

# Camellia Review



CAMELLIA F. G. 2

OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Vol. 12      DECEMBER, 1950      No. 3

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The Society holds open meetings on the Second Thursday of every month, from 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.

## DIRECTORY OF AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

Central California Camellia Society.....	Fresno, Calif.
Meeting place: Fresno High School Auditorium	
Secretary: Frances F. Lennox, 4622 Wilson Ave., Fresno 4	
Time of meeting: 2nd Friday of the month	
8th program: 8 p.m., Speaker, W. L. Rifenberick's "Intersociety Problems and Plans."	
Camellia Society of Kern County.....	Bakersfield, Calif.
Meeting place: 1001 So. Union Ave., Bakersfield, Highway 99	
Secretary: Mrs. Don Wheeler, 2416 Terrace Way, Bakersfield	
Time of meeting: 2nd Monday of the month, Oct. thru May	
11th program: Speaker, Mrs. Chas. Roth, "Flower Arrangements."	
San Diego Camellia Society.....	San Diego, Calif.
Meeting place: Floral Association Building, Balboa Park	
Secretary: Mrs. Althea Hebert, 4710 Harbinson Ave., La Mesa	
Time of meeting: 2nd Friday of each month at 7:30 pm	
8th program: Not announced.	
Pomona Valley Camellia Society.....	Pomona, Calif.
Meeting place: Ebell Club, Pomona	
Secretary: Lynn Honaker, 2775 N. San Antonio St., Pomona	
Time of meeting: 1st Thursday of each month	
7th program: Dr. James Bonner. Subject not announced.	
Temple City Camellia Society.....	Temple City, Calif.
Meeting place: American Legion Hall, 127 N. Golden West, Temple City.	
Secretary: Lynn Timm, 2936 Daines Drive, Temple City	
Time of meeting: 1st Monday of each month	
4th program: Not announced.	

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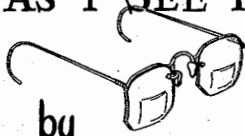
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*H. Dekker is on vacation this month. Question and Answer will be resumed in the January issue.*

# AS I SEE IT...



Arthur S. Kane

AS I SEE IT . . . there is no particular harm for experts, who are recognized as experts in their field, to make very positive statements among themselves on subjects which are merely matters of opinion. Because, some other expert will immediately take the statement to pieces, and give it as *his* opinion, in no uncertain polysyllables, that the statement of the first "expert" is not only pure malarkey, but also opposed to all truth, experience and common sense.

But when this same "expert" breaks into print, and his article bears the weight of a more or less famous signature, little guys like me are completely fooled, go around quoting him, and get laughed at for our pains. Now, I happen to have discovered one pretty good cure for letting myself in for this sort of thing. And that is to remove that famous signature from what looks like a very impressive work of research, intuition or scholarship, and simply sign the article "Joe Ox." Do the statements now sound as impressive? If not, then you may lay to it that your "expert" is talking through his sombrero.

My brother is a great one for giving out with opinions, has a very weighty and imposing manner of presentation, and often convinces people that he knows something of the subject on which he happens to be talking at the moment. A famous architect, who lived across the road,

once remarked to me, "You know when I listen to Larry, I feel as though I am listening to the word of God; then I wake up and realize that it's only Larry Kane, after all."

Editors, being busy men, do not have the time (or, if like me, the knowledge) to check thoroughly into every fact and figure sent in for publication. Each author must be responsible for his own material. Most writers qualify their dicta: "It seems to me," or "It has been my experience," or even, "In the cases which have come to my attention." But some others yearn so strongly to bust into print, that sometimes they consciously or unconsciously intersperse a little fiction with the fact, in order to bolster an opinion or make a point.

Now I would not in any way suppress anyone's right to a full representation of his views on any subject whatever . . . my only point is that matters controversial should be plainly labeled as such, and matters of opinion should be stated as opinion, not as gospel.

\* \* \*

Note to the Temple City Society: We have donned sackcloth and ashes (temporarily) for our faux pas in the last issue in locating your meeting place in Pomona, instead of Temple City. Are we forgiven?

\* \* \*

Founder member, Arthur Freed, of the Los Angeles Camellia Society made a valuable suggestion for a plan to fittingly recognize members' contributions of extraordinarily fine blossoms for the displays at the meetings. I got this information out of a circular letter sent out to members by Ralph Peer, president, just before their first meeting, November 7th. With his permission, I want to quote directly:

"1. At each regular meeting of the Society, flowers brought in for

(Turn to page 14)

## *Christmas Greetings*

Christmas. What a various connotation that word conveys to different minds. To the children, of course, it is lights, Santa Claus and a stocking filled with delightful toys. To the elderly, it is a time of repose, thought and the coming home of the children. And to all of us, it means peace on earth, good will toward all men, the hope of a better and brighter world.

To those of us whose activities encompass camellia growing, it is the season when our most beautiful blooms are produced, and we cannot help but link in our minds Christmas and camellias. Nothing more abundantly satisfies the grower's soul than to have an abundance of blossoms at Christmas. It would almost seem then that our plants wish to reward us with Christmas gifts in return for the loving care expended on them during the year.

May your Christmas this year be a bright and merry one.

W. L. Rifenberick

## **EXT MEETING TO BE ON WEDNESDAY**

**Don't Forget!** Meeting night has been changed, for the next two months, from Thursday to Wednesday. Second meeting falls on Wednesday, December 13 and the January meeting on Wednesday, the 10th.

Speaker for the December meeting will be J. J. Littlefield, who is to give a talk on "Sasanquas," accompanied by a showing of his newest color slides. Perhaps no one in California garden circles is better known than "Joe" Littlefield. His word is law to thousands who have heard him lecture on horticultural subjects, read his articles in magazines and followed his columns in southland newspapers. Lately he has also become a television performer, augmenting his already well-known radio programs.

First meeting of SCCS, held on Nov. 9th, in the usual meeting place, was surprisingly well attended, over 300 turning out. Bloom displays filled the table with amazingly fine blossoms for this time of year. Bill Wood made appropriate comments on them during the program.

Speaker of the evening, "Doc" Miller of Escondido gave a talk in a humorous-serious vein on "Camellias—Slips, Scions and Seeds," with emphasis on the seedlings. Everyone enjoyed fully his sly references.

# THE COMMONEST MISTAKES WITH CAMELLIAS

By DAVID COOK

*Valley Garden Supply Company*

I AM NOT desirous of setting myself up as an expert on all phases of camellia culture, but from many years of association with buyers of camellia I do feel that I could make a passing grade in "guessing" a few the answers to some of the problems commonly encountered in the home culture of the garden queen, the camellia.

Regardless, it seems, of how carefully the salesman impresses the buyer with the importance of setting a camellia at the proper height, careful handling still accounts for the greatest number of subsequent disappointments. In many cases this too deep planting will not be evident until a few years have passed, indicating that the original planting hole had been dug to an excessive depth, and refilled perhaps with the proper soil mixture. The camellia had been planted in the prepared hole without due regard for subsequent decomposition of the peat moss, leaf mold, etc. Without resorting to use of a compressed air tamper it is practically impossible to replace all of the soil that has been removed from a hole. When the backfill material is composed of equal parts of peat, leaf mold and soil it becomes obvious that with the passage of time the peat and leaf mold will decompose leaving only the one-third of soil of the original backfill material. Of course the root ball of the camellia will settle, perhaps not quite in ratio to the loss of volume, but enough to make the plant unhappy indeed.

Here's the surest way to avoid this difficulty in future planting. Plant the camellia plant exactly where you want it to grow. Don't even pick up your shovel until you and the family and the neighbors are entirely satisfied with the exact planting site. Now carefully measure the depth of the root ball and with real care remove the soil to that exact depth. If you want to be really careful, you may even set the young hopeful plant in the primary hole and leave it there until you have finished your excavation. Don't take any more soil; don't even disturb the soil under that root ball. You may remove all the rest of the yard if you are so inclined but leave intact that little pyramid supporting the camellia plant. That's the best insurance known to prevent settling at some later date. The little pyramid may be composed of the most impervious clay gumbo in the county. In never mind, the camellia roots will grow out toward your good backfill material.

The other great killer of camellias is poor drainage or, what amounts to the same thing, excessive water. Many gardeners are blessed with a heavy soil and a love of camellias. The two blessings combine to present him with a problem involving work which is a real deterrent in many cases. However, if the deterrent is insufficient to overcome the love of camellias, you might as well go whole hog and provide proper drainage.

*(Continued on page 13)*



# Every Camellia Buyer Wants Budded Plants

By GEORGE JOYCE HALL, M. D.

*Camellia Hall, Sacramento, California*

"I want my flowers now—not when I'm dead—!"

"If it hasn't any flowers—how do I know what it is?"

"How do I know that the label is correct?"

"I'm getting old—I want my flowers now!—!"

"I'll wait until I see it bloom ———."

"One of my friends bought a camellia—petted it for two years—and it wasn't what he wanted when it bloomed ———."

Such comments have been due to the fact that blooming plants *are* more beautiful and flowers *are* wanted without waiting for a year or two. Thelector, as well as the budget-buyer, should be assured of the correct labels and that the plant will "bloom true."

However, there are many good reasons for buying small plants—reasons the buyer's advantage and reasons that allow the nurserymen to stock wide choice of plants. Certainly it is fun "to watch 'em grow." It is satisfying to feel that the care given a plant results in fine growth and beautiful flowers—makes one feel close to nature—and not too far from it. It is a proud feeling to be able to say "I bought that camellia when it was only a foot high—and look at it now—." Young plants are so much less expensive that they are really "bargains"—and permit one to enjoy many more varieties—than "just one camellia."

In a nursery, unsold plants carried over for several years grow in value and budget prices. Therefore, the propagator must economize by making the new varieties as inexpensively as possible. Your nurseryman is a friendly guy who likes flowers. He likes you because you like flowers. He is a friendly person and hopes to be one of your friends. His small two-year, non-rooted one-year grafted plants will continue to do well in your garden, and maintain that interesting friendship. If a nurseryman makes 2000 plants each year, including every new variety obtainable, his production and maintenance costs go up and the prices to you stay up—if he has an increasing number carried over each year spreading and expensively expanding his nursery.

Unbudded camellia plants—up to 3 or 4 years old—may be due to feed them to develop larger, stronger and sturdier trees of fine quality. Nature tries valiantly to carry on by forming buds on starved plants, but that reproduction might continue. But the buds on starved plants rarely produce top-quality blooms, and the plants suffer during their "labor pains" producing flowers. A small, budded, but partially starved plant will look good. The same plant in full bloom will not sell because the flowers are not desirable.

The sturdiness of a well branched plant; lush growth; the turgidity of

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# ★ *News of the Societies* ★

## ORANGE COUNTY SOCIETY ORGANIZED

The Camellia Society of Orange County held its organization meeting on November 16th at Santiago Park in Santa Ana. The meeting place was filled to capacity with 50 enthusiastic camellia addicts. Harold Larson of Orange was elected founder president and Fred Forgy of Santa Ana was named Vice President. The Secretary-Treasurer will be appointed before the next meeting. Directors elected were Arthur Wirtz, A. V. Crooks and W. H. Riffe.

After a short business meeting some ten visiting members from Southern California Camellia Society were introduced and Ralph Peer gave a short talk on his experiences hunting *Reticulatas* in China. Bill Woodroof then presented "The Reformed Lawyer or How I Became a Camellia Addict". His audience reflected Bill's usual contagious enthusiasm.

Our new affiliate agreed that it would have to find a larger meeting hall which will be announced to their members. Meetings will be held on the third Thursday each month at 8 PM with members exhibiting their flowers at 7:30 PM. All Southern California Camellia Society members should put this meeting date on their calendars and visit our newest affiliate. Take some flowers when you go to their meetings. Those interested in further details should contact President Harold Larson, 212 South Orange Street, Orange, Calif.

## POMONA—1st '50-51 MEETING

The first meeting was held Thursday, November 2 with an almost capacity attendance. Table displays of blooms were excellent with quite a large number of varieties represented.

Bill Woodroof gave us a list of 110 varieties of Camellias, some of which were new, which he says is a must for every Camellia garden. So much more to come.

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# ABEUNT STUDIA IN MORES

The Story of the HON. MARVIN M. MANN, President, South Carolina Camellia Society: former judge, Circuit Court of South Carolina, by the Judge himself, in the form of a letter to Carl Tourje.

*Ed. Note: Throughout the past twenty years one of the outstanding figures of the judiciary of the "deep south" has been the Hon. Marvin M. Mann of St. Matthews, South Carolina, a justice of the Circuit Court of that State.*

*During that time Judge Mann's refuge from the stress and strain of the bench was the peaceful home at St. Matthews surrounded as it is by his beloved camellia section. His communion with his camellias meant much to him during those years of mental turmoil.*

*Now, however, that nature has decreed the scales of justice should be held by other hands, and the time has come for Judge Mann to lay aside his judicial duties, those camellias which have meant so much in the past have taken on a new meaning. They are now a vital part of Judge Mann's life—more, even, than his acceptance of the presidency of that tremendous organization which has mushroomed in our midst, South Carolina Camellia Society. We have asked Judge Mann to tell us what his camellias now mean to him. The reply comes from both the pen and the heart of a man who bends his knee to the Creator of a thing so lovely as our Camellia.*



Marvin M. Mann

St. Matthews,  
South Carolina  
Oct. 20, 1950

My dear Mr. Tourje:

Being yourself a retired member of the craft, I am persuaded that it is a touch of the fellow feeling that "makes us wondrous kind", that prompts my interest in my reactions to the camellia during the twenty-five years of my service on the Bench, and in my retirement back into the unglamorous peaceful circles of purely private life. Having devoted your prime years to the exacting demands on your own practice, and then having withdrawn yourself from that hurried world into this new and different world of camellias, you doubtless have a very good picture of my own present state of mind.

While our life courses have been quite different in our relations to the profession, the common results, I dare say, are quite the same. Yours a man of activity, employed in adjusting and protecting the interests of others

at the Bar and mine one of official duty, burdened with the task of trying to reconcile the conflicting demands of disagreeing citizens—or worse,—hold the scales in even balance between the State and the individual when liberty and life are concerned, we both have been working to the common end of trying to obey the voice of justice in our different, though intimately related, spheres of service. That the camellia could be found a common meeting point where rest, peace and pleasure is sought and found, is a tribute to its manifold adjustments to the wants of worn and tired lives and a common and satisfying panacea for the ills of broken nerves.

You may be impressed with the fact that my love for camellias is not the sudden reaction to the bite of "The Bug". For this I am truly grateful. It helps me to feel that my attraction to them and my association with them has been a normal development of a reciprocal companionship,—real camaraderie,—so to speak, through the years, rather than a quick conversion during an attack of happy delirium.

Born and reared in the higher areas of the Piedmont section of my State in full view of the beautiful Blue Ridge mountains, nearly a thousand feet nearer the sky than the level of the strand, it was along in my early youth and manhood that I began to hear of those strange evergreen shrubs that grew around Charleston and bloomed red, white and mixed colored flowers of unbelievable size right in the very dead of the winter. A lover of every flower that I had ever seen, wild or cultivated, annual or what not, rose, dogwood, the desire to take the two-hundred mile trip down to Charleston to see these flowers began to burn within me. It was rumored by those who had seen them that they were called "Japonicas". So, when in 1905, as an embryo lawyer, absolutely unburdened with the responsibility of practicing law, I moved to a beautiful little town within visiting reach of Charleston, my quest began. One did not have to hunt for them there. Around the yards of the ancient homes they grew large like real trees. The greater number bore singles but there were numbers of the grand old aristocrats like Chandleri and Alba Plena which were affectionately called by their real names; something not altogether common to the many other then unnamed varieties. Next in priority to trying to make myself sufficiently attractive to bickering litigants to earn my bread, came my determination, some day to own camellias.

Incoming practice came along leisurely. Current demands and the usual odds that confront a beginner, held my dream somewhat in abeyance. Finally came the home, and then a series of years in removing the mortgage. The idea of gaily decorating an estate with the equitable title in another did not appeal to me. "Pay as you go" was my Scotch-inspired motto.

The first purchase included, of course, a Mathotiana, Lady Clare (the Empress) Frau Minna Seidel, (then, as well as now, Pink Perfection) Triphosa and H. A. Downing. These old aristocrats still pose in their comparable stateliness as the pioneers in our garden. We love them better as the years go by, and they have been growing a quarter of a century as faithfully as the rising sun.

Under a Constitutional mandate, our Circuit Judges rotate. Within a period of a little more than six years, they will have visited every County seat in the State. Mrs. Mann traveled with me during the first swing around the State. As my assignments carried me into the vicinity of historic Charleston

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# WHAT ARE OUR OBJECTIVES?

By E. C. TOURJE

There are many splendid camellia societies in this land of ours, and no section of the country has any monopoly in this respect. Moreover, the societies are fine organizations, from the small groups who assemble at the homes of neighbor members to exchange scions and ideas, to the national society with its thousands of members and its magnificent Year Book.

The reason that these societies are such splendid organizations is that they are composed of very fine people. Here again there is no sectional monopoly. These members are from all walks of life, and each contributes something to the value of his society. All are benefitted by the contributions of each, and being wonderful people, they have created, and are still creating, splendid camellia societies. There are no exceptions. All these societies are most useful in their way. Make no mistake about it, they are useful. *Moreover, their objectives are all identical.*

The American Camellia Society with its national membership derives its support from the high-ways and by-ways of America. Its members, generally speaking, are those who meet with their neighbors to discuss their mutual problems and enjoy the intimacy of their neighborly contacts. They want, however, something more. They feel the need of the authenticity and excellence of the articles so carefully edited and compiled in the one and only camellia Year Book which has made this society so popular. This Year Book will continue to stand as a monument to the men who have made it possible.

There are many other societies with substantial memberships and excellent literature that are worthy of the highest praise. Their work is all for the good of camellias, and the enhancement of camellias is the only purpose which they seek to serve. Again I say, our objects are identical.

The newcomer in our midst is that lusty and buoyant young South Carolina Camellia Society. It started its career with an amazing membership, and an amazingly successful "quarterly", the *Camellian*, which can easily reach newsstand success. One of the reasons for the success of this new magazine is the recognition of value of the exchange of inter-sectional points of view. The founders of this splendid new society started with dreams of statewide meetings, statewide camellia shows, and society sponsored camellia gardens with which to delight the eye of the camellia lover and stimulate the interest of the general public. With the energy, ability and foresight of the founders of this group behind and with it all these dreams can, and we all hope and expect that they will, come true.

On the west coast as in the southern states there are many societies; all of them excellent societies, too. Each serves its own community and lives in peace with its neighbors.

I think it will be conceded that foremost among the west coast societies is the Southern California Camellia Society which over the years although local in character, and with no hope or expectation of national dominance, has

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# Camelliana

By VERN McCASKILL

By twisting his arm—you know how hard it is to get him to talk about camellias—we were able to get this bit of information from Bill Wylam. Dawn (Sasanqua), Dawn (species unknown), and Vernalis (a Japonica x Sasanqua Hybrid) are all one and the same. Thanks, Bill—we will call it Vernalis from now on.

Can you imagine an eight inch Sasanqua blossom? Neither can we. However, the rosy pink Shiundai is said to be that large at times. Wow!

Don't name your seedling for Lizzie Jones. Someone beat you to it way back in the eighteen-fifties. It was described as being rose pink with red stripes. By the way, Eugene Lize is pronounced Leez.

The variety Duchess of York from Australia is identical to Pink Lady, the light pink sport of Paeoniae Flora. Since Duchess of York is the older name, it will naturally be given preference. This will eliminate one of the three or more pink ladies (we are still talking about camellias) thru out the country.

To most of us, Rosea Mundi, Reticulata, and Paeoniae Flora Rosea are fairly new camellias. They were also new to Marshall P. Wilder when he exhibited them in January, 1836. Do they ever get old?

**Southern California  
Camellia Society**

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# CONTAINER CULTURE

BY INTERESTED OBSERVER

*Foreward: Container culture for camellias presents a number of problems peculiar to container culture. These problems include those pertaining to drainage, irrigation, potting and potting mixes, and nutrition. Due to the existence of these problems those persons unacquainted with camellias or unfamiliar with the care and culture of shade-loving plants generally are urged to seek the advice of their nurseryman who specializes in handling camellias, or some other person competent to give advice on the subject before embarking on a container program. To those persons having a relatively comprehensive understanding of the needs and requirements of the camellia and other shade-loving plants, container culture holds many attractions, and may very safely be enjoyed.*

SO MUCH has been written during the past few years on the subject of container culture for camellias that one hesitates to accept an assignment of this nature. In fact, it would seem that the only justification for any further literature on the topic arises from the rapidly expanding interest in camellias and the annual increase by countless thousands of persons who have turned to camellias as an outlet for expression of appreciation for beauty of flower and symmetry of shrub. These newcomers in camellias, so to speak, do not as a rule have access to permanent and established literature on camellia culture to which they may turn for aid as they may on many other horticulture subjects. This doubtless is due to the fact that the upsurging interest in camellias as we know it today is of relatively recent origin and literature concerning this horticultural gem is not as yet widely distributed.

For the reasons stated it would seem that the camellia societies are justified in publishing data of interest to these many newcomers despite the repetitious nature of the data, and it is in this spirit that this article is presented.

Conservation of space: Not necessarily the more choice, but undoubtedly the more rare varieties of camellias come, generally speaking, in smaller plants. Many of them even before they are acquired are destined to be discarded. This may be due to a number of reasons: They may have come to be over rated. They may be temperamental; they may bloom satisfactorily in one part of the country but not in another; they may have poor habits of growth or be actually unsightly as a shrub. Indeed, there may be reasons why many varieties of camellias which flash across the horizon are destined to be discarded. Is it not better therefore that we grow these camellias in containers and evaluate them under our own home conditions before planting them as part of our permanent garden?

Then too there is the matter of available space. To those persons who live in urban communities where land is sold not by the acre but by the front foot container culture is indeed a boon. Camellias in the ground as a permanent planting should be so spaced as to allow for normal growth regardless of size at the time of planting. This necessarily limits the number of plants which may be so utilized. This, however, is not the case with plants grown in containers which may be arranged fairly close together without detriment to the plants.

(Continued on page 22)

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## STAKES WITH CAMELLIAS . . . . . (from page 4)

To make a large hole in heavy clay soil, and stop before you have provided an *escape* for water, is tantamount to planting your camellia in a wheelbarrow. You've simply provided a good big hole that will hold water. Use a soil auger and keep on drilling until you have passed the pan or reached a strata of gravel or light soil. Test the hole for drainage before you ever set your plant in it. If water will not escape in a reasonable time (not by evaporation) you might as well not get too excited about your prospects of success with camellias. There are a few alternate courses to follow should you fail to strike gravel; tile drain lines, raised bed plantings, or container growing. Take your choice but don't toy with the notion that a few shovels of rock or drainage material will compensate for lack of an escape for excess water. You know a sponge can absorb only so much water; to the best of my knowledge gravel is considerably less absorptive. The only justification for the use of gravel in a planting hole is to prevent soil from clogging the drain. Gravel has no other virtues in camellia culture.

If the planting hole is properly constructed and drainage for excess water provided, the problem of watering is greatly simplified. One of the reasons it is so difficult to instruct anyone on proper watering procedure is the fact that the average gardener will not take, or trouble to make, a uniform soil for planting his camellia. One planting hole may be properly constructed and properly backfilled, and the adjacent planting hole may not. This accounts for many complaints of camellias side by side, one thriving and the other failing.

The last real bugaboo is fertilizing and so much has been written on the importance of proper feeding I feel it unnecessary to dwell at any extent on this. If you will please refrain, always, from fertilizing a newly set out plant, you will be taking great strides toward a successful relationship with camellias. There are many more losses from overfeeding than from starvation, and no really sick camellia has ever responded, to my knowledge, to feeding except to perish just that much more surely and quickly. The use of a good honest-to-gosh organic camellia food, in sparing amounts, will provide the plant with just about every thing it needs. Stay away from ultra-high-powered stuffs if you would build a good sturdy root system. A camellia's resistance to pests, drought and other extremes will be in direct ratio to the reserve of strength stored in the roots. Provide for proper development and you can forget about troubles with camellias.

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**STANDARD  
and RARE  
VARIETIES**

**AS I SEE IT** . . . (from page 14)

display by our amateur members will be judged by a three-man committee appointed by the president.

"2. Blue, red and white ribbons indicating first, second and third prizes will be given at each meeting. Such prizes shall have the following point values: Blue, 10 points; Red, 5 points; White, 3 points.

"3. At the last regular meeting of the season, the Arthur Freed Cup will be awarded to the member having the largest number of points for the season. The name of the winner will be engraved on the cup, which will remain in his possession for one year. It must then be returned to the Society to be awarded to the winner for the second year, etc. The Cup is to remain the property of the Society until and unless a member wins it three times. Winning the Cup three times entitles the member to permanent possession.

"4. The judges, at each meeting shall base their awards on the following rules: a) Size, considered according to variety, 25%; b) Color, 25%; c) Form, 25%; d) Substance and texture, 15%; e) Condition, 10%."

Now this sounds to me like a head of a good idea. Not only does it award merit, but it creates a big interest among the amateurs in bringing more and better blossoms to display. This is an easily understood scheme, simple in operation which might well be adopted by every society in existence. LA has no copyright on the idea, and even if they had, I'm sure they'd be lenient. What's your reaction?

\* \* \*

I told Joe that I thought poring over garden catalogs was a layman's way of enjoying the bloom he should be producing. "Nothing could be further from fact," Joe

(Turn to page 16)

## YERS WANT BUDDED PLANTS . . . . . (from page 5)

new growth are much better tests in making a purchase than whether it has a few bulbs.

Confusion and uncertainty are still rampant in the controversial problem of how to grow the vigorous, rapidly growing plants that also have small sized blooms during their second and third years of life. A completely balanced fertilizer, as known today, is used in developing superior plants. After the third year the food can well be varied or used in smaller amounts to maintain the vigor and to produce blue ribbon blooms.

Our nurseryman believes that he is assuring you that your new plants will continue to have good health even if you haven't the time to pamper them like he did.

A complete soil mixture may be so very rich that a heavy second growth starts before the first spring growth has hardened up and before flower buds have set. However, by the time a small plant deserves to be placed in a larger container, the new additional soil mixture (without added chemicals) allows it to produce blooms in profusion.

The scientifically balanced soil mixture used at Camellia Hall makes the finest quality plants—but, at times, during early growth development the excellent early second growth permitting fewer buds per season, at such time as it is no longer forced. Maybe we are making a mistake in growing what some customers call "superb" plants, but we think not. The point is proven when comparing grafts (of the same variety) on understock in different soil mixtures. Grafts on understock fed by a rich soil mixture surrounding the root systems are much finer than on roots in a starved soil. A 2 or 3 year old plant is a baby and needs nourishment for healthy development.

Supposedly, phosphorus, phosphates, super phosphate, triple or treble phosphate—or whatever—aid in bud and bloom development. Some growers believe that, in dry form, this does not all become available by absorption during the first growing season. Continued study and experiment can consider the results obtained by expert, amateur gardeners—and their suggestions are welcomed by all commercial propagators.

Many amateurs have given extensive study to feeding and fertilizing, hoping to increase branching or rapidly growing, healthy budded camellias. Some of these successful home gardeners really nurse their camellias and obtain sweepstake types of blooms. Some of their fertilizer formulas are rational and scientific—but others seem to use everything in the mixture except their own green thumbs!

"Over-stimulation" can be carried on into and through a bud forming dormant phase if the food is not completely used up during the growing season, when it is needed. For this reason, it is obvious that the correct food or "medication" should be immediately available, absorbable, and taken up by the root system during the season when it is necessary. When a doctor gives medicine for a tired heart, it should not be used after the heart becomes normal. If the medicine is used too long the heart muscle becomes damaged. This is one argument for the use of balanced liquid fertilizers. Liquid or other fertilizers must be used with careful consideration of the chemistry of the original soil mixture. Relatively inert soil

*(Continued on page 19)*

# Camellia Show

**BROOKSIDE PARK, PASADENA**

**FEBRUARY 17 & 18, 1951**

**EVERY CAMELLIA GROWER** in this area is cordially invited to enter an exhibit in this show. There is no charge for exhibition space. Make application as early as you can, because space will be allotted to exhibitors in the order of receipt of application. Apply to the Secretary of the Show Committee, or be prepared to hand your application to the show representative when he calls.

**AMATEURS** desiring to enter either plants or cut blossoms in the competitive exhibits should obtain blanks and make their entries early. There will be hundreds of classes for all varieties, types and colors of camellias.

**CANDIDATES** who may have a potential Hertrich Award winner, **DON'T FAIL** to send in your registration **NOW** to the Registrations Committee.

## **REGISTRATIONS COMMITTEE**

**2730 Lorain Rd.**

**San Marino**

## **SECRETARY**

## **SHOW COMMITTEE**

**40 N. San Rafael Ave.**

**Pasadena 2**

**AS I SEE IT . . .** (from page 1)

plied, with a smile that took out stinging. "Full-color pictures in garden catalogues are the best way to train the eye to recognize varieties which one does not happen to have. The pleasure of living with daily."

\* \* \*

Sometimes driving along the street and noticing a camellia bush in somebody's yard, I wonder if that particular person is a member of the So. Cal. Camellia Society. Most of them can be, of course, for our membership roster would be five times as big as it is.

And now, to get in the plug if you could, you know, present a membership to someone you know who is not now a member, but who may have camellias in his garden. That would make a year-'round Christmas remembrance, through the eight issues of the *Review*.

And speaking of Christmas presents, it ought to be unnecessary to point out that camellia plants make one of the most treasured gifts that can be given. When buying a plant deal with one of the nurserymen who advertise in *Camellia Review*. For two reasons: One, you are sure that you are dealing with a reputable business firm, whose interest is to please you and stay in business; and, Two, unless his advertising in the *Review* attracts so much business, that advertiser will not stay with us long. And we need that advertising!

\* \* \*

Sorry, but all the seeds that our society received for sale this year have been entirely exhausted. The members really went for them in a big way at the first meeting, and cleaned out the pot in a hurry.

## NEWS OF THE SOCIETIES . . . . . (from page 6)

thought and experience is behind this list that the Society wants to place copy in the hands of each of its members.

President Harold Pearson announced that plans are maturing for a Camellia garden for the Society. Full details will be given later when plans are worked out.

The Pomona Society is to have a monthly publication for its members. Editorial committee composed of De Cothran, Hollis Tompkins, and Heimerl has been appointed. The first issue will be in the mail December 1, and subsequent issues will be mailed one week prior to the regular meeting. Contributions from members will be welcomed.

Next meeting is Thursday, December 7. Dr. Bonner is to be the speaker. Dr. Bonner's knowledge of Camellia culture makes this a must for all Camellia growers.

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## SOUTHERN CALIF. CS's EXHIBIT

Forty blooming plants were exhibited by your Society at the Fall Flower Garden Show held at Brookside Park, Pasadena on Nov. 3, 4 and 5. Eight varieties of Japonicas and eight of Sasanquas. A tray of cut blossoms, as well as many floating in a pool, was one of the feature displays.

Only through the cooperation and courtesy of many members of the Society, and the professional growers, was our secretary able to produce this splendid display which he did. The Society is grateful to the following members for the loan of plants:

E. S. Jones; through Carl A. Swanson; Coolidge Rare Plant Gardens, through J. J. Mulvihill; Nuccio Camellia Nurseries, through Julius Nuccio; App Camellia Nurseries, through Paul E. Shepp; McCaskill Camellia Nurseries, through Vern McCaskill; Harold C. Hill and Iyon J. Parker. Echo Descanso, through J. Howard Asper, furnished cut blossoms which were replaced fresh on Sunday morning. Patio Wood Products, through George E. Widmann, furnished redwood tubs.

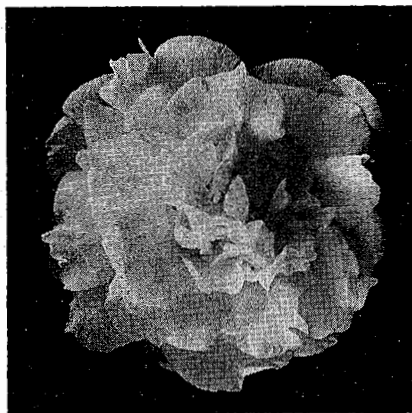
The following members installed the exhibit:—Rifenberick, Elmer and [unclear], and the following attended the exhibit to answer camellia questions:—[unclear], Elmer, Wylam, Tourje, Nichols, Gale, Johnson and Hill.

---

## SAN DIEGO—1st '50-51 MEETING

The meeting opened with a few remarks from Mr. Ralph S. Peer, president of the Los Angeles Camellia Society and director of the Southern California Camellia Society, and Mr. Victor J. Wagoner, Inter-Society Relations Committee of the Southern California Camellia Society. Another honored guest was Mr. Roy T. Thompson of the Pacific Camellia Society.

Mr. Frank Williams of Beverly Hills presented ninety of his recently completed slides of new camellias, which excelled anything ever seen before in this field.



Camellia "Joshua Youtz"

*Joshua Youtz*

*and other*

*Daiks now in*

*bloom. See Them.*

*Spectacular*

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*Standard and Rarest Varieties*

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of Chandleri Elegans



**BUYERS WANT BUDDED PLANTS . . . . .** (from page 15)

tures need well balanced foods and fertilizers applied seasonally. Rich mixtures need only food—not fertilizers.

Whatever your personal experiences with mislabelled plants have been—the reports of your friends—you can now depend on the unbudded plants being labelled correctly.

Camellia propagating methods now develop sturdy, small plants that safely be taken to your garden at an earlier age than would permit buds or blooms. Therefore, it is not necessary to buy large, flowering plants in order to develop a top-rated collection. Your nurseryman's reputation is your insurance that when you buy a plant it takes an implied guarantee to your home.

Certainly we want budded plants—all of us! We want flowers at home—in some nursery. I want "to see the blooms" as well as you do. But, nurserymen, we can't see the blooms of the red-hot, new varieties when we buy the plants for grafting. A newly marketed variety has been watched years by the originator and is known to "bloom true" by the time it is produced for sale. Small, young, unbudded plants of a fine new variety grow into blooming sizes in your garden just as soon as in the nursery, at less cost to you.

For its age, a somewhat over-grown, well branched camellia plant with thick glossy foliage indicates a large, healthy root system. It is the unseen root system that determines the quality of blooms and future plant behavior. Sturdy root systems developed correctly, beginning in the cutting stage, become the finest camellias in any collection.

Increased numbers of smart buyers are obtaining fine small plants—usually—watching them bloom in their own gardens, and taking blue ribbons away from the experts.

What am I doing about it? Well—I'm not so darn old that I can't wait for blooms—and neither are you——!

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built an international reputation as well as international membership. This is due to the excellence of its monthly periodical, the *Camellia Review*; Horticultural Research Committee work now reported in book form; Nomenclature Book; its substantial contributions to and sponsorship of probably the finest and loveliest camellia garden in the world, and but not least, its renowned camellia shows at Brookside Park in Pasadena.

Does Southern California Camellia Society seek to impose domination upon its neighboring societies? Not at all. Pacific Camellia Society centered in nearby Glendale is its partner in the gorgeous camellia shows which are the envy of the camellia world. The west coast societies in Southern California have in the past had joint meetings of members, and expect to have many more of them. There is mutual respect and perfect harmony among these societies. If you will look at the title page of the 1947 issue of the nomenclature book published by Southern California Camellia Society you will find the statement that it is co-sponsored by every camellia society in the State of California! That is collaboration. Rivalry? Yes, indeed, but it never ceases. It is, however, of the most friendly sort. It has been. Many of the members of the "rival" societies of Southern California are also members of all the other societies. Why? Because one gives what the other society does not, and no one imposes upon the prerogatives of the other.

The counterpart of the Southern California Camellia Society in the northern part of the State is the Northern California Camellia Society whose periodicals rate the highest praise, and whose camellia shows are legendary. From every point of view this is one of the finest societies in America and commands the respect of everyone who knows anything about it.

One of the prominent members of the Northern California Camellia Society is a consistent blue ribbon winner at the Southern California Camellia Society shows. Is that resented? If you think so look at the March 1950 issue of the *Bulletin*. Observe the article "A Winner's Way of Feeding Camellias". This same issue contains notices regarding several other societies; an article describing the beauties of a "rival" camellia garden at San Diego, and an article concerning a new camellia developed in Pensacola, Florida. In the June 1950 issue of the *Bulletin* is the announcement of the organization of the South Carolina Camellia Society. The July issue devotes a half page to the unfortunate passing of Roy F. Wilmot, and reference to a half page to other societies. It includes a half page devoted to the birth of the publication of the new group—South Carolina Camellia Society—the "*Camellian*". Were they condemned with faint praise? Can you detect any trace of jealousy?

I know of no one identified with Southern California Camellia Society or any society, who is envious of any other camellia society, or covets anything which any other society has, except the regard and good will of its members. I know of no one who does not sincerely feel that the success of every camellia society contributes inevitably to the success of every other society.

Unquestionably the most satisfactory method of extending intersociety goodwill and exchanging intersociety thoughts and ideas is by means of personal contact between members. Such contact inevitably results in

ancement of mutual regard, respect and confidence in individuals, as well as societies. Recognizing this fact Southern California Camellia Society invited the late Roy F. Wilmot, then Secretary of American Camellia Society, to attend and address the members of societies on the west coast at a joint meet in Pasadena, in February, 1948. This was done at expense to the Southern California Camellia Society of several hundreds of dollars. Following this meeting Mr. Wilmot served as one of the judges of the annual camellia show, and was the dinner guest of the Board of Directors, as well as the guest on other occasions of the Camellia Garden Committee and of the Horticultural Research Committee.

One of my most pleasant recollections is that of the visit which the delegation of American Camellia Society members from the southern and the eastern states paid to the societies on the west coast in February, 1949. They were delightfully charming people and Southern California with all its societies turned over to these guests from sister states a meeting of fifteen hundred camellia fans who will long remember the occasion. I wish that there could be more such meetings as this. They would do more to solidify the camellia loving public than anything I can think of. I can assure you that the objectives of all who attend such meetings are identical. Next only in value to personal contact is the interchange of thoughts and feelings by means of the pen.

One of the healthiest indications of the universality of camellias is the general exchange of authors of articles in our various camellia periodicals. This practice not only adds interest—it is a most important factor in bringing better understanding, and spreading good will among all camellia lovers.

A countless number of intersectional authors are contributors to the periodicals of the different camellia societies throughout the land.

Right now the Editorial Committee of Southern California Camellia Society has commitments for articles for future Reviews from more than a dozen prominent camellia fanciers located throughout the country. At least half of these persons reside in our sister states in the South and South-East. These several are prominent factors in "rival" societies. You will find no threat of provincialism or sectionalism in this!

Moreover, of the total of fifty-three articles found in the 1949 volume of the ACS Year Book, roughly a third, seventeen in fact, were written by authors residing on the west coast; men who are members of local societies, and, generally speaking, contributors also to the periodicals published by their own and neighboring societies.

I think that I am safe in saying that all this interchange of ideas by authors from different sections of the country has done much to unite the camellia lovers everywhere in one common interest, and that such exchanges of ideas are essential to the continuing interest in camellias. In fact, I would say that perhaps these contributions of articles have been unconsciously sought and given with the express purpose of uniting the thoughts and pleasures of all who love camellias.

Space does not permit the mention of all the dozens of splendid societies serving their communities both in the south and on the west coast. I cannot be refuted, however, when I say that the objective of each is the objective of all. Each serves its own purpose, and with no exceptions that purpose is worth. It is to make our world a better and more interesting place in which to live. May it ever be thus.

## CONTAINER CULTURE . . . . . (from page 1)

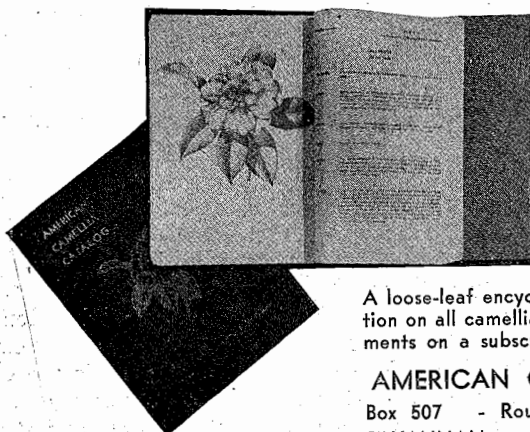
Under the heading of available space may also come the subject of collateral plantings. There are many beautiful landscapes which would be available for camellia plantings if they were not already planted with surface-rooted shrubs and trees which discourage if indeed they do all but inhibit less vigorous ornamentals such as camellias. Excellent illustrations are the acacias, birches and eugenias. Is the householder to forego the pleasure of camellias or remove these shallow rooted trees and shrubs under which the camellias do not thrive? Not at all. Container culture is the answer to that problem, and by this method his camellias will find beneficial shade without the harsh root competition of those hardy trees and shrubs whose roots grow so close to the surface of the soil.

Then again there are many new homes erected in new subdivisions with natural shade except that from small nursery stock which economy requires when large specimen trees would have been preferred but which finances forbid. The people who acquire such homes need not be without camellias and other shade-loving plants. A comparatively small lath house will hold many smaller camellias in containers which when in bloom may be brought to the patio enclosure or to the porch to their delight the owner who otherwise would be deprived of this pleasure. It takes no imagination to see that the Camellia loving grower can thus multiply the number of plants which would otherwise be limited to relatively few because of the space allowance necessary to be made for plants placed in the ground. It is an ideal method of enabling the urban householder to have those many rare and choice varieties for which his heart yearns.

(To be continued)

## *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 \$17.50. Place orders now for 1951 supplement, with index including 2683 names of 164 varieties. This edition comes in leaf-green binder with gold-embossing.

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

quent cruises of the equally historic gardens gave us time to select carefully. And, as new varieties came along, so did we, until before we were aware, our collection had grown into real ambitious dimensions. Sensing that I could not resist a deep attachment for them and that they involved a continuing necessary care and culture, Mrs. Mann very smoothly and gently slipped out of the picture, and to see that I did not lose my interest, nor fall into an attitude of neglect, quietly and smartly began to stir up my collection. No easier way to stir a man's vanity than to make him think he can do a thing with flowers as well as his wife. It worked at home. With the salutary advice of a cautious wife out of the picture, I desired to keep up with the advent of new appearances soon landed me where all men intoxicated with camellia love always find themselves,—in more flowers than good sense approves.

But, looking back, I am satisfied that they have been worth all the investment of time and money expended upon them. Young, virile, ambitious to establish a creditable career, imbued with the altruistic belief that I might make a contribution to the administration of justice and help make my life a better place in which to live, I gave no heed to the advice of older and wiser men who had gone before and cautioned me against overwork and disregard of the simple rules of self-preservation. As the years rolled and work rolled on my shoulders it began to dawn upon me that each was taking its toll both of body and nerve. It was then that I made a covenant with my flowers. I would take them into a warm and constant fellowship, make their home my haven to which I would hide away at weekends when I came home tired, weary and sometimes depressed with the sordid atmosphere of the criminal court room. Had I been allowed to choose, I never would have presided over a criminal case. Whether of minor importance or naming the day that a felon should end his life, I rebelled against it all. I always left the criminal court with a sigh of relief. It was to my camellia garden I would hurry to have the pure blush of a perfect flower wash the lingering memory of unhappy scenes in the court room. There was nothing like the lambent light that beams from the perfect smile of a beautiful flower to transmute a feeling of gloom into a climbing spell of nature.

I liked to joke with my good doctor and tell him that my camellia garden was my hospital. I like to jolly the ministers and tell them that it was a sanctuary. This was not entirely a play at levity. For both headaches and heartaches have been dispelled in utter retreat while being refreshed by an hour of quiet, undisturbed communion with my flowers.

It was a matter of amusing commentary to have the lawyers who so frequently called on professional business, when they failed to get a response at the door bell, simply to say, "Well, boys, we'll find him in his overalls in the flowers." I liked to hear their chuckles as they called, "Yes, here he is. Come on boys, we'll get our Orders signed, right here among the flowers."

There are many hundreds of official documents, now resting in the eternal lives, which were made the law of the case by my signature penned under the friendly branches of a camellia bush.

Yes, during the twenty-five years upon the Bench, camellias were one

of the most effective and contributing forces to my ability to "take it". Without them, I might have made the grade, but I am grateful to the indulgence of Destiny that led me to choose them for my friends.

One of the greatest assets in the life of any normal person is friendship—the kind that remain true while you are absent and without the reach of a pat on the back. The Bar of South Carolina claims scores,—yes,—hundreds of men just like that. Aside from the hope that I may have done something to further and strengthen the dignity and the sanctity of the law, my greatest accomplishment was the enrichment of my life with the support, respect and inspiration of these incomparable men. Now that I am back in private life, no longer carried to the various reaches of the State, my contacts with them have diminished. That is my greatest loss in retirement. And, my retreat to my camellia garden, where I can occupy myself, live among the flowers, muse upon the past, think of pleasant days now gone, and engage in hopeful thinking for the uncertain future, I find my flowers the nearest possible substitute for the loss of these wonderful fraternal companions.

And best of all, as I stand in lonely contemplation of a perfect flower, I seem to see a beckoning hand that wants to guide me clear of unseen paths and to hear the whisper of a gentle voice that says "Come unto me, all weary of that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest".

Most sincerely yours,  
Marvin M. Mann

## RECENT VARIETAL REGISTRATIONS

### BEAU HARP

A seedling of unknown parentage (Japanese origin). Registration application by W.K. Wilkinson, Pensacola, Florida. Red. Very large peony form. Vigorous upright growth. E-M.

### EMMETT PFINGSTL

A variegated mutant of Joseph Pfingstl. Registration application by Mrs. Emmett J. Pfingstl, Montgomery, Alabama. Very large peony to Rose form. Vigorous to upright growth. E-M.

### JOSEPH PFINGSTL

A seedling of unknown parentage (Plant patent 927). Registration application by Mrs. Emmett J. Pfingstl, Montgomery, Ala.

### MARJORIE MAGNIFICENT

A seedling of unknown parentage (Japanese origin) Registration application by W. H. Wilkinson, Pensacola, Fla. Light Pink. Medium, semi-double anemone form. Upright growth. E-M.

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