes called the nurseryman's best friend—excepting the earthworm.

Occasionally a little Scion Receiver, given the proper environment, will evolve into a big Scion Scrounger. This is a chance one must always consider when he harbors or encourages the growth of a Receiver. Drastic measures are then indicated. At the first sign of trouble treat as in Dieback by cutting off and burning with the rest of the trash.

HOW FAR NORTH WILL THEY GROW?

The following story about three camellia plants growing on Martha's Vineyard, without winter protection, is copied from the *Vineyard Gazette* of May 9, 1952.

"A camellia bush, glossy-leaved and in full flower with more than a dozen large, single red flowers three inches or so across, testifies to the salubrity of the Vineyard climate, the cold and snow of winter notwithstanding.

"This camellia, in the yard of the Henry B. Hough home at Edgartown, was shipped to the Island from Alabama something more than ten years ago by Robert O. Ruehel, Jr., of Longview, Chrichton, Alabama, who had supplied many plants to Mrs. Hough's brother, Dr. E. R. Bowie of New Orleans. Mr. Rubel believed the plant would survive Island winters and asked that it be placed in an exposed location where it would have maximum winter cold and minimum winter sun.

"The plant was therefore established on the north side of the Hough house. It has never had any winter protection except a windbreak of wire and burlap to keep off the full force of the northeasters. The camellia seems to have relished this treatment, for it has maintained its healthy appearance the year round and has grown each year.

"The theory of the exposed location is to spare the plant from alternate freezing and thawing. In its northerly exposure it adjusts to low temperatures as the first frosts come and is not required to warm up on mild days.

"Each year since it first came, the camellia has had a flower or two. The first ones opened imperfectly, apparently damaged by rain and frost affecting the buds. Later perfect flowers were produced, and this year the plant is superb in its showing.

"Not only has this camellia survived so many winters, with occasional sub-zero periods and heavy snow and ice, but two other camellia plants, sent from New Orleans, are in their third season in a different spot on the east side of the house. This is a less exposed location, but the plants are shaded from the morning sun.

"Last winter the mild weather induced a bud on one of this pair of plants to mature and show color. Then came the great February snow and the bud, which naturally stayed in an arrested condition, was given up for lost. Surprisingly, it outlasted the snow and eventually opened with minor damage, a mere browning of the petal edges. With the arrival of May, this plant also has produced a perfect flower of large size and fullness, this being a deep double red."

Mr. Rubel, in response to our inquiry for the name of the variety, writes that it was a semi-double red, name unknown. He further adds that it is not unusual for the plant to survive the sub-zero weather. He cites a report published over one hundred years ago of a hardy single red growing in Boston. Further reference is made to the work of Doctor Zimmerman of Boyce-Thompson Institute which has been featured in two A. C. S. yearbooks.

Another instance of hardy camellias from Mr. Rubel is the planting of Mr. Frank L. LaMotte of Baltimore, where Longview camellias have been growing for fifteen years.

If these stories of snowbound camellias keep showing up we will have to erase the Mason and Dixon Line. It would be interesting for Mr. Hough and others to try out a few more varieties that lay claim to particular hardiness. Mr. Hough has written that he intends to try other varieties we have suggested and will report results in due time.

THE EMPRESS JOSEPHINE AND THE CAMELLIA

J. ALLEN EASLEY, *Wake Forest, North Carolina*

On my study shelves is an old volume bound in faded green cloth. It has been passed down in our family for several generations. Its title is *The Napoleon Dynasty: Or The History Of The Bonaparte Family*. Its authors are "the Berkeley Men"; its publishers, Sheldon, Blakeman and Company; its place of publication, New York; and its date, 1856.

The third section of the book is devoted to the Empress Josephine, that charming first wife of Napoleon who was divorced because she bore him no heir. Her life history is here related with admiration and sympathy and with grandiloquent praise. After the authors have described her beauty and charm and her "genius in the courtly art of scenic embroidery," they make the statements (page 228) of special interest here. These are as follows:

But her accomplishments extended to a broader and higher and nobler field. She had so far perfected herself in following her instinctive tastes and the instructions of her masters, that there was scarcely a flowering plant, or shrub, or beautiful green thing of any climate or nation, that her knowledge of botany did not at once enable her to define with precision and taste. There is a flower now, which is worn in the hair and on the bosom of every beautiful woman at the Courts of Europe during the unkindly frosts of winter, for which we are all indebted to Josephine. She introduced the *Camellia* from the West Indies, when she returned to France. This alone, with women of taste, ought to have been the highest and the most brilliant armorial bearing for her descendants forever.

That the Empress Josephine introduced the camellia into France from her home on the island of Martinique is indeed interesting if true, but it is probably not true. Camellias were probably in France well before the year 1779, the date of Josephine's first arrival in France. Certainly they had been in England forty years before that date. It is probable that they were brought into France, as they were brought into England, directly from the Orient. Furthermore, what record is there of camellias in the West Indies?

"The Berkeley men" do not give evidence of being the most thoroughgoing research scholars. They seem to have relied heavily on anecdote and surmise. But this bit of Camelliana is passed along for what it may be worth in interest.

CAMELLIAS FROM NEW ZEALAND

The largest air shipment of rare camellias ever to be exported from New Zealand to the United States has survived the abrupt change of climate. All but two of twenty-two plants are thriving and developing flower buds, even though they have been in our local soil less than nine months.

The famous nursery of Gordon Adams of "Greengates," New Plymouth, New Zealand, shipped a selection of rare species of camellias on Monday, February 4th. They were received in San Francisco, barerooted, and given a thorough disinfection by the Department of Agriculture representatives, and forwarded to Savannah, Georgia, where they arrived during the night of Friday, February 8th. Customs clearance was effected next morning and the plants were set out in gallon cans for special feeding and care.

Commander Robert Park Erdman, the recipient, reports that he is pampering these pets with regular weekly liquid feedings of Hyponex at the rate of one tablespoonful to the gallon of water. The beneficial results are very apparent. New

growth has been vigorous, and most varieties set flower buds by early June.

Among the plants received are Cornish Snow, Salutation, J. C. Williams, Lady St. Clair, Lady Clare (New Zealand variety), La Graciola, Donation, English Apple Blossom (japonica), Mitchell's White, and the very rare English saluenensis hybrid, Bartley.

These importations are in a sense a barter arrangement made by the publishers of the *American Camellia Catalog* to defray the cost of their books sold to New Zealanders who are not permitted to export dollars. They will be propagated and sold to interested nurserymen and private growers on a basis of first-come-first-served.

EDITORS' NOTE: The American Camellia Society has imported plants from New Zealand under similar barter arrangements upon two different occasions. These plants form a part of the varietal test gardens at the University of Florida in Gainesville

ACROSS THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Mrs. Charles Stephens, Tucson, Arizona, writes an interesting letter about her camellias. We quote:

"Here in Tucson camellias give us great return for time and money invested. Mine have to be grown in tubs and they are planted in pure peat which keeps them at the required moisture level and only need occasional feedings. I use "Vitalizer" in solution. I have several which have been grown that way for three years and I couldn't ask for better results. Our several summer months of extremely high temperatures and almost complete lack of humidity present many problems, but the camellias don't seem to realize this and come through with flying colors."

We like to report on hardy camellias. By a devious route we received a copy of a letter from Mr. Coplee Amory, Jr., of Boston to H. J. Hohman, Kingville, Maryland. It is quoted without permission, but we do not anticipate any lawsuit:

"I think you may be interested in knowing how well your Reverend John G. Drayton has done. It has been in the lee of a hefty stone wall facing east, protected, therefore, from our prevailing southwesterly winds; and from the north by a hillside. Last autumn I thought the buds would dry up and drop, but instead they came out in full glory. They broke about April 25th, and the blooms were at their height the first week in May. This last weekend when I was at Naushon Island, a majority had faded, but a few buds were still coming along. We counted 57 blooms altogether. The plant was protected with a burlap cover during the winter, which was relatively mild in temperature but very heavy in snowfall."

Not too many letters come across the Secretary's desk in the slack summer months. In fact, it would be nice to have a lot more that simply say "Please find enclosed." This is not the most opportune time to talk about renewals or new memberships. But if you members in good standing who read this would just mention the A.C.S. to your camellia friends it would be appreciated.

CAN YOU ANSWER THESE?

What, if any, early varieties that bloom prior to November 15 produce seed?

Has anyone taken cuttings from young seedlings, rooted them, and produced blooms in three years or less?

The above questions have been posed and we will appreciate any information you may have on these subjects. The answers, if there are any, will be published in a future Quarterly.

LIST OF ACCREDITED JUDGES

Judges are approved by the Chairman of the Exhibitions and Awards Committee. Persons who have been members of the A.C.S. for two or more years may be recommended by an accredited judge and two other members of the Society. First application should be addressed to the Secretary for preliminary investigation.

ALABAMA

Birmingham

Brooks, M. Thomas
Fisher, Dr. G. E.
Hamilton, Elbert
Magruder, Dr. Thomas V.
Poe, W. Lee

Dothan

Cannon, Mark S.
Carter, S. B.
Latioalis, Dr. S. G.
Lee, Alto V.
Mazyck, Dr. Arthur
Poyner, Pat, Jr.
Turner, Dr. W. H.

Fairhope

Bradford, J. T.
Moyers, R. R.

Greensboro

Perry, Mrs. Orion S.

Greenville

Beeland, Mrs. Robert, Jr.
McFerrin, Mrs. Irene
Stanley, Glenn
Steindoff, Henry
Talbert, Erastus

Loxley

Windbigler, H. L.

Mobile

Lee, Hoyt W.
Sawada, K.
Smith, Gregory L.

Montgomery

Alley, J. T.
Johnson, T. D.
Jones, Alden
Parker, W. Glenn
Pfingstl, Mrs. Emmett
Stokes, W. Cleve

Semmes

Blackwell, R. O., Jr.
McDade, Clint

Stephens, C. R.

ARKANSAS

El Dorado

Garett, Mrs. Rufus N.

CALIFORNIA

Altadena

Nuccio, Julius

Beverly Hills

Williams, Frank D.

Concord

Stoeckle, W. L.

Del Mar

Boyle, L. H.

El Cajon

Miller, Mrs. Stanley W.

Miller, Stanley W.

Fresno

Rowell, Milo

Glendale

Thompson, Roy T.

Hayward

Domoto, Toichi

LaCanada

Tourje, E. C.

Los Angeles

Jones, Charles S.

Peer, Ralph

Millbrae

Edwards, John

Oakland

Hopfer, O. E.

Paige, Harold L.

Ontario

Armstrong, J. A.

Pasadena

Casamajor, Robert

McCaskill, V. O.

Shepp, Paul E.

Short, Harvey F.

Wylam, William E.

Piedmont

Wells, Dr. W. M.

Ramona
 Tellam, Dr. Reuben
 Roseville
 Lewis, Mrs. Bess Steere
 Ross
 Smyth, Mrs. Kreena
 Smyth, W. B.
 Sacramento
 Hall, Dr. George G.
 Mohr, Arthur
 Morison, A. E.
 Olrich, Jerry
 San Diego
 Carlton, A. P.
 San Gabriel
 Marshall, Leslie
 San Jose
 Moniz, T. J.
 San Marino
 Hertrich, William
 Johnson, Clifton W.
 McLean, Dr. D. W.
 Sherman Oaks
 Woodruff, William E.

FLORIDA

Chattahoochee
 Gholson, Angus
 Fernandina
 May, Ralph E.
 Gainesville
 Borland, Mrs. Fred
 Brown, A. C.
 Griffiths, A., Jr.
 Harn, Sam P.
 Hume, Dr. H. H.
 Parrish, Mrs. M. M.
 Watkins, Prof. John V.
 Wolfe, Dr. H. S.
 Jacksonville
 Carter, C. G.
 Churchwell, Mrs. J. H.
 Cohen, Mrs. Halle
 Foote, A. M.
 Harrell, Hodges
 Masters, Mrs. C. J.
 MacArthur, Mrs. W. E.
 Myrick, S. E.
 Peck, Norman
 Sewell, Mrs. J. N.
 Sewell, J. N.
 Wilson, D. L., Jr.

Lakeland
 King, Mrs. A. G.
 Seymour, Frank
 Vaughn, Dr. J. W.
 Macclenny
 Fraser, J. E.
 Monticello
 Finlayson, Mrs. D. A.
 Orlando
 Andersen, Martin
 Freeman, Mrs. J. W.
 Freeman, John W.
 Gurney, Mrs. J. T.
 Hasty, N. L., Jr.
 Lafon, Mrs. F. L.
 Reasor, Mrs. Eugene F.
 Panama City
 Coker, Dr. Philip
 Pensacola
 Champlin, H. G.
 Dawson, M. B.
 Edwards, John K.
 Harrison, W. M.
 Herrin, Thomas E., Sr.
 Taylor, C. F.
 Torrence, E. N.
 Yaste, Mrs. Guy

Seffner

Davis, D. W.
 Tallahassee
 Alexander, J. F.
 Gamble, Breckenridge
 Lewis, Paul
 Martin, Mrs. W. D.
 Rosa, J. R.
 Truett, Lawrence A.

Winter Haven

Pope, Mrs. Richard D.
 Stabler, David K.
 Swann, Tom B.

GEORGIA

Albany
 Shackleford, Hugh
 Americus
 Cobb, Miss Martha
 Athens
 Owens, Hubert
 Atlanta
 Payne, Mrs. G. H.
 Shultze, Philip T.
 Wilby, R. B.

Augusta

Baillie,, J. G.
Fargo, Walter G.
Jones, W. B.
McCord, Mrs. Grady
McCord, Grady
Mealing, Mrs. H. G.
Mealing, Dr. H. G.

Bainbridge

Pettyjohn, Sam

Bloomington

Johnson, Mrs. Karl M.

Cairo

Wight, John B.

Columbus

Dykes, Mrs. A. N.
Flournoy, Mrs. Mattie H.
Illges, J. P.
Knight, Mrs. J. B.
Minnix, A. R.

Cordele

Chappell, Mrs. C. C.
Downs, Mrs. J. B.
Fletcher, Mrs. T. E.
Fletcher, T. E.
Perry, Mrs. Lula Mae
Ryals, Mrs. J. D.

Decatur

Crown, Mrs. T. R.

Fort Gaines

Coleman, S. D.

Fort Valley

Murray, M. R.
Strother, D. C.

Jenkinsburg

Childs, Frank W.

Macon

Barnes, A. E., Jr.
Conner, H. T.
Houser, Dr. F. M.
Lee, Mrs. W. G.
Lee, Dr. W. G.
Meaders, Mrs. Grover A.
Meaders, Grover A.
Roberson, C. M.
Stewart, Mrs. T. J.
Thompson, Dr. O. R.
Wheeler, R. L.
Witman, M. J.
Wood, Mrs. W. T.
Wood, W. T.

Marshallville

Rice, Miss Willie E.
Wade, John D.

McRae

Smith, Mrs. T. J.
Smith, T. J.

Montezuma

Felton, Mrs. Jule
Robinson, Miss Claire

Perry

Cartledge, A. L. "Pat"

Savannah

Backus, H. L., Jr.
Backus, Mrs. L. E.
Bell, Malcolm
Clark, George S., Sr.
Cope, John L.
Forbes, Stewart C.
Lee, Mrs. Lawrence
Mayer, Mrs. L. T.
Nitzschke, A. J.
Roberts, Gus
Rollinson, H. G.
Solomon, A. W.
Stanton, H. B.

St. Simons Island

Fendig, Albert

Thomaston

Butts, Mrs. L. L.
Matthews, Albert T.

Thomasville

Hjort, Paul
Hjort, Sam

Valdosta

Whitehead, R. B.

Vidalia

Warthen, Mrs. O. D.

LOUISIANA

Abbeville

Godchaux, Frank A.
McMillan, W. B.

Abita Springs

Casadaban, Rene

Alexandria

Culpepper, A. L.
Rand, Dr. King

Baton Rouge

Farris, T. N.
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McKnight, Mrs. T. K.
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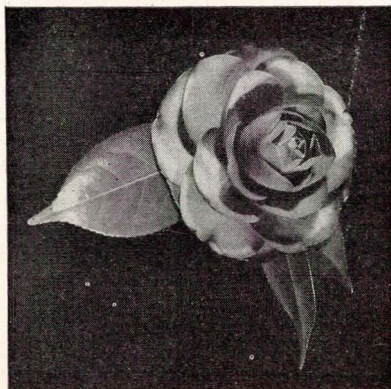
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