

The **Camellia**
Review



CAMELLIA "JOSEPH PFINGSTL"

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Vol. 12

OCTOBER, 1950

No. 1

Southern California Camellia Society Inc.

PRESIDENT

MR. W. L. RIFENBERICK
1715 Ben Lomond Dr., Glendale 2
Citrus 2-7454

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

DR. JOHN H. CLAIRMONT
1818 Oak Knoll Rd., Glendale 8
Citrus 3-4611

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

MR. ERNEST F. ELMER
1142 N. San Gabriel Blvd., San Gabriel
ATlantic 2-5328

SECRETARY-TREASURER

COL. C. M. GALE
40 N. San Rafael Ave., Pasadena 2
SYcamore 6-3740

DIRECTORS

MR. C. D. COTHRAN
584 Vinton St., Pomona

MR. CLIFTON W. JOHNSON
1866 Twin Palms Dr., San Marino

MR. RALPH S. PEER
8159 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles 46

MR. WALTER T. SCOTT
1809 N. Marengo Ave., Pasadena 3

MR. VICTOR J. WAGONER
Gen. Delivery, San Clemente

MR. VERN O. McCASKILL
25 S. Michillinda Ave., E. Pasadena 10

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Program: WM. E. WYLAM, 1041 N. Hudson St., Pasadena 6

Membership: HAROLD E. DRYDEN, 820 Winston Ave., San Marino
SYcamore 3-4214

Nomenclature: MR. WM. E. WOOD-ROOF. STtate 4-1352

Inter Society Relations Committee:

C. D. COTHRAN
VICTOR J. WAGONER

E. C. TOURJE

DR. DANIEL B. ESTERLY

DR. WALTER E. NICHOLS

Hertrich Awards: MR. CLIFTON W. JOHNSON, 1866 Twin Palms Dr., San Marino.

Plant Procurement & Exhibits: MRS. A. H. DEKKER
Citrus 1-2769

Plant Sales: To be filled.

Southern California Camellia Garden:
DR. DAVID W. McLEAN, Douglas 7-2703.

Registrations: DR. DANIEL B. ESTERLY,
ATlantic 2-5714
JULIUS NUCCIO
E. C. TOURJE

Research: To be filled.

Librarian: Mrs. C. M. Gale
SYcamore 6-3740

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Camellia Review Committee

DR. JOHN H. CLAIRMONT, Chairman 1818 Oak Knoll Rd., Glendale 8
ARTHUR S. KANE, Editor E. C. TOURJE A. H. DEKKER
HARRY M. WAMMACK, Advertising, Citrus 2-0137

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

DR. H. HAROLD HUME, Provost, Division of Agriculture, University of Florida

MR. WILLIAM HERTRICH, Curator Emeritus, Huntington Botanic Gardens,
San Marino, Calif.

MR. WALTER G. HAZELWOOD, Epping, New South Wales, Australia

MRS. ANNE GALLI, 505 Bradford St., Pasadena 2, Calif.

PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY, INC.
Copyright, 1950

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Secretary at once. Magazines are not forwarded by the Post Office.

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

All rights reserved. . . . no part of this magazine may be reprinted in any form without permission in writing from the publishers.

Published monthly from October through April, and in July.

The Society holds open meetings on the Second Thursday of every month, November to April, inclusive, at the auditorium of the new library of the Pasadena City College, 1500 Block East Colorado Street. A cut camellia blossom exhibit is always held at 7:30 p.m., with the program starting at 8:00.

Application for membership may be made by letter. Annual dues: \$4.00.

AN OLD FRIEND IN NEW DRESS

Did you receive a pleasant surprise when you found a four-color picture on white paper, instead of the familiar solid green cover which has characterized the Bulletin for the past two years? Were you a little confused to receive "The Camellia Review" instead of "Southern California Camellia Society Bulletin?"

Now that your surprise is over, we sincerely hope you are liking the new effect. Without benefit of advance publicity, your old friend has changed its name and taken on more colorful raiment, added several features to its content and generally gone on a vitamin diet which your editors trust will give it the vigor of youth combined with the wisdom of years.

Beginning its twelfth year of publication, your official bulletin wishes to thank the membership for past support and pledges itself to strive always to merit your continued attention and interest for the future.

CONTENTS

	Page
Observation on Resistance of Camellias to High Temperature by <i>Milo E. Rowell</i>	3
Soil Conditioning, by <i>R. Sanford Martin</i>	7
Reticulata in Raleigh, N. C., by <i>L. Dow Pender, Jr.</i>	9
Classification and Recognition of Camellias, by <i>Robert Park Erdman</i>	11
Hints on Disbudding, by <i>Julius Nuccio</i>	15
A Horticultural Hobby, by <i>John H. Clairmont</i>	17

DEPARTMENTS AND NOTES

As I See It, by <i>Arthur S. Kane</i>	2
Questions and Answers, conducted by <i>A. H. Dekker</i>	20
1950 Show at Brookside Park	5
News of the Societies	6
Our Cover	13
The American Camellia Catalog, A Review by <i>Camillus</i>	16
Registrations & Garden Committees	2

AS I SEE IT...



Arthur S. Kane

AS I SEE IT this magazine needs a catch-all column of some sort, where items of timely interest which are not quite important enough to warrant the full treatment of an individual article can be rounded up and given to our readers. Perhaps, too, this column can serve a useful purpose in providing a safety valve where some of us can blow off steam—get our pet peeves out of our systems, air our personal views on matters non-technical, or just philosophize a little bit.

Frankly, then, AS I SEE IT is an experiment. If our membership takes enough interest in it to send ye ed. small items of gossip, news and comment, it will become a fixture in future issues. If not, then it will be ruthlessly uprooted and cast upon the rubbish heap. Ye ed. will welcome all contributions but make them short, please.

* * *

Our Program Chairman, the ever-popular and hard-working Bill Wylam is in Veteran's Hospital at Sawtelle, as this is put in type. The doctors at first assumed Bill had appendicitis, but changed their minds. Bill's still there, under observation, but his trouble has not been definitely diagnosed. May his recovery be complete . . . and speedy.

* * *

Tip to those interested in seeds and seedlings: Don't miss the article on "Camellia Seedling Culture," by E. C. Tourje in the forthcoming special

report of the Horticultural Research Committee. It's just off the press and will be in your hands soon. Also Colonel Gale will have your seed ready for you next month.

* * *

To anyone reading the Southern California Garden Committee report filed with and approved by the board of directors at their last meeting something appears which is not directly contained in the typed line and that is, the contribution of plants and scions during the forthcoming season will be fewer in number than during past seasons. Why is this? This year the Committee will be more than ever alert to possibilities, and member interest will be at its peak, because during the coming season many, many more new varieties will be blooming than we've seen in past years.

But here's the difficulty when any garden has reached the top notch level of seven hundred varieties, as the Garden has, then finding desirable new ones is like trying to pick a Miss America from a bunch of old maids. It can be done (and the Garden Committee will do it) but it becomes an extremely difficult task.

The S. C. Camellia Garden is one of the world's greats. May the day arrive soon when one may wend his way leisurely through this beautiful spot admiring his favorite varieties at will.

* * *

The South Carolina guys and gal really stole our thunder. It is not our purpose to sound like criers of "sour grapes," but a hasty glance through the minutes of our directors' meetings will prove to anybody that Colonel Gale has not once, not twice, but several times suggested that the name "Camellian" be given to our Bulletin. Well, now that someone else has adopted the Col

(Turn to page 15)

Observations on Resistance of Camellias To High Temperatures

by MILO E. ROWELL

Fresno, California

There were plenty of blazes going full blast in the San Joaquin Valley from the latter part of June until the end of July of this year. On June 27th the thermometer hit 97° and for the following eleven days was 100° or over, of which five consecutive days were 105° to 109°. During this period relative humidity dropped as low as 11% and most days was well below 20%. These were the official weather bureau figures. Field temperatures are always higher, so our camellias have had a real test of high temperatures.

Some experts have postulated that such high temperatures with such low humidity, being unnatural to the native haunts of camellias, are detrimental to their healthy growth. If the results of this study are substantiated by other similar experiences, our favorite plants may move higher on the scale of "aristocrats of the garden".

The results of a cross section of reports from camellia amateurs and nurseries covering all types of soils, exposures and growing methods in the Central San Joaquin Valley seem very uniform. Basically, no camellia grown in the ground which was moderately shaded, adequately watered and acidified suffered damage other than a very few slightly burned leaves.

In this area roses are usually grown in more exposed locations. Where this was true, in the usual garden the rose bushes suffered greater damage from the hot dry spell than the camellias. In my own garden, some camellias are exposed to nearly full sun and some roses are in partial sun under oak trees and while a few of the exposed camellias suffered a slight leaf burn, numerous roses, shaded or exposed, suffered severe burn and leaf drop.

In over 3,500 plants on which reports were received, no severe sunburn and no general injury to the plant was reported on planted camellias. Two plants in containers were severely burned. One of these, a Cameo Pink, was exposed to substantial late afternoon sun (the hottest); the other was a recently transplanted Sen. Duncan U. Fletcher. It is probable that heat was only one of several causes contributing to these reported injuries as another party reported on a Cameo Pink planted on the East side of a white stucco wall, which received direct and reflected sunlight until after 1 P. M. daily and reflected sun from another white stucco wall some 15 feet away from the plant the rest of the day, suffered no sunburn whatsoever. No comparable reports were received on Sen. Duncan U. Fletcher, but the injured plant was not well established, which undoubtedly contributed to the injury, as otherwise it received treatment, exposure, etc., identical to

*Mr. Milo E. Rowell was founder-president of Central California Camellia Society, and long time member of Southern California Camellia Society.

Anita, Lallarook, Mrs. Howard Asper, Joshua Yountz and others, which suffered no damage or leaf burn.

In analyzing all reports of injury ranging from minor to medium leaf burn, it appears generally that if the plant is not adequately acidified it is readily subject to leaf burn. Both this year's grafts and full grown plants which showed yellow leaves due to inadequate acid (or should this be excessive alkalinity?) burned whether fully shaded or fully exposed. Other plants grafted this year or full grown, in equally or greater exposed locations, which were adequately acidified and showed no yellow leaf, did not burn.

Our grower had transplanted four 5' to 6' plants just a few weeks before the hot spell. These plants, which were well mulched, acidified and regularly watered, came through these temperatures with no injury in spite of the shock of moving.

Nurserymen report that those plants in containers which have recently been imported from cooler areas show slight sunburning on leaves the first summer, but that thereafter the plants are acclimatized and show no leaf burn during subsequent summers.

Independent observations of all correspondents indicate the following tentative conclusions:

(a) To withstand valley summer temperatures, the prime requirement is proper acidification.

(b) Camellia plants in the ground, having slight shade (less than 40%), adequately acidified, mulched and watered, do not suffer injury from the temperatures and humidity reported.

(c) Camellia plants in containers require substantially more shade to avoid leaf burn. (Could this be due to the fact that the temperature at the roots is higher in container plants?)

(d) If over-exposed container plants are moved to a shadier location promptly upon discovery of leaf burn, they will recover full vigor and produce normal second cycle growth.

(e) Plants inadequately acidified in nearly full shade will suffer leaf burn, even when watering and other care is above standard.

(f) Prompt application of aluminum sulphate, iron sulphate or other acidifier will arrest further damage to green leaves of the plant but restoration of normal vigor will be somewhat delayed.

(g) Locally raised seedlings and current grafts withstand heat substantially equal to older plants. However, plants raised in cooler climates require conditioning to completely withstand normal valley temperatures.

San Joaquin Valley Camellia growers would be interested in additional observations here and in other similar climates.

Table of temperature and minimum humidity follows:

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Maximum</i>	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Minimum Relative Humidity</i>
<i>1950</i>			
June 26	93	55	17
27	97	57	15
28	100	61	22
29	105	64	21
30	109	71	17

(Continued on page 24)

AN APOLOGY

The name of William E. Wylam was inadvertently omitted from the list of exhibitors at the Society's last show. Our apologies to Mr. Wylam.

1951 SHOW AT BROOKSIDE PARK

Dates for the annual Camellia Show of the Southern California Camellia Society have been set. They are February 17 and 18, 1951, at Brookside Park in Pasadena.

This may, now, seem a long way off; but coming events have a way of sneaking up on us before we realize that the time has slipped by. A great deal of advance planning and work has to go into preparation for a show such as ours, and it is not too early for all of us to begin to think about what share *we* can take.

There are quite a lot of jobs which have to be done satisfactorily, for the show to be the same kind of success that it has always been. So make up your mind right now, that this year when you are called upon by one of the Show Committee to lend a helping hand, even if, in your own opinion, the task may be beneath your capabilities, that you will pitch in with a will. Even if those words "teamwork" and "cooperation" have been much overworked, they still express the necessary ingredients which make for success in any undertaking. So your Show Director and his committee confidently expect you—yes, every one of you,—to respond with a resounding "Yes!" if, and when, you are called upon to help.

WHAT ARE YOU ENTERING IN THE SHOW?

Naturally, now that the Show dates at Brookside Park on February 17 and 18, 1951, have been officially announced, you will begin to think about what you are going to enter in competition. Becoming show-minded, you will also begin to get your selected plants into the best condition.

First, probably, you will think about disbudding. Elsewhere in this issue you will find a couple of hints about disbudding, from which you can derive some benefit. Some of your plants may need new containers—now is the time to do it. Others may need brightening up with a new coat of green paint. And surely you will want to see that all your plants are neatly labeled, with some of those nice, new tags now on the market. In fact, right now, between now and show time is an excellent time to go right through your camellia garden and tend to all those odd jobs that you have been putting off. It all adds up—it will pay dividends later.

No need to tell you how to groom your plants—you've read many articles about that. But make your plans now for entering your pride and joy in competition—get ready to take home a ribbon or two. The show will need lots of entries to make it worthwhile—flowers, plants, arrangements and corsages all will find their proper places. Who knows?—It could be your entry which will be the envy of all beholders. Let's make this show one of which we can be truly proud, and one which will long be remembered.

★ *News of the Societies* ★

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Dr. R. W. Tellam, newly elected President of the San Diego Camellia Society has been very busy lining up various committees for the coming year. To date the following have been appointed: Library—Mrs. Geo. Poulter and Mrs. P. J. Van Dorn; Research—"Doc" Miller, A. P. Carlton, S. S. Tompkins and Lucian Atherton; Nomenclature—"Doc" Miller; Program—Larry Boyle and W. E. Peyton; Membership—Frank Harmon; Flower Arrangement—Mrs. I. Sedar; Publicity—L. L. Carringer; Plant Sale—Virgil Stark; Garden Tours—Miss Frances Wills; Bloom Display—Mrs. Stanley Miller; Reception—Mrs. Frank Harmon; Show—Mrs. A. P. Carlton; Other Shows—Ted Kohl. Additional committees and chairman will be announced later.

Mrs. A. P. Carlton, Show Chairman, is already laying the ground work for the San Diego Camellia Show to be held Saturday and Sunday, February 24th & 25th, 1951, in Conference Hall, Balboa Park, San Diego. The theme of the show is to be "Camellias—Our Colonial Heritage" and decorations will be carried out along these lines. Due to the increasing interest in Camellias in San Diego, it was felt that larger quarters would again be required for the show and arrangements have been completed to hold the show in the Conference Hall.

The San Diego Camellia Society was the lucky winner of a blue ribbon and a cash award of \$50.00 for an arrangement of roses entered in the San Diego Rose Show held in April and also the winner of a first place cup for an arrangement entered in the Chula Vista Flower Show. Both of these arrangements were the handiwork of Mrs. L. L. Carringer.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

New Officers for the coming season of Central California Camellia Society, of Fresno, are as follows: Dr. Grant Williams has consented to serve for another year as President; Frances F. Lennox, is the new Secretary Treasurer and the Board of Directors includes Milo Rowell, Ruth Keane Sherman Forrester, Max Hayden, Melvin Gibbs, John Holland, F. W. Paul Maynard Munger, Ruth Pettey and Homer Wilson.

* * *

At a recent meeting of the Board March 4 was decided on as the date for this year's show. The entire civic auditorium has been engaged for the event, and Central California Society plans to stage the biggest show of its career. More classifications and prizes have been included, with incentives for as many as possible to participate. A cordial invitation is extended to all members of Southern California Society to participate as exhibitors, or failing that, to attend the show.

SOIL CONDITIONING

By R. SANFORD MARTIN

This southwest area, in which we have chosen to live, has given us soil situations which have been developed over centuries of arid climatic conditions. Although this has developed soil which is rich from a mineral standpoint of plant nutrients, it is not sufficient to give satisfactory results in the type of lush growing which we are all striving to produce.

Because of our temperate weather which permits a very long growing season, we try to produce in our gardens, near-tropical effects with the plant life of our fancy. In order to accomplish this, it becomes necessary to build a sufficiently active soil to support the type of growing which has become such a part of our Southwest gardens. This can be done when we realize what is lacking and what the requirements of constant growing demand.

Natural soils in any arid area are notoriously deficient in the necessary organic content so essential to the microorganisms of a healthy, active soil. Our long rainless summers do not contribute enough native growth to maintain the normal organic matter mulch that is to be found under tropical conditions, or even the same amount that is found naturally in the east, midwest or northwest. What native grass or weed growth that develops here is frequently blown away before it can decay and enter the humus hungry soil. Many of our areas are subjected to the destructive practices of being burned over every summer. And then we wonder why our soil "bakes".

The most important thing in a soil building program, and a constructive program will have to be followed for at least three years before much result can be obtained, is the building up of organic content of your soil. Remember, your soil has been organically starved for possibly centuries, and you cannot expect to overcome such a condition in one month, or even a year. This organic matter must pass through stages of decomposition before it can prepare the top soils and very gradually leach down into the sub-soil. This later phase will occur very slowly over a period of years, and until it is accomplished, your twelve-month growing period cannot be complete. But it is worth working for, and when done, many of your garden worries are over, because of the better state of health in your plants.

The materials to be used in this program are many and quite inexpensive, but it is going to take time and work. The work part of it will probably do us all good, and the time feature is unimportant after we get the results.

I have, for several years been a strong advocate of compost for soil building, and this is something that every garden enthusiast should learn to make for himself, out of the waste materials from his own yard. Every type of vegetation, including woody branches that can be cut with the average hand clippers, hedge trimmings, weeds, old cut flowers, leaves, straw, and even table waste. Lawn clippings are good if dried first, (never allow green matter to "sweat" as this builds up a toxic condition). I use dried material and make a finished compost in thirty days, with the use of our local organic activator. It is done without the use of manure or soil in the pile.

A bin 4' x 6' will turn out two or three batches of compost a year for

the average home, and does not cause unpleasant odors.

The various brands of sacked steer or dairy manures contribute valuable organic content in your program, besides giving some fertility. They are the most important for their organic build-up, in my opinion. They are to be used in quantity and for best results worked into the soil.

Bean straw or damaged hay is frequently available and is very valuable as a heavy mulch.

Let me insert a valuable tip here. If one maintains sufficient decaying vegetation in one's soil, there will be no "sow bug" damage, because this is their natural food, and when they are well fed this way they do almost as much good as the earthworm in the way of soil conversion.

Nature did not plant her garden to be spick and span, and free from all surface rubbles, and mother nature is our best example. The application of compost in abundance, not only duplicates nature, but produces better soil and plant health.

Once we have built our soil sufficiently to support our twelve month growing requirements then it will be safe to use some of the special fertilizers, that have the tendency to reduce the organic content, but I have proven to my own satisfaction that if one builds one's soil correctly, there will be less need for the "hot-shots".

A well built soil is not complete until there is a full population of the more essential microorganisms or soil bacteria, which acts as the digestive agency of the various plant nutrients. This digestion prepares *all* of the nutrients for the plant as they are found in the soil, including the minor or trace minerals. The "hot-shot" can get to a plant for a time through more of a process of absorption, but in my opinion this method will not produce perfectly healthy growth for long. Witness the increasing need for pest control methods under this system.

This bacterial life may be put into the soil with Humisite, a locally made product (see ad on page 13). Where there are ample microorganisms present, the possible damage from detrimental fungus is greatly lessened. A low bacterial count permits the unhampered growth of the destroying rots and moulds. The beneficial bacteria work hand in hand with the valuable microhyza in development of a good soil, but these growths could not be described as in any way detrimental.

There is a great deal of satisfaction realized when one has built a soil that produces healthy, disease-free plants, and it may be done, even though the basic product we started with was pretty poor stuff. Think of your soil as something living, instead of as a mass of inert material. There has been entirely too much "mining" of the soils of this country, and the sooner we realize that a soil building program of national scope must be followed the better the land will be.

If you are going to have growing gardens twelve months a year, or in other words try to force the soil into tropical conditions, you will have to build a highly organic and bacterially active condition. A little studied observation as to the way nature builds such a soil will be of great value. In my opinion, the further one gets away from nature's methods, when it comes to growing, the more trouble will be encountered.

RETICULATA IN RALEIGH, N. C.

By L. DOW PENDER, Jr.* RALEIGH, N. C.

Wherever you find camellias growing, there you will also find a peculiarly fanatical sub-species of *homo sapiens*, known as the "camellia devotee." Any kind of a camellia show, center of camellia culture, or society meeting draws this "C. D." out of the botanical jungles and into the strong sunlight. This species has particularly acute ears for the word "camellia." To prove this all one need do, is stand on the street corner of any city in a camellia-growing district, and whisper confidentially into a friend's ear something about the "latest camellia experiment," and one of the "C. Ds." will come loping up out of nowhere. With a misty, far-away look in his eyes he coos "Camellia? Did I hear you say camellia? Well, let me tell you about a camellia I have in my garden, which . . ." etc., etc., far into the night.

Now the amazing part of this is, that instead of boring you to nervous prostration, it may be the beginning of a friendship rich in its devotion to a beautiful cause. This may be true even though your new-found friend's camellia garden, of which he talks so lavishly, may consist of but one Pink Perfection. (I couldn't quite bring myself to say "Frau Minna Seidel," though don't tell that to Mr. William E. Woodruff!) If Lady Luck is smiling on you that day, you may even be accosted by a "C. D." who has a whole yard-full of such gems as Ville de Nantes, Joshua Youtz, Thelma Dale, Pride of Descanso and the like. And (this is my own opinion, you understand) if you are privileged to meet a "cam-dev" who owns a good specimen of that plant called Reticulata, bind him to your soul with hoops of steel. Hear, hear!

This magnificent thing called Reticulata—(how that word conjures up pictures!)—first came into my life during the fall of 1948. Earlier, I had seen mediocre pictures of it in diverse books and catalogs. How pale and sickly those pictures later proved to be, after I had feasted these tired eyes of mine on the real thing! Understand, please, that North Carolina is not a favored state for Camellia culture, and prior to the time mentioned Reticulata had been but a word to me.

The descriptions, however, lured me. They glowed—they gave promise that if one could actually nurse Reticulata to its full glory, Paradise could lie only a few footfalls beyond for the lucky grower. By a sort of chain-fission reaction, the cells of my brain kept demanding of me that I search out, buy, plant, nurture and bring forth a Reticulata to add to my-not-too-illustrious collection.

But it seemed the darn thing was a greenhouse variety—not even to be considered as an out door specimen in such a section as Raleigh. In fact, I was informed that it could not be satisfactorily grown even in the somewhat warmer climate around Charleston, S. C. Naturally, I did not accept this "information" without a few grains of salt; but search as I might, I found no one in my district, or even remotely close, who had ever attempted to grow C. Reticulata. By this time, however, the desire

* Mr. Pender is a member of So. Cal. Camellia Society.

to feel the petals of this plant under my own fingers and feast my eye upon its beauty had so captured my imagination that I was not to be stopped.

Oh, lucky day! On that best of all mornings, the local mail carrier dropped into my letterbox, what he thought was a mere advertising circular, but which to me was a treasure map. It was a summons to adventure,—a clarion call to action. Cottage Gardens, in Eureka, California, were advising me that they were prepared to sell nice grafts of *C. Reticulata*. My heart leaped. I would buy one instant. But, wait, suppose that one was so unlucky as to die!? Perish the thought, I would buy two. No, three would be safer—I'd buy three. (I finally settled on four, at the least possible.)

Came the day the plants arrived. They were skinny. They were sparsely leaved. They looked like homeless refugees. My spirits fell. But the individual leaves were—hm—rather nice. My searching eye fell on the terminals. There were some nice, fat flower buds also. Perhaps these plants would survive, after all, so I put them in ten-inch clay pots and waited.

So I waited, and I waited. First of all, one plant shed its leaves and most of its buds. Well, they *had* gotten rather dry in transit. Then, to my utter horror, the other three plants began dropping buds. I held my breath more or less continuously, and had permanent cricks in my fingers from holding them crossed so long. Then all of a sudden, the entire shipment seemed to reconsider the matter; take a new lease on life, and perk up.

Fearing the approaching winter cold might make them change their attitude again, I hastily made a small frame house, and covered it with cellophane reinforced mesh. Things went along rather well, until late in January, 1949, when we had snow ten inches deep plus icy sleet. The roof of the "greenhouse" fell in, the temperature kept dropping; somebody's dog chased a rabbit right through the side wall of the "house" and further thought of protection was abandoned. I thereupon decided to let the plants do or die on their own, without further protective assistance.

They didn't die, and they more or less "did". Luckily, the weather turned milder. During early March, one plant with three buds began to show signs of the great awakening, and I began holding my breath again. Color began to show in the buds, and by mid-March three buds all popped into bloom at once on that plant. This was my moment. This was the one moment I had waited for. I cautiously let my breath ooze out in a sigh of rapture. To top it off, and fill my cup to running over, the other two plants with buds also bloomed. It was a revelation. To one unfamiliar with it, the sight of the first blooming *C. Reticulata* can bring gasps of unbelief.

One of the new blooms was six inches across,—measured with Walter Allen's "*Camellia De-Liar*," too. It was absolutely the most beautiful camellia in the world. That's how I felt, anyway. The graceful, wavy petals, with their elegant form and glowing color, were entrancing.

So far, so good. The following fall, I plunged the pots, and permitted them to remain outside all winter. Everyone assured me that the first crop of flowers arrived because I had given the plants protection. "Fun

(Continued on page 23)

Classification and Recognition of Camellias

By ROBERT PARK ERDMAN

About ten years ago, as the first part of my initiation into the fascinating cult of camellia raising, I was given a large assortment of cuttings and told how to start them off in damp sand. There were four or five hundred representing several hundred different varieties, and I could not keep track of their names. I had yet to learn the simple expedient of pencil marks on the leaves.

In due course some died, but an astonishing number survived to be planted out in a nursery bed. And later into permanent locations. They thrived, despite three or four years during the war when they had little or no attention.

I finally retired from active service and came home to find our park dotted with fine, big eight-year-old plants, most of them blooming (during the proper season.) I wanted to identify them . . . and here I faced the strange and unbelievable fact that no complete, up-to-date reliable dictionary or catalog of camellias existed. I determined to make one, and enlisted the assistance of an amateur expert. The American Camellia Catalog is the result of this determination.

A careful study of existing literature convinced us that a simple scheme of classification was first needed. We devised one, based first—on color of flowers, second—on form of the blooms, and third—on the blooming season.

If a person wants to identify an unknown variety, he first points to its color—"I have an early blooming white, semi-double, that opens out rather flat, with a central tubular mass of stamens. What is it?"

Logically, then, the first step in classification is to sort the blooms into main color categories, and this we did—into six—

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 1. Reds | 4. Variegated with Red predominating |
| 2. Whites | 5. Variegated with White predominating |
| 3. Pinks | 6. Variegated with Pink predominating |

Next we consider form in the easy distinction between

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1. Single..... | with about seven petals, |
| 2. Semi-double..... | with seven to fifteen petals, |
| 3. Incomplete-double..... | with more than fifteen petals in several rows, the outer ones of which are fully formed, the inner row, or rows, being smaller, and incomplete, such as petaloids, |
| 4. Complete-double..... | where stamens are hidden, or absent, and the form is regular—such as Frau Minna Seidel or Pink Perfection, |
| 5. Irregular-double..... | where the petals are irregular in shape and distribution—such as Professor Sargent. |

The third characteristic is the blooming season. While this is rather variable, depending upon the weather conditions and other factors, every variety may be classified as

1. Early

(Continued on page 22)

for ALL WINTER BLOOMS

CAMELLIA "JOSEPH PFINGSTL"

Incomplete to complete double,
variable shades of red, Blooms
October into April,

1 yr. graft or own root.....	\$15.00-20.00
2 yr. graft or own root.....	25.00
Specimen Budded plants.....	35.00-50.00

PFINGSTL'S NURSERY

P. O. BOX 1870, MONTGOMERY 3, ALABAMA

Nursery Display Grounds
101 Willena Ave.
Dial 2-2077

Camellias, Azaleas
Roses, Evergreens,
Flowering Shrubs

OUR COVER—*Camellia* “Joseph Pfingstl”

There occasionally flashes across the camellia horizon a new variety of such meteoric brilliance as to attract almost universal attention. All too frequently, however, the short duration of the brilliance parallels that of the shooting star, and in the cold gray gloom that follows we who have acquired such new varieties are led to wonder if the momentary flashes which herald their announcement did not blind us with the brilliance of the announcements rather than the brilliance of the varieties.

None knew this better than the late Emmett J. Pfingstl, proprietor of Pfingstl's Nursery, Montgomery, Alabama, and so with the resolve which comes with high purpose Mr. Pfingstl determined that he would one day produce and place before the public a camellia of such lasting excellence that the name Pfingstl would be forever perpetuated in the annals of camellias.

Patiently, year after year, Mr. Pfingstl planted the seeds which each autumn he harvested from the many large plants growing in his nursery. Year after year he watched these seedlings mature and bloom. More frequently than not the blossoms were the same monotonous pink or red singles which all seedling growers observe with disappointment. Occasionally one would open with more than ordinary promise, but Pfingstl would merely shake his head and say, “There are too many now to send this out.”

At long last came the day in October, 1945, when Mr. Pfingstl started his quick turn about the nursery before breakfast. His eyes fastened on something he had never seen before. He could scarcely believe his eyes! Here was a five inch flower unlike anything he or anyone else had ever beheld! To him it was lovelier! He ran to the house crying, “Come quick, Birdie dear, we have it, we have it!” But no, they must wait for another year to see if the form and color would hold.

The rest is history. Mr. Pfingstl was so proud of this seedling that he gave to it the name of his father, the late Joseph Pfingstl, at whose knee he learned his trade, and who in his declining years had helped his son become established in his own nursery business.

We are indebted to Mrs. E. J. Pfingstl, who now conducts the nursery business at Montgomery, for the color plates used on the cover of this Review. She insists that the picture which we proudly display does not do justice to this startlingly beautiful new camellia. Others agree. It must, indeed, be a beautiful thing.

H U M I S I T E

THE ALL-ORGANIC ACTIVATOR AND SOIL CONDITIONER THAT
PUTS LIFE IN YOUR SOIL.

You cannot grow healthy plants in sick soil.
Build your soil right.

MANUFACTURED BY

ORGANIC MILLING CO.

1161 Spazier Ave., Glendale 1, Calif.

Membership Application

To The Board of Directors,

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

40 N. SAN RAFAEL AVE., PASADENA 2, CALIFORNIA

I hereby make application for membership in your society and enclose \$4.00 for the current year's dues.

Name (Please print or type) (Husband and wife combined same rate)

Street

City

Zone

State

Business

Sponsor

Signed

Members receive the book, "The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature" revised every two years, and the society's magazine, published eight times yearly.

Open meetings are held on the second Thursday monthly, from November to April, inclusive, at the auditorium of the Pasadena City College Library, 150 block East Colorado Street, Pasadena, Calif. Flower exhibit at 7:30 P.M., program at 8:00.

Application may be made by letter

HINTS ON DISBUDDING

By JULIUS NUCCIO

Camellias are disbudded primarily to obtain large specimen blooms. To properly accomplish this, one must first choose the varieties that warrant disbudding. Varieties such as Covina, Countess of Orkney, Monjisu, Pink Perfection and any of the naturally small-flowered, profuse bloomers should not be disbudded, because their beauty lies in their profusion of bloom and they will never reach a "show" size.

In choosing varieties for disbudding, select those that can definitely be improved by obtaining maximum size. A great many camellias come under this category, such as Lotus, Herme, Emperor Wilhelm, Adolph Audusson, Finlandia, Alba Plena, Lindsay Neill, Donckelari, Frizzle White, Flame, Glen No. 40, H. A. Downing, Pax, Ville de Nantes, and many others of the peony, semi-double and formal types that will normally reach 3½ inches without disbudding.

The proper time to disbud is when you are definitely able to distinguish the flower bud from the growth bud. This may be as early as midsummer for the early blooming varieties, but for most camellias September and October have proven to be the best months. By then the buds are large enough so that it is easy to select the ones that are to remain and those that are to be removed.

In selecting buds for size, keep in mind that the best flowers are produced on the first cycle of new growth. Flower buds set on the second cycle of growth very seldom reach maximum size. For best results, never leave more than two buds on a terminal or growth cycle.

Buds may be removed by carefully twisting them off, or better still by piercing a hole with a large pin or a shingle nail from the tip of the bud down. This method allows air to enter the bud so that it will dry and fall off naturally, thus eliminating possible injury to the adjoining bud you intend to keep for bloom.

AS I SEE IT . . . (From page 2)

Panel's brain-child, it seems the least we can do is help support it. Here's good luck "Camellian."

* * *

A flash from the Garden Committee:—One of its most important projects during the '50-'51 season will be an attempt to procure originals of some of the camellia plants which have made camellia history in California. In fact, the Committee already is at work on this. A worthy enterprise, indeed, and one which should rate every encouragement

from all of us. Posterity needs these originals where they may be seen by the greatest number of people under the most favorable conditions.

* * *

That old commercial slogan, "If you like us, tell your friends; if not, tell us," applies to your magazine with even more force. Actually, sometimes it seems to us that people are 'scared to write criticizing letters—we are surfeited with praise. Write us a few complaints. Out of those come the improvements.

(Turn to page 19)

The American Camellia Catalog

A Review By CAMILLUS

Important among the newcomers in camellia literature is the handsome loose leaf digest of camellia varieties published by American Camellia Catalog of Savannah, Ga.

The 1949 edition of this valuable work contains one hundred pages of text, each page describing one of the better known varieties of camellias and containing twenty-four lithographed and hand-colored reproduction of selected varieties.

The 1950 edition describes some hundred twenty-five additional varieties and has twenty-four additional color plates.

The purpose of the loose leaf system is to enable yearly subscribers to compile a complete volume, arranging the pages according to name, color, blooming season, or whatever the preference may be.

Each page gives the accredited name of the variety; its synonyms; proper pronunciation; classification by colors, by type of bloom, and by blooming season; full description of flower, foliage, and traits of growth; the known history of the plant, and special remarks.

Perhaps the most intriguing feature of the book is the terse but comprehensive historical review of each variety covered. This is the first instance which has been brought to our attention in which this very important phase of camellia lore has been so published. It seems authoritative, and is very interesting.

Despite the fact that flower form description is abstruse (it describes Chandleri Elegans as an "incomplete double." Does that mean anything to you?), and some of the color plates in the 1949 edition leave much to be desired, the work is a most worthwhile contribution to camellia literature. We are assured that the color plates in the 1950 edition will be distinctly improved over those of the 1949 edition, and we hope that henceforth the flower form description will follow the more understandable system employed in the popular and now universally accepted Nomenclature Book of the Southern California Camellia Society.

Favorite Camellias . . .

GLEN 40 - ALBA PLENA - DEBUTANTE - PAX - RETICULATA - HIGH HAT

Whichever One is Yours—Remember—All Camellias Do Better on

LIKWID GRO

At All Good Garden Shops

PESTLESS PRODUCTS CO.

4124 Bandini Blvd., Los Angeles 23, California • AN. 7219

A HORTICULTURAL HOBBY

By JOHN H. CLAIMONT

It has been said that every man should have a hobby, something to do when not concerned with the workaday world. Camellias offer an ideal hobby. In the first place we are working with nature and with a shrub that is ever green and beautiful and for six months in the year affords much delight with an abundance of colorful flowers in a variety of forms. You will find much of interest in the different characteristics of the various varieties, their habits of growth, type of leaves, etc.

If you have the time and inclination to work with cross pollination you can try crossing your favorite variety with another having characteristics you would like to incorporate in a new variety. Remembering, however, that this can only be done with semi-doubles and singles, those varieties having stamens, and with the new methods of forcing growth,—that of continuous light—you can see the results in approximately three years, instead of seven or eight. If the results are not up to expectations you will at least have another understock for grafting purposes. Many of the newer and worthwhile seedlings are the results of somebody's painstaking efforts.

Professional people, especially Physicians and Dentists in large numbers, have taken up camellia culture as a hobby, possibly because they are working with living tissue and their fingers are adapted to working within close confines. They become quite adept at grafting, as many of us well know, and a visit to their homes gives proof that they found a hobby, something which holds their interest from season to season.

A Camellia Society offers many opportunities for self expression—taking part in the activities of the Society and contributing time and talent to that yearly event "The Camellia Show". We make many new friends from other walks of life, having something in common to discuss and during the grafting season we can share scions, thus acquiring new varieties for our collection, or if you are as fortunate as I was on a particular occasion you may get a plant instead of a scion. Here is what happened:—Calling on a good friend, we went to the lath house to look over his fine collection of plants when I discovered that the tip end of a choice variety had been cut off and was lying in the container with the plant. He seemed quite surprised and wanted to know if I was doing any grafting at that particular time and if I wanted the scion. I hesitated a moment and then he added 'or would you rather have the plant?' That foolish question cost him a graft. It was a Kenny.

Through seed propagation, cross pollination, and the grafting of mutations you, too, may bring out a new introduction for everybody to rave about. It can be entered in competition at the shows where it could win that coveted award; also a ribbon or two might repay you for the time and work required to bring that new introduction into being. If you want to be eligible for the Hertrich awards, remember to register your new variety through the Registrations Committee.

But whether or not you add to your trophy collection is secondary. Actually getting your hands into the plants is therapy for your soul, and is that makes camellia growing the fascinating hobby it is.

EVERYTHING FOR THE GARDEN

in

Hardware, Fertilizers, Sprays, Bug Bait, Bulbs, Flower Seeds,
Vegetable Seeds, Grass Seeds, Orchids, Bedding Plants
Peat, Leaf Mold, Bean Straw Ground, Cottonseed Meal, Camellia Food,
Garden Books

CAMPBELL SEED STORE

137 West Colorado, Pasadena, California

WE DELIVER

SY 6-4356

WE MAIL

CARTER'S CAMELLIA GARDENS

525 EAST GARVEY AVENUE, MONTEREY PARK, CALIF.

Standard and Rarest Varieties

Including Strawberry Blonde, Virgins Blush and Light Pink Sport
of Chandleri Elegans

N UCCIO'S URSERIES

Growers of Rare Camellias & Azaleas
OVER 650 VARIETIES

3555 Chaney Trail, Altadena, Calif.

SY 4-3383

Available Now — Shin Akebono, Mrs. Howard Asper — Ville de Nantes
White Daikagura

Azaleas - Camellias - Gardenias Cymbidiums

MARSHALL'S CAMELLIA NURSERY

935 N. Rosemead Blvd.

San Gabriel

ATLantic 6-0452

AS I SEE IT . . . (From page 15)

This year's show at Brookside Park will be a joint undertaking of the SCCS and Pacific CS. That ought to be a good answer to those who "view with alarm" the Machiavelian propensities of our various societies.

* * *

Rufus (our carrier pigeon) has just brought in a dispatch. Important growers are seriously considering establishing an American Camellia Test Garden. Unfortunately, Rufus didn't get all the details, but it would appear that these worthy gentlemen intend to fashion the Garden somewhat after the test gardens set up under the auspices of the American Rose Society. The purpose is, of course, to weed out the trivial, and to honor camellias of outstanding merit. Any undertaking so commendable as this naturally rates three rousing cheers from us.

We sincerely hope that the program includes benefits for those who acquire camellias, as well as those who sell them. As quickly as we can coax Rufus to get back there and get some more information, we'll pass it along to you . . . as well as to the real sponsors are, and who the beneficiaries will be.

* * *

Somebody recently cracked that membership in the American Camellia Society is a subscription to the American Camellia Yearbook . . . with the membership to ACS thrown in. Maybe so, maybe not. Whatever your views on this subject, you'll have to admit that you get your money's worth.

* * *

Your scribe is supposed to keep this under his hat . . . but it's too good to keep. Now in the planning stages: A super-colossal-terrific get-together meeting of all the southern California camellia societies . . . that's SCCS, Pacific, Los Angeles, Temple City and all the rest. The

date has been tentatively set for the evening of Friday, February 16, at Pasadena immediately preceding the big show, so that out-of-town visitors can plan on staying over.

The speakers will be strictly tops in the camellia world . . . but strictly. Rumor has it that a couple of them will be imported from the south just for this one engagement. Better get your dues paid up! This is one evening you'd better plan to skip your favorite television program, or give up your canasta game, because this is the one meeting of the year you simply can't afford to miss. Much more later on this.

* * *

Growing pains are always a little difficult for the one going through the experience. But lately Temple City Society has been noticing that they were bursting the seams; so a couple of weeks ago, some of their officers met with officers of SCCS to discuss incorporation. You may not realize it but the little group that formerly met on Thursday evenings to "sing and pray" has grown to formidable proportions.

Temple City's shows have jumped from the minor into the major class, and are now receiving—and justly—national notices. They're a smart bunch, all right, for they do a publicity tie-in with their Chamber of Commerce, and the two of them really fire up local and sectional interest. And to back it up, they put on a Camellia Show and Festival that has most of the rest of the country—yes, country, not just county—green-eyed. We doff our ten-gallon Stetson to Mrs. J. J. Marks, who handles the promotion side, along with her untiring Publicity Committee, and to whom goes a big share of the credit for the success of the Temple City effort. Would that every society could find her equal!

(Turn to page 24)

QUESTION and ANSWER

A DEPARTMENT

Conducted by

A. H. DEKKE

(The Question and Answer Department in the Review is conducted with a view to the various members in the Society attempting to aid one another in working out their various problems. The editor of this department will attempt to function as the clearing agent in this activity.)

Question No. 1. Should I disbud my camellias? S.T.E., La Crescenta.

Answer. If you want large show flowers, disbud so that you have a single bud at the terminal of the branch and not to exceed one bud every two inches on the stem below the terminal. If you want a show of color and flowers on your bush, disbudding is not particularly advised, inasmuch as the bush will drop buds in excess of its ability to bring them to bloom or to maturity.

Question No. 2. Many of the leaves on one of my prized plants are turning brown around the edges and some are falling off. Please tell me what causes this and what to do about it. E.M., La Canada, California.

Answer. The above manifestation usually indicates the excess of fertilization and is often referred to as a nitrogen burn and, when it is discovered it is too late to do much of anything about it. Some growers advocate watering the plant freely and they also observe it often takes from one to three years for the plant to recover from the effects of a nitrogen burn.

Question No. 3. Do you know of any effective method of controlling spread of scale or aphid infestation by ants? M.S.T., Macon, Ga.

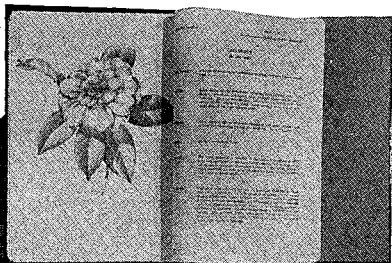
Answer. For the past two years, the writer has effectively controlled ant infestations in his garden by sprinkling a water solution of emulsified Chlordane completely around the perimeter of his garden. The directions on the bottle with reference to dilutions for ant control were carefully followed. A large 2½-gallon sprinkling can was employed and the soil and/or the grass surrounding the garden was thoroughly wetted with the solution. No ill effects were noted, namely, the grass did not seem to be affected nor was there any damage to any plant in the area noted. However, none of this solution was poured directly onto any of the growing plants other than grass. Not only did the writer thoroughly wet down the perimeter of the garden but also wet down the soil around the entire house and his wife reports that she has not seen an ant throughout the entire summer. When these results were noted toward the end of the summer, the writer rated quite high around the house for at least a few days.

Question No. 4. I have heard it said that it is detrimental to camellia plants to cut the flowers. Is this true? C.J., San Diego, California.

Answer. This is far from true. In fact, it has been the observation of the writer and many of his friends that a plant seems to be improved by having the flowers cut. The practice of cutting flowers properly aids in shaping the bush, inasmuch as it causes more than one growth bud to develop and, in this manner, makes for a fuller, well rounded bush.

American Camellia Catalog

- * Simplifies classification and recognition;
- * Gives correct names with proper pronunciation and all synonyms by which varieties are known;
- * Describes each variety in complete detail and includes history of each plant.
- * Selected flowers are illustrated in life-size hand-colored lithographs of original drawings by Athos Monaboni.



Limited first edition (1949) in handsome gold-embossed brown linen binder still available at \$15. Place orders now for 1950 supplement, with index including 2400 names of 1500 actual varieties, before price advances to \$17.50. (This offer expires on 1 November, 1950.)

A loose-leaf encyclopedia of reference information on all camellias—published in yearly installments on a subscription basis.

AMERICAN CAMELLIA CATALOG

Box 507 - Route 2 - Wilmington Island
SAVANNAH GEORGIA



The Bright Stars of this year's Camellia Show will be those fortunates who win



A HERTRICH AWARD

It could be your own entry that wins

IF

1. Your mutation or seedling has been registered by our society
2. Your entry is adjudged worthy of this highest honor by our Show Judges and the Awards Committee

You may be growing a prize-winner, now, without knowing it! Get it registered with the Registrations Committee, E. C. TOURJE, Secretary, 1303 Descanso Drive, La Canada.

CLASSIFICATION . . . (From page 11)

2. Midseason

3. Late bloomer.

Under this system Alba Plena is classified as White—Complete-double—Early. Of course, other varieties will fall under this same classification. Fimbriata is one of these. In order to distinguish between varieties of the same classification it is necessary to study details, such as bloom size, petal shape, leaf characteristics and plant traits of growth. Therefore, the next task to be accomplished was to provide detailed descriptions of each variety in terms simple enough to be understood by one who had not made a careful study of botany.

Answering the imaginery question posed above, we would find on further search that our friend's camellia was probably Abundance, Leucantha, or White Empress—most probably the latter—and we would proceed to study the details of petals, leaves and growth habits for the final answer.

Since publishing our first edition in 1949, describing 100 true varieties and listing their 263 names and synonyms, we have expanded the index until today the 1950 edition soon to come off the press will list over 2500 names, indexing and classifying them into about 1500 actual varieties.

As time permits, and new varieties are developed and named, we will add them to our Catalog. If mistakes or duplications occur, we will correct them. Our book was built in loose-leaf form for this purpose. At last, there is an authoritative and comprehensive reference volume of camellia classification.

I should add that our book was named "American Camellia Catalog" because it classifies and describes camellias grown in America, many of which are varieties originated in Europe and Asia; otherwise, we would have called it "Catalog of American Camellias" to avoid confusion of our book with the American Camellia Society.

REGISTRATION AND GARDEN COMMITTEES SPLIT

The Registrations Committee which has served so effectively during the past year in developing the Society's program for the registration of new varieties has requested that it be relieved of further responsibility. The committee headed by Dr. David McLean, and including Ralph Peer and Carl Tourje has been considered a part of the Camellia Garden Committee.

The affairs of the Registrations Committee have now been divorced from those of the Gardens Committee and new personnel added to make the Registrations Committee a separate and complete unit.

Dr. Daniel B. Esterly was induced to accept the Chairmanship of this important committee and Julius Nuccio who has served on various committees and just completed a term as director of the society also agreed to accept appointment. E. C. Tourje has consented to remain as secretary.

Until this season Dr. Esterly has not served the Society in any official capacity, although he has been a Society member for several years. He is a physician specializing in Ophthalmology, practicing in Pasadena. He is a graduate of the University of Kansas and of the medical college of the University of Pennsylvania. His residence is in San Marino.

RETICULATA IN RALEIGH . . . (From page 10)

Moreover," observed these camellia wise men, "the plants were budded when you received them." I listened carefully to all their advice, and did as I pleased,—a procedure I can recommend to all devotees who are determined to grow camellias, climate and authority to the contrary notwithstanding. So I set the plants in a bed of sawdust under some pine trees, which provided reasonably dappled shade for their pretty heads.

My four plants set a healthy crop of buds during the following summer. Are you wondering about the second blooming? Well, they threw some buds and held some. Those that remained stayed on all winter, and they bloomed. They bloomed rather late, it's true. It was early in April before they bloomed, but the flowers were even more beautiful, possibly, than before. The most important fact is that there was no evidence of cold injury to the flowers. The size of the blooms was not as great as some I have heard about, but they did get up to almost six inches.

My success so turned my head that I made bold to write about it to Dr. Wilmot at the American Camellia Society. His kindly reply indicated that perhaps the cold had favored my plants. He stated that at the test garden in Gainesville, that had rarely seen blooms go to as much as four inches in diameter.

Now, I shall not try to amaze you with any startling discoveries and recommendations regarding C. Reticulata due to my humble efforts. I have made no tests regarding this business of cold and camellias. Actually, my plants did enjoy protection the first winter, albeit poor protection if you like, and the second winter we were blessed with remarkably mild weather. During the freezing periods, however, C. Reticulata seemed to hold its own against presumably more rugged species such as Japonica. If anything, they appeared less drawn and pinched. The buds did shrink somewhat, but I attribute this at least in part to loss of moisture rather than to the intense cold. They recovered remarkably well, however, and went on to bloom beautifully.

Offhand, I would say, from my slight experience, that C. Reticulata is just as well equipped to withstand the cold as any camellia commonly grown. It is worth trying despite the fact that you may live in a less favored area, and I can assure you that the thrill of seeing the first bloom will repay many times over the labor expended in producing that bloom. Reticulas may be purchased now very reasonably, so don't let the price bug-a-boo you. Although the "raggedy-Andy" appearance of the bare plant may at first sight act as a slight anaesthetic to your artistic sense—believe me,—and I ought to know,—that flower is really *something*!

CAMELLIAS

Standard and Rare Varieties in Most Sizes

Moderately Priced—Special Discount on Specimen Plants

BOORMAN'S CAMELLIA GARDENS

1956 E. Broadway, Temple City, California • Atlantic 6-3401

VISITORS WELCOME

HIGH TEMPERATURE . . . (From page 4)

July 1	109	73	20
2	108	74	11
3	106	67	12
4	104	69	19
5	103	66	21
6	102	68	13
7	101	68	19
8	100	66	22
9	92	69	32
10	92	68	41
11	95	67	31
12	99	66	23
13	103	67	2c
14	105	66	16
15	106	66	17
16	99	65	27
17	95	63	27
18	94	59	28
19	95	60	26
20	98	60	20
21	101	61	22
22	102	63	22
23	100	64	20
24	101	65	20
25	102	66	20
26	99	60	23
27	97	67	20
28	92	60	21
29	90	57	26
30	97	62	23
31	97	63	27

AS I SEE IT . . . (From page 19)

Quotable quotes: "There are about eight distinct species of this plant (camellia) known in our collections; and the varieties of japonica approach to one thousand, to which many are yearly added: but, unfortunately, their merits are not fully scrutinized before they are sent forth to the floral world, under names representing and expressing every quality that is grand or beautiful in floral imagination. Such has been the rapid increase of varieties in Europe, and even in this country, that, in many instances, three or four distinct plants have come out

under the same name; consequently a great confusion of names has been the result, which has caused much difficulty in attaining the best of the names."

That's a quotation from Robert Buist, published in the American Flower-Garden Directory in the year 1854. How true some of those writings of nearly a century ago still remain! What have we got that Buist didn't have? Well, we have some what more than eight species . . . something around seventy, isn't it . . . and we are still having the same kinds of troubles. Something to cogitate over, eh?

Know Your Camellias by Their Proper Names

Complete Descriptions of Each Variety in
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY'S

Nomenclature Book

Send \$1.25 today for your copy to Secretary, 40 N. San Rafael, Pasadena

"SUPERB" QUALITY CAMELLIAS

IN SCIENTIFICALLY BALANCED SOIL MIXTURE

Much wanted varieties, such as: Mother of Pearl • Mrs. Eastman •
Joshua E. Youtz • Firebrand Var. • Thelma Dale • Shin Shioko

Enjoy the unusual sturdiness of plants from

CAMELLIA HALL • 4950-44 St. • Sacramento

REDWOOD TUBS

"Patio Planters"

Outstanding Redwood Container . . . Especially designed
for Camellia culture . . . You regulate soil conditions . . .
Adequate drainage assured . . . Treated to preserve the
wood and prevent weather stain . . . Sturdy construction,
built to last . . .

Now bound with brass strapping . . . Patio Planters take
the "chance" out of gardening . . . doubling in duty and
decoration.

For sale at your local nursery.

PATIO WOOD PRODUCTS

San Gabriel, California

40 N. San Rafael Ave.
Pasadena 2, California

Return Postage Guaranteed

American Camellia Society
Box 2398, University Station
Gainsville, Florida

