

# AMERICAN CAMELLIA *Quarterly*

VOLUME 9 • NUMBER 4

OCTOBER, 1954



©

CAMELLIA SASANQUA • HIODOSHI

# **American Camellia Quarterly, Volume 9 - Number 4, October 1954**

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# American Camellia Quarterly

VOLUME 9—NUMBER 4

OCTOBER, 1954

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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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## 1955 ANNUAL MEETING — MACON, GEORGIA

Members of the American Camellia Society should remember that the Annual Meeting of the Society will be held in Macon, Georgia, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, January 27-29, 1955. Members of the Middle Georgia Camellia Society will be hosts on this occasion. Mr. M. J. Witman is General Chairman of the Program Committee.

The registration desk at the Hotel Dempsey will be opened at 10 A. M. on Thursday, January 27.

Mr. Witman and the members of his committee have prepared a very interesting and entertaining program, beginning with a "get-to-gether" meeting at 6 P. M. at the Hotel. Promptly at 9 A. M. on Friday busses will be available for a trip to Massee Lane Farms, the site of the famous D. C. Strother collection of camellias, and to other well-known gardens. One of the features of this trip will be the barbecue luncheon at Marshallville.

The busses are scheduled to return to Macon around 2 P. M. The balance of the afternoon has been reserved for further visits to interesting camellia gardens in and around the city. Visitors will be afforded opportunities to foregather, and in some instances, get acquainted during the cocktail hour which will start at 6 P. M., and the buffet supper at the hotel which is scheduled for 7 P. M. The annual forum will start at 8 o'clock.

On Saturday forenoon, visitors will be furnished with further opportunities to visit camellia gardens, nurseries and other plantings in and adjacent to Macon. The annual camellia show of the Middle Georgia Camellia Society will start at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The gala event of the meeting, the annual banquet, is scheduled for 8 o'clock Saturday evening at the Hotel Dempsey.

Be sure to mark the dates of January 27, 28 and 29, 1955 on your calendar, and start right now to make plans to attend this meeting.

## THE 1954 - 55 ARRANGEMENT CONTEST

By reason of the great interest that has always been manifested in the plans and schedule for the Society's annual flower arrangement contests, it is deemed desirable to repeat the article on this subject which appeared in the July Quarterly.

The theme of the Contest will be "Camellias' Travels Through the Ages." This theme was selected for the purpose of encouraging the study of the decorative uses of camellia flowers observed by residents of the countries in which the camellia originated or was introduced.

The number of classes has been increased from three to five in order to comply with the requirements for "Standard Shows" approved by the National Council of State Garden Clubs and specified in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*.

### CLASSES

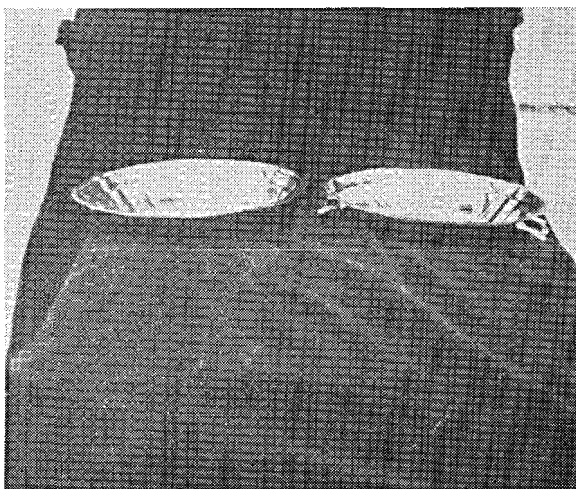
Class I—China (Ming Dynasty). A. tall vase; B. low bowl. The containers shall be Chinese adaptations of bronze, brass, plain or decorated porcelain, enamel ware, iron ware or pillow vase.

Class II—Japan. A. Moribana style. Container: flat or low bowl of pottery or metal. B. Nagiere or Heika style. Container: Perpendicular vase of pottery or metal.

Class III—Europe. A. France, Baroque or Rocco style. Container: glass, porcelain, tole, metal or stone. B. Italy, Neo-classic or Empire style. Container: oval or boat-shaped ceramics, porcelain, stone, bronze or silver.

Class IV—England. A. Formal style — late Georgian. Container: epergne, basket, tureen, urn or compote. B. Informal. Container: goblet, jar or jug.

Class V—America. A. East Coast. Container: Colonial or Victorian in feeling. B. West Coast. Container: contemporary modern.



## RULES

1. The competitive period shall be from November 1, 1954, to March 31, 1955.
2. The contest will be open to members of the American Camellia Society; to exhibitors in Standard Shows held in cooperation with the Society; and to members of clubs affiliated with the Society.
3. Exhibitors shall be limited to one entry in each Class.
4. Photographs of entries of Blue Ribbon Winners shall be sent to the Chairman of the Arrangement Contest. These photographs shall be on black and white glossy paper, clear cut in design, and 5 x 7 inches, or larger, in size. All photographs sent to the Chairman shall become the property of the American Camellia Society.
5. A description of the contestant's entry, including class, design, materials used and containers, together with schedule, shall accompany each photograph. This description, together with the name and address of the contestant, shall be typed on a separate piece of paper, and *not* on the back of the photograph. *Do not use paper clips or pins in connection with photographs.*
6. Photographs and descriptive matter shall be sent before April 15, 1955, to the Chairman of the Arrangement Contest, Mrs. W. Jack Bryant, 225 Carolina Avenue, N. E., Orangeburg, South Carolina.

## CONDITIONS

1. Classes and interpretations shall be adaptations in spirit of historic styles suggested, accenting a camellia or camellias.
2. Schedule Chairman may select A or B of a Class, or both, for inclusion in local schedules.
3. Color harmonies will be left to the discretion of local Schedule Chairmen.
4. Fresh flowers and other plant material may be used with camellias; also, stands or bases for containers will be allowed in all Classes.
5. Driftwood will be allowed in Class II-A.
6. Accessories will be permitted where desired for the interpretation of specific Classes.

## JUDGES

Judges rated as "Nationally Accredited" by the National Council of State Garden Clubs shall officiate in Show Classes.

## AWARDS

Most outstanding arrangement in Contest—Silver double vegetable dish, to be retained permanently by the winner. (Illustration on Page 2).

First in each Class—American Camellia Society membership for one year.

Second in each Class—Current American Camellia Yearbook.

Third in each Class—Current American Camellia Yearbook.

Photographs of the winning entries will be reproduced in the 1955 Yearbook.

## NOTICE OF ELECTION — ATLANTIC COAST TERRITORY

Under the provisions of Paragraph C, Division IV, of the revised By-Laws of the American Camellia Society, Directors from the Atlantic Coast Territory shall be elected this fall to serve terms of three years, beginning with the Annual Meeting in 1955. The Atlantic Coast Territory is composed of the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

Paragraph D., Division IV, provides that the Board of Directors shall request the President to select, not less than sixty days before each Annual Meeting, a Nominating Committee of three members from the Territory from which Directors are to be elected to take office at the next Annual Meeting.

Paragraph E., Division IV, provides that the Executive Secretary shall send notices of election to all voting members in the Territory from which Directors are to be elected not less than ninety days before each Annual Meeting, and these notices of election shall quote the names of the incumbent Directors and Directors-at-Large of the several states in which elections will be held, and call attention to each member's right of nomination.

Paragraph I, Division IV, provides that not less than thirty days before each Annual Meeting the Executive Secretary shall send ballots to all voting members in the Territory in which the election is held. The ballot for each State shall quote the names of all nominees for the position of Directors-at-Large, as well as the names of the nominees for Director of the State in which the members to whom the cards are addressed reside, and request each member to cast his vote for two Directors-at-Large and one State Director.

The nominations and election shall be by mail ballot. On or about November 1, 1954, nomination blanks in the form of postal cards will be mailed to each voting member who is a resident of the Atlantic Coast Territory. These members are requested to indicate on the return portion of the card their choices for one Director for the State in which they reside, and two Directors-at-Large for their Territory, and mail the cards to the Executive Secretary at Gainesville, Florida.

Following receipt of these cards, the Nominating Committee shall place on the ballots the names of the individuals who receive the highest number of votes, together with any other names the Nominating Committee may select. Official postal card ballots, bearing the names of the nominees will be mailed to residents of the Atlantic Coast Territory on or about December 1, 1954. These cards should be filled in and returned to the Executive Secretary without delay.

Directors who are elected will assume office at the time of the Annual Meeting at Macon, Georgia, January 30, 1955.

The current Directors-at-Large are J. P. Illges and D. C. Strother. The Directors are: Georgia, W. T. Wood; North Carolina, Mrs L. G. Fox; South Carolina, C. Norwood Hastie, Jr.; Virginia, Frederic Heutte. Mr. Hastie and Mr. Heutte have informed the Secretary that they are not candidates for re-election.

## CAMELLIA FLOWER BLIGHT

ARTHUR C. BROWN, Gainesville, Florida

Camellia growers throughout the country will be distressed to learn that members of the Sand Hills Garden Club, Augusta, Georgia, have decided to abandon plans for holding their 26th Annual Camellia Show in 1955 because of the appearance of camellia flower blight in that locality. During the past flowering season the disease caused such serious injury to flowers that growers in that area called upon the Georgia Department of Entomology for help in bringing it under control. Under the terms of the quarantine subsequently imposed by that Department, all camellia plants on known infected properties must be disbudded in the fall before the flowering season starts. Compliance with this requirement would materially reduce the number of flowers that otherwise would be available for exhibition next year. This is especially true with regard to the Sand Hills Garden Club as the plantings of some of the largest exhibitors are located within the quarantined area.

It is indeed unfortunate that the city in which the first sponsored camellia show in the Southeast was held should be the first to have to cancel its show because of the ravages caused by camellia flower blight. Whether or not it will be the last one is dependent upon a number of factors—not the least of which is the attitude toward the disease taken by the majority of individuals who propagate camellias for pleasure or profit.

The Georgia Department of Entomology, under the able supervision of its Director, C. H. Alden, has responded to the appeals of the Augusta growers by assigning a group of inspectors to delimit the infected area and supervise the application of control measures. Members of the Sand Hills Garden Club and other interested groups are solidly behind the official forces and have given generously of their funds, time and talents to make the clean-up campaign a success. Letters have been sent to camellia growers in that locality directing their attention to the presence and destructive nature of the disease, as well as the need for community action in bringing it under control. Meetings have been held for the same purpose.

The quarantine adopted by the Georgia authorities requires, in part, that:

All the old mulch under camellia plants in known infected properties must be removed and destroyed.

The flowering buds on camellia plants on known infected properties must be removed in the fall before the blooming season starts.

The top three inches of soil must be removed from beneath the camellia plants on infected properties and disposed of in a manner satisfactory to the inspector. The soil thus removed must be replaced with a uniform layer of new clean earth and mulch at least four inches deep, to prevent the development of new spore cups.

The soil under infected plants must be drenched with ferimate at the rate of one pounds to 25 gallons of water. This treatment should be applied once a month during the period January to May each year.

Beginning in January and continuing during the blooming season, during which period disease spores are emerging from the organisms in the soil, clean-up and control measures will be enforced, and extensive scouting will be done by the inspectors for the purpose of delimiting the infected areas.

The smart camellia grower should not wait for his state inspector to find camellia flower blight in his planting, or to tell him what to do if the disease is found. He should appoint himself a committee of one to take all precautions possible to prevent the introduction of the disease and detect at the earliest possible moment indications of the presence of the disease. He should remember at all times that camellia flower blight may be introduced into his planting from adjacent infected properties by means

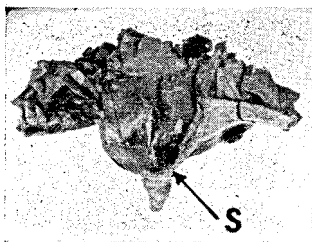


Fig. 1 (Left)

Fig. 2. (Right)

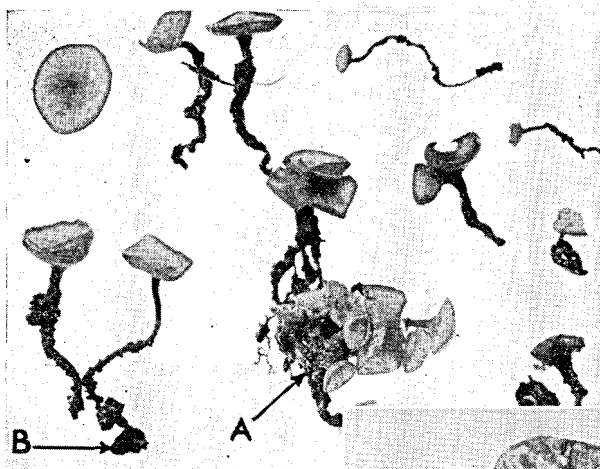
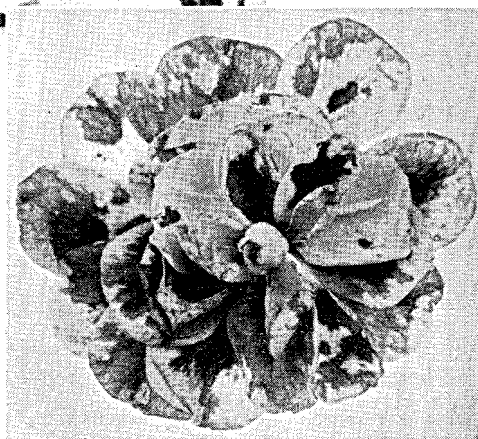


Fig. 3. (Left)  
Fig. 4. (Below)

Fig. 1. Dried camellia flower with inactive form (sclerotium) of fungus (s) in base.  
Fig. 2. Sclerotia taken from the base of dried diseased flowers.

Fig. 3. Spore cups growing from old flower base (a) and from single petal (b).  
Fig. 4. Spots on petals of camellia flower following infection of petals by spores.



of wind-borne spores, by fungus present in the soil around plants brought into the garden, or by infected flowers carried into the garden; flowers are the only part of the plant that are affected by the disease; the progress of the disease is from infected flower to the soil and, in the form of spores, back again to the flower, and the fungus is present in an inactive stage in old diseased flowers (Figs. 1 and 2) from late spring until the following January. Spore cups (Fig. 3), produced in the soil, may contain several million spores which are released into the air and may be carried by the wind to open flowers several hundred yards distant. The fungus may remain in the soil and mulch under a camellia plant for several years and serve as a source of infection when the plants come into bloom (Fig. 4).

There are a number of things that a camellia grower could, and should, do to cope with the menace presented by camellia flower blight:

1. Study the several excellent articles on the appearance, behavior and control of the disease, published in American Camellia Yearbooks, to familiarize himself with the appearance of the disease in its several stages. Reference is made to the articles "Camellia Flower Blight" by Roy A. Young and J. A. Milbrath, 1950 edition; "The Flower Blight Disease of Camellias" by Frank A. Haasis, 1953 edition; and "Control of the Flower Blight Disease of Camellias with Eradicant Fungicides" by Dr. Haasis and E. G. Nelson, 1953 edition.

2. Maintain a continuous watch on the soil and mulch under the plants from the present time until the flowers begin to appear for the presence of spore cups, and apply the sanitary and control measures recommended as soon as evidence of the presence of the disease is noted.

3. Observe the blooms daily during the flowering season for signs of infection and, when found, treat the plant and soil as directed.

4. Collect and *destroy* all fallen flowers as promptly as possible. To destroy means "to ruin the structure, organic existence, or condition of; to demolish." The lazy, indifferent gardener who tosses the flowers onto the trash pile or into a vacant lot accomplishes nothing of value. To the contrary, he is only assisting nature in the further dissemination of the disease.

5. Arrange for his State Nursery Inspector to attend regional meetings of camellia growers to discuss the camellia flower blight problem. Question this official as to the availability of funds and personnel that could be used to make camellia flower blight surveys and apply control measures if and when needed. Make inquiry as to the Department's other plant pest and disease control programs and ascertain whether or not funds appropriated by the Legislature are sufficient to enable the Inspector to perform his tremendously important task of protecting the state's agricultural and horticultural interests in an efficient manner. Pledge the support of local camellia societies to the task of convincing members of the Legislature of the need for increased appropriations. Arouse the interest of representatives of other horticultural and agricultural groups to the end that the appropriations may be made large enough to take care of other needed requirements, not the camellia industry alone. In unity there is strength.

6. Arrange for the State Nursery Inspector or one of his assistants to attend the camellia shows for the purpose of examining flowers on exhibition for indications of camellia flower blight. Examination of these concentrations of blooms that are representative of flowers grown over comparatively large areas, would provide the inspectors with an excellent means of determining whether or not camellia flower blight is present in a given locality.

7. Show chairmen in localities where camellia flower blight is present, or suspected of being present, should require that all the flowers on exhibition be destroyed

by burning at the end of the show. Control of the flowers could be achieved by providing in the show schedules a provision that all flowers exhibited shall become the property of the management.

8. Refrain from spreading unfounded rumors of the presence of camellia flower blight in any planting or nursery. Gossip is generally harmful, and in this case serious injury, financial or otherwise, could be caused to a grower or nurseryman. If suspicions of the presence of the disease in any particular property are well-founded, arrange to have the property examined by the nursery inspector, or to have suspicious flowers, carefully packed, sent to the state plant pathologist for examination.

9. Cooperate with state plant regulatory officials in the event that the disease is found. Camellia flower blight can be kept under control through the strict application of sanitary measures. Laxness in the application of these measures on the part of any civic-minded individual is inexcusable.

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## IN MEMORIAM

John McGuire Napier departed this life on August 15, 1954. Truly in his passing all of those who love camellias can well say "Good-bye, and God Bless You," for here was a perfect southern gentleman of the old South with all of its virtues, and a devoted and ardent member of camellia cult. The American Camellia Society has lost a faithful worker who has contributed so much of value, particularly to the Yearbook. The South Carolina Camellia Society has lost its First Vice-President and its right-bower. The Darlington County Camellia Society has lost its founder. And thousands of members of hundreds of garden clubs, colleges and other organizations will mourn the passing of this outstanding agricultural leader and lecturer on the subject of camellias. But most of all, his camellia intimates who knew the gentleness of his nature and saw the beauty of his soul must feel the deepest regret and sense of loss.

He was born at Blenheim, South Carolina, on August 21, 1887, the son of Dr. J. L. Napier and Marietta Donaldson Napier. He attended Welsh Neck High School, a private school which afterward became Coker College at Hartsville. He graduated from Clemson College with a B. S. Degree in 1908 and in 1910 he received his M. A. Degree at the University of Wisconsin where he majored in agronomy and taught agricultural subjects. Afterwards he taught agronomy at Clemson College for two years. In 1913 he served as County Agent of Richland County, and it was under his direction that the first commercial peach orchard was established in South Carolina. On June 12, 1913, he married Elizabeth Satterwhite of Sumter, who with their daughter, Elizabeth, Mrs. J. A. Allen, of Charlotte, North Carolina, now survive him.

In 1914 he moved to Darlington and resided there for the remainder of his life. There he was the first in the United States to teach agriculture in the public rural high schools. He wrote his own text books, which were published by Clemson College. This was the forerunner of the Smith-Lever Act which made the teaching of agriculture in the public schools possible in the entire United States. From 1916 until 1939 he served as County Agent of Darlington County and from 1939 he served as County Agent at Large of the State of South Carolina.

He was President of the Darlington County Agricultural Society in 1930, 1931 and in 1932 was named Secretary for life of this historic and dis-

tinguished Society, the second oldest in the United States. He was a charter member and past president of the Darlington County Historical Society. At the time of his death he was engaged in writing a history of the establishment of Clemson College and the life histories of the members of the first Board of Trustees.

He was the author of *First Text Books Taught in Rural Schools in the United States*; *Agriculture for School and Farm*, first and second editions; *History of Extension Service in South Carolina*; *Handbook for County Agents*; *History of the Welsh Neck*; and *Camellias as a Hobby*, first and second editions.

For twenty years John M. Napier encouraged other people to grow camellias. He promoted the first camellia show in South Carolina at the home of Mrs. C. B. Edwards in Darlington, and the show chairman was Mrs. John M. Napier. He and his good wife some twenty years ago put on a sale of camellias at cost in Darlington and thereby contributed to the establishment of so many beautiful gardens in that locality.

During the past five years he has shown camellia slides and given lectures on the camellia to over three hundred different audiences.

Here was a true lover of camellias—one who saw the beauty and appreciated all of the aesthetic values of this remarkable shrub. He never spoke evil or ill of any person. To the contrary, he loved people. We saw him bidding adieu a few days before his passing, and as he drove away in his car we will never forget the gallant salute as he doffed his hat in the most elegant southern style. Surely he was one of nature's noblemen.

L. C. Wannamaker,  
Cheraw, South Carolina

## THE WHEN AND WHY

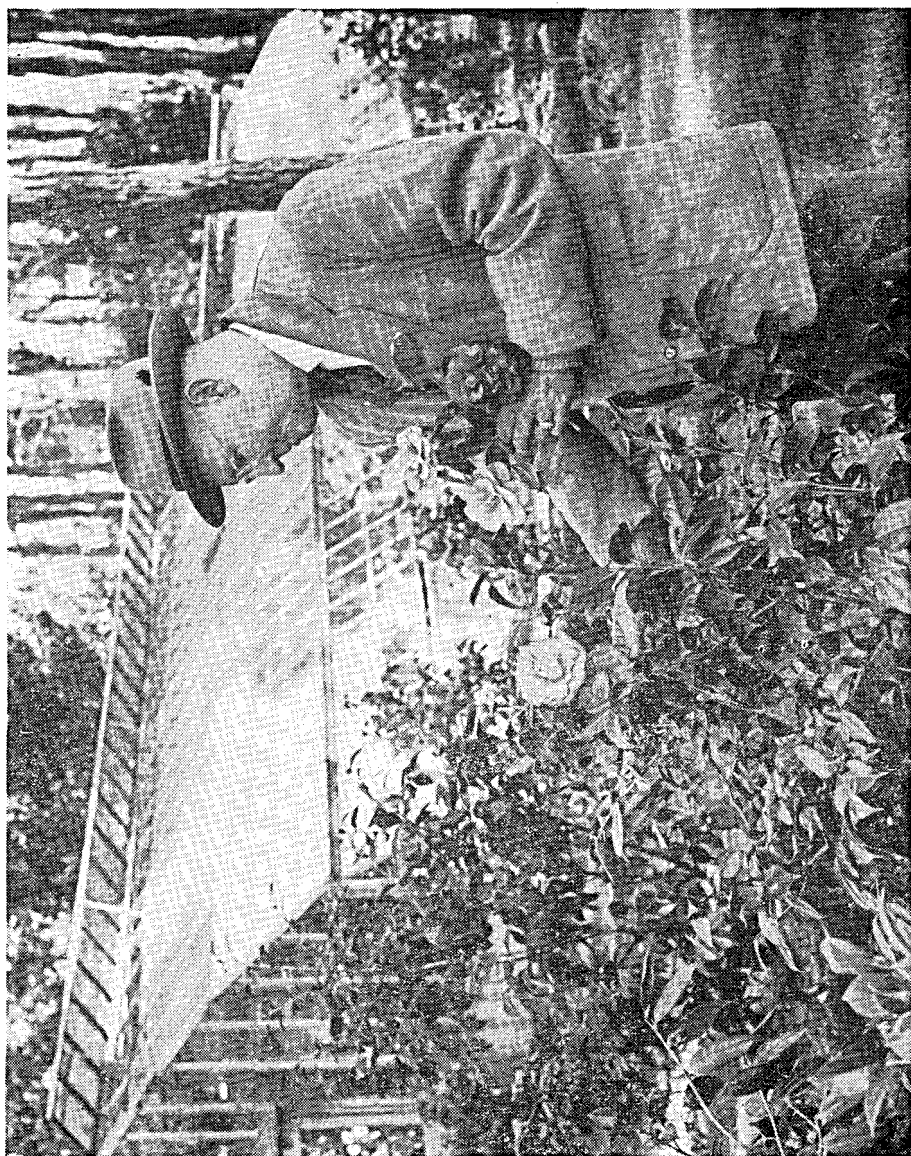
L. J. MARBURY, Wilmington, North Carolina

On many occasions the question has been asked "When and why did you start to grow camellias?" To answer this question I must go back to the fall of 1940. At that time we had just finished the construction of a new home on a lot containing  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres, located some three miles from the center of Wilmington. The site was a barren one, and we were at a loss to know what to plant to make the place look presentable.

This problem was discussed with a friend who was an accomplished gardener. I asked him for suggestions about landscaping the place, as well as the kinds of plants that he liked best. His reply was that of all the different kinds of plants in his garden, his favorite was what he called "japonicas." I then asked him to describe "japonicas"; tell me what they looked like; and if there was more than one variety. He stated that there were several hundred different kinds, in all colors, sizes and formations, and that they could be obtained from one of the local nurseries.

I promptly ordered about half a dozen varieties which were delivered and planted by the nurseryman. Frankly, I paid very little attention to the plants and had no special interest in them other than the fact that they were very nice evergreens. I did not know then that the time would come when my interest would become so great that not only would I get a "few" more plants, but would ultimately establish a large collection which included some of the finest varieties.

The winter after these "japonicas" had been set out they bloomed and burst forth with an abundance of flowers, the beauty of which exceeded anything that I have ever seen, even in my dreams. My interest in camellias started at that time.



L. J. MARBURY AND CAMELIAS AT WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA

About that time G. G. Gerbing, Fernandina, Florida, published his outstanding camellia catalogue, with many pages of camellias in color. To me, this was one of the most fascinating catalogues that I had ever seen. Needless to state, after perusing it from cover to cover many times, I was badly bitten by the Camellia Bug, and placed an order for about forty different varieties listed in the catalogue.

A few years later, Mr. Gerbing published his camellia book in which he discussed propagation of camellias from seed, cuttings, and grafts. As might be expected of a new camellia enthusiast, there was nothing for me to do but to attempt all of the things he suggested. Fortunately, I had beginners' luck and everything came out according to the book. I began to fill vacant spots in the garden with camellia plants, "home-grown" and otherwise. At the present time we have, in addition to our named varieties, some six thousand or more seedlings. The point has been reached where all of the available space has been planted, and the three and one-half acres of bare land that we were so worried about is now completely covered with camellia plants.

Several years ago, after occasional periods of low temperatures had caused injury to flowers produced out of doors, I decided to build a greenhouse. The growth of plants and production of perfect flowers in this greenhouse added so materially to our camellia pleasure that a second one was constructed. Today we have several hundred varieties growing under glass.

I don't know of anything that gives me more pleasure and enjoyment than these two greenhouses, unless it is the contacts with hundreds of interesting people from all over the country who share with me an interest in, and appreciation of, camellias. As a novice, I joined the American Camellia Society and through attendance at the annual meetings of the Society, as well as at camellia shows sponsored by local societies, I have met many of the outstanding camellia growers, hobbyists and fanciers. Today they are my most cherished friends and, without a doubt, about the finest group anyone could want to know.

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### NEWS FROM THE PACIFIC COAST<sup>1</sup>

We think that our members will be interested in the following which came by personal letter to us from one of the outstanding camellia collectors in California:

"We had a special section for *reticulatas* and had forty or fifty blooms. We've had them in Southern California six years now, and private individuals have had them in their gardens three years. We are beginning to get acquainted with the varieties, but there is something wrong somewhere in the matter of identification. You think you know a variety and lo and behold, you see a flower in a show which doesn't look anything like yours although it has the same name. Everybody agrees that the identification of *reticulatas* is a mess. A well-known nurseryman on the Pacific Coast thinks that there are only half a dozen really distinct varieties—I mean worth-while ones. There are some second rate ones of course. Last year we thought we settled the matter by deciding that Chang's Temple, Lion's Head, and Cornelian were one and the same, but this year Lion's Head bloomed out like Noble Pearl, and we are at sea again.

Also we've had a terrible time this winter with camellia flower blight. It appeared in all the shows and blooms had to be thrown out by the dozen the second morning. You Southerners were 100% correct when you put a quarantine on plants from California unless they are bare-rooted. I hope you don't get the infection down there, and in the few spots where you do have it now, you should erect iron-clad restrictions, so as to keep it from spreading."

<sup>1</sup>Reprinted from the September, 1954, *Bulletin* published by the South Carolina Camellia Society.

## FURTHER REPORT ON 1953 RETICULATA CUTTINGS

ELIZABETH C. COUNCILMAN, El Monte, California

Members of the American Camellia Society who read the account of my experiences with *Camellia reticulata* cuttings published in the January, 1954, Quarterly may be interested in learning of some of the results achieved.

All of the six reticulata cuttings, three each of the varieties Shot Silk and Captain Rawes, mentioned in that brief article have developed roots. One Shot Silk cutting, which had the largest root system when taken from the cold frame, was transferred to a three-inch pot. Later it was transplanted into a gallon can, and subsequently put on six inches of growth. The five remaining cuttings have been transplanted into four-inch pots but have not produced any top growth. Four of these cuttings, two Shot Silk and two Captain Rawes, show large healthy white roots around the edges of the pots. The sixth cutting, a Captain Rawes, does not show roots. However, it was potted sometime later than the rest.

After observing the behavior of these cuttings for a year, I am of the opinion that reticulatas prefer more moisture, both in and out of the cold frames, than japonicas. I believe that in the long run better results will be obtained if the cuttings are left in the cold frames until a good sized root ball has formed, or for a period of about eight months.

In June, 1954, to carry this experiment further, I put in twenty-seven reticulata cuttings of nine different varieties: Professor Tsai, Crimson Robe, Shot Silk, Purple Gown, Lion's Head, Butterfly Wings, Noble Pearl, Chang's Temple, and Captain Rawes. When these are sufficiently rooted to pot out, I will give you a report on their take.

In grafting the Yunnan reticulatas, I have found that there are a few rather important factors that are necessary to insure satisfactory results. To begin with, these reticulatas do not seem to be compatible with all japonica understocks. I have had the best results with Mathotiana and Theresa Massini. The time element also seems to enter into the problem, and I have found that the best results are secured when the grafts are made in December and January.

Moisture also seems to have a direct bearing on the development of the new grafts. I have found that the best procedure is to water the understock thoroughly three or four days before the grafts are made, and then to withhold water until the grafts have developed to the point where the glass covers should be removed or, if the growth of the grafts is delayed, until the time when the normal growth cycle of camellias begins. After the bottles have been removed, the plants should be watered thoroughly. A little fertilizer, about one half of the amount used on japonicas, applied after the first flush of growth is completed, is beneficial.

I have also found that a good many one-year reticulata grafts will set buds.

My hope is that these few experiments and hints on the propagation of the gorgeous new Chinese reticulatas may be of help to you.

## ACROSS THE SECRETARY'S DESK

We will start this column off with an apology to our good friend Mrs. J. David Wirth of New Orleans. The July Quarterly listed a new camellia variety which was named in her honor. We carefully spelled this name correctly but our alert printer

felt that we had made an error and changed the name from Wirth to the more usual form of Worth. The many friends of "Aunt Tillie" Wirth will surely know that this was our mistake. The 1954 Yearbook will carry a complete list of all varieties registered to date and we will make a determined effort at that time to convince our printers that we want this new flower spelled "Tillie Wirth."

**Early Birds**—According to a report in the June issue of *Camellia Notes*, the official publication of the Pacific Coast Camellia Society, Inc., Jim Bell, a former Director of the Society, had a full-sized and perfect bloom of *Gigantea* on June 27. The flower came from one of this year's buds, and other buds on the plant were showing color at that time. L. P. Frye, Lake Charles, Louisiana, had seven or eight *Arejishi* blooms by August 1. The first one appeared on July 22. Mrs. Gilbert D. Head, St. Petersburg, Florida, reports that her *Arejishi* camellia bloomed during the latter part of July. This plant had been moved recently from Mrs. Head's old home in Macon, Georgia, to the new location in Florida. A. W. Brown, Gainesville, Florida, picked his first *Arejishi* bloom on August 14, just two days before a *Daikagura*, owned by a neighbor, Sam McK. Mixson, flowered for the first time this year. Incidentally, Mr. Mixson at this writing, September 20, has also had blooms of *Debutante* and Mrs. Charles Cobb. We have reports on two other "early birds" that are probably carry overs from last year. Russel Gainer, Newberg, Oregon, celebrated the Fourth of July by wearing a *Mathotiana Alba* flower. Mrs. Bernard M. Marin, Woodmere, Long Island, moved a *Debutante* from the greenhouse into the open this summer, and the plant bloomed early in September.

Mrs. Rufus N. Garrett, El Dorado, Arkansas, as a preliminary to the preparation of an article on camellias in Arkansas for the 1954 Yearbook, sent a questionnaire to everyone in the state that she knew to be interested in growing camellias. The number that responded, as well as the number and size of the collections, was very encouraging. It would not be surprising to learn of the organization of an Arkansas Camellia Society in the near future.

Mr. Howard Asper, formerly Curator of the Descanso Gardens, and a Director of the Pacific Camellia Society, has been appointed Superintendent of the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, San Marino, California. Mr. Asper is well known as a result of his activities with the Descanso Gardens, and as an associate of Dr. W. E. Lammerts in the first importation of *Yunnan reticulatas* in 1948.

Actions that are taken in the nature of a "surprise" for a friend or relative frequently backfire. The most recent illustration of this fact is found in the case of Lt. K. Foster, Lea-Timber, Belmont Park, Havant, Hants, England. He purchased a copy of *Camellia Trail* by E. G. Waterhouse. Subsequently, his wife "surprised" him by a gift of a copy of the same book! One copy of a book may be quite valuable but the second copy would certainly be available for sale. The regular price of this volume is \$25. Anyone interested may write directly to Lt. Forster. He did not state whether or not he was offering any bargain rate.

Alton B. Parker, Vice-President and Program Chairman of the Pacific Camellia Society, Box 898, Glendale 5, California, finds himself in a position that is not at all surprising to the Secretary. In a recent letter he stated that in his capacity as Program Chairman he has received so many requests from members for the inclusion in the program of a speaker from the South that he must do something about it. He asked

us if we knew of anyone planning a trip to the Pacific Coast during the approaching season. We do not at the moment know of anyone planning such a trip, but we are very anxious to help Mr. Parker on this problem. Therefore, if any Southern reader will cast aside any false modesty and will let us know of his availability, we will deeply appreciate it. Another thought is for some reader to turn "informer" on a friend who is planning such a trip but who might be too modest to report the fact himself.

One of the bottlenecks at camellia shows is caused by the offering for entry of varieties, the identities of which are not known to the exhibitors or entry clerks. The identity of these varieties must be determined by members of the nomenclature committee before judging begins, or by the judges themselves after they start to work. In either event, the presence of such blooms is responsible for undue delay or confusion at the last minute. Several experienced camellia show judges have suggested, as a means of doing away with such delays and confusion, that the "unnamed" varieties be entered and exhibited on special tables provided for such blooms. This procedure would provide members of the nomenclature committees with more time to determine the variety of the blooms; or if this is not done, the judges themselves, after the judging of the named varieties has been completed, could turn to the "unnamed" table and attempt to identify and place the flowers in that group.

Mr. D. L. (Dave) Feathers, Lafayette, California, has been chosen as the new Editor of the *Official Bulletin* of the Northern California Camellia Society. Mr. Feathers is Vice-President of the American Camellia Society for the Pacific Coast Territory.

Dr. H. Harold Hume, the eminent authority on camellias, has completed the revision of his book, *Camellias in America*, and the new edition should be available within the next several months. This will be good news to camellia enthusiasts who did not purchase a copy of the first edition before the supply was exhausted.

At the expense of boring you with repetition, it might be well to remind you that a membership in the American Camellia Society makes a wonderful Christmas gift to anyone interested in camellias. Each year a great many people give A. C. S. memberships as presents for all sorts of occasions. The Christmas idea is especially popular. There is one point which we must stress again in connection with a gift of this kind. A membership gift (price \$5) entitles the recipient to receive the four Quarterlies of 1955 and the Yearbook of 1955 which is issued in December, 1955. If you want to include the 1954 Yearbook with your Christmas present, you should remit an additional \$3 for this volume. As a matter of fact, the ideal gift to a camellia friend is the \$8 combination.

Anyone who is in the market for a very large and beautiful camellia plant should communicate with Mr. John C. Irving, owner of Irving's Nursery, 4012 South Durfee Avenue, Pico, California. Mr. Irving is the owner of the original camellia plant, variety California, illustrated on page 72 of the 1953 Yearbook. This plant is now 25 feet high and 27 feet wide, and is shaped like a "fat pine cone." The Irvings are planning to go out of the nursery business and would like to dispose of this magnificent specimen.

The forthcoming *Bulletin* of the Northern California Camellia Society will be devoted to discussions of the Yunnan reticulatas. Members of the American Camellia Society who would like to get copies of this issue of the *Bulletin* should communicate with Mr. David L. Feathers, No. 1 Camellia Lane, Lafayette, California. The price is 35c the copy.



THE WILMINGTON ALBA PLENA

### THE WILMINGTON ALBA PLENA

We are indebted to Mr. Henry B. Rehder, Wilmington, North Carolina, for the picture and history of the large Alba Plena camellia plant illustrated in this Quarterly. This particular plant, now 14 feet high and 50 feet in circumference, was set out in the National Cemetery at Wilmington by Mr. H. C. Lacy in 1900. It is growing in full view for all passers-by to enjoy.

The plant is very thrifty, with no indication of the presence of insects or diseases. The blooming season usually begins in the latter part of October. When the picture that accompanies this article was taken there were over a thousand blooms open in all their glory. Shortly afterwards the temperature dropped below freezing, but the plant, although injured slightly, continued to bloom until mid-December.

## **LIMB GRAFTING**

THOMAS E. HERRIN, SR., Pensacola, Florida

When is the best time to graft? Some say February. I have had wonderful luck in March, when the sap is oozing out to beat the band, and also in July. July grafting is what I call "lap" or "limb" grafting. For example, the old stalk that was left when the February scion refused to take doubtlessly now has a number of suckers or shoots. Select the largest one, and after removing the others, place a small plant in a four- or six-inch pot, or even a gallon can, near it, half buried in the sand. This will be your living scion. Lap the small plant over to the branch left on the stalk and, where they cross one another, remove the bark and tie them together. Be sure cambium on both shoot and living scion are touching. Do not cover the union with wax or try to place a glass over it. You now have a living scion and normally it should not die. Just sit by and watch the new top take hold. This method will work on any size tree or stump.

The process may also be reversed. Place an inferior plant in a pot or tub under a very good camellia, pull a limb over to it and do the same as outlined above. In a few months it can be cut off, and the inferior plant has been transformed into one that has a good, complete top of a superior variety.

I have grafted plants in July, cut them off in August or September and had them bloom in December or January. Of course the bud had already formed or was forming—but, anyway, how is that for quick action!

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## **CASE HISTORY OF A CAMELLIA PLANT**

Sometime ago Mrs. J. L. Hand, Pelham, Georgia, sent two flowers to the American Camellia Society office at Gainesville, together with a request that they be identified. The blooms were examined by Austin Griffiths, Jr., who determined them to be exceptionally fine specimens of *Gigantea*. He stated that the flowers closely resembled a strain of this variety propagated by several nurserymen under the name "Fanny Davenport."

In her letter of transmittal, Mrs. Hand stated that the bush which produced the flowers had been planted by her grandmother. As there is frequently an interesting story behind old plants, Mrs. Hand was requested to tell about the background of this particular specimen. Her story is essentially as follows:

About 1869 Mr. A. W. Smith moved to Americus, Georgia, and became a partner in what was known as the Davenport and Smith Drug Store. In due time, Mr. Smith married Miss Jennie Davenport. Included in the wedding presents received by the newly married couple were three camellia plants purchased from Buist Seed Store, Philadelphia. It is believed that these plants had been imported from Europe.

Mrs. Jennie Davenport Smith died in 1870 and in due time Mr. Smith is reported to have paid court to Miss Fanny Davenport who, however, decided to marry Dupont Guerry who later became President of Wesleyan College. During Mr. Smith's courtship of Miss Fanny Davenport he gave her the three camellia plants. In those days many camellia plants were sold by color and not by varietal name. The three plants consisted of a red variety, a white and a variegated one. Subsequently, the red plant was determined to be *Lady Vansittart*, and the white one, *Alba Plena*. For a long time, no one knew the varietal name of the variegated plant. Finally it was examined by Mr. P. J. A. Berckmans of Fruitland Nurseries, Augusta, Georgia, and by Mr. K. Sawada of Overlook Nurseries at Crichton, Alabama. These experts could not identify the variety, but stated that it was closely related, but far superior, to *Gigantea*. Flowers of *Gigantea* bushes on the same property that had been obtained from nurseries in

South Carolina and from California could not compare with this particular specimen. Believing that this beautiful plant deserved a name, the owners called it "Fanny Davenport."

The plant remained on the property until "Aunt Fanny's" death in 1892, when the house was rented by Mr. William Guerry. Subsequently, the plant disappeared. What is believed to be this same plant was later found growing in a yard at Americus, Georgia. It is still living.

In the meantime "Grandpa Davenport," father of "Aunt Fanny," rooted cuttings of the variety Fanny Davenport for his daughters. All of the cuttings died except one. It is stated that this specimen was propagated by bending a limb over a tub filled with earth, and then covering it with soil. Subsequently, it was taken to Macon by Fanny Guerry when she moved from Americus. It bloomed beautifully the first year and then died. This demise was no doubt brought about by the way the plant was handled. It had been moved from Americus to Orange Street, then to Wesleyan College, from there to Vineville, and finally to Macon.

The variety "Fanny Davenport" is being propagated by the Davenport Guerry Nursery at Macon, Georgia, Gerbings Nursery at Fernandina, Florida, and probably others. Owners of specimens of this beautiful variety should be proud of it, regardless of whether it is Gigantea, or one of the "lost" varieties imported from Europe years ago.

Incidentally, the blooms sent by Mrs. Hand arrived at the Gainesville office in exceptionally fine condition. The stems were enclosed in plastic vials containing water, packed in cotton and wired to the bottom of the box. The box was wrapped in transparent cellophane and the flowers were in full view of the handlers. It is our thought the post office employees were so enthralled at the sight of these beautiful flowers that they handled the box with great care instead of cramming it in the bottom of a mail sack and then dumping packages containing typewriters or electric fans on top of it.

## A SUGGESTION TO SHOW CHAIRMEN

Chairmen of camellia shows who are interested in "dressing up" their registration tables or other places in the exhibition room may be interested in an offer made by Mr. W. C. Estes, Opp, Alabama.

Mr. Estes has prepared several traveling exhibits composed of twenty life-like pictures of camellia blooms painted by his wife, Louise Estes, an accomplished artist. These exhibits will be made available for the use of chairmen of camellia shows without charge other than return transportation, and, of course, assurance that the paintings will be handled in a responsible manner.

The sizes of the pictures vary according to the subject. Paintings of single blooms are 8 x 10 inches in size; those of three varieties, full face, with buds and side view blossoms are 12 x 15 inches; and groups of six varieties are 16 x 20 inches. All the paintings offered for exhibition will be matted and backed with heavy cardboard.

Mr. Estes sent a sample of three of the paintings, two single blooms and one of a group of six, to the Secretary for examination and comment. The paintings are faithful likenesses of the varieties represented, and were viewed with approbation by Dr. H. Harold Hume, Austin Griffiths and others in the Secretary's office. It was generally agreed that an exhibit of these paintings would provide some of the spectator appeal to visitors at camellia shows that has been stressed by Mr. Frederic Heutte.

Members of the Society who may be interested in these paintings should communicate with Mr. W. C. Estes, Forest Park, Opp, Alabama.

## CAMELLIA SHOW DATES — 1954 - 55

There is presented herewith a list of camellia shows that will be held during the coming season. A supplementary list of show dates will be published in the January Quarterly. Show chairmen who have not notified the Secretary's office of the dates of their shows should do so immediately.

### 1954

|                                                              |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Florence, S. C. (Men's Garden Club of the Pee Dee)           | Nov. 13-14 |
| Sumter, S. C. (South Carolina Camellia Society)              | Nov. 20-21 |
| Laurel, Miss. (Laurel Men's Camellia Society)                | Dec. 4-5   |
| Charleston, S. C. (Men's Camellia Club of Charleston County) | Dec. 12    |

### 1955

|                                                                        |            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Covington, La. (Woman's Auxiliary to Christ Episcopal Church)          | Jan. 8-9   |
| New Orleans, La. (New Orleans Garden Club)                             | Jan. 8-9   |
| Summerville, S. C. (Summerville Camellia Society)                      | Jan. 8-9   |
| Cordele, Ga. (Federated Garden Clubs of Cordele and Crisp County)      | Jan. 8-9   |
| Valdosta, Ga. (Valdosta Garden Clubs and Men's Garden Club)            | Jan. 13    |
| Lafayette, La. (Louisiana Camellia Society) Camellia Pageant           | Jan. 14    |
| Lafayette, La. (Louisiana Camellia Society) Camellia Show              | Jan. 14-15 |
| Orlando, Fla. (Camellia Society of Central Florida)                    | Jan. 15-16 |
| Pensacola, Fla. (Men's Camellia Club of Pensacola)                     | Jan. 15-16 |
| Tallahassee, Fla. (Tallahassee Garden Club, Inc.)                      | Jan. 15-16 |
| Dublin, Ga. (Dublin Garden Club)                                       | Jan. 15-16 |
| Thomasville, Ga. (Thomasville Garden Club)                             | Jan. 15-16 |
| Gulfport, Miss. (Gulfport Men's Camellia Society)                      | Jan. 15-16 |
| North Charleston, S. C. (N. Charleston Camellia Society)               | Jan. 15-16 |
| Marianna, Fla. (Marianna Lions Club and Marianna Garden Club)          | Jan. 16    |
| Tifton, Ga. (Council of Garden Clubs of Tifton)                        | Jan. 19    |
| Madison, Fla. (Madison Garden Club)                                    | Jan. 20    |
| Mobile, Ala. (Men's Camellia Club)                                     | Jan. 22-23 |
| Jacksonville, Fla. (Garden Club of Jacksonville and Men's Garden Club) | Jan. 22-23 |
| Moultrie, Ga. (Cherokee Garden Club)                                   | Jan. 22-23 |
| Savannah, Ga. (Men's Garden Club of Savannah)                          | Jan. 22-23 |
| Baton Rouge, La. (Baton Rouge Camellia Club)                           | Jan. 22-23 |
| Lake Charles, La. (Men's Garden Club of Lake Charles)                  | Jan. 22-23 |
| Slidell, La. (Ozone Camellia Club)                                     | Jan. 22-23 |
| Long Beach, Miss. (Long Beach Garden Club)                             | Jan. 22-23 |
| Moncks Corner, S. C. (Men's Camellia Club of Berkeley County)          | Jan. 22-23 |
| Floral, Ala. (Floral Garden Club)                                      | Jan. 26    |
| St. Simons Island, Ga. (The Cassina Garden Club)                       | Jan. 26    |
| Macon, Ga. (Middle Georgia Camellia Society)                           | Jan. 29-30 |
| Alexandria, La. (Central Louisiana Camellia Society)                   | Jan. 29-30 |
| Hammond, La. (Men's Garden Club of Tangipahoa Parish)                  | Jan. 29-30 |

|                                                                               |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Biloxi, Miss. (The Irish Hill Garden Club)                                    | Jan. 29-30 |
| McComb, Miss. (Men's Camellia Club of Pike County)                            | Jan. 29-30 |
| Charleston, S. C. (Garden Club of Charleston)                                 | Jan. 29-30 |
| Beaumont, Texas (Men's Garden Club of Greater Beaumont)                       | Jan. 29-30 |
| Thibodaux, La. (Woman's Club of Thibodaux)                                    | Jan. 30    |
| Beaufort, S. C. (Beaufort Garden Club)                                        | Feb. 3     |
| Birmingham, Ala. (Mens Camellia Society)                                      | Feb. 5-6   |
| Montgomery, Ala. (Montgomery Camellia Society)                                | Feb. 5-6   |
| Albany, Ga. (Federated Garden Clubs of Albany)                                | Feb. 5-6   |
| New Orleans, La. (Men's Camellia Club of New Orleans)                         | Feb. 5-6   |
| Hattiesburg, Miss. (Hattiesburg Camellia Society)                             | Feb. 5-6   |
| Georgetown, S. C. (Georgetown Garden Club)                                    | Feb. 5-6   |
| Aiken, S. C. (Aiken Camellia Club)                                            | Feb. 9     |
| Bessemer, Ala. (Men's Camellia Society of Jefferson County)                   | Feb. 12-13 |
| Wilmington, N. C. (Cape Fear Garden Club and Tide Water Men's<br>Garden Club) | Feb. 12-13 |
| Columbia, S. C. (Columbia Garden Club)                                        | Feb. 12-13 |
| Fort Valley, Ga. (Fort Valley Garden Club)                                    | Feb. 16    |
| Thomaston, Ga. (Thomaston Federated Garden Clubs)                             | Feb. 17    |
| Atlanta, Ga. (Atlanta Camellia Show Association)                              | Feb. 19-20 |
| Jackson, Miss. (Jackson Camellia Society)                                     | Feb. 19-20 |
| Dallas, Tex. (Dallas Camellia Society)                                        | Feb. 19-20 |
| Marshallville, Ga. (Marshallville Garden Club)                                | Feb. 23    |
| Oakland, Calif. (Northern California Camellia Society)                        | Feb. 26-27 |
| San Diego, Calif. (San Diego Camellia Society)                                | Feb. 26-27 |
| Shreveport, La. (Men's Camellia Club)                                         | Feb. 26-27 |
| Rock Hill, S. C. (Rock Hill Camellia Society)                                 | Mar. 9-10  |
| Charlotte, N. C. (Men's Camellia Club)                                        | Mar. 12-13 |
| Suffolk, Va. (Nancemond River Garden Club)                                    | Mar. 12-13 |
| Norfolk, Va. (Virginia Camellia Society)                                      | Mar. 19-20 |

## LIST OF ACCREDITED CAMELLIA SHOW JUDGES

The names of members in good standing who have been designated as judges by the Chairman of the Exhibitions and Awards Committee of the American Camellia Society appear in the following list. Conditions that govern the appointment as an accredited judge include continuous membership in the Society for a period of two years (twenty-four months), including the year during which the application is made, a general knowledge of camellia species, varieties and forms, and the ability to identify at least fifty varieties of camellias. The application must be endorsed by two accredited judges of the Society. Preliminary applications should be addressed to the Secretary.

### ALABAMA

Auburn:

Good, Henry G.

Bessemer:

Lefkovits, Norman

Mauldin, R. S. Sr.

Nordan, Majors

Birmingham:

Brooks, M. Thomas

Fisher, Dr. G. E.

Hamilton, Elbert A.

Lange, Ray L.

Magruder, Dr. Thomas V.  
Poe, W. Lee  
Turlington, Dr. Lee

Dothan:

Cannon, Mark S.  
Carter, S. B.  
Latiolais, Dr. S. G.  
Lee, Alto V.  
Mazyck, Dr. Arthur  
Poyner, Pat, Jr.

Fairhope:

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

Greensboro:

Perry, Mrs. Orion S.

Greenville:

McFerrin, Mrs. Oakley  
Stanley, J. Glen  
Steindorff, Henry W.  
Talbert, Erastus

Loxley:

Windbigler, H. L.

Mobile:

Abbot, J. Lloyd  
Davis, Mrs. Ray  
Davis, Ray  
Lee, Hoyt W.  
Sawada, K.  
Smith, Gregory L.  
Twitty, Thos. E.

Montgomery:

Alley, J. T.  
Belser, T. A.  
Jones, Alden  
Nation, Mrs. Harry E.  
Parker, W. Glenn  
Pfingstl, Mrs. Emmett  
Powers, Mrs. B. C.

Semmes:

Blackwell, R. L., Jr.  
McDade, Clint  
Stephens, C. R.

ARKANSAS

El Dorado:

Garrett, Mrs. Rufus N.

CALIFORNIA

Altadena:

Nuccio, Julius

Beverly Hills:

Williams, Frank D.

Campbell:

James, Vernon R.

Concord:

Stoeckle, W. L.

Covina:

Viney, Mrs. William

El Cajon:

Miller, Mrs. Stanley W.  
Miller, Stanley W.

Fresno:

Rowell, Milo

Glendale:

Dekker, Mrs. Albert  
Thompson, Roy T.

Hayward:

Domoto, Toichi

Lafayette:

Feathers, D. L.  
Paige, Harold L.

Los Angeles:

Jones, Charles S.  
Peer, Ralph S.

Oakland:

Hopfer, O. E.

Pasadena:

Casamajor, Robert  
McCaskill, V. O.  
Shepp, Paul E.  
Short, Harvey F.  
Wylam, William E.

Ramona:

Tellam, Dr. Reuben W.

Roseville:

Lewis, Mrs. Bess Steere

Ross:

Smyth, Mrs. Kreena  
Smyth, W. B.

Sacramento:

Hall, Dr. George J.  
Mohr, Arthur  
Morrison, A. E.  
Olrich, Jerry

San Diego:

Atherton, Lucius C.  
Bradford, J. W.

San Dimas:

Cothran, C. D.

San Gabriel:

Marshall, Leslie  
Tourje, E. C.

San Jose:

Moniz, T. J.

San Marino:

Hertrich, William  
Johnson, Clifton W.

Selma:

Wells, Dr. W. M.

Sherman Oaks:

Woodroof, William E.

## FLORIDA

Chattahoochee:

Gholson, Angus K., Jr.

Fernandina:

May, Ralph E.

Gainesville:

Griffiths, Austin, Jr.

Harn, Sam P.

Hume, Dr. H. H.

Mixson, Sam McK.

Parrish, Mrs. M. M.

Shaddick, Wm. T.

Wolfe, Dr. H. S.

Jacksonville:

Bettes, Charles C.

Carter, C. G.

Churchwell, Mrs. J. H.

Cohen, Mrs. Halle

Foote, A. M.

Hafele, Mrs. Herman E.

Harrell, Hodges

MacArthur, Mrs. W. E.

Sewell, Mrs. J. N.

Sewell, J. N.

Wilson, D. L., Jr.

Lakeland:

Seymour, Frank

Vaughn, Dr. J. W.

Macclenny:

Fraser, J. E.

Monticello:

Finlayson, Mrs. D. A.

Orlando:

Andersen, Martin

Compton, Miss Mary

Freeman, Mrs. J. W.

Freeman, J. W.

Gurney, Mrs. J. T.

Hasty, N. L., Jr.

Lafon, Mrs. F. L.

Reasor, Mrs. Eugene F.

Van Cleef, Clinton B.

C. G. CARTER

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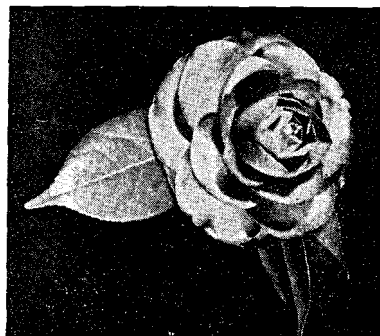
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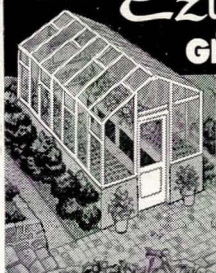
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