

AMERICAN CAMELLIA *Quarterly*

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Courtesy Camellias in America
Revised Edition, by H. Harold Hume

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American Camellia Quarterly

VOLUME 11 — NO. 2

APRIL, 1956

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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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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR NEW PRESIDENT

In accepting the position as President of the American Camellia Society I take this means to extend my sincere appreciation to members for the confidence which they have placed in me. I assume this office with full recognition of the responsibilities pertaining thereto, and will work diligently to further the interests of the Society.

It is my intention to do everything possible to make the Society grow and progress along the lines of sound democratic principles. This can be accomplished only with the fullest cooperation with the membership in general. After all, this is *your* Society, and members not only have the right to express their own views but it is their duty, as good members, to participate in its affairs.

I would like to make an appeal to every member to write to me personally and give me their thoughts about ways and means to improve the Society, and offer constructive criticism with respect to current policies and practices. In this connection it should be borne in mind that the affairs of the Society are directed by members of the Governing Board, and not by the President. However, it is the duty of the President to make recommendations to the Board, and to pass on for the consideration of Board members suggestions and constructive criticism that come from the membership in general. It is my desire and intention to pursue this course.

It is also my desire and intention to publish a Presidential Message in each issue of the Quarterly. In these messages I shall endeavor to keep you informed with regard to matters of importance, and pass on for your information and consideration pertinent suggestions for the improvement of the Society offered by members.

Let us all work together in a cordial and harmonious manner to make the American Camellia Society one big happy family. If we think together, talk together, and work together I am convinced that we can make the Society an organization that will instill in the minds of every one a sense of pride of membership.

Wilmington, North Carolina
March 15, 1956

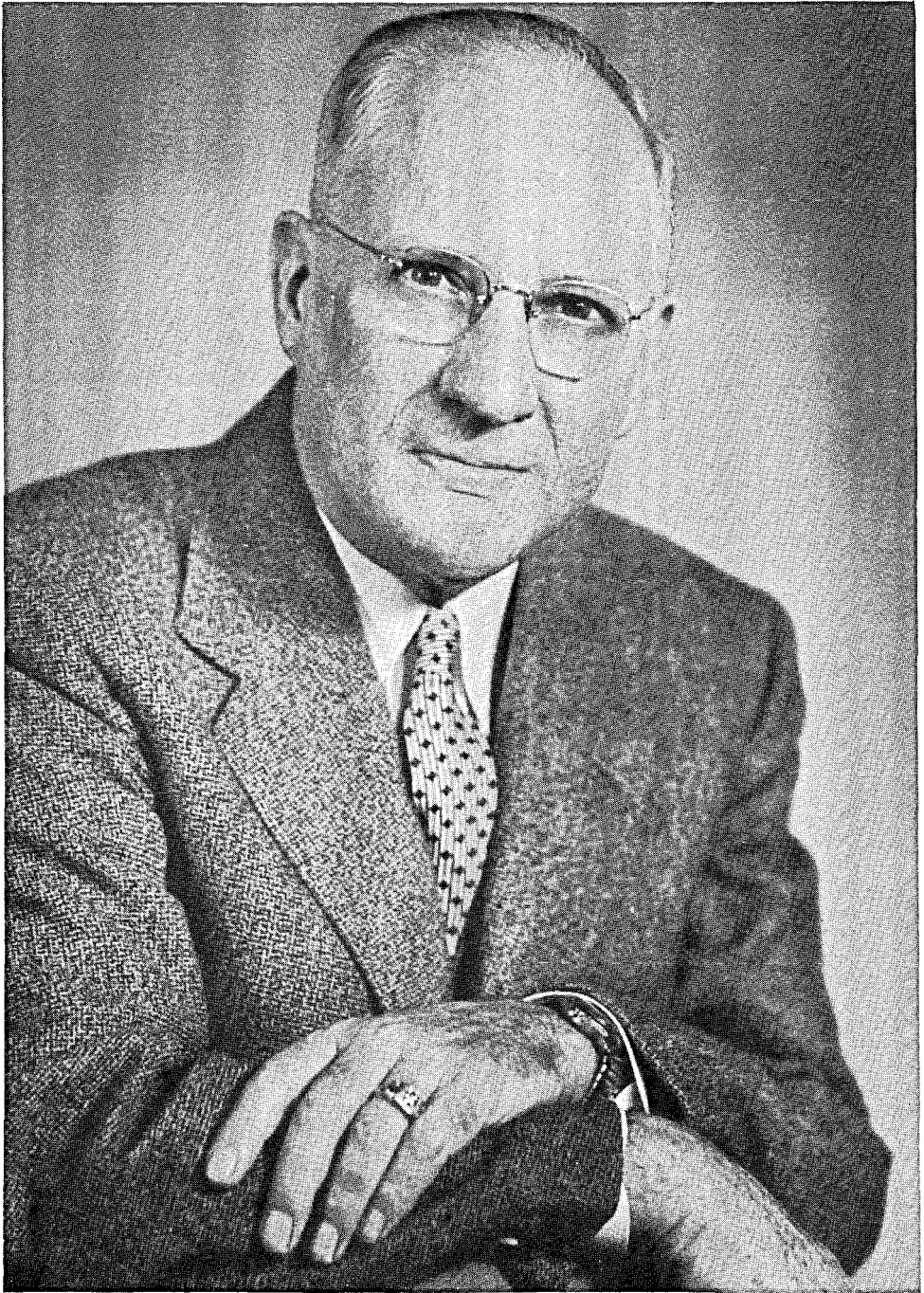
S. L. Marbury

A SALUTE FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

HOYT W. LEE, Mobile, Alabama

An article covering the highlights of the trip made by camellia growers in the South to visit our friends in the Pacific Coast Territory during the course of the Annual Meeting at Los Angeles appears elsewhere in this Quarterly. However, I feel that I would be most ungrateful if I did not take this means to express my own appreciation, personally as well as officially, for all the courtesies extended to visitors by camellia growers, and others, on the West Coast. They are a wonderful group of people. The friendships which I made out there will remain as a happy memory always.

During the course of my association with the American Camellia Society in a number of capacities—State Director for Alabama, Vice President for the Gulf Coast Territory, and President—I have been impressed with the courtesy and graciousness of members from every part of the country, and have keenly enjoyed working with them. In my present capacity as Senior Vice President, I shall work diligently to further the interests of the American Camellia Society and, incidentally, do more than my part to make the visit of members from the Pacific Coast Territory, and others, to the Annual Meeting in Macon, Georgia, February 1957, as pleasing, entertaining, instructive and memorable as possible.



S. L. MARBURY, President American Camellia Society

THE 1956 ANNUAL MEETING

SIGMUND J. KATZ, Covington, Louisiana

The South does not have a copyright on Hospitality. This fact was made evident even before the "American Camellia Society Special" of the Southern Pacific Railway, with a group of members of the American Camellia Society from the South reached its destination—Los Angeles, California. At Alhambra, an outlying station, we were met by a welcoming committee consisting, in part, of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Metcalf and Dr. and Mrs. E. Clark Hubbs, who wore smiles as wide as Texas and bore handfuls of luggage tags already filled out with our names. These tags were attached to our baggage which—miraculously, but with perfect pre-arrangement—arrived in our hotel rooms without further attention on our part. Did we take taxis to the Hotel Roosevelt? I should say not! We were parceled out among various husbands and wives who drove us to the hotel in private cars.

Now that I have time to think about the manner in which our hosts did everything within their power to anticipate and fulfill our needs and requirements, I am surprised that we had to do our own registering at the hotel. This must be a California law; otherwise, it would have been done for us.

After registering, we were barely given sufficient time to wash and change clothes before being whisked out, dined and entertained. Upon our return to the hotel we were sternly instructed to be on hand exactly at nine o'clock Wednesday morning to go on our first tour.

Wednesday—sunny, but not warm. Greeters were waiting for us in the spacious lobby. Introductions to people whose names are so famous in the camellia world followed. Then "Hurry, hurry," and away we went. First to Mr. Reg Ragland's "Camellia Patch"—a camellia garden, or at least a ten-foot-high slat house, immaculately kept, with container-grown plants—beautiful bushes and blooms. For most of us it was the first opportunity to see Bill Woodroof's wonderful new seedling, "Reg Ragland," both the solid colored and variegated forms. Later on, at the Annual Banquet, this seedling was awarded the Illges Medal. We saw many reticulatas also.

Thence to Disneyland, as guests of the Richland Oil Company. For most of us it was the same thrill we had experienced when Mother took us to the circus for the first time. A ride on the Disney-Santa Fe R. R., and then we enjoyed a wonderful lunch on the grounds. We took in so many things that it is difficult to recall all of them—the Golden Horseshoe Cafe, with singing and dancing and fine entertainment; the Richland Oil show; and the American Motors Cinerama. One could spend more than three days in Disneyland, but your reporter and Henry Hubbard got high on one bottle of Pepsi Cola, and wore Mickey Mouse hats. I'll bet we had our pictures taken more times that day than Marilyn Monroe did—but for different reasons, of course.

Then back to the hotel, tired but happy. Oh! so happy. A bite to eat, and then to bed.

Thursday—Officers and Directors devoted the day to meetings of the Board of Directors and the Governing Board. The others were taken about in cars to private gardens, nurseries and places of interest. But the members of the two Boards had their inning—they were taken to lunch as guests of the Los Angeles Men's Garden Club at the California Club, while their wives were guests of Mrs. Ralph S. Peer at the Beverly Hills Country Club. Mrs. Katz reports the latter as having been delightful in every detail. But the decorations at our luncheon at the California Club beggars description. On one rather extensive table there were two large (and I mean LARGE) artificial camellia standards, and four small ones. I was informed, incidently, that the professional decorators had phoned for 3,000 blooms—and got them. Ralph Peer was

the main speaker at the luncheon, and spoke briefly on the introduction and growing of camellias in America.

Back to the hotel for a change and a number of private get-togethers—some with host members, others with old friends who welcomed an opportunity to chat quietly between themselves.

At 8 p.m. the general meeting was called to order at the Woman's Club, located about two blocks from the hotel. Dr. A. G. Plakidas, Plant Pathologist of the Louisiana State University, spoke interestingly on viruses, and illustrated his talk with slides showing the phenomenon of a virus which causes variegation in foliage and blooms, and how it could be purposely or accidentally introduced. Dr. Plakidas' talk was followed by a panel discussion. Tea and coffee were served amid a display of specimen blooms in an anteroom.

Friday—The question *du jour*—"Where do you want to go?" The answer—"O.K. Bill, or Harry, or Herbert (as the case might be) here is your party—take them wherever they want to go." Some of the ladies, (God bless them—and help their husbands) went shopping. Others, and the husbands, made informal visits to private gardens.

At 12:45 p.m. buses left the hotel for Huntington Gardens, where we took leisurely walks through the gardens conducted by Howard Asper and Bill Wylam, enjoying reticulatas and japonicas in full bloom (the *Sasanqua* season was over), and wonderful exotic trees, shrubs and plants, many of them collected from the four quarters of the world.

A cocktail party from six to eight o'clock completed the official program for that eventful day.

Saturday—Visitors and hosts separated into two groups that day. One went by bus to take in the Temple City Floral Parade and Celebration, which was praised in the most glowing terms, and later to a Western barbeque which was thoroughly enjoyed. The second group was composed of members who were to serve as judges at the Camellia Show in Descanso Gardens. Your reporter drew a judging assignment. The show was held under tarpaulins. There was plenty of room for generous distribution of blooms. We saw a show custom that was new to many of us—the blooms, displayed on beds of damp peat, were without foliage. (This practice is not universal on the West Coast, I was informed.) Visitors from the South were uniform in their expressions of preference for what we call our "conventional" manner of display—flowers with foliage.

Many of the varieties displayed were new to your reporter, but most of the flowers, with the exception of some new ones, were not exciting. The rules for judging were followed closely. Judges were not permitted to handle blossoms, a highly desirable prohibition. There were plenty of committee members on hand to settle problems as they arose. The number of judges, three to each team, was sufficient to prevent the task from becoming a tiring stint. The judging was finished in ample time before the scheduled opening hour of the show. Members of the group who had gone to Temple City rejoined us for a leisurely viewing of the show and for our return to the hotel at 5 p.m.

The Annual Banquet was scheduled for 7 p.m. Again event followed event in such rapid order that it is difficult to recall or to do justice to all of them—entertainment by professionals (including a lovely girl singer); Dave Wirth's 70th-odd birthday; "Happy Birthday to You" by entertainers and diners; Aubrey Harris' un-birthday, but

we had just as much fun when, to Aubrey's dismay, they sang the same song to him.

On the serious side there was the welcoming address by Mr. Peer and the response by the new President of the American Camellia Society, Mr. S. L. Marbury, Wilmington, North Carolina. Judge Solomon presented the Illges Medal to Wm. E. Woodroof for his new seedling Reg Ragland. Everybody was thrilled at this event, but none more so than Bill, whose reply to the Judge delighted everyone. Mr. E. H. Metcalf, President of the Southern California Camellia Society, presented a gavel made of camellia wood to the out-going President, Mr. Hoyt W. Lee. Mr. Julius Nuccio announced that a very beautiful new seedling has been named "Judge Solomon" in honor of you know who. Mr. M. M. (Mike) Witman spoke interestingly, and amusingly asked everyone to go to the next Annual Meeting, which will be held in Macon, Georgia, in 1957. A good time, and I mean a really good time, was had by all.

Sunday, T. G.—The "T. G." is short for "Thank Goodness" for an opportunity to stay abed and enjoy a leisurely breakfast. But not for long, for soon the phone calls started—"What do you want to do today?" Some went to Ed and Janie Metcalf's home; some to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Williams'; some to Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd Taylor's—and I do believe that some members went to all three places.

Although the festivities had ended officially, there was a group aboard the "Skylark" next morning bound for San Francisco and Portland. There was plenty of talk en route about camellias and the wonderful and cordial hospitality provided by our hosts.

It is to be regretted that space and a deadline do not permit me to mention the names of all the good people on the West Coast who went out of their way to make the 1956 meeting of the American Camellia Society an outstanding success, and to make every minute of our time enjoyable, interesting, and instructive. While these names do not appear in print, they are inscribed indelibly in the mind of this reporter, as well as in the minds of every other visitor.

The question as to whether or not this is the proper place to express a personal opinion of a Charter Member, who has been a member of the Directorate since the Society was organized, is a moot one. We will leave the answer to the Editor. Here is my opinion.

Everyone with whom I talked about Society affairs seemed to be keenly interested in its future, and willing and anxious to forget all about localities, personalities and organizations; to work together to make the American Camellia Society bigger and better; and to perpetuate the spirit of superb fellowship that characterized the 1956 meeting. Everyone pledged themselves to work to that end. President Marbury has indicated his intention to make achievement of that goal the No. 1 endeavor of his administration.

Just as there are great camellia flowers—*reticulatas*, *japonicas* and *Sasanquas*—these are great people in the Pacific Coast Territory, the Atlantic Coast Territory, and the Gulf Coast Territory,—and in what some day, I hope, may be known as the Great Lakes Coast Territory.

THE BUSINESS SESSIONS

It was not all play and no work for members of the Board of Directors and Governing Board. No small amount of time of these officials was devoted to transaction of business matters at the meeting of the old Governing Board, the Board of Directors and the new Governing Board.

MEETING OF OLD GOVERNING BOARD

This meeting was called to order by President Lee at 9:55 a.m., February 23.
Other Officers and Directors included:

Vice Presidents:

S. L. Marbury
D. L. Feathers

President Emeritus:

Arthur W. Solomon

Directors-at-Large:

Wm. E. Woodroof
Dr. Lloyd J. Taylor
Sigmund J. Katz
D. C. Strother
J. P. Illges

Director-at-Large Elect:

Aubrey C. Harris

State Directors:

Mrs. L. G. Fox
Ralph S. Peer
W. P. Fulton

State Directors Elect:

M. Thomas Brooks
C. S. Shoolroy
Dr. R. K. Womack

Treasurer:

T. J. Smith

Acting Secretary:

Harold E. Dryden

The following members were present as proxies for Directors who were not able to attend the meeting:

Mrs. S. J. Katz for T. S. Clower
Dr. J. M. Habel, Jr., for Alison J. Parsons
Maxwell Murray for John N. Sewell
S. C. Prettyman for L. S. Wannamaker
C. W. Farmer for W. T. Wood
A. G. Plakidas for T. K. McKnight

President Lee read a report of the Chairman of the Tellers Committee, composed of Sam McK. Mixson, Cecil W. Mathews, and W. T. Shaddick, who made the count of votes cast for the Directorate in the Gulf Coast Territory. Members elected were:

Directors-at-Large:

Sigmund J. Katz, Covington, Louisiana
Aubrey C. Harris, Shreveport, Louisiana

State Directors:

Alabama—M. Thomas Brooks, Birmingham
Florida—John N. Sewell, Jacksonville
Louisiana—Dr. R. K. Womack, Shreveport
Mississippi—T. S. Clower, Gulfport
Texas—C. S. Shoolroy, Beaumont

Thereupon the meeting of the old Governing Board was adjourned.

MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors held their annual meeting immediately following the termination of the meeting of the old Governing Board.

William E. Woodroof, Director-at-Large for the Pacific Coast Territory, was selected to serve as Chairman of the Directors for 1956, and thereupon appointed D. C. Strother, S. J. Katz and J. P. Illges as members of a Nominating Committee to select a slate of officers for 1956. The Directors approved the report of the Nominating Committee and unanimously elected the following officers:



DR. E. CLARK HUBBS, Vice President
Pacific Coast Territory



DR. J. M. HABEL, JR., Vice President
Atlantic Coast Territory

President:

S. L. Marbury

Vice Presidents:

Atlantic Coast Territory—Dr. J. M. Habel, Jr.

Gulf Coast Territory—Hoyt W. Lee

Pacific Coast Territory—Dr. E. Clark Hubbs

Treasurer:

T. J. Smith

Executive Secretary and Editor:

Arthur C. Brown

Mr. Strother read a letter from Mr. W. T. Wood, Macon, Georgia, in which Mr. Wood announced his resignation as State Director from Georgia. This resignation was accepted with many expressions of regret, and the Secretary was directed to prepare and send to Mr. Wood a letter expressing appreciation for the many excellent services he has performed in the interest of the Society.

The Directors then elected Mr. C. W. Farmer, Macon, as State Director for Georgia to fill out Mr. Wood's unexpired term.

Having completed the business before them, the Directors then adjourned the meeting.

MEETING OF NEW GOVERNING BOARD

Immediately following adjournment of the Directors' meeting, President Marbury called a meeting of the new Governing Board. Members present were the same as those who attended the meeting of the old Governing Board, with the following additions: C. W. Farmer, newly elected Director for Georgia; and Dr. E. Clark Hubbs, newly elected Vice President for the Pacific Coast Territory, to succeed Mr. D. L. Feathers.

President Marbury in his opening remarks stated that it will be his objective to work for closer cooperation between members residing in all the camellia growing sections of the country for the purpose of furthering the interests of the Society and bringing about an increase in membership.

Business matters transacted, other than routine, included the following:

Publications and advertising. The need for obtaining appropriate material, as well as advertising, for the Quarterlies and Yearbooks was discussed at length. Mrs. Katz stressed the need for greater member participation in contributing material.

The Secretary, in reply to an inquiry as to possible means of curtailing expenditures, stated that about the only way in which savings could be made would be to reduce the number of pages in the Quarterly and/or Yearbook; and one way to reduce printing costs of the Yearbook would be to discontinue the publication of some 55 pages of roster.

Mr. Woodroof expressed the opinion, and Dr. Taylor concurred, that it would be a serious mistake to reduce the number of pages of text in the Quarterlies. Mr. Harris stated that the Quarterlies should be made self-supporting, and that this could be done by increasing the number of advertisers. He added that it should be one of the responsibilities of members of the Governing Board to get new advertisements.

Judge Solomon and Mr. Farmer spoke in favor of publication of the roster in the Yearbooks, and pointed out that this means of furnishing this essential information was less costly, and provided a more permanent record than by other means.

Mr. Peer offered the motion, which was seconded and carried, that a Committee be appointed to head up the matter of publications and solicitation of advertisements.

Research and Test Gardens. Judge Solomon reported that members of his committee had interested themselves in the establishment of a camellia section in the National Arboretum at Washington, D. C., and has furnished plants, cuttings and seeds for the project. In addition, the Society has defrayed the costs for transportation of balled and burlapped plants donated by individuals. Plants will be set out in different parts of the Arboretum for the purpose of determining their hardiness.

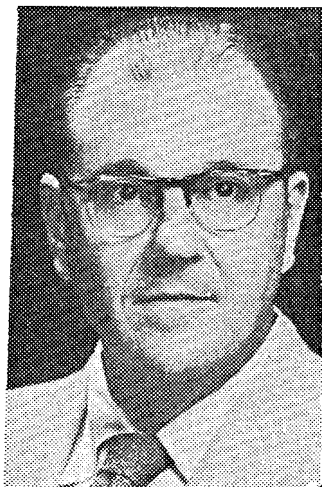
Varietal Name Show Cards. Mrs. Katz brought up the desirability of increasing the list of 250 varietal name cards provided by the Society for the use of show officials. The names, and synonyms of only varieties that are most generally encountered appear on those cards. Mrs. Katz offered the suggestion that the Nomenclature Committee ask members who live in key locations to suggest names of the newer varieties that should be added to the list.

Annual meeting in 1957. Mr. Farmer reminded Board members of the decision made a year ago to hold the 1957 Annual Meeting in Macon, Georgia, and again presented an invitation from the host club, the Middle Georgia Camellia Society. It was moved, seconded and carried that the 1957 Annual Meeting be held in Macon, Georgia, on February 14-16, 1957.

Annual Meeting in 1958. It was moved, seconded and carried that the invitation extended by the Men's Camellia Club of New Orleans, Louisiana, to hold the Annual Meeting in that city during the first week of February, 1958, be accepted.

Additional Certificates for Shows. The Board acted favorably upon a motion by Mr. Katz that the Society provide show chairmen with certificates for the Outstanding *Camellia japonica* blooms in shows, and for the Outstanding *C. reticulata* blooms in shows, to be awarded when, in the opinion of the show judges, such certificates are merited.

Invitation to serve as an International Registration Authority. The Board gave careful consideration to the invitation from the International Horticultural Congress, extended through Dr. George H. M. Lawrence, American Horticultural Council, to serve as an International Registration Authority for the genus *Camellia*. Although members regarded this invitation in the nature of a tribute to the American Camellia



Left
 AUBREY C. HARRIS,
 Director-at-Large
 Gulf Coast Territory



Right
 DR. R. K. WOMACK,
 State Director
 Louisiana



Above
 M. THOMAS BROOKS,
 State Director
 Alabama



Left
 C. W. FARMER,
 State Director
 Georgia



Right
 C. S. SHOOLROY,
 State Director
 Texas

Society, and felt that acceptance and efficient discharge of the responsibilities of the position would add prestige to the Society, they regretfully reached the decision that at this time the lack of personnel and facilities made acceptance of the invitation impracticable. The Secretary was directed to write Dr. Lawrence to this effect.

Appreciation for efforts of the host clubs. Board members expressed their great pleasure and satisfaction with regard to the manner in which members of the host club, the Los Angeles Camellia Council, had directed and managed all aspects of the meeting; the most enjoyable and unique entertainment features provided; and the many courtesies extended, individually and as a group, to members of the Society and others who attended the meeting. The Secretary was directed to prepare a resolution to this effect and send a copy to officials of the Los Angeles Camellia Council.

No further business was offered for consideration, and the Governing Board adjourned at 4 p.m.

A NOTE OF THANKS AND APPRECIATION

Members of the American Camellia Society who journeyed to the West Coast to attend the Annual Meeting are greatly indebted to our hosts, the members of the Los Angeles Camellia Council, for their efforts to make our visit profitable, entertaining and thoroughly enjoyable. As President of the Society I take this opportunity to thank them for the manner in which they went all out to make the meeting an unqualified success.

It takes a tremendous amount of time and effort to put on an affair of this kind, and I want to express to each and every member of the several committees our sincere thanks for the diligent manner in which they took care of our every need.

The Atlantic Coast and Gulf Coast Territories are proud of the comparatively large number of members from the South who made the trip into the Pacific Coast Territory. It is our sincere hope that many members from the last named Territory will attend the 1957 Annual Meeting at Macon, Georgia, next February and thus provide us with opportunities to reciprocate the many favors and courtesies that made our visit to the West Coast a most pleasant one.

S. L. Marbury, President

Wilmington, N. C.
March 14, 1956

NOT ENOUGH WEEK ENDS

WILLIAM T. WOOD, Macon, Georgia

It is unfortunate that there are not a sufficient number of week ends during the months of January and February to make it possible for each camellia society to hold its annual camellia show without coming into conflict with other shows held in their more or less immediate vicinity. That the situation may be serious at times is indicated by the record of the past season. Shows were held on the same week end in Jacksonville and Orlando, Florida; Macon, Georgia; Charleston, South Carolina; and in four other cities in the Southeast.

There is another conflict, other than dates, that occurs when several societies located comparatively close together hold shows on the same week end. This is a conflict between show officials for exhibits, spectators and judges. Many growers who like to exhibit at several shows in their particular territory cannot do so when

several of the shows are held simultaneously. When this occurs, they confine their entries to one show, at the expense of the others. The same thing pertains to spectators—instead of taking in all the shows in their area on successive week ends, they are forced to attend only one of the several exhibitions that are scheduled for the same date. Just as there are not enough week ends to go around, there is not a sufficient number of judges to provide for equitable and efficient distribution of their services throughout half a dozen conflicting shows.

It is obvious that duplication of dates for several camellia societies is detrimental to all parties concerned and an attempt should be made to remedy this condition.

There is nothing that can be done about the shortage of week ends. It is possible, however, that the situation could be improved to a considerable degree if show chairmen in given localities would get together early in the season and prepare a schedule of shows for the ensuing year. All other things being equal, there should be no great difference whether a certain society holds its show on the first, second, third, or fourth week end in January or February. As avoidance of conflicts of dates would be for the best interests of each society concerned, show managers should assume a give-and-take attitude at conferences of this nature.

Show Chairmen, from time to time, request the writer, in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee on Awards and Exhibitions, to reserve certain dates for their shows. This, of course, cannot be done. About the only way in which the Society can be helpful is to publish, in the *Quarterlies*, dates that have been sent to the Secretary. In this way officials may be kept informed with respect to dates already set by other societies, and be guided accordingly. In instances where conflicts occur, officials should get together and try to work out a schedule that would be acceptable to each club.

The writer hopes that show officials will accept this suggestion in the spirit in which it is offered, and will work harmoniously to the end that the number of conflicts next year will be reduced to the minimum. Of course, during years when adverse weather conditions cause postponement of a number of shows, conflicts are inevitable.

A list of the show dates for 1956-57 that have been sent to the Secretary appears elsewhere in this *Quarterly*. Attention of show chairmen is directed to the fact that the Annual Meeting of the American Camellia Society will be held in Macon, Georgia, February 14-16 in conjunction with the camellia show that will be staged by the host club, the Middle Georgia Camellia Society, on February 16-17. It is obvious that the date for this particular show cannot be changed to avoid conflict with other shows for any reason short of an emergency.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS IN NEW ZEALAND

Mr. Felix M. Jury, Tikorangi, Waitara, Taranaki, New Zealand, has graciously consented to act as the Society's representative in that country and to enroll fellow members in the American Camellia Society.

Camellia enthusiasts, and others, in New Zealand may feel assured that by reason of Mr. Jury's interest in the camellia industry, and camellia growers in New Zealand, memberships processed through him will proceed through channels without undue delay.

Members who enroll for 1956 will be entitled to receive the *Quarterlies* and Yearbook published during that year. The Yearbook, of course, will not be ready for distribution until next December. Copies of the 1949, 1952 and 1955 editions are made available to members at \$3.00 the copy.

SEEDLING GOSSIP

JOSEPH H. PYRON, Reynolds, Georgia

Many of us who are interested in camellias have oftentimes gone on wild goose chases, tracking down some "fabulous" seedling. The locale is almost invariably on a muddy clay or deep sandy road with numerous confusing turns. Upon reaching our destination we often find a Sarah Frost, Elizabeth, or some insignificant seedling. Some have sought the legendary yellow camellia from reports of a "yellow japonica," only to find it to be *KERRIA JAPONICA*, a common shrub found throughout the South. However, the true camellia enthusiast is never discouraged—the next lead may be fruitful.

I particularly enjoy the seedling classes, and attendant gossip, at the various camellia shows. One seedling, for which I was totally unprepared by advance rumors, was Mr. K. Sawada's seedling Number LI-6, which was awarded the A.C.S. Highly Commended Seedling Certificate at the 1956 show staged at Pensacola. (This seedling had previously been exhibited at the Slidell show in 1955.) The plant that produced this exquisite flower resulted from a controlled cross between the varieties Dr. W. G. Lee and Imura. Both of these varieties are semidouble. In such crosses certain characteristics of one or both parents are usually evident. This is not true in the case of this particular seedling. It is an imbricated double, medium-large in size, with keel-shaped petals building up into a hemispherical shape. The small white inner petals become progressively larger, and the color blushes to pink in the outer petals. It is my prediction that after this seedling becomes widely known, it will be a likely contender for the Illges Medal.

Another one of Mr. Sawada's Imura seedlings, No. IM-1, attracted considerable attention in the same show. The flower has long, twisted, soft pink petals, with only a few stamens in evidence. It has crispness, depth and size. According to Mr. Sawada, these seedlings will not be available for at least two years.

Some people get amazing results from planting only two or three seed, while most of us who have propagated hundreds, even thousands, of seedlings, have not developed a single worth-while variety. An outstanding example of the first group is the case of Mr. D. W. Davis, Seffner, Florida, who planted several seeds from one pod of Elizabeth Boardman and came up not only with the outstanding variety, Mrs. D. W. DAVIS, but also with a very fine incomplete double red which has been named D. W. DAVIS. Another exceptional case is that of Mrs. Virginia Brodie, Biloxi, Mississippi, who planted three seeds, designating them FAITH, HOPE, and CHARITY. The first produced the very large and beautiful soft pink, full centered variety FAITH, which has just been released. The plant is a vigorous grower with glossy dark green leaves. Still another case is that of Arthur T. Wilson, Jr., of Batesburg, South Carolina, who planted two seeds he obtained while visiting in Pensacola some years ago. From one of these two seeds came EMILY WILSON, a very hardy, semidouble, soft pink flower which was released the past season.

TOMORROW, a seedling developed by the Tick Tock Nursery, Thomasville, Georgia, has lived up to advance reports. The flower is very large, full and beautifully formed, rich red in color and the plant, according to its originator, Mrs. Ross Hayes, "grows like a weed." By next season this outstanding variety should be sufficiently well distributed to start winning Best Flower in Show awards.

Among growers who seem to have a constant stream of interesting seedlings are the T. S. Clowers of Gulfport, Mississippi; Mr. Evan P. Davis, Davis Ornamental Nursery, Mobile, Alabama; and Mr. Bowman of Bowman's Nursery, Pensacola, Florida.

The Clowers are noted for their many fine seedling introductions. These include SIMEON, PRINCE OF ORANGE, CLOWER WHITE, CLOWER RED, OLIVE ELIZABETH,

LOUISIANA PURCHASE, T. S. CLOWER, JR., CHEP MORRISON, MARY BETHEA and many others. Among a large plot of seedlings I saw an unusually beautiful semidouble pink flower of unique formation. This plant has neither been named nor numbered. Mr. Clower wasn't even excited over it because he has so many other fine seedlings not yet registered.

Mr. Bowman, now in his 80's, has grown thousands of seedlings over the years. Among the best are DAWSON PINK, BOWMAN'S WHITE, BESSIE BOWMAN (No. 95), PENSACOLA RED, No. 44, and No. 81 variegated. The first two are already available and the others are promised for next season.

Mr. Evan P. Davis, also in his 80's, has some excellent introductions to his credit. These include ROSE DAWN, EVAN P. DAVIS, ETHEL DAVIS, and the new MISS AMERICA. The full, semidouble pink flowers of the last named variety are said to be better than Ethel Davis. Still another Davis seedling, STROTHER'S CHOICE, is said to be very good. This variety is not yet available.

An interesting lead that I was unable to follow through is that of Father Baker, a priest who resides in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, who, I have been informed, has developed a number of interesting seedlings. I saw only one of these, HOUSE OF GOLD. The flower is a rich red, with numerous golden stamens arranged in five fascicles. Some others from this source are GATE OF HEAVEN, MIRROR OF JUSTICE, WHITE PIN CUSHION, WHITE GOLD, MARY HALE and DR. M. WOLFE.

One might expect the repertory of whites to be exhausted, yet this past season there were several new ones which were sufficiently different to be worthy of introduction. JACKIE GILES, a seedling developed by Mr. Grady McCord, Mayo Nursery, Augusta, Georgia, is a very large, irregular incomplete double, hemispherical in shape, with interspersed stamens. Another large pure white semidouble of considerable promise is DEAR JENNY, from Mr. C. W. Hand, Pelham, Georgia. Still another is MISS BILOXI, a very large rosebud type, finally opening to show stamens. This seedling from Brodie's Nursery, Biloxi, Mississippi, won the American Camellia Society Highly Commended Seedling Certificate in the 1956 Hattiesburg show. Other new whites which defied the cold and flowered exceptionally well are Mr. Maxwell Murray's No. 6, and Doc Miller's WINTER MORN. These two are not yet available. Several older but not widely known whites attracted considerable attention during the past season. Although available for several seasons, EMMETT BARNES and BILL PORTER, both very large semidoubles, are outstanding. Another is the extremely vigorous ERMINE. The flowers are of a good size, and are hardy. These deserve to be better known in the Southeast, where good performing outside whites are badly needed.

A unique seedling from Hattiesburg, Mississippi, is Chiles-Hagerty No. 2, a loosely arranged semidouble flower, deep red, with a peculiar purplish overcast. This novelty won the American Camellia Society Highly Commended Seedling award several years ago in Slidell, Louisiana, against stiff competition. It deserves to be registered and released. Of somewhat the same color is a variety of unknown origin in the Stacey's garden at Bay Minette, Alabama. This variety has been tentatively named SUSAN STACEY. The flower is cup shaped, semidouble, red with purple margins. Both are somewhat reminiscent of EDNA CAMPBELL, a Brock introduction from Tallahassee. These deep colors have to be seen to be appreciated.

IRENE COKER is a seedling from Mr. B. F. Coker of Pensacola which won the American Camellia Society Highly Commended Certificate in Jacksonville in 1955. The large imbricated white flower is beautifully marked with pink, and usually holds a rosebud center for some days. This variety was released in a very limited quantity during the past season.

Several of the Rubel seedlings are finally being released by Cliff Harris' Longview Nursery, Mobile. HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II and WALTER D. BELLINGRATH

are already available. My favorite, however, is MRS. CLIFF HARRIS, a large semidouble pink bloom with wide white margins. This seedling has not been released.

Other highly praised seedlings that I did not see include MARY LUCAS, a very large semidouble red flower with white variegations from Hattiesburg, Mississippi; BEECHWOOD, a semidouble pink moiréed white from the Mayer Israel collection at Covington, Louisiana; DR. JONAS SALK; and AARON'S RUBY, a seedling developed by Mrs. Ruby Aaron Ragusa, Lake Charles, Louisiana. It is stated that the flowers on the latter variety have a unique shade of red.

NOTICE OF ELECTION — PACIFIC COAST TERRITORY

This is the year for members of the Society who reside in the Pacific Coast Territory to nominate and elect Directors-at-Large and State Directors from California, Oregon and Washington, for terms of three years.

Nominations and subsequent voting will be by means of mail ballots. On or about October 14, 1956, nominating blanks in the form of double postal cards will be mailed to each member who resides in the Pacific Coast Territory. These members should indicate on the return portion of the cards their choice for two Directors-at-Large from their Territory, and for one State Director from their respective states.

A Nominating Committee, composed of members in the Pacific Coast Territory, to be appointed by President Marbury, will place on the final ballot the name of the member who receives the highest number of nominating votes for each Directorate, together with such additional names as the Committee shall designate.

Official postal card ballots, containing the names of the nominees, will be mailed to voting members on or about November 16, 1956. The members should use the return portion of the cards to indicate their vote for TWO Directors-at-Large and ONE State Director from their respective states. These ballots should be completed and mailed to the Secretary in time to reach him by January 14, 1957. It is not necessary or desirable for voters to sign their ballots. This practice is confusing at times, as we do not know, without consulting the records, whether such names are those of candidates or voters.

Newly elected members of the Directorate shall take office at the Annual Meeting which will be held in Macon, Georgia, February 14-16, 1957.

As Sam Harn used to say—Watch the mails for these postal cards and do not consign them to the wastebasket as advertising matter.

NEW VARIETIES REGISTERED

There is presented herewith, solely for the record, a list of new varieties of camellias that have been registered with the American Camellia Society since August 16, 1955. The customary full and complete descriptions will be published in the 1956 Yearbook. Unless otherwise indicated all the plants are *Camellia japonica*.

NAME OF VARIETY	REG. NO	APPLICANT'S NAME AND ADDRESS
Aaron's Ruby	251	Mrs. Ruby Aaron Ragusa, Lake Charles, La.
Betsy Baker (Sasanqua)	249	Mrs. Elizabeth Hicklin, Columbia, S. C.
David Wirth	255	Ernest A. Judice, New Orleans, La.
Dorothy Rose	253	Thomas Eagleson, Port Arthur, Texas
Faith	252	Mrs. Robert E. Brodie, Biloxi, Miss.
Faye Wheeler	256	Central Georgia Nurseries, Macon, Ga.
Irma Judice	254	Ernest A. Judice, New Orleans, La.
Kitty Berry	257	Central Georgia Nurseries, Macon, Ga.
Marjorie Huckabee	258	Central Georgia Nurseries, Macon, Ga.
Nellie McGrath	250	Mrs. B. J. Welp, Jr., Jacksonville, Fla.
Sallie Mayes	259	Central Georgia Nurseries, Macon, Ga.

IN MEMORIAM



Thomas Jefferson Stewart
1881 - 1956

Thomas Jefferson Stewart was born in Jones County, Georgia, August 21, 1881, and died January 14, 1956, in the same house in which he was born.

At an early age he moved with his family to Macon, Georgia, where he attended school and entered into business. He became associated with Burden, Smith & Company in 1901 and continued that association for the remainder of his active life. He became president of the firm in 1937.

On account of failing health, he retired from business in 1945 and moved to the old family home in Jones County, near Macon. This place had long been a source of great pleasure and satisfaction to him. It was his mother's ancestral home which he had purchased in 1921 and had been privileged to restore. He surrounded the lovely old house with gardens containing a vast collection of flowers and shrubs. Many of the shrubs he grew from seeds gathered from a number of foreign countries. Roses, lillies, azaleas, and camellias each had their place. It was after a visit in 1925 to the Magnolia and Middleton Gardens at the height of the blooming season that he became a camellia enthusiast of the first order.

In 1932 he and Mr. Henry Conner, Macon, Georgia, were instrumental in organizing the first Camellia and Azalea Society of America. Mr. Stewart became the first president of this society. Under the guidance of this organization many successful shows were staged, and through the influence and enthusiasm of Mr. Stewart many other people developed an interest in camellias and azaleas.

Mr. Stewart was also the first president of the Men's Garden Club of Macon, which was organized in 1938. For many years he was an active member of the Bibb County Flower Club. He was also active as a member of the American Rose Society. Through his activities in these groups, his interest in and enthusiasm for plants and gardens was transmitted to others. His greatest pleasure was sharing his flowers and flower interest with others.

To his wife, a Charter Member of the American Camellia Society, goes the sympathy and condolences of the members of the American Camellia Society.

Macon, Georgia

H. T. CONNER

February 21, 1956



Robert Girling
1900 - 1955

Although Robert Girling has gone to his heavenly reward, his camellias are still blooming beautifully. Thus, through flowers, the spirit of a departed friend remains with us.

Robert Girling's grandfather, Robert Nash Girling, came to this country from England in 1870, and settled in New Orleans. An outbreak of yellow fever caused the family to flee to Holmesville, Mississippi. The grandfather, like the legendary Johnny Appleseed, brought from England seeds and plants of many kinds, including eight japonicas. One was a Lady Hume's Blush—the other seven varieties have not been identified.

Robert Girling was born in Holmesville on December 5, 1900, and lived on the home place settled by his grandfather. He continued the latter's friendly habit of growing plants and flowers and giving them to friends and neighbors. Robert was a mail carrier and was loved by his patrons. His real self was expressed in his camellias; the experiments he ventured; and the plants he propagated and distributed. Today thousands of people enjoy camellias because his love for flowers, inherited from his grandsire, became concentrated in the genus *Camellia*.

McComb boasts the slogan "The Camellia City of America" and every time the slogan is repeated, tribute is paid to the memory of Robert Girling, for he did more than his part to help our city achieve that distinction.

O. C. COTTEN

McComb, Mississippi
February 27, 1956

Mrs. William B. White

Mrs. William B. White, a Charter Member of the American Camellia Society, died in Augusta, Georgia, August 2, 1955.

Mrs. White's passing leaves a void in the history of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, of which she was a lifelong member; in the life of the Widows' Home where, as President of the Board of Directors for 15 years, she was the guiding spirit; and in the activities of the Sand Hills Garden Club. She was a Charter Member of this club

and served as Treasurer from its inception in 1926. Because of her vital interest in these organizations, she made valuable contributions in many ways to their services.

Mrs. White shared with her late husband a deep love for flowers and a very particular enthusiasm for camellias. Together they created a gracious, hospitable home, surrounded by a garden filled with a quantity of fine specimen trees, plants, shrubs, and flowers, and many architectural features. They traveled extensively in Europe and in the Orient, and, during the course of these travels, gained a wide knowledge of plants and flowers which was evidenced in the creation of their garden. Mr. and Mrs. White gave much pleasure to many people in generously opening their garden to all visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. White exhibited blooms from their valuable and comprehensive collection at numerous camellia shows, and were the recipients of many ribbons. They were the only amateurs ever to be awarded the Buckley Medal by the Garden Club of America for outstanding horticultural achievement in a camellia show sponsored by the Sand Hills Garden Club of Augusta.

Mr. and Mrs. White were always eager to support any project planned to arouse interest in camellias, and encouraged culture of the genus in every garden, large or small. They believed that exhibitions at camellia shows were one of the best ways to stimulate interest in these plants. For the purpose of encouraging growers to exhibit in the shows staged by the Sand Hills Garden Club, and as a memorial to her husband, Mrs. White provided for the awarding each year of a beautiful silver trophy to the amateur grower whose entry was adjudged the Best Flower grown in the open.

"Miss Nina" delighted to cut her flowers and give them to friends, and in so doing revealed many of her inimitable and endearing characteristics. She was regal in bearing, gracious in manner, and generous in response to love and affection; she had the faculty of expressing kindness in joy, thoughtfulness in sorrow, and of producing and sharing beauty immeasurably. She leaves vivid recollections in the memory of every one who was privileged to know her.

WILLIAM B. JONES

Augusta, Georgia
March 13, 1956

THE SMALL CAMELLIA GARDEN

SARAH GILLESPIE, Hattiesburg, Mississippi

In gardening, two facts remain constant, it takes time and it takes money to grow flowers.

By reason of these facts, the home owner with a small space available for garden-purposes often has a great advantage over his neighbor with an acre or more to fill with shrubs and flowers.

Naturally, every camellia fancier at times dreams of acres and acres of fine blooming plants, but in reality only a small number of growers are that fortunate. Those with big dreams and small yards must endeavor to get the best possible results from their available space. It is in this necessity that their great advantage lies, for quite satisfactory results can be obtained by thoughtful selection of varieties and equally careful use of the limited space.

Intelligent planning will make it possible for any camellia grower to produce

better flowers per plant in a small garden than can be obtained by a grower who has sufficient space and funds to have hundreds of varieties. A reasonable number of plants can be given that individual care that they need; this is not possible in the large garden unless the owner is able to afford a retinue of experienced people employed for just that purpose.

This care includes a must, pruning, which too often is neglected. Correct use of the clippers removes dead branches and those which show evidence of die-back, and general pruning is necessary to remove weak branches which are not likely to produce either desirable growth or buds. Pruning of camellias is an every-year chore to keep the interior of the plants from becoming too dense, to remove low weeping branches which lie on the ground, and to control, within reason, the growth of the plant with respect to size and shape.

Individual care includes such extras as the addition of small amounts of special fertilizer, iron sulphate or its equivalent, and other supplements as a boost to plants whose condition may not be up to par with others in the garden.

Individual care includes the removal of excess buds so that the energy of the plant can be channeled into the blooms which the plant can support. Another extra attention is the erection of temporary shade to protect a particularly choice bloom, or protect the plant from the hot summer sun.

General attention which all plants must have includes spraying for pests and diseases, proper feeding and watering. All of this takes time and the amount of time is in direct relation to the number of plants in the possession of the gardener.

Another advantage to the small gardener, and particularly to the beginner, is that he can learn from larger growers which varieties of camellias are best suited to his needs. This he gets from observation and conversation. The larger grower can afford some poor performers, but the space cannot be given to these prima donnas in the smaller garden.

While we believe that Hattiesburg is unquestionably one of the best areas in the country in which to grow camellias, it is a fact that some varieties give more satisfactory results than others. Whether this is due to the climate or to the variety itself is questionable. At times the varieties which are top performers here occasionally get a knock-out blow from the weather. In general the semidouble varieties have greater cold resistance than the complete imbricated double types. Several years ago there was a hard early-November freeze here. Later in the season the semidouble forms bloomed normally, but Mathotiana and Glen 40 blooms were about the size of a silver dollar, and there was a considerable bud drop.

Performance in a given locality is the first criteria in selecting varieties. Other factors to be considered, some of which are a matter of individual taste, are color, form, blooming season, and type of growth.

In color there is red, white, pink, and variegated; in form there is single, semi-double, incomplete double, peonyform, and complete imbricated double. There may be variations within these forms.

Considering the blooming season, there are the early, mid-season bloomers, and late varieties.

Some camellias are fast growers, others slow; some have tall, compact columnar forms; some are low and spreading; and others are upright and spreading.

The selection of ten different varieties of camellias for the small gardener is a difficult task, and one that is not likely to meet with the approval of other growers. However, we suggest the following varieties for the novice camellia fancier and the person with small space:

Arejishi—One of the earliest bloomers, often beginning in July. It has one of the longest blooming periods of all the japonicas, beginning as early as July and extending into February. The flower is a bright red, irregular double. The plant is attractive with light green heavily serrated foliage. It is a loose erect grower.

Daikagura—Another early bloomer, but not as early as Arejishi and with a shorter blooming period. The rose and white variegated form is attractive, and there is the solid rose, pale pink and white from which to choose. The plant is compact and a fairly slow grower.

Mathotiana—The old reliable and old favorite mid-season double; red and tinged with purple in cold weather, and at times opening finally to show stamens. Not as showy or as expensive as Mathotiana Supreme or the new fimbriated Flowerwood, but a must for every list. There also is a variegated variety. The plant is a rapid compact grower.

Alba Plena—One of the oldest and most popular whites, with a complete double imbricated form. A late early or early mid-season performer, it is wonderful for corsages and quite a sight when in full bloom. A slow round headed grower.

Clower White—A loose irregular double introduced by Mr. T. S. Clower of Gulfport, Mississippi. A fine performer here with a slightly weeping habit of growth.

Elegans Variegated—Another old favorite which still is one of the finest camellias. A tall droopy grower with most attractive pink and white blossoms; there are also sports with solid colors—rose, pale pink, and a new white. The form is semidouble with a mass of petaloids in the center opening to show the stamens.

Herme—Another old timer with a pink and white, delightfully fragrant semidouble flower. It can be depended upon to sport a solid red bloom and, when older, possibly other variations. There are a number of recognized sports. A tall compact grower.

Thelma Dale—One of the loveliest pinks in the catalogues, introduced by J. S. Bradford of Ocean Springs, Mississippi. A semidouble, it often opens to show a rose-bud form in the center. There is the variegated Charlotte Bradford and the white splashed with pink, Mrs. Baldwin Wood. A rapid compact grower.

Ville de Nantes—The Villes, red and variegated, together with the several Audussons and Donckelarii are the backbone of the mid-season camellias. It is difficult to select any one of the three varieties; however, Ville de Nantes, because of its staying qualities, is my choice. At times the blooms greatly resemble Donckelarii, but when the weather is cold the Ville will show fimbriation and rabbit ears. There is a solid cherry red, and a greatly varying variegated form, both semidouble forms. The plant is compact and a rapid grower.

Blood of China (Victor Emmanuel)—A beautiful blood red, irregular double. This variety ushers out the camellia season. It usually begins blooming after the first of the year and extends its season into April. The plant is a rounded compact grower.

One important point about these fine varieties—none is expensive.

ACROSS THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Members of the Society, and many others, will be distressed to learn that Judge Arthur W. Solomon is in the hospital at Savannah recuperating from injuries received as the result of an automobile accident. The Judge, together with his daughter and son-in-law were returning from the Charlotte show on March 11, when the brand new Buick driven by Mr. Mayer was struck by a speeding car driven by one of the country's re-emancipated citizens. The Judge suffered several fractured ribs, a slight back injury, a bruised hand and several lacerations on his face. Mrs. Mayer was bruised and scratched, and Mr. Mayer was thrown from the car, apparently without serious injury.

To judge from the comments in a letter dictated in the hospital on March 13, the Judge, as might be expected, was taking this incident in his stride. He expressed regret that he would not be able to fulfill his promise to Mr. Marbury and write an article on the Charlotte show. He also requested that a supply of stationery be sent to him to enable him to devote some of his enforced inactivity to the affairs of the Society. Here's hoping that by the time this Quarterly goes to press the Judge will be back at 702 W. Anderson Street, Savannah, none the worse for this senseless accident.

* * * * *

Can anyone give a better definition of Society members than this one? "Members of the American Camellia Society are charming persons who winter amid the camellia shows; summer in their gardens or libraries reading camellia literature and catalogues; spring for the best of the new varieties; and fall for any variety that is highly publicized."

* * * * *

Sam Harn used to say that nothing made him happier than slitting the throats of envelopes and dragging out checks for memberships. After breasting an unprecedented flood of renewals and applications for new members for the past 30 days, we know just how he felt. We were even able to read without howls of anguish the letter from Mrs. J. B. Kilbride, who expressed great disappointment because *only* 12 members (nine of which are new ones) were enrolled at the Atlanta Camellia Show, and hoped they could do better next year. Don't worry, Mrs. Kilbride, we welcome such "disappointing" letters. (Other camellia show officials please note.)

Another class of letters that are read with great interest and appreciation are the ones containing favorable comments on the Quarterlies and Yearbooks. We take this opportunity to express our thanks to the many members who have written in this vein.

* * * * *

Paid memberships on March 15, 1956, numbered 4,363, as compared to 4,012 on the same day last year. So far, 500 new members have joined the Society this year. In view of the fact that the past two camellia seasons have been disappointing, the enrollment of so many members at this comparatively early date is a healthy sign.

Incidentally, annual memberships are for the calendar year — January 1 through December 31. The April issue of the Quarterly will be the last one that will be mailed to members who have not paid their dues for 1956. If you find a renewal slip in the front of your Quarterly, please be reminded that your name will be placed on the delinquent list unless or until you pay your 1956 dues.

* * * * *

An Apology: The roster published in the 1955 Yearbook failed to indicate that Mr. William H. Hightower, Jr., Thomaston, Georgia, is a Life Member of the Ameri-

can Camellia Society. Mr. Hightower's membership card is filed in the Life Membership drawer, and we can give him no satisfactory answer for our failure to indicate his correct status in the Yearbook. We hope he will overlook our shortcoming in this respect.

* * * * *

An Announcement: Mr. Roger L. Main, Jacksonville, Florida, is the most recent member to become a Life Member of the Society. Mr. Main has been a Sustaining Member since 1949. This is a good start—last year our first new Life Member was not enrolled until the middle of December.

* * * * *

Have you received your copy of the chain letter in re scions, and/or a large supply of top quality scions? Mr. Buxton White, the Albemarle Gardener, has this to say about chain letters in his column in the Elizabeth City (N. C.) *Independent Star*:

"This chain letter goes to prove that you can be a good gardener and a good grafter at one and the same time. But if you do not want to graft scions, they might be rooted and given to grafting friends. Want to get in on the racket and be given, postpaid, just lots and lots of "top varieties"? Here's your chance. However, if you are just a moocher, maybe you should not have taken up with camellias in the first place."

* * * * *

If the chap who originated the phrase "As capricious as a woman" had said instead, "As capricious as a camellia plant," he would have coined the perfect simile. Your Secretary cites the behavior of camellias in two gardens in Gainesville during the past winter to support this contention.

The past winter was "most unusual" for Florida. I did not keep a daily temperature record, so cannot give any figures. But if the thickness of the ice broken in my bird bath almost daily was a criterion, it was cold. With three exceptions, pickable blooms on some 125 bushes in my own garden were few and far between. The exceptions, Donckelarii, Magnoliaeflora and Pink Perfection, were masses of exceptionally good flowers week in and week out, thick ice or thin ice.

At the same time, in Sam Harn's garden, located about a mile distant, you could not see the bushes for the flowers. In the house you could not turn around without knocking over vases, bowls, even buckets, full of the choicest blooms. Visitors left loaded down with flowers. The plants ignored their scheduled blooming seasons and just bloomed — early, midseason and late flowering varieties put on a contest that started early and lasted for months.

Yes suh, I say that when it comes to capriciousness, camellias are the mostest!

* * * * *

The following report on control of camellia flower blight in Georgia was taken from the annual report of the Georgia Department of Entomology for the period ending June 30, 1955:

Camellia flower blight has apparently been eradicated from Fulton County (Atlanta) but a dangerous situation still exists in Augusta. At the present time there are 20 properties in Augusta known to be infected with this disease. Three new properties were found, but all were in the quarantined area. The first year of the Department's eradication program in that locality has been completed. All camellia plants on infected properties were disbudded and the soil under the plants treated with a fungicide on four different occasions. The same treatment will be repeated in 1955-56, plus

two additional soil treatments. An intensive survey in 47 counties in the state failed to reveal the presence of the disease in any other section.

This serious fungus disease poses a serious threat to the nurseries of the state and to all private camellia plantings, and every effort is being made to eradicate the disease in Georgia.

Camellia growers in Georgia, and elsewhere in the South, will be distressed to learn of the death of Mr. C. H. Alden, who in his capacity as Director of the Georgia Board of Entomology took a very active part in the camellia flower blight control work. Mr. W. B. Blasingame has been appointed Director to succeed Mr. Alden.

* * * * *

Mrs. W. R. Daniel, Thomasville, Georgia, in sending her report on the Thomasville camellia show, passed on the following interesting and appealing information:

"We know that Garland Heisler's father (mother, no doubt, worked also) raised the variegated Tomorrow bloom which won the Best in Show award, but Garland, whom I would guess is about ten years old, brought the bloom and entered it in the show. I was told that he came to Thomasville from Tallahassee alone on the bus, carrying the flower in a shoe box. It was his only entry. Thus we see again where it takes only one bloom to win. Garland had plenty to take back home—a number of ribbons, a silver bowl and a silver tray."

It occurs to your Secretary that there is more to this story than meets the eye, or ear, and, furthermore, it presents a strong argument against cancellation of camellia shows except under impossible conditions. It is reasonable to assume that Garland, encouraged by his success at Thomasville, will evolve into an ardent camellia enthusiast. But what would have been the outcome had show officials become panicky and canceled on short notice? (Mrs. Daniels stated the weather had been inclement for a month prior to the opening of the show). Had the lad arrived in Thomasville only to learn that he had made the trip for nothing, it is equally reasonable to assume that his interest in camellias would have been blighted.

Incidentally, the attendance at the Thomasville show was "up" and the quality of the blooms was as good as any exhibited in previous years.

* * * * *

To some people go all the honor and glory, while others equally deserving of fame are ignored. Last Fall State Director T. S. Clower, Gulfport, Mississippi, achieved nation-wide publicity (even *Time* magazine devoted a paragraph to the event) for the prompt delivery of a letter mailed to him from Waco, Texas, and addressed to "Downtown Furniture Store Run by Two Brothers Who Look Alike, Across Street from Dime Store, Appliance Store on One End of Street, Dry Goods Store at Other." Your Secretary maintains that that address was most complete, descriptive and detailed, as compared to the address on a letter received by him bearing this address:

"American Camellia Society, Box 2398, University Station."

Where was this letter mailed? Gulfport, Mississippi. Who wrote the letter? "One of the Two Brothers Who Look Alike, etc., etc.," If these clues are not sufficient to enable the reader to guess the identity of the sender, we will add that he is a State Director from Mississippi.

* * * * *

We wonder how many members of the Society are in the same class of gardeners as Mr. Nick Brown, Spencer, North Carolina. In a recent letter Mr. Brown commented as follows:

"At the present time, I believe, you will find that as a member of your Society I hold the distinction of not owning a single camellia. . . . I am a lover of flowers. . . . My wife says I do all my flower gardening in the arm chair."

* * * * *

Arrangements have been made with the J. Horace McFarland Company, publishers of Dr. H. Harold Hume's book, *Camellias In America*, whereby orders for the publication may be placed through the office of the Secretary at Gainesville. Members who desire copies of this monumental volume (and who does not?) are urged to place their orders through this office. The price is \$25.50 the copy.

* * * * *

Miss Claudia Lea Phelps desires to bind her copies of the Quarterly, but finds several issues missing from her files. We have been able to fill some of her needs, but do not have extra copies of any of Volumes 1, 2, 3, and 4, or Volume 8, No. 3 (April, 1953).

If any member has copies of these issues that they would like to dispose of, it is suggested that they communicate with Miss Phelps at Box 593, Aiken, South Carolina.

* * * * *

The following comment with regard to the use of powdered sulfur, offered by Mr. Arthur J. Funk, Savannah, Georgia, should have appeared in an earlier issue of the Quarterly. However, growers who are interested may file it for use next year.

"My 1954 and 1955 grafts, over 1,000 (in number), got a bit of new (?) treatment. Just as I was putting on the glass jars, I sprinkled regular powder, not wettable, sulfur lightly on scions and soil under the jars. I did this to inhibit ants, pill bugs, sow bugs and other insect life that had bothered me before. Not a single case did I see of insect activity thereafter. I also noticed the absence of fungi and moles."

* * * * *

Mr. Frederick K. Siegmund, Mobile, Alabama, one of our newest members, asks this question: "I am wondering how many I can get to agree with me that grafting on the increase of the moon will give you one or two times as much growth in a year as grafting on the decrease."

The only reply your Secretary can make to Mr. Siegmund at this time is to state that there are a number of camellia growers in Gainesville who share his belief that grafting should be done on the increase of the moon—and thereby hangs a tale.

Handicapped by a misery in the back that made any physical effort more strenuous than signing the payroll most painful, I got way behind in my grafting. I appealed to several friends to do the work for me. The reaction of each one was identical. He thrust a hand into a pocket, dragged forth a dog-eared calendar, gave it a hasty glance, and stated, "The moon will be just right a week from Sunday; will see you then." On the allotted day they swarmed over the place like a flock of locusts, and went to work on several very large plants like a herd of beavers. Unfortunately, the calendars did not carry a warning that the sap, as well as the moon would be on the rise. Their enthusiasm was soon dampened by jets of sap that shot into their eyes and washed out the scions as rapidly as they were inserted in the bleeding stumps. First aid measures, including application of absorbent packs and drainage tubes in the case of the grafted, and shots of wild moose milk to the graftors, were applied. If those scions survive that flood of sap, I will become a convert to the increase of the moon theory.

In the same letter Mr. Siegmund has this to say:

"I received the membership card and am proud to be a part of such a grand group of men and women. I have never met a camellia fan that was not O.K."

* * * * *

Another letter that warmed the cockles of your Secretary's heart was the one written by Mrs. Hollingsworth Wood, Mount Kisco, New York, and quoted herewith:

"May I express my appreciation for the outstanding work which you have done to make those of us who enjoy camellias more enthusiastic over this happy, beautiful hobby."

* * * * *

There are several other letters of this nature that could be quoted. However, I reckon I had better not copy them for fear that I would become too overcome with emotion to announce to delinquent members, in a loud, vigorous and business-like manner, that

DUES ARE DUE !

THE LIBRARY TABLE

Camellias in America, Revised Edition, pp XVI+568. Illustrated. Published by J. Horace McFarland Co., Harrisburg, Pa., at \$25.50 the copy.

This revised edition of Dr. H. Harold Hume's comprehensive volume is a handsome, complete guide to all aspects of camellia culture as well as the fascinating story of the journey of this romantic shrub from its birthplace in Asia to the gardens of Europe and America. It contains many references to early camellia personalities. Revisions bring the book more up to date. Chapters on *Camellia reticulata*, *C. Sasanqua* and miscellaneous species have been added. Illustrations have been increased to 65 in color and 70 in black and white. The book is divided into four parts—Historical, Botanical, Cultural, and Varietal. It deals with such subjects as history, botany, propagation, planting, culture, classification, varieties, and early camellia literature.

A copy of *Camellias in America* should be in the library of every serious camellia grower, as well as others who would like to be well informed about the *Camellia* in all of its phases. Copies may be ordered through your Secretary, Box 2398, University Station, Gainesville, Florida.

Bonzi-Miniature Trees by Claude Chidamian, pp. V+96, Illustrated. Published by D. Van Nostrand Co., Inc., 120 Alexander Street, Princeton, New Jersey, at \$3.95 the copy.

Now that camellia shows, grafting, and other seasonal activities are things of the past, the camellia enthusiast might well turn his attention to another form of camellia culture—the development of miniature camellia trees, or Bonzi. However, he need not confine his attention to camellias, for other plants, such as coniferous evergreens, deciduous trees, fruit trees, flowering plants and others, lend themselves admirably to Bonzi culture. Mr. Chidamian stresses the fact that while finished Bonzi may be regarded as works of art, there is no magic in their culture. The techniques are based on sound horticultural principles, experience, and patience.

In this book Mr. Chidamian treats in detail the several steps in this fascinating hobby—Bonzi in home and garden; kinds of Bonzi; plants to use; buying, preparing soil, containers, pruning and maintenance. There are 14 plates of Bonzi specimens, and nine drawings depicting the making and handling of miniature trees.

It is within the realm of possibility that future camellia shows will provide competitive classes for Bonzi, as well as blooms and arrangements.

Southern California Camellia Society — *The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature*, pp 104. Illustrated. Published by the Southern California Camellia Society, 40 N. San Rafael Avenue, Pasadena, California, at \$1.50 the copy.

The most recent revision of this popular publication is off the press. This paper-bound booklet deals briefly with such subjects as culture, propagation and techniques of pollinating, and then presents a comprehensive list of varietal names, in alphabetical order, synonyms, description of flower forms, and blooming seasons. There are 10 illustrations in color, and 11 in black and white. The variety illustrated in color on the cover is the most recent winner of the Illges Medal—Reg Ragland.

The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature is a publication that should be in the possession of every camellia grower, large or small. By reason of increased costs for material and labor the price for the book has been increased to \$1.50 the copy, postpaid—a very small charge for a very fine publication.

Japanese Camellia Society—*Camellia Varieties in Japan*, pp. 17: 3 illustrations. Edited by E. Satomi, with Foreword by Ralph Peer. This paper-bound booklet, in English, is devoted to the description of 411 Japanese camellias, including a section on Higo camellias and garden forms of snow camellias. The manner of presentation is similar to that used in the Southern California Camellia Society's nomenclature book.

The publication is a valuable contribution to the literature on the Camellia and presents in a readily available manner the names, both in Japanese and English, of a number of camellias of Japanese origin. Descriptions of additional varieties will appear in future editions. Unfortunately, neither the price of the booklet or the amount of dues in the Japanese Camellia Society are indicated. This information may be obtained by communicating with the Japanese Camellia Society, 834 Kita-terao, Tsurumi-ku, Kokohama, Japan.

NEWS FROM CAMELLIA SOCIETIES

What every entry and placement clerk knows—About a week before the opening date of the Men's Garden Club of Port Arthur, Texas, Dr. L. R. Byrd sent a hurry-up order for 12 copies of the Society's Nomenclatural Cross-Reference Lists. In his letter Dr. Byrd stated that he had not appreciated the great value of these lists until after he had observed how their use had speeded up the work of the entry and placement clerks at another show.

* * * * *

Trying to please everyone is an impossible task. In one mail received recently there was a letter informing us that the Society's Varietal-Name Cards were too small, and another in which we were informed that the cards were too large.

* * * * *

Perusal of the excellent NEWSLETTER published by the Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley explains in part the phenomenal growth of that Society. Organized in January, 1955, there are now 137 members. Of that number, 45 are residents of the District of Columbia; 45 live in Virginia; 42 in Maryland, four in New York and one in Delaware. The other day we received a letter from a gentleman in Storrs, Connecticut, who made inquiry as to how he could join the Potomac Valley Society.

To return to the NEWSLETTER—The January issue was replete with interesting information, both local and national. The several articles dealt with winter care of camellia plants, propagation from seeds, references to outdoor plantings of Sasanquas

and japonicas in Moorestown, New Jersey, and Mrs. R. H. VanGilder's prize-winning letter in the contest, "The Plant I would Most Like to Receive for Christmas," conducted by *Flower Grower* magazine. Mrs. Van Gilder's choice? A camellia plant, of course. She stated that, in spite of hurricanes and drought, her Elegans Var. (Elegans Chandler) was behaving very satisfactorily in the "mild climate of southern New Jersey."

* * * * *

At the December, 1955, meeting of the Oregon Camellia Society members enjoyed a skit that will probably be copied and staged by program chairmen of other societies. The skit was a take-off of the widely popular televised "\$64,000 Question." Max Voorhies served as MC, and Mary Johnson made a perfect substitute for Julia Mead. Walter F. Neubert guarded the bank, while Carl Lundquist and Lute Strauss looked more like old-time policemen than old-time policemen themselves. Mrs. Walter Neubert conducted contestants to the box.

The contestants were Mrs. Baugh, Mrs. Kamphaus, Mr. Bixler, and Mr. Callison. The first three won 64-inch camellia plants as prizes, but Mr. Callison, who "goofed" had to content himself with a little tin Volkswagen.

The feature of the February meeting was the selection of the Oregon Camellia Society's "Camellia of the Year." Nominations included Flame, Lady Mary Cromartie, Mrs. Freeman Weiss, Finlandia Var. (Margaret Jack), and Monte Carlo. The latter won the designation "Camellia of the Year" by a large majority. Monte Carlo is a luminous sport of Finlandia, originated by Mr. Barney Goletto, Barney's Nurseries, Milwaukie, Oregon. The large, semidouble, irregular flowers with many yellow stamens, carry all the fine qualities of its parent. The petals have an almost satin sheen.

At the February meeting Mr. Donald Stryker, Langlois, Oregon, reported that his reticulatas, both the wild forms and the Kunmings as well as the Williamsii hybrids (some of which are not on the market in this country), were blooming heavily. Serious camellia growers will be interested to learn that Mr. Stryker has available for distribution several hundred wild-form reticulata seedlings, together with rooted cuttings of *Camellia saluenensis*, *C. fraterna*, *C. cuspidata*, *C. Salicifolia*, *C. Hongkongensis*, and other species, as well as a number of Williamsii hybrids.

* * * * *

The Southern California Camellia Society has made a flower exhibit a part of their seasonal program that should stimulate interest among members, especially among the smaller growers. Blossoms are arranged according to size—those under four inches in diameter are placed on one table, while larger blooms are placed on another one. Separate tables are provided for members who have not won blue ribbons provided by the Society. Competitors are divided into two groups—members with less than 25 plants and members who have more than that number. The scale of points adopted provides three points for each blue ribbon, two points for each red ribbon, and one point each for the white ribbons. A trophy was made available to the winner in each class.

* * * * *

The management of the 1956 camellia show staged by the Jackson (Miss.) Camellia Society at the Edwards Hotel made it as painless as possible for exhibitors to enter blooms. Among other conveniences, exhibitors were enabled to drive into the hotel garage and deliver their blooms to Boy Scouts, who carried them to the registration desk on the second floor. Mr. Hal Everts described himself as the "harried"

and "haggard" General Show Chairman. That seems to be a normal condition among General Show Chairmen. Who has ever seen an unhaggard, or even unharassed General Chairman?

* * * * *

Members of the Men's Tidewater Garden Club, Wilmington, North Carolina, apparently appreciate the fact that after a camellia show has been scheduled for a certain date, and given wide publicity, it should be staged even under the most adverse weather conditions. This feeling is indicated in the following quotation from a letter from Mr. Henry B. Rehder:

"Enclosed is a copy of our schedule. We are very proud of it, and plan not to cancel the show under any conditions."

* * * * *

One never knows what may happen at a camellia show. At the Jacksonville, Florida, show, which is a joint project of the Garden Club of Jacksonville and the Men's Garden Club of Jacksonville, with entries from both clubs, magnificent Donckelarii blooms won the tricolor award in both divisions. When the voting was over, it was learned that one flower was entered by Mrs. Herman Hafele, and the other by Mr. Hafele. The blooms were almost identical, with huge petals of pink splotted with white, or vice versa. A vote taken by the judges to determine the better bloom ended in a deadlock.

At the show in Orlando, Florida, sponsored by the Camellia Society of Central Florida, the award for Best Flower in Show went to a Gigantea. When the bloom was being moved to the place of honor reserved for it, it shattered!

* * * * *

The thanks of the American Camellia Society are extended to Mr. C. H. Gillen, Show Chairman, Men's Camellia Club, New Orleans, Louisiana, and his associates for advertising the Society so extensively in their show program. At the bottom of many of the 52 pages of the program appeared this suggestion "Join the American Camellia Society." In addition, this recommendation was amplified in a quarter-page advertisement. The management published this ad gratis, in spite of the fact that the space could have been sold to one of several applicants.

That the citizens of New Orleans take their camellias seriously is evidenced by the action on the part of Mayor deLesseps S. Morrison, who issued an official proclamation declaring the period February 1-7 as "Camellia Week in New Orleans."

* * * * *

Congratulations to our newest cooperating camellia Society—the Alhambra Garden Club, Mt. Pleasant, North Carolina. In a letter transmitting a copy of the show program, and requesting a show kit, Mrs. O. A. Hamlin stated that the club, which was organized about six months ago, planned to stage a camellia show at Seaside Farms, the home of one of the members, Mrs. J. C. Long. The program is handsome and complete.

* * * * *

Our deadline for the printer is crowding us, so we will have to save for the July Quarterly a number of interesting notes and comments about camellia societies and their activities—especially the number of American Camellia Society memberships sold at their shows. But we can not resist the urge to repeat a theme which permeates each and every Newsletter, Bulletin, or other publications received from local societies. That theme is terse and concise — **DUES ARE DUE!**

NOTICE TO SHOW CHAIRMEN

If you have not furnished the Secretary with a copy of the report on your camellia show, please do so without undue delay. The July Quarterly will feature reports of shows held during the 1955-'56 season.

Pertinent information should include official name of club, show dates, number of years the show has been staged (for example "5th Annual"), approximate number in attendance, number of blooms displayed, number of entries, best flower in show, and winners of the major awards, both out of doors and under glass when separate classes are provided for in the schedule. The name of the General Chairman should also be reported. Additional information of interest might well include unusual staging, special features, theme, commercial and non-competitive exhibits.

Space for all of this information is provided in the standard show report forms which were included in the show kits furnished to each society.

CAMELLIA SHOW DATES

Chairmen of camellia shows are again reminded of the need for informing the Secretary as promptly as possible of the dates on which their shows will be held. The early publication of this information provides a check list to chairmen of other shows and enables them to avoid conflicts in dates. The list of show dates received so far this year follows:

1956	
Florence, S. C. (South Carolina Camellia Society)	Nov. 17-18
1957	
New Orleans, La. (Camellia Division of New Orleans Garden Society)	Jan. 5- 6
Lafayette, La. (Louisiana Camellia Society) Camellia Pageant	Jan. 11
Lafayette, La. (Louisiana Camellia Society) Camellia Show	Jan. 12-13
Covington, La. (Woman's Auxiliary to Christ Episcopal Church)	Jan. 12-13
Orlando, Fla. (Central Florida Camellia Society)	Jan. 19-20
Slidell, La (Ozone Camellia Club)	Jan. 19-20
Port Arthur, Texas (Men's Garden Club of Port Arthur)	Jan. 26-27
Birmingham, Ala. (Men's Camellia Society)	Feb. 2- 3
Gulfport, Miss. (Gulfport Men's Camellia Society)	Feb. 2- 3
Aiken, S. C. (Aiken Camellia Society)	Feb. 2- 3
Savannah, Ga. (Men's Garden Club of Savannah)	Feb. 9-10
New Orleans, La. (Men's Camellia Club of New Orleans)	Feb. 9-10
Macon, Ga. (Middle Georgia Camellia Society)	Feb. 16-17
Columbia, S. C. (Columbia Garden Club)	Feb. 21, 22, 23

A FURTHER REPORT ON DESIROMNIBUS CONTINUALLI SAMHARNII

ARTHUR C. BROWN, Gainesville, Florida

Although *Desiromnibus continualli* Samharnii, more generally known as the giant armor plated scion scrounger, has been recognized as a major pest of camellias ever since Captain Conner swiped the Alba Plena and Variegata from the Emperor Poo Bah and carried them to England in 1792, little or nothing concerning the pest appeared in the literature until the publication of Professor Samuel Camellus Harn's¹ masterly treatise in the American Camellia Quarterly for October, 1952.

¹Professor Harn is the widely known and greatly beloved Executive Secretary Emeritis of the American Camellia Society.—Ed.

As some of Professor Harn's experiments with respect to control measures had not been completed, he was somewhat reluctant to publish at that time. However, well authenticated reports of the appearance of what appeared to be a new strain, the mail-order triple armor plated scion scrounger, forced the conclusion that publication of his findings, even in an incomplete form, would be in the best interests of the camellia industry.

For the benefit of members who do not possess copies of that Quarterly—those who have joined the Society subsequently, as well as older members who, through failure to take advantage of the Society's offer to furnish binders at \$1.50 each, have lost their copies—a resume of Professor Harn's treatise is presented in the following paragraphs.

Description and Life History: The giant armor plated scion scrounger² is unique among insects in that it is the largest pest known to man; it has only two legs, as compared to six legs possessed by other insects and eight by the spiders; and is wholly without wings. In spite of these locomotive handicaps, scion scroungers manage to get around with the greatest of ease and rapidity. In a single day the same specimen has been known to infest collections of rare camellias located hundreds of miles apart.

Armor plated scion scroungers reproduce asexually through grafting. The life span is long; adults do not reach maturity until about a quarter of a century,³ and unless they meet with well deserved accidents they persist for years and years.

Habits: Armor plated scion scroungers differ from other insects in another manner: they are dormant during warm weather—in other words they aestivate, rather than hibernate.⁴ With the approach of cool weather, scroungers emerge from the woodwork of houses and propagating sheds, compost piles, and similar shelters, and begin their depredations. On the whole, the greatest destruction to camellia plants occurs during the months of January and February. Armor plated scion scroungers are highly intelligent, in a low sort of way. They confine their attacks to the rarest or most desirable varieties. By reason of their size, their presence in a camellia planting is readily spotted. On the other hand, attacks on plants are too deft and rapid to be discernible with the naked eye. Mature and experienced

²Although Professor Harn gave this pest the status of a species, he questioned the propriety of dignifying it in this manner, and suggested the probability that it is merely a highly developed super cutworm. If this latter classification is accepted by taxonomists, we recommend the inclusion of the word "delinquent"—delinquent super cutworm or, perhaps, super delinquent cutworm—Ed.

³Maturity is hastened by chance contact with camellia shows, reports of nearby, easily accessible collections of fine varieties, the sight of rare plants in unguarded locations, and similar phenomena.—Ed.

⁴It is rather strange that Professor Harn, who has made a close study of females throughout his adult life—probably longer—failed to note a characteristic of the female scion scrounger. She neither aestivates nor hibernates, but is on the move summer and winter. It is believed that her activities during the summer months are confined to scouting, rather than foraging expeditions.—Ed.

scroungers have a tendency to become more and more aggressive and belligerent,⁵ and should be approached with great caution. They have been known to incapacitate growers with their knife-like appendages, and then dismember the plants at their leisure.

Professor Harn conducted a number of experiments with regard to control measures. He soon learned that insecticides were wholly ineffective. While making applications of that old reliable material, smelly whale-oil soap, he observed another interesting characteristic of scion scroungers. They, in turn, are capable of emitting solutions of soft soap which renders owners of camellia plants helpless—even apologetic.

Use of warning signs, such as "Keep Out," "Beware of the Dog," were also useless. A few young scroungers were deterred for a while, but after their skins had thickened they ignored the signs.

Professor Harn even tried trickery in his efforts to discourage scroungers. He transferred the labels of his more common plants, such as Sarah Frost, Semi Double Blush, etc., to his fine varieties, and vice versa. However, he soon found that this deception was valueless in the case of indigenous specimens, although it was highly irritating to the new mail order strain.⁶

As previously stated, Professor Harn's reason for publishing at that time was the appearance of a new strain of *Desiromnibus continualli*, the mail-order, triple plated armored scion scrounger. It was believed desirable to publish his findings for the benefit of the industry at large. Hopes that this new strain had been eradicated through the application of one or all of Professor Harn's control measures were shattered a short time ago by the appearance of a closely related strain—the multi-graphed wholesale mail-order quadruple brass plated scion scrounger. The appearance of this pest aroused great apprehension among collectors. There was a gathering of the clans to perfect control measures. Collectors who had been exposed to infestation were urged to follow Professor Harn's recommendation with regard to mail-order scroungers, and send carefully prepared, plump and vigorous scions from their stock plants, each one labeled with the name of a very fine variety.

A fiendish plot, and one that died aborning. Camellia growers are the finest people in the world. Gentlemen and sportsmen all, they would blush with shame at the mere thought of being a party to such misrepresentation.

But, being human, it would not be surprising if, in the privacy of their gardens and greenhouses, they will emit from time to time chortles of glee at the thought of the sleepless nights the multigraphed wholesale mail-order quadruple brass plated scion scroungers will spend wondering if, come 1960, they will have the finest collections of Beachacomias in existence.

⁵Here again Professor Harn makes a significant omission. He failed to comment on a characteristic of the female well known to him, i.e. female scion scroungers, for the most part, have most affectionate dispositions, and are easily tamed. Elderly collectors—and Professor Harn is no spring chicken—have made pets out of the females, only to learn later that they had harbored swipers in their bosoms.—Ed.

⁶Some absent-minded growers who adopted this means for discouraging scion scroungers had distressing experiences the following grafting season. Forgetting all about the switch of labels, they cut down plants bearing labels of common varieties and grafted them. About a year later they discovered that they had made stock plants of their finest camellias.—Ed.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY HONORS CAMELLIAS

RALPH PEER, Los Angeles, California



England, the country which brought camellias from the Far East in the 1700's and then forgot them during the early 1900's is now displaying renewed interest in what is actually an important part of the British horticultural heritage.

Once each year, at the Annual Meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society on February 28, the Society Council announces special Awards based upon horticultural activity during the preceding year. The top "Honour" is the Victoria Medal of Honour which may be given only to British scientists or horticulturists. The next category is the Veitch Memorial Medal (either in Gold or Silver) which is given for similar reasons but which is not confined to British citizens. It is also customary to award Honourary Fellowships to distinguished personalities.

It gave me a great deal of personal satisfaction to be notified that I had been awarded the Veitch Memorial Gold Medal "for services to the camellia plant." I can discuss the subject quite freely because it is not a personal matter—the Society considers its awards as having been given to the flowers themselves. It is obvious to anyone attending the Royal Horticultural Society Shows held every two weeks during the winter months that there is a growing interest in camellias. This, I think, is a reflection of camellia activity in the U.S.A., the facts concerning which are consistently made known to the R. H. S. Council at every opportunity.

The actual presentation of the Medal took place in the Old Hall on Vincent

Square, London, erected almost 100 years ago to house the Society. A capacity audience of more than 1,000 Fellows and numerous newspaper correspondents were present for the occasion. The President, the Hon. David Bowes-Lyon, and the Secretary, Brig. C. V. L. Lycett, were seated at a table at the front of a low dais. Behind them were the 24 members of the Council, including many of the world's most distinguished horticulturists. As the Secretary announced each name over the microphone, the person honored came forward to receive his Medal from the President. As to each person, the President recited the reasons for the Award, handed over a small box containing the Medal and shook hands with the recipient.

Although there were many titled persons present, there were no striped trousers and no high hats. This was a simple gardening atmosphere—several recipients of Awards were professional gardeners.

Having flown to London especially for this presentation, I thought it opportune to make inquiries about how camellias survived the recent cold winter in England. It was generally agreed that there was considerable bud damage but that the plants and trees themselves were in good condition. At Leonardslee in Sussex, I saw about 100 camellia trees including a 100-year-old *Camellia reticulata* Robert Fortune which had been through two snow storms with no plant injury other than a few browned leaves.



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YEARBOOKS FOR LIBRARIES

President Marbury has instigated a plan whereby copies of the Quarterlies and Yearbooks will be placed in institutional libraries all over the country. A number of members with whom it has been discussed have pledged their support. Here is the plan:

Public spirited members are urged to take out annual memberships (\$5.00) in the name of a public library, or the library of a school, university, hospital or similar institution. Institutions that are enrolled for 1956 will receive this year's Quarterlies and Yearbook. The latter will be mailed from the printers next Fall and will bear the following inscription:

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Send your checks at once and be the first one in your community to participate in this program. Do not confine your contribution to one year—make it for five, ten, or even fifteen years.

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