

Camellias



Eleanor Grant

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY
VOL. 15, NO. 4
NOVEMBER, 1960

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Camellias

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Volume 15

Number 4

November, 1960

Issued January, March, September and November from the office of the Secretary of the American Camellia Society, Box 465, Tifton, Ga.

Entered as second class matter September 1, 1960, at the Post Office at Tifton, Ga., under Acts of August 24, 1912.

A membership in the American Camellia Society will bring you a bound Yearbook and four issues of *Camellias*, the Journal of the American Camellia Society.

Annual Members—\$6.00; Sustaining Members—\$12.00; Life Members—\$125.00; Patrons—\$100.00 gift to ACS in addition to Life Membership. Make payment to American Camellia Society, Box 465, Tifton, Georgia.

Address Communications to:

Secretary, American Camellia Society,
P. O. Box 465, Tifton, Georgia.

Phones: Office—Tifton 2322
Residence—297

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Let me urge each of you to support your local Camellia society. It deserves our first loyalty. We derive great satisfaction from the bloom displays and the friendly association of local Camellia people.

The state or larger area society deserves support because its function is a wider extension of our Camellia interests and contacts. On the state level many things are possible which the local society can not provide.

The American Camellia Society functions both nationally and internationally. It is supported by the local and state organizations. It provides services which can best be rendered on the national scale. It should excel in the field of Camellia literature. It should furnish many services and provide those uniform standards which promote our hobby everywhere. It should lend every assistance to the organization and success of local and state Camellia organizations. Write ACS if help is needed in organizing a new society.

No Camellia organizations should ever be competitive with each other. Our objectives are identical. Let us move forward with the greatest unity.

Sincerely yours,

L. C. WANNAMAKER.

—ACS—

In the April Journal we stated that we would move to Tifton about June 1st. We loaded the moving van in Gainesville June 1st and moved in our new offices in Tifton, Friday, June 2nd and were in operation Monday, June 5th. The day we moved, we mailed a supplement to the Journal giving our new post office address—Box 465, Tifton, Georgia. We continue to receive fully half our mail addressed to Gainesville, which the post office has to forward to Tifton. There is no part of the office remaining in Gainesville. Please use the new address. We are located in the South Building of the Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station. However, please address our mail to Box 465 and not to the Experiment Station, since this delays its receipt, as it has to be sorted out of the Station's voluminous mail.

WESTWARD HO! SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA 1961

The first time the A. C. S. came to the West Coast for their Annual Meeting was in 1948, at Sacramento, California. After too long a time they came in 1956 to Los Angeles. Now, again in 1961 we will have the pleasure of entertaining the A. C. S. at their 16th Annual Meeting. While advance hotel registration is very gratifying, we are sure many are planning to come but as yet have not made their reservation. May we urge you to do so soon. Headquarters are to be at the "Disneyland Hotel", Anaheim, California. Adjacent to the hotel are several good motels. Those wishing to stay at motels will be furnished a list upon request.

Registration fee will be \$20.00 for the events of Thursday, Friday and Saturday. A fee of \$10.00 will be charged for those attending Saturday's events only. Registration will be available Wednesday evening for early arrivals or pre-registration will be accepted. Registration Chairman is Dr. Cecil E. Eshelman, 14287 Roblar Place, Sherman Oaks, California.

—ACS—

Change of Address

A change of address without notifying the American Camellia Society office is an item of considerable expense, delay, and trouble. First class mail is usually forwarded, but the Journals and other publications sent at second class rates are not forwarded. If your Journal can't be delivered at the address we print, then, the Post Office cuts out the address and returns it to us together with the new address. The Post Office charges for this service. The Journal is thrown away. Even with only a change in P. O. Box number the Post Office will not put 2nd class matter in the new box. Another Journal has to be addressed to the new address and more postage paid. Second class matter cannot be forwarded. Please let us know of any change in address as soon as possible.

Remember to address all correspondence to our new address: American Camellia Society, P. O. Box 465, Tifton, Georgia. Phone 2322.

Coming in the January Issue

Cover of gorgeous new seedling: ELIZABETH DOWD, grown by Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Ashby, Charleston, and named for Mrs. Frank Dowd of Charlotte.

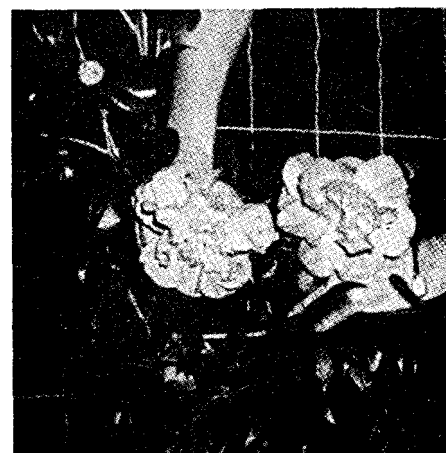
We hope to announce a colored slide contest with appropriate prizes, if approved at the Fall Meeting of the ACS. Get your cameras, film and flash bulbs ready. We are interested in closeups of new varieties.

New varieties will be described, more information on culture, grafting, hybridizing, descriptions of gardens, etc.

Results of the Atlantic Coast elections will be given.

—ACS—

Our Cover Flower



ELEANOR GRANT is a six inch, delicate rose-colored seedling with ten large guard petals and six or more upright petaloids intermixed with a "pin cushion" of stamens. Last season, insects decided to devour the leaves and flower buds of the blooming size plants so Mrs. Adam (Eleanor) Grant sprayed and dusted with everything recommended, causing the buds to drop. As a result, no flowers were available to enter in shows last season. This is an early bloomer, starting in October and lasting throughout most of the season. This is a magnificent flower of which no painting or photograph can convey a true picture. It should be shown in shows this season. Watch for it. Mrs. Grant of Dothan, Alabama, says it will not be offered for sale until next season (1961-62).

From Now To Show Time

R. F. DICKSON, SR., Pasadena, California

Before I outline to you what we are going to consider, let me say that I lean on the experience of others for information. I began reading camellia literature two years before I had a garden in which to start a camellia collection. The garden was started in 1950 but I joined the American Camellia Society in 1948 just to get the Yearbook and Quarterlies that friends were reading. The points that I am sure we should all follow from now till show time are: clean up, fertilization, pruning, summer watering, disbudding, and root stock—for you will be getting scions for summer grafting after seeing what new flowerers turn up in the shows.

Since my remarks must be brief to cover the ground in a limited time, I shall use several citations from books you either have or may borrow from your own library.

What we should do first is in the same category as going to your dentist. Nothing to look forward to, but it must be done: CLEAN UP. On page 283 of *Camellia Culture*, Dr. A. G. Plakidas says, when writing about flower blight:

"The best approach to control is a thorough sanitation program, to include the removal and destruction of all flowers suspected of infection. Removal of fallen flowers is especially important. Since the sclerotia of flower blight do not germinate the same season they are formed, it is not necessary to remove the flowers immediately as they fall, but they should be removed and destroyed before they disintegrate."

In this same article he suggests that owners of small collections, who suspect that they have flower blight present, can control it by using asphalt paper as a ground cover during the blooming season.

Since most of us have many plants in containers and cans, it is a good idea to look for damaged cans while cleaning up the place. Eroded cans will be the cause of a lot of fertilizer loss. If it is not practical to recan the damaged ones immediately, a lot can

be carried along for several months by repairing with friction tape. I brush my cans with a wire brush and patch holes with the tape, and it lasts for several months if applied on dry can.

After you finish the clean up you are ready to start your fertilization program. We all know that there are many approaches to this problem. I am going to give you the opinion of a winner of four sweepstakes this past season. It is from Reg Ragland's chapter in *Camellia Culture*, pages 31-32. I will not go into formula now for I have been satisfied with the good camellia foods available here in Southern California. The question of quantity to me is most important as I lost several fine plants before I learned not to be generous with fertilizer. Here is what Reg Ragland says about it:

"One of the most important things about fertilization, of course, is the amount of fertilizer given each time. This will depend not only on the size of the container, but on the size of the plant and its general condition. The basic amounts can be determined with reference to the amount of soil in the containers as follows: for containers having 1 quart of soil, $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon; for those having 1 gallon, 1 level teaspoon; for those having 2 gallons (such as 10-inch clay pots), 2 teaspoons; for those having $3\frac{1}{2}$ gallons (such as the 'egg-can' common in Southern California), 1 tablespoon; for a 17-inch tub or box (which contains about 9 gallons of soil mix), $\frac{2}{3}$ cup; for a 21-inch tub or box (which contains about 15 gallons of soil mix), 1 full cup; and for a 24-inch tub or box (which contains 20 gallons of mix), $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups. The size of the plant, however, should be taken into consideration. Sometimes a plant has been left in a container too long and is rather large for the size of the container. In such event, give it a little more fertilizer than the quantities prescribed above. For example, if a

plant contained in an 'egg can' is large and healthy, it can be given a heaping tablespoonful of food rather than the level tablespoonful mentioned above. Again, if a plant in a gallon can is large and healthy it can be given a heaping teaspoonful rather than a level teaspoonful. The condition of the plant should also be taken into account. A plant that seems to lack vigor or appears unhealthy should not be fed at all, but should have its root system examined and be put in another container. If the plant does not seem unhealthy but is slightly subnormal in size, cut down on the feedings a little. For example, if the plant in the gallon can is relatively small, give it a scant teaspoonful of food instead of a full teaspoon. In case of doubt feed too little rather than too much because camellia plants can be permanently damaged or even killed through over fertilization. Regardless of the size of the container, or of the plant, or its apparent condition, there is one MUST about fertilization, and that is that the plant should be thoroughly watered before and after feeding."

Many gardeners plan to feed once each six weeks for 4 times starting around the middle of March. So far as my own growing goes, and since I have plenty of time for my garden, I feed on the light side once a month starting around April 1st and ending in August.

Now comes that part of growing camellias where I was careless until I learned by experience how very vital it is—PRUNING. Let me quote excerpts from the 1955 American Camellia Yearbook which carries a most complete article on the subject, authored by Mr. Harold Page of Lafayette, California.

"A recent article in the American Camellia Quarterly, written by Roy T. Thompson, Glendale, California, laid considerable stress on maintaining 'Plant Momentum.' The point was made that a plant should never be permitted to stand still. . . . This matter of plant renewal is an important factor to consider in growing camellias. We know the leaves

remain on the plant for about three seasons. After that they have lost their usefulness and nature sees to it that they drop off. Likewise many laterals have become so atrophied and hardened that they could not possibly produce a good flower at their tips. The sap has too far to go through a weakened cambium layer. Such poor wood is only a liability to the plant."

I quote from Mr. Page and Mr. C. Norwood Hastie, page 102, *Camellia Culture*:

"The health and physical well being of the camellia plant require that the pruner determine the difference between good wood and wood which should be removed for the benefit of the plant. One method suggested for the consideration of the novice is that he examine the twigs growing in the shady interior of the plant and compare them with the vigorous shoots on the outside of the plant. It will be noted that some are dead; others will be of small caliber; still other twigs will have, at best, only one weak terminal bud and no lateral shoots, in contrast with top shoots with two or more well-developed terminal leaf buds, and lateral buds along the stem. . . . Examination of any branch will readily disclose the number of growth buds; color and texture of the bark show great contrast; that of interior twigs is dull and brown and gray, rough and knotty; bark of vigorous apical shoots is light brown and smooth. The interior twigs which have been described should be removed. The ideally pruned, mature camellia plant is one with an interior completely free of twigs and foliage. The outer perimeter of the plant will then become more dense and symmetrical. The plant will be given greater health and vigor as well as improved appearance."

In my own garden I follow two plans when I prune. One for contour, the other for flowers. I have several large specimens that we grow as part of the over-all landscape. Their blooms are only incidental. These get pruned to size and shape. When I prune

plants from which I hope to get some show flowers, shape is secondary. There I try to prune so as to get good wood in position so blooms can develop entirely away from branches and foliage that will interfere with the opening blooms taking their true symmetry. I can tell you as a judge who looked at a lot of fine flowers this past season that I saw red ribbons going to specimens that could have taken blues had they not been malformed by nearby branches.

Now comes our really important point, the one on which the pay-off of all your other work depends. *Summer Watering*. Here I want to emphasize the point by giving you from *Camellia Culture*, page 343, what a U. S. Department of Agriculture soil scientist, V. S. Aronovici, has to say:

"The camellia grower must consider water as the most important factor in maintaining ideal growing conditions. How much water is required per day and how often should plants be irrigated? Here we are faced with several controlling environmental factors; rainfall, average air temperature, maximum air temperature, daylight hours, humidity, wind velocities, sunshine hours, and others. These climatic factors vary from one broad climatic zone to another. Within each climatic zone we have microclimatic conditions such as exposure, shading by other plantings, and elevation. When the variability of plant growth habits, leaf density, and plant size are added, we are almost certainly forced to approach the problem of water requirements from the standpoint of individual plant needs on a day to day basis."

I urge all who do not already pay close attention to watering to get on the ball. Watch your plants and you will soon be able to quickly tell those that need water. I never water unless they seem to need it. Today I doubt that I watered more than thirty per cent of my plants. Last week, with all the drying winds that we had, close to 100 per cent got water.

Up to this point all of our thinking has been directed at all of our plants except *Reticulatas*. In general, what

has been said can be directed at them, but, for best results with your *Reticulatas*, I suggest that you go to page 178 of your *Camellia Culture* and read what Ralph Peer and Howard Asper say. This will bring out the salient points that time does not permit mentioning here.

Now, last but certainly not least in growing show flowers, comes the dis-budding question. Start as early as you can. Why use up plant energy to grow buds to throw away just before blooming time. I try to leave buds of several sizes so as to have flowers over as long a period as I can. Try to leave your buds so that the blooms develop in the most favorable positions as relates to show time. I like to leave them, when I can, so rain damage at show time will not hurt them.

Now, before ending these remarks, let's dwell a few moments on our root stock for the February and March grafts. Take it from one who has tried just about every kind, throw away everything but healthy vigorous plants, be they seedlings or just something you do not want in your collection any longer. Some of my real disappointments were due to tying good scions on doubtful stock. One thing more that I follow and find a must, DO NOT fertilize after May 15th if you intend to use the plant the following season. For more data about grafting, see your *Camellia Culture*, page 131.

And now may I leave you with this quotation from Epictetus who lived in Rome during the first century of our era: "He is a man of sense who does not grieve for what he has not—but rejoices in what he has."

—ACS—

In the final shuffle of putting the September Journal together the caption for the brave people with the snowbound camellia on page 19 was misplaced. It should have read: "THE SHOW MUST GO ON decided Co-chairmen S. N. Doolittle and Mrs. Robert H. Boling of Brookhaven, Miss., who were besieged with calls from interested camellia flower show enthusiasts who called all day Saturday to see if the show was still scheduled despite the snow. Since most of the blooms had been cut and carefully prepared on Friday, the chairmen decided to go ahead with the show on Sunday, which was well attended."

Why Burn Show Flowers?

DR. VICTOR M. CUTTER, JR., Greensboro, N. C.

Every Camellia show director has had the experience as his show draws to a close of being approached by spectators with a request to take some of the blossoms home or by eager propagators who wish to save or graft some of the scions from the exhibition blooms. It is sometimes difficult or even embarrassing to have to explain why the American Camellia Society requires that all blooms exhibited at its sanctioned shows must be destroyed on the premises. Frequently, show officials themselves do not understand the reason behind this requirement and permit blooms to be taken away. Yet a simple and logical explanation for this procedure could hardly fail to convince the most persistent flower lover of the dangers of removing blossoms from the site of a show.

The situation set up by the American Camellia Society that all show blooms must be destroyed immediately following the show is designed simply to prevent the spread of a single disease, Camellia Flower Blight. This may come as a surprise to the uninformed flower enthusiast who, gazing at the perfection of the exhibited flowers, would hardly imagine that some of them might already be infected with one of the most troublesome of all Camellia diseases. Obviously no one would knowingly enter a blighted flower in a show but the difficulty arises from the fact that until the symptoms of this disease appear, no one, even the exhibitor, can detect an infected flower. The symptoms of petal blight rarely appear until the blossom has been open for several days and frequently not until the flower begins to wilt.

Petal blight caused by the fungus *Sclerotinia Camelliae* is a widespread disease on the West Coast and in parts of the Southeast, and it can be introduced and become established wherever Camellias can be grown. This disease is spread from sclerotia or reproductive structures of the casual organism which are formed in

the base of withered Camellia petals which fall to the ground. These sclerotia overwinter in the surface soil and the following Spring produce fruiting bodies which discharge millions of microscopic air borne spores. These spores falling on a Camellia petal infect it and the subsequent growth of the fungus within the petal results in the familiar brownish discoloration and wilting of petal blight. If the blighted flower is not destroyed but falls to the ground new sclerotia develop in the withered flower parts and the reproductive cycle of the fungus is completed. It takes several days between the time that the Sclerotinia spores fall on the petals before the growth of the fungus is apparent within them and thus it would be quite possible for an infected blossom to be brought to a show, exhibited, and then removed before any symptoms of blight appeared. Now if such an infected flower were taken from the show and then carelessly discarded on a compost pile or trash heap in the vicinity of Camellias, the petal blight organism might well become established to the detriment of all the camellia growers in the area.

This particular disease organism does not attack or live on any part of the Camellia plant except the petals, and it does not spread from flower to flower but only from flowers to the soil and back to flowers the following Spring. Hence, it is perfectly safe to use the scions bearing even an infected bloom for grafting or rooting provided the blossom is carefully removed and destroyed. This is true because sclerotia are formed only in flower tissue and the fungus does not invade the leaves or stems or the unopened buds. In short, only the flower is concerned in the spread of this disease.

Of course, show officials must be particularly cautious to see that the exhibited blossoms are actually incinerated rather than simply carried off to the nearest dump or they will perhaps themselves be guilty of disseminating the disease. This disease

is troublesome enough to warrant the greatest care in preventing its spread, and it would be a thoughtless flower lover indeed who would jeopardize the growers in an area free from camellia flower blight for the sake of carrying home a few camellia blossoms from a show.

—ACS—

Something Different in Camellia Shows

CAPT. JOSEPH H. BROOKS, Jackson, Mississippi

The Jackson Mississippi Camellia Society staged a Mid-Winter display of "grown-under-glass" Camellias which differed in some respects from standard shows. Because greenhouse flowers have usually passed their peak by show time in Jackson, which is usually the last weekend in February or the first in March, some enthusiastic greenhouse growers proposed a Mid-Winter show. It was staged January 24th. The week ending with this date brought freezing temperatures every night, most of them 21 or 22 degrees, with day time highs as low as 38 degrees—hard weather on Camellias whether protected or not. In spite of predictions by "Prophets of Doom" over five hundred Camellia blooms were brought to the show. (There were 535 blooms placed on the display tables.) These flowers were arranged by the placement committee according to color of the blooms. The show was staged in the lobby of the First National Bank, which afforded space for two rows of tables three feet wide and forty feet long. These rows were about twelve feet apart. Flowers were placed in four rows on each table, white flowers nearest the entrance, then the blush, light pink, rose, pink and white, red and white, and at the farthest end from front entrance the reds. This color scheme was followed on both tables.

The flowers made a very favorable impression on visitors when the overall view emphasized the exactness of placement and the blending of colors. Three A. C. S. accredited judges selected twenty-four representative flowers from the total number exhibited. These flowers were excellent

* (Reprinted from the *Pied-Cam Review*, Vol. II, No. 4, April, 1960.)

specimens of the different flower forms, and the different colors of "Camellia Japonica." The twenty-four honor flowers were placed on an honor table and were displayed to good advantage on a cloth of black velvet with a gold mat under each glass. A number was assigned to each flower and each visitor to the show was given a ticket with the request that he or she cast one vote for the flower considered best in the show. In the beginning names of flowers as well as names of exhibitors were concealed, but there were so many requests for names of the flowers that the names were prominently displayed along with the numbers. Voting, however, was by number. These blooms on the honor table were also arranged in a color scheme with white flowers on each end, and red flowers in the center. The silver trophy for "Best Bloom" was placed in the center of the honor table. This display was twelve feet long and three feet wide with flowers in three rows.

The flowers selected by the judges for the honor table and the votes cast by visitors to the show were as follows: Mrs. D. W. DAVIS 335; PEARL MAXWELL 268; MATHOTIANA 167; ONEITA HOLLAND 90; TOMORROW (Var.) 70; CORAL PINK LOTUS 67; SAWADA'S DREAM 65; EMMETT BARNES 37; JOSEPH PFINGSTL 35; Mrs. HOOPER CONNELL 35; FAITH 35; ADOLPH AUDUSSON (Var.) 31; VILLE DE NANTES 31; NINA AVERY 19; WILDWOOD 17; JOSHUA YOUTZ 15; WINIFRED WOMACK 13; DRAMA GIRL 12; BLUSH BEAUTY SHEFFIELD 11; SIMEON 7; BIG BEAUTY 6; GUILIO NUCCIO 5.

Two flowers selected by the judges for the honor table did not receive any votes, and eleven votes were cast for flowers not on the honor table.

Many visitors stated that this was the most beautiful Camellia Show ever visited. The voting created great interest, and the attendance was excellent. The show was open from noon until 6:00 P. M. Sunday only and about 2,500 visitors came during this time which meant that the bank lobby was comfortably full all the time, but not too crowded for the Camellia lovers to linger over their favorites.

Gardening Helps Men Stay Young

(From *The Atlanta Journal* and *The Atlanta Constitution Magazine*, Sunday, June 26, 1960.)

Perhaps Boynton Cole, of Atlanta, typifies the present-day city male gardener. Proprietor of a contractor-engineer concern, he sometimes finds himself giving so much of his time to his camellias and other greenhouse plants that he has to call a halt to these interests for a few days until he catches up with his business. He experiments with amaryllis, tropical hibiscus and other plants requiring moderate temperatures in winter, but camellias are his chief interest. He loves to gaze upon their gorgeous blooms, he exhibits in several of the better Southeastern shows each year, and he gets a lot of pleasure out of giving away flowers. He grafts, hybridizes and plants camellia seeds, always trying for new varieties. He is a scion swapper, exchanging buds for grafting with friends and strangers all over the country.

"I first got into this hobby because I enjoy flowers in winter," Mr. Cole relates. "I soon found working in the greenhouse just as relaxing as going fishing. I started specializing in camellias since they were so beautiful, could be given away for corsages or cut flowers, and because propagation was easy and could be done in so many ways.

"I soon became acquainted with local camellia growers, and then with more and more all the way from Washington, D. C., through Texas, then to the West Coast. I found them to be the kind of folks one wants for close friends.

"As an extra bonus I found that maybe one doesn't get old as quickly when working with flowers. Camellia growers in their 70s are usually pretty young. I noticed recently that Dr. W. G. Lee, of Macon (he is 82 or 83), drove by himself to Columbia, S. C., to see a camellia show. And my friend, Judge A. W. Solomon of Savannah, who now is either 86 or 87, serves as a judge each weekend during the camellia blooming season and is still planting seed that won't produce blooms for a number of years.

"I don't talk much about it, but I believe that people who are close to nature because they want to be are nearly always gentle and probably feel very close to their God."

—ACS—

Up in Massachusetts

F. F. ROCKWELL, Orleans, Massachusetts
(Reprinted by permission from *The New York Times*, February 21, 1960.)

Camellias are growing in my Cape Cod garden. While New York, New Jersey and Washington, D. C., gardeners have been concentrating on the hardy camellia varieties, I have been working with the non-hardy types. With special methods of winter protection, I have found that tender varieties can be grown much farther north than was believed possible.

My plants include several large-flowered *C. japonica* hybrids which were given to me as gifts and the specific variety names are not known. The plants have gone through several winters successfully.

My protection system has two features. First, the plants are placed in the most sheltered place possible. Second, I construct a two-fold plastic tent over the plants which is put up in late October or November after the first hard freeze. It will be removed and stored in April for the growing season.

The camellias are planted close to the house along a wall facing south. A house wing protects plants on the west. The plastic tent is supported by a frame constructed of light 1 x 1 1/4 inch strap-iron bars bent into an inverted, curved L shape. These are pressed into the ground and secured at the top to the house wall with screws. The iron bars are placed two feet apart and held firm with horizontal wood strips spaced a foot or so apart. The ends of the frame are made of weatherproof 1/2 inch plywood, cut to conform to the curve of the irons.

The plastic cover is made of Visqueen, folded double. It is secured at the top against the house wall by a 1 x 2 inch wood strip, held in place by screws. At the bottom the plastic is held taut by a heavy plank. The tent can be rolled up to air plants on mild days.

The Stones Brought the Southland North

Louisiana Camellias Bloom in the Basement

KATHRYN WRIGHT

(From *The Billings Gazette*, Billings, Montana, Sunday, February 28, 1960)

When the S. W. Stones left the southland, they took a bit of it with them—camellia plants, tossed for better or worse, on a moving van headed for a climate that boasts of many things, but not camellias.

Since June, when the family arrived in Billings from Shreveport, Louisiana, mementos of their former home thrived—under the tender, loving care bestowed by the Stones—and have put forth more than 70 blossoms during the blooming season.

The camellias didn't exactly adapt themselves to this climate—the Stones adapted their home to the camellias. A part of the ground floor recreation room was partitioned off with glass panes and the plants set on a low, 20-foot long bench. The other long wall of the hallway, or camellia corridor as it now is, has windows looking south.

Thus conditions of the country's camellia belt—southeastern states—have been created here: proper moisture, via a garden hose in the corridor, sufficient light, the right kind of soil. That came from Louisiana and its a loose and acid soil. The plants or trees—camellias are really trees and attain a tree-like girth with sufficient

age, Mr. Stone explained—stand in five-gallon cans, lifting their deep, shiny green leaves and large blossoms proudly.

Their blooming season is from Thanksgiving to Easter. They put on growth in the summer months.

In their native habitats, camellias attain a height of 30 feet and a trunk nearly a foot in diameter. The Stones' blooming plants are between three and four years old. Besides these, they have some grafted plants started and some seedlings.

Though the hobby means time and care and just plain work, it pays off in beauty and the opportunity to share in that beauty. Nearly every visitor to the home leaves with a corsage, and petite Mrs. Stone graciously invites people interested in the project to visit the camellia corridor. There's always a pot of coffee on, too.

While living in Shreveport, where he belonged to the Men's Camellia Club, a purely masculine organization, Mr. Stone entered a camellia show, for the first time. His entries won him two firsts, a second and an honorable mention. The club is a member of the American Camellia Society and Mr. Stone, as a camel-

lia clubber gone north, is represented on a map in the society's magazine as No. 1—meaning the one and only camellia grower-member in Montana. The "1" stands out bold and alone in the white space representing Montana and is surrounded by white space of Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, North and South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa.

The rest of the Western States, with the exception of Washington, Oregon and California, have but one society member. Then as you scan the Southern and Eastern states, the numbers jump into the hundreds. You're looking at the country's camellia belt.

Camellias are not native to the United States. The natural camellia belt lies along the coast of China and offshore islands, including Japan and Formosa, which also is the home area of tea.

Camellia and tea plants are closely related and this, combined with the cleverness of Chinese tea merchants of 200 or more years ago, brought about the introduction of camellias to England and then Europe, America and Australia. A bit of legend has it that a British trading company commissioned one of its 18th Century sea captains to bring back specimens of China's tea plants. The company intended to try to grow tea in Europe, thus doing away with hazardous, time-consuming and expensive importation. Realizing that they'd lose quite a bit of lucrative business if the British project proved successful, wily Chinese tea growers loaded the captain's ship with the ornamental camellia, whose foliage closely resembles that of the tea plant.

Everyone has always said the Chinese were clever. Thanks to that trait, the country got camellias.

—ACS—

ACS does not have a rule saying that a local show can not choose Outstanding Bloom in Show over 4 inches or under 4 inches. They only have one Award of Outstanding Bloom in Show. It is presumed that the Show Chairman in using the above division would also have to request the judges to choose between the two winners in order to determine which was entitled to the ACS Award.



Schedule of Activities for the American Camellia Society's Annual Meeting, February 23-25, 1961

THURSDAY—FEBRUARY 23

- 8 A. M. Registration in hotel lobby.
- 9 A. M. Leave hotel in private cars for an all day trip. First stop to be at the world famous Huntington Gardens. Guide conducted tours through the gardens in small groups. Then to the Descanso Gardens where a box lunch will be served. After lunch you will stroll through the largest mature camellia planting in Southern California. 100,000 plants under large native oaks. If time and your endurance permit, a trip will be made to the Los Angeles State and County Arboreum and Botanical Gardens.
- 6 P. M. ACS officers and wives reception.
- 7 P. M. Buffet Supper. After a short intermission there will be an In-

ter-Society meeting, with speakers from principal camellia growing areas, talking about society activities and the new and worthwhile varieties in their section.

FRIDAY—FEBRUARY 24

- 8 A. M. Registration in hotel lobby.
- 9 A. M. Chartered bus leaves hotel for a major movie studio that is in production.
- 9 A. M. Those not desiring to go to the studio will leave in private cars for the points of interest they desire such as:
Lake Arrowhead, Santa Barbara, San Juan Capistrano, San Diego, Laguna Beach, Harbor Trip, Marineland, Palm Springs, Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly

Hills, Westwood, Bel Air, The Farmers Market.

- 2 P. M. Disneyland or Knotts Berry Farm
Disneyland has made available, at a special convention rate, books of tickets for rides in the park. These tickets will be honored during and for 10 days after the meeting.
- 6:30 P. M. California Camellia Societies' Hospitality Hour, in the Pool-Side Room.
- 8:30 P. M. Meeting in the Pool-Side Room for a showing of slides.

SATURDAY—FEBRUARY 25

- 8 A. M. Registration in hotel lobby.
- 9 A. M. Leave hotel in private cars for Temple City Camellia Festival and Children's Parade.
- 10 A. M. Shopping at Fashion Square, Santa Ana.
- 2 P. M. Camellia Show—Disneyland Hotel.
All registered guests will be permitted to have a preview of the show from 1 P. M. to 2 P. M.
- 6 P. M. Governing Board Reception—Anaheim Bowl.
- 7 P. M. Annual Banquet—Anaheim Bowl.

SUNDAY—FEBRUARY 26

We wish to urge everyone to remain through Sunday, so as to take advantage of the trips to the nurseries and private gardens.

ALTON B. PARKER, *Gen. Chm.*,
CARYLL W. PITKIN, *Co-Chm.*

—ACS—

ACS is interested in preparing a pamphlet of local society programs for next year. If your society has an outstanding program, please send the Secretary the details so that your ideas can be passed on to other Societies.



(Photo courtesy the "Sacramento Bee")

From left to right: Hon. Thomas J. MacBride, California State Assemblyman; Sacramento Camellia Queen Julie Van der Vort; presenting camellia plant to Hon. John F. Kennedy, U. S. Senator, and candidate for President of the United States. It is rumored that the variety presented was "Richard Nixon". September 8, 1960, Sacramento, California.

Grandmother Goes Into Orbit— At Disneyland

LOLLIE RAGLAND, Los Angeles, California

Horace Greeley's advice "Go west, young man, go west" became a slogan in America and for generations it has echoed through the corridors of time. This was most fortunate for California because the slogan has served us well. It has brought men of vision and stature to match our mountains. One such genius is Walt Disney, who not only matches our mountains but builds them, complete with cascading waterfalls, streams, rivers, deserts, villages and a myriad of fanciful creatures to inhabit a fabulous but realistic Fairyland. Walt Disney's faith in America and her people is depicted in his concept of their desire for good clean fun. In testimony of this faith, in 1955, one hundred and sixty acres of orangegroves in Anaheim, California was transformed into the most talked about area in the world, "Disneyland". Walt Disney's remarkable aptitude in bringing fanciful whimsy to live reality is evidenced in the permanent, structural beauty of a community of dreams come true. Disneyland is no tinsel palace. It is an assortment of buildings of steel, brick and mortar, expertly designed, handsomely decorated, beautifully landscaped, historically portraying America, its past, its present and its glorious future.

Five minutes by tram from the Disneyland Hotel one enters this Mystic Land of Magic through a tunnel under the "Santa Fe & Disneyland Railroad" tracks. Twenty-three million, five hundred thousand people from 100 different nations and all 50 states have visited this Magic Kingdom. The guest list reads like a "who's Who of the World". It includes three Kings (Mohammed V of Morocco, Hussein of Jordan, Bauduin of Belgium, Presidents, Prime Ministers and innumerable other Dignitaries and their families.

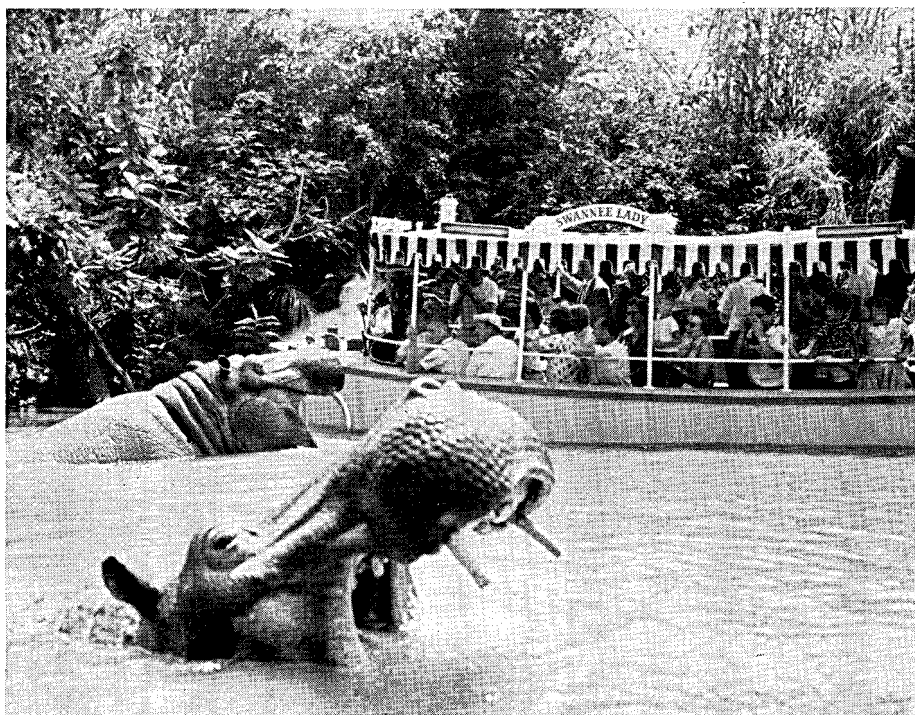
We are standing in the Town Square. Here is Main Street, U. S. A. about the year 1910. Those of us who

are of the age of Jack Benny's 39, or a bit beyond, are spellbound by the similarity of the features to some of our old home towns. Perhaps this is why adult visitors to Disneyland, by actual count, out-number the children four to one; or could it be that we return again and again to keep a tight hold on the past? This writer was privileged to attend the premiere of Disneyland and to ride on the "Mark Twain" with Walt Disney himself at the wheel, on its first official voyage down the Rivers of America. It was a thrill which will live as long as my memory, and it is revived with each visit to this mysterious land of happiness. Perhaps a bit of the magic rubbed off on me as I have been enthralled with every aspect of Disneyland ever since. I have seen this lovely place through a thousand pair of eyes and while much has been written for the children, I proclaim to one and

all that maturity alone can give full appreciation of this "fantabulous" place of joy and laughter.

Living within five miles of Disneyland, it has been my unique experience to have accompanied, several hundred times, groups of people, young and old, through the many wonders to be found there. I have zoomed down the snow-capped Matterhorn with teen-agers, been whirled about in the Mad-Hatters' Tea Cups with the wee folks, and have ridden on everything, at least twice, and I invariably come away with added respect and a younger heart. It is said that Disneyland is for the Young at Heart. I say, it makes your heart young.

Let us walk up the steps to the railroad station platform, keeping in mind that all we see before us is on a 5/8 scale as to actual size. Pause for a moment; look down on the Town Square, Main Street. Before the dewy mist clears from your eyes, the hustle and bustle of our modern world and its streamlined modes of transportation are gone. The "mood" changes and the visitor's pace slows to the leisurely clop-clop of horse-drawn surreys "with the fringe on top", and the



Around every bend of the river, all the excitement, mystery and beauty of the tropics await Disneyland "explorers" during the famous Adventureland Jungle River Cruise. Here a canopied Adventureland launch disturbs a family of hippos, who charge the craft's passengers with mouths wide open. All along the shore, "wild" animals and headhunters menace passenger, while bright colored orchids and tropical plants grow to the water's edge.

full panorama of Main Street is before us: the Emporium, the City Hall, the Nickelodeon (called the Main Street Cinema) where Otis Skinner is currently playing in *Kismet* (and there is always a Keystone Comedy), the Bank of America, and the Fire House (where Walt Disney keeps an apartment on the second floor for his private use whenever he stays overnight). The old time colored-jar drug store and the penny-arcade are only curiosities to children—but I have seen tears of joyous reminiscence come into the eyes of the youth of yesterday and know that they are dreaming of an almost forgotten past. At the other end of Main Street are the many lands of enchantment, the entrances to Adventureland, to Fantasyland, to Jungleland, to Frontierland and to Tomorrowland. Sleeping Beauty's shimmering Pink Castle stands as a Fairy Godmother to beckon the Young at Heart to Main Street's end and Fantasyland's beguiling temptations. This is the Happiest Kingdom of them all for children.

There is something for everyone, ranging from age two through one hundred and two. In order to see and "do" everything, it would take a week of concentrated effort, walking and riding, to say nothing about the delightful shops. The Pendleton Woolen Store is located in Frontierland. My favorite "Camellia-picking jacket" was purchased there five years ago and it is as good as new although in constant use. Fine imports and lovely Disneyland Souvenirs of every price range are available and temptingly displayed.

I have seen joy bordering on ecstasy on the faces of many people—some indelibly imprinted on my memory. One was a woman in a wheelchair, apparently being escorted by her son and pre-teen grandchildren. A courteous boat captain tenderly lifted her into his seaworthy craft for a journey through Jungleland. Her beaming face bespoke her appreciation of the trip and her gay laughter made that ride outstanding to all aboard.

Dora, a dear friend of mine, who was recovering from a stroke, spoke to me of Disneyland as though it were "Never-Never Land" for her. With a little encouragement, and a



Most familiar landmark and symbol of Walt Disney's Magic Kingdom of Disneyland is the medieval Sleeping Beauty Castle. Within its courtyard is the happiest realm of them all, Fantasyland. Slow-paced Main Street vehicles like the horse-drawn streetcar of another age carry visitors to its entrance, located just off Disneyland's central Plaza.

promise of being most cautious, she agreed to go. We rode the submarine, which enthralled her, the monorail which has an escalator to the high level, the horse-drawn vehicles which are numerous and the gay canal boat through Story Book Land.

There are 45 major attractions, 15 shows and exhibits and an investment of \$32,700,000. Each year Walt Disney Enterprises continue to expand and invest a few million dollars more. Improvements are being made constantly; it will never be finished. Nature's Wonderland is the latest novelty and one of the most fabulous. It is up to the individual. Whether you like the old or the new, there is something of heart-warming appeal for each of us. Just to sit at a table in the Side-Walk Cafe and enjoy a cup of coffee, while watching the crowd of merrymakers stroll by, is worth the price of admission. Jay walking on Main Street with a Sunkist frozen lemon sherbet on a stick is another enjoyable pastime. Look out for those horseless carriages!

This Grandmother has been over every inch of Disneyland innumerable times; and whether we count from one to ten as we did in the olden days or accept the new "Count-down" as do the youngsters of today "10-9-8-7-6- Blast-off"—we salute Walt Disney as the greatest purveyor of amuse-

ment and fun that the world has ever known. To children of all ages Disneyland is the most magnetic place in the world. As soon as you enter the Magic Kingdom, you become whatever you wish to be. Grandmother is Alice-in-Wonderland, Snow White or Tinkerbell and Grandfather is Prince Charming and Peter Pan molded into one, and even Junior feels ten feet tall.

In this Land of Enchantment where courtesy and smiles abound, during the summer evenings when the trees in the Central Plaza are atwinkle with tiny stars, it is pure bliss to sit on a bench in the park and watch the glow of the fireworks at 9:00 P. M., and listen to the Band Concert played by Sousa's representatives in his best tradition. It awakens your pride in America, it rekindles your love of your fellow man; and you say a prayer of Thanksgiving for Walt Disney and the many other fine Americans who have made our land so great in so many different ways.

During the winter we have our Camellias and our own thrilling shows and this year a new land has been added, "Camellia Wonderland". Our cup is full. We of Southern California are looking forward with happy anticipation to sharing our blessings with all of our beloved Camellia friends this next February.

Been Dreaming of a Greenhouse?

One Answer to the Heating Problem

AL JOHNSON, Beaverton, Oregon

The problem of just how to provide heat in a greenhouse 20 x 50 feet, that is used exclusively for camellias, was one that we found necessary to find a practical answer for, some four years ago when our greenhouse was completed. Our climate in the Northwest is quite unpredictable, and is especially so here in Beaverton, though we are only a few miles west of Portland. We live in an area that is locally spoken of as a "frost-belt", where it is quite common to have temperatures go at least 10 degrees colder than in Portland, approximately ten miles away.

After long and careful study of the needs and requirements of camellias, we concluded that the camellia plants themselves are as a rule more cold-hardy than the flowers. We have most of our plants placed directly in the ground which is the floor of our greenhouse. They were planted in the same careful manner as is recommended for outside planting.

It was *not* our wish to force the blooming period, by installing heat, for this generally results in soft flowers of inferior quality. Instead, it was our desire to provide the MINIMUM amount of heat to protect our camellias against temperatures below freezing. Therefore, the circulation of warmed air above the ground, and particularly above the tops of the plants to keep frost from settling down upon the flowers as they opened, was our objective. Perhaps more emphasis should be placed, at this time, on the very great importance of CIRCULATION within any greenhouse, for whether one lives in the Northwest where temperatures quite frequently get down in the low "teens", or 10 to 20 degrees, or in an area where frost is the exception rather than the rule . . . circulation or the movement of the existing air within the greenhouse . . . is of utmost importance in the protection of the plants, as well as flowers, during cold weather.

Two large 4,000-watt electric heaters were installed in our green-

house, one at each end of the structure. These heaters are mounted on suspended platforms, the bottoms of the platforms being just slightly above the top of the height of the doors, at either end of the house. One heater was purchased containing a built-in fan, the other did not, so at the end where we installed the heater which was without a fan, a large fan (blades approximately 12 inches in diameter) was mounted just in front of the heater. This large fan was set at a slight angle, to direct the flow of air toward the corner of the opposite end of the greenhouse and thus further aid in the circulation of the air.

Each heater and fan unit is controlled by a separate thermostat to take care of sudden temperature changes. Our thermostats are set to "go on" at 34 degrees, and "off" at approximately 38 degrees, though during extremely cold weather they may go on during the evening and may not turn "off" again until the temperature rises the following morning.

This system may or may not be practical in all sections of the country, but for us, it has been most satisfactory. We had some qualms before receiving our first electrical bill, after having installed such a system, but have been pleased in the many months since, for one must realize that there are many months during the year when no heat at all is needed, and at least in this area, we usually need very little, if any, heat during the month of November. It often begins to get quite cold during part of December, and we may expect very cold spells during the months of January and February. Our monthly cost during these colder months has usually been between \$10.00 and \$15.00 per mo. Once it was nearly \$20.00 during a really severe "deep-freeze" when we found it necessary to put another smaller home heater into use, to maintain the desired 34 degrees temperature. But, on the whole, it has been, we feel,

most satisfactory, and at least in this area oil or other means would surely have been much costlier. It is a clean system, does not occupy valuable planting space, and does not involve danger of fire as do certain other means.

Though we, in the Northwest, do grow many of our camellias out of doors, it been our personal experience that those grown under glass have given us our greatest pleasure. There are, of course, several reasons for this. Under these protected conditions, every flower that opens is magnificent in its perfection. Perhaps even more important, however, is the fact that the actual blooming season is extended considerably in the greenhouse. In this area, we may expect our first flowers to begin to open during November, not in great numbers at this time, but certainly a few of the earlier blooming varieties. Then, as a rule, by the Holiday season, this number has increased until we feel that Spring is surely, "just around the corner." This lovely parade of color just gradually increases through January, and by late February, we find the "peak" blooming period is fast approaching. All through the month of March, we may depend upon a spectacular camellia carnival, on and on, seemingly without end. During April, as warmer days approach, the late flowering varieties continue to put on a thrilling display for us, though the quality of the blooms may not be quite as perfect, depending upon weather conditions, naturally. By the end of July we begin to examine each "exciting new variety, in hopes we may find our first buds, which will flower the following season. This leaves but slightly more than FIVE months without a single flower, and naturally this does vary slightly, depending on the weather conditions during any given year. WHAT, but a camellia, could put on such a performance?

So if you have been wishing for a greenhouse for your camellias, do a little more than just wish. Beg, borrow, or steal (better buy) until you have one. You may scarcely be able to believe the pleasure that you have missed in not owning one.

Sacramento's Sixth Annual Camellia Festival

E. A. COMBATALADE, Sacramento, California

Sacramento's Sixth Annual Camellia Festival reached new heights of participation as well as record numbers of spectators. Approximately 3,200 persons helped to arrange the various events and some 125,000 citizens from far and near came to view the variety of colorful features.

Each year the Camellia Festival is making great strides in attaining its main objective—to have more people enjoy Sacramento's beautiful and official flower, the camellia, in its many and varied uses. Thousands of camellias are being planted yearly to beautify the lovely homes in the Sacramento area. Another major objective of the Festival is to let people know about the good life in this fertile Sacramento Valley, exemplified by the camellia.

The theme of the Festival was "The Pony Express", chosen because a national celebration will be held on July 19 commemorating the 100th anniversary of this famous organization which carried the mail via horseback from St. Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, California, from April, 1860, to October, 1861.

A preliminary event of the Festival was the annual queen contest. Three

lovely girls from each of the three local colleges were selected from 36 contestants. The qualifications of the latter are: Recommendation by a sponsoring group, scholarship, personality, and school approval. Key individuals in the community are selected as judges.

Another preliminary event is the escorts' formal dinner, when escorts of past Festivals reminisce and those of this year are presented. They are chosen for outstanding civic achievement from men who compose the "Who's Who" of Sacramento. These distinguished gentlemen escort the Queen and her court during the coronation ceremonies at the Camellia Ball.

On March 4, at the Chamber of Commerce Annual Camellia Breakfast, when the Festival officially begins, lovely Julie Van Der Vort was selected as our Queen for the year. The next night, the Sutter Hospital Auxiliary staged the annual Camellia Ball. A capacity crowd in formal attire witnessed the spectacular pageant where, one by one, the princesses descended a spiral staircase to meet their top-hatted escorts. It was culminated by the crowning of Queen Julie and the swirl of beautiful ball gowns in the Princesses' Waltz.

This same weekend, the Camellia Society of Sacramento staged the 36th Annual Camellia Show. Made-to-order weather produced an overflow supply of exotic blooms for the show. Some 10,000 blooms were displayed and an estimated 45,000 persons came to "oh" and "ah" during the two-day show. Included in the show were camellia culture demonstrations, collection and nurserymen's exhibits and an outstanding arrangement section, always an attraction of this, the finest show in the country.

The Queens of the Past Luncheon and Fashion Show, sponsored by the Mercy Hospital Guild, was held on Monday. Here each former queen, as well as Queen Julie, again held the



Queen Julie Van Der Vort crowned by Fred Barbaria, Chairman, Sacramento County Board of Supervisors. (Queen Julie's camellia wand is made of sterling silver. Each year a new jewel is added and the queen's name engraved on the handle.) Looking on is the retiring Camellia Queen, Virginia Bangert. Sacramento's Sixth Annual Camellia Ball, March 5, 1960.

spotlight as she walked regally up the ramp in the gown she wore at her coronation. A noteworthy feature of the luncheon was the number of men who attended to swell the capacity audience.

An addition to the Festival this year was Camellia Cheer-Up Day. On Tuesday, every patient in all hospitals in Sacramento County and each shut-in in a registered nursing home received a camellia bloom on his lunch tray.

Several organizations participated in this activity. Among these is the Camellia Chirps, an organization of women "ham" radio operators, who are enthusiastic Festival boosters and give it international publicity. A short-wave station was set up by the Chirps and local dignitaries communicated with their counterparts throughout the world. Prior to the Festival, the Chirps sent 7,500 Camellia QSL cards to virtually every major country in the world and every state in the nation.

On Friday, March 11, the annual Camellia Babies' Day was celebrated. That day, 38 new "camellia babies" were born in Sacramento County. Each child was given a camellia plant donated by the Festival Association.

(Continued on page 30)



Close-up of sweepstakes winner. Float entered by St. Joseph's School. Sacramento's Sixth Annual Children's Camellia Parade, March 12, 1960.

But You Have Such Wonderful Soil

T. H. EVERETT¹

(Reprinted, with permission, from *Flower Grower*, the Home Garden Magazine.—Ed.)

"But you have such wonderful soil" runs the envious plaint of the novice gardener to the oldtimer. With this, the beginner discounts the foresight, skill and work that went into developing that "wonderful" soil. Chances are it was very poor in the beginning, probably no better than the soil the novice now has.

It's wonderful indeed to have rich fertile soil, but no more so than to play an active, intelligent part in transforming a piece of comparatively poor ground into a mellow, fertile patch of garden. That is, perhaps, the highest gardening achievement. I feel rather sorry for the gardener who has always worked rich soil. He has missed the great joy of making good soil from poor, of bringing one small patch of earth to a condition better than that in which he found it.

Fortunately, almost any soil can be improved and made suitable for gardening—even stubborn, infertile subsoil. Know-how and time, plus work and various additives, are all that are necessary. Don't expect to do it with fertilizers, chemical soil conditioners and other additives alone. Even in this jet age, time and effort are also necessary.

Good soil must be satisfactory in three ways: chemically it must contain adequate amounts of needed nutrients, be of suitable acid-alkaline reaction and free of substances toxic to plant growth; physically it should be of such structure that water drains through and air gains ready admittance, but not so loose that it does not retain enough moisture and nutrients for the plants' needs; and biologically it should contain an abundance of favorable bacterial and other helpful soil organisms and a minimum of harmful ones such as nematodes. Biological improvement naturally follows betterment of chemical and physical conditions.

Fertilizers are easily added. Lack of one or more is the least of the gar-

dener's difficulties. They can be purchased in various forms and proportions under numerous trade names. On each container is an analysis consisting of three numbers. These, in the order given, indicate the percentages of the three most frequently needed nutrients — nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash—the fertilizer contains. They do not indicate the form in which the nitrogen is, and that is important.

Nitrogen is still nitrogen, whether derived from organic sources or synthetic sources. Old-time synthetics, however, such as urea, nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia are highly soluble and quickly available; therefore, they are soon lost from the soil by leaching and other means even though they provide quick results over a short period of time. Organic nitrogen is much more slowly available and thus fertilizers, such as dried sheep manure, tankage, fish meal and cottonseed meal are used for the long pull. Recently synthetics derived from urea and formaldehyde have been developed that release nitrogen slowly. Often the best fertilizer to use contains both slow-acting and readily available sources of nitrogen.

Fertilizer is needed by nearly all garden plants. Its exact analysis is less important than beginners think. A good general fertilizer such as 5-10-5, 10-6-4, 4-8-4 or the like is satisfactory for most purposes, and it's cheaper to buy a substantial amount of one kind than small lots of many. For acid-soil plants, such as rhododendrons, azaleas, leucothoe, blueberries and heathers, use only acid or neutral fertilizers, not alkaline ones.

Fertilizer applications only pay off well when the soil is in good physical condition. Nearly always the addition of a complete fertilizer (one containing nitrogen, phosphorus and potash) is beneficial when the ground is being made ready for planting and in the case of permanent crops such as trees, shrubs, evergreens, lawns and perennials, each spring just when new growth begins and, usually, again in early fall. These applications may be

supplemented with one or more shot-in-the-arm treatments of quickly available nutrients during the summer growing season. Either dry or liquid fertilizers may be used. Remember, little and often is better than more widely spaced heavier applications.

The pH factor of particular plants is talked about less today than twenty years ago, and for good reason. Most plants have a wider range of tolerance than many people believed and the vast majority of garden kinds thrive if the pH of the soil is between 6 and 7 or even slightly above 7. Some tricky acid-soil plants need reactions between pH 5 and 6, but they are for specialists.

Have your soil tested by your county agricultural agent, private soil-testing service or do it yourself with one of the advertised soil testing kits.

Excessive acidity can be corrected by applying hydrated lime or ground limestone, preferably the latter. Excessive alkalinity is more difficult. Best results are had from mixing acid organic materials, such as peat moss, in liberal amounts. Acid fertilizers such as cottonseed meal also help. The addition of sulphur acidifies the soil and so does aluminum sulphate. Consult a soil specialist regarding the amounts of these to apply to change the soil reaction appropriately.

Improving the physical condition calls for more skill and work than does providing nutrients. It may involve draining, adding bulky organic matter, lime, gypsum and other correctives, the use of synthetic soil conditioners and, most surely, turning the earth deeply.

Before embarking on a program, become familiar with what's under the surface. In various places dig holes a couple of feet deep to check drainage. If water lies within 18 inches of the surface for several days drainage is faulty. This may be because a thin layer of impervious clay overlying porous soil is holding water, in which case breaking through it by deep digging, deep plowing or dynamiting (let an expert do this) will correct the condition. More probably, the entire soil below the level of the water is the test holes is waterlogged. Then

(Continued on page 34)

¹ Consulting Editor, *Flower Grower Magazine*.

News from the Pacific Coast

Portland's First Competitive Show, Success In Spite of Weather

The NORTHWEST had more than its share of the same sort of weather which brought about the cancellation of SHOWS in many sections. An abnormally late "cold-snap", accompanied by deep drifted SNOW, threatened the success of the show, particularly the COMPETITIVE SECTION, which was being FEATURED this year, for the first time. The NINETEENTH ANNUAL Oregon Camellia Society Show was held, on schedule, on March 25th and 26th, in the spacious auditorium of a local Portland Department Store.



Arthur McLean with Miss Carolyn Mattson (Miss Oregon) who cut ribbon opening 1960 Oregon Camellia Society's Show.

Fortunately, about three days of at least partial sunshine, just prior to show time, did WONDERS for outside blooms, and certainly was a stimulus toward the success of this, our FIRST COMPETITIVE SHOW, open to ALL Camellia enthusiasts in the area. Former shows had been held on a strictly NON-COMPETITIVE basis, with only FOUR "TOP" blooms receiving recognition.

"Put Your Best Blooms Forward" seemed to be the keynote of the 1960 Show, though the theme previously chosen by the show committee was "The Wonders of Camellias".



Past President's Trophy and Honor Table 1960 Show. Left to Right: Arthur McLean, 1960 Show Chairman, Joel Callison, Mary and Al Johnson. Mr. Johnson is ACS State Director for Oregon.

The very gratifying attendance, as well as the number of non-member exhibitors, was most rewarding to the enthusiastic and hard working show committee under the capable leadership of Arthur McLean and co-chairman Mrs. Henry Landauer.

Much pre-show excitement, along with high "on the spot" interest was created by the first viewing of the new large and magnificent *Past Presidents Trophy*, which as the name would imply, was a gift, presented jointly by every Past President of the Oregon Camellia Society. This trophy is, of course, a revolving award, on which each succeeding winner's name will be engraved, as well as the variety for which he won the award.

The 1960 Camellia Show was our first concerted effort to conform with ACS standardization, and while it was not practical to adjust completely during one show time, we do feel that rather large footprints have been made in the right direction.

Proper varietal identification was still another project of the 1960 Show committee. They were rigidly guided by the Southern California Camellia Society *Nomenclature* listing. This brought about interesting "Visitor" comments. One lovely lady could not resist asking "just why do you people, as a Camellia group, take it upon

yourselves to change or give new names to such a lot of the fine favorite varieties, which already had very nice names in the first place?" After careful explanation, she was completely satisfied and even thought that the whole *Nomenclature* effort was a fine one.

OFFICIAL AWARD WINNERS

Sweepstakes—

Joel Callison (DRAMA GIRL)

Best Japonica—less than 4"—grown under glass

The Al Johnsons (JOSHUA E. YOUTZ)

Best Japonica—4" and over—grown under glass

Joel Callison (DRAMA GIRL)

Best Japonica—less than 4"—grown out of doors

Mrs. Lewis Johnson (C. M. WILSON)

Best Japonica—4" and over—grown out of doors

Mrs. Fred Stockings (NAGASAKI)

Best Seedling—unnamed white miniature

The Al Johnsons

Best Reticulata

Russel Gainer (CAPT. RAWES)

Most Outstanding Flower Arrangement—

Mrs. L. Bradbury (Sunset Garden Club)

-----ACS-----

Many outstanding blooms are overlooked by teams of judges who forget that they are to select outstanding blooms from their tables to compete for top honors.

An Amateur Appraises A Newly Registered Seedling

H. BRUCE FOSTER, Savannah, Georgia

If you will allow me a few lines of autobiography on my experience with camellias, it might very well be that my opinion of this most extraordinary and lovely camellia will be more appreciated.

It was in 1954 that my dear wife and I moved into our new home, which is located only a short distance up the Bonaventure Road from the Stewart's Florist and Nursery.

Shortly afterwards it was that I began to get interested in camellias, the why of which is a story within itself, and I shall not bore you with this, but will say that my getting the "bug" was most assuredly the beginning of a new life for my family and myself, and for this we are most thankful and proud.

Our home is situated on high ground away from other structures and trees that would afford protection for our plants. The Northeasters and temperatures as low as 15 degrees soon forced us to accept the unhappy fact we just could not succeed in blooming most of the very fine varieties which we had selected, but instead must confine our love to the more hardy varieties. It goes without saying a real hardy White has been the most complexing, but now I feel that in STEWART'S WHITE SUPREME we have found the answer. I believe this because it was my pleasure to see this plant bloom in 1956, and have revisited Wilmer Stewart, the grower and propagator of this truly exquisite camellia, and I am sure the parent VILLE DE NANTES will never have cause to be anything but proud!

STEWART'S WHITE SUPREME is fast growing and beautifully compact with lovely foliage, and, contrary to the very conservative registration facts, blooms October until the last of March. The flowers are variform, semi-double, pine cone and rose before completely open. The rose form stage is the most beautiful of its kind; it is absolutely unsurpassed, what one thinks of the very fine DIDDY MEALING and others notwithstanding.

The texture of the petals is like

velvet, and the white color is superb; it has real life.

The stamens are heavily tipped with the liveliest golden yellow that the writer has ever seen. The stamens in the pine cone form are located about half way up the bloom in a circle at four or five places evenly spaced.

The petals in all cases are ruffled and in the semi-double stage are rabbit eared as in the VILLE.

The completeness of my confidence in the hardiness of this new seedling is founded in the fact that I have seen plants purposely placed in the more unfavorable locations for the purpose of testing the qualities that might be outstanding. These test plants I have observed regularly for four years and have found the following:

The foliage in full sun fades slightly to lose some of its sheen, but does not burn.

The buds open under severe cold weather without visible damage, save that from heavy frost, on partially opened buds and this is slight. Many buds cross sectioned after temperatures of 15 degrees showed absolutely no damage in either small or large size.

Stamens in no case have been found to be damaged after fully opened. No discoloration at all.

The petals are not discolored either by cold or rain.

The blooms reach a magnificent five by three.

We look forward with great anticipation to next season when the first of these plants will be released and we will be one of the first to have this gorgeous creature growing in our own back yard. We have tried but to no avail. Mr. Stewart says we must wait.

This has been my first effort at writing anything on camellias but felt such a camellia as this was justification for a trial.

—ACS—

One of the shows last year induced the local Savings and Loan Associations to pick up the check and the show was free to the public. Results, about ten times as many people saw the show than had attended the year before. Savings and Loan offices were used to distribute entry cards, schedules and door prize tickets.



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BOOKS FOR SALE

American Camellia Yearbooks, each \$4.00
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Waterhouse's "Camellia Trail" . . . 25.00
"Camellia Culture" . . . 11.50
Sealy's "Revision of the Genus Camellia" . . . 10.00
Sharp's "Camellias Illustrated"
Cloth Bound Edition . . . 6.50
Spiral Bound Edition . . . 5.00
Chidamian's "Camellias for Everyone" . . . 3.95
"Camellia Nomenclature" (SCCS) . . . 1.75

Order from the Secretary

American Camellia Society
P. O. Box 465
TIFTON, GEORGIA

News from Around the World

Dr. G. W. Richmond, a transplanted Californian in South Iran, writes:

"There are no growers of camellias here (in the oil fields). There are some camellias available in Teheran, but the climate is such that they must be moved into heated greenhouses in the winter. I believe camellias would grow and flourish in Isfahan and Shiraz, and there may be some there, but it is difficult to find out or to get into the gardens. I have been in several elegant gardens in Shiraz, but did not see any camellias.

"I imported two unnamed plants from Genoa, Italy, as an experiment to see if they would survive the following conditions:

Summer temperatures of 125-127° F. (shade); alkaline soil; no available humus except animal manure; high pH; water, rationed to 2 hours morning, 1 hour noon, and 2 hours evening; water temperature 180° F. in the hottest part of the summer; hot dry winds of gale strength often carrying dust; no available fertilizer except animal manure; extremely low humidity; and desert locusts.

"I am in the process of writing an article on this experiment for the Northern California Camellia Society Bulletin."

Sir Giles Loder of Horsham, Sussex, England, is planning to visit shows and camellia gardens in the South-eastern United States during February. He visited California during camellia season several years ago, but has never visited the South. Sir Giles' magnificent estate, Leonardslee is one of the show places of England. He grows camellias outside, including ADOLPHE AUDUSSON, ELEGANS, DONCKELARI and LADY CLARE. Some are 20 feet high.

—ACS—

Camellias in the Azores

As camellias have now become a vogue in so many parts of the world it might be of interest to record that about 10 years ago I saw in the Azores a fine specimen of the ordinary semi-double garden form of *C. reticulata*. Although I was informed that it had been planted in the garden where I saw it growing only 14 years before, it had already formed a shapely standard with a height and branch spread of at least 15 ft. At the time of my visit, which was in the latter half of February, it was in full bloom and its many huge rose-pink flowers presented a glorious sight. If this early rate of growth be any indication of the size it will ultimately attain, I think it safe to assume that this Azorean plant will finally far exceed that of the 300-year-old example encountered by Dr. Yu in Yunnan, which

in that time had only reached a height of 30 ft.

In the damp, temperate climate of St. Michaels, so aptly nicknamed Ilha Verde, or the Green Isle, by the Portuguese, not only this species but all the varieties of *C. japonica* flourish amazingly. This remark is especially applicable to the neighborhood of the township of Furnas, where the rich friable lava soil seems entirely to their liking. Here the Japanese species is apparently so easily propagated that cuttings and even small branches stuck into the open ground in winter are said to root almost as readily as poplars. Unfortunately, this is not the case with *C. reticulata*: even in these favourable conditions in-arching has to be resorted to. To do this local horticulturists build wooden platforms among the branches of an established tree. Upon these potted plants of *C. japonica* are placed. Twigs from each species are then brought into contact and firmly tied together in the usual manner. That this operation should be possible on a raised platform is, I think, proof of the extreme humidity of the climate.

In view of the ease with which they can be increased it is not surprising that tall, healthy hedges of *C. japonica* are common features in and around Furnas. Seemingly quite large specimens can be transplanted there without any risk of failure, for in the public gardens I saw men moving them about from place to place like so many pawns on a chessboard!

Judging by the luxuriance of their growth, it would appear that Japanese camellias find conditions in St. Michael even more congenial than those existing in their native land: at any rate I do not remember having seen in Japan so many magnificent specimens. In several of the surrounding forests this species has become freely naturalized. These "escapes" have nearly all reverted to the single crimson flowered wild type than which, in my opinion, none is more handsome. It is certainly odd that such forms are not more popular in England; the variety called JUPITER being a comparatively rare exception to this rule.

—COLLINGWOOD INGRAM,
in *Gardening Illustrated*.

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ROBERT EILAND

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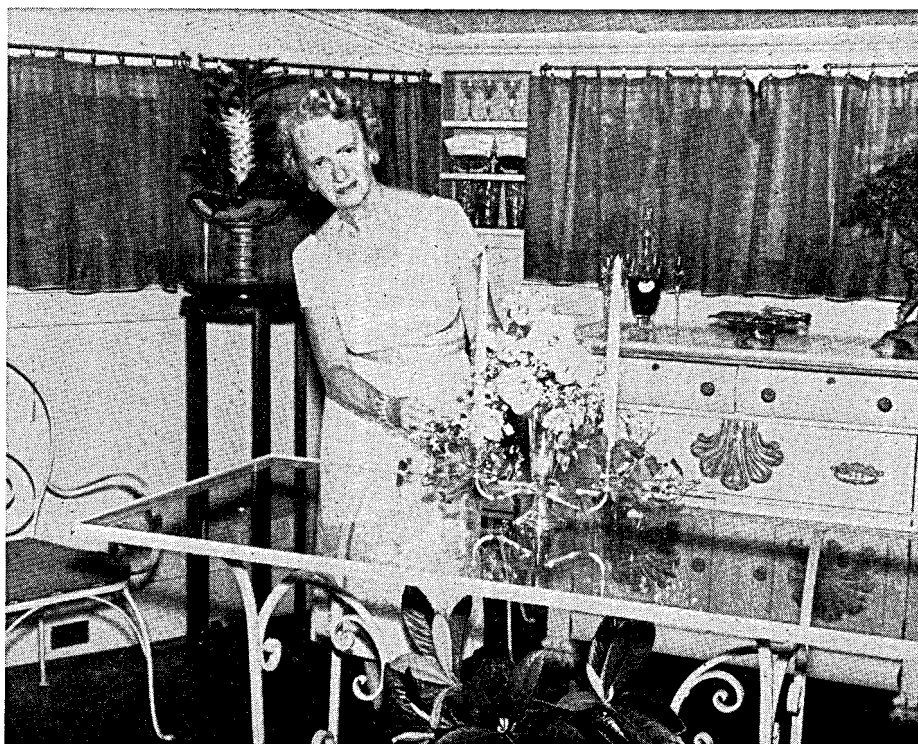
In 1930 Mr. & Mrs. John A. Kellenberger purchased the Sullivan plant and Mr. Walter E. Campbell moved it to the Kellenberger farm home on the McConnell Road, where it has thrived over the years. However, below zero temperatures and lack of attention in the last two years have shown some wear and tear on the plant.

How hardy is this Camellia? Mr. Walter Campbell's writings in his garden column in the Greensboro Daily News of August 8, 1937 state that, with the exception of one year, this plant bloomed profusely during the ten years he had observed it. We definitely know that during the extreme winter of 1940 when temperatures dropped to 15 degrees below zero most plants were killed to the ground and consequently there were no blooms in 1940. It would seem that during the life of this plant since it became acclimated, it has faithfully bloomed since 1927 with the exception of two years. This plant is fast becoming recognized as one being suitable to cold climates and is now being propagated in large numbers by Lindley Nurseries. We should also note that the Lindley Nurseries during the recent years has been distributing this plant as the Greensboro Red, which is more descriptive and should be considered when application is made for its official name. According to Mr. W. C. Danniels, manager of this nursery, they are shipping plants to Richmond, Va., Washington, D. C., Baltimore and Pittsburgh. Last year he stated they shipped one hundred plants to New York City. If the plant adapts itself as well in New York as in the Greensboro area, who knows, in future years the other tree growing in Brooklyn might be a Camellia japonica, Greensboro Red.

—ACS—

Seen at the Birmingham show—Cafeteria carts with containers on them placed in the receiving room where the exhibitor can place his entries in them—they were then wheeled into the exhibition room where container and flower were placed in the proper position—the bloom was never touched by anyone except the exhibitor.

South Carolina Lady Wins Top Honors in Nation Wide Camellia Arrangement Competition



MRS. C. RUSSELL PRICE

The top honor award among the various A.C.S. sponsored show winners throughout the United States goes to Mrs. C. Russell Price of Summerville, South Carolina. This honor is one she "dared only to hope for at a much later stage of her flower arranging career".

This is the top arrangement award of a number given each year by the American Camellia Society. Participants must be a member of a Federated Garden Club. Mrs. Price is a member of the Flowertown Garden Club.

Mrs. Price has been a consistent blue ribbon winner for nine years in the artistic division of the annual Summerville Camellia Society Show.

To achieve distinction in flower arranging Mrs. Price advises a serious study of the

Japanese school of Ikebana. Your arrangements, however, should be adaptable to the American home.

One bit of advice to beginners is not to try making too many arrangements for one show. "It is better to enter one good arrangement than a dozen mediocre ones."

The first important step, she learned, is to gather your containers which you plan to use and study them, live with them, until you are familiar with their lines. The container should be a challenge to put forth your best efforts in arranging. They, too, should be anything other than mediocre, she said.

Flower arranging is a hobby with Mrs. Price. She is art instructor for the Summerville public schools.

Supplemental List — Camellia Show Judges

ARKANSAS	LOUISIANA	Waveland:
Harrisburg:	Slidell:	Hava, Dr. Walter C.
Verser, Dr. Joe	Zerkowsky, Sam M.	
GEORGIA	MISSISSIPPI	NORTH CAROLINA
Coleman:	Brookhaven:	Fayetteville:
Ingram, Mrs. Herbert	Boling, Mrs. Robert	Hooks, Mrs. J. R.
Decatur:	Lumsden, Mrs. George	TENNESSEE
Rentz, Monte O.	Jackson:	Maryville:
Savannah:	Fancher, Mrs. R. T.	Alley, J. T.
Roberts, Gus		

News from the Gulf Coast



Hostesses Marcia McRee, left, and Karen Byrd admire the top blooms at Port Arthur's Fifth Annual Camellia Show held January 16-17, 1960. The show was the largest ever held in Texas with 4,272 blooms and 95 arrangements exhibited. Flower at left is "Sweetheart", Best Flower of Show, Small Variety grown by Mrs. J. J. Flanagan, Sr., of Port Arthur; and "Tomorrow", Best Flower of Show, Large Variety, grown by Mrs. John J. Doyle of Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Greenhouse Barbecue

To kick off the new camellia season, the Birmingham Men's Camellia Society staged a chicken barbecue in Frank Lynch's greenhouse just before he moved his plants indoors. The Bessemer Camellia Society was invited. Mike Wesson, their vice-president barbecued the chickens to per-



A "Ville de Nantes" blooming in the snow with temperature at 27° F. in the yard of J. C. Virgilio, Sr., Port Arthur, Texas. The "Ville" is a well known variety at the Table of Honor, but it is also a fine performer under adverse weather conditions. (Photo by J. W. McManus)

fection over slow coals in a real barbecue pit. The greenhouse was ideal since it rained that night. Slides were shown. Judge Windham rounded up three new ACS members. A wonderful evening was enjoyed by the forty or more members who attended.

—ACS—

Snow Show in New Orleans

The Men's Camellia Club of New Orleans staged its 20th show February 13 and 14. For the second time in



Camellias in the yard of J. C. Virgilio, Sr., Port Arthur burdened under the weight of the heaviest snowfall since 1895 to hit the Texas Gulf Coast, February 12, 1960. The record snow, as high as 14 inches in the area, caused considerable damage to pine and magnolia trees; however, very little limb damage to camellias was reported. (Photo by J. W. McManus)

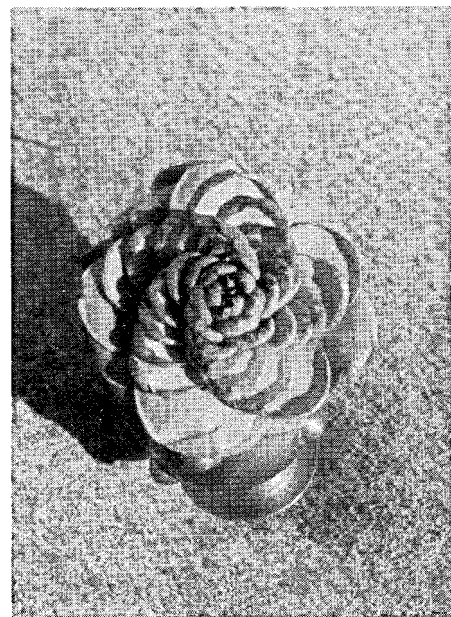
seventy years, snow fell in New Orleans. This occurred the morning the show was being set up, hence many members who grow their camellias at country homes were unable to get their flowers to the show. However, 3,824 top quality blooms were displayed. Some 4,500 people attended the free show.

Mr. Emile Doll's VULCAN won the outstanding Japonica bloom grown in the open. Mr. P. A. Menard won the ACS Gold Certificate and Mr. Herbert Jahncke the Silver Certificate. Mrs. Milton Stafford of the Bud and Blossom Garden Club won the best arrangement certificate.

Marianna Camellia Extravaganza

"We anticipate the largest show in the Southeast. Entries will come from cities throughout the area. Clubs from twelve cities have already expressed their desire to enter our show, and we expect many more. We will have a big greenhouse section and have invited some fifteen greenhouse growers to bring entries. We are planning a parade and beauty pageant as well as other attractions for the two big days of the Camellia Festival in Marianna, Florida. Every Civic Club in our city is taking part in order to make this the Southeast's largest and best Camellia Show. The dates have been set for January 28th and 29th which does not conflict with any other show in this area. Any help that you can give us in the promotion of this celebration will be appreciated by our group and will also further the efforts of the American Camellia Society. We are planning educational displays in our main show room and would like to have an outstanding booth for the promotion of membership in the national society. The seedling section will be the biggest we have had and possibly one of the largest in the area. In all we expect to have between five and ten thousand blooms on display."

WM. H. HARRISON.



PURPLE SWIRL, reminiscent of an old botanical print in its preciseness. A seedling produced by Mrs. Zerkowsky, Tammia Nursery, Slidell, La.

The Camellia—A Man's Flower

EUGENE SCHOFIELD HEATH, Atlanta, Georgia

This thesis is not to be taken to imply that the camellia is a flower for a man to wear on his coat lapel, although small-flowered varieties such as COLEY'S PERFECTION, RADIATION, GAYETY and others, are small enough for a man to wear as personal adornment, just as he may wear a carnation, without feeling that he is violating the hard and fast, not to say stupid customs and traditions of what is suitable for male exploitation. Conversely, it is granted then, that the large-flowered varieties may be worn by women, but not by men—at least, not until fashions change.

The impression still maintains that the camellia is an expensive plant. Most women guard the families' purses so carefully that only a favored few feel that they are justified in the heavy expenditure of purchasing camellia plants. This is particularly true when they contemplate the purchase of some of the so-called fine-haired new varieties which are usually scarce, and high-priced because of their scarcity. But a man who has been bitten by the "camellia-bug" will splurge by buying the latest variety at the price demanded.

Again, the camellia is a man's flower because even the fairly small blooming-size plants are apt to be dug at the nursery, transported, and sold with a fairly large and heavy ball of earth to protect its roots. Many women find the lifting and carrying of the large balled and burlapped plants, a burden, not so the man. He enjoys showing how powerful and masculine an animal he is, and he will carry a fairly heavy camellia, B. & B., quite proudly, to and from his car, to its final growing locus.

The very planting of a camellia calls for genuine muscular work. The usual instructions for digging the hole for a camellia, call for a hole's diameter three times the width of the ball, and a depth twice the depth of the ball. Not infrequently, this requires a hole three feet in diameter and two feet deep—a he-man's job.

In the case of a plant to be grown in a container, much heavy lifting is

involved. Even the container is apt to be heavy in itself; when lifted with earth and plant, it may weigh a few hundred pounds. This is surely no weight for the average women to toss about.

Few real camellia fans are satisfied to grow their favored plants out of doors. In some cases, their sensibilities, their heart action, or something else (maybe greed) can not stand to see many of their best flowers frozen brown before they are fully in bloom. To avoid this, a greenhouse is necessary. Even a cheap greenhouse soon runs into money—hundreds or even thousands of dollars. This is a major investment for a man.

Many people think all greenhouses are hot houses, but the camellia is, by nature, a cool-weather plant and requires a cool house. It does remarkably well in temperatures barely above the frost line of $F + 42^{\circ}$. In most of the camellia-growing parts of the United States very little artificial heating is required. In fact, too much heat and too little air circulation may cause considerable bud-drop. Unless the heating system is automatic, it is certainly a man's business to go to the greenhouse at night, to adjust the heaters when the weather forecast warns that a severe freeze is in the offing. This is no job for a woman unless the greenhouse is attached to the dwelling.

Fertilizing and spraying are two important chores demanded for good camellia horticulture, and both jobs may be very "messy." In the spraying of container-grown camellias, the spraying may be rendered more effective if the plants are laid down on the ground or floor and are turned so as to make certain that every leaf is wetted on the under surface. If no scale insects are ever seen on the leaves of a plant, said plant is probably not a camellia. The camellia is as much the natural host of the scale insects, as the dog is the natural host of fleas. Constant vigilance is needful for each host. If the greenhouse is nearly airtight, fumigating is quite

good for killing the scales. All of this is unpleasant work for a woman.

Greenhouse-grown camellias may be placed out of doors for the warmer part of the year. Moving heavy, container-grown plants weighing a few hundred pounds each, is surely a man's job, and even a man needs a handtruck to accomplish the feat. This chore can rarely be left to the ordinary "yard man." On the contrary, it ought to be done by a man who has a real love for the plants.

Pruning, propagation by cuttings or by any of the various methods of grafting, and the general reconditioning of camellias, all call for information and the skill to apply the information. Most men have enough leisure time to inform themselves from the printed page. Men usually know how to keep edged tools in good condition for the work. It is difficult to imagine a woman using a sharpening file and a vise, or a grindstone.

Phytogeographic exploration for new species of camellia, has almost invariably been done by men. It involves many hazards too arduous for women. But what a delight for a man!

The crossing of varieties and the hybridizing of species, is work for which a meticulous man is particularly suited, but in this connection, it must be admitted that the Soeur Guichard of Nantes have been outstandingly successful in the production of fine new varieties. The Williams' hybrids from Wales, are the work of a man—a work of pure fun.

Last but not least, exhibiting and competing for place or prize, is enough incentive to throw many men off their hobby-horses, and to impel them to ship or carry their blooms hundreds of miles to the show room, whence they return with ribbons or more substantial prizes—or doleful faces! But isn't it worth it?

To paraphrase Mr. R. B. Wilby in his booklet on camellias, "Camellias give more beauty than any one man is entitled to."

—ACS—

One of our "oldtimers" has suggested that ACS have a rule that all judges must review their Rules for Judging at least once each year. When did you read them last?

Report of Committee on Exhibitions and Awards and Notice of Proposed Changes in Rules

MILO ROWELL, *Chairman*, Fresno, Calif.

This Committee suffered a sad blow by the unhappy circumstances that its long time able chairman, Mr. Emmett Barnes, was of the unshakable opinion that it was undesirable for him to continue on as its chairman following the 1960 convention. The chairmanship was then transferred from the Atlantic Coast to the Pacific to a director who had not previously been a member of the Committee and was unfamiliar with its pending affairs. The prior Committee had worked for some years on a complete revision of new rules for appointing accredited judges and holding cooperative shows. Many of these new proposals had been submitted to and approved by the Board of Governors, but a few had not yet been presented or approved.

In late spring the new Committee was appointed and somewhat later was apprised of the foregoing situation. The Committee then determined that it was most desirable to present those rules which had been approved by the Board of Governors to the membership as soon as possible and promptly surveyed all of the resolutions of the Board of Governors pertaining to rules, reorganized, coordinated, consolidated, rephrased and indexed the rules so approved.

At this time the Committee had under discussion three very important proposed modifications of rules previously approved by the Board of Governors, but was of the opinion that the Committee could not revise, alter or make and publish rules contrary to prior action of the Board of Governors. In order to permit societies who wished to stage cooperative shows during the 1960-61 season and to prepare their respective rules, announcements and schedules with the authority of the President, the rules as authorized by the Board of Governors were published. *All shows held*

in accordance with rules as published in the September 1960 Journal shall constitute shows held in cooperation with the American Camellia Society.

The three proposed modifications which will be submitted by this Committee to the Board of Governors at its fall meeting pertain to:

1. Authorized classes.
2. Authorized certificates and awards.
3. Appointment of judges.

The Committee has been informed that the new authorized class of "Blooms Grown Outside, Protected" as defined in Chapter I, Section 2 (b) has been found confusing, controversial and not of substantial benefit. It is proposed to recommend that this class be eliminated for shows during the season 1961-62 and thereafter.

The Committee believes that during the 1960-61 season and particularly thereafter, that the showing of hybrid camellias will increase very substantially and in due course, will add many excellent and desirable shrubs and flowers for the enjoyment of camellia patrons. It, therefore, proposes to recommend the authorization of Outstanding Bloom Certificates, Gold and Silver Sweepstake Certificates and Highly Commended Seedling Certificates for hybrid camellias (that is interspecific crosses).

The third modification appears to the Committee as the most important and by far the most difficult. Our sole aim in modifying the rules respecting accrediting judges is to assure the appointment of only well qualified judges with the least red tape. The Committee has tentatively agreed on some radical revisions which we think will solve some problems in this most important field. With the assistance of the experience and judgment of the Board of Governors, we hope to propose new rules that will achieve our aims.

As soon as these revisions in the rules are settled, a booklet embodying all the new rules will be published for the use of all societies and accredited judges. It is the sincere hope of the Committee that these rules will be of help in staging shows; only experience will tell.

—ACS—

The Rish Camellia

S. D. COLEMAN, Fort Gaines, Georgia

Some thirty years ago, I noticed in the field at the Hogansville Nurseries at Hogansville, Georgia, ten to twelve plants that had the "Camellia look". In talking with Mr. John Wilkinson, who has since passed on to his reward, it seems that he had grown the plants from imported seed. All of these plants looked alike and bore three-inch white flowers. As one flower would drop, another would come in its place, and they are early bloomers.

The flowers look something like the old print by Chandler of the species *C. oleifera*. The Rish plant is more hardy-growing in the fields in sections where *Camellia japonica* cultivars do not do so well. I lost *C. oleifera* in southwest Georgia following a freeze.

I purchased two of the plants and planted them in the yard of the late Mrs. Ben Rish, where the name comes from. From these plants I got both seed and cuttings, sending some of the cuttings to the then Secretary of the American Camellia Society for the test garden. I do not think it was definitely identified. The foliage is a dull bluish green.

For several years I tried pollen of *DAIKAGURA* on this plant without success. The cultivar is now growing on a hillside among a group of seedlings, both *C. sasanqua* and *C. japonica* and the bees took over and I see the plants from seed resembling *C. sasanqua*. So it would seem it has the same chromosome count as *C. sasanqua*. This was confirmed by Dr. Henry T. Skinner, Director of U. S. National Arboretum, to whom I sent cuttings for further study and a chromosome count. The chromosome number is said to be $2N = 90$, but Dr. Skinner is making a count from the tip ends of new roots. If this count proves to be correct, it should readily hybridize with *C. sasanqua*, *oleifera*, *pitardii* and perhaps the *reticulatas* (not *CAPT. RAWES*).

The hardy Rish cultivar crossed with a large beautiful *C. sasanqua* such as *BETTIE PATRICIA* could produce a fine cold-hardy hybrid.

—ACS—

One show is toying with the idea of getting a chain grocery to purchase 10,000 show tickets at 10 cents each, and give them away to their customers. Admission otherwise would be at the regular price.

"Please, Your Honor"— **In Defense of the Yearbook**

(Some replies to Judge Mann's Letter to the Editor in the September Journal, advocating absorption of the Yearbook into four or more Journals)

"At present, as has been the case from the beginning, the material in the Yearbook is valuable for its enduring character, and I take issue with the statement that changing times have made much of the material obsolete. I constantly use my Yearbooks for reference purposes. They are now well cross-indexed which adds to their value.

"The Journals, on the other hand, have been used for data of current interest and value. That in my opinion is as it should be. It so happens that I keep the Quarterlies, in fact, in book form. My guess is that relatively few persons do so and much of the material therein is in consequence discarded. My guess is that if cultural material of lasting value were added the result would still be the same. The Quarterlies and Journals would certainly be difficult to satisfactorily index.

"In my opinion it would be a tragic mistake to add trivia to the class of material which the Yearbook contains and almost as much so to mix in Camellia material of lasting value with material of current interest. Such mixture would in my opinion add nothing in particular to the magazine but would, on the other hand, greatly detract from the value of the Yearbook."

"I cannot think of any greater step backward than abolition of the Yearbook and the reliance upon the Journal."

"Into the average home from actual count, considering this member's home average, there will arrive during a calendar year 11 monthly, 3 weekly and 2 quarterly publications, *excluding* business, professional and fraternal. It will be seen that these magazines total 296 separate issues in a year. Assuming an average thickness of $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch, forgetting the other dimensions ranging from pocket size

to 11 x 14, it will be evident that a yearly accumulation of these favorites, if stacked, will reach a height of over 9 feet! What modern home can spare this amount of storage space? Only grandma's 'plunder room' of childhood memory could accommodate this mass of material in comfort. These publications have all been carefully selected with the purpose of obtaining the very best in current literature covering a wide range of subjects suitable to the family's hobbies, interests and needs. All contain interesting and informative articles that perhaps we would like to save for future reference, but eventually lack of storage space dictates that most, if not all, must go.

"It is not my wish to consign any Journal or Quarterly of the ACS to the trash heap, but comes the day—during those disrupting days of fall or spring housecleaning—when some of them must follow the path of the magazines featuring that absolutely ideal house plan, those perfectly divine cocktail dresses and oh, those luscious, fabulous recipes we never found time to test! Before you condemn me for my heartless way with the Journals, let me say that they are thoroughly mutilated before landing on the trash pile, as all the beautiful paintings and photographs and the most valuable and worthwhile items have been clipped and pasted in a 'Camellia Scrapbook' along with camellia material gleaned from other sources. The latest of these scrapbooks has displaced Michael Shayne and some dull old law reports on the bookshelf.

"Very little is really lost camellia-wise in this household with the necessary elimination of the Journals, for in December comes the American Camellia Society Yearbook, from cover to cover crammed with information of interest to *all* members from teen-age camellia fans to the learned gentlemen with the phalanx of letters fol-

lowing their names: highly technical treatises on camellia propagation with unpronounceable botanical words and gobbledy-gook chemical formulas for the experts, right down to instructions to us simple-minded—"take two handful of manure . . ." Then there is the ready reference to the year's registration list of new varieties, all together, alphabetically, and on the last pages the list of members among which one may spot names and addresses of old and new friends. In further defense of the Yearbook, it arrives at a time when our interest in camellias is at its height and assures that all the latest and best information is literally at hand, whereas the Journals of the year may have been lost, mislaid or borrowed and not returned (a not infrequent occurrence).

"The Journals are perfect in their place—timely, currently newsy and entertaining—but of necessity contain a lot of material, such as show dates, election notices, various reports, and advertisements that are of only passing interest, so that if one's husband inadvertently uses the January Journal to light the first fire of fall in the fireplace, that is no cause to contemplate divorce, for rest assured mostly that of permanent and lasting value will appear in the Yearbook. Especially so, if the authorities who compile the material for the Yearbook would select the most valuable articles in the Journals for reprinting (perhaps in condensed form) in the Yearbook. There is only one National magazine that I can recall, other than the ACS, which publishes a yearbook and this one charges extra and it is obtainable only by special order! There is always space on our bookshelves for one more book—the ACS Yearbook—and if it is a tight fit, let me remind you, some of those Who-Done-Its are expendable.

"Journals may disappear, but a bound Yearbook will be preserved in public and private libraries, practically forever!

"Please, Your Honor, leave us have the Yearbook. Besides, don't they make lovely Christmas gifts to our non-growing but ever-loving-camellia friends?"

Remarks Concerning ACS President L. C. Wannamaker

HONORABLE ROBERT W. HEMPHILL
of South Carolina in the
U. S. House of Representatives
Tuesday, February 16, 1960

Mr. HEMPHILL. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the Record, I call the attention of the Congress to honor, recently elected for the second time, a distinguished citizen from my district, Mr. L. C. Wannamaker, whose recent reelection as president of the American Camellia Society is a significant recognition of his service as president during 1959, and his outstanding contributions to the cultural world. Mr. Wannamaker has had distinguished service with the South Carolina Legislature, and eminent success as a lawyer and a banker.

I enclose an article from the Camden Chronicle which I would like to have placed in the Record. It tells the story of Mr. Wannamaker, and his lovely wife, and the story of a beautiful garden of nature, a camellia named the GLADYS WANNAMAKER, honoring the devotion to things of beauty.

L. C. WANNAMAKER AGAIN HEADS CAMELLIA SOCIETY; WIFE SHARES HONORS

It was no surprise to Cheravians or even South Carolinians, that L. Caston Wannamaker was reelected president of the American Camellia Society at the national meeting in Jacksonville, Florida. Mr. Wannamaker had served a most successful tenure during 1959.

Sharing honors with her husband was Mrs. Wannamaker, who was featured in a delightful newspaper article in the Florida Times-Union, Jacksonville. In a picture of the couple, accompanying the article, Mr. Wannamaker is shown as he pins the first lady of the American Camellia Society.

Twenty years ago Mrs. Wannamaker planted a single camellia bush in her home garden. There was nothing special about the plant—just one of many lush ones in the lady's garden.

* Reprint from Congressional Record, Washington, D. C., Vol. 106, No. 26, Tuesday, February 16, 1960.

They know her as Mrs. L. Caston Wannamaker, first lady of the American Camellia Society, and wife of the current president. They also know her as Gladys Wannamaker, the woman for whom a new variety of camellias has been named.

True she planted the first shrub, and true she took him to his first camellia show, but he has been taking her ever since. During camellia season, they attend a show every Saturday at his bidding.

The GLADYS WANNAMAKER variety is a direct result of an idea he passed along when he was president of the South Carolina society several years ago. Mrs. Wannamaker relates that her husband suggested that members of the group should begin experimenting with seedlings and should select the best one to be used as a membership promotion gimmick.

The chosen variety would become the property of the South Carolina society and in order for other fanciers to obtain a scion—they would first have to send in two new memberships to the South Carolina society.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Ashby, of Charleston, who care for over 15,000 camellia seedlings in their own garden produced that one, in thousands of seedlings, that matures and blooms with a superior and lovelier flower instead of an inferior one to that of the parentage. They named it GLADYS WANNAMAKER as a tribute to their past state president's wife.

As far as the honoree knows, South Carolina's camellia society is the only group that has ever owned distribution rights on a variety registered with the American Camellia Society.

The GLADYS WANNAMAKER is a particularly lovely variety, according to its namesake.

She describes it as a large, soft, semidouble bloom with golden stamen and four petaloids. It has dark, glossy foliage, is cold resistant and does not shatter.

She adds that she could think of nothing more beautiful than the camellia to have her name tagged to.

The Hobby of Growing Camellias in Maryland

GEORGE N. THALMAN, Towson, Maryland

Camellia growing in the northern fringe of the "Camellia Belt," as Maryland is often called can be very rewarding, yes and sometimes disappointing. It is a wonderful hobby, filled with pleasure and satisfaction. Camellia culture engages not only the mind, but equally occupies the hands, providing an absorbing activity which is healthful and recreational.

While camellia growing in the Maryland area is generally thought of as a form of "Greenhouse Gardening," it is not at all necessary for the beginning hobbyist to start out with expensive equipment. Much satisfaction can be derived by growing camellias in a secluded corner or a location that is protected from the north and northwest winds and the early morning sunshine of winter.

A vacation trip into the camellia gardens of South Carolina, during the late winter of 1956-57, started my wife and me in the camellia growing hobby.

We were advised to start our collection of camellias with the thrifty growing, late blooming varieties such as, Mathotiana, Kumasaka, Rev. John Drayton, Blood of China, Pink Star and Governor Mouten.

Most novices and hobbyists start their collection of plants by including these varieties. Our plants withstood the rigors of Maryland winters, very well.

It is gratifying to note that in spite of our low temperatures, deep frost (over 12 inches) and dehydrating winds from the north and northwest, we are rewarded with lovely blooms in March, April and early May.

From the modest start of one-half dozen plants in the garden under the pine trees, we now have an enclosed patio in which we keep about 60 varieties during the winter. After blooming in the spring, these are moved outdoors under the trees.

There have been failures, mostly due to planting or transplanting "too deep." This difficult lesson was learned.

(Continued on page 25)

Collection of Rare Camellia Books

MRS. JUNE R. HENDERSON, Aiken, S. C.

(Mrs. P. Finley Henderson, Past President of the Garden Club of South Carolina and author of *Floralia*)

The Garden Club of South Carolina and its founder and first president, Mrs. Sheffield Phelps, have been honored by the gift of a splendid collection of horticultural books to The South Caroliniana Library at the University of South Carolina. This gift was made in May, 1959, by Miss Claudia Lee Phelps, daughter of the founder of the Garden Club of South Carolina. The donor of these books was the third president of this organization.

Mrs. Phelps was an eminent horticulturist. She began making her garden at "Rose Hill," her estate at Aiken, soon after the turn of the century, and during the years it has become one of the interesting and beautiful places in the country. She was as discriminating in the selection of volumes for her horticultural and botanical library as she was in the selection of plants for her garden. Mrs. Phelps sensed the value of books. In her travels in the years before the world had become garden conscious as it is today, she acquired many rare tomes both in this country and abroad. From this unique library Miss Phelps has made a gift of approximately two hundred volumes representing seventy-six titles.

Perhaps Mrs. Phelps' greatest horticultural interest was in the Camellia japonica. She grew the flowers of this genus to perfection both in her greenhouses and in her garden at "Rose Hill." Her collection of books on the subject of this plant was remarkably complete. Camellia growers in South Carolina are indeed fortunate that many of these beautiful volumes will now be available to them in the Caroliniana Library.

From the time the Camellia japonica was introduced to England and the European continent, in the middle 18th century, it inspired not only authors, who wrote descriptions of this oriental exotic, but also artists who did paintings and drawings of it. The volumes on the *C. japonica* in the Phelps collection are beautifully

illustrated with colored prints which show the types and varieties of this flower when grown at an earlier day.

One of the finest folios ever done on the Camellia japonica was by Samuel Curtis. The exact title of this work is: *A Monograph on the Genus Camellia*. This was published by J and J Arch in London in 1819. There are eight pages of text describing 21 varieties of camellias. Clara Maria Pope did five colored plates which illustrate this volume. These illustrations have never been surpassed in excellence in portraying the exquisite beauty of this flower.

There are two German publications on the subject of this flower which were done in 1828 and 1831 respectively. In 1830 an English volume was written by William Beattie Booth and published in London. This was entitled "Illustrations and descriptions of the plants which compose the natural order camellieae and the varieties of camellia japonica cultivated in the gardens of Great Britain." It contains illustrations of five species of Camellia, 16 varieties of *C. japonica* imported from China and 19 selected from those which had been raised from seed by growers in England. These illustrations were done by Alfred Chandler for whom the Camellia CHANDLERII, a variety still popular at the present time, was named.

In point of time, the next important publication was *Camellia Brittanica* in 1825, by Chandler and Buckingham. It is illustrated by eight colored plates by Alfred Chandler. Plates 1 and 2 portray the CAMELLIA CHANDLERII. "This being the most prized is named for Mr. Chandler."

It is indeed fortunate that in this group of books on the camellia are two monographs by Abbé Berlése. These are accepted by many growers as being the most helpful and practical source books for guidance in the cultivation of this plant today. These were published in France in 1840 and 1845, respectively.

Eliminating Root Pruning Of Seedlings

F. C. LEWIS, Norfolk, Virginia

About four years ago, I discovered by accident a method of planting camellia seed that eliminates the trouble and setback to the plant of tap root pruning.

I had over a gallon of seed given to me from one of the best camellia gardens in this area, Mr. Harry L. Miller's garden. This was the second year that Harry had given me seed. The first year I planted them in the greenhouse in sand, about four inches deep, on benches. When the tap roots reached the wooden bottom, they would turn and keep on going. I cut tap roots as much as ten inches long and transplanted into sand. After they grew feeder roots, I again transplanted; this time in soil and peat, and kept them in the greenhouse until they were well established. This took two winters and one summer. So, when Harry gave me the second batch of seed, I had a large cold frame that I was using as a place to store sand out of bounds from the many neighborhood cats. The sand was fifteen inches deep. So, to keep the tap roots from going straight down I used some old sheets of galvanized tin with approximately three inches of sand on top of the tin.

You can imagine the pleasant surprise the following spring when I got all set for the major operation (tap root pruning) and found that there were no tap roots to cut. Instead there was a ball of feeder roots to each plant as large as my fist. Some of these I canned; some I planted in the field.

Since then, I have tried soil instead of sand in trays with tin bottoms with 1/8 or 3/16" holes, 1½ to 2" apart for drainage; some in the greenhouse, some outside under a tree. The results are the same—when the tap root reaches the tin it disintegrates and feeder roots come.

If a person plants a few seed, I suggest using small cans; one seed per can. Make a trench and put the cans up to 6" apart. Leave approximately ½ inch of the can above ground. If your soil is heavy, make a trench and fill with sand for drainage.

Opening of Cut Camellia Buds*

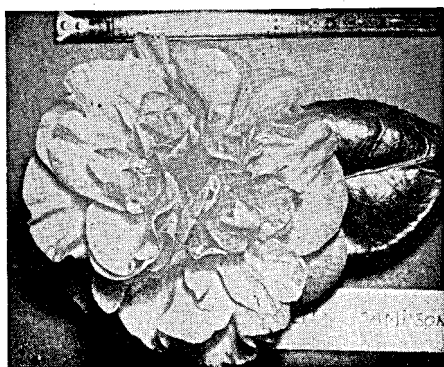
Following a talk on camellia culture before the Old Dominion Horticultural Society, Mr. Fred Huette, Director of the Norfolk Municipal Gardens, said that the belief is common that camellia buds will not open after cutting. To disprove this, he exhibited a large vase of blooms that had been cut two weeks previously, with buds showing color, which had opened perfectly. He said that the secret was long stems. In this case he used stems 8 to 12 inches long, and pointed out that lacerating the ends of the stems was helpful. You have to watch the water in the container as the flowers are very thirsty. Evidently, the hormones that control flower growth are located some distance from the bloom.

* Reported in *Gardening News*, a monthly publication of the Coleman Nursery of Portsmouth, Virginia.

—ACS—

Ellen Sampson From New Zealand

A huge domed and ruffled incomplete double variable to semidouble of rose carmine in some forms very similar to CAPTAIN RAWES reticulata. Blooms up to 6" in diameter. Compact spreading growth of good vigor. Blooms midseason to late. Released by Camellia Grove in 1958. A cutting from the original seedling of unknown parentage was grown by Mrs. Haynes of Wellington, New Zealand. Mr. Fisher on a visit to N. Z. thought so highly of it that he brought scions back to his nursery in N. S. W. and propagated it. Mrs. Haynes plant died and the variety has been re-established in N. Z. from Australia.



ELLEN SAMPSON

Greensboro's First Camellia

DR. NEAL SHEFFIELD, SR., Greensboro, N. C.

Greensboro, N. C., has had a camellia for more than sixty years. This plant, as well as those in the lower South were known as "Japonicas" in the early years of this century. Where did Greensboro's first camellia come from? When and how was it acquired? From talking with elderly people of the city and reading articles written on the subject it appears that this plant had a romantic origin and was an international good will ambassador from our mother country, England.

During the late nineties a gentleman from England came to this country to gain knowledge of the weaving industry. He spent some time with the Cone Mills. Upon his return to England he wished to show his appreciation for the hospitality he received here, so he sent to the Cone family three small Camellia Japonica plants, which until this time had never been seen in Greensboro. These plants were turned over to the Cone's gardener, a Mr. Duffie, who kept them in his greenhouse. One of the plants was acquired by a florist named Dodson who had a greenhouse at the corner of Asheboro and Arlington Streets. The poorest plant of the three was given to the late D. M. Sullivan who lived on Voltz Street. It is not known what became of the other two plants, but Mr. Sullivan nursed his plant for four or five years. He planted it in a tub and placed it indoors during the winter months. Eventually it was planted out of doors, and it thrived at this location. You can imagine the pleasure and delight of the townspeople and friends who viewed this plant in its array of beauty when in full bloom in the late March and early April. It seems that Mr. Sullivan was liberal with cuttings of his plant and scores of rootings were made by his friends and today there are many fine specimen plants growing in Greensboro.

On November 5, 1950, the late Walter E. Campbell, an eminent horticulturist, who wrote a garden column for the Greensboro Daily News

for twenty-five years, had this to say about the Greensboro Camellia: "The two species of camellias used throughout the middle south are Japonica and Sasanqua, the latter being considered more hardy than the Japonica. The one variety most often seen in this locality are all grown from one plant which was brought from England to Greensboro in 1893. This is a semi-double red which throughout the years had developed unusual hardiness for a Camellia Japonica and today is root hardy, although most every plant in Greensboro was killed practically to the ground during the below zero spell on January 20, 21, 22, 1940.

No one seems to know just what variety this is. I have sent it to camellia specialists at Orton Gardens, Charleston, Richmond, and Mobile, and they all report it must be a seedling which was never propagated under a definite name and in order that it have some name when referring to it, I have named it the Greensboro Camellia.

The finest specimen of this plant that I know of growing in this area can be found at the home of Mrs. S. W. Shaffer, 681 Percy Street. Mr. and Mrs. John A. Kellenberger have an excellent plant, which though killed to the ground in 1940, has grown back into good shape again. Mr. Earl Causey has a fine plant rooted from a cutting of the Sullivan plant by his father, the late Mr. H. F. Causey on South Elm Street."

For the last ten years this Camellia has had the unofficial name Greensboro. It would be a fine gesture for our Men's Piedmont Camellia Club to carry out the wishes of the late Mr. Walter E. Campbell and submit whatever information necessary to get this plant registered with the American Camellia Society. It would be a tribute to Mr. Campbell who has done more for horticulture in this Piedmont area than any other man in the last twenty-five years, and it would give a name (officially) to a very fine hardy Camellia which is fast migrating to the North.

Camellias in Maryland

(Continued from page 14)

ed the hard way by losing a few very fine plants, that settled in the containers too deep after transplanting. Nevertheless, the failures were soon forgotten and the memories of the fine blooming seasons of the other plants cause us to search for new names and new plants of the camellia world.

Perhaps the most enriching aspect of all, is the many interesting people with whom one forms friendships, for camellias appeal especially to people with discriminating tastes. Visiting with others who are growing camellias constitutes one of the most pleasant things connected with this hobby.

Our membership with the Pioneer Camellia Society of Maryland, has added a full measure of enjoyment, and the members stand ready to help you get a maximum joy and recreation from camellia growing in Maryland.

ANN SOTHERN

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Two-Eye Scions—\$2.50 Each

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Camellias

the Journal of the
American Camellia Society

In response to many requests, we have arranged with a manufacturer to provide us with binders especially made to accommodate the new 8½ x 11 inch Journals.

These are to be made of green imitation leather with gold lettering on the spine and front. There are 20 wire holders in each, which should accommodate at least twelve issues of the Journal.

These handsome binders will protect your Journals and prevent their loss.

Only \$2.25 Each Postpaid

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Program Planning

Our office receives many requests for suggestions for local club programs, slides, films, speakers, printed material and subjects of interest to beginners as well as to experienced camellia growers. We are always glad to assist in any way possible. The Inter-Society Relations Committee, with Ernest Judice as chairman, and Milton Brown and Alton Parker, has discussed the desirability of getting out a program planning section of the Journal or a booklet, with contributions of successful programs put on by various local societies and clubs. We are open to suggestions.

Many local organizations have barbecues, dinner meetings, picnics or breakfasts, in connection with their programs. Some strictly Men's clubs have Ladies Night. Some meet every month during the year. Many invite speakers from a distance, while others use their own members who are capable of presenting excellent programs. Demonstrations of grafting, rooting, pruning and spraying are always instructive. Small shows are a regular feature of many meetings. Short book reviews can be interesting. Panels, forums or round tables are worthwhile. Garden, nursery and greenhouse tours are always enjoyable. Please submit some of your interesting programs.

OUR LADY NURSERYMEN would make an interesting article. In the Southeast there are Mrs. Margaret Higdon of Charleston, Mrs. Elizabeth Hicklin of Columbia, Mrs. Ross (Rhea) Hayes and Mrs. Broughton Powell of Thomasville, Mrs. Sam (Ferol) Zerkowsky of Slidell, Mrs. Felix Rivere and Mrs. Ray Davis of Mobile. On the West Coast are Mrs. Billie McCaskill and Mrs. Elizabeth Councilman. I'm sure there are others I have failed to mention. We would like to hear of others, together with a sketch of each, including those mentioned above.

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Welcome to Our New Garden Center

Specializing in

CAMELLIAS

NEW AND OLD

Located on Beautiful Magnolia
Garden Road (Hwy. 61)
CHARLESTON, S. C.



Scions of Margaret Wells

This outstanding, very large, deep rose, shading to purple on edge of petals was illustrated on the cover of the April CAMELLIAS, the Journal of the American Camellia Society, and described therein.

Winner of two American Camellia Society Highly Commended Seedling Certificates and the Zerkowsky Trophy for best seedling 1960 Ozone Camellia Show.

Scions—\$5.00 for two eyes postpaid

From the originator,

Dr. Reeves F. Wells

P. O. BOX 1073

PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA

Also scions from original plants of GAIL - VALERIE - JAYLYLE \$3.00 Each



THE LIBRARY TABLE



GARDENS OF WESTERN EUROPE

"Gardens of Western Europe" is the title of a beautifully illustrated handbook just published by the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. It fulfills the great need for an up-to-date guide to the most noteworthy private gardens, parks, botanic gardens and nurseries open to visitors abroad.

Edited by Frederick G. Meyer, a botanist with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, this handbook is a concise guide to places of genuine horticultural interest in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

One special virtue of this 96-page book is that within the last few years, with the assistance of the Longwood Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Meyer have visited gardens in all the regions covered except Luxembourg and Scandinavia. The text, therefore, is based on first-hand observation. For areas not visited by the Meyers, European and American authorities have contributed separate articles about them.

Several hundred places have been selected for inclusion here. Pertinent facts given about each one include its location, area, historic background, style of garden and also the architecture of buildings wherever this is significant, and notable plants or plant collections well worth seeing. Since many of the gardens date back several hundred years, they are especially rich in magnificent old specimens of trees and evergreens.

Many of the commercial establishments in Europe, from which have come the best present-day varieties of garden and greenhouse ornamentals, including tuberous begonias, azaleas, roses, bulbs, perennials, trees and shrubs, are mentioned in the running text. Then, at the end of the handbook, nearly one hundred are listed, by country, with addresses and notations of their specialties.

There are 148 top quality halftone illustrations in this handbook, reproduced from photographs taken by the editor and some of the best landscape photographers from this country and abroad. The illustrations alone are a rich treasury of reference material. The scope of subjects pictured is an indication of the breadth of the handbook's coverage. They include the Bagatelle rose garden and the gardens of the Chateau of Villandry in France, the tropical forest in Frankfurt's famous Palm Garden; the reconstructed gardens at Pompeii; the Keukenhof Gardens near Lisse in the Netherlands; the spectacular subtropical garden in the Parque de Monserrate in Portugal; Linnaeus' garden in Sweden; and the Swiss horticultural show in Zurich.

This paper covered handbook, with a page size of 6 by 9 inches, will fit easily into the travel bag of every gardener going to Europe. And for those who may never leave home, it offers stimulating reading and new ideas in landscape design.

"Gardens of Western Europe" is the latest handbook in the popular series published as a public service by the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. It is available by mail

for one dollar from the Garden at Brooklyn 25, N. Y.

—ACS—

NEW TECHNIQUES IN CAMELLIA PLANT BREEDING, "SEED GRAFTING" AND STORAGE OF POLLEN

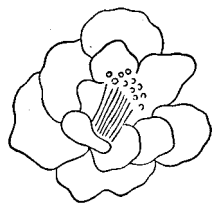
This little leaflet of 8 pages by John R. Sobeck, will be of interest to the many amateurs who are hybridizing camellias. As Mr. Sobeck points out, one of the obstacles in bringing seedlings into flower is the time element—from three to ten or more years. To overcome this long wait, he describes as highly successful what he calls "seed grafting", actually grafting of seedlings when they are quite small and only a few months old. For example, he crossed *C. granthamiana* with *C. reticulata* in 1959, the seed were planted in October and "seed grafted" in February, 1960. Four months later the grafts were 24 inches high. He states that they will flower this winter. The technique is illustrated with line drawings and photographs. The cover is a color plate of Mrs. ROSINA SOBECK, a hybrid resulting from a cross of *C. saluenensis* with *C. reticulata* CAPTAIN RAWES, heretofore said to be sterile. Storage of pollen and breeding techniques are briefly discussed.

Mr. Sobeck is assisting Mrs. Ralph Peer in carrying on the hybridizing program begun by the late Mr. Peer some years ago. The booklet may be ordered from Mr. Sobeck, 955 East Edgeware Road, Los Angeles 26, California. Price \$2.50.

—ACS—

Mr. and Mrs. Horace N. Smith, Memphis, Tenn., arranged to have a lot of camellia seed irradiated at the University of Florida's Cobalt 60 Irradiation Facilities in Gainesville. We shall be interested in hearing of the results.

CAMELLIANA



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A new and truly unusual hybrid camellia with white petal bases shading to orchid pink with orchid pink veining. Fluted strap petals, and central, trumpet-shaped collection of stamens, sometimes with flags and petaloids. Outstanding foliage and growth habit.

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2-year graft \$25.00

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ROUTE 1

Box 478

THEODORE, ALABAMA

Supplemental List of Show Dates, 1961

Cordele, Georgia (The Federated Garden Clubs of Cordele and Crisp County)	Jan. 7-8
Natchez, Mississippi (Pilgrimage Garden Club)— (Correction, 8th only)	Jan. 8
Augusta, Georgia (Daniel Village Merchant's Association) <i>Correction</i>	Jan. 14-15
Charleston, S. C. (The Men's Camellia Society)	Jan. 14-15
Tifton, Georgia (Council of Garden Clubs of Tifton)	Jan. 18
Cairo, Georgia (Cario Garden Club Council)	Jan. 21-22
Franklinton, Louisiana (The Home and Garden Club of The Franklinton)	Jan. 21-22
Moultrie, Georgia (Cherokee Garden Club)	Jan. 21-22
Pensacola, Florida (Men's Camellia Club of Pensacola)	Jan. 21-22
Tallahassee, Florida (Tallahassee Garden Club & Men's Camellia Club)	Jan. 21-22
Marianna, Florida (Marianna Camellia Club)	Jan. 28-29
Ocala, Florida (The Pioneer Garden Club of Ocala)	Feb. 4-5
Moss Point, Mississippi (Moss Point Men's Camellia Club)	Feb. 4-5
Walterboro, South Carolina (The Walterboro Camellia Society)	Feb. 9
Albany, Georgia (Southwest Georgia Federate Garden Clubs of Albany)	Feb. 11-12
Plains, Georgia (The Garden Clubs of Plains, Georgia)	Feb. 11-12
Georgetown, South Carolina (Georgetown Garden Club)	Feb. 11-12
Wilmington, North Carolina (Men's Tidewater Garden Club)	Feb. 18-19
Temple City, California (Temple City Camellia Society)	Feb. 18-19
Minden, Louisiana (The Minden Camellia Club)	Feb. 25-26
Clinton, North Carolina (Coharie Garden Club)	Mar. 11-12
Texarkana, Texas (Texarkana Men's Camellia Club)	Mar. 11-12
Elizabeth City, North Carolina (Men's Horticultural Society of the Albemarle)	Mar. 18-19

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1-year graft \$25
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PLANT
GROW BETTER!

TRANSPLANTING

Under 1-Year Plants:

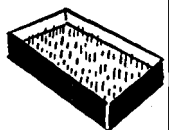
1 teaspoon chloromone
per quart of water. Dip
roots in this, then plant.



GRAFTING

Balled and Burlapped Plants:

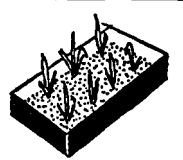
1 tablespoon chloromone
per quart of water, pour
gently into burlap, then
plant.



GERMINATE SEED

GRAFTING

1 part chloromone to 3
parts water. Dip shaped
end of scion only in
solution, then insert in
understock.



ROOTING CUTTINGS

CHLOROMONE — A liquid plant hormone works miracles with grafting, rooting, germination.

CHLOROMONE applied to plant roots allows transplanting anytime.

INSTRUCTIONS TESTED — PROVED!
FOLLOW CLOSELY FOR BEST RESULTS!

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Advice to the Camellia-Lorn

MARTHA ELLIS (MRS. RUTHERFORD ELLIS) Atlanta, Georgia

I CAN AFFORD ONLY ONE CAMELLIA BUSH TO PLANT OUTSIDE
WHAT SHALL IT BE?

Lady Clare, maybe?

A large pink blossom with yellow stamens in the center; showy on the bush, but apt to lose its head on your shoulder.

White Empress?

Opens before frost and won't perish of cold. If your heart is set on white, this is it!

Arejishi?

The earliest of the reds.

Ville de Nantes?

A beautiful variegated variety, quite tough.

Berenice Boddie?

A pale pink blossom, small and dainty; stands a lot of cold weather . . . really a sweetie pie if you are not ambitious for size.

BUT I WANT A FORMAL DOUBLE!

Better get a late bloomer, then, that waits until the hard freezes are gone.

Glenn 40 makes a handsome shrub—bright red blossoms.

Rubra Plena (Pope Pius or Eugene Napoleon)—an old time favorite with plenty of rose colored blooms.

Pink Perfection. Lovely color but apt to get frost-bit. Plant it near the house, in a sheltered position.

WHAT ELSE?

Herme, *variegated*, and *Herme*, *Rose* will never fail you in the Piedmont area.

Other good varieties grown successfully in the Atlanta area outside are:

Daikagura	Magnoliaeflora	Adolphe Audusson
Elegans	Dr. Tinsley	Pink Champagne
Mathotiana	R. L. Wheeler	Flame

Don't forget the *Camellia Sasanqua*. There are some beautiful new varieties that are double. All bloom in early fall.

WHAT SHALL I FEED MY NEW PLANT?

Any good commercial fertilizer that is planned with Camellias and Azaleas in mind. (They like acid soil.) Reliance, Hastings and Vigoro all put out Camellia and Azalea Specials.

WHEN AND HOW MUCH?

A big double handful—(men's hands)—spread around the base of the plant and watered in. Don't scratch up those near-the-surface roots. Apply right after blooming is over, and again in early fall.

HOW ABOUT COW MANURE?

O.K.O.K.—but it does have weeds.

HOW ABOUT FISH MEAL? BLOOD MEAL? SCOTCH SOOT? AND LIQUID MANURE?

Now you're putting yourself in a class with the SECRET FORMULA girls and boys—the ones who are trying for Best-in-the-Show! I can't tell you—but this I do know about Fish Meal—It may make beautiful blooms but, without doubt, it is the smelliest ever was smole! And why do they tell you to dilute liquid manure to the color of weak tea! Tea lovers! Arise!

I HAVE ONE PERFECT BLOSSOM. WHAT SHALL I DO WITH IT?

Wear it.

Florist wire, the size used for sweetheart roses, may be put through the back of the blossom and twisted around the stem to keep the head from falling off.

Keep it.

Put it on a wet paper towel in a closed container in the refrigerator. It will keep fresh for days.

Float it.

Just a little water in a crystal ashtray, or any shallow bowl; place low, so you can look down on it.

Show it off.

Try an Oriental arrangement, use in combination with forced quince or fruit blossoms, or trimmed pine.

Give it away.

A Camellia blossom expresses friendship on any occasion, happy or sad. You'll be surprised at the response when you

SAY IT WITH CAMELLIAS!

I AM A COMPLETE NOVICE. HOW SHALL I LEARN ABOUT CAMELLIAS?

Begin now, before you go home from the show! Make a list of the varieties that appeal to you here.

Talk to a neighbor who has already started his collection. See which ones are doing well.

Join a Camellia Society.

Send off for several *Camellia catalogues* and order one or two small plants.

Look in the Yellow Section of the phone book for local nurseries.

Become a Member of the American Camellia Society. You will receive a quarterly magazine and a handsome yearbook, full of information about growing, and propagating, and about new varieties. The yearbook has pictures of prize-winning flower arrangements; best from all the camellia shows, which each year compete under the Society's rules, using the same theme all over the country. \$6.00 covers membership, *Camellias*, the Journal of the American Camellia Society, and yearbook.

American Camellia Society

Box 465, Tifton, Georgia

LUCK TO YOU! AND DON'T FAIL TO ENTER A BLOOM IN THE SHOW NEXT YEAR! THAT WON'T COST YOU A PENNY!

HANDBOOK ON BREEDING ORNAMENTAL PLANTS, Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, Brooklyn 25, N. Y., 1959, \$1.00. Another of the excellent series by this fine organization. Following the theme outlined in the title, guest editor George L. Slate, recipient of the MGCA Gold Medal in 1959, has assembled 37 articles on all phases of ornamental plant breeding.

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Graft Chimera

1 yr. graft—gal.	\$ 7.50
1 yr. graft—B & B	12.50
2 yr. graft—B & B	17.50

ANNIVERSARY

1 yr. graft—gal.	\$ 5.00
1 yr. graft—B & B	7.50
2 yr. graft—B & B	12.50

CHANSONETTE

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1 yr. graft—B & B	\$ 7.50
2 yr. graft—B & B	12.50
Crating per plant	\$ 2.00
Scions of above, ea.	\$ 2.00

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Complete Instruction on How to
Organize and Produce a Successful
Camellia Show

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\$10.00 Per Dozen

Include 50 Cents with Each Order to
Cover Postage and Handling

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SOCIETY**

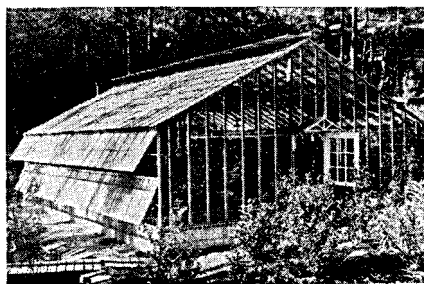
% H. E. Ashby

1372 Edgewater Drive

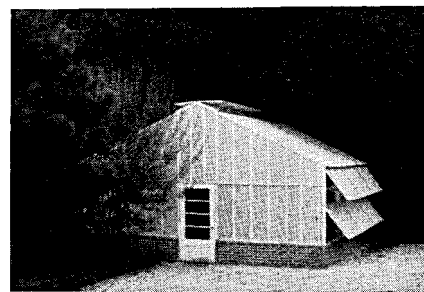
Charleston, S. C.

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Glass Camellia House



Fiber Glass Camellia House

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Write for complete data on National Camellia houses.

NATIONAL GREENHOUSE CO.

400 E. Main St.

Pana, Illinois

Sacramento's Festival

(Continued from page 12)

On Saturday, March 12, the annual Children's Camellia Parade brought joy to thousands of spectators. Pint-sized floats of amazing ingenuity and originality were proudly presented by approximately 1,000 children in costumes appropriate to the Pony Express theme they depicted. The parade, complete with bands and special marching units, is sponsored by the city, county, and parochial schools, and the City Recreation Department. Placing floats receive trophies and every participant receives a beautiful ribbon. The big award, however, is in the joy of planning the floats and costumes and the thrill of marching in a parade.

The Festival came to a most successful close on Sunday when the Northern California Folk Dance Council staged their annual Camellia Folk Dance Pageant. A "standing room only" audience enjoyed the beautiful spectacle of folk dances presented by 19 different dance groups from 14 communities throughout the State of California. Queen Julie and her court watched from a covered wagon setting as dances native to many countries were performed in authentic costumes. There is no admission charge to the Camellia Show, the Parade, or the Folk Dance Festival. Complete support is afforded by the City, County, and the merchant groups. Any profits from

other events revert to worthwhile charities.

Plans are under way for the Seventh Annual Camellia Festival next March 3-12. Each year has demonstrated a healthy and substantial growth. We look forward to the day when all of you good people will come to this great Camellia Capital to enjoy with us camellias at their very best—bringing joy and pleasure to countless thousands.

—ACS—

Variety Popularity Polls

In the early days of the ACS, camellia popularity polls were frequently made. Why these were discontinued isn't known. Certainly it would be interesting to compare the 10 most popular varieties the year the ACS was founded (1945) as listed in the 1947 Yearbook, with those most popular in 1960. For the 1944-45 poll it was specified that they were to be the best outdoor varieties. From four hundred ballots mailed out, 201 replies were received. Total varieties voted for—185. The top ten were as follows:

1. MATHOTIANA
2. ELEGANS
3. ALBA PLENA
4. HERME
5. DONCKELARIJ
6. FRAU MINNA SEIDEL
(Pink Perfection)
7. DEBUTANTE
8. DAIKAGURA

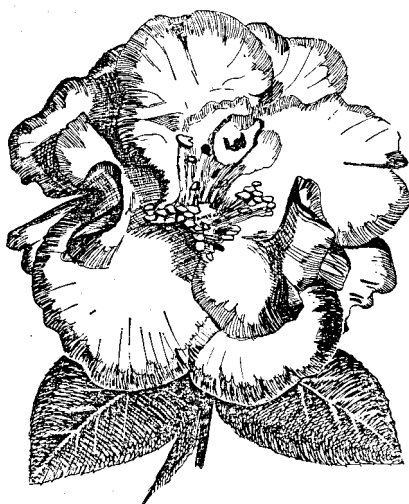
9. PROFESSOR CHARLES S. SARGENT
10. LADY CLARE

Two years later a more extensive poll was conducted, resulting in the following fifteen listed for the U. S. as a whole:

1. MATHOTIANA
2. ALBA PLENA
3. DONCKELARIJ
4. DEBUTANTE
5. ELEGANS
6. DAIKAGURA
7. ROSEA SUPERBA
8. FRAU MINNA SEIDEL
(Pink Perfection)
9. VICTOR EMMANUEL
10. MAGNOLIAEFLORA
11. LADY CLARE
12. ADOLPHE AUDUSSON
13. C. M. HOVEY (at that time confused with COL. FIREY and MATHOTIANA VAR.)
14. GIGANTEA
15. VILLE DE NANTES

Many have suggested that we conduct another poll, however the cost of mailing out ballots is prohibitive. (The present voting for the Atlantic Coast Directors cost \$350.00 in postage alone.) For this reason please list your top 15 favorites, under glass or outdoors, on a postal card and mail to the Secretary, Box 465, Tifton, Georgia who will tally the votes later.

Notice a new comer VILLE DE NANTES which just made the grade on the latter poll. At that time VILLE a recent importation, was just becoming known.



Distinctive New Camellia *Betty Sheffield Supreme*

First Release — Fall, 1960

America's most talked-about and sought-after Camellia. Acclaimed by fanciers everywhere who have seen it in shows and on bushes at the nursery. Good quality plants available.

Fine field and container grown new All-America Camellias for 1961, **King's Ransom** (japonica) and **Bonnie Marie** (hybrid) now ready, and many others of the best and newest varieties.

We grow quality Camellias, Roses and Daylilies in a wide assortment of varieties and beautifully illustrated catalog is free. Visitors are always welcome. You do not have to buy every time you come.

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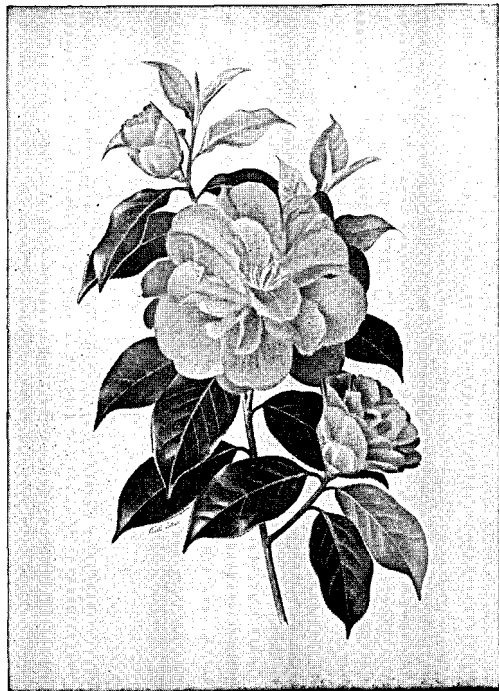
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THE CAMELLIA

Volume II

Edited by BERYL LESLIE URQUHART

with 14 reproductions of paintings by PAUL JONES and 2 by RAYMOND BOOTH



C. reticulata "Tzepao"

LIST OF PLATES

Camellia reticulata *forma reticulata*
Camellia reticulata "Robert Fortune" ("Pagoda")
Camellia reticulata "Liuyehyinhung" ("Willow Wand")
Camellia reticulata "Tzepao" ("Purple Gown")
Camellia reticulata "Tayinhung" ("Shot Silk")
Camellia reticulata "Shihtzetou" ("Lion Head")
Camellia × *williamsii* "Donation"
Camellia japonica "Lanarth"
Camellia japonica "Polar Bear"
Camellia japonica "Dian Hartman"
Camellia japonica "Mrs. D. W. Davis"
Camellia japonica "Guest of Honor"
Camellia japonica "Saudade de Martins Branco"
Camellia japonica "Lady Vansittart"
Camellia japonica "Mathotiana Alba"
Camellia japonica "Adelina Patti"

Those who have seen Volume I will require no further recommendation of the superbly executed work by these two notable artists and by the printer.

THIS SECOND VOLUME is particularly important as it features the first fine artist's paintings of the magnificent "Yunnan Reticulatas." The origin and introduction of these to western horticulture is fully discussed in the introduction and in the botanical and historical notes which accompany each plate.

The format of this volume is similar to that of Volume I, namely 18 inches by 13 inches, with plates painted in full life-size and reproduced in 8-colour litho-offset on hand-made paper. The 24 pages of text include indexes of the plates in both Volume I and Volume II.

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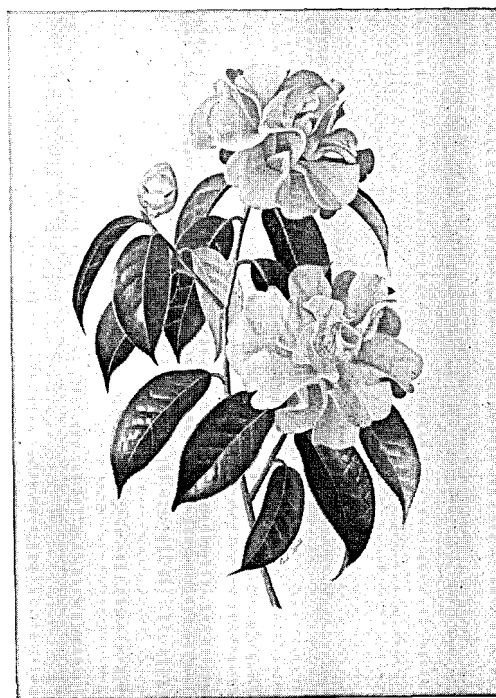
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Obtainable from

THE LESLIE URQUHART PRESS

Plaw Hatch Hall, Sharpthorne, Sussex, England



C. reticulata "Tayinhung"



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WITH
REMOVABLE ALUMINUM
NAME-PLATE

Sturdy, non-rusting . . . just the thing to make identification attractive and permanent. Separate aluminum name-plate is quickly inserted; can be written on in pencil.

Sizes (A) 1" x 3" x 9½"
(B) 1" x 3" x 18"
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	A	B	C
100	\$7.50	\$12.50	\$14.00
50	4.50	7.50	8.00
25	2.50	4.50	4.75
10	1.25	2.50	2.75

EXTRA NAME-PLATES,
per 100, \$1.25

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It provides them with needed part-time employment.

Youth Opportunity is under the supervision of a Red Feather organization.

YOUTH OPPORTUNITY

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CINCINNATI 14, OHIO

Early Blooms Reported

My CALIFORNIA bloomed June 13th. This plant is the same one in the same place that produced blooms last year June 11, 24, and August 27. This camellia normally blooms from December 20 to March 31st. It receives direct sun rays after noon as well as reflected rays from my neighbor's driveway.

My SPECIAL TRIBUTE which has been treated with an aqueous solution of Gibberelin produced a 4½-inch bloom on July 20th. There will be more blooms in a few weeks. The buds have been treated. The normal blooming season for the SPECIAL TRIBUTE is from February 5th to April 20th.

Nuccio's seedling, No. 5647, which I have, is a very late bloomer (or early?) being most productive during June. During its five years of blooming it has bloomed only twice in May. This year it has bloomed on July 27 and August 3. The three remaining old buds apparently will not fully open.

The part of my CAPT. RAWES which has been treated with Gibberelin, has some very large buds (¾ inches in diameter and 1½ inches long) which should start blooming about September 1st. The normal blooming period is March 1 to April 10. Presently the normal buds are approximately ⅝-inch in diameter.

There have been only two months in which I have had no camellias bloom since August, 1956. I do not expect this to happen again!

FRANK F. REED,
Pasadena, California.

You no doubt have received letters telling you about early blooms, and now I come along and want to tell you about a D. W. DAVIS that bloomed for me on July 30th and to prove that this is so, I am enclosing a slide so you can see the picture and read the details under it. This was a break bloom. It came on a scion that was grafted in February, but I thought it was interesting and that you might like to know that a D. W. DAVIS would bloom in July—or has bloomed in July!

D. LEON WILSON,
Macon, Georgia.

I would like to report that my friend, Dr. T. R. Zimmerman, High Point, N. C. had two beautiful blooms August 11th on a DAIKAGURA.

MRS. FRED NEECE.

This is to report my first camellia bloom of the season, SEPTEMBER MORN, August 17th, 1960.

A. J. MARTIN,
North Charleston, S. C.

I wish to advise that as of this date, September 2nd, I have in my garden an open DAIKAGURA (bright pink splotched with white). So far as I have been able to learn, this is the first bloom in this vicinity. There are a number of buds on the bush which will be open in a few days.

C. A. DAVIS,
Natchez, Miss.

WE RECOMMEND

MATHOTIANA SUPREME and TOMORROW as *Outstanding new Camellias*

PLEASE SEE YOUR LOCAL NURSERYMAN FOR THESE PLANTS

Flowerwood Nursery, Inc.

(Wholesale Only)

ROUTE 1, Box 130

MOBILE, ALABAMA

New Varieties Registered . . .

POWDER PUFF (No. 513): A 12-year-old chance seedling first flowered in 1956, originated and propagated by Alpha M. Hartman, San Fernando, Calif. Plant growth is average, medium in rate. The medium green leaves average 3 inches in length, 2 inches in width. The white peony form flowers are 2 inches in diameter, 1¼ inches in depth, have 10 petals and 139 petaloids, no stamens. The flowers have very good texture and hold well. Blooms January-April.

RED BUTTON (No. 514): A 10-year-old chance seedling first bloomed in 1958. Originated by Mr. John Andrey, Sylmar, California, and propagated by Alpha M. Hartman. Plant growth is upright and rather dense, medium in rate. The light green leaves average 2¾ inches in length, 1¼ inches in width. The deep red anemone form flowers are 2 inches in diameter, ¾ inches in depth, have 8 petals and 60 petaloids with very tight center. Flowers are said to be of very fine texture, of perfect formation and hold extremely well. Blooms January-March.

LENORE WEIL (No. 515): A sport of Mrs. Baldwin Wood, first observed in 1953 and first propagated in 1954 by Dr. Nathan Weil, Jr., Jacksonville, Florida. Plant growth is spreading, with medium rate of growth. The dark green leaves average 3½ inches in length by 1¼ inches in width. The pink anemone form flower is a deep pink near the base, fading to blush pink near the petal edges, with rose stripes and stippling, yellow stamens. There are 19 petals and 7 to 9 petaloids. Blooms November-March.

ELIZABETH DOWD (No. 516): A 9-year-old chance seedling which first bloomed in 1959, grown by Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Ashby, Charleston, S. C. Plant growth is upright and open, of rapid rate, with light green leaves. The flower is white, rose form double, 4½ to 5 inches in diameter, 2½ inches in depth, with 25 petals having small dashes of pink on some petals. Golden stamens. Blooms Mid-season.

MARGUERITE CANNON (No. 517): A 9-year-old chance seedling that first bloomed in 1959, grown by Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Ashby, Charleston, S. C., and propagated by Mark Cannon, Dothan, Alabama. Plant growth is spreading, open and of slow rate, with light green leaves. Flowers are clear pink, semidouble, 5 inches in diameter and 1½ inches in depth, with 18 petals. It is stated that the flowers are large to very large, distinctive, with many large, fluted petals having a frilly and ruffled appearance; of excellent texture and exceptional holding or lasting qualities. Blooms Midseason to Late.

ETHEL McGEE (No. 518): A 9-year-old chance seedling, first bloomed in 1956, originated by Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Ashby, Charleston, S. C. Plant growth is upright, open, medium rate of growth. The light green leaves are 4½ inches in length, 2 inches in width. The peony form pink flower is 4 to 4½ inches in diameter, 2½ inches in depth, with 45 petals and 25 petaloids, golden stamens. Said to be long lasting and does not shatter. Blooms Midseason.

ANNETTE GEHRY (No. 519): A 6-year-old chance seedling first bloomed December, 1957, originated by

Dr. E. L. Gehry, Orangeburg, S. C., propagated by Gerbing Camellia Nursery, Fernandina Beach, Florida. Growth habit is upright, dense and rapid. The dark green leaves are 3 to 4 inches in length, 2 to 3 inches in width. The anemone form flower is a light lavender-pink shading to a white center, with yellow stamens. Flowers are 4½ inches in diameter, 3 inches in depth. It is stated that the plant grafts and roots easily, is a heavy budder and very cold hardy. Blooms start on plant in early October and bloom profusely until late January.

STANDARD ENTRY CARDS FOR CAMELLIA SHOWS

This Entry Card is now being used by most of the Camellia Shows. See January issue of *Camellias*, for cut.

Prices

4,000 and Up—\$7.50 Per M
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Cold Hardy Camellias— New Rochelle, N. Y.

W. S. GROSS,¹ New Rochelle, New York

It might be of interest to other camellia society members to know that there are camellias being grown successfully as far north as New Rochelle, New York.

There were perfect blooms on my ROSEA SUPERBA, MATHOTIANA SUPREME, PURITY, and an unknown variegated semidouble. ADMIRAL NIMITZ produced a profusion of flowers. I also had a few blooms on PINK HERME, C. M. WILSON, COLONEL FIREY (C. M. Hovey), and LA PEPPERMINT. All of these, with the exception of the unknown variegated variety and COLONEL FIREY, had been in the ground only one year and were protected by a windbreak and heavy oak leaf mulch.

Varieties such as REV. JOHN BENNETT, PINK PERFECTION, and VICTORY WHITE, which in their first year had been practically stripped bare by 15 degree temperature and 75-mile per hour winds for three days, showed no leaf burn. All new leaves on each variety which wintered through constant below freezing temperatures were noticeably thicker. I personally believe for the first two years, in northern climes, root development should be Rule No. One, and I have induced this through the use of liquid fish fertilizer and the heavy use of peat moss. As an experiment, I used this method to induce feeder root formation on a four-foot LA PEPPERMINT, having only a heavy mulch and NO wind or sun protection. This

plant was in a western exposure. It showed practically no burn on new leaves.

I have planted 40 new *Camellia japonica* varieties for testing for winter hardiness.

It might be of interest to note that a Podocarpus wintered through outside exposure in spite of 5 degree temperatures and being covered with heavy snows.

I have also been experimenting with naturalizing small camellias in the woods with no protection except natural leaf droppage. CAPTAIN MARTIN'S FAVORITE showed excellent results in its first year with practically no leaf burn. It might be of further interest to note that ROSEA SUPERBA, not having cycled to northern winters, started opening buds during a rather mild week in early February and

was caught by temperatures in the "teens" and below freezing until the end of March. To my utter amazement, buds that were entirely browned and seemed impossibly damaged opened into perfect blooms.

WHERE, under proper conditions, DOES PLANT HARDINESS BEGIN OR END?

—ACS—

Wonderful Soil

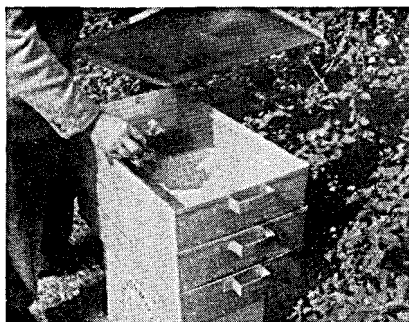
(Continued from page 21)

the installation of a system of agricultural tile drains is called for.

Turning the soil deeply is of immense benefit. It brings to the surface new soil which is acted upon favorably by weathering agents. It permits the incorporation of bulky organic matter with the under layers. It loosens heavy soils, improves drainage and admits air. Deep spading, plowing or tilling are especially beneficial on heavy (clayey) soils. The best time to turn over clayey soils is in the fall. Leave the surface in rough clods because alternate freezing and thawing has a wonderful ameliorating effect on such soils. Don't walk on or work clays when they are wet.

Unless your soil is muck, peat or another type derived largely from plant decay it will benefit tremendously if you mix in large amounts of decayed organic matter. The humus this provides benefits clayey soils by keeping them loose and granulated; sandy and gravelly soils, by holding moisture and nutrients. Organic matter becomes food for soil organisms.

Securing sufficient organic matter is a serious problem. Excellent sources are animal manure, compost, sedge peat (commercial humus), peatmoss



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¹ Excerpts from a letter.

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and leafmold. There are additional sources such as spent hops from breweries, seaweed and well-rotted sawdust. By and large, anything that has lived may, after death, be converted into humus. A compost heap is invaluable.

Get all the organic matter you can and mix it with the soil as deeply as possible. In the main, use only well-rotted material in spring and summer. In fall, half-decayed and even rawer material may be incorporated with it.

Green manuring is an inexpensive way of adding humus. It can be done whenever land is free of garden plants for a few weeks—for instance, after vegetable plots and annual beds are cleared in fall and before any new garden is made. "Green manuring", of course, means growing cover crops and turning them under as soon as they are 6 to 8 inches tall. The tops and extensive roots rot in the soil. For fall sowing, winter rye is excellent. Summer green manures most suitable for gardens are buckwheat, Italian rye-grass (this makes a first-rate temporary lawn if mowed and its

roots still add humus when it is turned under), cowpeas and soybeans. Fertilize each crop; the plants take up the nutrients and later return them to the soil as they decay.

Lime is used not only to correct acidity but also to improve texture of clayey soils. This it does most effectively. Use ground limestone or hydrated lime in amounts that will not cause the soil to become too alkaline (a soil test will determine this). Since lime leaches out, applications every two or three years are likely to be needed. Lime helps also by providing calcium and releasing other plant foods stored in the soil in forms unavailable to plants. Where clayey soils need improving and you do not want to make them more alkaline, use gypsum (calcium sulphate) instead of lime (calcium carbonate).

Permanent texture improvement of clayey soil will also result from mixing in fine coal cinders (not dusty ash but gritty particles) in proportions up to one-third by bulk. Coarse sand is sometimes used, but better try

this in a small way first; with some clays, sand in the right proportions forms a kind of concrete which is worse than the original clay.

Synthetic soil conditioners may preserve for several years the improved structure of a clayey soil brought about by spading, adding organic matter and other means. Results reported by gardeners following the use of soil conditioners vary widely. Try them in a limited area first and then be guided by the results.

A limited application of the practices outlined will bring some improvement but for the best results they must be persisted in and some, such as deep turning over, adding organic matter, fertilizer and perhaps lime, must be repeated regularly over a fairly long period to really do a first-class job. With a poor-to-fair soil to begin with, very noticeable gain will be made in a year. A very poor soil may be made quite good in two years, and within three or four it can be made so excellent that again you will hear: "But you have such wonderful soil."

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Camellia Clinic

Further discussion of these questions will be welcomed. Some of our members may suggest better answers. We attempt to answer questions promptly as received and only include those of general interest in this column.

Q. When and how should blooms be picked for exhibition in a camellia show?

A. One should start looking for and picking prize blooms four or five days before the show. If you can, however, pick all your blooms as close to show time as possible. Select blooms that are fully opened as buds will not usually open after picking. (Milton Brown.)

Q. Is it better to use a scion with a flowerbud? Are terminal bud scions better than lateral bud scions? Should scions with several buds be used?

A. It is best to remove a flower bud from the scion as this would be a considerable drain on the scion. Terminal and lateral bud scions are equally good. When using two scions on understock it is a good practice to use one terminal and one lateral. The terminal bud usually develops first but if it should fail to take the lateral bud scion often heals before the bud develops and will thus have a better chance of "taking."

Q. What causes new growth, especially on Sasanquas, to sometimes look cancerous, white and enlarged?

A. The disease you describe is no doubt leaf gall, which frequently occurs during a damp growing season on Sasanquas but usually not on Japonicas. The causal fungus is *Exobasidium camelliae* var. *gracilis*. Spraying is not effective on this trouble. Suggest you pick off all infested shoots or leaves and burn.

Q. Should the cloche (glass jug, bottle or battery jar) be removed and the graft watered?

A. One function of the cloche is to keep the graft fairly damp but if it is kept too moist molds, pill bugs and slugs are encouraged. Under normal conditions do not water under the cloche.

Q. If one uses a colored glass jar or bottle to cover the graft is it necessary to paint it white or aluminum?

A. A clear glass cloche is preferable. This may be painted white or a kraft paper bag covering is very effective. This not only cuts down on the light but insulates from cold and heat. A bean hamper or covering of burlap bagging are often used over the cloche.

Q. Are judges (in that particular show) and commercial growers eligible to compete in the seedling class for the ACS Highly Commended Seedling Certificate?

A. Judges (so long as they do not participate in judging the seedling class) and commercial growers are eligible to compete. Judges with entries should withdraw from the vicinity of the seedlings during their judging.

Q. Does a seedling have to be grown from a seed by the exhibitor?

A. A seedling does not have to be grown from a seed by the exhibitor. Growers often purchase seedlings which have not flowered. Often someone with a promising seedling will get a good greenhouse grower to grow and exhibit their seedling prior to dissemination. In such a case the originator would receive the certificate rather than the exhibitor.

Q. I have a name for a camellia which I want to reserve for future use when I find a seedling good enough to bestow this name upon. Can I reserve this name with the ACS Registration Bureau?

A. We cannot register a name without yet having a plant to which the name applies.

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In Memoriam

DR. WALKER M. WELLS

Although Dr. Wells passed away a year ago (Sept. 23, 1959) at his ranch home near Selma, California, the Journal failed to mention it in the Quarterly or Journal in the rush of changing editors last fall. Dr. Wells was for some time a Director-at-Large of the ACS and a past president of the Northern California Camellia Society. Members of both Societies who knew him well, miss this lovable, generous and enthusiastic friend and realize that no one can fill the void left by his passing. Mrs. Wells writes that although the Doctor is gone, their large collection of plants still keep her very close to camellias and camellia people.

FLETCHER PEARSON CROWN

Mrs. Treadwell Rice Crown of Decatur, Georgia, 71, known in Southern garden circles by her professional name, Fletcher Pearson Crown, died March 18th. Mrs. Crown was one of the founders of the Atlanta Camellia Society and assisted in staging the Atlanta show on February 13th, just a short time before her passing. She was a frequent contributor to the American Camellia Society publications. Her article "The Pleasures of Camellia Growing" appeared in the 1959 Yearbook, and she sent us excerpts from a talk given before the Middle Georgia Camellia Society last year. This will appear in one of our future issues of the Journal under the title "Beauty is Enjoyed by Everyone." Mrs. Crown did much to popularize camellias throughout the South during the past 20 years. She will be missed wherever camellia people gather. A beautiful camellia bears her name.

LAURA MASSEE WALKER

Mrs. John C. Walker, Sr., 83, died at her home near Marshallville, Georgia, April 8th, after a lengthy illness. Mrs. Walker developed the beautiful seedling LAURA WALKER several years ago. She was for many years a member of the American Camellia Society.

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