SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Camellia

SOCIETY BULLETIN

VOL. 10:2

DECEMBER, 1948

Southern California Camellia Society Inc.

ROSTER OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
DR. J. WALTER REEVES
893 S. Gainsborough Dr., Pasadena
RYan 1-6242

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT
MR. FRAZEE BURKE
809 Westchester Pl., Los Angeles
FEderal 5905

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT
MR. HAROLD C. HILL
705 No. Granada Ave., Alhambra
ATlantic 2-3829

SECRETARY-TREASURER
COL. CARROLL M. GALE
40 N. San Rafael Ave., Pasadena
SYcamore 6-3740

DIRECTORS
MR. W. L. RIFENBERICK
1715 Ben Lomond Dr., Glendale
MR. ALVIN J. FINK
1909 Buenos Aires Dr., Covina
MR. ALBERT WIRZ
2712 W. Grand Ave., Alhambra
MR. C. D. COTHRAN
584 Vinton St., Pomona
MR. T. H. SEAVEY
2912 Ross Ave., Alhambra

OFFICIAL BULLETIN:
EDITOR: MR. CLAUDE CHIDAMIAN
2203 W. 21st St., Los Angeles

ADVERTISING MGR.: MR. ALBERT WIRZ
2712 W. Grand Ave., Alhambra
CUmberland 3-1027

BUSINESS MGR.: MR. ALVIN J. FINK
1909 Buenos Aires Dr., Covina 1-1752
Bus. 315 W. 9th St., L. A.
TRinity 7405

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:
Program: Mr. J. Howard Asper
SYlvan 0-1998
Nomenclature: Mr. William Woodroof
STate 4-1352
Inter-Society Relations: Mr. Victor A. Wagoner DOuglas 7-1386
Membership: Mr. John A. Hudlow
SYcamore 9-3504
Prizes: Mr. Harry M. Wammack
CItrus 2-0137
Exhibits: Mrs. Karl Leitz
CHapman 5-1529
Test Garden and Registration: Dr. David W. McLean DOuglas 7-2703
Research: Dr. Walter Lammerts
Librarian: Mrs. C. M. Gale
SYcamore 6-3740

HONORARY MEMBERS

DR. H. HAROLD HUME, Provost, Division of Agriculture, University of Florida
WILLIAM HERTRICH, Curator Emeritus, Huntington Gardens, San Marino, Calif.

PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY, INC.
A Non-Profit Organization
40 No. San Rafael Ave., Pasadena 2, Calif.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: One month's notice required. When requesting change of address, kindly send an address stencil impression from your most recent issue as well as your new address.

Not responsible for unsolicited articles or photographs. No material will be returned unless accompanied by postage in full.

Editorial office: 2203 W. 21st Street . . . Los Angeles 7, Calif.

Published monthly from November to April, and in June and September.

CAMELLIA SASANQUA • ROSY MIST

For a description of this variety see K. Sawada's article, "Southern Sasanquas," C.C.S. *Bulletin,* November 1948, p. 20. The illustration on the inside back cover of this issue is from an original watercolor by Mr. Sawada.

George E. Herrick photo—Courtesy "Home Gardening."

TYPICAL CORKY GROWTHS OF THE LEAF SCURF ON THE UNDERSIDE OF EMPEROR OF RUSSIA FOLIAGE.

A NOTE ON CAMELLIA SCURF

By A. G. Plakidas

In the 1948 *American Camellia Yearbook,* pp. 110-113, the writer described and illustrated six different types of scabby spots on camellia leaves, as they occur in Louisiana and the Deep South in general. These scabby lesions vary greatly in their appearance. Some are black and others snow-white; some are large and angular in outline, and others equally large but circular and provided with concentric cracks. Some occur typically on the upper and others on the under surface of the leaves. One type of spotting, designated in the above article as "Corky Excrescence," and which, in California at least, is known as "Scurf,"[1] is of particular interest, and is the subject of this discussion.

Scurf is characterized by raised, corky outgrowths, typically on the under surface, although occasionally some corky spots may appear on the upper surface of the leaves. The corky spots may occur in small groups, or may cover large areas. They are usually irregular in outline, but sometimes appear in line or angular patterns. On some plants (*C. reticulata,* for example) the corky outgrowths may follow the margin of the leaves.

In Louisiana, the various types of scabby lesions on camellia leaves, including the "corky excresence" or "scurf," although differing greatly in appearance, have this in common: a fungus, *Sphaceloma* sp., is isolated when bits of leaf tissue, cut through the scabby spots, are placed on a suitable culture medium. It should be stated here (1) that members of the genus *Sphaceloma* are proved parasites, causing diseases known as "scabs" on a large number of different plants, and (2) that no saprophytic (non-parasitic) Sphacelomas are known. It was, therefore, logical to assume that the presence of *Sphaceloma* in the scurf lesions on camellia leaves was a strong indication that this fungus was the cause of the disease.

At the same time, it was appreciated that the scurf behaved more like a physiological disturbance than a parasitic disease, as indicated by the following statement by the author in the article referred to above:

> The corky excrescence type is particularly puzzling. The way it breaks out rather suddenly, often occurring on every leaf of a plant, suggests a physiologic disturbance rather than a parasitic disease; however, the writer has obtained a large number (78, to be exact) of Sphaceloma isolations from such material from different sources, and it is not reasonable to assume that the fungus occurred there as a saprophyte.[2]

Since the preparation of the article for the *American Camellia Yearbook,* additional information has been obtained. When the writer learned that apparently the same disease occurred in California, where climatic conditions are different from ours, he was anxious to obtain and study diseased specimens from there, reasoning that, if the same fungus were found associated with the disease in California, it would be supporting evidence that it was the cause of the disease. Accordingly, scurf specimens were obtained from California through the courtesy of Professor H. N. Hansen of Berkeley and Claude Chidamian of Los Angeles. All attempts to isolate the *Sphaceloma* fungus from the California specimens failed. In parallel tests, made at the time with specimens

---

[1] C. Chidamian, "The Camellia Leaf Scurf," *Home Gardening,* VIII (September 1948) 201. [The term "Scurf" was first applied to this disease by the author cited. It was simply a descriptive label invented to serve until the true name of the affection (if any) could be found.—Ed.]

[2] A. G. Plakidas, "Camellia Scab," *American Camellia Yearbook* (American Camellia Society, Gainesville, Fla., 1948), p. 112.

ARABELLA—I have written about this before, a very lovely seedling that has been growing in Sacramento County for a long, long time. It is a Japonica whose flower closely resembles Reticulata—same form, but the color is sort of a brick red.

MARGARETE HERTRICH—A full double white that almost everyone has, but to some it is still new. This variety is a good sturdy upright grower.

PRIDE OF DESCANSO—I like this camellia very much for its nice large white loose peony-type flower, and it is *very* showy

VILLE DE NANTES—This variety is one of the most stunning and unpredictable flowers I have ever seen. We have two fair sized plants here at the Grounds and I have one at home, and none of these will run true to the past year. The first year these plants bloomed for us they were predominantly red, the following year red and white, one year nearly all white, and the next year different again. When the colors are about evenly balanced it is really an exotic flower. Anyone seeing this camellia will not rest until he gets a plant for himself. I may be a little prejudiced about this particular variety, as it has saved me a lot of work at home. Several years ago I brought several camellias home and told my wife these plants would require a little more care than some of the other things in the garden, especially in watering. She wasn't too much interested until the following year when I got a small plant of Ville de Nantes and gave it to her as a gift. I have never had to worry about our camellias drying out or being neglected ever since.

MRS. HOWARD ASPER—A large semi-double pink cup-shaped camellia that is a very fine variety. I know men will go for it especially, because it's quite different and holds up well.

CREPE ROSETTE—A very nice large semi-double deep pink, a very showy flower.

MARY CHARLOTTE—Another lovely pink anemone form camellia that is a "must."

There are many more new varieties that I could mention, but time and space does not permit.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

To accomodate our members and their guests and provide ample space for camellia displays, the meeting place of the Southern California Camellia Society has been changed.

McKINLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Del Mar and Oak Knoll Avenues, Pasadena (Two blocks west of Bullock's Pasadena. The entrance is the first one south of Del Mar, on the west side of Oak Knoll)

Meetings are on the second Thursday of each month, November - April inclusive. Flower display—7:30; Program—8:00 p.m.

COME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS

SELECTING UNDERSTOCK

By David Cook

Much has been said in praise of the virtues of grafted camellias, reams have been written about the ease of performing the operation that can transform an ugly duckling camellia into a highly desirable and valuable new garden camellia. But when I was first approached concerning this article, I immediately started wondering to whom I could turn to "lift" some good sound information relative to the importance of proper understock for grafting. Nobody seems to have given this phase of the subject more than cursory mention, unless you could count a few hurried remarks about the necessity of choosing "vigorous" understock. Therefore, with practically no reference or research to fall back upon, I am forced to draw some conclusions of my own. Bear with me, please.

Camellia understock, desirable commodity that it is, is hard to come by. Nurseries are not overly anxious to part with any; indeed, most of the camellia growers are actively engaged in pursuit of all they may get wind of for their own use. Several large growers, realizing the potential market, have undertaken the growing of greater amounts for understock material, but still the demand exceeds the supply. The average amateur consumer, good prospect though he may be, is largely forced to go far afield, or to cast about in his own collection for some variety he feels he can manage to part with. Therefore, the reason for this article.

Your natural impulse, particularly as regards some non-peforming or otherwise unsatisfactory camellia, is to avenge yourself by "wringing" the offending camellia's neck. If the plant has stubbornly refused to grow, or if it has been otherwise unsatisfactory, why not whack it off about two or three inches above the ground and tie on a scion that you can mooch from some source, and gain for yourself, at little or no expense, something new and desirable? As a nurseryman I perhaps shouldn't answer this question. Go ahead and see what happens, and then next year you can come around to me and buy the plant that you tried to make a graft of for yourself.

Perhaps you find that in your estimable collection you *have* no offending camellias, none that are not excellent performers, highly satisfying in every regard. You want to try your hand at grafting, so you go out to several nurseries on the fruitless search for understock. No understock, offered as such, at any rate, so the next best bet is to try for some overgrown sleepers, great big one or five-gallon plants with thick trunks on 'em. Triumphant, you relieve the nurseryman of some of his overgrown material in rusted-out containers, and scurry about trying to make contacts for some "hot swaps." A brief, sweet session with the grafting tools, a long and anxious sweating-it-out period, and no success. Heh, heh!

Perhaps I shouldn't go so far as to say "no success." You quite possibly may succeed in getting your graft to start off well, or passably well. In a few years time, however, you may expect your understock to be incapable of matching the rate of growth of the top of the plant. Outgrown its roots, so to speak. You've set your precious gem in a mounting of pot-metal. If you would only stop to think for a moment, you would realize that you have behaved in a way that no intelligent farmer, or livestock breeder, or seedsman, or husbandman, or parent, or any other producer would do. You have chosen for that part of the union that must perform the most important duties the weakest, sickliest, scrawniest plant you could lay your hands on. A pot-bound, clubfooted, flint-hearted, bud-dropping camellia that you didn't want

or the nurseryman didn't want, or else he wouldn't have allowed it to get overgrown and unsold in his bins. But don't feel that you're the only one who has committed this error. You're just one of the brotherhood now, brother, we've *all* done it.

Now comes the part where some reference works on the subject would be very handy. None being at hand, we'll grope our way along, and in passing, perhaps we can unearth a few leads that will prove of some sort of value. We can at least pass along our own experiences that have finally borne fruit, proven themselves of value, and that seem likely to continue successful.

We came to the conclusion a few years back that the variety Sarah Frost, for one, made excellent understock. Here are several reasons: easy to propagate from cuttings, vigorous grower, long lived, wide cambium layer, easily worked wood, ability to callus quickly, not strongly inclined toward virus influence. Another variety, suitable for practically identical reasons, is Blood of China. These two, of named varieties, serve admirably. As for seedling material, most of this would likewise fit into the category very neatly. Better yet, cuttings grown from seedlings.

Understock material should be grown as carefully as the finest named variety. Regular feedings, sprayings, transplanting, root expansion, all the practices commonly observed in the production of varieties grown to be sold as named plants, are necessary for maximum success with grafted camellias.

In some rather recent issues of *Home Gardening Magazine,* the well-known Mr. K. Sawada of Mobile, Alabama, made some very interesting and scholarly observations on the grafting of camellias. Notable was the mention of the fact that he had procured a higher percentage of variegated flowers by using red flowered understock than he had by using white or pink flowered understock. He also stressed that his most highly variegated flowers were produced from using very large *and* vigorous understock.

Variegation caused by grafting, or attributable to grafting, will not always be persistent, but an interesting aspect and possibility presents itself here in that so long as a grafted plant produces variegated flowers, from whatever the cause, be it virus or extra stimulus, scion wood taken from this variegated plant may be grafted to increase the probability of perpetuating the variegation. The current great demand is for variegated flowers, in preference to the solid color flowers, which is perhaps fortunate in that understock influence may tend to produce this variegation even where it is not expressly desired. The average consumer will be pleasantly surprised rather than disappointed if his supposedly solid color flower turns out to be variegated. This will save much face among those propagators whose understock is otherwise invisibly infected with virus. (It is a shame that we can't find some more suitable name than "virus" for the "interesting" condition of a camellia that can cause the beautifully mottled leaves and variegated flowers we all admire.)

In closing, mention should also be made of the suitability of the *Camellia Sasanqua* as understock. It is likewise easily rooted, fast growing, and well adapted as "feet" for the less hardy or rare varieties of Japonicas. Before you waste good scions, spend some time in search of vigorous well suited understock, rather than utilize some trash you may have at hand. You will be rewarded with a grafted plant that will continue to grow thriftily even after the top has caught up with the understock. The grafted top cannot be expected to do justice to itself if you limit it by tying it onto poor, weak stunted roots.

FOR SWEETNESS AND CHARM PLANT SASANQUAS

By Roma Coolidge Mulvihill

To the devotee of the simple form, the *Camellia Sasanqua* adds yet another worthy subject to the more familiar group of single and semi-double flowers. While their popularity may never equal that of the double and more formal types of the Japonicas, we note that within the last five years the Sasanquas are growing in favor, not only with the artistically inclined, but with those who enjoy an unpretentious naturalness above all else.

It has been said that in China and Japan the Japonicas, with their heavy flowers and stiff uprightness, are more often than not relegated to some obscure spot in the garden, while the delicate Sasanquas, with their open, airy habit of growth, are accorded the places of honor.

Observation over a period of twenty years has proved to the writer that the Sasanquas have a far more various adaptability than the Japonicas, despite the fact that small foliaged plants are often difficult to use in a given planting or landscape scheme. First and foremost they can be successfully grown in full sun, even if their foliage is slightly lighter green in color than when planted in partial shade. Also, when given deep shade, they bloom much more freely than do the Japonicas under similar conditions.

About twenty-seven years ago, D. W. Coolidge imported a quantity of seed from Japan, and from this start the kinds known as Briar Rose, Blanchette, Tanya, White Doves, and Minina were the first Sasanquas to be introduced to the trade in California (approximately eighteen years ago). All of this group were named by the writer.

With the exception of White Doves, the above are single, each with some distinguishing difference in color and form. Two features in common are their lovely golden stamens and a faint, woodsy fragrance. Briar Rose, a soft silvery pink, with slightly twisted petals, is somewhat slower in growth and more dwarf than the remainder of the group. Appleblossom, although a larger flower, closely resembles its prototype, and, like Blanchette (a pure white), is erect and tall in growth habit. The watermelon pink Tanya is a pendulous type and, as exemplified in the McCaskill garden here in Pasadena, makes a most charming hedge which can be successfully cropped and kept within the required bounds. White Doves has a feathery fragility, a delight to behold. It, like Tanya, is classed as pendulous or trailing, and can be kept low as a ground cover, or, when given support, may be coaxed up into the oaks or other spreading trees where its blossoms make a shower of white. Minina's foliage differs somewhat in color, being slightly grayer and with a noticeably serrate edge. These dainty lilac-pink flowers are larger than the other single forms and do not fall as readily. This upright type also makes an attractive hedge. All of the foregoing espalier beautifully against a wall or trellis, or they may be trained on wire to edge a path exactly as the deciduous fruit trees are so abundantly used in the European countries. For pot or tub specimens they are most pleasing, and used in harmony with other small leaved evergreens or, where desirable, for contrast to the bolder foliaged plants, they fill a much felt want.

Today there are a few other singles and semi-doubles in the trade, and at an early date some rarely beautiful kinds will be available.

Culture identical with that of the Japonicas is recommended, and with imagination and an investigating green thumb, beautiful effects may be obtained with the charmingly simple Sasanquas.

NEWS NOTES

The Pacific Camellia Society has elected the following officers for the coming season: President, Roy T. Thompson; Vice-President, J. A. Muller; Treasurer, Mrs. George P. Clifford; Secretary, Frank W. Barley, Jr.; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Frank H. Overton. Directors for 1948-49 are: Dr. John H. Clairmont, Dr. Winston E. Squire, Mrs. E. L. Korts, Edmund K. Greer, and Mrs. H. E. Winn. Mr. Thompson continues as Editor of the society's bulletin.

Meetings are held at the Tuesday Afternoon Club, Glendale, at 8 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month from November to April inclusive, and on the third Thursday of each month from January to March inclusive. Officers are elected annually at the last meeting of the season.

The San Diego Camellia Society installed the following officers at its May meeting to hold office until new appointments are made by the Board of Directors to be elected in April 1949; President, Stanley W. Miller; Vice-President, L. L. Carringer; Secretary, Mrs. C. S. Campbell; Treasurer, Frances Wills.

Monthly meetings are held at 8 p.m. from November through May on the second Friday of each month at Dartlee Hall, 3680 - 6th Avenue, San Diego.

Volume 1 Number 1 of the Central California Camellia Society Bulletin was dated June 4, 1948. Editor, Associate Editor, and Publisher M. M. Hayden (That's how it is on the masthead) manages the whole thing with a light touch. For example, he has a big contest on to find a new name for his publication. The prize 'One old Reticulata seed pod,' or if you'd rather, 'One pound slightly used peat moss.'

It's good to know there is at least one camellia editor in the world who still has a sense of humor—but then, that was only the first issue and he hasn't tried to run any advertising yet. He'll find out.

Officers for the Fresno group are: President, Milo E. Rowell; First Vice-President, Hilliard Giffen; Second Vice-President, Arlo H. Fairall; Treasurer, Mrs. Ralph Watson; Secretary, Mrs. Frank L. Pettey.

Mrs. Barlow Hollingshead, Editor of the Northern California Camellia Society's fine Bulletin, sends the following data on the Oakland group. Officers for 1948-49 are: President, D. L. Feathers; Vice-President, Dr. Walker M. Wells; Secretary-Treasurer, Barlow Hollingshead. Directors for the coming season include: L. P. Glaudon, Louis J. Macchia, Harold L. Paige, and Dr. Gordon W. Richmond.

The regular monthly meetings are held on the first Monday in each month from October to May inclusive, at the Chabot School Auditorium, Chabot Road at Patton Street, Oakland. The program begins at 8 p.m., with a bloom display from 7:30 to 8. Members of the S.C.C.S. are cordially invited to attend when in the East Bay area.

1949 CAMELLIA SHOW CANCELLED

During the first half of the year numerous inquiries were received from the East and South as to the date of our 1949 show. In July your Board of Directors set the date as February 26th and 27th, in order that camellia fans from the eastern half of the country could stop off here for our show on their way to the meeting of the American Camellia Society in Sacramento, the first week end in March. At a conference between some of our officers and those of the Pacific Camellia Society of Glendale, this date was announced and the Pacific group scheduled their show in Glendale for February 12th and 13th.

Immediately after our Board Meeting in July, Secretary Gale phoned the Pasadena Commissioner of Parks and reserved the Fannie E. Morrison Horticultural Center for February 26th and 27th. The dates were later confirmed by letter. The show was widely publicized through the quarterly News-Letter of the American Camellia Society and by correspondence. There has been much correspondence from individuals intending to visit our show en route to the American Camellia Society's Sacramento meeting. Special cars have been scheduled from New Orleans, Atlanta, and Macon to arrive in Pasadena on the morning of February 25th.

Under the date October 25th, 1948, three months later, Pasadena's Park Superintendent wrote the Southern California Camellia Society stating that the dates previously agreed upon were not available. A copy of this letter follows:

I am sorry to have to inform you that the Fannie E. Morrison Horticultural Center will not be available for your show on the dates of February 26th and 27th, 1949. When you were in touch with this department some weeks ago, these dates were open, but according to our contract with the Pasadena Flower Show Association, they have first call on the buildings during the months of March and April—and October and November each year, with the privilege of reserving time for an additional 30 days any time during the year. A few weeks ago they notified me they would hold their Spring Flower Show next year early in March, and have reserved the buildings starting February 15th, 1949. In view of this fact, we would be unable to rent the building to anyone after February 15th, 1949 until May 1st.

I am very sorry this has worked out as it has, and I am endeavoring to have their contract changed so that the Pasadena Flower Show Association will have definite dates and we will be able to make reservations without waiting for notice from them.

Sincerely yours,

[*Signed*] H. B. GARWOOD,
Park Superintendent

Following receipt of this letter a most earnest effort was made by our Board with the Park Commissioner and the Pasadena Flower Show Committee to recall the cancellation of our dates, with no success.

Meanwhile, your Board of Directors gave exhaustive consideration to many alternative possibilities. The final decision regretfully reached was that there was no other adequate setting for our show and that it must be called off.

It is the earnest hope of your officers that visitors from the East and South will route through here and stop over anyway. The Pacific Society has moved its show dates to those we have vacated, February 26th and 27th, and has, we are informed, laid comprehensive plans for a magnificent camellia display in the Civic Auditorium in Glendale. The monthly meeting of the

Southern California Camellia Society is scheduled to be held at our new and enlarged quarters on the evening immediately preceding their show. To this meeting the entire Southern and Eastern delegations as well as guests of our own members are invited. It is anticipated that some of the prominent guests will participate in this program.

Committees are planned to provide for the comfort and entertainment of our out-of-state guests. It will be the pleasure of the committees to conduct them to the many local points of interest to camellia lovers, including the Test Garden at the Huntington Botanical Gardens. In addition, trips will be made to the many fine nurseries, among which are the places of origin of some of our finest varieties and where extensive hybridizing is conducted. We will spare no effort to make the stay of these many visitors pleasant and well worth while.

Our friends and members who had looked forward to a newer and finer show this season can be assured that your officers, directors, and committees will exert themselves to the utmost to compensate for the much regretted necessity for cancelling this year's display. It is hoped that we can all look forward to the renewal next season of what has become internationally recognized as one of the outstanding annual civic events in Southern California.

J. WALTER REEVES,
President, S.C.C.S.

THE EDITORIAL

Twenty years ago the only modern European book on the camellia was published in Catania, Sicily. It was a slender paperbound volume without photos or drawings; the author, G. B. Tirocco, called it simply LA CAMELIA. But the modest text contained some of the finest pages in all camellia literature.

It is a unique work in many ways. Unlike all the other European books on the subject, it is devoted to the culture of camellias out-of-doors, not under glass. The warm Mediterranean shores of southern France and Italy furnish the locale for Signor Tirocco's discussion. One might substitute the word *Pacific Coast* anywhere in the text without altering the sense of it in the least.

Time and again the author calls on the leading growers of Italy and France, both amateur and professional, for their opinion on points of controversy. Letters, books, and articles are freely quoted, virtually making the text a symposium of the best camellia information available in Europe.

A list of the chapter headings reveals the scope of the work: I Introduction, II Generalities, III Botanical Notes, IV Genera and Species, V Principal Varieties, VI Soil, VII Choice of Containers for Camellia Culture, VIII Camellias from Seed, IX Propagation of Camellias, X Pruning Camellias, XI The Best Exposure for Camellias, XII Shelters for Camellias, XIII Pests and Diseases.

I am very pleased to announce that the first English translation of this work will appear serially in the pages of our Bulletin, through the interest and cooperation of Dr. Reeves, our president, and the Board of Directors. It is our very special way of wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

CLAUDE CHIDAMIAN

CAMELLIAS IN ARRANGEMENTS AND CORSAGES[1]

By Mrs. William J. Roth

Successful flower arranging, whether it be for the home or for flower shows, starts in the garden. Pick the loveliest blooms that you can find, as near the stage of perfection as possible. Picking a flower that has passed its prime is a waste of time since it has lost its luster and hasn't the vitality to last for the duration of the show. Besides, if camellias are not fresh, they will fall apart when you attempt to put wires through them, and finger marks will quickly become apparent.

Blooms Should Vary in Size

Be sure that the flowers you pick are different in size, for this will break the monotony of your arrangements. If the blossoms are all the same size, there will not be any gradation, which is so necessary in a circular arrangement. In such an arrangement, the largest bloom is the center of attraction and should be the most beautiful and perfect bloom. Then you taper off with flowers smaller and smaller in size.

Selecting Foliage

Pick the foliage at the same time you pick the flowers. If there is a twig on the bush that you would ordinarily prune off later, take it now while you are making the arrangement, saving the branches that will bloom for you next year. Take off the small, insignificant branches inside the bush. Nine times out of ten, those little inside branches will have more grace than the outside branches, because they have been striving to reach the light. You will also get a variation in color of foliage on those inside branches.

Artificial Stems

Since camellias do not grow so rampantly as fuchsias or roses or pyracanthas, which all produce an abundance of long branches, it is customary to twist the camellia blossoms off at the base without any stem, so as to conserve the wood. That is why we provide camellia blooms with artificial stems by wiring them with soft wire which will bend readily, without tearing the flowers apart when we are fashioning them into flower arrangements or corsages. I find that even when I am making a low arrangement of camellias, I still need the wire stems to hold them in position. Remember that in an arrangement you are going to make that flower do what you want it to do, and since camellias have no real stems, you have to form artificial stems. One advantage of the wire stem is that it can be twisted to make the flower face exactly the way you want it.

Simplicity in Arrangements

Keep your arrangements simple and avoid over-crowding. Even in a massed arrangement the flowers should not be crowded. Let each individual flower speak for itself. Remember there is beauty in that separate bloom, and squeezing it against another bloom will only detract from that beauty. It is much better to use foliage to enhance the beauty of a single flower.

A figurine should be used in an arrangement only if it has a definite place. Merely using a figurine to fill up a hollow space is meaningless. An elaborate figurine is out of place in a simple flower arrangement because it will dwarf the beauty of the blossoms. The figurine should serve to draw attention *to* the flower, not *away* from it.

---

[1] Reprinted from the *Bulletin* of the Northern California Camellia Society, II (October 1948), 11-13.

Introducing Height into Camellia Arrangements

Camellias, tuberous begonias, and fuchsias take almost the same treatment in flower arrangements. Each of these flowers is round with short or weak stems so that they are used as flowers alone rather than as sprays. It is not possible to get the same graceful, upright lines that you can get with roses, gladiolus, or with the stately iris. You have to depend upon other sources for height. Candles, figurines, or even a tall piece of glass or granite—any suitable accessory that will build height—may be combined with camellias. Turquoise candles are lovely with pale pink camellias.

Camellias in themselves are versatile because there are so many different types from which to choose. There is Lotus which is cup-shaped like a magnolia blossom. There are the many rose-forms which are similar to tuberous begonias. And there are the smaller singles, such as Amabilis and Apple Blossom. The smaller blooms may be grouped together to give about the same effect as one large bloom.

Camellias With Other Flowers

Camellias may be grouped beautifully with other flowers or with foliage or spring blossoms. Naturally, the camellias should predominate, but the other flowers are complementary to the camellias.

Christmas Arrangements

In the December 1947 issue of *Sunset* magazine, there were three pages of flower arrangements, in all of which camellias could have been substituted.

For my Christmas arrangements, I collected a variety of dried material, such as onion seed, agapanthus or Lily of the Nile, thistle, eucalyptus, gladiolus stalks without the petals, acorn cups, aralia leaves, and magnolia leaves. All these were silvered, using 25 cents worth of aluminum paint obtained at the dime store. After a vigorous shaking, the contents of the bottle are poured into a one-pound coffee can. The material to be gilded is swished around in the aluminum paint, and the parts that are not covered with paint are touched up with a brush. The dried and silvered material will last a long time.

Pin frogs (Freezons) of all sizes and shapes are necessary. When buying these, be sure they have as sharp points as possible so that stems can be pushed into them without much resistance.

The taller pieces of foliage or stalks that you wish to use for height or for background material, are cut to different lengths and placed in a needle-type holder (Freezon). The lower part of the arrangement is then filled in with camellias which can be replaced every few days to keep the arrangement looking fresh.

For another Christmas arrangement, I used four red candles fastened to a small oblong board. A long and narrow pin frog is placed parallel to the board. Camellia branches, bent to the desired curves, are then placed into the pin frog, low on the left side and about candle height on the right side. Red camellia blooms—or white ones—are then placed low among the leaves.

For a Christmas-time door arrangement, I used two large pine cones with magnolia leaves that had been gilded with gold paint. Metallic ribbon was used to make a bow, and one strip of the ribbon was used to hang down through the center. Two camellias are attached to the strip of ribbon and one at the top. Dark red blooms show up beautifully, but white blossoms will look very nice too.

(Continued on page 22)

DDT ON CAMELLIAS

By G. R. Gorton

Because of the fact that injury has occurred from DDT formulations used either directly on camellia plants or on overhanging trees which drained on to camellias, an attempt was made to compile some information on experiences of various growers throughout the state on the use of these materials.

One record from a nursery in the north indicated that they used DDT on azaleas and camellias. They started with an original dosage of 1 pound of actual DDT to 100 gallons of water, made from 50% wettable DDT; this means 2 pounds 50% wettable per 100 gallons. The azaleas were sprayed several times for thrips; the dosage gradually increased. Some injury was found on the variety Paul Schame, only. In another instance, young camellia cuttings in 2-inch pots were sprayed several times with DDT of uncertain concentration, but apparently more than 1 pound of actual DDT per 100 gallons. Only the variety Cheerful showed injury in the form of brown spots on the leaves.

I have another report from a nursery in Southern California that an application was made of 1 pound actual DDT, or the equivalent in the form of 50% wettable at the rate of 2 pounds per 100 gallons, used in rather liberal quantity to wet the soil sufficiently to spray for Brachyrhinus larvae. Some months afterward the block was checked for possible injury. The observation of the pest control man in this nursery was that the plants in a lathhouse having a top of wire camouflage, such as was used during the war and had been weathered so thin that the plants received more light than they would under a normal lathhouse, were the most affected. These were plants in 5-gallon cans. Apparently those in deeper shade were less affected. A black stem condition in treated plants was noted in some varieties, particularly Emperor of Russia and Fimbriata. This occurred on plant stems and mature hard wood only. The leaves and flower buds remained normally green. After several months the black streaked bark peeled from the plants in long thin threads, disclosing normal tissue below. No plants were lost from the treatment. All plants grew normally; no leaves or buds were dropped and the propagator went on using wood from them with normal results.

In the Sacramento-Yolo County Mosquito Abatement District a series of tests was run, because of the fact that the residents in this district were afraid of injury to camellias from DDT formulations used for mosquito control. An area was selected in which no plantings of camellias were present, and camellias placed in tubs were spaced variously to simulate conditions which might occur in yard plantings. There were six such tests, the material being used in an aerosol, applied by jeeps at a distance of about 8 feet from the curb. This is not quite comparable to spraying either camellias directly or spraying trees overhead, but it is interesting as supplementary data.

Test A—5% DDT in a summer oil; a very light one, incidentally.

Test B—Same formulation, except that the concentration of DDT was 10%.

Test C—Same as Test A, except there was 1 gallon of 25% DDT added to 14 gallons of the oil as a fortification.

Test D—1 gallon of 25% DDT concentrate plus 4 gallons Diesel oil.

Test E—Same as Test D only more heavily applied.

Test F—5% solution applied 8 times at 5-day intervals.

In the tests were 128 plants of 42 varieties:

Mrs. John Laing	Ville de Lyon	Red Eagle
Wm. Downing	Belgium Red	C. M. Hovey
Wakanoura Var.	Caprice	Pink Perfection
Duchess de Cases	Rose Pink	Tricolor Peony
Alba Plena	French Peony	Red Walker
Wakanoura Red	Elizabeth Arden	Augusta Wilson
Eureka Var.	Snowball	Jarvis Red
Empress of India	Deep Pink	Carter Seedling No. 3
Beni Karoko	Montironi Var.	Purity Var.
Warratah	Bella Romana	Jordan's Pride
Mme. Le Bois	Debutante	Black Prince
Valtevareda	Romany	Purity
Normandy	Variabilis	Rosita
Montironi	Goshoguruma	Victor Emmanuel

The conclusion reached from all these experiments was that the 5% DDT in summer oil, in other words—very light oil, in an aerosol had not, under those conditions, harmed camellias; but it must be remembered that the spraying unit does not approach closer than 20 feet. This is of academic rather than practical interest compared with our type of spraying here.

A nurseryman in Sacramento County sprayed 1,000 plants in 1- and 5-gallon cans, two years ago, with DDT standard dosage, 1 pound actual DDT per 100 gallons with an Aresket spreader. The nurseryman reported that 5 Cheerful plants died about 6 months after they were sprayed, but looked all right 2 months after treatment. Later the leaves turned yellow and the plants eventually died. Perhaps it is questionable whether this is entirely due to the spray, since there were other plants of the same variety which did not die. However, Cheerful appears to be a doubtful variety as to tolerance. The other varieties sprayed in this lot of 1,000 were Chandleri Elegans, Prof. Sargent, C. M. Hovey, and Elena Nobile. These were not injured.

The previous year the same nurseryman dusted a lot of cuttings with 5% DDT dust, and states that cuttings of Cheerful, Tricolor Peony and Colonel Firey were killed, while other varieties were uninjured.

(Continued on page 23)

TEST GARDEN TOPICS

By David W. McLean

REGISTRATION OF A NEW VARIETY was authorized by the Board of Directors at its meeting October 6th, upon recommendation of the Test Garden and Registration Committee. William Woodroof, Chairman of our Nomenclature Committee and Prof. Roy J. Wilmot, Director of the Nomenclature Project and Test Garden at Gainesville, Florida, had passed upon the availability of the name. William Hertrich and Vern McCaskill, Consultants to the Registration Committee, had approved the botanical features of the variety for registration. A certificate has been forwarded to Herbert C. Swim who signed the application for the Armstrong Nurseries, producers of the newcomer; publication of the following description "clinches" certification.

Welcome—PRINCE CHARMING, a seedling from an assortment of seed from selected parents. The plant first bloomed on March 15, 1944; it was three to four years old by grafts. Its foliage is near Yew Green (Pl. 31, Ridg.) on top; under surfaces of leaves are near Rainette Green (Pl. 31, Ridg.). The leaf is ovate-lanceolate, apex acuminate, glossy above and semi-glossy beneath; length, 7-11cm.; width, 5-7cm.; veining is pinnate with prominent midrib showing above and below.

The flower buds are long and pointed, with sepals broadly ovate in outline, strongly cupped about the buds with sharp apical points; the lower sepals are almost scale-like, with sepals becoming scarious when the flower is fully open.

The camellia PRINCE CHARMING has a flower varying in form from anemone (Madge Miller type) to formal double (Alba Plena type), 3 to 3½ inches in size, with 38 to 44 petals and an occasional central tuft of 25 to 30 petaloids. Its color is Neyron Rose (Pl.623, p.76, *Hort. Colour Chart*), with the margins of its petals slightly lighter in tone. It blooms in January, February, and March.

The plant is compact, tall, and well branched, with moderately heavy growth clothed with abundant foliage. PRINCE CHARMING will be available in limited quantities in 1948 and 1949. It is being propagated by the Armstrong Nurseries and will be patented. A plant will be placed in the Test Garden.

WITH THE NEW CAMELLIA FLOWER SEASON comes also the harvesting of last year's "fruit," as old texts called camellia seed. The harvest from the Huntington Botanical Gardens is large, amounting this year to some thirty thousand seed. Following the custom of previous years since inauguration of the Test Garden, the Curator turned over to the Test Garden Committee several packages of *C. japonica* seed. In previous years this seed has been divided among those contributors to the Garden who might be interested; in those days there were many contributors of a plant or two, or of a few scions. This year and last, activities have been more largely centered in the hands of the Committee. It seemed desirable therefore to sell the seed for the benefit of the Test Garden Fund. One order for a thousand seed has already come in from a ranch in Oklahoma.

A handful or two of these seeds—2½c each to members, 5c to others—(per seed, not per handful), would give any camellia fan a thrill. Put them in peat moss that is quite damp, but not so wet that you can squeeze water from it, in a jar (*a la* Tourje), on top of the hot water heater for warmth (*a la* Asper), and take them out for a looksee every couple of weeks. When

they germinate and the tap root is 1 to 1¼ inches long, pinch off the end and pot the seed in a 2½-inch pot, using 1/3 soil or leaf mold (equal parts of each if your soil is heavy), 1/3 sand, and 1/3 peat moss. Plant the seed so just the top shows. Sink the pots in a flat of sand or peat so moisture can be maintained. In a short time the root system will fill the pot and sprout through the bottom hole; then advance to larger pots. Another way is to knock them out of the pots and see if the roots have reached the sides; if so, advance.

Then if you really want to make your hair curl without benefit of hot irons, permanents or wave sets, string 100-watt electric lamps three or four feet above the young plants and watch them shoot up (technique *a la* Asper). Feed them this high nitrogen grow-while-you-look plant food (Descanso, Lammerts), and Brother will you get a thrill! At the Rancho del Descanso they set buds on them in a year and a half. And if you are lucky enough to win a ten-thousand-to-one chance, you will have another "Prince Charming" to register. If you are not so lucky, you'll have some good understock for future grafting. All this for 2½c per each!

THE NEW CENTRAL VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY held the first meeting of its first regular season on Friday evening, October 15th. From these parts there went forth President Walter Reeves and Vice-President Hal Hill. From La Canada went the Asper family complete with Mrs. Howard Asper wearing a "Mrs. Howard Asper." From up the line Harry Wammack trickled in, and en route home from Reno, this Scared Scribbler complete with Girl Friend Hazel.

President and Mrs. Rowley and Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths, of Fresno, entertained the visiting firemen at dinner and afterward conducted us to the meeting place. Attendance at the meeting was about sixty, out of a membership already totalling about ninety. Nice going, Central Valley!

Howard Asper gave a splendid talk on camellia culture; Walter Reeves drew tickets from the hat for some very fine prizes on which the lucky winners can practice Howard's culture.

What has this to do with the Test Garden? Plenty. This Scribbler was there to tell them about that project, which he did, from Anne Galli's first vision to the present moment; the future scope of the Test Garden as a repository for camellia varieties from all over the world; the fact that we and all of our affiliates may well be proud to be connected with such a project; and that if any one thing justifies our whole activity, that is very well apt to be it.

TEMPLE CITY IS IN THE PROCESS of organizing a camellia society. Long known for its interest in camellias, having called itself for several years past the Camellia City and having staged outstanding camellia festivals, this is a logical step for it to take.

President Reeves attended the first meeting with Vic Wagoner, Chairman of our Intersociety Committee. This still-Scared Scribbler went along to tell them about the Test Garden, after Brothers Reeves and Wagoner had told them of the other activities of camellia societies in general and ours in particular. They set the date of their next organization meeting for the following week. Watch Temple City!

What has all that to do—all right, we're coming to that. Both Fresno and Temple City wondered if it would be possible for them to some day

make up a group for a conducted tour of the Garden. A Test Garden tour for affiliate societies would be a nice objective for the coming season. We'll work on it.

CURATOR EMERITUS HERTRICH informs us that a letter from Mr. Francis Hanger, Curator of the Royal Horticultural Society's garden at Wisley, mentions a successful cross between *C. reticulata* and *C. saluenensis,* creating a new variety named Salutation. He is on the trail of information as to the technique and other details of the successful operation, tried unsuccessfully many times before. Perhaps it was the species Reticulata rather than the variety we have in our gardens, supposed to be a hybrid. While Mr. Hertrich is keeping on the trail of the propagator, we'll keep on *his* trail and hope for a detailed report for you in the near future.

OUR SOCIETY'S FIRST 1948-49 MEETING, on November 11th, packed a couple of thrills for this Scribe. When Editor Chidamian, during his splendid talk, spoke of the Italian camellia book he has translated for serial publication in our Bulletin—better not let your subscription expire!—and mentioned the chapter devoted to description of Italian varieties, your Scribe began turning over the possibility of somehow getting some of those Italian varieties for the Test Garden. Wheels are already in motion.

After showing the Kodachrome slides of plates from Verschaffelt's books, published about a hundred years ago, we went back into the audience and established ourself on an aisle seat. William Wylam, earnest co-worker with last year's Test Garden Committee in bringing in 140 Australian varieties, sat next door. Bill leaned over and whispered, "Some of the varieties shown on the screen, which you said had been lost, are in the group brought in from Australia." Imagine!

Back of us sat Mrs. John B. Wright, Secretary to Curator Ronald Townsend. At the close of the meeting she told your Scribe that she is going East, and to Boston, in December and would be glad to look up the missing data for slides Number 110 to 150, from the original volumes of Verschaffelt. The next day Robert Casamajor phoned to say that his sister in New York is very much interested in horticultural matters and could get the missing data from the Verschaffelt books in the New York Public Library. It sure pays to get around!

WHEN HE CAME TO TOWN for the S.C.C.S. meeting on the 11th, Jerry Olrich, Superintendent of the State Capitol Grounds, brought with him from Sacramento a plant of the species *C. hongkongensis* which he placed in the Test Garden.

SEEDS OF THE SPECIES Cuspidata, Oleosa, and Sinensis were obtained last year from a correspondent in China. They were successfully germinated at the Test Garden and the young plants are making excellent growth.

A letter recently received from the same correspondent informs us that some time ago he sent two runners into Yunnan Province, where the species *C. Pitardii* and *C. reticulata* grow wild, to obtain seed for the Test Garden. These runners recently sent word back to Chungking that they had found some of the seed, which they will bring back and which will reach the Test Garden propagation house in due time. An interesting game this—what?

Interesting too is the fact that last year's letter from the Chinese correspondent came by Chinese Air Mail. At 25c per ½ ounce, the letter carried three postage stamps of $30,000 each! This year's letter came by International Air Mail and cost only 10c per ½ ounce, yet it carried six stamps of $100,000 each—index of the progress inflation has made in China during the past year.

CONGRATULATIONS AND A FEW TEARS are in order at this point.

The first contact of this year's Test Garden Committee with the Test Garden was also our first contact with the General Director of the Huntington Library, Art Gallery and Botanic Gardens, Dr. John Ewart Wallace Sterling. We were immediately captured by the fine cordiality, the splendid personality of this man. Later, in the midst of problems incident to the Garden and its affairs, we were impressed by Dr. Sterling's depth of understanding, his breadth of vision, his loyalty to his institution and to your society's association with it. We have congratulated ourselves, and on every occasion the members of our society, on having as Director in Chief a man so splendidly qualified.

Now we must stop congratulating ourselves and shed a few tears while we at the same time congratulate Dr. Sterling. As we go to press, the announcement comes that Dr. Sterling has been elected President of Stanford University.

Dr. Sterling was born in Linwood, Ontario, and received his B.A. from the University of Toronto and his M.A. from the University of Alberta. He taught history in Regina College and the University of Alberta; spent five years at Stanford University as research assistant in the Hoover Library on War, Revolution and Peace. He received his Ph.D. from Stanford in 1938.

Later, Dr. Sterling became Harkness Professor of History and Human Relations at the California Institute of Technology, where he also served on the Executive Committee which aids the president in formulating policy for that institution. He came to the Huntington Library last July.

We know we speak not only for our own committee but for the entire membership of the Southern California Camellia Society in offering Dr. Sterling heartiest congratulations and earnest good wishes for happiness and success in his new work.

CAMELLIA ARRANGEMENTS . . .

(Continued from page 12)

Camellia Corsages

Camellia corsages are very popular and are quite easy to make. Agai be sure to pick only fresh blooms so that the flower will not shatter whi it is being worn.

You will need zinc corsage wire, flower collars, wrapping wire, and gree or white florist's tape, all of which may be obtained at a wholesale florist supply shop.

The first step in making a camellia corsage is to fasten three camell leaves onto a paper collar with a wire stapler. Then place this aside.

Now, holding the camellia bloom gently but firmly by the tiny ste part, with fingernails of thumb and index finger, run a corsage wire throug the base of the blossom so that the bloom is at the center of the wire. The bend the wires down to form a stem. It may be necessary to insert anoth corsage wire at right angles to the first, to hold the bloom more securely.

Next, insert the stem through the collar, pushing the collar up again the calyx as far as it will go. Then, wind the wire stem with green or whi florist's tape its full length, beginning at the collar.

Two flowers are generally used for one corsage. Where two or mo flowers are used, they are wired individually as above, the stems are be in any desired direction, and then the two stems are wired together, beir careful not to crowd the blossoms against each other when winding the stem If the flowers are kept pointing downward during this operation, you w not crush them. No wires should show in the finished corsage, so that t stems will look natural and also to protect the garment from stains.

Some people prefer the camellia corsage to consist of just one flower ar foliage. Others consider a ribbon bow an enhancement. I like to use a fi rosette type of bow for a corsage, preferably narrow metallic ribbon, whi is again being imported from Europe.

Last but not least, be sure your corsage is fastened securely to the garme with an adequate pin.

AMONG THOSE PRESENT

MRS. WILLIAM J. ROTH of San Francisco doesn't claim to be a flower arrangement expert, but one look at her record leads us to think otherwise. At the 1947 Northern California Camellia Society Show, Mrs. Roth received the Award of Merit for her group of arrangements, and at the San Francisco Camellia Shows of 1945, 1946, and 1947 she walked off with scores of ribbons—mostly blue. Mrs. Roth is also well known in the Bay Area for her excellent talks to flower groups; in fact, the article in this issue is from a talk given at a N.C.C.S. meeting last year. Because the article emphasizes holiday arrangements, we thought it particularly appropriate for our December issue.

G. R. GORTON is well known to our readers as a contributor to the Bulletin and as Deputy Agricultural Commissioner in charge of quarantine for Los Angeles County. Mr. Gorton's article is an excellent sequel to William Hertrich's DDT report in the Bulletin, March 1947, p.3.

MRS. ROMA COOLIDGE MULVIHILL is President and General Manager of Coolidge Rare Plant Gardens, Ltd. Although perhaps better known as the home of High Hat, Gen. George Patton, and a dozen other fine camellias, the Coolidge Gardens are also the source of some of the West's finest Sasanquas. To conclude our series of articles on this species, we are particularly fortunate to have Mrs. Mulvihill's own account of the Coolidge Sasanquas.

DDT ON CAMELLIAS . . .

(Continued from page 14)

There was also some dusting in another location, done with 5% DDT. Some varieties were somewhat injured. Summarizing these data indicates that dusting with 5% DDT may be harmful to varieties like Cheerful, Tricolor Peony, Colonel Firey (C. M. Hovey). Cheerful is frequently mentioned as being injured by DDT sprays or dusts.

At the Huntington Gardens the varieties injured were: Daikagura, Dr. McLean, Apple Blossom (Countess of Orkney), E. H. Rust, and Cheerful.

In the case of the damage at the Huntington Gardens it was indicated that there was translocation of the toxic material. Where damage was noted promptly, and the plants cut back severely, no further damage occurred, whereas if this was not done, the plants died.

It frequently happens that camellias are planted under oak trees, and the oak trees sprayed for oak moth with DDT are likely to drip down on the camellias.

The camellias themselves are not as often sprayed with DDT as other plants; usually for Brachyrhinus or thrips. If sprayed with 2 pounds of 50% DDT per 100 gallons of water (equaling 1 pound of actual DDT to 100 gallons) with a spreader without oil, unless it is a small quantity of very light summer oil or pine oil, it is not so likely to be harmful as other formulations.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SAN DIEGO

By Harvey F. Short

High Hat made her debut with me for the 1948-49 season on October 19th. It is truly "high hat" both in perfection of bloom (a five inch flower, three inches high) and delicacy of coloring. Later blooms, though of excellent quality, have not been as large due to the warmer, drier weather this month. The deliberate continuity of bloom in this camellia (extending over several months) and the good habit of single budding on a stem place it among the upper ten in the camellia world.

The promise of real surprises among the many new children of Lotus, Vedrine, Mathotiana, Peoniaflora, Prof. Sargent, Chandleri Elegans, Enchantress, Covina and others now developing in our San Diego area are holding our hopes high as a group, for we San Diegans are looking forward to that very special "one in ten thousand."

Some varieties that have not heretofore produced seed in my collection have seeded this year: Emperor Wilhelm, Mrs. Chas. Cobb, Bella Romana, and Kuro Tsubaki. The variety Gen. George Patton produced an abundance of seed.

A difficult problem was overcome this year with a definite measure of success. An oversupply of alkali had made itself evident and was slowly affecting the camellias. This condition was coupled with two very dry seasons wherein rain enough to leach the salts had been lacking and serious complications had already developed.

A timely tip from Vern McCaskill to make applications of soil sulfur and gypsum at regular intervals has definitely counteracted the condition, together with an occasional light application of aluminum sulfate on stubborn plants. Two feedings of cottonseed meal have given me the best results for several seasons. This year I fed my plants in May and September.

Observation thus far finds a variation of about four weeks in time of flowering within a thirty mile range in San Diego County. In Del Mar, at Mr. Larry Boyle's residence, Alba Plena, Donckelari, and Lady Clare were in bloom early in September. Arajishi bloomed the latter part of September at Roberts and Harrison in Encinitas. Yohei Haku (September Morn) opened in early September at the Reynard Way Camellia Gardens in San Diego, and Vedrine and some of the Daikaguras in September at the Stanley Miller residence in El Cajon.

The above-mentioned varieties are appearing a month later with other growers.

Culture in redwood tubs is proving a successful method for some of our growers who have to contend with bad soil conditions. Heavy clay soils present a drainage problem, and San Diego soils are spotty—some very much clay, some very much cobblestone. Two of our growers, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hebert of La Mesa, have approximately fifty to sixty splendid looking specimens in tubs and boxes now in their third year of container culture. A fine set of buds and perfect leaf condition show that it can be done.


CLEOPATRA


LOS ANGELES
DEC 14 '48
CALIF
U.S. POSTAGE
01