

The *Camellia* Journal



'Jean's Unsurpassable'

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY
VOL. 25, NO. 4

NOVEMBER, 1970

Gerbing Camellia Nursery

RARE CAMELLIAS & AZALEAS — GENERAL NURSERY — LINING OUT STOCK

RALPH E. MAY, Owner

FERNANDINA BEACH, FLORIDA

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Gerbing Camellia Nursery Proudly Presents

'APRIL LYNN POE'

Lee Poe's new seedling, blush pink, 5-6 inches not gibbed, 6-7 inches gibbed. Shown 6 times in 1970. Won best seedling in 6 shows and received 6 certificates. Strong and healthy grower, show flower.

1-Year Grafts \$15; 2-3-Year Grafts, Budded \$25

'JEAN'S UNSURPASSABLE'

Gordon Moughon's new seedling, blush pink with flecks of darker pink. Not gibbed 5 to 5½ inches, gibbed 6 to 6½ inches. Shown 4 times. Best seedling in show 4 times and 4 certificates. Sturdy upright grower, show winner.

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NICE GRAFTS OF THESE FINE CAMELLIAS

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'KONA'

'NEL PREVATT VAR.'

'FORTY-NINER'

'LURLEEN WALLACE'

'TOMORROW'S DELIGHT'

'GRANADA'

'MARC ELEVEN VAR.'

'VALENTINE DAY'

'MELINDA HACKETT'

And most of the new fine ones and the best of the old

RALPH E. MAY, Owner

Gerbing Camellia Nursery

1971 American Camellia Society
ANNUAL MEETING
Pasadena, California
Los Angeles Camellia Council, Hosts

Guests arrive and proceed to the Sheraton-Huntington Hotel, Pasadena, Calif.

Make hotel reservations directly with the Sheraton-Huntington, Pasadena 91109 or through Mrs. Pat Novak, 6516 Murrietta, Van Nuys, Calif. 91401. The registration fee of \$25.00 each should be made with Mrs. Novak who is Registration Chairman. Let her know well in advance if you are coming. This is important so that she may arrange the dinners in private homes which was such an enjoyable feature of the Sacramento meeting five years ago.

WEDNESDAY, Registration for the Convention.

FEBRUARY 24

THURSDAY, Registration for the Convention.

FEBRUARY 25 Governing Board meeting 2:00 P. M.

A visit to Nuccio's Nursery is suggested for Thursday A. M. 6:00 P. M. Guests who have registered by 3:00 P. M. will be picked up at the hotel for dinner in private homes, and returned to the hotel.

FRIDAY, 9:00 A. M. Bus tour leaves from the hotel and will travel
FEBRUARY 26 the length of Colorado Blvd. to the famous Rose Bowl, past the Tournament House and Cal-Tech. Then to the Huntington Library and Gardens.

12:30 P. M. Leave the Huntington Library for the County Arboretum in Arcadia where a picnic lunch will be served. After lunch a conducted tour of this world famous Arboretum featuring plants from around the world.

3:30 P. M. Bus leaves the Arboretum to return to the hotel.

7:00 P. M. California Champagne Cocktail Hour in the Viennese Ballroom, honoring ACS President Sherrill Halbert.

8:00 P. M. Dinner will follow the Champagne Hour.

9:00 P. M. Speakers and slides.

SATURDAY, 9:30 A. M. Judges' breakfast at Descanso Gardens. Shopping tour for the ladies on Pasadena's lovely Lake Street.
FEBRUARY 27 1:00 P. M. Viewing of the Camellia Show at Descanso Gardens.

7:00 P. M. Cocktail Hour—Courtesy of Neville McMinn of Australia and the Southern California Camellia Society, in the Viennese Ballroom.

8:00 P. M. Convention Banquet at the Huntington-Sheraton with entertainment.

Convention fee of \$30.00 per person covers:

Thursday evening dinners.

Friday lunch, cocktail hour and dinner.

Saturday cocktail hour and banquet.

All transportation and tours as listed.

Hotel rates at the Huntington-Sheraton Pasadena: \$15.50 — one person
\$19.50 — two persons

Rates prevail for the entire time.

Specify twin beds if desired and length of time of stay.

POST CONVENTION TRIP TO HAWAII

March 1—March 13, 1971

\$732.00 Double Occupancy

\$938.00 Single Occupancy

Following the ACS Annual Meeting in Pasadena, a two-week trip to Hawaii is being arranged. Mr. Harmon Jetté of the House of Travel in Sacramento who conducted our tour to Hawaii in 1966 for 60 ACS members and friends is again in charge. This was a highly successful trip.

Five islands are included: Oahu, Kauai, Molokai, Maui and Hawaii. All transportation included. First Class hotels with most meals included.

We will fly via United Air Lines Boeing 747 Jet—the big one! Champagne and full meal aloft. This is a *regular flight*, not a charter. Leaving ACS Headquarters Hotel, the Sheraton Huntington in Pasadena by special motor coach to Los Angeles International Airport for 9 A. M. flight, Monday March 1, arriving Honolulu at 12:25 P. M. We go directly to our hotel, the Waikiki Outrigger right on fabulous Waikiki Beach.

This tour is especially designed for ACS members and their friends but not for the general public.

Brochures giving details are available either from ACS Headquarters or House of Travel, 1107 L. Street, Sacramento, Calif. 95814. Reservations should be made well in advance.

—ACS—

OUR COVER FLOWER

'JEAN'S UNSURPASSABLE'

The beautiful cover flower is an 8-year-old chance japonica seedling originated by Gordon Moughon of Birmingham. The formation varies from semi-double to anemone and is pale pink with a few flecks of darker pink. The flowers measure 5 to 6½ inches in diameter with about 52 petals. Blooms from November through March. The plant is vigorous, with dark green leaves and of spreading, rapid growth.

Propagated by Gerbing's Camellia Nursery, Fernandina Beach, Florida, for release this season.

'JEAN'S UNSURPASSABLE' has won four seedling certificates in New Orleans and Birmingham.



JUDGE SHERRILL HALBERT

President's Message

IT IS AN HONOR to have been selected as President of the American Camellia Society. I shall try to so serve as your President that when my term ends no one will have cause to say, "What a mistake we made in choosing that fellow as our President."

If I could, I would like to attend every Show and visit every local Society in the United States during my term of office. This, for obvious reasons, is impossible, but I shall do my best. In all events I hope that I may

meet as many of my fellow members as possible. If you see me, in or out of the camellia world, and we have not previously met, please do me the honor of making yourself known to me.

ACS is your organization, and I want it to be an organization of which every member can be proud. I urge all members to take an active part in the affairs of the Society and support it in every way possible.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE *American Camellia Society*

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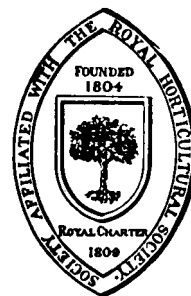
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Tirau, New Zealand

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Camellia Movie

Our loyal members in Aiken, South
Carolina, have produced an excellent 16
mm color movie "Camellias in Aiken"
with sound track commentary and musi-
cal background.

The "Camellias in Aiken" film is now
available to lend to Camellia and other
interested groups at the nominal fee of
\$5.00 postpaid. Please make reservations
well in advance of date desired and give
an alternate date.

Make check payable to ACS Endow-
ment Fund.

Reserve film through:

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Box 212, Fort Valley, Ga. 31030

The *Camellia* Journal

AMERICA'S LARGEST PUBLICATION DEVOTED TO THE GENUS CAMELLIA

Volume 25

Number 4

November 1970

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When Where and How to Plant Camellias

SELECTING

CARE MUST be exercised in selecting Camellia plants for your garden. Beware of door to door trucks selling plants. Often they may seem like bargains but avoid poor leaf color. Is the plant in a rusted out metal container which indicates it has not been transplanted in several years? Often such plants may be over budded which is an indication of poor growth. If plants are balled and burlapped make certain that large roots have not been cut. Is the plant large in propor-

tion to the root ball? Buy from a reputable nurseryman. If possible, select plants at the nursery. Avoid diseased plants. Make notes in gardens you visit and shows you attend as to which varieties you want. Few varieties do equally well in a greenhouse and outside.

Most nurserymen specializing in Camellias can advise you about the most satisfactory varieties for your location. For example, 'ALBA PLENA', one of the most beautiful formal whites, is too tender for colder clim-



ates. On the other hand 'VILLE DE NANTES', requires a certain amount of cold and does not perform as well in warmer areas.

Avoid bringing in plants from an area infested with Camellia Flower Blight.

Nurseries grade their plants according to size, age, vigor and shape. Often a vigorous one year graft, well healed over at point of graft juncture, is a better buy than a large older over-budded plant. A plant with little or no new growth shoots should be avoided.

Standard varieties are often propagated as own root plants rather than grafts. These are possibly more satisfactory than grafts since there is sometimes an incompatibility between the understock and the graft. Rare varieties are usually grafted, hence are more expensive.

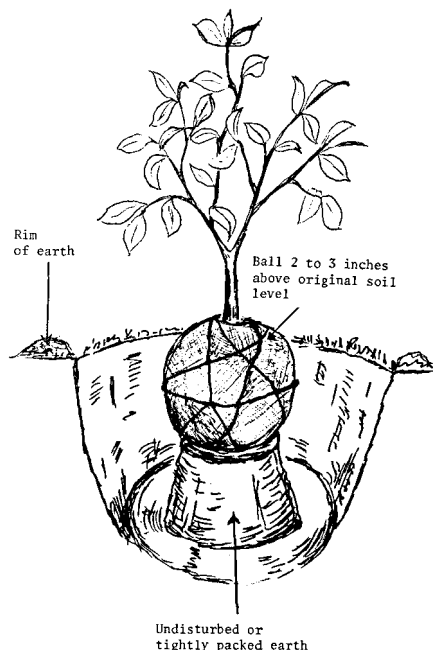
Since the flowering season is the dormant season for the remainder of the plant, Camellias are usually purchased during October to April. However, with containerized plants they may be safely purchased any month of the year.

Most plants are field grown on a large commercial scale, then dug and either balled and burlapped or potted in containers. Either is satisfactory but avoid balled and burlapped plants which have been carried over in sawdust or peat moss for a second season.

Moving very large plants is risky unless done by a professional who has root pruned and top pruned the plants and has the equipment and know-how to dig and transport without breaking the soil ball.

WHERE TO PLANT

Selecting a site is important. Often a southern exposure is selected with the mistaken idea that such a protected location will benefit the plants. This is not true; frozen buds and foliage thaw too quickly on the south side of a wall, house or hedge. A northern exposure where plants are not exposed to direct sun is preferable. Partial, filtered sun is essential. Too often Camellias are treated as specimens on the lawn with no protection.



In their native habitat camellias are understory shrubs or small trees with an overstory of taller trees providing filtered sunlight. The terrain is hilly or rolling, with good drainage. Low spots where water stands for any length of time must be avoided.

Camellias are adaptable to a wide range of soil types. If very sandy, humus and frequent addition of fertilizers and water must be provided. Clay soil may be improved by adding humus, decayed sawdust or other organic matter. A rich loamy soil is ideal. Camellias withstand a considerable pH (soil acidity-alkalinity) range, however a near neutral or slightly acid soil is preferred.

Avoid building or wall foundations which may have considerable lime. If desired to plant in such locations for foundation effect as espaliering the soil should be tested for alkalinity and amended if necessary, or replaced.

HOW TO PLANT

There are only a few simple rules to follow in successful planting of camellias. Having selected a proper site with good drainage, filtered sunlight or partial, but not total, shade or make provision for artificial shade—one is ready to prepare a hole for the plant. There is some merit in the

old warning—"do not put a \$5 plant in a 50¢ hole," but too often too deep a hole is dug, filled in with rotted leaves, manure and loose soil. The soil removed from the hole should be examined to determine whether it should be discarded or whether it can be improved by the addition of humus (peat, leaf compost, old manure, rotted sawdust or ground bark). Soil compatibility must be considered. If the soil on the root ball is hard clay this should be removed entirely. Many careful growers regularly remove the original soil as a precautionary measure against Camellia Flower Blight. If the root ball soil is sandy it will be incompatible with a clayey soil.

It is important that the root ball rests on undisturbed soil or else that the soil is firmly tamped down in the bottom of the hole. The balled and burlapped plant or the one removed from a container should be placed on solid earth so that the crown projects about 3 inches above the original soil level surrounding the hole. This will allow for settling and provide good drainage.

Probably more plants have been lost through planting too deep or not making allowance for sinking or settling of the plant than any other cause.

It is not necessary to remove the burlap from the ball of earth. This soon disintegrates and the new roots readily penetrate the burlap anyway.

Many successful growers do not add commercial fertilizer to the soil mix. Others add cotton seed meal which provides nitrogen slowly over a long period. Some use a small amount of azalea-camellia fertilizer at planting time then fertilize later on the surface. If commercial fertilizers come in direct contact with the young feeder roots this can be disastrous. Add sufficient Dolomitic (agricultural) limestone to bring the soil pH to slightly acid—about 6.2 or near 7 (neutral).

It is well to leave a circular depression and a rim of soil around the plant for several months so as to hold water until the plant becomes established. Mulch heavily to conserve moisture and protect from freezing.

The MILDRED TAYLOR STEVENS *Collection* *of* *Boehm's Porcelain* *Sculpture*

CLYDE W. WINDHAM
Macon, Georgia



Mrs. William Parks Stevens of Macon with a pair of her Boehm birds, the Mountain Bluebirds on pink Japanese magnolias and a delicate bisque Madonna.

THERE IS indeed a welcomed calm that greets each visitor as he makes the turn for "Massee Lane." As in all the truly beautiful spots in this world that offer a feast of tranquility and a lift of the spirit, here too, one can quietly leave unnoticed all anxieties afar and find himself peacefully drawn into communication with God's brushstrokes of beauty. Whether leisurely strolling the walkways or seated beneath tall southern pines, "Massee Lane's" quiet tranquil beauty responds to that immediate need of enriching the spirit and nourishing the soul.

And so it is—one always finds "Massee Lane" in some exciting state; whether it be the fallen blossoms, a thrust of new green, or a burst of buds smiling at impatient faces, opening, unfolding, and sharing their loveliness for all to look upon. "Massee Lane," truly a bud in its own, also promises to bloom even more beautifully in the near future by housing and displaying a permanent collection of porcelains by Edward Marshall Boehm.

Because of your friend and mine, Dave Strother, we have another beau-

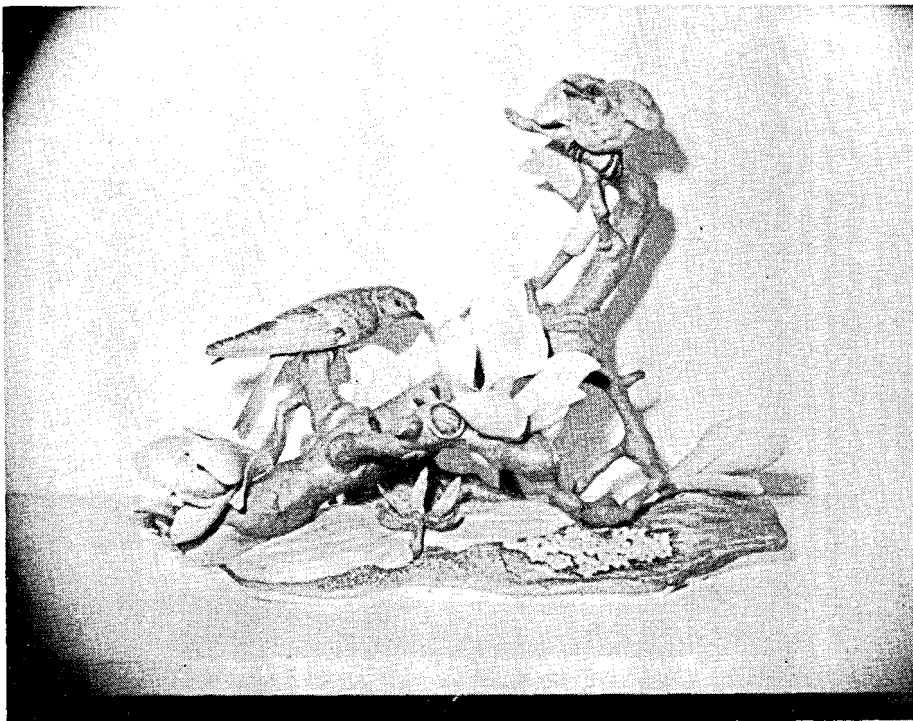
tiful spot in this world. It was because he cared; it was because beauty and loveliness were his companions and friends—and these friends he wished and desired to share. Again we have another among us who invites us to share her friends, the magnificent works from the hands of "Nature's Child," Edward Marshall Boehm.

For several years, Mrs. William Parks Stevens of Macon, Georgia, has been an enthusiastic admirer and collector of Mr. Boehm's porcelains. In her pursuit to bring together things of lasting beauty—things that satisfy the aesthetic desire within most of us, she now has one of the most outstanding Boehm collections in existence. At present, this collection is finding its way to "Massee Lane" but due to the lack of an appropriate area for display, only a few more pieces will be added to the present limited collection until an addition can be constructed to house the entire collection. Readers may refer to the April issue of the Journal for information concerning the birds already on display.

A portion of Mrs. Stevens' letter printed in the April issue gave reason

for this thoughtful contribution to "Massee Lane." It is her belief that just as these porcelains have enriched her life and have promoted a greater awareness of the blessings God gives us all . . . so it should be for all who see them at "Massee Lane." In her letter presenting the birds to the Society, Mrs. Stevens continued to give reason for wanting the porcelains displayed at "Massee Lane." She wrote, "My husband was in the fire brick business and he loved everything made of clay. He spread sunshine throughout his life even when clouds hung dark and heavy over him. Our first baby was so beautiful; I am certain God sent him to give us a glimpse of his heavenly handiwork. Our younger son lived almost nine years and in his short but happy life he had observed birds so that he knew numerous ones—more than I do today."

"My mother was an artist with flowers and used many of the ones Mr. Boehm also used with his birds. She arranged and furnished them for her church for more than forty years and for almost that long for the Confederate Veterans banquets and for her



The Boehm Mountain Bluebirds

servants to take to their friends' funerals. My father was a great humanitarian and a true Southern gentleman with a deep feeling of civic responsibility. He declined offers from more prosperous sections of the country when Georgia was still trying to overcome the ravages of "the war" because he loved the land he was part of. Perhaps he derived greater satisfaction from building the R. J. Taylor Memorial Hospital in Hawkinsville, Georgia, to help suffering humanity than from any other contribution. He, my husband and Mother would like knowing they made it possible for me to assemble this beautiful memorial."

Mr. Boehm (1913-1969) was one of the very few great artists who during his lifetime enjoyed the success of his greatness. Rare indeed was his sensitivity; treasured is his perfection in all he created. Innumerable times has it been stated that he was incapable of misrepresenting nature as he produced creation after creation, molding into every porcelain bird all that God had given it—all but life itself. In the foreword of Cosentino's, *Edward*

Marshall Boehm 1913-1969, Bishop John J. Dougherty states, "Edward Marshall Boehm has passed from life to death. It is given to few men to achieve immortality in time as well as in eternity. To him it is given for he has created with his mind and heart and hands immortal monuments in porcelain art that will ever bear his name. He has given his creations everything but life, and for this we are most grateful to him and to God who gave them life."

So elated was Mrs. Boehm on hearing about the collection at "Massee Lane" that she wants to have done in the Boehm Studios a porcelain camellia with bird for the opening of the proposed building which will house the entire Boehm collection. And so it will be—a memorial, twin-rooted in the memories of Mrs. Stevens' beloved family and the great American artist, Edward Marshall Boehm.

But for those of you who have yet to become acquainted with the Boehm works of art we suggest your looking up these objects of beauty during your next journey of any distance. You

might possibly find some right in your own hometown and if not, if by chance you have the opportunity to visit President Nixon in the future, please don't overlook his Boehm treasures in the White House. We are sure you'll be taken by the splendor of the Blue Jays and the cockiness of the grouse with his spread tail and he looking rather lovingly toward his lady-love. For sure you may drive over to the John F. Kennedy Center and examine the collection there or even the Smithsonian Institution. Our friends living in the New York area have only to visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art to see a fine collection. Observe the mastery in the Wood Thrush composition as he lifts his voice to once again announce his territory for his lovely mate and family. And if there is a faint, sweet aroma in the air, surely it comes from the magnificent azaelas included in this composition. Perched beneath that beautiful daffodil—the one you almost wish to pluck—is our friend, the Robin, and even though he appears to be intensely interested in you, have no fear for he really won't fly away. While driving near Mobile, Bellingrath Gardens are a must. They have in their collection one of the three Ivory-billed Woodpeckers which was given by the Boehm's. And should you drop over Buckingham Palace way, look for those pieces commissioned by the late President Eisenhower; namely, the Canada Geese, for Prime Minister Diefenbaker; the Ptarmigans, for King Gustav Adolf VI, and the Polo Player, for Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip. You'll leave feeling like a proud American. Even more awaits you at the Elysee Palace in Paris and The Vatican in Rome. But because of the generosity of Mrs. Stevens you'll only have to come to "Massee Lane" to see and enjoy a truly beautiful collection once the project has been completed. You'll leave anticipating your return and be even more appreciative of Dave Strother who gave us such a lovely spot of beauty and to Mrs. Stevens who has given us a generous portion of America's porcelain bird artistry.



By
ERIC CRAIG
Warrawee, Australia N. S. W.

THE ORGANISING executive of the Australian Camellia Research Society's second national Camellia Show were delighted with the result. And they had good reason to be.

Fifteen thousand visitors packed the Blaxland Gallery in mid-city Sydney through the three days of their Bi-Centenary International Festival on August 3, 4, and 5.

Despite unfavourable blooming conditions in Queensland and New South Wales, South Australia teamed with Victoria and New Zealand to air-express some magnificent camellias to Sydney.

And the overall publicity accorded camellias by Sydney press, radio and television was an all-time record.

Despite fears expressed by many that the relocated and smaller Blaxland Gallery would make it impossible to match previous Sydney exhibitions, the homogenous and more "intimate"

presentation won much admiration.

"It's really the prettiest show we've ever seen" was a comment frequently heard during the 25 hours of the Festival—which included the Monday Bank Holiday evening until 8 p. m.

If there was one disappointment for the organisers, it was the fact that despite widespread pre-publicity, our Bi-Centenary Festival and its associated camellia-season celebrations attracted so few camellia-lovers from overseas. Perhaps some of our good overseas friends will write and tell us what Australia still has to do to win more of their interest?

Here we had one of the most unique years in Australia's history, and some of the most interesting happenings camellia people could see in any part of the world! . . .

Perhaps the inauguration of 747 Jumbo-jet services later this year will make our island continent of the South

Seas a little closer for many Northern Hemisphere folks we would have loved to welcome on this occasion.

So it was delightful to have Sacramento (California) tourists, Mr. and Mrs. D. Jackson Faustman, introduce themselves during their round-the-Pacific holiday. We were sorry their tight schedule didn't allow a longer stopover.

* * * * *

"Setting up" the exhibition started shakily, when arrival of the bloom-holding dishes was delayed for over an hour by fine-weather Sunday-afternoon traffic congestion.

However, a great session of teamwork—and an invigorating "teatime" of chicken sandwiches and champagne—got things really moving!

Members from South Australia, Victoria, Queensland and Illawarra gave splendid assistance to groups from New South Wales and St. George

branches, who were responsible for the various "international" displays.

Lists of blooms had been pre-sorted according to "country of origin". Before long, we commenced to see camellias grouped as we'd never seen them before . . . the Chinese camellias, the American camellias, the Japanese camellias, the European camellias, the New Zealand camellias, and the Australian camellias. It was something of a surprise to discover where many of our favourites had originally come from!

About 8 p.m., Bloom Co-ordinator Len Bray and helpers triumphantly arrived with boxes and boxes of lovely blooms, air-expressed from Adelaide and Melbourne by Ansett Airlines.

Thanks to expert packing by enthusiastic members in S.A. and Victoria, and "kid-glove" handling by Ansett, the blooms opened up in first-class condition. They really gave "finishing-touch sparkle" for completion of the opening-day display.

However, as anticipated, one of the greatest-interest presentations was the display of fifty Bonsai camellia plants by Len and Edith Webber of Epping, N. S. W.

Len is Australia's only officer teacher of Bonsai horticulture in Australia. The beautifully shaped camellias were

television stations, and the front-page a revelation to us all. Some plants eight or nine years old were actually growing in pots as tiny as two square inches:

The Bonsai display and story were superbly executed by the Webbers, and fully deserved their "Honour Court" position at the Festival.

The much-publicised husband-and-wife Official Opening of the Festival was thwarted by a Federal Cabinet call from Canberra for External Affairs Minister William McMahon.

However, Mrs. McMahon did a superb solo job. Her Monday morning speech to a packed Gallery was knowledgeable, witty, and charming. After declaring the Festival "officially open", Mrs. E. Utick, wife of St. George branch President, presented her with a gracious basket of 'DR. TINSLEY' camellias, which Mrs. Utick had grown, and beautifully arranged.

And for her growing collection of camellia plants, Professor E. G. Waterhouse presented Mrs. McMahon with a fine large plant of 'DR. TINSLEY', which we'd learned was one of her favourites.

The utter loveliness of the occasion resulted in its selection as headline-news that evening by three Sydney

picture-highlight of next morning's national newspaper, "The Australian".

Monday night brought another triumph for Len Bray's confidence in camellia-people co-operation: boxfuls of really exciting blooms rushed across the Tasman from New Zealand by Australia's International airline, Qantas.

It was a heart-warming expression of interest by our New Zealand neighbours, a typical example of skilful fragile-freight-handling by Qantas—and a bouquet for the courteous co-operation of the Department of Agriculture's Plant Quarantine Officers.

Tuesday's Festival gained new appeal with the "fresh from New Zealand" camellias, never-before-seen in Australia. The crowds were bigger than ever.

After a Tuesday-night "discard and replace" exercise by a small team of N. S. W. and St. George branch enthusiasts, Wednesday's showing was though by many to be the best of the three days.

A notable tribute to camellias and to the A. C. R. S. was the private visit by Lady Cutler, wife of the Governor of New South Wales, who was escorted around the display by A. C. R. S. President and Festival presentation—manager, Peter Duly.

Since the September CAMELLIA JOURNAL contained the ballots for nominating directors in the Gulf Coast States, it was particularly important that they be delivered to members early in the month. The closing date for nominations was September 26th.

The material for the September Journal was mailed to our printers, The R. L. Bryan Company, Columbia, South Carolina on July 22. We have an agreement with the printers that Journals will be in the mails 6 weeks after they receive the material. This should have been the first week in September. Although we used First Class mail which should give overnight service between here and Columbia, there were several delays in sending galley proofs, page and cover proofs back and forth.

After these several delays due to slowness on the part of the Post Office,

the Journals were mailed September 14—all copies on the same date. Some members received their copies three weeks later. Many were received a day or so prior or subsequent to the closing date—September 26th, so we accepted all ballots returned by October 5th. It is realized that publications do not receive priority in handling as first class mail is supposed to receive, however 13 to 20 days for delivery a few hundred miles distant is inexcusable!

The November Journal material was mailed to the printers September 25 and was returned to us in galley Proof October 5th so Journals should be ready to mail by November 6 or earlier.

We do much of the work for the Post Office—presorting by zip codes, bundling where there are 5 or more copies going to the same zip number and other grouping in conformance with postal re-

quirements so as to expedite delivery. Possibly the President's Postal Service reorganization will help. We hope so. Mailing costs are sure to be increased.

If your copy is torn or otherwise damaged by rough handling we are always glad to replace these. Please let us know of any change of address whether a move, renumbering or change to a box number. The post office will not forward these but charge us for notification of your new address, then the Journal is thrown away and we must go to the trouble and expense of sending another Journal to your new address. This makes for another delay.

The final ballots for voting for the Gulf Coast Directorate were mailed from Fort Valley October 13th. When you received them is anyone's guess. Blame the Post Office not Joe!

WHAT GENERATION GAP?

T. A. (TIP) KUPER
Richmond, Virginia

The Richmond Virginia Camellia Society held its 13th annual show in the beautiful Carillon overlooking the James River on April 4th and 5th. It was a fine show. The beauty and significance will not appear in the official report and I hope this article will touch on this aspect of the show.

A short time ago a young man, who came from that part of the U. S. which lays north of the Mason-Dixon Line, joined the local Camellia Society. He had seen the beautiful camellia somewhere and like so many of us was soon overcome with the fever. His fever ran so high he became delirious and accepted the job of General Show Chairman, poor fellow! I am sure that all the members shared my concern for his welfare and we comforted ourselves by thinking that maybe the elements would cooperate and we could cancel the show. Well the weather cooperated to the extent that it was the coldest winter in thirty years. The temperatures dipped below 0° several times. Two days before show date a wind storm covered the entire state and the wind blew for eight hours at speeds from forty to eighty miles per hour. Petal blight was scattered over one hundred counties and seeped through cracks into some greenhouses. The elders were relieved for surely this would break the fever but alas the young man was growing worse. During the crisis of his fever he kept saying, "There is no education like adversity." So much for youth and when you read the results of our 13th annual show, I hope that you will join me in saying, "If youth be a defect, it is one that we outgrow only too soon. Furthermore join with me in saying thanks to Mr. Frank J. McNally, our young show-chairman.

Enthusiasm begets enthusiasm and this certainly was true at the fellowship hour and banquet. Everyone seemed to feel that a victory had been won over adversity. Young and old, veteran and novice all seemed to blend together in a spirit of harmony never before witnessed. This is a very healthy atmosphere. All too often the novice feels left out of the picture.

During the course of acknowledgments following the banquet, Mr. Eugene Worrell was called upon to make a few remarks about the A. C. S. Gene narrated the events leading up to the establishment of our A. C. S. headquarters and of course this story could never be told without telling the story of our beloved benefactor, Dave Strother. The manner and the emotions in which he told this story touched the very soul of everyone present. The A. C. S. should be very proud of Gene. Finally our guest speaker, Mr. J. S. Howard of Salemburg, North Carolina, was called upon. Mr. Howard talked about "What Camellias Had Meant to Him." The profounded humble sincerity with which he talked so moved the audience that he was given a standing ovation of lasting duration after which, I believe, even the speaker was moved. It has been said that "Admiration is an art we must learn." Anyone who has ever known Mr. Howard and his lovely wife are well on their way to an education.

So there you have it. We started off with a novice show chairman, who demonstrated enthusiasm through love of camellias and we concluded the event with two moving speeches by veterans who did so because they loved camellias. WHAT GENERATION GAP?

P. S. Dear Joe:

Tip has just shown me his letter and asked if I approved. Of course, I do, with one qualification. The real story of our show was that one of our members took the time and effort to enter the blooms of another member (Roger Wine) who couldn't make the show because his wife has been sick and needs his constant care. This fellow gave up the chance to enter his own blooms and got up early, drove out to the country where Mr. Wine lives, picked his blooms, drove back and entered them. As a result Mr. Wine won the sweepstakes. The considerate member who performed this kind and thoughtful act was your friend, Tip Kuper.

Sincerely,

Frank McNally

CARE AND CULTURE OF NEW MEMBERS

Like Camellia seedlings, new members need some attention to survive the first year or so.

Possibly the new member was given an ACS membership as a birthday or Christmas gift. Or he may have joined as the result of a show or through persuasion of a Camellia growing friend or neighbor. Statistics show that many drop out after the first year. Why?

They may find that Camellias require more care, time and expense than they anticipated. Maybe they find Camellia people in their local club indifferent if not unfriendly. These new members represent the future of ACS; we should make a special effort to get them more deeply involved. Have they been urged to enter flowers in competition or have they attended local or other shows? Have you offered to enter one of his flowers in an out of town show?

Do they belong to your local organization? Invite them to go with you as a guest to the next meeting. Have any members invited them to see their greenhouse or garden? Do you offer them cuttings, seed, assistance in grafting or gibbing, advice on diseases and other problems? Advise on the best varieties for his situation and where to plant.

Suggest to new members to use the membership roster in the Yearbook. Almost without exception other members would welcome them to visit their garden or greenhouse. The roster serves as a good introduction. A number of members have arranged exchange of scions and publications with international members using the roster.

Like other plant specialty organizations we need to increase and hold on to our membership. Each year we have a turnover of some 600 members.

July 10 through September 23, 1970

(The name in bold face type indicates the person in whose memory the donation has been made.)

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Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Shealy, Jr., Chattanooga, Tenn.
Mr. and Mrs. Hal C. Cravens, Chattanooga, Tenn.

ONE WEEKEND in 1947 my wife, Elizabeth, and I made a trip to Mobile, Alabama. While there we went through Bellingrath Gardens, where I saw some red, pink and white blooms—the prettiest flowers I had ever seen. When I asked the gardener what they were, he told me they were Camellias. Of special interest to me was the red one, which I found was a ‘MATHOTIANA’. This was the plant that really “lit my fire”!

available. I bought 25 more plants, planted them in the bed, and thought I had finally been successful. But not so—the plants were planted in full sun and out in the winter months with no protection. If the bloom was lucky enough to miss a freeze, the sun would discolor it. By this time I was very disappointed and almost broke! But this Camellia bug is bad — so still determined I built a 24 x 35 green house myself and started all over

the plant roots get in the rust, it damages the plants.

For many years I used small rocks in the bottom of containers for drainage, but over the years the plants become much heavier. Now I use styrofoam chipped up since it is very light. Styrofoam can be obtained from various places. It can be found at the city dump, or the caretaker at a cemetery will save it for you for a very small fee. Styrofoam is very easy to remove

A SMALL FIRE THAT GROWS

JEFF FULLER

Montgomery, Alabama

On the way home I stopped at a roadside stand and bought my first camellia — naturally a ‘MATHOTIANA’ (the plant, however, never bloomed). Not to be outdone, in a few weeks we made another trip to Mobile — this time with a trailer behind my car. We stopped at road side stands for more field grown camellias, balled and burlapped with a small ball of dirt, and no feeder roots (I learned this later). I made a hole in the ground the same size as the root ball and within a year all my plants were dead.

Still not to be outdone, I repeated this cycle many times, but always with the same bad results. By this time I was very interested in Camellias, and when I learned there was an American Camellia Society I immediately sent for membership. I found the first book so interesting I read it over and over. This is when I learned there are many different varieties and names.

After much reading and studying, I started all over again! This time I made a camellia bed with the best soil

again. This time I was determined to find the right dirt mixture. Now, some few hundred plants and 20 years later, this is what I use, using a wheelbarrow to measure:

- 2 WB good top soil (wood bottoms).
- 1 WB coarse masonry sand.
- 1 WB shredded pine bark.
- 1 WB wood shavings and saw dust.

Add to this 1 gallon of cotton seed meal (this will put back the nitrogen that the shavings and sawdust might take out).

Let this set for at least two weeks or longer if possible.

Have the mixture checked for pH analysis.

My pine bark comes from the pulp woodyards at no cost, but it can be bought from garden centers. Most any woodworking shop is glad to give shavings and sawdust away to get rid of it.

I prefer wood containers to metal ones because the metal will rust. When from the dirt when repotting. The pine bark is best way I have found to keep the dirt loose and porous, and will also hold up in dirt for 4 to 5 years before breaking down; peat will break down in about 2 years. The shavings also help to hold moisture.

I repot all new plants when I get them so I can check the root system. All bad roots are trimmed out, stalks are trimmed of dead spots and painted with a good tree coat. If there is a poor union at the graft stump, this is cut off at an angle to the good wood and the area painted with tree coat. The top of the plant is pruned as necessary. I date my plants when this is done for repotting information at a later date.

For repotting, I let the plant get a little dry and remove it from the pot by holding both hands under bottom of root ball, and shaking the roots gently so the dirt will fall off. I then take the hose and spray the rest of the dirt off and then trim bad roots. Most

of the time the plant can be transplanted in the same container. To repot, hold the plant so the roots will hang straight down. The container should have dirt about 1 inch above the styrofoam. With the roots just touching the dirt, put dirt carefully around the roots, being careful roots don't all go on one side. Fill 2/3 full with dirt then water slowly. When soil is very wet, shake gently so there will be no air pockets around the roots and finish filling with dirt. Water again very slowly to keep the bark, soil and shavings mixed well. If watered too fast the bark will come to the top, the dirt and sand will go to the bottom and good drainage will be hindered.

Watering is one of the most important cares of plants. If watered too often the small feeder roots will rot and if watered not enough the plants will dry out and the feeder roots will die. After a plant has been in a tub for about 4 years, it will need less water because the filling in the mix breaks down and packs down and will hold water longer. The roots cannot get oxygen and will rot. In some cases, plants get root bound and dry out. These must be watched and repotted if it gets too bad. Plants need extra care on watering year round. This is especially true during the growing season since they are setting buds and will dry out fast. City water is not good for plants that stay in a greenhouse the year round. The chemicals in the water collect in the soil and harm the plants. I find it wise to "flush them" about 4 times a year. If possible, a shallow well and pump work well and is not very expensive. If you do this you should have your water checked by the Health Department. In dry weather when humidity is low, it helps growth and plant color to sprinkle plants about sun down. Sprinkle plants and the ground well and the moisture will last all night. Watering the ground during the blooming season is good for humidity. But the blooms will turn brown if they get wet and the water will ruin the stamen.

I spray my plants twice yearly—in Spring and the Fall—with oilicide. If

it is necessary to spray in summer, I use half strength oilicide. There are many good sprays on the market, but I find that the oilicide does the job well. I have never harmed any plants with it. I keep aphids off my plants by closing the greenhouse and burning nico-fume.

I use half strength oilicide on plants I set out of the greenhouse in the summer. The oilicide is sprayed on the plant in the late afternoon and the plants are rinsed with water the next morning so that the heat will not harm the plant foliage.

Some plants leaves turn yellow or pale green on new growth; in most cases these plants need iron. I use iron sulphate by putting a small amount on the ground around the plant. This is repeated in two weeks.

For fertilization of plants, in early April I use fish emulsion on foliage and roots as recommended on the label. This is repeated in two weeks. Always fertilize in the late afternoon so the solution will stay on the foliage longer. The fish emulsion breaks down the elements in the soil and the feeder roots pick them up. The odor for a few days is not very pleasant, but the results are well worth it.

Starting about May 1 I use one part cotton seed meal and 1 part good camellia fertilizer. One level teaspoon of this mixture is used per 12" container. Repeat this application every 30 days through November. From December to April, use cotton seed meal only. One level teaspoon per 12" container. If you feel it is necessary in July, you might use liquid fertilizer on foliage, about 2 weeks apart. In August start as before, but be sure not to over fertilize as you will burn the roots. A very good friend of mine, Mr. Matt Lawson, has a yard man that put too much fertilizer on his plants. The yard man told Mr. Lawson that plants are like people, some are "gonna die and some are gonna live", which is very true, but they will have a better chance with a little less fertilizer than too much.

There are many, many varieties of camellias. It has been proven that

some do better than others in different sections of the country. But you will be able to get satisfactory plants no matter where you live. If I were limited to one plant, it would be a 'MATHOTIANA SUPREME'. After all these years, they still "light my fire". There are some good new ones on the market, but don't ever forget the good old standbys. Some of my favorites are 'GUILIO NUCCIO', 'REG RAGLAND', 'FROSTY MORN', 'CHARLIE BETTES', 'SNOWMAN', 'DRAMA GIRL', 'TIFFANY', 'CARTER'S SUNBURST', The 'BETTY SHEFFIELD' Family and the 'TOMORROW'S', to name a few. Have seen some fine blooms of 'IVORY TOWER', 'GRANADA', 'MIKE WHITMAN', 'THOMASVILLE BEAUTY', 'MISS LU-ANN', 'EVELYN POE' White and Pink. I saw a sport of 'EVELYN POE PINK' in one of the shows, a beautiful blush pink and it looks like a real winner. 'MARGARET SEARS' is another good one. I saw a sport of pink and white 'MARGARET SEARS' in the Atlanta show. This looks very much like the 'MARGARET DAVIS', but much larger. This too, looks like a winner. This list could go on and on. If you have space, time and money, try all the new ones possible; if you don't like them you can always cut them off and graft some proven old good variety on it. Go to all the shows you can and make a list of what you'd like, compare the same blooms in each show. If you like what you see, buy one! It's best to buy from a grower, rather than someone that buys and sells. Sometimes these plants are not potted properly, and are not true to labels. The grower wants your business and will treat you right about the plants he sells. He expects to sell to you from year to year. Plants purchased from reliable nurserymen are most always container grown, therefore you are able to inspect the root system before you buy them. It is better to buy a small plant with good color and good growth, 8 to 10 inches on the last growth cycle, than to buy one that is not healthy. I had rather wait a year than buy a plant that is not healthy, for usually these plants rarely produce good blooms and slowly die.

To have good show blooms you

must have good healthy plants and debud to just a few buds per plant. If you enjoy winning in a show (and who doesn't?) have a few plants just for show blooms and debud leaving three or four buds per plant and you are off to a good start. Leave all size buds on the plant so it will bloom at different times. I usually debud my plants in late July or early August after the second growth cycle has begun. By this time you are able to distinguish the bloom bud from the growth bud. The bloom bud is the fat one.

Good healthy plants reward you other than giving HEAD TABLE blooms. I enjoy cutting blooms for parties, conventions, weddings, and just for friends. I get a real kick when a lady calls and wants a certain shade of pink or white (and sometimes yellow) flowers and I can say sure; how many. When such a visitor comes to my greenhouses, I get a real joy to see her smiles of happiness when I am able to give her 40 — or 50 'JULIA FRANCE'. This makes all the year round program of caring for the plants worthwhile. "Oh! how my fire does burn."

I think the hybrids are coming into their own. The newer varieties produce fine show quality blooms that tend to hold their texture and lasting qualities better than some we have seen in the past. The stamens on some of these newer varieties do not turn black so soon. I consider 'JOHN TAYLOR', 'PINK SPARKLES', 'TEMPLE MIST', 'MILO ROWELL', 'BERNARDETTE KARSTEN', 'VALENTINE DAY', and 'VALLEE KNUDSEN' among the best for our area. I have seen these blooms in shows and they are good—some are real "knock outs." A "must" to have in the hybrids is 'CHARLENE VAR.' This one performs well and is an excellent bloomer. I'm going out on a limb but I believe that in three or four years the hybrids will give us about half our show blooms. If you don't grow them now look them over at the shows this season and add some to your collection. I think you will be glad you did.

Reticulatas are finding their way into the markets and greenhouses and

some are at the top of my graft list. I like the blooms but some of the bushes are spindly and have a shaggy appearance. I have some fine blooms from 'KOHINER', 'MAUDELY QUEEN', 'MOUCHANG', 'LILA NAFF', 'WILLIAM HERTRICH' and 'CHANG'S TEMPLE'. In addition to 'KOHINOR'S' top notch flower it makes a nice upright bush and is a strong grower. Some of my Retc. have been hit hard with "die-back" so, if you see one you especially like, better get a couple.

Most of the camellia shows now have a separate class for the Miniatures. Miniatures are small because they grow that way. There are those camellia enthusiasts who do not care to attempt the use of a chemical stimulant to create larger blooms. They are satisfied with the natural size of the miniatures. Some of the good ones are: 'FIRE CONE', 'MAN SIZE', 'SUGAR BAKE', and my favorite is 'HOPKINS PINK'.

I have been ask how to change the soil of a large plant in a container. I can accomplish the job in three years by removing one-third of the old soil and roots each year. You do this by taking a sharp shovel cutting right through the roots removing the old soil and roots. Refill with a good soil. Repeat this procedure until all the old soil has been removed.

All these suggestions really work for me. If you wish to try some of them, I hope you have the best of luck, but if you are having good success don't change. What works for one camellia grower may not necessarily work for another.

My fire hasn't cooled much over the years. I am now in the process of building my third greenhouse (it just might turn out to be a dog house for me). I am building it myself since I can't afford help and plants too! I tell Elizabeth this one is really necessary to give my plants more room, but I don't think she believes this is really true as she just asked, Honey, where will you put the 200 new grafts?" I'm working on the answer, so if I don't see you at the shows this next year, you know I did not come up with the right answer.

1970 Edition of *Camellia* Nomenclature

The Southern California Camellia Society's *Camellia Nomenclature* edited by Bill Woodroof is revised every other year. The next edition will be the 1972 revision which will be issued in December 1971. The current issue is the twelfth revised edition. Some years ago this was adopted as the official Nomenclature authority by the American Camellia Society.

The 1970 edition may be ordered from the American Camellia Society, Box 212, Fort Valley, Georgia at \$2.50 postpaid.

—ACS—

INTERESTING HYBRID COLLECTION

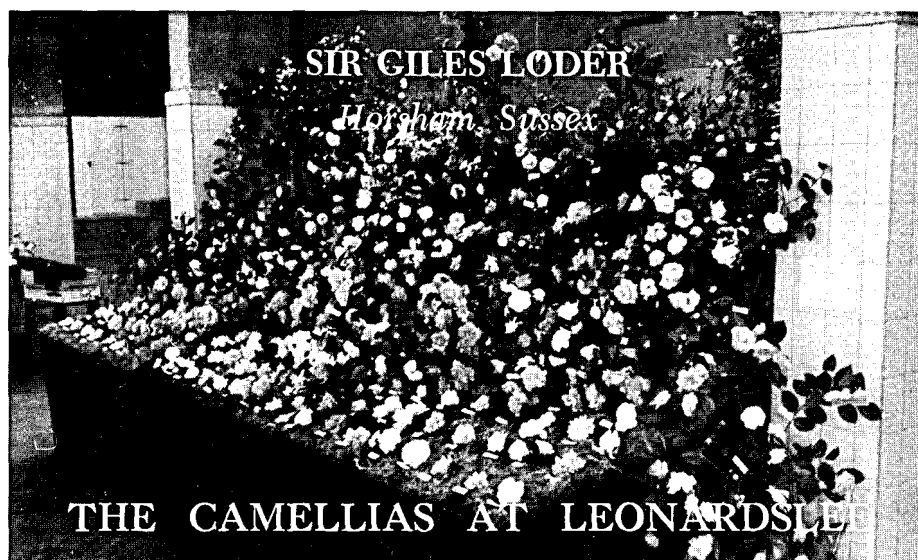
Dr. William L. Ackerman of the USDA Crops Research Division, Glenn Dale, Maryland, has sent us an interesting collection of 23 interspecific hybrids. These include *C. rusticana* × *C. lutchuensis*, *C. japonica* × *C. lutchuensis*, *C. rusticana* × *C. fraterna*, *C. japonica* × *C. fraterna*, *C. japonica* × *C. hongkongensis*, *C. japonica* × *C. saluenensis*, *C. sasanqua* × *C. miyagii*, *C. reticulata* × *C. saluenensis*, and *C. oleifera* × *C. miyagii*. A plant of the related genus, *Franklinia alata-maha* was included. Dr. Ackerman's research results are carried in the ACS Yearbook, including the forthcoming issue.

Dr. Walter Homeyer recently gave us nice specimens of the species *C. hongkongensis* and *C. lutchuensis* (fragrant) and the hybrid 'FRAGRANT PINK'. These will be wintered in the greenhouse.

—ACS—

"Horticulture is, next to music the most sensitive of the fine arts. Properly allied to Architecture, garden making is as near as a man may get to the Divine functions."

MAURICE HEWLETT.



Camellias thrive in the southern half of Great Britain, and in many of the older gardens, form huge bushes covered with flowers in spring. Here at Leonardslee, near Horsham in Sussex, some forty miles south of London, we have extensive outdoor plantings of Camellias, many dating from the turn of the century besides many of the more modern cultivars and hybrids.

However, March winds and April showers, together with the possibility of a late frost, do sometimes impair

the magnificent floral display these huge bushes offer. Hence in several "cold" greenhouses, where protected from the elements but still planted in the ground, we grow many of the newer varieties and can enjoy their beauty, delicate shading and size, however inclement the weather is outside.

It was chiefly from these houses that we staged an exhibit at the Royal Horticultural Society in London early in April, which received the premier award—the Gold Medal.

Using a tiered stand, some 20 ft. long by 9 ft. deep, the back cloth was entirely covered with large sprays and branches; utilising some Williamsii hybrids from outdoors;—Reticulatas 'CRIMSON ROBE' and 'PURPLE GOWN,' the hybrid 'LEONARD MESSEL' and japonicas 'TOMORROW' and 'THE PILGRIM'. Then further lines of sprays, from the back line, descending in tiers, brought the lines down to the mossed-up table front, pierced at frequent intervals for vases allowing the single blooms and smaller sprays to be displayed and inspected at close range.

However, the sprays formed the background of the exhibit in a similar way to the competitive classes at the R.H.S. Camellia Competitions, where the spray section forms a very striking part of the Show.

In all 112 varieties were exhibited, many of which had been given to us by good friends, not only in Europe but from America, both from the South as well as West Coasts. Australia and New Zealand were also represented amongst the selection, which created much interest amongst the growing number of camellia enthusiasts in this country.

WILLIAM C. NOELL

Bill Noell, of Alexandria, Va., President of the Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley and a long time member of ACS, died September 28th. His wife survives. Bill was widely known in Camellia circles throughout the country.

MRS. W. ROSS CHAMBERS

Mrs. Chambers, the former Mary Wilingham of Macon, died in a local hospital October 1. Mr. Chambers survives, also her daughter, Mrs. A. Donald Dudeney. Mr. and Mrs. Chambers were very loyal members of the Middle Georgia Camellia Society and of the American Camellia Society.

BERTHA DOROTHEA JOHANNA HARMS

Mrs. Harms was the widow of the late "Capt." H. H. Harms, ASC charter member and State Director for Oregon. Capt. Harms organized and for many years was President of the Oregon Camellia Society. Mrs. Harms was the lovely and charming lady for which the variety 'BERTHA HARMS' was named.

IN MEMORIAM

Although Mrs. Harms had been confined to a wheelchair for the past five years due to a series of minor strokes, her mind remained alert and she maintained her interest in and love for Camellias and Camellia folks. She died September 11, 1970, at the age of 84.

MR. AND MRS. THOMAS TARTT

Gladys and Tom Tartt of Livingston, Alabama, were killed in an auto accident near Selma, September 19th. Their friends Mr. and Mrs. James Scruggs also of Livingston were killed in the same accident. Tom was a long time member of ACS and an accredited judge. He and Gladys were well known in Southeastern Camellia circles and will be missed by their wide circle of friends.

ALBERT S. HORNE

An ACS member since 1947 and an accredited judge, Albert S. Horne of Moncks Corner, South Carolina, died August 20, 1970.

POLLY BILLS—Our All American Girl

Although the death of Mrs. W. M. Bills on July 3 was mentioned in the September Journal, we are quoting Bob Waters' touching tribute to her in the Texas Camellia Society Bulletin:

"We were all saddened with the news of her death. She loved us and we all loved her. Her life was especially full of love for people, for flowers and for birds. She looked for and found the good things in life. Her friendly and warm smile won the hearts of all who knew her. She was the essence of kindness, tolerance, and understanding. Throughout her life of joy and happiness she never forgot her first love—a sleepy little town in the hills and tall pines of East Texas, Shelbyville—where she was born and where she has gone to rest. But that was Polly—she never forgot—nor shall we."

GEORGE DuBRUL

Dallas, Texas

THIS WAS the second of these meetings that I have been privileged to attend. The attendance was quite good to such an extent that a second hotel was pressed into service. The program, arranged by Mr. Charles Puddle, General Secretary, was smoothly executed and took us to several fine gardens in addition to Bodnant where Mr. Puddle is manager for Lord Aberconway, President of the Royal Horticultural Society. Bodnant is listed as one of the finest gardens in the United Kingdom, if not THE finest. The location is in Denbighshire, North Wales, not far from the south coast of the Irish Sea.

This garden has been described as a splendid combination of terraces and shrubs. I would be inclined to say that it is a beautifully landscaped estate. The first Lady Aberconway's father, Mr. Pochin started work on it in 1875, and succeeding generations have maintained an enthusiastic interest in it. The house looks out over an upper garden and five formal terraces all with a magnificent view of the Snowdon Mountains in the distance.

One sees huge banks of camellias, hydrangeas, azaleas, rhododendron, magnolias, and other ornamental trees and shrubs, planted along the paths and the sides of the valley running through the property. Some of these exotics originated in the Andes, Himalayas, and China. Paths lead in many directions—this is not a garden to be seen in a hurry. I hope that all ACS members going to Britain will include it in their itinerary, and bring a camera—fine shots are there for the taking. ICS Members visited several fine gardens: Hodnet by kind permission of Mr. and Hon. Mrs. Heber-Percy, in Shropshire; Tatton Park Gardens, at Knutsford, in Cheshire, and the Botanic Gardens of the University of Liverpool, at Ness, Cheshire, not far from Liverpool.

The gardens at Hodnet was started by Brigadier Heber Percy when he

created the first water garden in the Valley. A chain of many pools now covers sixty acres. Massed primulas, iris, giant gunneras, and other moisture loving plants grow beside the water. The water gardens are linked to the house by formal terraces covered with lawns and massed rhododendron, and azaleas. Early blooming shrubs and daffodils were colorful.

Tatton Park, in Cheshire, the home of the Egerton family since the late 16th century was interesting. A mile long walk through its fifty-four acres

takes one through conifers, flowering shrubs and aquatic plants, as well as to a Japanese garden laid out on a small islet at the beginning of this century. Here a Shinto Temple is surrounded by Japanese plants, stone lanterns and stone work. Tatton Park, too, has large areas planted with rhododendron and azaleas.

Our host on the walk through the Gardens of the University of Liverpool was Dr. J. K. Hulme, Director of the Gardens. His remarks were witty and his comments about the various groups of plants, problems attending each as to soil, culture and general well being, held our attention.

At the hotel, after dinner on successive evenings, very good talks were given: Mr. Brian Humphrey, General Manager of Hillier and Sons, Britain's largest tree nursery, at Winchester, was excellent in describing with slides and charts, the propagation of various plants from cuttings, the time variations in root formation from one group to another.

It was quite evident that Mr. J. T. Gallagher, Pharmacist and Camellia hobbyist, did his home work in putting together his talk on Camellia Hybrids. He had a good grasp on his subject and his slides were excellent—showing hybrids from America, Australia, New Zealand and other growing areas. He was most generous in expressing his appreciation for the assistance that he received from Les Jury, in New Zealand and Dave Feathers in California. Mr. Reginald Try showed slides of the ACS tour to Camellia Centers in Japan and it was quite evident that all on that tour had a most enjoyable time. Mr. Bill Heritage showed a nice collection of slides of Wisley, the experimental garden of the Royal Horticultural Society, at Wisley, not far from London.

This was a most pleasant group of people to be with for a few days. Mr. Puddle is to be congratulated on the program that he arranged for the ICS membership.

The ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the International Camellia Society

Llandudno, North Wales

May 3, 4, 5, 1970

NEVILLE McMINN

Camellia Lodge Nursery, Australia

HERE IN Noble Park, Melbourne, nearly five months after my return from the U. S. A. and England, surrounded by hundreds of beautiful plants now in full bloom at the nursery—(mid August is our peak flowering period here) my mind flashes back as if it was only yesterday when I was in similar surroundings ever so far away on my travels visiting shows, nurseries, gardens and meeting hundreds of wonderful people, who like myself are all drawn together by this truly wonderful and beautiful genus. Now I am attempting to make these brief notes, keeping them where possible to things of camellia wise interest.

My object was to tour as much of the camellia area as possible both in the South and West Coast, visiting some of the major shows, nurseries, private and public gardens etc. to appraise, evaluate and photograph as many of the newer varieties as possible for selection and subsequent importation into our own nursery. This we have been doing for some years but I felt that the time had come to go and have a "looksee" at them first hand and also meet up with many of

the wonderful friends that we had been corresponding with for many years and others we had met on various visits to Camellia Lodge while they were touring "down under". After a couple of seasons of "thinking" myself into a visit and the final decision to go, the weeks slipped quickly by as final preparations and formalities were completed. The basic idea was to enter the U. S. A. direct from Honolulu at Houston, Texas, then change planes for New Orleans and thus start my tour through the South and South East and then travel west to California, entering at Los Angeles.

Finally, on one hot summer afternoon (Jan. 11th) I boarded a plane at Melbourne and took off for Sydney, where later that evening I was finally winging my way with QANTAS across the long leg of ocean to Honolulu with a short stopover at Nadi, Fiji, for refuelling. I enjoyed a glorious 4 days stopover at Hawaii, touring the main islands and shooting film madly—a never ending photographer's paradise. On the following Tuesday morning I boarded the Braniff International Jet for the long flight south-east direct to Houston, Texas, where I arrived early

that evening and changed planes for the final shorter flight into New Orleans, where I was met by my main hosts for the Southern tour, Ferol and Sam Zerkowsky. Their warm and friendly welcome made up for the almost freezing night air I had stepped into after leaving Honolulu that morning at 84° F. Ferol and I had been corresponding for almost 12 years and during this period both Rick and I had come to deeply respect and admire this amazing "lady of the camellias" who has done so much for them in the South over the last 25 years. Through our correspondence I had been kept up to date on many of the newer varieties—including many of her own raised at Tammia.

I felt very honored and privileged in staying at Tammia and using its location as a "base" for my extended touring throughout most of the South. After our late arrival back at the nursery at Slidell, a pleasant semirural commuter township some 25 miles out of New Orleans, and despite my numbed tiredness after the long flight, I could not resist my first actual "look-see" at the large greenhouses, while Sam made his final rounds before retiring for the night. Here these gigantic buildings 14'–15' high, over 30' wide and over 100' long, house the main stock trees which are actually planted directly in the ground, with a good protective mulch around them of pine needles, and they looked magnificent with the lights shining on them and loaded down with buds and flowers in all stages of development. I was more than thrilled to see two beautiful plants of ERICA McMINN almost ready to burst into bloom. Ferol informed me later that it is a wonderful garden variety throughout the South and I was to see for myself at nearly every major show it being judged as a consistent Blue Ribbon Winner. Here also were thousands of beautiful grafted one and two year plants, all neatly rowed out and correctly labelled, with not one poor plant showing up amongst them and many thousands of prime healthy azalea plants all on their own roots, so

Some Brief Notes and Comments on My

CAMELLIA TOUR OF THE U. S. A.

clean and free from weeds and trash in their containers. To my tired but critical eyes it was indeed a truly beautiful sight. What an incredible effort this girl puts into her work!

The heating used in the green houses was of great interest, simple in application and very efficient in its result. Just a series of gas ring burners, feeding off a bulk tank of L. P. gas outside, rowed along and between the plants, heating large pans of water sitting on top. The resultant warmth and humidity given off by evaporation being quite sufficient to maintain temperatures above freezing, so necessary here in greenhouses and to keep blooms from freezing up before they are picked for the show displays which the nursery folk depend on so much during the flowering season. During the next few days I got myself re-oriented to the "geography" of the country and "re-zoned" with time after jetting at 600 mph half way round the world in only just a week, from high summer in the 80's to low winter temperatures in the 20's and 30's. This takes some doing but I was soon to start and enjoy the wonderful round of southern hospitality, home cooking and instant friendliness so evident everywhere I travelled by car, bus and plane, and not once did I feel like a stranger in this vast, beautiful country, meeting and mixing with so many fellow camellia lovers. I was soon to become acquainted with Bill and Roy, Ferol's two capable helpers with the nursery work and Ophelia Avery, a faithful and long trusted companion and housekeeper of Ferol's.

Tammia Nursery, for the benefit of those who have not had the pleasure of a visit, is a beautiful 40 acre estate which had a long history in the St. Tammany Parish at Slidell. Ferol purchased it some 25 years ago, while a very active and well known business woman in New Orleans. It was then just an old tired, run down farm and with terrific determination and "know-how" developed it into the lovely nursery—combined garden estate of today, famed for its beautiful setting of lovely old pines, oaks and pecan

trees. These make a perfect backdrop for the thousands of glorious camellias, azaleas etc. which have been lovingly and lavishly landscaped throughout the whole frontage and approach to the beautiful home, once the old farmhouse, and now completely restored and extended to blend in with its setting. This beauty is also enhanced by a large lake of many acres which is crossed by a delightful bridge, beautifully proportioned, as one drives along a curving tree lined drive. Ferol herself formed this lake with a bulldozer many years ago, when it was nothing more than a swampy tract and water easement flooding across the land. My only regret was that I could not stay long enough to see the azaleas and other beautiful plants in bloom in the early Spring. This also applied throughout the whole of the Southland. I hope to return again one day during this period, with my wife, Erica, whom I often wished could be with me to enjoy all of this wonderful and rewarding experience. Unfortunately this beauty was still somewhat marred by the terrible havoc caused by hurricane "Camille", some 5 months earlier. The greenhouses and Sam's large horse stable and barn had been badly damaged and had just recently been rebuilt or repaired. Many beautiful trees had been blown out of the ground—including a great many garden camellias—and the logging contractor was still busy cutting up many pines etc. for pulpwood. With true determination Ferol and Sam were getting ready to replant and replace many thousands more azaleas and other plants and trees to make up for the damage done.

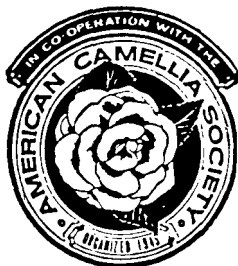
I cannot go into a long and detailed account of all my journey as it would fill a book, but I was fortunate in attending the Camellia Shows at Mobile, New Orleans, Tuscaloosa and Birmingham during the following weeks. I was at first completely overawed by the incredible spectacle of these shows. I had the honor and privilege of being invited to help judge at most of these shows and it gave me great pleasure, although I

often had to work overtime getting colour shots by the hundred as I could not resist photographing them. It is the dedicated and willing band of workers, made up of the various Show Chairmen, Judges Panel Chairmen, Committeemen (and women), stewards etc. that keep the wheels moving and with the terrific zeal and activity of the competitors that makes these shows the success and spectacular thing they are. My thanks to a great many of these folk who went out of their very busy way to help make me at "home" and show me some of the "ropes" that I was somewhat unaccustomed to when invited to do some judging.

To Mr. Charles Butler and Hoyt Lee of Mobile, Mr. Cristina jnr., John Lanoue, Mr. Ragusa and Morris Borges, Dr. Johnson and Vincent Ciolino all of New Orleans, Mr. Buford Boone, Scott and Penny Black, Mr. "Dutch" Smith, Mr. Graydon Ausmus, Bob Nelson, Jr., Jewett Wheeler of Tuscaloosa, also my two wonderful hosts for dinner and cocktails, Mr. Joe Duckworth and Dr. Jack Davis (a fine competitive grower) and at the "Show of Shows" at Birmingham a really entertaining and enjoyable meeting with so many members including Mr. G. Crawford, George Garrison, George Wheeler (a "champion" grower of the "whopper" Blue Ribbon winners) and all so expertly co-ordinated by Mr. Frank Lynch also Chairman of the very large judges group so necessary at this huge show. Also the hosts of a glorious dinner at the "Club" on top of a mountain overlooking all the city lights a long way below. Mr. Holden Naff, whose charming wife Lila, has had the beautiful reticulata 'LILA NAFF' raised by Ferol Zerkowsky, named in her honor and Mr. Lee Poe and Mr. Gordon Moughon, both well known and leading camellia growers in the South. I am afraid there are also a great many more wonderful people who I met that space does not permit me to mention, but my sincere thanks to them also for making my visit so enjoyable.

(Continued on page 20)

A.C.S. SHOW ENTRY CARDS



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ACCORDING TO S.C.C.S. NOMENCLATURE

CIRCLE SIZE MIN. - S - M - ML - L - VL

DIVISION _____ CLASS NO. _____



EXHIBITOR'S NO. _____

NAME _____

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1ST O AWARD	2ND O AWARD	3RD O AWARD	SPECIAL O AWARD
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1ST O AWARD	2ND O AWARD	3RD O AWARD	SPECIAL O AWARD
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DIVISION _____ CLASS NO. _____

VARIETY _____

CIRCLE SIZE MIN. - S - M - ML - L - VL

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NAME _____

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and/or printed to your special
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In response to numerous requests for ACS to standardize Camellia Show entry cards and make them available at a reasonable price the card illustrated here is suggested. This has been designed incorporating suggestions and requirements submitted by a number of show committees. Some will not care to use the size classification or the 4th or Special Award, but all cards will be printed with these items.

ACS does not require this card to be used in cooperative shows. Some may wish to have theirs printed locally to their own specifications. However, we believe this card will be acceptable to most shows.

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Here at your shows with the greater number of varieties available, entries are according to variety and this makes a magnificent spectacle, especially when several hundred varieties are entered in one section only, particularly the larger sized blooms which seem to predominate most of the Southern Shows. I personally think they are a little over emphasized, particularly when gibbed they tend to become rather "blowsy". However, I do not wish to subtract from the kind and loving care that goes into these "whopper" productions, but as an humble nurseryman and camellia lover of all kinds of camellias, many of the medium down to small and miniature sized varieties can be just as beautiful but are often looked upon as "dogs" by far too many so called camellia lovers. However, every man or woman to their taste. Subsequently it was often the "blownup whopper" bloom that inevitably won the Champion Ribbon. Still, as I have mentioned it was a very enjoyable experience to observe and note them all.

In Melbourne, Victoria, which is the "South" of our large continent, we enjoy beautiful blooms, many of our bigger sized varieties will reach 5½" to 6½" without gibbing. We also enjoy a much milder winter which ranges between the lower 40's right up to mid 50's and only sometimes drops down to 36°-38° when we really feel that it is very cold. The camellias here are strictly garden plants and greenhouses etc. are more the exception than the rule for successful culture. I sometimes wondered could some of your shows be held a little later when perhaps more garden blooms could be exhibited to display them in a natural light to the public.

While mingling with many hundreds of people, taking my color shots, I was to often hear the comment that a great many just could not afford the expense of a greenhouse and its necessary equipment of heaters, ventilators, foggers, etc., even apart from the gibbing of blooms. I felt that perhaps a great boost to the camellia cult is being lost by not doing sufficient re-

search into more cold resistant cultivars. For many years I have closely followed the valuable findings in the A. C. S. yearbooks of Mr. Levi from S. C. who apparently has a fine garden and a large enough collection of varieties to warrant tabulating their behavior under these colder but normal garden conditions. It brings to my mind, with the almost flooding of the market each year of new registrations, that perhaps the A. C. S. could undertake a fairly simple programme of field testing for some of these varieties. To me, pleasant viewing as it was, trying to appraise these lovely blooms after the benefit of greenhouse protection and gibbing and then comparing with a garden grown performance, it was only a stab in the dark. Although we are now importing a great many we will just have to let them develop under their own "steam" and see what they come up to "a la naturale". Perhaps if they could be distributed on initial release by the tradem to a few selected private growers in various climatic zones through the South and given a couple of seasons trial, say one or two in the garden and one or two under glass, then these simple tests could be recorded and compared without too much top level organization. I stress private growers who have had experience and the few test plants that each could grow would not be too much trouble or a glory seeking "award" gimmick—just a simple and honest evaluation of these newer varieties which could guide and encourage a lot more people into growing better and more suitable camellias for their area. This would save the need for a lot of work, organization and cost of trying to run various test gardens all over the country, usually with good intentions but lack of co-operation causing failure, as has happened previously in "trade" awards.

I enjoyed the happy social activities of the Shows, the Judges Luncheons, Cocktail Parties and Banquets, all providing a warm, friendly and relaxing atmosphere. In fact it was sometimes obvious that the social side was just as important as the Show, with news

of "what's new"—"how I almost took the prize" and "I never thought I could win" etc. It gave me great pleasure to have the chance to mix in and meet all these fine folks whose interest and enthusiasm to get up in the middle of a cold freezing night, pick blooms, and drive hundreds of miles in mid-winter conditions without heat in the car, to enter their beloved camellias not only at one show but several. I hope this enthusiasm will continue to ensure lots more successful shows. My sincere thanks also to all those kind and hospitable show and judge managers and their hard working committeemen who helped and guided me and made me so welcome when I first arrived at many of their shows. The ice was soon broken and I was assimilated into the whole show atmosphere. I also met many of the commercial growers at these shows, like Bea and Neal Rogers of Belle Fontaine Nursery, Mr. and Mrs. Smith of Flowerwood (what glorious blooms they displayed at Mobile), Hugh Shackelford of Albany and to meet up with Mark and Marguerite Cannon of Dothan, from whom I had imported many scions in the past.

Thanks also to my co-hosts, Payne and Charlotte Midyette of Tallahassee, Fla. I enjoyed a motor tour from Tuscaloosa right down through the rolling countryside to Tallahassee, Fla. for a week-end stopover and look at the beautiful Maclay Gardens, where I was to admire their beautiful mature plants and to have a look around at some lovely gardens and estates that make this city and surroundings so lovely. The hospitality at short notice provided by Dr. Earl and Berenice Armstrong and Mr. Phil and Mrs. Phillips in showing me these lovely spots will always be remembered. To stay over and admire Payne's beautiful ranch estate was alone well worth the southward detour. Prize "camelias" and "herefords", what a combination! I was just as interested in the four legged beauties as well as the flowering ones, because I am a countryman at heart and the gentle southern rolling countryside all

(Continued on page 22)

A CASE OF JUDGMENT

JULES B. WILSON

Northern California Camellia Society, Castro Valley, Calif.

I recently heard a camellia fancier make a very provocative statement. He, like many others, was frustrated by the fact that when you listen to three different experts on soil mixtures, you hear about three different mixes. When you listen to three different experts on fertilization of camellias, you hear three different stories.

To my way of thinking, the fact that camellia culture is an inexact science is what makes it so fascinating.

It would be logical to look to the natural habitat of the camellia to look for the logical soil mixture and fertilizer. However, how would the many crosses of camellias react to those conditions? In a different climate, at another altitude, what would be best? With different exposures, different temperatures, surrounding soil and

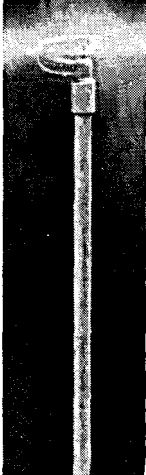
humidity, what soil mix and fertilization would be best?

The myriad and varying factors whets the interests of many and stimulates them into trying to come up with a superior approach to camellia culture. This is what makes camellia shows more interesting and keeps many people returning to camellia society meetings.

Who can say for sure that the camellia bug who goes out at a certain time of the night when the moon is in a certain stage to administer a certain potion to his plants has not found the secret.

So let us hope that camellia culture may always remain as somewhat of an inexact science. This is a big part of its charm.

When the last peak has been scaled, we will all have lost something.



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round was no exception, even the beautiful lake of many acres, and the wildbird refuge on the property was to me an experience not to be missed. Payne's camellias are set out under groves of tall straight slash pines with banks of azaleas etc. and also a great many container grown plants are housed in a very large, almost a professional type designed and built greenhouse. All of the plants are in beautiful condition with patiently tied back branches and twigs to allow the blooms to open up and flower properly without too much damage to them. These were prize blooms, in fact hardly a poor one in sight.

After the all too short break we motored off again, up through Georgia where we briefly stopped at Thomasville to meet a grand old man of camellias in Sam Hjort whom I had corresponded with for many years and whose Thomasville Nurseries are so well known for both their long association with the best in camellias and roses alike. Son Paul took us on a quick detour to Dr. Mervyn Wine's beautiful garden nearby and here despite the freezing cold day and drizzly rain many beautiful blooms were out on his trees. Unfortunately this gentleman was absent and I did not have the pleasure of meeting him. Onwards again to Moultrie with another quick "look see" at Josh Wilkes Nursery, another fine specialized camellia nursery, where again I had the pleasure of viewing hundreds of grafted one and two year old plants neatly rowed out and labelled. This time they were housed in neat, snug plastic greenhouses which I was to see more of during my travels. These "quonset" shaped houses with their polythene covering are widely used in the U. S. nursery trade and are quite different to our own clear span steel and glass or fiberglass type of construction. These plastic houses seem very snug inside when constructed carefully and even contain much mechanical equipment such as heaters, foggers etc. and work very well even though the plastic would need to be replaced fairly regularly. Both Josh and Mrs. Wilkes were

stricken down with a severe bout of the flu' so we did not see them either as time was getting on.

Off again for a brief visit to Dr. Bill Mathis, whose wife, Fran, has had a beautiful camellia named for her. Here again was a lovely garden with pines providing a beautiful background and shelter for many lovely large plants growing in the ground and mulched well with the needles. Many plants are also housed in two neat green houses and the blooms greatly admired. From here into the town to meet up with Joe Pyron who drove all the way from Massee Lane to meet me for lunch and then take me back there for the next stage of my journey. After lunch and fond farewells to Payne and Bill Mathis, we set off for Massee Lane via Albany and Perry. Joe was great company and I enjoyed the vastness of the Georgia countryside while the miles quickly sped by. We stopped briefly at Albany, met Spencer Walden—whose camellias I did not see—but admired his beautiful new office building and met Mr. Stewart Watson who took us one another quick tour to some lovely local gardens, including his own, where with his greenhouses, he derives much pleasure from growing and showing blooms to perfection. Then a tasty and welcome coffee break supplied by Mrs. Watson,—more goodbyes—and a quick look on the way at Hugh Shackelford's immense greenhouse containing thousands of container plants of all sizes. This must have been an unlucky day, because we also missed Hugh at the time, but I thoroughly enjoyed looking at his lovely garden and had time for several "fast" shots of the huge structure and its contents.

On our way again and after dinner and a good nights sleep at Perry (down to 12° F that night), we finally arrived at Massee Lane in the still early morning, with temperatures almost at freezing point and no blooms showing on the trees. Despite this disappointment, Massee Lane is a beautifully laid out garden and I was unfortunate not to meet Mr. Dave

Strother as this wonderful old gentleman of camellias had passed away only two weeks before I visited there, but I could almost feel his presence still in the lovely gardens and the library inside. The A. C. S. is truly richly endowed with his wonderful gesture and kindness in not only presenting the garden to the society but also providing a financial endowment to help run it. I was able to get many beautiful shots of the gardens, the lovely pecan orchard and large greenhouse still being constructed nearby to provide a protected display of container camellias in bloom for the many thousands of people who visit these headquarters during the season. Joe Pyron does a wonderful job of secretary here, backed up by a small staff of lovely girls dedicated to their work. I hope this work is appreciated by all the members out there in camellia land.

Again more farewells to the staff and we drove off for lunch at the Fort Valley Country Club and then on to Macon where I was scheduled to catch a bus for Atlanta for the night. More visits in the short time available to some really beautiful gardens in the Macon area, with the lovely pines always in the background protecting and framing plantings of camellias, azaleas, magnolias, red-buds, dogwoods etc. What a beautiful sight the Southland must be in the Spring. I will come again to enjoy it all, but it is not hard to imagine how beautiful it must look. We had a good look over Dr. Walter Homeyer's extensive garden and well equipped greenhouses containing some of the most perfect examples of container culture I have ever seen in my entire tour. Practically every bloom was of blue ribbon quality and many interesting hybrids and crosses are being developed also. I deeply appreciated the time that Walter gave us, despite his very busy medical practice and schedule. Here I reluctantly bid farewell to —oe—"a bonzer bloke"—and a great asset to the society. Despite his heavy paperwork commitments he always has time to jot down notes and

(Continued on page 24)

ADDITIONAL SHOW JUDGES APPOINTED CALIFORNIA

Glendale:

Mrs. A. L. Summerson

Modesto:

Mr. Anthony F. Pinheiro (Nov.)

Pittsburg:

Mr. Salvatore B. Dali

San Diego:

Mrs. William L. Gibson

Sebastopol:

Mr. Elwood P. Passinetti (Nov.)

FLORIDA

Marianna:

Mrs. W. H. Harrison

Mt. Dora:

Mrs. E. C. Simmons

GEORGIA

Atlanta:

Mr. Thomas F. Troutman

LOUISIANA

Lafayette:

Mr. C. R. Pope

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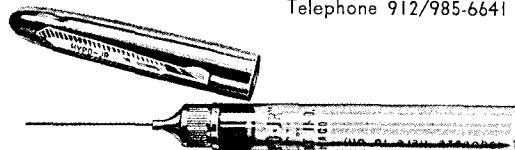
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memos of interest while on the move and his appreciation of fine food is almost as well known and matched as his capacity for work.

From an overnight stop at Atlanta I flew east again to Charleston, S. C. for a brief visit to Magnolia Gardens and had the privilege of meeting both Norwood Hastie and his charming wife Charlotte. Norwood gave me a full day here, showing me over this glorious and historically steeped garden and large 40 acre nursery which he runs with it. The vistas and glorious views as we wandered around the never ending pathways along the Ashley River and lakes and lagoons on the estate fringed and banked with azaleas, camellias, oaks, magnolias, pines and cypress, all beautifully draped with the traditional "Spanish Moss" was a sight of never ending beauty to me. I could have spent several days here among this beautiful and traditional family estate. I was also lucky enough to have Norwood take me along to the "Middleton Gardens" only 4-5 miles further down the road by car, and here too, I was enraptured by this old historical spot. These gardens were originally laid out in the more formal English style of that era. Here too, we enjoyed the beautiful vistas of camellias, azaleas, etc., all so very large and planted along the banks of the lakes and river by the thousands. Many of the more formal walks were completely arched over in a beautiful green canopy of camellia foliage. Many of these plants are well over 100 years old. Here too the beautiful pines, magnolias and oaks presented a never ending picture of beauty as they were draped over by the hanging moss which thrives in the moist air, without any apparent damage to the lovely old trees. The family descendants of Henry Middleton are working hard to restore much of this estate back to its past glory and beauty. Unfortunately, one half of the old home was burned to the ground during the American Civil War, but the remaining wing is still in good repair. I was able to motor back to Columbia, S. C. with the Hasties later that afternoon and here

again I was to enjoy the vast rolling southlands with their hills, woods, rivers and lakes so typical of many parts of Victoria if the pines were substituted for our "gums" or eucalypts.

My one object in detouring back to Columbia was to meet up for the first time in person with Mr. Frank Griffin Sr., a man who we had been corresponding with almost 16 years and had built up an everlasting friendship and storehouse of all things camelliawise over this period. Frank's wonderful editorship and publishing knowledge, spiced with plenty of gags and puns in his "Camellian" magazine was a byword everywhere this wonderful publication was distributed and read. It is still missed by many camellia lovers. We had a wonderful dinner and chat till late that evening when I bade him my fond farewell, feeling very gratified that the long detour was well worth it all.

Next morning I left Columbia for the long flight back to New Orleans via Atlanta. My tour of the South was now nearing its final stages and yet I was not able to back track to many places that I had planned. One was to revisit the Mobile area to see many more nurseries and the Bellingrath Gardens which were all badly frozen when I had been there earlier for the Mobile Show. Another was to revisit many North and South Carolina centres of camellia interest and also to visit more of Florida camellias areas as there had been so many kind invitations from people I met at the shows. Another which I was most reluctant to bypass was to have looked up some wonderful friends at Tyler, Texas, the Gerald Hendersons and Louis Squyres. There is one bright side to these "miss-outs"—it will give me lots of pleasure to see them on my return visit which I hope to do with my wife Erica.

Even though I am used to vast areas of country here in Australia, it still does not register how vast also is the South and South Eastern U.S.A. I enjoyed my travels by car, bus and plane, travelling and staying at large cities, large towns and smaller towns and was able to see just how grand

and beautiful your southland really is. I would like to see it in the early Spring when the azaleas, magnolias, dogwoods and redbuds etc. are coming into their beautiful flowering.

After a few days back at Tammia and busily catching up on more flower shots of many varieties still opening out and a short break in New Orleans photographing the beautiful old French Quarter and visiting the many lovely parks and gardens, colleges and universities so richly endowed in this fascinating city, the time came to make my final farewells to so many folks who had made my stay so enjoyable. I still have not mentioned my interesting tour up through Louisiana and Mississippi to Natchez, to see and visit the beautiful Ante Belum homes and many old original camellia plantings still thriving after all these years around this historical old city on the "River", so mighty and busy in its present day role of freighting goods from the very heart of the nation upstream and downstream.

I must also mention again the terrible havoc and destruction wrought by hurricane "Camille" around the beautiful Gulfcoast area of Mississippi where we travelled through on our way to the Mobile Show. Here after 5 months clearing up and gradual rebuilding is in progress. Only last year the A. C. S. Annual Show and Convention was held at the beautiful Broadwater Beach Hotel—itself badly damaged.—Even now the folks here have decided to go ahead and hold their 1970 show in the midst of all this devastation and I wished I had the time to visit the show as a gesture of respect for their wonderful determination and courage.

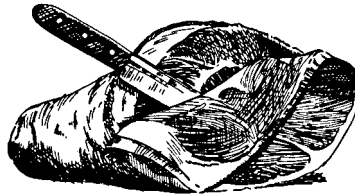
After my final reluctant but fond goodbyes, it was back again to New Orleans for a nights stopover before catching a big 707 Jet the following morning for a non-stop flight direct to Los Angeles, which was to be the initial stepping stone for my California tour. After the long flight west I was to be warmly greeted again by another old friend of many years acquaintance, Harold Dryden, who had also visited us "down under"

some 4-5 seasons ago. Harold had me quickly sorted out with my luggage collections in this huge international air terminal which seems to cover miles of countryside. We were soon on our way via the freeway to San Marino, a beautiful western suburb of the huge sprawling city of Los Angeles. Here another friendly and warm greeting from my co-hosts for the Los Angeles stay, Wilber and Helen Foss also of San Marino, and only just down the road from Harold and Elsie Dryden. Wilber and Helen had paid us a brief visit while in Melbourne last September for a quick look around before returning home from their summer vacation and had been very pleased to have been able to show them some "Aussie" grown blooms, which they greatly admired. The San Marino, San Gabriel, Pasadena areas, all within "coo-ee" distance of each other, have many of California's finest camellia gardens—both private and public—including the Huntington and Descanso Gardens. Here many well known camellia folks live, Bill and Ruth Goertz, Caryll and Mildred Pitkin, Mel Gumm and Ernest Pieri and many others that I had the pleasure of meeting.

My first visit on the Los Angeles itinerary was to the beautiful 200 acre Huntington Gardens. This magnificent privately endowed garden is one of the world's most beautiful and much of its credit must go to the late Mr. William Hertrich, curator and creator, who spent practically all his working life developing it from just a large tract of citrus orchards (ranches) from the early 1900's while in the employ of the late Mr. Henry Huntington. Here I was to see acres of beautifully planned camellia and azalea gardens blooming and growing midst a beautiful setting of native oaks, eucalypts and other trees. The Australian section of some 8 acres almost brought me back home again with many species of eucalypts and yellow wattles (acacias) against a glorious clear blue sky, not a smog cloud in sight.

Part II—California Tour—will appear in the January Journal.

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CAMELLIA BOOKS

GARDENS, PLANTS AND MAN. 1970. by Carlton B. Lees. *Prentiss-Hall*, Englewood Cliffs, N. J. 251 pp. Illustrated. \$19.95.

The author, Carlton B. Lees, is the well-known Executive Director of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. He is a landscape designer, photographer, lecturer and born story teller who makes the reader share the enchantment of his discoveries. Lee states "Garden is outdoor space organized for man's use, comfort and pleasure." Today when an increasingly hectic and polluted environment threatens the human race, gardens have become more important than ever.

We hear much about ecology as if this is a new science or concept, yet it is as old as man himself—the interdependence of living things, humans, plants and animals with the environment. Lees says "City environments are artificial; they deny our origin. We need to be at home in our environment. . . . Man cannot continue to live in the ugliness he is perpetuating upon the land."

Most of the beautiful photographs were made by the author in his extensive travels. The book is also illustrated with interesting facsimiles from old herbals dating back to 1495 and other books in the library of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

The author introduces the great landscape artists and the remarkable individuals who played important and diverse parts in furthering man's understanding and appreciation of plants.

In his introduction, Lees says "This book is not a statement only about gardens and plants. It is, I hope, much more."

NEW TEMPLE OF FLORA

Although there will not be a *Camellia* in it, the new **TEMPLE OF FLORA** illustrated by Paul Jones, the Australian artist of *Camellia* fame will be of interest to *Camellia* lovers. Paul Jones is perhaps the greatest *Camellia* artist of all times. He has illustrated four important books: **THE CAMELLIA**, volumes 1 and 2 by Urquhart and Waterhouse's **CAMELLIA QUEST** and **CAMELLIA TRAIL**. He painted the beautiful 'VILLE DE NANTES' in our headquarters, prints of which are available from ACS, Fort Valley, Ga.

The original *Temple of Flora* or *Garden of Nature* by Dr. Robert John Thornton was published in London 1799-1807. This was the most famous collection of botanical prints of the era.

Tryon Galleries of London is publishing the new work of which only 400 copies will be issued at \$375.00 each. More than half of these have been ordered already, although the book will not be ready before May 1971 at the time of the famous Chelsea Flower Show.

The book is the end result of an exhibition last year at the Tryon Gallery called "Flower Artists of the World", in which 15 artists from 15 countries were invited to exhibit four paintings each. From these, artists were to be chosen to paint the total of 16 illustrations for the new book. So impressed with his work were the selectors that they chose Mr.

Jones to illustrate the book exclusively. It has taken him two years to complete the work. Although only 16 were required, he has painted a total of 20 pictures including three Australian flowers.

The book will be bound in vellum, with a text by Wilfred Blunt and a preface by the former director of Kew Gardens, Sir George Taylor. Mr. Jones explained the reason for the book's costliness is the expensive printing process, the fact that the very best people in the printing world have been engaged to work on it, and the very fact of its exclusiveness.

At the time the MacDowells of Lakeland, Florida, contacted Paul Jones to paint the 'VILLE DE NANTES' for Mr. Strother, he was very reluctant to do so as he was then working on the paintings for the new **TEMPLE OF FLORA**.

A VOYAGE TO CHINA AND THE EAST INDIES by Peter Osbeck, London 1771. Vol. 2, p. 17.

The 9th of November

CAMELLIA Japonica (its Chinese name is *Fo-kai*), a tree which was carried about and exposed to sale in the streets. I bought one of a blind man in the street, which had fine double white and red flowers. But by further observing it in my room, I found that the flowers were taken from another tree, and one *calyx* was so neatly fixed in the other with nails of *Bamboo*, that I should scarce have found it out, if the flowers had not begun to wither. The tree itself had only buds, but no open flowers. I learned from this instance, that whoever will deal with the *Chinese*, must make use of his utmost circumspection; and even then must run the risk of being cheated.

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A sport of 'Tomorrow Variegated' believed to have been caused by the treatment of the scion with colchicine. The plant is a heavy, stocky, grower with thick leathery leaves. The bloom size and color is the same as 'Tomorrow Var.', 6½ inches without gib. The petals are heavy textured, lightly crinkled, with fluted edges. The blooms are long lasting on plant or when cut. 'Queen of Tomorrow' holds its flowers in original position without support.

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'SUZY WONG' (Reg. No. 1164).

A 6-year-old chance japonica seedling that first bloomed in 1967, originated by Dr. Lee Chan Wong, Hong Kong, China; and propagated by Wilmer Stewart, Savannah, Ga. Plant growth is average and medium in rate with dark green leaves measuring 3½ inches in length and 1½ inches in width.

The peony form bloom is light to medium filaments. Measures 5¾ inches in diameter and 4 inches in depth with 48 petals and 15 petaloids. Blooms mid-season and has extremely beautiful texture with good lasting quality.

'CAROLINA SUNRISE' (Reg. No. 1165).

A 5-year-old chance japonica seedling that first bloomed in 1968, was originated and propagated by Mrs. James Luker, Savannah, Ga. Plant growth is upright, spreading and rapid in rate with dark green leaves measuring 4 inches in length and 2 inches in width.

The semidouble, 'FRIZZLE WHITE' type, bloom is deep pink with yellow anthers and white filaments. It measures 5 inches in diameter and 2½ inches in depth with 32 petals and 3 rabbit ears, and 7 petaloids. Blooms midseason, has good texture, long lasting and falls whole.

'DOCTOR BLISS SHAFFER' (Reg. No. 1166).

A 6-year-old chance japonica seedling that first bloomed in 1968, was originated by Sadie Mancill, Lafayette, La. Plant growth is upright and medium in rate with leaves measuring 4 inches in length and 2 inches in width of dark green.

The peony form bloom is pale pink with rose stripes and yellow anthers and 50 filaments. It measures 5 inches in diameter and 3 inches in depth with 47 petals and 12 petaloids. Blooms midseason, holds well on bush, falls whole, good bloomer.

'BUD MANCILL' (Reg. No. 1167).

A 10-year-old chance japonica seedling that first bloomed in 1963, was originated by E. N. Mancill, Lafayette, La. and propagated by Sadie Mancill, Lafayette, La. Plant growth is spreading, open and medium in rate with dark green leaves measuring 3¾ inches in length and 1 inch in width.

The formal double bloom is shell pink with rose stripes and measures 4 inches. It blooms midseason to late and blooms hold well on bush, fall whole and is a good bloomer.

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'APRIL LYNN POE' (Reg. No. 1168).

A 10-year-old chance japonica seedling that first bloomed in 1965, was originated by W. Lee Poe, Birmingham, Ala.; and propagated by Gerbing Camellia Nursery, Fernandia Beach, Fla. Plant growth is upright and rapid in rate with dark green leaves measuring 4 to 5 inches in length and 2½ to 2¾ inches in width.

The 'FRIZZLE WHITE' type bloom in peach pink with gold anthers and gold filaments. It measures 6¼ inches in diameter and 3 inches in depth with 52 petals when gibbed and greenhouse grown. It blooms midseason and is a good bloomer. It won the best treated seedling in Panama City, Pensacola, Mobile, Tuscaloosa, and Chattanooga in 1970 with three seedling awards.

'EVELYN POE BLUSH' (Reg. No. 1169).

A japonica sport of 'EVELYN POE' that was first observed in 1965 and was first propagated in 1966. It has bloomed 100% true for at least two years on about 20 plants. Originated by W. Lee Poe, Birmingham, Ala., and propagated by Gerbing Camellia Nursery, Fernandia Beach, Fla. Plant growth is spreading, dense and rapid in rate with dark green leaves measuring 5 to 6 inches in length and 3 to 4 inches in width.

Blush, darker at center gradually shading to lighter color with 2 or 3 pink markings, flower has gold anthers and white filaments. It measures 5 to 6 inches in diameter and 3 to 3½ inches in depth when gibbed and greenhouse grown. It is a good bloomer with large and heavy flowers that bloom midseason.

'MINI PINK' (Reg. No. 1170).

A 12-year-old chance japonica seedling that first bloomed in 1963, was formerly

called 'PINKIE', an invalid name, was originated by D. C. Strother. Plant growth is upright, average and rapid in rate with dark green leaves measuring 3 inches in length and 1½ inches in width.

The light pink bloom has yellow anthers and white filaments with 10 to 12 petals. It measures 1½ inches in diameter and ¾ inch in depth and blooms from January through February. Long lasting miniature with an abundance of blooms.

'ARCH OF TRIUMPH' (Reg. No. 1171).

A 10-year-old chance hybrid seedling that first bloomed in 1962, originated by David L. Feathers, Lafayette, Calif., and propagated by Redwood Empire Camellias, Sebastopol, Calif. Plant growth is upright, relatively dense and rapid in rate with waffled dark green leaves measuring 5½ inches in length and 3¾ inches in width.

The loose peony form bloom is wine red with yellow stamens. It measures 7 inches in diameter and 3½ inches in depth with 15 to 20 petals and blooms early to midseason. Heavy texture and lost lasting.

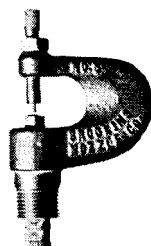
'JEAN'S UNSURPASSABLE' (Reg. No. 1172).

An 8-year-old chance japonica seedling that first bloomed in 1967, originated by G. W. Moughon, Birmingham, Ala., and propagated by Gerbing Nursery, Fernandina Beach, Fla. Plant growth is upright, spreading, dense and rapid in rate with dark green leaves measuring 3 to 4 inches in length and 2 to 2½ inches in width.

The semidouble to anemone form bloom is pale pink with flecks of darker pink and yellow anthers. It measures 5 to 6½ inches in diameter and 3 inches in depth with 52 petals. It blooms Nov. through March. Strong grower and good lasting qualities.

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'REG RAGLAND'	1955
'TOMORROW'	1956
'GUILIO NUCCIO'	1958
'MARIE BRACEY'	1963
'CARTER'S SUNBURST'	1964
'TIFFANY'	1966
'GRAND SLAM'	1969

Peer Sasanqua Awards:

'CHANSONETTE'	1958
'HARIETTE RUSTER'	1959
'LESLIE ANNE'	1961
'MISS ED'	1964
'BONANZA'	1965
'STAR ABOVE STAR'	1969

Sewell Mutant Awards:

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'TOMORROW'S DAWN'	1964
'MATHOTIANA SUPREME'	1965
'ELEGANS SUPREME'	1966
'TOMORROW PARK HILL'	1967
'CARTER'S SUNBURST PINK'	1968

Harris Hybrid Awards:

'HOWARD ASPER'	1963
'CHARLEAN'	1965
'ELSIE JURY'	1967
'JULIA HAMITER'	1968
'FRANCIE L'	1969

SHOW DATES

Place, Location and Sponsor

Date

Nacogdoches, Texas, Fredonia State Bank, Nacogdoches Camellia Club	November 7-8, 1970
Savannah, Ga., The Men's Garden Club of Savannah, Savannah Bank & Trust Co. Bldg., Bryan Street	November 7-8, 1970
Valdosta, Ga., Valdosta Camellia Society, The First State Bank	November 14,15, 1970
Columbia, S. C., Mid-Carolina Camellia Society, South Carolina National Bank, 900 Assembly St.	November 21-22, 1970
LaCanada, Calif., Grounds of the Descanso Gardens in LaCanada, Los Angeles Camellia Council	December 5-6, 1970
Houston, Texas, Houston Lighting and Power Company, 611 Walker, Houston, Houston Camellia Society	December 12-13, 1970
Moss Point, Miss., Merchant and Marine Bank, Moss Point Men's Camellia Club	December 12-13, 1970
New Orleans, La., Gulf Coast Camellia Society, 9th Annual Show, Whitney Bank	January 9-10, 1971
Pensacola, Fla., Men's Camellia Club, Municipal Auditorium	January 9-10, 1971
Lakeland, Fla., Garden Center, Amaryllis and Evergreen Garden Circles	January 16-17, 1971
New Orleans, La., Mall of Lakeside Shopping Center in Metairie, Camellia Club of New Orleans	January 23-24, 1971
Franklinton, La., Franklinton Elementary School Cafeteria, Franklinton Men's Camellia Club	February 6-7, 1971
San Diego, Calif., Floral Building, Balboa Park, San Diego Camellia Society	February 6-7, 1971
Savannah, Ga., Men's Garden Club of Savannah, Citizens & Southern Bank, DeSoto Hilton Complex	February 6-7, 1971
Slidell, La., City Auditorium, Ozone Camellia Club	February 6-7, 1971
Arcadia, Calif., Lecture Hall of the Arboretum, Temple City Camellia Society	February 13-14, 1971
Columbia, S. C., A. C. Flora High School Gymnasium, Mid-Carolina Camellia Society	February 13-14, 1971
Lake Charles, La., New Agricultural Bldg., McNeese State College, Southwest Louisiana Camellia Society	February 13-14, 1971
Redwood City, Calif., Veterans Memorial Bldg., Peninsula Camellia Society	February 13-14, 1971
Atlanta, Ga., North Georgia Camellia Society, Buckhead Lions Club and Atlanta Camellia Society, Lenox Square Auditorium	February 20-21, 1971
Georgetown, S. C., The Council of Garden Clubs in Georgetown, Youth Center	February 20-21, 1971
Memphis, Tenn., Goldsmith Civic Garden Center, Memphis Camellia Society	February 21, 1971
Waycross, Ga., First National Bank, The Federated Garden Clubs of Waycross and the First National Bank	February 25-26, 1971
LaCanada, Calif., Grounds of the Descanso Gardens in conjunction with the Annual Meeting, Los Angeles Camellia Council	February 27-28, 1971
Statesboro, Ga., Statesboro High School Cafeteria, Ogeechee Camellia Society	February 27-28, 1971
Hattiesburg, Miss., First Mississippi National Bank, Corner West Pine and Hardy Sts., Hattiesburg, Miss., The Hattiesburg Camellia Society	February 27-28, 1971
Norfolk, Va., Virginia Camellia Society	March 27-28, 1971
Santa Rosa, Calif., Sonoma County Camellia Society	March 27-28, 1971
Richmond, Va., Richmond Camellia Society	April 3-4, 1971
New Orleans, La., Gulf Coast Camellia Society, 10th Annual Show	January 8-9, 1972

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'Bessie Shearouse', Var.	'Evelyn Poe Blush'	'Leonora Novick'	'Nuccio's Gem'	'Red Emperor', S & V	'Tomorrow's Dawn Delight'
'Buddy Benz'	'Gay Time'	'Marguerite Sears', Var.	'Ole Miss'	'Rob Roy'	'Valentine Day', Var.
'Cavalier'	'Jean's Unsurpassable'				

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'Adele Salley'	'Del Rio'	'George Counts'	'Lisa Gael'	'Moutancha'	'Sugar Daddy', R & V
'Arbutus Gum'	'Descanso Mist'	'Grace Anglin'	'Louise Dovell'	'Nuccio's Red Velvet'	'Thomasville Beauty'
'Bernadette Karsten'	'Dixie Darling'	'Granada', R. & V	'Lula Belle'	'Opal Hearne'	'Valentine Day'
'Bessie Shearouse'	'Doris Ellis'	'Highlight'	'Lurleen Wallace'	'Pink Sparkle'	'Waterlily'
'Betty Jo'	'Evelyn Poe Pink' & Var.	'Hyacinth Thurman'	'Mandalay Queen', R & V	'Punkin' (Min.)'	'War Cry'
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In the International Camellia Journal, Vol. 1, No. 4, March 1970, Mr. S. J. Hazlewood presents evidence that applications of tannin (tannic acid) prevents balling or bullnosing. Using the variety 'LADY ST. CLAIR' ('PINK SHELL') a notorious bud baller, he sprayed the underside of the plant with one pint of household tea solution each day for a week. His results were startling and gratifying. The treatment was repeated after five weeks and some 150 good blooms were produced during the season.

In examining unopened buds of an untreated plant he found the abscission of all petals at the base of the bud had taken place. At the same time he observed that the growth shoots behind the buds were beginning to elongate, indicating that growth auxins were becoming active.

The hypothesis was that the activation of the growth auxins was associated with the abscission of the petals, therefore if the auxin action could be delayed by tannin, flowering could be altered. Powdered wattle (acacia) bark has been used successfully by incorporating it in the soil. A plant adjacent to an English oak (*Quercus rober*) had few bullnosed buds. Redwood bark is used in a potting medium in California with good results.

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Ann English, who is Show Chairman, Mrs. John Taylor and Dana McKinnon, Co-Chairmen and Mrs. Shirley Call, Artistic Chairman, are making every effort to properly organize it and to handle your flowers as they arrive. For schedules and tags, please write either Ann or me at P. O. Box 6057, Orlando, Florida 32803.

We have a wonderful selection of Silver that I think you will all be happy to compete for. Our Silver Award Schedule has been revised to try to cover all entries that we can expect.

I have a block of rooms reserved at the Hilton Inn for our out-of-town visitors. The rates are very reasonable, but we do have to have all reservations in not later than December 28th.

We have also arranged for a cold storage room for your flowers if you arrive Friday before the Show.

We are planning some extra festivities for judges and out-of-town exhibitors, which we will notify you of later.

If there are any other questions, or for reservations, please write me at P. O. Box 6057, and I will answer any questions promptly; also the reservations should come to me and I will have the Hilton Inn acknowledge them directly to you.

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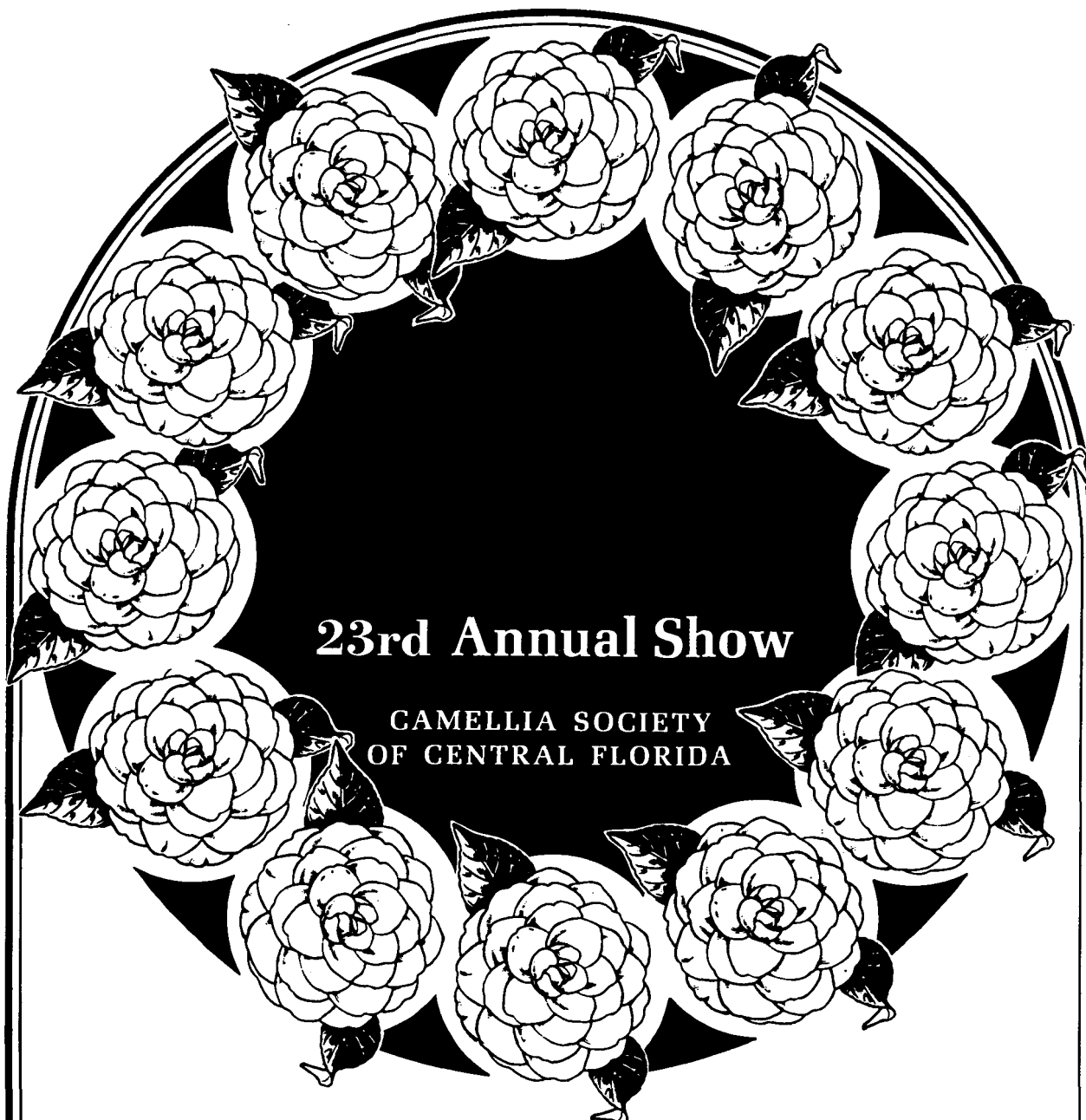
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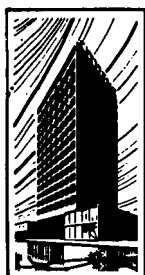


23rd Annual Show

CAMELLIA SOCIETY
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Camellia Crapnelliana

Since Dr. Cutter's fine gift of \$1,000.00 to enable ACS to collect the various Camellia species, we have become interested in locating sources of some of the rarer species.

One of the rarest species is *C. crapnelliana* Tucher, which was described in the Journal of the Linnean Society of London in 1904. The species, known only from the one tree on Mt. Parker in Hong Kong, is conspicuous because of its brick-red bark. The white flowers are 4 inches in diameter with 6 to 8 petals and numerous stamens produced in November and December. *C. granthamiana* described in 1953 from a single tree found in Hong Kong New Territory is closely related but quite distinct. Sealy placed these two species in the section *Heterogenea*.

The Director of the Hong Kong Urban Services sent Mr. Walter Hazelwood of Epping, Australia, a few seeds of *C. crapnelliana* which on last report had germinated. So far as is known this species has not been introduced in America.

Our species collection should prove a very interesting addition to our garden and will be valuable to hybridizers.

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