

Camellias



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THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY
VOL. 16, NO. 2

MARCH, 1961

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Camellias

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Volume 16

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March, 1961

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New American Camellia Society President



Charley W. Farmer

Mr. Charley W. Farmer of Macon, Georgia, was elected president at the meeting of the American Camellia Society Board of Directors at Anaheim, California, on February 24, 1961. Mr. Farmer was recently reelected to his second term as State Director for Georgia. Mr. Spencer Walden, Jr., of Albany, Georgia, was appointed by the Board as State Director for Georgia. Mrs. Farmer shares her husband's keen interest in camellias.

Other officers elected are: Dr. W. T. Rainey, Fayetteville, North Carolina, as Vice-President for the Atlantic Coast; Mr. Hal Hayward, Jackson, Mississippi, Vice-President for the Gulf Coast, and Mr. Reg. Ragland was reelected as Vice-President for the Pacific Coast. Mr. L. Gaston Wannamaker immediate past president, automatically becomes first vice-president. Other officers reelected are: Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Smith, McRae, Georgia, as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer; and Joseph H. Pyron, Tifton, Georgia, Executive Secretary-Editor.

—ACS—

The '60 Yearbook is too scientific. Let's have more chatty articles!

About Our Cover Flower

The magnificent cover flower is TOMORROW'S DAWN, the shell pink sport of the well known strawberry red TOMORROW. This sport has all the good qualities, size, formation and habit of growth of the parent. The heart of the flower is deeper pink, becoming lighter pink to white on the margins of the petals. From a TOMORROW grown by L. W. Ruffin, Jr., of Ellisville, Mississippi, R. E. Allums was given a scion. Both the plant resulting from this graft and the original Ruffin plant sported the lovely pink TOMORROW'S DAWN. Propagation rights were secured by Mrs. Ross Hayes, the originator of TOMORROW. Broughton Powell of Thomasville, Georgia, is also assisting with its propagation. This will be commercially introduced in the Fall of 1961.

The beautiful photograph was made by Kenneth Rogers, staff photographer of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Magazine who graciously allowed us to use it on our cover. We shall be interested in comments on use of a photograph rather than a painting for our cover plates.

—ACS—

Coming in the September Journal

Again, as last year, there will be no July Journal. The next issue will be mailed early in September.

The cover flower will be Wheeler's REBEL YELL, an exquisite ruffled white with prominent red stripes and flecks. In honor of the Centennial of the War Between the States the theme will be "The Old South". Any stories, articles, pictures or other material appropriate for this theme will be appreciated in order to make this an outstanding issue.

—ACS—

Meeting of the Governing Board

Election of officers is reported elsewhere in this issue.

Ernest Judice, Chairman of the Membership Committee reported on the new membership contest which closed January 31st. 509 new members were secured during the contest and many members who had dropped

out for several years renewed. This also may account for our total paid membership being some 500 ahead of the same date last year.

Winners of the membership contest are:

First prize: Dr. Henry G. Good, Auburn, Alabama—a plant of BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME.

Second prize: Mrs. T. D. Johnston, Montgomery, Alabama—a plant of GLADYS WANNAMAKER.

Third prize: Mr. Charles D. Gouchie, Shreveport, Louisiana—a copy of Adachi's Camellia, Its Appreciation and Artistic Arrangement.

Director-at-Large Aubrey Harris offered to donate a plaque each year for the best hybrid seedling produced provided the committee deems the hybrid worthy of an award. This is similar to the Illges Medal for Japonica seedlings and the Peer Sasanqua Cup. This generous offer was accepted. Details are given elsewhere in this issue.

The Finance Committee reported that the Society completed the year with a net income for the year 1960 of \$4,344.61, in spite of the considerable expense of moving the office and other one-time expenses. The increase in dues effective at the beginning of 1960 and the unfavorable weather did not affect membership adversely during the past year. The Society lived within the budget adopted at the annual meeting in Jacksonville last year.

Mr. Dave C. Strother was made a Fellow of the American Camellia Society.

Invitations for the 1963 meeting were received from Sacramento, Albany and Charleston. These will be referred to committee for study and recommendations.

—ACS—

When husband and wife have a joint membership in a local or regional camellia society, it is necessary for only one to be a member of ACS in order to meet the requirement toward 100% membership of the society in ACS. This *does not* mean that ACS will now issue joint memberships. Societies or members are requested to pay the \$6.00 memberships after which ACS will rebate \$1.00 per member, or joint membership, when the society attains 100%.

Some Highlights of the 16th Annual Meeting of American Camellia Society in California

Our California hosts, the Los Angeles Camellia Council, went all out to provide a most enjoyable meeting for the American Camellia Society, February 23-26. Most of the activities were centered at Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim, California, although numerous trips were made from here.

Quite a few visitors arrived on Sunday through Wednesday before the official opening of the meetings on Thursday. Unfortunately the airlines strike prevented many from the Southeast and Gulf Coast from attending. Early birds found much to occupy their time for there never seems to be enough time to do all the things one would like to do—gardens to visit, nurseries, Disneyland, Knotts Berry Farm, the races, the International Flower show and shopping in addition to our meetings and social affairs.

Planes and trains were met regardless of time of arrival by the Hospitality Committee headed by the Gishes.

The fast moving schedule started early Thursday morning with the first stop at the magnificent Huntington Gardens at San Marino. Here, *Reticulatas* were growing amazingly well. California also seems to produce petaloids better than elsewhere. *ELEGANS*, C. M. WILSON, BARBARA WOODROOF and the new sport HAWAII and the new DISNEYLAND were filled with petaloids with few stamens. The exquisite Japanese garden had many fine camellias, including a large collection of species. The Italian garden was flanked with newer varieties and fine *reticulatas*. The succulent garden here is amazing. The Library and Art Gallery are magnificent.

At Descanso we had a delicious box lunch before seeing the huge camellia plantings. This was formerly the Manchester Boddy estate. Mr. Boddy bought entire nurseries in order to secure the 100,000 plants now growing there. A thousand or more plants of one variety grouped together is

quite a sight in full bloom. A species and hybrid section were interesting. *Reticulatas* and a display of some of the new varieties added to the interest.

From here some visited the Los Angeles Arboretum while others visited Nuccio's Nursery. Genial Julius and Joe Nuccio showed us some of their seedlings and recent introductions. DISNEYLAND, SILVER ANNIVERSARY, CARA MIA and Harvey Short's "Camelias of Tomorrow" were particularly interesting.

Thursday night there was a reception followed by buffet supper after which Al Parker presided over the Inter-Society meeting. Members from the various sections told of new varieties from their respective areas. Dr. De Vos and Dr. Emsweller of Washington, D. C., also spoke.

On Friday visitors chose various trips, some to a movie studio, San Diego, Palm Springs, Marineland, Disneyland, or Ghost Town at Knott's Berry Farm. That evening there was a Hospitality Hour followed by a showing of slides while the Governing Board was in session.

On Saturday a beautiful show was staged in the Disneyland Hotel, with registered members getting a preview before it was opened to the general public. Over 10,000 attended the Show. Saturday evening the Governing Board reception was held at Anaheim Bowl followed by the annual banquet. Announcement of Ray Davis, Mobile, Alabama as the winner of the Peer Sasanqua Award for his LESLIE ANNE was made. Mrs. Ralph Peer presented a handsome silver cup to the Society which is to be engraved with the names of the winners. The introducer receives a permanent plaque. The Illges Medal for a Japonica seedling was not awarded.

Sunday more garden and nursery visits were scheduled. Monique Peer invited everyone to visit her Park Hill estate on Hollywood Boulevard

where a sumptuous buffet was served. This garden is actually a hanging garden in that it is perched on a steep mountain-side overlooking the vast expanse of Los Angeles. The view, particularly at night is breath-taking. A recently developed Japanese garden has a high waterfall over an azure pool with a traditional red arched bridge leading to a small pergola. Steps lead to a series of terraces and the greenhouse where a large collection of camellias has been assembled, particularly of species, hybrids and rare japonica varieties from the Far East. The original huge plant of CALIFORNIA was transplanted to a place of honor on a lower terrace. Mrs. Peer relates the story that her late husband, Ralph, was planning to buy her a fine necklace but when they learned that the CALIFORNIA plant was about to be destroyed they decided to spend the several thousand dollars necessary to move the plant instead.

This was one of the most successful annual meetings ever held. Thanks to Reg Ragland, Bill Woodroof, Al Parker, the Gishes, Ken Newerf, and the many others who contributed their time and efforts to make this an outstanding success.

—ACS—

New Billing Service

It is no longer necessary to collect cash when soliciting membership in the American Camellia Society. Just get permission from the prospect for him to become a member, send his name and address to the Society, Box 465, Tifton, Ga. and the office will send him a bill and enter his name as a member.

Many of your friends need only an invitation to join. A post card to the ACS will do the trick. If every member would do this we would have 15,000 members next year. Will you do your part?

A Long Camellia Trail

MRS. C. G. FAIRLEY, Glen Iris, Victoria, Australia

I should like to put on record the wonderful welcome I received as a "Down Under" member of the A.C.S. to your wonderful country, firstly to the Norfolk Convention of 1959. It was indeed a most thrilling and confusing time for me, as I had only arrived in the U. S. two days before, and most of that time had been spent on various buses from Miami. To meet so many of the folks in person of whom I had read so much in the journals was very exciting in itself.

The organization, run so capably by Mr. Preacher Parsons and his band of helpers filled every minute with so much interest. The visits to the private gardens were a complete revelation to me, particularly in view of the challenge in growing camellias under such difficult weather conditions so far north of the camellia belt. Growing camellias under pine trees is something I have never seen before, and Mr. Heutte's work in the Norfolk Park I thought a perfect example of the success and pleasure one gains from such landscaping. (Our experts here are of the opinion that our conditions are too dry for such treatment—though I feel an interesting experiment here would be attempting to grow camellias under our eucalypts which provide high shade and have their tap roots growing straight down into the soil.) To return to the Norfolk Park, and this, in fact after a wonderful Texas-style barbecue, I was delighted with the sight of the DONATION plants flowering in great profusion and here, too, I saw for the first time in the glasshouse, a collection of the Kunming Reticulata. I was thrilled to see so many varieties of these wonderful flowers and noted the great difference in foliage as compared with CAPTAIN RAWES. This is the only Reticulata we grow extensively here and the plant grows and flowers prolifically in the open gardens. In Melbourne, our winter temperatures get to 31 on a frosty morning but we do not suffer the damaging spring freeze that you have to cope with. I had not realized until I visited

the U. S. how climate plays such a big part in growing conditions and flowering of plants. In many cases, flowers which bloom here of the same varieties were so different as to be unrecognizable. Also, I believe our camellia flowers are somewhat flatter and I have certainly never seen such large flowers.

The banquet, at which I was accorded the guest of honor table as the only representative from Australia, gave me great pleasure, and the many kind folk who were so friendly and with whom I had many interesting conversations made me feel quite "at home". I imagine conversation would never be lacking where camellia enthusiasts abound. Mr. Feathers' slides of the hybrids he has bloomed were very exciting to see. Thank you for the great interest shown in our varieties in Australia. The Norfolk Show I thought showed excellent blooms in every case (in spite of the weather) and my impression of the winning Mrs. D. W. DAVIS left me quite spellbound. This is indeed a flower of unusual colour, formation and generally satisfying to the eye. Of a different type, the seedling Catherine Maryott "the pink rose that looks like a camellia" is quite a wonderful flower in every way, and its lasting quality seems assured when I saw the actual flower shown at Norfolk worn by Mrs. Sam Zerkowsky in Slidell, La., just two weeks later. The outstanding blooms of VILLE DE NANTES, obviously a camellia growing very happily in your climatic conditions impressed me greatly, also the magnificent table of Kunming Retics. The landscaped gardens at the Show, on the stage and elsewhere, lent a pleasing and to me different display, the like of which I had not seen before. I would like to mention here, too, the arrangement of showing blooms in varieties, also the Guest of Honour table surrounding the winning blooms. This provides, in my opinion, a wonderful focal point for the Show. We show our blooms generally in Australia in types, Formal

Double, Semi-Double, etc., and I feel one of the disadvantages is to the public, who are not always familiar with the names of the flowers. I am wondering how you provide enough schedules for the enormous number of new varieties which must be shown each year. I should like to thank the Norfolk Society for the many kindnesses shown to me and congratulate them on their excellent organization, and to the many kind folk, too numerous to mention, who went out of their way to make me feel home wasn't so far off after all.

After the Show, the indefatigable Dr. Tubby Habel and Mrs. Habel kindly took charge of me and showed me their own and Mr. Pinner's beautiful gardens. Dr. Habel's "basement" hobby of growing seedlings in a humidifier under constant light I thought completely fascinating and obviously very successful. Leaving the kind hospitality of Dr. and Mrs. Habel, I took off to Greensboro where Mr. and Mrs. John Redding welcomed me and a visit to Mrs. Hope Taylor's garden concluded the day. The sight of the summer house at the latter's home full of reticulata in full bloom was a sight one easily remembers. John Redding's collection of camellias growing under glass was a fine sight indeed, and I was most impressed with the humidifier he had in use which was out of an old cotton mill—a very efficient method of coping with this problem of providing enough humidity—always present in glasshouse culture. Surprises were for me all the way—the large number of seedling beds I saw, and the tremendous amount of grafting of camellias in the open. The comparatively small amount of grafting done in Melbourne is mostly done in pots under glass. I have the impression that the climate in your camellia belt makes grafting a somewhat easier affair than it is with us, or perhaps I only heard about the ones that "took", and perhaps with us, with our comparatively small camellia population, we just haven't got around to it. (After my visit with you I'm now having a jolly good try.) I left the wonderfully hospitable Redding family for Fayetteville where Mrs. Whitfield was my hostess. Dr. and Mrs. Rainey kindly drove me around some

gardens of great interest, not forgetting their own, namely, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hutaff's fine garden, landscaping a feature (CAROLINE BROWN was blooming to perfection), Mrs. Fred Mayo's, where I saw beautiful bushes of American FLAME—(our Australian FLAME is upright in growth habit and a "big grower". The colour of the flower is, in my opinion, not as bright a red as yours.) Mrs. Whiddon's elegant and prize-winning garden and Mrs. Frank Boyette's many beautifully grown plants concluded the afternoon. The evening spent at the Fayetteville Country Club was a happy one for me, and great interest was shown in some of our Australian slides.

I moved on to Macon, Ga., which was also an unforgettable experience, being welcomed by the charming Mike Witmans and Mr. and Mrs. Murray at Mr. Dave Strother's fine garden at Fort Valley. This truly wonderful garden, in such a lovely setting, was full of interest with the new hybrid ROBBIE by H. Asper of Huntington the latest "thrill". I had never seen camellias suckering before, and here they were growing some distance from the original plants, the roots being thrown up by the pine tree roots. However, everyone, including the camellias seemed to be quite happy about this—the fact that Mr. Strother was removing bushes of MAGNOLIAE-FLORA because they had become too large filling me with envy. I must digress a little from camellias here to remark on the magnificent evergreen magnolias growing in the Fort Valley district—this was my first glimpse of the tremendous size and beauty of these trees growing in their natural state. How lovely they must look in bloom.

Mr. and Mrs. Witman's garden at Lorraine Farm was again a joy to behold, landscaped around a lake with long walks bordered with white and red sasanquas. These must be a fine sight in season, but at any time a sasanqua hedge is really outstanding. Here, too, was the finest collection of species of camellia I've ever seen growing under glass, together with many well-known specimens of Reticulata. Mrs. Witman's hybridizing results will be of much interest, by the

large number of seeds successfully crossed.

At Mobile, Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Lee welcomed me, and here, in addition to many lovely camellias still blooming in his lovely garden, notably, PINK CHAMPAGNE (what a wonderful name!), ROSEA SUPERBA, WOODVILLE RED and others (even the camellia season was obligingly late for me), I was fortunate enough to see the famous Mobile Azalea Trail in all its glory. Miles of Pride of Mobile azaleas through the city streets and suburbs is a scheme of which the city of Mobile must be very proud, not to mention the co-operation of the citizens, who take such pride in their magnificent garden displays, often I noted floodlit. Surely one of the most outstanding azalea gardens must be Mr. Long's, the sea of colour under pines and the live oaks—colour slides of which bring Oo's and Ah's when I have shown them. It was my pleasure to meet Mr. Sawada, grower of so many interesting varieties. The lovely flower Mrs. K. SAWADA, still showing its waxy and perfectly formed flowers in this area. Mr. Catlin's garden in nearby Baldwin County had some lovely blooms and a specimen tree of PEARL MAXWELL I thought quite outstanding here in its conical form and just adorable pink formal flowers. Thank you, Mr. Hoyt Lee, for the many days of great pleasure showing me so many wonderful gardens and so much of interest in your fascinating city.

The change in the countryside as we neared the Gulf was quite noticeable, the pecan groves, the Spanish moss growing on the oaks and camellias, the wonderful smell of the wisteria and the sweet olive, seeing the kalmias growing in the woods (highly prized and difficult shrubs in our gardens here), the "wild" sweetly scented and beautifully formed azaleas and the liquidambar growing in the swamps. I realize what I must be missing as the Spring progressed with all your naturally growing plants.

Mr. Charles Butler kindly drove me to see the famous Bellingrath Gardens, the azaleas in full bloom reflected in the lake was quite a joy to see, also of great interest the very large old camellia trees still blooming

and the extensive section of "new" camellias where Mr. Greene told us 900 varieties were already growing. Mr. Butler's own garden on the river is extensive and interesting, incredibly so for the short time it has been planted.

In New Orleans I was favoured by visiting with "Aunt Tillie" and Mr. David Wirth in whose well-grown garden VICTOR EMMANUEL (so much better named than BLOOD OF CHINA as we call it) was having its last glorious fling for the season. The flowers looked gorgeous on the large bush in the bright sunshine. What a challenge again to grow camellias on such uninviting soil, Mrs. Wirth's garden proof of the fact that soil needs being met, and the climate right, beautiful bushes are the result.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Zerkowsky invited me to spend the weekend at their lovely property at Slidell where I saw hundreds of grafts in nursery rows, also many well-grown mature plants looking gloriously at home under live oak trees. I had a very happy weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Z. and on Sunday evening was very interested to meet and talk with many camellia lovers from the district. I was so sorry I had to be on my way and miss seeing their gardens.

The motor trip across the Gulf was enjoyable in spite of the tremendous distance and how I hated passing through so many places where I had invitations to "call and see us" which never ceased to amaze me. I stayed in Charleston where I visited the unique Cypress Gardens, and Magnolia Gardens where Mr. Hastie kindly showed me the original trees of so many of our favourite flowers. I was sad to see some of the effects of the really severe freeze of a few years ago, also dieback, a disease which we know little of here. (Sydney, 650 miles north of Melbourne, which has high humidity and generally acid soil has some trouble with this.) I might mention here, that we are, so far, most fortunate in our lack of disease, apart from red mite, scale, thrip and those ghastly loopers (can anyone ever find them?) There is some root rot, but no tea scale or petal blight to my knowledge. This could alter the

(Continued on page 22)

GREENHOUSES—A Few Whys and Hows

GEORGE M. WHEELER, Birmingham, Alabama

Only when you decide to build a greenhouse for at least a part of your camellia collection can you begin to get the ultimate enjoyment out of your hobby. You can know, then, that no matter how early a freeze might come, how severe the winter, or how rainy and windy it might be when you want a special bloom, it will be there, waiting for you to cut it.

In many sections of the country camellias can be bloomed very satisfactorily most winters. However, even in such places, one abnormally early freeze before the buds mature and harden off will damage most buds to an extent that is substantial. This doesn't happen too often, but when it does a greenhouse will still assure you of hundreds or thousands of perfect flowers. But, and this is an important BUT, even in milder camellia climates or when we have an exceptionally mild winter, greenhouse blooms will as a rule be larger, better formed and more nearly perfect. Rain falls and winds blow even when no frost falls and blooms will show the effect. You may feel that more northern locations almost have to have a greenhouse with so many freezing nights, but that you would need one only a very few nights a year. However, if your blooms are ruined three days before a show because of just one heavy frost, or if just one night's freeze darkened your bud centers so that you have no blooms or blooms of inferior quality, isn't a greenhouse just as necessary as though you need its protection every night during the winter? We are not trying to paint a dark and gloomy picture . . . camellia hobbyists are optimistic . . . but hasn't this happened to you at one time or another? Some seasons many shows are cancelled due to adverse weather, but those at Atlanta and Birmingham will never have to be postponed or cancelled for there are enough greenhouse growers to have a good show. Charlotte, North Carolina, is another city fast coming into that category.

Some say that they do not have enough time to take care of a greenhouse, which is a mistaken idea. A day in the fall is required to roll the plants in, and a day in the spring, after all danger of frost is past, to roll them out. During the blooming season it takes just one minute to close it at night or late afternoon when the temperature begins to drop, and one minute to open it in the morning. If plants are properly potted, they need be watered only every two or three weeks while in the house, and once a week in summer. Container watering is actually faster, and easier than ground watering. You can water three hundred plants in containers in three hours. It would take all week were they in the ground.

As to types of houses, if you are of the handyman type, you can build a greenhouse out of steel windows, wooden ones, corrugated fiberglass, or glass. However, experience has shown that the saving is not appreciable over a pre-cut greenhouse of conventional type; the latter looks much better and is much more convenient to operate . . . turning one wheel closes the whole side and another the top vent. Now, as to cost, a factory job, shipping charges, workmen to erect it, materials for footing, walls, etc., will cost in the neighborhood of \$3.00 per square foot of greenhouse space; that is, erected and all ready to move your plants into it. A 25' x 35' house of about 800 square feet will run around \$2,400. To some of you that will seem like a lot for a hobby; to others more fortunate, not so much. However, stop a minute to consider that you run a car for two years and pay from \$1,800 to more than the cost of a greenhouse for another one which will depreciate a like amount in another two years. A greenhouse is a durable article and the one investment will give you pleasure and relaxation for literally a lifetime. Also, there is very little upkeep besides heating and painting (unless your neighbor has a rock-throwing child).

The painting should be done every four or five years.

There are several greenhouses, all good. To name a few: Texas Greenhouse, Lord & Burnham and National Greenhouse Co. National has one designated as their Camellia house. Most houses have a three- or four-foot wall with two or three feet of glass above the wall, about a third of which can be propped open, window by window, for ventilation. The National house has only a one-foot wall and six feet of glass to each side. This wall is composed of two continuous runs of glass, each three feet wide, running the length of the house. The whole wall is opened and closed by one wheel to the run, and can be operated even by a child. The top vent, to allow rising hot air to escape, is also operated by a wheel. Other greenhouse companies can make up this same type house on special order, but with National it is a standard line. This situation is ideal for camellias that should be grown under glass to protect them from frost and freeze, but under conditions as nearly like outside as possible, under the circumstances. Keep in mind one thing during the blooming season—a Camellia house is a COLD house, not a hot-house. More blooms are ruined by heat perhaps than by any other one thing. They become droopy, lose all the crisp effect that makes for quality, and are generally not worth cutting. When the temperature is above freezing, say 35-40 degrees, and the sun is shining, open the house wide. Otherwise, the heat will quickly build up to 80 degrees or more.

So much for the house . . . Now about what to do with it when we have it ready to plant. The camellia can either be planted directly in the ground or in containers. The choice is yours, but experience dictates by all means that you plant them in containers. For one thing, our tastes change. The time comes when you do not want a certain variety taking up so

(Continued on page 18)

THE STEWARTIAS

MARY G. HENRY

The Stewartias, deciduous, upright-growing little trees of the *Theaceae* are an exceedingly attractive group, any one of which is capable of embellishing the small piece of ground.

There are about nine species of Stewartias. Two of them are natives to our eastern states. The others come from China and Japan.

These beautiful small trees are so adaptable and easily grown, it is rather surprising they are so seldom seen. They thrive in almost any good soil, provided it contains no lime, and is not too dry, and they are not averse to a little shade.

All these Stewartias are perfectly hardy and have stood out during sub-zero temperatures, with once a drop to 20 below. They have had no protection of any sort whatever.

In the many years I have grown them, they have never lost a twig or a bud by winter killing.

Sometimes they are rather slow growers. They are usually handled in small sizes, and for this reason spring planting is preferable.

Some of the Stewartias are procurable in high class nurseries. They should always be moved with a ball of earth covering their roots and then they quickly make themselves at home. If they are very small, however, I plant them where they can conveniently be watered and kept free from weeds, until they are large enough to fend for themselves. All are compact growers and require no trimming or pruning at any season.

So far as my knowledge goes, the only insects that trouble them are those wickedly voracious pests, Japanese beetles.

(Reprinted by permission from *The National Horticultural Magazine*, Journal of the American Horticultural Society, Inc., October, 1955.)

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Stuartia* (Stewartia) along with *Camellia*, *Franklinia* and three other genera comprise the *Camellieae* tribe of the Tea family. Sealy, in a Revision of the Genus *Camellia* (1958), lists these genera under the tribe *Gordonieae* DC.

Stewartias, first cousins of camellias, bear flowers closely resembling single blooms of the latter. Their large handsome flowers, often three or four inches in diameter, are slightly cupped and are composed of about five almost circular, pearly white petals with a wonderful satiny finish and with long silky hairs on the outside surface. The edges are often crinkled and slightly toothed in a most attractive fashion. The center is in-

variably a showy mass of fluffy stamens that add immensely to the appearance of the flowers. They flower in June and bloom with unfailing regularity when happily situated. The blossoms are usually short lived, the flowers of some species falling at the end of one day; but their exquisite beauty, while they last, more than compensates for this defect. The alternate ovate leaves are about three to five inches long, and slightly toothed along the margins. In the autumn they color up well, taking on various shades of reds and yellows. The smooth gray bark flakes off in an in-



Stewartia pseudocamellia

interesting way, making them conspicuous trees, especially in winter.

Stewartia pentagyna is the *Stewartia* most commonly seen, not only because it is the easiest one to procure, but also because it is one of the handsomest. This beautiful little tree is native to the Blue Ridge Mountains, and grows naturally in rich woods. It is a slender, upright grower, reaching about twenty feet in height, in its native home. The flowers of *Stewartia pentagyna* remain open for two days.

Stewartia pentagyna grandiflora is a fine variety of the type which bears larger flowers. Instead of the usual

bunch of yellow stamens, the flowers of this variety contain purple stamens, which give a very sprightly appearance to the flower. My tree is about 10½ feet tall and has been growing here for about nine years.

Stewartia malocodendron is another native species. It seems equally as hardy here as *Stewartia pentagyna*, surviving the recent cold winters in good shape. However, as this species comes from the woods of the Coastal Plain in a more southerly latitude than *Stewartia pentagyna*, it would probably not survive as far north as that species.

Stewartia malocodendron was first

cultivated in 1752 and it does seem surprising that, although a native, it is still a rare tree!

Stewartia pseudocamellia, from Japan, is a robust-growing tree, reaching a height of 60 feet in its home. Probably in our part of the country with fairly severe winters, it would not reach that height. For the more southerly states this should, indeed, grow into a noble tree, in time. The largest specimen here is about 20 feet tall. It has been in my possession for over twenty years and has been moved twice.

Stewartia Monadelphica, another member of this handsome family, was brought from Japan in 1916. This *Stewartia* is the giant of the family and attains the surprising height of eighty feet in its native land.

The blooms, about 1½ inches in diameter, are, however, just as beautiful and the dainty leaves are only about half the size of those of *S. pentagyna*.

It seems strange that this, the largest member of the family, bears the smallest flowers and foliage.

My plant was given to me about five years ago. It was just an infant then, but without any especial care it is now over six feet tall.

Stewartia koreana is the newest of the above *Stewartias*. It was brought into cultivation in 1918. As its name denotes, its home is in Korea. The maximum height of this tree is about fifty feet. It bears flowers that are perhaps larger than those of any other *Stewartia*.

My plant of this, too, was a most appreciated gift that came to me six years ago. It is now over twelve feet tall and this summer it bore twenty-seven of its handsome flowers.

Stewartias are precious trees of inestimable value for either small plot or large estate. They should be planted more frequently and, being long lived, will be enjoyed by generations for years to come.

BOOKS FOR SALE

American Camellia Year Books from 1953 to 1960 (7 books). These books are practically new, unsoiled—for the best offer.

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Stewartia pentagyna

Gulf Coast—Slidell Camellia Trip

The Editor

The Slidell, La., show (Ozone Camellia Club) is one I have wanted to see for a number of years. With the continued cold I was afraid that this, a predominantly outdoor show, would have to be cancelled. Before starting the long trip I called to find out whether it could be held. Yes, it definitely would be held.

My first stop was Mobile, always an interesting spot camelliawise. In Les Richard's greenhouse on Cedar

Point Road I saw some of the finest and newest flowers I have seen all season. Here was Nuccio's SILVER ANNIVERSARY, a fine white; BLUE DANUBE, a new hybrid, not blue, but an unusual color; SANTA CRUZ, another fine hybrid, exhibiting three very different formations in a pleasing shade of pink. There were others I had seen only a few times, ADA PIEPER, LEADING LADY and RED ELEPHANT. There were beautifully variegated flowers

of Solomon No. 10, also MARY LUCAS, almost indistinguishable from NAGASAKI. The most striking plant in the house was a SIMEON with 20 to 25 magnificent flowers.

Mr. M. B. Greene, landscape gardener at Bellingrath showed me the extensive planting in the new camellia arboretum. Although only about 4 years, old, this part of the garden is already making quite a show. Within a few years it will be one of the outstanding camellia gardens in the world. Wisely, no attempt is being made to collect every variety, but only the better ones. An interesting old variety here is ANEMONAEFLORA (WARRATAH).

No visit to Mobile is complete without a stop to see Mr. K. Sawada. Although no longer active in operating Overlook Nursery, which is being carried on by his son, he is busy hybridizing and selecting. Here I saw 4-inch flowers of SAWADA'S DREAM, a real beauty. Here also was LITTLE PRINCESS, an interesting little hybrid described in the 1960 ACS Yearbook. His *Japonica* seedling No. 14 is a solid red rather flat flower. However, when grafted it sported an interesting center of petaloids and is beautifully variegated. Not yet available. His No. 3 has recently been registered as DIXIERAMA (IMURA X LADY MARY CROMARTIE, VAR.), a loose peonyform rose madder. Here also was a late blooming white seedling of WHITE EMPRESS.

After lunch with the Tom Clowers in Gulfport and a quick look at their extensive camellia collection, famous for its many fine seedlings, I drove on to the Zerkowskys (Tammia Nursery) near Slidell. Here, visitors from Texas, California, Arkansas, Tennessee and elsewhere were talking excitedly over a hybrid seedling in the Zerkowsky's plastic greenhouse. Certainly this was the best hybrid I have yet seen (DONATION X HAKU RAKUTEN). This magnificent hybrid is orchid pink, loose peonyform.

(Continued on page 31)



Stewartia koreana

Turtles with Camellias

MRS. E. L. TOLSON, JR., Glenwood Road Garden Club, Bethesda, Maryland

John B. Conant has said "Behold the turtle: He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out." Many of you have no idea where Bethesda, Maryland is, and even less knowledge of the Glenwood Road Garden Club located there, but we would like to tell you something of our turtle-like role—small though it may be—in helping to prove the Camellia Belt is much wider than was once supposed. The Club membership is limited to fifty individuals, all living within a few blocks of each other in Bethesda, a Washington suburb located northwest of the city and without any warm breezes from the Potomac River.

Back in 1946, one of our members who formerly lived in the South observed Camellias growing outside in a few isolated spots in Washington, D. C. She mentioned this to her mother, Mrs. Anne Lea Harris, a charter member of the American Camellia Society, and that of course was all that a dedicated Camellia enthusiast needed to dispatch plants by the next mail! Attempts were made to learn the varieties obviously doing well here but these proved to be fruitless. Several nurserymen in the area were consulted and the opinion from each was the same—"Camellias just won't grow here." When confronted with the information that several plants were known to be flourishing, this was explained by noting that they were isolated cases where conditions were very favorable such as warm streets, or buildings nearby.

Perhaps a less pioneering spirit or a softer head would have heeded the counsel of the nurserymen. However, encouraged by the mother and after taking certain factors such as blooming time, plant vigor, exposure, and blossom form into consideration, a trial and error period ensued. Each spring a few new small plants were added and in just a few years people were stopping to look at and admire the blooms visible from the street. Less timid souls came to the door and asked to look around the garden while

Easter always brought a few desirous of purchasing a corsage. Many were interested in the varieties obviously growing so well here and wanted to know where plants could be purchased. They were always referred to the Southern nurserymen for none of the nurseries here felt them hardy yet.

About this time the Glenwood Road Garden Club had tired of the various and sundry fund raising programs it had been using to finance its activities in the past. Since many of the Clubs in the area were having

plant sales and they seemed to do well in this venture we naturally thought of a plant sale too but were loathe to be just another garden club sponsoring a plant sale. It seemed to us that Camellia plants had been growing here long enough and in a variety of exposures so that they could be offered to the public who had already shown considerable interest in them. Because no one around here had plants, our first problem was a source of supply. Other considerations were plants small enough for us to sell reasonably, of a size that could be handled easily, and whose shipping charges would not be prohibitive.

Mr. K. Sawada of Overlook Nurser-



LITTLE BEAUTY—Ann Holmes, 4, fascinated by the beauty of the camellia, poked a pert nose close in disbelief that such loveliness had no fragrance. She's the daughter of Fred Holmes of 228 Eastland Drive, Memphis, Tenn.

ies was contacted and agreed to let us have the small plants we needed, none being over 18". Varieties were chosen with his help, the information amassed since growing them here, and Mrs. Harris' knowledge and guidance. She had been watching the progress of the plants in Bethesda and was pleased with the results, knowing full well how much pleasure they can bring.

Lists of plants for sale were made available and circulated among nearby garden clubs and friends and the response was gratifying. Detailed instructions for planting and caring for the Camellias, particularly during their first winter, were printed and given to each purchaser. Feeling that spring is a good time to plant Camellias the sale was held in April and for several years took place at the home of our pioneer member. There people could see what their plant would look like in a few years, as well as type and color of blossom, for our first venture included those varieties we were very positive about.

The first sale proved to be so popular and the demand for plants "next year" so great that we have continued to hold a Camellia plant sale each April, taking orders and including a few extras for those who "wish they had known about it earlier." We offered these inexpensive plants to a public not completely convinced of their hardiness but willing to risk a moderate amount and as they have become successful with their plants their neighbors and friends have wanted plants, too. The interest continued to grow and spread throughout the entire area, and so in the fall of 1953 the Glenwood Road Garden Club sponsored a lecture by George Sawada in the auditorium of Woodward & Lothrop's Chevy Chase store for those interested in learning more about growing Camellias.

As the interest in Camellias increased, two of our members were called on often by other garden clubs to speak to them about Camellias and this included varieties and their culture, arranging, and corsage making. They were always bombarded with questions indicating further the keen and growing interest of this plant new

to our locality. People going south for vacations were freely buying larger plants of recommended varieties and some venturesome souls brought back other varieties, thus swelling our fast growing "hardy list."

In 1952 the Garden Club entered a garden in the National Flower Show in Washington, D. C. which featured Camellias. Although this was not a prize winning garden it did stimulate more interest in Camellias. The Garden Editors of the *Washington Post* and the *Evening Star* had already mentioned Camellias growing here and as the public became more aware of their hardiness more was written about them. Pictures from a member's garden and the list of varieties recommended by the Club were used as a source of information and thus we became known to the garden groups as the "Camellia Club."

All of this predates the Potomac Valley Camellia Society which, of course, is devoted solely to Camellias whereas the Glenwood Road Garden Club has a diversity of interests. The Society now has a membership of more than 200 and is very active in this area. They are doing an outstanding job of promoting Camellia culture and more than 100 varieties are included on their list recommended for this vicinity. Many of our members are active in the Society and have held various offices. The Garden Club holds a membership in the Potomac Valley Society as well as one with the American Camellia Society, thus adding information and valuable publications to our library and keeping our members as up to date as possible. We have formerly held our flower show late in the spring but this year we are holding it a month earlier—a week after the Potomac Valley Show—in order to display more Camellia blossoms as well as some of our other spring flowers which are neglected by a later show date.

Our pioneer gardener has plants up to the second floor of her home and recently has pruned five feet out of the top of two of them. Because Camellias have grown so well here and some are so large they now need drastic pruning, the Garden Club sponsored a demonstration in air-

layering this spring with a display of the air-layered plants at a meeting this fall. There were a surprising number of plants and naturally each one thrilled with the results. Can you think of a nicer way to share your plants with your friends and neighbors and still help your parent plant by pruning? We couldn't either!

As many of you know the Arboretum now has an extensive planting of both Japonicas and Sasanquas and more and more Camellias are appearing in the public parks each year. Lee's home in Arlington, the Corcoran Art Gallery, and many other public buildings have added Camellia plantings and it is gratifying to note that more Camellia plants are being used in foundation planting around a number of the new office buildings, apartments, etc. Practically every nurseryman in the Washington area stocks Camellia plants today—mostly varieties recommended by the Potomac Valley Camellia Society—and in the spring Camellias are readily available to the public in other places selling plants—even local Sears & Roebuck stores.

Plans are underway for our annual plant sale this April and to date we have sold more than 6,000 plants locally. Our section is lovely in spring and Camellias scattered all over Bethesda remind us of the many people who have helped us "turtles" prove that Camellias do grow here—vigorously!

—ACS—

Our new First Lady says she will get away from the usual carnations in decorating for White House functions. Possibly some of our Washington or Baltimore members will provide some camellias.

BOOKS FOR SALE

American Camellia Yearbooks, each \$4.00 (Yearbooks Available: 1952, 1957, 1958 and 1959)	
Hume's "Camellia in America, Revised"	\$25.50
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

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The Grafting of Camellias

GLEN R. JOHNSON, M.D., Carthage, Texas

The purpose of this article is to discuss the grafting of camellias in enough detail so that a beginner, or anyone who is not proficient in grafting, can have a reasonable expectation of a good percentage of successful grafts. The reasons for grafting camellias are many, however, for a beginner the main reasons would be due to the fact that they can have a large bush in a relatively short period of time, and because the blooms are somewhat larger during the first few years on a graft than on a comparable cutting.

By grafting we join together different varieties or species by means of inserting a twig or scion into the stock of another plant. There has been considerable discussion as to which species of camellia serves as the best stock, and no definite answer has been given up to the present time. Most authorities seem to think that any species of camellia can be used provided it is a healthy plant with a good root system. *Camellia sasanqua* and *Camellia japonica* are the most commonly used in this area with seedlings from the above being used more and more. The one thing that is a must for a successful graft is to have a healthy stock upon which to graft. As a general rule, the camellia that has the most limbs, the most leaves, and the greenest leaves usually has the best root system. This is not always true in recently dug balled and burlaped plants, but it certainly is true of plants that are grown in containers which more and more nurserymen are promoting at the present time.

The scion is equally important in any graft, and to the inexperienced could be the source of failure very easily. It should be obtained from healthy plants in all cases. It should never come from the thin inner limbs that someone is pruning just to get rid of undesirable growth, if a "good take" is expected. We all graft some of these scions from rare plants at times, but realize ahead of time that it may not grow. By far the best results will be obtained from good

healthy plants that have been protected from freezing weather in a greenhouse. The fact that a plant is physically in a greenhouse does not assure one that the scions are good. The bush may have been too wet or too dry, thus, at times affecting the scions. If it has been protected, and the leaves have a deep green glossy appearance, one can be relatively sure that they are good. If scions are obtained from plants that are outside grown, one can get a good take on their grafts by exercising judgment in selection. If the winter has been a severe one, or an early freeze came before the plants were hardened off, one should never select the terminal bud as these are damaged more frequently than any of the buds. The safest way is to drop back down the limb to a dormant bud, and graft it. It will be a little slower developing, but will take more often. If the winter has not been too severe, try grafting the second or third buds rather than the terminal buds. Use a ball point pen or a pencil and write the name of each scion on the leaves or on a tag that can be attached to the scion. As the scion is cut this should be done.

After the scions have been collected, storage until they are grafted is the next problem. For a number of years, I collected scions and wet them down. After shaking the excess water off, these were placed in polyethylene bags in the refrigerator. My results were good to excellent on those grafted within the next few days, however, as the length of time they were stored increased, the percentage of takes decreased. Next, I tried sprinkling water in the polyethylene bag, and shaking out the excess before placing scions in container. This was better, but still gave too much moisture that damaged scions if left for several weeks. I now place my scions in a dry polyethylene bag depending on the moisture in the air at time bag is sealed, and the moisture in the plant, to supply the moisture needed,

and this they do amply. Shortly after such container is placed in the refrigerator, one can see the condensate on the inside of the bag. The proof came from scions three months old taking when they were grafted. Another method that I have not tried regarding the storage of scions, but which sounds good, is to place them in a cutting bed as soon as they are obtained. Then they are available any time that one wishes to graft.

To actually do the graft requires various tools which may vary from few to many depending on the person doing the grafting. I use a lot of tools in the winter when doing several grafts, and very few when I regraft a plant here and there. Many successful grafts are made with only a sharp pocket knife as a "tool". However, it is much more convenient to have a hack saw, or some similar saw, to cut across larger stock; a very sharp flat blade to split the stock smoothly; a small hammer to tap on blade while stock is being split; a small screwdriver to spread stock split apart while scion is inserted; an ultrasharp knife to trim scions, and grafting wax string to hold scion in place. After tools have been assembled, and stock and scions are ready, one can start the actual grafting. There are many types of grafts. The cleft graft is the type more commonly used in this area, and will be the only type discussed in this article. After one becomes adept with this type of graft, they can branch out to the other grafting methods without any trouble.

I, personally, like to graft stocks that are growing in containers better than stocks in the ground—it's easier. I used to think that my take was better in containers than in the ground, yet this past year the reverse was true. I cut the stocks at least three inches from the ground, and many times as high as six inches (Fig. 1) from the ground. If a small limb is growing on stock below the cut, I leave it on newly transplanted plants or on any stock that may have a poor root system. If the stock is well established with good root system, I cut off all limbs. When putting in only one scion per stock, the cut on stock is made at an angle so that moisture collecting will drain away from the scion (Fig 2).

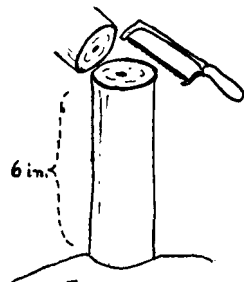


Fig. 1.
Stock cut with saw.

If double scions are to be used, the top of the stock is cut flat, and the scions are inserted at equal levels (Fig. 3). One very important step is to be sure not to knock the bark loose at the point of insertion of scion. To insure that you do not, use very sharp knife and cut through the stock bark toward the wood at desired level so that it cannot be broken away from cambium

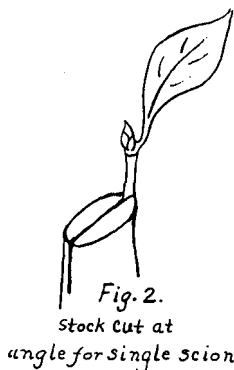


Fig. 2.
Stock cut at
angle for single scion

layer. The ideal type stock is between $\frac{1}{2}$ " and $\frac{3}{4}$ " in diameter. This young stock is like a young bone, which if broken, just knits back better than older ones. Certainly excellent stock can be as thick as one inch in diameter, yet a little more care must be exercised in grafting these. Double grafts are more suitable on these larger sizes. I have not had good luck grafting

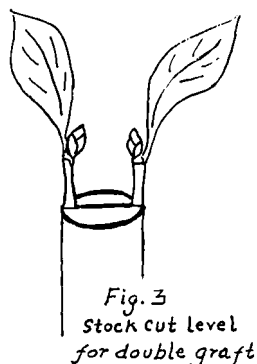


Fig. 3
Stock cut level
for double graft

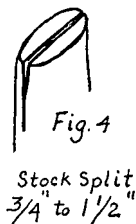


Fig. 4
Stock Split
 $\frac{3}{4}$ " to $1\frac{1}{2}$ "

exceptionally large stock, i.e., 2" or more in diameter. I'm sure that I have not developed the knack of wedging sufficiently. After the stock has been cut across, its surfaces are smoothed as much as possible as callus will cover a smooth surface better than a rough surface. A split is made across stock from the highest point extending at least $\frac{3}{4}$ " to $1\frac{1}{2}$ " (Fig. 4) depending on the size stock and the amount of spring that stock has after it is spread apart. A small screwdriver is

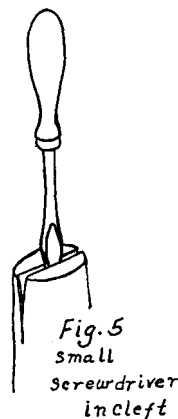


Fig. 5
Small
screwdriver
in cleft

then placed in cleft while the scion is cut (Fig. 5). The scion should be cut in a wedge shape with the wedge at least $\frac{1}{2}$ " long, and preferably 1" long. Better takes will be made if one cuts the wedge slightly wider on the outside with a growth bud at the top of the wedge (Fig. 6). The cambium layer is much thicker near a bud. Use

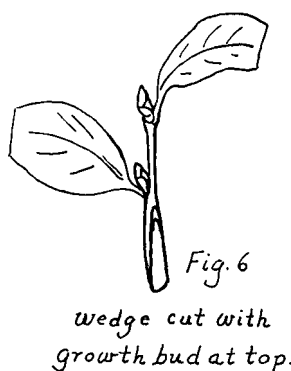


Fig. 6
Wedge cut with
growth bud at top.

a very sharp knife and do not touch cut surface of scion with hands. The scion is then dipped into a solution of Malathion and Captan, and inserted into the high side of stock about $\frac{1}{8}$ " of wedge being left above the stock.

There are many articles advising one how to line up the scion and stock. Most will advise indenting the scion slightly to the inside so as to more closely line up cambium layers. Some advise letting the scion kick-in a little, some advise letting it kick-out. I have tried all of these, including using magnifying glasses to line up the cambium layers, all with very mediocre results. The best results have been obtained by simply lining up the outside bark all the way up and down between stock and scion. This way is very easy to do and can be done by feeling as well as seeing. On extremely large stocks, with thick bark, it can be seen that slight indentation of scion on stock would be necessary to properly align the cambium layers. However, this is not true on the size stock discussed above. If the spring of stock is such that I think no more pressure is needed, I do not use waxed grafting string around stock, however, in most cases it is used to make the union of stock and scion more snug. Many scions will move slightly regardless of how tight they may be approximated. I have used grafting wax, asphalt paint, etc., to cover grafts at this time, however, I do not think that this improves one's chance for a take, and it does make it difficult in removing the strings after graft is growing. I think it is better to wait until graft is growing and then apply water soluble asphalt over the remaining unhealed area.

Coarse builders sand added around the graft will help keep fungus growth down. A convenient method is to cut cardboard milk cartons to desired height and put this around stock and add sand. I do not personally cover the scion-stock junction with the sand as I enjoy checking the callus growth periodically, however, it is possible that slightly better results may occur if this is done. The plant is now watered and Captan-Malathion solution poured over union before cover is applied. Any type container that will maintain a uniformly humid but

not wet condition, and a relatively uniform temperature, will be satisfactory as a cover. This can vary from cardboard containers up to fancy type bell jars. Polyethylene bags are being used more and more for covers. I have used narrow necked gallon containers with a screw cap for a number of years. These are readily available and make ideal covers after the bottoms have been removed. Another thing that I experimented with this year was using two covers over grafts and with gratifying results. I had eight grafts outside that had double covers, and thirty with single covers. All of the grafts with two covers had callus two weeks before any of the remaining ones had callus. This past winter had no extremely cold weather, thus, no damage was done to any of the outside grafts with a single cover. It is easy to see that this extra air space could well afford additional protection, thus saving grafts in extremely cold weather. This is a more distinct possibility now that more and more greenhouse scions are being used and then grafted outside.

After the covers have been applied, one next needs to apply some type of protection from the sun if glass is used. Burlap covers have probably been used more than any other type. This is good provided it is the thick type of burlap. The thin type burlap lets in too much sun, and should have two or three layers if it is used. This past year, I used a 12# size paper sack obtained at the grocery. This fits snugly over my gallon containers, and has been ideal in all respects. This has some distinct advantages which will be discussed in detail later on removing the containers. After this has been completed, one just sits back and waits for growth to occur. The length of the waiting period will vary according to the time of year that grafts are made, and grafts may be made in any month of the year. Most of the grafting in this area is done in February and March. Many are grafted in December and January, and again many are done in April. My most successful grafts this past year were grafted in April. If the grafts are done in December or January, one will have a longer period of time to wait before the grafts callus and grow.

Any number of ideas can be obtained as to the best time of year to graft, however, the exact time is hard to determine. The best advice that I have had was to graft when the tips of Red Bud trees start to swell. This will get the grafts completed ahead of the growth of the camellia bush. As a general rule in this area, the early type grafts will show callus in March and April, and growth starting out as a rule in April and extending through May. Some grafts that are slow in starting growth will not put out before June. I have no good explanation as to why some grafts with good stock, good scions and good callus will not start growing until June. As a rule in May one can see quite well what success they are going to have with their grafts. If any of the grafts fail to grow, and the scion dies, take the scion out and regraft. A good way to regraft is to get a new scion from the spring growth from any good variety that you desire. I have several regrafts this spring that I grafted while the tip of the scion was still green, however, the base of the scion was brown, and they took quite well. In all regrafts, one can cut a new opening, however, if you do have callus formation, all you have to do is spread the stock, put the new scion in this location, and graft with a surprisingly rapid take and a relatively high percentage of them will take. Whereas in the spring, one may wait six, eight to sixteen weeks before knowing whether or not they are going to callus and grow, a scion grafted in May or June will throw out excellent callus in a week to ten days. At the present time, I have one graft that is solid callus and growing which has been regrafted less than three weeks. One will occasionally see a scion and stock both appearing to be in good shape that will not show any callus for weeks and weeks, but will stay just as green as can be. If this is a valued scion, and you are unable to get a new scion to put in the stock, you can remove the scion, recut the wedge on the scion and reinsert it into the stock and have rapid callus take place within a few day's time. In previous years, I tried to keep extra scions in the refrigerator to regraft those that did not take, however, at the present time, I

strongly believe that one should re-graft using this year's scions, and their take will be far higher than by using the older scions. One thing that I used this past year with success was cutting dormant buds from the old wood on plants that were putting out new growth. On all of the scions that I used that had active growth buds which were enlarging, all were lost, however, when the cut extended below the active growth buds to the dormant buds, successful grafts were made.

After a plant has been grafted, I used to think that my work had been done. I now realize that not more than half of the work has been done, if that much, before getting a graft that will grow. Not enough emphasis has been placed on the after care of grafts, and that is the point where most beginners will lose their plants. Patience is the best word that one can use at this time. "Curiosity killed the Cat" is a very true saying, although I feel that raising the jar has been over emphasized as far as the damage which may be caused is concerned. After the plant has been grafted and covered, one should keep a close check for fungus infection, and for insect manifestation. One thing that I periodically do with grafts is to put chlordane granules on the ground to keep insects down. Another thing is to watch for fungus formation, and if that should occur, I spray again with a solution of Captan, and add dry sand over the surface. A wet soggy situation is a very poor one for a graft to grown in. One will first see callus form around the cut margin of the scion, and this will be noted as a raised brown surface. This will gradually extend to completely fill in all that area and down onto the stock itself. However, even then, growth has not taken place and may not for several weeks. After the growth bud starts to enlarge, one can get a good idea right off as to what type graft he is going to have. If the bud begins to elongate and balloon out in all directions, this type graft, as a rule, is going to do well. However, if the bud begins to elongate in a sharp spindly type of growth, or if it elongates and forms a little leaf at the tip of the surface, trouble is ahead if it is not

handled in a professional manner. This type growth certainly requires excessive care, and will not tolerate neglect in any form whatsoever. Do not remove containers until growth has occurred. For a beginner, wait until about two inches of growth is present. Remove jars gradually. If two jars are used, the inner jar is removed first. After this has been off for a day or so, the cap on the bottle is unscrewed so as to let a tiny bit of air in. After this has been off for two to three days, then a tiny object is put under the jar on three sides so as to raise it uniformly around the bottom with the opening at the top. All of this done while a paper sack is over the container, thus keeping in a moderate amount of humidity. After the jar has been elevated slightly, it is enlarged further from $\frac{1}{8}$ " to $\frac{1}{4}$ " to $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 1", and from that it is put on pine cones which raises it up about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". After it is able to tolerate that, the jar itself is removed leaving the paper sack over the graft, and to hold the sack up, use a coat hanger which has been bent to form an arch. This has been described in detail due to the fact that taking off the containers too fast will lose many grafts, whereas, if more time is allowed to gradually remove the containers, this sad experience will be unnecessary. After the container is off, and the paper sack covers graft, this can be changed every two to three days by making an extra opening in the sack, first by tearing an opening on the north side, then the east side, then the west side, and finally the south side. After the sack has been torn so that there is only a small amount around it, the cover may be removed completely from the graft with every reasonable expectation that it will grow. One thing that one should not do, and that is to fertilize the grafts and try to force more growth. Let them be at least one year old, and preferably two, before fertilizer is added. Another thing that one must control is the various insect pests. These are controlled as on larger camellias.

If the above steps are followed, one will be able to get a good percent of takes in any year regardless of the type of weather one may have.

Camellia Grand Tour

"... AS OTHERS SEE US"

Roland Young, New Zealand

When in December 1959 my plane touched down at Los Angeles a long-cherished dream handed over to reality. I was in the United States, camellia-land. Jack Carlton, manager for the late Ralph Peer, took me straight to the Peer home where, as I stepped from the car, I came on the finest welcome imaginable — early blooms of SUN-UP, LAURIE BRAY and other varieties displayed on the low semi-circular hedge before their entrance. What a kindly and thoughtful surprise!

To my sorrow I learned of Ralph Peer's illness. His gracious wife, later accompanied by Edwards Metcalf whom I had met in New Zealand, showed me over the renowned camellia collection. There I saw the large and very fine specimen of CALIFORNIA which had recently been transplanted with enormous labour and difficulty.

Ned Metcalf took me to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Decker, thence to the Huntington Gardens where I met Dr. Hertrich, Howard Asper, Harvey Short and Bill Wylam. The camellia season was just beginning. No rain had fallen for months and the plants had suffered accordingly. Later, on my return, in February after rain had fallen, I was to see plants looking ever so much fresher.

Straight away I left for Houston eager to meet my daughter who was living there. Louis George, President of the Houston Camellia Society, took me under his wing and I was surprised to see camellias growing on land eight inches above sea-level. These were planted on small mounds. Christmas was spent in Chicago, far from camellias. On my return I spent a most enjoyable evening at a meeting of the Memphis Camellia Society where I saw a splendid bloom of PROF. C. S. SARGENT, a variety not yet about in New Zealand. Truman L. Pearce of Shreveport, with whom I had previously corresponded, was the next camellia friend from whom I was to receive hospitality — that heart-

warming variety so typical with Americans. He took me along to meet Dr. Womack where I was quite overcome by the fragile beauty of the variety Mrs. D. W. DAVIS, the first I had ever seen. Back to Houston where blooming was now well under way I joined in on a Camellia Trail Day visiting several gardens—all most exhilarating. For the first time I saw the remarkable varieties of GIULIO NUCCIO and REG RAGLAND VAR., hitherto but names to me.

Next, on my way to Key West, I stepped off at Tampa where Mr. and Mrs. Davis extended every courtesy. I was thrilled to see the original camellia Mrs. D. W. DAVIS and also a most beautiful group of plants of that variety. At Orlando under adverse weather conditions I attended my first American camellia show, an exciting and stimulating day for me indeed. Here I was grateful for the kindness and guidance of Mr. and Mrs. John Freeman. Followed the wonderful convention at Jacksonville which provided my first encounter with glasshouse blooms. I had never imagined camellias could be so beautiful. Here I have to mention John Sewell who just couldn't do enough for me. I hesitate to mention names of new friends made there for fear of omissions, but somehow I must record meeting with ACS President and Mrs. Wannamaker, Joe Pyron, Reg Ragland, Brady Johnston, Mrs. Jessie Katz, Caryll and Mildred Pitkin, Albert Fendig, Mrs. Blanche Graham, Judge Solomon, Dave Strother, Mike Witman and Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Ashby.

The Fendigs, my next hosts, then took me, together with Mr. and Mrs. Peterson (I had to travel 6,000 miles to meet these countrymen of mine for the first time), to the show at St. Simons Island, Georgia. Here I felt most privileged accompanying Jessie Katz as she judged, an enlightening and educational experience for which I am most grateful. Judge Solomon, that grand and very wonderful man, was my host at Savannah. Here I was able to see Bernard Diamond's superb collection displayed in seven acres of parkland. Never have I seen such numbers of flawless blooms as I did in his glasshouse. A stupendous ROSEA

SUPERBA of incredible beauty dominated the whole scene. Unfortunately, and to my very great disappointment, very heavy rain prevented my seeing Judge Solomon's garden.

In Charleston, H. E. Ashby met me at the hotel and took me to his home where I saw some beautiful blooms and several outstanding seedlings. Along with Earl Kline we visited the adjoining garden of Emory J. Prevatt. From there Norwood Hastie took me to his world famous Magnolia Gardens and also to the Middleton Gardens. In both places I saw several of the oldest camellias in the country. At the Charleston Show the bloom that took my eye was the variety JESSIE KATZ which appears so very difficult to grow on the West Coast. What substance and style, what iridescence of colour!

I was completely enraptured by the gardens of Dave Strother of Fort Valley and Mike and Lilette Witman of Macon, Georgia. I shall never forget a ten- to twelve-foot MAGNOLIAE-FLORA grown to absolute perfection, in the garden of the former. This has always been perhaps my favourite variety as it was one of my very first acquisitions. All in all the standard of growth in these gardens was unparalleled, and I can vividly remember the outstanding blooms in Mike Witman's glasshouse.

After an interlude in which I saw several aspects of American life other than camellia growing, I found myself once again the guest of Ned Metcalf, to whom I am greatly indebted. I was allowed to share and follow his activities so closely that he must have thought that I was his dark shadow on otherwise bright days. I helped to select, pack, and stage blooms, thereby learning a great deal. It was in this collection that I first saw fine specimens of the Kunming reticulatas and miniature japonicas. At this period I was also taken to the splendid nursery of Julius Nuccio where among much else I saw some intriguing seedlings yet to be released. With Los Angeles as a base my visits extended to the shows in California—Temple City, Descanso, Bakersfield, Fresno and Orange. After the latter show I had the privileged opportunity of vis-

iting Reg and Lolly Ragland's comprehensive slat house collection. Following this at the invitation of Bill Wylam and under his informed wing I was able to enjoy Huntington Gardens to the fullest. How grateful I am to him for all the time he gave me.

At San Francisco I met Dave Feathers and Harold Page. There at the garden of the former I saw a magnificent bloom of PHYL DOAK (raised in New Zealand), and a hybrid of Dave Feather's, MONTICELLO. To my mind these two hybrids for growth habit, quality, style and durability are hard to match.

Briefly, but quite inadequately told, this resumé of my Camellia Trail terminated at California—save for the occasion of a trip to Washington, D. C., in June where I saw several lovely blooms of MATHOTIANA grown by Phillip Schaeffer and Lendell Connors out-of-doors.

Looking back (and how easily I do that), I select the following as my readiest observations:

1. The growing performance of camellias appears very much to be function of locality.
2. My long-preserved aversion towards variegation of colour has to be drastically modified.
3. Memorable varieties: the incomparable BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME seen at Jacksonville; PEARL MAXWELL, a most glorious formal pink; DONCKELARI; WHITE NUN, outstanding on the show bench; TOMORROW with its rich brilliance; HAZEL E. HERRIN so much the better on the East Coast; MRS. D. W. DAVIS; REG RAGLAND Var., RUTH ROYER and KRAMER'S SUPREME. Of the Kunmings: NOBLE PEARL, BUDDHA and CRIMSON ROBE took my eye.
4. The extensive use of slat houses—something altogether foreign to us in New Zealand.
5. I cannot forget the zeal and enterprise of the American growers in the teeth of so much climatical adversity. At first I was taken aback to find that practically only camellias were grown at that time of the year, whereas we in New Zealand have our best colour then—from the magnolias,

prunus and malus to genera from South Africa and Australia such as the Acacias, plants of the Myrtaceae family and the vast and incredible Proteaceae family and at the ground level are bulbs such as Dutch Iris, narcissi, hyacinths, and many other subjects.

6. The strange, attractively strange, method of growing camellias under lofty shade trees.

Today as I write it is the time of your Presidential Inaugural. We are in the throes of a hot New Zealand summer, you are deep in snow—contrasts of scene and season. But underneath as far as I can make out is very much the same human aspiration.

—ACS—



Camellia Irrawadiensis

This interesting Camellia species from Burma attains tree size, 18 to 20 feet. The leaves are 5 to 6 inches long by 2 inches wide, deep green and leathery. The flowers are borne in clusters and are about 1 to 1½ inches in diameter with 7 to 8 cream-colored petals, obviously closely related to the tea camellia (*C. sinensis*). This may prove to be an interesting parent in hybridizing.

L. O. Wilson, Assistant Commandant of the Burma Military Police, collected seed in 1917 at about 7,000 to 8,000 feet altitude in the Irrawadi Valley. Five plants were raised from Wilson's seeds, but only one survived. First described by Barua in Camellian, November 1956. Photographed in the Witman greenhouse, Macon, Georgia, January 17, 1961 with Star-tech camera. Notes from Sealy's *A Revision of the Genus Camellia*.

I Just Like Camellias

JOHN A. TOWNSEND, Mobile, Ala.

On a cold, drizzly-sleety day this winter when I could not get into my garden I started the enclosed "brain-storm" and like the old story "it just grew" until I believe there are ninety named camellias. I pass it on to you hoping that it may give you a "lift" when you can't work in your garden.

REV. JOHN BENNETT and REV. JOHN DRAYTON were passing through the PEARLY GATES at SUNRISE when, to their SURPRISE the STRAWBERRY BLONDE, PAULETTE GODDARD, wearing her CRIMSON ROBE, and CHRISTINE LEE, the DRAMA GIRL—also known as the DRAGON LADY, diked out to PINK PERFECTION, strolled by. Following close behind them were the DUKE OF BURGUNDY carrying his PEPPERMINT STICK and the ILLUSTRIOUS EMPEROR OF RUSSIA with his HI HAT. Recalling DANTE'S INFERNO and the CONFLAGRATION the two ministers decided to sit down in the BEAUTIFUL GULF PARK and sing their TE DEUM SWEET AND LOW, and be CHEERFUL. It was not only a day of ROYAL BEAUTY but a day when royalty was on parade. The ROYAL TRUMPETER announced the arrival of each one with a SERAPHIM that was a SENSATION. The KING OF HEARTS with QUEEN BESSIE, guarded by GENERAL GEORGE PATTON and GENERAL DWIGHT EISENHOWER; then came QUEEN ELIZABETH with her QUEEN'S ESCORT the DUC DE ORLEANS; the DUCHESS OF SUTHERLAND was in her SEVENTH HEAVEN when the DUKE OF YORK—otherwise known as PRINCE CHARMING—introduced her to the DUKE OF WINDSOR. There followed the usual ROMANCE and REVELATION and with a RADIANT GLOW on her face that was reminiscent of the PURITAN LASS, and which accented her INNOCENCE and CHASTITY he took her to the CHURCH PINK for the ceremony (by the above mentioned preachers) that made them one. LADY CLARE, LADY VAN SITTART, LADY JANE GRAY, LADY CHARLOTTE, LADY ALICE and LADY RUTH were bridesmaids. Her BRIDE'S BOUQUET—a huge LOTUS,

was like a BREATH OF SPRING and her BRIDAL VEIL was an ILLUSION. The DUKE's only attendant was his good friend, VICTOR EMMANUEL. The ushers were PRINCE ALBERT, PRINCE MURAT, PRINCE DE SALERNE, PRINCE EUGENE NAPOLEON, PRINCE HENRY and PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM. The WEDDING RING was carried by the LITTLE MAN, BONNIE PRINCE CHARLES. PRINCESS IRENE sang MY DARLING and the music was furnished by the MATHOTIANA SUPREME band. The reception was a BRILLIANT affair at which the BLUSHING BRIDE, now the DUCHESS OF WINDSOR, floating on PINK CLOUDS OF CHIFFON, entered the room on the arm of her HEART'S DESIRE, who was dressed in ROYAL WHITE, his face a RUBY GLOW. Their GUEST OF HONOR, the IRRESISTIBLE, HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II, paid SPECIAL TRIBUTE to the royal couple and joined their many friends in wishing them happiness on TOMORROW and HARMONY on their journey through life. As a GRAND FINALE, SEPTEMBER MORN dressed as VENUS walked by, making LADY HUMES BLUSH, a RED BEAUTY.

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Greenhouses

(Continued from page 6)

much valuable space when it is too large to move. Were it in a container, it could be transplanted to the yard with no shock and the entire root system intact. Another thing, no matter how far apart they are spaced they will in time grow together. And don't forget, greenhouse space is valuable. They also tend to grow over the walks and severe pruning only causes them to grow right back, usually without setting buds due to excessive growth. Experience indicates that those plants which were originally put in the ground have almost, without exception, been dug and replaced with container-grown ones. In recent years, very, very few have been planted in the ground. At first, at least, try growing in containers. Many more varieties can be accommodated in the same space. Any container that makes sense will do, and even some that don't will often suffice. That can be left up to the imagination, skill or pocketbook of the individual. Redwood tubs are perhaps best and can be made by anyone with a rip saw for not over

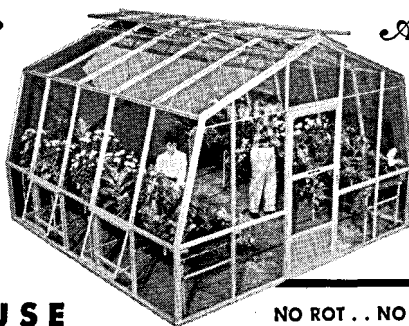
a third of the cost of buying them. A strapping tool can be a community or club property, but by all means use stainless steel bands. The cost is little more than galvanized and will not have to be replaced.

The entire future of the camellia you want to place in a tub is to a great extent literally in your hands before planting. Only one properly planted can thrive, and no clay rootball will thrive in a container. If it is heavy soil, it must be changed. When a clay rootball is placed in a container and surrounded by a couple of inches of good light potting mixture, this is what happens: the potting soil takes up what moisture it can hold and, being light in texture, allows the balance of the water to drain quickly on out through the bottom while the clay absorbs little if any of it. The clay slowly gets as hard as a brick, and since it occupies the majority of the space in the tub, the roots are strangled and the plant never amounts to much or dies. The blooms may be fairly good the first year if the clay is not washed off, not too good the second, and then the bush dies an ag-

onizing slow death. Don't shun the nurseryman who has clay; in fact, very few have compatible soil—you just can't make it up by the acre, but don't be afraid to bareroot the plants. Carefully remove the burlap and just as carefully, so as not to damage the roots, wash away the soil with a not too hard stream of water, taking it right down to the bare roots. Have your container ready to plant, about $\frac{3}{4}$ full of dirt, mounded in the center. It is best to use a container several inches larger than the exposed root system and not too deep. If too deep a container is used, the bottom two-thirds will be stagnant, unused soil and tend to sour before the roots enter it. After it has been barerooted and placed in the container, put in enough dirt, just barely moist, so it will flow between the root mass. Let the dirt barely cover the tap roots, hold the plant steady by the stem so it will not settle, and water in. Then again barely cover the roots and settle with a sprinkler. Do this in a shaded place and where the plant can remain unmoved for at least several weeks so as not to shake it loose. Then, the

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last thing to do, before going on to another, is to pour about a pint of water in which 10 mg. of B-1 has been dissolved. This helps prevent shock from barerooting. If you doubt this being a great help to your freshly planted camellia, ask your plant pathologist.

Almost every experienced camellia grower has his or her pet dirt mix formula, and almost all of them do satisfactorily. But a container mix should, beyond all doubt, be light in texture. A good one to use is 5 wheelbarrows of good, black, sandy topsoil or woods dirt; 4 wheelbarrows of peat, and one to one and a half of sand, depending on the lightness of the topsoil. To each wheelbarrow of dirt only, add a four-inch pot of fertilizer and the recommended amount of trace elements. Fertilizer mixed in the dirt is much better utilized than that which we must later scatter on the surface.

Fertilizing is much more critical in containers, though a little care on the conservative side will avert any trouble. The old saying that "too little is better than too much," is doubly true here. In a sixteen-inch redwood tub, use about two generous but not heaping tablespoons per feeding. This can be done in late February and again in mid-May. Then before moving the plants inside in the fall, give

them a feeding of a mixture of one-third cottonseed meal and two-thirds of 0-14-14. They do need some nitrogen in the winter.

Another very important item is watering. Don't worry your plants to death with the hose by giving them a squirt every time you visit the greenhouse. They have to be moist at all times, of course, but wait until they need it and when you water, WATER THOROUGHLY. All drinking water contains minute amounts of saline salts which are harmless in those amounts but tend to build up and become injurious. If you do not water thoroughly, these salts can build up from, say 400 parts per million to 800 the next watering, then to 1,200, and soon reach an injurious level. However, these salts are soluble and in watering enough so that some runs out the bottom each time, the salts leak out and never cause trouble. Usually the first sign of a toxic condition from salinity is a browning of the tips of the leaves, then leaf drop. When outdoors in the summer, the containers should not need watering more often than once a week in mid-summer. If they dry out and require watering more often, it is a good indication that they need retubbing to a container with at least a four-inch larger diameter. If they have been in the same

(Continued on page 25)

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THE RHODODENDRON AND CAMELLIA YEAR BOOK, 1961

Number 15. 149 pages with 7 color plates and 51 black and white illustrations. Edited by P. M. Synge and J. W. O. Platt.

Approximately half of the Royal Horticultural Society's Rhododendron and Camellia Year Book for 1961 is devoted to camellias.

One of the most interesting articles is by our own David L. Feathers on *Hybrid Camellias*, which outlines the progress being made in the United States. Two of his own hybrids, *HY BALL* and *MONTICELLO* are illustrated in color. Sir Giles Loder briefly describes the Royal Greenhouses at Laeken and the Nursery of de Bisschop near Ghent in *A Short Visit to Belgium*. Francis Hanger pays a tribute to the late Ralph Peer.

Several years ago the Men's Camellia Society of Birmingham (Alabama) presented Queen Elizabeth II with a collection of several of our best newer varieties, including *TOMORROW*, *PINK CHAMPAGNE* and *MRS. D. W. DAVIS*. These three were granted the coveted Award of Merit last April when exhibited by Her Majesty.

Mr. Puddle and Mr. Hanger have again contributed a descriptive list of *C. japonica* varieties.

This 1961 Year Book may be ordered only from the Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square S. W. 1, London at \$2.00 post-paid.

GARDENS IN WINTER

By Elizabeth Lawrence. 218 pp. Harper, N. Y. \$4.50

Elizabeth Lawrence of Charlotte, North Carolina, has little patience with fair weather gardeners. Patmore's line sums up her philosophy:

"Sweeter yet than dream or song of Summer or Spring are Winter's sometime smiles."

This delightful little book is not a garden book in the usual sense. It is not a technical book, but rather it is full of poetic beauty and at the same time highly informative. There are suggestions not only for starting the garden ahead of spring and extending bloom beyond the autumn frosts. She says "the only moment in a garden that is better than a bright winter morning is a warm winter sunset." "To be pleasant in winter a garden needs more than trees and shrubs and a green carpet. It must have brick and stone to catch and hold the warmth of sun, a wall or hedge against the north and dry pavement underfoot."

According to Mrs. Lawrence, the garden winter begins with the feast of St. Martin, November 11th when golden days often

follow killing frost. Legend has it that when St. Martin died, the boat that bore his body was wafted up the Loire without sails or oars, while trees on either bank burst into flower, thus a period of flowering out of season is known as St. Martin's Summer. The garden winter ends on St. Valentine's Day.

The winter months are of course the favorite garden season for camellia lovers. Appropriately, two sections are devoted to camellias: *Early Camellias* and *Camellias after Christmas*. She not only exhibits firsthand knowledge of camellias but also from her obviously extensive correspondence she quotes prominent growers of camellia and other plants from various sections.

We Camelliophiles often forget there are numerous other winter flowering plants. These are interestingly described and many are skillfully illustrated by Caroline Dorman, herself a well known writer on Southern gardening.

This little book helps one discover unsuspected beauty in what many consider the off season in the garden. "If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?" is not a part of Mrs. Lawrence's garden philosophy.

THE RHODODENDRON AND CAMELLIA YEAR BOOK, 1961

A coloured plate of "Mrs. D. W. Davis" forms the frontispiece of this volume. This is one of a collection of American raised varieties of *Camellia japonica* presented to Queen Elizabeth by the Men's Camellia Society of Birmingham, Alabama and which received the Award of Merit at the same time as "Pink Champagne" and "Tomorrow" from the same collection when shown by The Queen. "Kelvingtonia" which received an F.C.C. as long ago as 1869 is also illustrated in colour as well as the American hybrids "Monticello" and "High Ball". Other recent hybrids illustrated include *williamsii* "Margaret Waterhouse", "Leonard Messel" and "White Orchid". Illustrations of the uncommon *C. granthamiana* and *C. tsaii* are of particular interest. The camellia text includes an important article by David L. Feathers on recent Hybrid Camellias. Charles Puddle and Francis Hanger contribute the descriptions and history of Eighteen Popular *Camellia japonica* varieties, while the latter answers some Camellia Problems for beginners. There is an interesting account of a visit by Sir Giles Loder to the Royal Camellia house at Laeken, Belgium, C. H. J. Williams writes persuasively in favour of growing camellias in containers.

PRICE \$2.00 post free

A REVISION OF THE GENUS CAMELLIA

By J. ROBERT SEALY

This is a detailed botanical revision based primarily on wild material of the genus preserved in herbaria. Eighty-two species are recognized and are disposed in twelve sections, and keys are provided for their identification. A comprehensive description is given of each species, with a line-drawing, references to literature, a list of specimens examined, and explanatory comments. There are chapters concerning the history, botanical relationships, and geographical distribution of the genus, and others dealing with the inter-relationships of the species, and with the imperfectly known species. Finally there is a chapter about camellias in gardens—a review of all the species known to have been introduced into cultivation, together with an account of the interspecific hybrids raised during the past thirty years or so. It is anticipated that this will form the standard work on the genus for many years to come. Mr. Sealy is the acknowledged botanical authority on the genus. The book, which is Small Royal Quarto (12¼ in. x 9¼ in.) of 239 pages, has a coloured frontispiece by Stella Ross-Craig, 6 maps, 95 line-drawings, and a chart.

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Camellias as Landscape Shrubs

HAMILTON FISH, L.A., San Jose, Calif.

Northern California is witnessing a revival of interest in the camellia as a landscape shrub. Partly this is due to the activities of camellia societies. Some of it is caused by publicity concerning camellias. New sun-tolerant hybrids have played their part. Whatever the cause, it is a worthy one.

Few landscape architects would dispute the value of the camellia, looked upon simply as a foliage shrub. Even many professional men still tend to regard the camellia japonica as a "temperamental" subject, which can be traced to plants killed by improper planting.

As a foliage plant, the camellia can hold its own with any other shrubs. Richly green foliage, an interesting leaf texture and pattern add value to the camellia. Combine this with a glorious period of abundant bloom, and you have the top quality shrub for landscape planting.

Present trend in landscape use of hybrid camellias is to employ multiple planting of one variety. BONNIE MARIE used as a foundation planting can only create beauty. FLIRTATION grown in a sweeping line forms a gracious band of delicate green leaves, carried into a superlative presentation of blossoms lasting several months.

Among other hybrid varieties which perform excellently in northern California are ROBBIE and SANTA CRUZ. A newcomer which was introduced this fall, FLUTED ORCHID, has drawn a

good deal of attention among gardening circles.

In selecting any evergreen shrub for landscape use, the site must be clearly analyzed. Contemporary properties are smaller than used to be had, and this calls for more restrained habits of growth of the shrubs to be planted. It is impossible to have one each of every lovely shrub, so a decision must be made—plant for continued beauty, or grow a hodgepodge. This will mean limiting plant use to a few varieties, designed as multiples of one variety for a given location.

Given a thirty-foot-long strip to be planted, there is a richness and an "impact" of visual importance to a row of one variety which cannot be achieved in a mixed planting. Individual specimens can be used as accent planting and will serve to accentuate the massed grouping.

As more and more California gardeners realize the value of camellias, there is more interest in hybrids, in species, and in the less rampant varieties of *C. japonica*. California indulges in outdoor living, which is stressed in northern California as well. Tubbed plants for patio decor are important, and here will be found *C. sasanqua* in many varieties. Hanging baskets are a prominent feature of the outdoor living area, and again, many varieties or species of camellias serve perfectly.

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the Journal of the
American Camellia Society

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POWELL NURSERIES

A Long Camellia Trail

(Continued from page 5)

popularity of some camellias, the flowers of which shatter in your country on account of the petal blight. In Australia they are generally favoured for their tidy habits. However, Magnolia Gardens, on a sunny morning with vistas of great splendour, wisteria blooming up huge sycamores, azalea bushes a riot of colour and the lake with millions of coloured azalea petals drifting across was a great satisfaction to all the senses. The swamp cypress was just taking on its new dress for Spring and the new green against the blue sky, and the contrast of the inky still water provided some excellent shots for my memory as well as my camera.

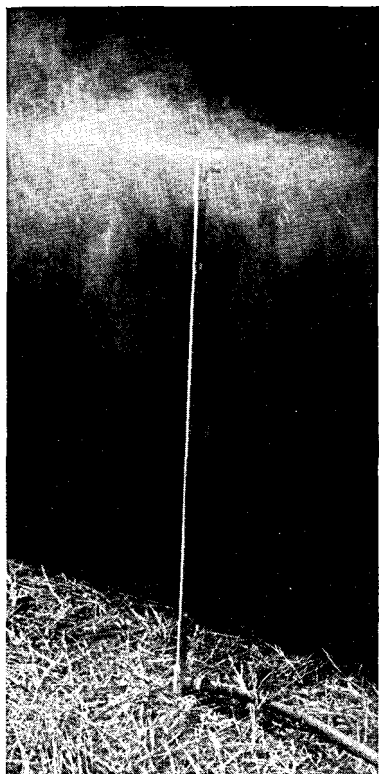
Mr. and Mrs. Les Marbury of Wilmington, North Carolina welcomed me in their historical and attractive city and I was thrilled with a trip we made to Orton Plantation, the glorious garden on the river which was at its azalea height and featuring many interesting old bushes of camellias. This is a most charming plantation home with an oak of huge proportions on the front lawn. No doubt many tales of interest could be told if one could converse with such a dignified "old-timer". Mr. Marbury's garden, camellia-wise, was having a well-earned rest after all the excitement of flowering was over, but for all that maintained a happy atmosphere of greens and many lovely white azaleas, perfectly in tune with

the lacy ironwork balconies of their lovely home.

How I admired the architectural styles of the many homes I stayed in and visited; these "modern-type" plantation homes incorporate the charm of their forebears, with the conveniences of today and, in my opinion, lose nothing of their charm.

My last camellia show was the Potomac Valley in Washington and here, to gauge something of the difficulties of flowering I encountered 90 degrees on the Wednesday and snow on the Sunday. Flowers in the Show which showed themselves to be good all-rounders were MAGNOLIA-FLORA, PINK PERFECTION (I wonder if our similar USUOTOME is the same, in Melbourne it does ball so), BERENICE

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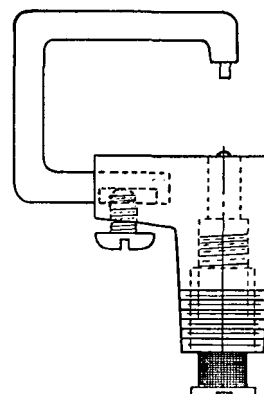
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BODDY, MARJORIE MAGNIFICENT, MATHOTIANA, and DR. TINSLEY. I wonder if the Rusticana (snow camellia) would not be very successful in this climate, also the Williamsi group, CORNISH SNOW, etc. KATHERINE MARYOTT bloomed very well here—I noticed the more advanced bloom still retained a rose look. Dr. Arthur Maryott and his wife Jean kindly drove me around Washington and it was quite a breathtaking sight watching snow gently falling on forsythia and pink camellias and the lovely cherry blossoms around the Tidal Basin. Thank you, Dr. Maryott, for such a sterling effort, and showing me the beauties of Washington.

I was fortunate enough to stay in this lovely city long enough to witness the gorgeous display of dogwoods and azaleas blooming in the Arboretum. My driver here was fortunate enough to have a puncture right in the middle of this section of the road so I was able to click my camera and enjoy the sights to the full. Although I did not see it, I understand the camellia section is growing well here, too.

I left Washington for the famous Du Pont Gardens in Kennett Square where Mr. Everett Miller showed me some of the glories of growing under glass. Some beautifully grown camellia bushes here of large size were growing alongside rhododendrons

and azaleas in full bloom, Australian acacias, too. The roses were in flower, next door beautiful hybrid hibiscus flowering, a tropic wonderland, baskets of cactus in flower, giant carnations, cymbidium and cattleya orchids, and outside in the wet and cold weather the dogwoods were putting on a brave show. I thought the lawns surrounded by herbaceous borders full of bloom outside the ballroom quite a lovely picture. How fortunate you are to have such wonderful places to visit with and learn from. I can imagine at any time one would see glorious flowers in bloom, and I hope as the result of an Australian visit in 1958 you will be seeing many more of our unique Australian flowers and shrubs.

Continuing my journey through from Philadelphia and leaving my camellia friends behind, may I just mention the many further gardening "frills" I saw, the tubs of tulips blooming in Fifth Avenue, the magnificent flower show in Macy's, the birch forests, the glorious Judas trees, crab-apples, forsythias, the trilliums heralding early spring in the woods of Ontario Province, the amelanchiers in full bloom on Lake Champlain, the spruce trees and ground junipers in the woods en route from Toronto to Ottawa, where I arrived in time for the tulip festival. Millions of tulips planted around this garden city with its fairy-like towers dominating the landscape was quite unforgettable. I left the beautiful city of Montreal for England where I was fortunate enough to arrive for the Chelsea Flower Show.

This was really a most exciting event to me—reading and hearing of this for so long. The Mollis and Ghent type azaleas and rhododendrons out in all their glory, tulips and roses from Holland, beautifully landscaped rock gardens with rock plants of infinite variety, many species of hydrangeas, annuals and perennials of all sorts and having colours of great splendour, and could anyone ever forget the sight and smell of the biggest strawberries I'd ever seen.

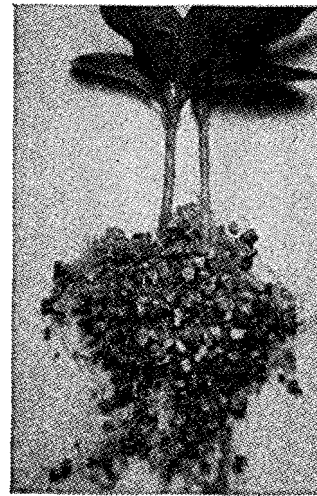
Camellias in England I found limited, by comparison with U. S. on account of the climate. Mr. Puddle, who is in charge of the famous Bod-

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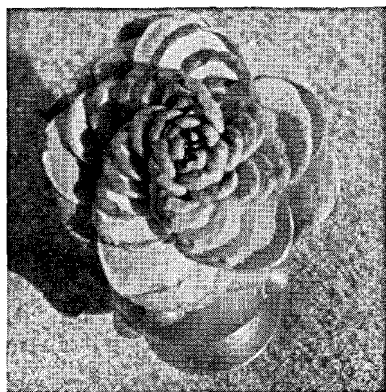
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nant Garden in North Wales, is more interested in Williamsi Hybrids as the flowers are good cold weather varieties, sasanquas apparently do not bloom. I was very interested to see some fine CAPTAIN RAWES espaliered on brick walls and LADY CLARE, in



COLOR SLIDE CONTEST

The ACS is sponsoring a color slide contest open to all amateur photographers. This is being done to encourage the taking of more and better camellia slides. Closeups of individual flowers are desired, rather than views of whole plants, arrangements or gardens. Only 35mm or 2 x 2 will be eligible. All slides entered will be added to the ACS slide collection.

Appropriate prizes are being obtained. These are *plants* of such new varieties as TOMORROW'S DAWN, LADY MACON, BETTY SHEFFIELD SUPREME, *Granthamiana* (sp) and others. First prize winners will have first choice. We plan to award as many as ten such prizes. Competent judges will be appointed.

CONTEST CLOSSES MAY 1, 1961

Winners Will Be Announced in the
September Journal

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Box 465

TIFTON, GEORGIA

its only known growth habit in England, completely prostrate in form. The effect of this plant gracefully falling over the side of several stone steps quite lovely. I must digress here to remark on the garden at Bodnant, which is quite fabulous in its layout of several formal terraces of huge proportions dropping down into a valley and at the bottom quite informal treatment of garden along the banks of a stream with fine trees of all types and a truly magnificent collection of rhododendrons and azaleas. Truly, the latter flower is to England what the camellia is to the south of U.S.A. I think there are 900 odd species in England today, not counting the hybrids. These range from the smallest rock plants to immense trees, and it seems there are varieties out in flower most of the year. Other outstanding gardens here I visited were the garden at Exbury—home of the famous Exbury hybrid azaleas. Here, too, the rhododendrons in this glorious and enormous garden were outstanding and the camellia collection quite extensive. The R. H. S. Gardens at Wisley, Surrey are tremendously varied, and quite beautiful, the Edinburgh Botanical Collection of rhododendrons justly famous. Kew Gardens on the Thames a gardener's paradise, Savile Gardens tucked in the center of Windsor Great Park, a smaller garden of great charm. One could go on

literally for years here in the British Isles studying the history of gardening dating back so many centuries. I think one could find plants growing from every corner of the world, and specimen trees hundreds of years old abound.

I have been asked so many times since my return, and indeed whilst in America, for opinions on growing methods, etc. I hesitate to do this since my own knowledge is so limited, but am of the opinion that too many varieties are being named. So many are so similar that they even confuse the experts, and I think presently we will be in the position of the Old Woman in the Shoe. (This is happening in Australia, too, I think.) Could perhaps some system be devised where new varieties could be put in selecting Test Gardens as at the R.H.S. gardens at Wisley, England, and then be named, perhaps, with a points system for general hardiness, appearance, etc. This I think would encourage camellia growers to be more selective in breeding programs.

I noticed whilst in your country the rapid growth of the Gordonia, a camellia cousin. Would this be of any use for understock? I was quite staggered at the growth of the Waterhouse hybrids by comparison with ours, also the heavy seeding on your camellia bushes. Some of our varieties

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seed freely but I have never seen (in Melbourne) anything like yours here. Neither have I seen the amazing sight of amateur growers with nursery rows of hundreds of seedling camellias, nor the extent of grafting that you do. My congratulations to you all for the wonderful program you have made.

In conclusion, may I suggest a re-

turn visit to Australia in our camellia season. This would be July in Sydney and August in Melbourne, taking in New Zealand on the way, where camellias are a "natural" with the lush volcanic soil. I am sure you would enjoy seeing our flowers and find much of interest in our country. Thank you once again for showing me so much of your wonderful land.

—ACS—

Greenhouses

(Continued from page 19)

container for some years, it is a good idea to remove a moderate amount of the old dirt doing this, say about an inch. This gives more fresh dirt and also frees the roots to go into it. After moving them into the greenhouse in the fall, you will find that with the coming of cool weather, they will require water every ten days and, later, only every couple of weeks or so.

No matter how well ventilated a house is, the temperature will rise well above that outdoors in summer. If it is 90 outside, it will be 110 or more inside the greenhouse. This is too hot and your plants will do much better outside under trees or other shade protection. Another advantage of container growing is that this can

be accomplished easily. This may seem like quite a task, but in reality isn't. Using a rubber-tired two-wheel hand truck made for this purpose, a house containing 200 plants can be cleared in a day, and that has to be done only twice a year.

Heating your greenhouse can be done by either electricity or NATURAL gas. Gas does a better job at a cost of a few dollars a month, while electricity runs several times that. Use a 50 to 85 MBTU ceiling suspended type gas blower. There are several good ones available. Have your heating man make a U out of a 3-inch pipe with the fittings in the cross-bar of the U. Make this of sufficient height so that when the ends are set in concrete 3 feet into the ground, the bottom of the heater will be above your head. Place this at the rear end of the house so it will be out of the way and to one side of center. Be sure it is on the same side as the roof vent so rain will not blow in on it. Use a mercury type thermostat, as points sometimes become dusty and the heat fails to come on. Mount it below the furnace on the supporting pipe, since this will be the last place the heat will reach, set

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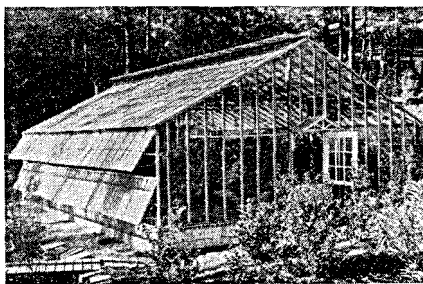
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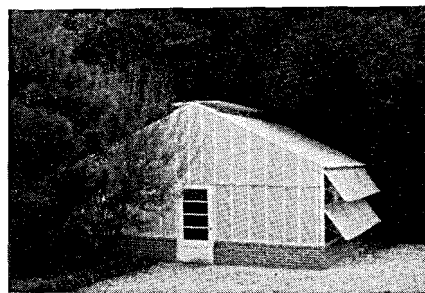
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Now about the size of house you will need . . . no camellia greenhouse has ever been built large enough and, as long as we are camellia growers, never will be. So in planning your house decide what you will actually have to have on a generous estimate, then double it. Then add to that whatever your finances or credit will stand and you might not fill it up until the second year. Seriously, plan and build it as large as you can for there will always be another in the yard that you want to put in, that special one that the nurseryman showed you, and new good varieties will continue to be introduced each year. All blooms look so beautiful under glass that there isn't any stopping—and who wants to?

Debudding and other general culture is no different from those grown outdoors. Plants are usually smaller and the buds can be looked after better, although severe debudding is not necessary. Your bloom quality will be much better for another reason, as well. As a rule, vigorous two- to five-year grafts produce the best specimen blooms. When a plant begins to get too large, another smaller one can be purchased or grafted and be ready to take the place of the larger one which can then become a part of the outdoor planting. Large plants have many more blooms and outdoors this makes for a wonderful show. How-

ever, these tend more toward quantity than quality.

In summing up, greenhouse growing is not too different from outdoor and just as easy. Start the plants off by barerooting, thus giving them a whole tubful of potting soil rather than an inch or two. Water thoroughly when needed and be sure you have good drainage. That is the ONE most important thing. Over the holes in the bottom of the container place some rounded broken clay pot pieces, then over this about two inches of small gravel, then just enough sand to barely cover the gravel to keep the dirt from washing down through the gravel. By doing this and using a light friable dirt mixture, you should never have any kind of drainage problem, but you will have more camellia-growing pleasure than you ever dreamed possible before.

—ACS—

STAMENS: ANTHERS AND FILAMENTS

In describing camellias for registration it is important to list the color of the anthers *and* filaments, not merely stamens. Most anthers (pollen sacs) are orange, gold or yellow, but filaments vary considerably. Some filaments are pure white, cream, yellow, pink or even red. Some are joined at the base or half their length to form a comb arrangement. Registration forms will be revised to provide for this description.

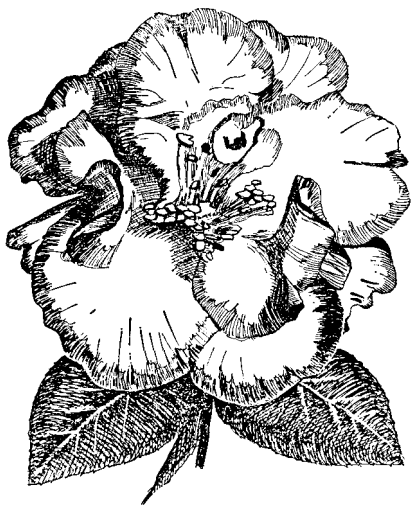
In Memoriam

DR. ANDROS SCOTT HAMILTON

Dr. Andros Scott Hamilton passed away December 24, 1960 at his home in Monroe, Louisiana. In 1936, when he moved to Monroe, Dr. Hamilton began collecting camellias and amassed a collection of about six hundred plants.

Having a brilliant and inquisitive mind, he pursued his avocation with an interest which led him into an intelligent exploration of all aspects of camellia culture. Combining his enthusiasm for cameras with that for camellias, he photographed and catalogued his own blooms as well as many that he saw at shows. In his quest for perfection, he sent photographs of diseased plants to botanists, seeking professional aid when his own vast knowledge seemed inadequate to him. This same quest caused him to correspond with other camellia fanciers over the country, trading scions and bits of information to ever improve his collection.

Dr. Hamilton was a charter member of the American Camellia Society. He also belonged to the Men's Garden Clubs of America, editing the camellia section of their magazine, MEGA. He was an organizer and past president of the Men's Garden Club of Monroe. Both Dr. and Mrs. Hamilton were accredited judges and enjoyed the opportunity to judge many shows all through the South.



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Some Deserving Older Varieties

JOSEPH H. PYRON, Tifton, Georgia

Each season in looking for new camellias I invariably run across some older ones which I have either overlooked or failed to properly appreciate. Some of these are about as rare and difficult to locate plants of as are some of the newest. Some of course are readily available and others have long since been used as understock for what often prove to be inferior new varieties.

One of these is MANDARIN which several people mysteriously mentioned at the annual meeting in Jacksonville. I assumed that it must be the newest California seedling. No one seemed to have any definite information on it except that it was "red and quite good". Then I noticed that it was listed in the Southern California Nomenclature as far back as 1954. A further check discloses that MANDARIN was developed as a chance seedling by the McCaskills of Pasadena and first flowered in 1941 and was introduced in 1947. The next time I visited Mr. Strother's Massee Lane I asked him about it. He happened to have it in flower. MANDARIN is a large (4 inches) peony form of

glowing Mandarin red, beautifully variegated white. A prolific bloomer, hence extremely showy. Long blooming season.

DIDDY MEALING is a variety whose name is more familiar. It is one of the introductions of Dr. and Mrs. H. G. Mealing of North Augusta, S. C. Yet I didn't actually know this flower until the past season although it first flowered in 1946. Somehow it wasn't widely distributed and was not a show winner. I saw this exceptional variety several times this past season and was more impressed each time. DIDDY MEALING is an early to mid-season bloomer. The incompletely imbricated, usually completely double creamy white flowers have an occasional pink stripe. They are often 5 inches in diameter with considerable depth. The wavy petals stand apart and do not reflex. The inner petals form a flat rosebud center. There is also a solid dawn pink sport known as PINK DIDDY which is even more beautiful than the original color.

I was unable to locate plants of this fine variety so evidently others have overlooked this also.

ELEANOR FRANCHETTI has been around a long time. Records indicate that it was imported from Angers, France, nearly 50 years ago by Hjort's of Thomasville, Georgia. The variety was originated by Caesare Franchetti in Florence, Italy. Although I had seen this before, I had not seen good flowers of it. But at the Diamond Garden in Savannah late in the past season I saw several large plants with outstanding flowers after the series of cold spells. The medium large peony form flowers have large guard petals and numerous central petals and petaloids, mostly white but with varying amounts of rose pink markings. The variety sports solid pink and pink with a few white blotches and a blush. The leaves are dark glossy green and the plant is a vigorous grower and prolific bloomer. Several people have told me they used this for understock some time ago, but it is worthy of a place in any large collection.

DIXIE KNIGHT was introduced by Wheeler's Central Georgia Nurseries in 1955 along with several others named for a group of ladies in Jackson, Mississippi. Although I had seen it several times before I failed to recognize its outstanding qualities until I saw it in the Frank Dowds' greenhouse during the 1958-59 season. Here was a magnificent deep rich red

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large loose peony form flower. Even then I dismissed it as something that Mrs. Dowd managed to blow up as she usually does. But this past season, Carl Wheeler had gorgeous heavily variegated DIXIE KNIGHTS that were as good as anything I saw all season. He was besieged with requests for plants of which he had only a few. Even scions are scarce. This is a sleeper which is now on the want list of all who saw it.

HAZEL E. HERRIN—a seedling grown by Herrin's Camellia Gardens, Pensacola, Florida, was registered with the ACS in 1949. This is one I didn't overlook although many people did. It had little publicity, won few awards and wasn't widely propagated. Yet this is an all around good flower. The 5- to 5½-inch flower which has 17 old rose petals and large petaloids among the stamens is a consistently good bloomer even after severe cold weather. I was glad to see it win one of the top awards in the Jacksonville show last season.

WILLIE MOORE has been overshadowed by the spectacular TOMORROW, TICK TOCK, COLONIAL DAME and others from the same source, Tick Tock Nursery in Thomasville, Georgia. WILLIE MOORE is deep pink to red with darker wedges. It is a large loose semi-double, a good tall grower and prolific and dependable. This is named for Mrs. Hayes' colored gardener.

MARGARET RATCLIFFE was originated as a seedling by Charles S. Tait, Sr., of Brunswick, Georgia. The flower is very light pink to blush, 4

to 4½ inches in diameter. The flower is rather flat, consisting of 8 to 12 petals. This can really take the cold. Its only drawback is that it shatters easily although its many good characteristics outweigh this fault. It flowers profusely starting in December.

KATE THRASH was registered in January 1955, yet is not well known nor fully appreciated. Introduced by Thomasville (Ga.) Nurseries. The flower is rose pink, medium large to large, peony form with a full center formation of petals and petaloids.

KING COTTON was registered in February 1954 but for some reason failed to receive much publicity or distribution. It is a large white with overlapping guard petals and an attractive center pompon of petaloids, anemoneform. This variety is exceptionally cold hardy for a white. Originated by Hugh Shackelford, Albany, Georgia.

MARGARET BARDSLEY and J. S. BRADFORD. The former is a rose red medium large (3½ to 4 in.) peony to anemone form composed of numerous petaloids and stamens intermixed. Developed by J. S. Bradford, Ocean Springs, Mississippi from seed planted in 1929 which first bloomed in 1939. The latter is a variegated form of the same variety. These are vigorous upright growers which have been around for a number of years. They make attractive landscape plants.

JESSIE BRYSON is a medium large to large loose wavy petalled semi-double to peony form. The color is a vivid red. Since it is a prolific bloomer a

number of flowers are open at once even on small plants. I believe this one came from Dothan, Alabama.

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LES-TAY-HOME (No. 532): A 6-year-old chance seedling that first bloomed in 1959, originated and propagated by Dr. J. Leslie Taylor, of Theodore, Alabama. Plant growth is medium rapid, upright and open, with dark green leaves averaging $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in width. The variegated white and red peony form flowers, similar to **PROF. SARGENT**, measure $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, 2 inches in depth, with 290 petals. A free bloomer, Early to Midseason.

WOODVILLE RED BLUSH (No. 533): A sport of **WOODVILLE RED**, first observed and propagated in 1956 by Mr. Leslie G. Thomas, Azalea Road Nursery, Mobile, Alabama, which has bloomed true for 3 years on 20 different plants. Growth habit medium rapid and upright, the same as parent plant, with light green leaves 3 to $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width. The peony form flowers similar to **DEBUTANTE** are blush pink fading to white, with gol-

den stamens, 4 inches in diameter, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth and have 60 petals. Flowers Midseason.

REBEL YELL (No. 534): A 7-year-old chance seedling that first bloomed in 1953, originated and propagated by Wheeler's Central Georgia Nurseries, Macon, Georgia, for commercial introduction Fall of 1961. Plant growth is upright, medium in rate, with dark green leaves 4 inches in length, 2 inches in width. The white semidouble flowers have a large number of red specks and fiery red stripes, giving a moiré effect. Petals and petaloids are crepey, twisted and curled, making a rabbit-eared flower with lots of depth. Flowers are $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth with 20 petals, 5 petaloids.

NANTEN PINK (No. 535): An 8-year-old hybrid (*C. saluenensis* X *C. japonica*) that first bloomed in 1957, originated and propagated by Mr. K. M. White, Hazelhurst, Blackpool Cor-

ner, Axminster, Devon, England. Growth is medium rapid, open, with light green leaves $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width. The soft pink semidouble flowers are 4 inches in diameter, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth with yellow stamens, resembling **SALUTATION** although deeper in color and fuller in form, with 15 petals and approximately 6 petaloids. Free flowering for a long period, Midseason to Late.

DONROSE PENDANT (No. 536): An 8-year-old hybrid (*C. saluenensis* X *C. japonica*), that first bloomed in 1957, originated and propagated by Mr. K. M. White, Hazelhurst, Blackpool Corner, Axminster, Devon, England. Plant growth is spreading, medium rate, with dark green leaves averaging 3 inches in length, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in width. The semidouble deep pink flowers are $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth with 13 petals, several petaloids, yellow stamens. Color is deeper than **DONATION** and often has long pointed rosebud center persisting until very widely opened. Flowers Midseason to late.

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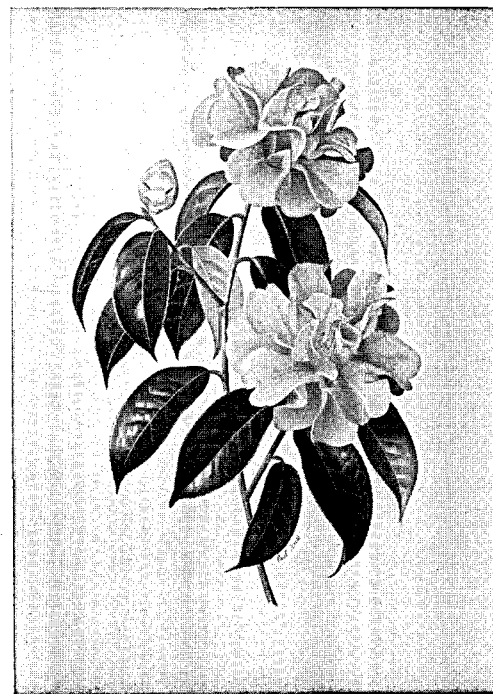
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C. reticulata "Tayinhung"

FRANK BISBEE (No. 537): An 8-year-old chance seedling of **MONARCH** that first bloomed in 1957, originated and propagated by Mr. Frank D. Bisbee, Sr., of Jacksonville, Florida. Plant growth is of average height, medium in rate, with dark green leaves 3 inches in length, 1½ inches in width. The white flowers are 4½ to 5 inches in diameter, 3 inches in depth with center peony form, variable incomplete double with occasional formal double, 60 petals, 30 petaloids with bright yellow stamens interspersed. Flowers said to have good substance, of heavy firm texture and fine keeping qualities. Early to Midseason bloomer.

JILL PILL (No. 538): A sasanqua seedling of unknown age that first bloomed in 1953, originated and propagated by Wheeler's Central Georgia Nurseries, Macon, Georgia, which has flowered 5 years on propagation. Growth habit is upright and spreading, medium rapid in rate, with light green leaves 2½ inches in length, 1¼ inches in width. The white flowers tinted pink to orchid on tips of petals are 4 to 4½ inches in diameter, 1½ inches in depth, have 25 to 40 petals, 10 to 30 petaloids and the blooms are similar to **MINE NO YUKI** except larger, with the tinting found in **DAWN sasanqua**. Flower formation varies from semidouble to full heavy peony type with peony type more abundant. Flowers early.

PINK SATIN (No. 539): A 10-year-old seedling of **DUCHESS DE CAZE** that first bloomed in 1957, originated and propagated by Mr. Earl Hudson, 10500 Penrose St., Sun Valley, California. To be commercially introduced

season '60-'61. Description previously published in *Camellia Review*, October, 1960. Plant growth is upright, semi-loose, medium density, slow in rate, with dark green leaves 4 inches in length, 2½ inches in width. The rose form double flowers, similar to **PURITY**, are 4½ inches in diameter, 1½ inches in depth, a vivid pink with yellow stamens, 17 to 20 petals, 4 to 6 petaloids, heavy textured with fluorescent appearance. Said to keep well on or off plant. Blooms Midseason.

HELENE CARLIN (No. 540): A 6-year-old chance seedling that first bloomed in 1959, originated by Mr. Bernard A. Carlin of 51 St. Francis St., Mobile, Alabama. Growth habit is upright of average height, medium rate of growth with dark green leaves 3 inches in length, 1½ inches in width. The rose pink to light pink semidouble flowers are 6¼ inches in diameter, 2 inches in depth with 17 petals. The eight outer petals are large and in the center is a large burst of golden stamens surrounded by a circle of small inner petals, upright and notched, of a much lighter pink. Blooms Midseason.

HAWAII (No. 541): A sport of **C. M. WILSON** first observed and propagated in 1954 which has flowered and bloomed true for 3 years on 25 plants, propagated by Hamilton & Clark Nursery, Upland, California. As of this date no plants have been sold nor flowers shown publicly. Growth habit is medium rapid, upright and average density with dark green leaves 4½ inches in length, 2½ inches wide. The pale pink peony

form flower is 5 inches in diameter, 3 inches in depth, similar to parent but with many petals fimbriated and flowers are said to last much longer. Flowering season—February.

MRS. JIMMY DAVIS (No. 542): An 8-year-old chance seedling of **HAKU-RAKUTEN** that first bloomed in 1955, originated and propagated by W. R. Wilson, Jr., Fruit & Truck Experiment Station, Hammond, Louisiana, which will be commercially introduced in 1962. The dark green leaves average 5 inches in length and 2¼ inches in width, elliptical in shape with shallow, broad, almost smooth serrations. Growth habit is vigorous, upright, medium spreading and fairly open. The anemone form flower is 4½ to 5¼ inches in diameter and 2 to 2½ inches in depth, with a white to very pale pink background with stripes and flecks of pink. The flower has 9 to 12 notched petals and 120 to 130 petaloids and yellow stamens interspersed with the petaloids in 3 to 5 groups, slightly fragrant. A solid pink form has occurred. Named for Mrs. Jimmy Davis, wife of the Governor of Louisiana. Blooms Early to Midseason.

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Charleston:
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Gulf Coast—Slidell Trip

(Continued from page 9)

Those who dismiss hybrids as "all alike" should see this one! It won the first ACS hybrid seeding award in the Slidell show. Another hybrid seedling from the same pod was in bud and looks as if it will be red.

Ferol Zerkowsky has still another Betty Sheffield sport. This is neither BETTY SHEFFIELD SILVER nor Blush (Herme colored), but is uniform softest pink with a few deep pink stripes. Not yet available. The Birmingham show had still another sport of this variety—basically white with deep pink blotches and markings, mostly toward the margin of the petals.

Unfortunately Tammia's PURPLE SWIRL was not in flower nor was KATHERINE MARYOTT, but there were many others—notably their seedling No. 1910, a prolific, cold resistant semidouble vivid pink. There was IRENE COKER PINK, magnificent To-

MORROWS, CARTER'S SUNBURST, LADY KAY, MERCURY variegated. All plants had lush glossy green foliage which Mrs. Zerkowsky attributes to Chloromone, but loving care has a great deal to do with it. I saw her lighting the heaters and spraying the house with water when she returned from the Slidell dinner dance, still in evening dress! Outside she had many of her canned plants under huge live oaks surrounded by Hy-Lo heaters—glorified smudge pots.

The Slidell show is a unique phenomenon—Slidell itself is a small town of only a few thousand inhabitants, located across Lake Pontchartrain from New Orleans, yet they have built up their annual camellia show into one of the largest and best, and surely the largest specializing in outdoor flowers. This show attracts people from hundreds of miles—there were many from Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and three from California. John Geiser, show chairman, said there were some 6,000 entries from nine states, and an attendance of 8,000 on Saturday afternoon alone. Although they apologized for the scarcity of flowers due to the cold, 18° a few days before, I saw nothing for which to apologize. There were not only topnotch flowers of the better named varieties but also the best

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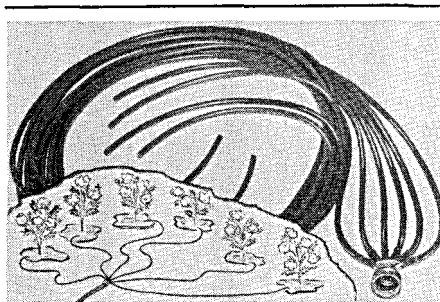
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seedling class I have ever seen. Hody Wilson of Hammond had several outstanding seedlings—a pink of unusual formation, No. 359 which won an ACS Highly Commended Seedling Certificate (also won in the Lafayette show), and a small formal light pink, No. 20. J. M. Hall of Mobile won an ACS Highly Commended Seedling certificate for his S-1006, a large blush pink with a cluster of rabbit ear petals. He also had a dark purplish seedling and a fine brilliant red, with fluted and twisted petals. There were other fine seedlings, including Tam-mia's No. 1910.

Mrs. J. David Wirth of New Orleans won best flower in show with a magnificent CORAL PINK LOTUS. Dr. J. Leslie Taylor of Theodore, Alabama, won sweepstakes.

From ACS State Director Ernest Judice's elaborate party Friday night through the elaborate show attended by Governor and Mrs. Jimmie Davis, the crowning of Miss Ann Robert, the Camellia Queen, by the Governor, the naming of Hody Wilson's new seedling, Mrs. JIMMIE DAVIS, which was

presented to Mrs. Davis at the show, on through the enjoyable dinner dance Saturday evening, I enjoyed every minute of it. It is always good to see old friends and equally nice to meet people one has known only through correspondence. Even Bill Woodroof of Los Angeles found it necessary to detour by Slidell on his way to Peru. Thanks, Slidell!



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It will be recalled that the Massachusetts Horticultural Society presented the George Robert White Medal of Honor to Dr. Hume last May.

Dr. Hume spends a part of each day in his office in the Main Library of the University of Florida. Over the years he has assembled an extensive library of camellia literature which he plans to present to the University of Florida.

—ACS—

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