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Camellia Review



Official Bulletin of the Southern California Camellia Society

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Vol 13

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No. 7

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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: \$5.00.

DIRECTORY OF AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

Central California Camellia Society.....	Fresno, Calif.
Meeting place: Elementary School Auditorium, Fresno State College	
Secretary: Frances F. Lennox, 4622 Wilson Ave., Fresno 4	
Date of Meeting: 3rd Friday of the month	
Camellia Society of Kern County.....	Bakersfield, Calif.
Meeting Place: Fiesta Room, El Adobe Motel, Union Ave.	
Secretary: Mrs. Tracy Harkness, 1101 Pershing Drive, Bakersfield	
Date of meeting: 2nd Monday of the month, Oct. thru May	
San Diego Camellia Society.....	San Diego, Calif.
Meeting Place: Floral Association Building, Balboa Park	
Secretary: Mrs. W. E. Peyton, 3065 C St., San Diego 2	
Date of meeting: 2nd Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.	
Pomona Valley Camellia Society.....	Pomona, Calif.
Meeting Place: Ebell Club, Pomona	
Secretary: J. M. Hartke, 874 Paige Drive, Pomona	
Date of meeting: 1st Thursday of each month	
Temple City Camellia Society.....	Temple City, Calif.
Meeting Place: American Legion Hall, 127 N. Golden West, Temple City	
Secretary: Miss Marguerite Merrilees, 517 S. Sierra Madre Blvd., Pasadena 10	
Date of meeting: 1st Monday of each month	
Camellia Society of Orange County.....	Santa Ana, Calif.
Meeting Place: Girl Scout Headquarters, 1004 West 8th St., Santa Ana	
Secretary: Harold Larson, 212 S. Orange St., Orange	
Date of meeting: 3rd Thursday of the month	

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Pictures by Edward Cressell

AS I SEE IT...



Arthur S. Kane

AS I SEE IT . . . there are just a heck of a lot of people growing camellias who never get interested in any society, never attend any camellia shows, and whom you never met and never will . . . because they are simply Mr. & Mrs. Joe Average, who do not happen to get wildly enthusiastic about any one particular phase of flower growing, but who have one or two or maybe more camellia plants in their garden, just because they're pretty, and bloom in the winter when other flowers do not. And when you stop to think about it, maybe that is a very good thing. Sometimes enthusiasts get so wrapped up in their particular enthusiasm that they look down the wrong end of the telescope and do not see the broader view. Maybe it is a very good thing to have a large backlog of people who are interested in, but not wedded to, any particular type of hobby, interest, pursuit or whatever. In the early days of automobiling, to take an instance, there were lots of motoring clubs, touring clubs and the like. Gradually the use (and abuse) of the motor car spread out into ever-widening circles and it became accepted merely as another valuable tool of mankind, but not something for fanaticism. As more and more homes are built, especially around Southern California, more and more gardens will contain specimens of camellia, and if some of these new home owners become interested in the camellia to the point where they join the SCCS, that will be all on

the good side of the ledger, too. But I, personally, don't think that I will worry too much about the camellia going into a decline in favor . . . at least, not just yet.

* * *

I am in receipt of a letter from those eminent attorneys, Thimblewit, Thistleweight & Throsslebottom, on behalf of Mr. Snicklefritz, threatening me, my heirs, assigns, etc. with consequences dire for stating in the aforesaid March issue of aforesaid Camellia Review, etc. that Mr. Snicklefritz was giving out with nothing but bad advice for amateur camellia growers. Or words to that effect. This, of course, is nothing but a Red plot. I said nothing of the kind, in the first place, and if I did say it, I didn't mean it that way. What I meant was that if Mr. Snicklefritz chooses to couch his advice to the camellia grower in terms

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THE AMATEUR TALKS BACK

By ZITA MARKS

DID YOU read the article by David Cook, "Back to the Fundamentals" in the *Camellian*? Now there is a man trying to help us amateurs. There has been, and there still is, too much hocus-pocus about camellias.

Plant them in the deep shade, in part shade, and don't be caught dead with one in the full, hot sun. When you make a graft, be sure to sterilize everything in sight, including the neighbors and yourself. You amateurs can't make cuttings because you don't have a cold frame, hot bed, lath house, hot house, or some other expensive piece of equipment. You have to bake the flats to sterilize them and wash the sand until it's fit to eat. Buy a bale of peat-moss, a ton of sand, a load of gravel and at least a \$5.00 camellia plant, or you haven't lived.

Visit most of the societies, to meet other fellow enthusiasts, and learn more about camellias, and this is what happens to you. You enter. No one speaks to you. Nobody even asks you to sit down. Around the hall are little groups of people gaily chatting, you hope, about camellias. The meeting is called to order. A lot of Mr. "Bigs" are sitting on the platform looking down on the poor little amateurs. Your speaker gives an interesting talk about camellias. When it is all over you leave. No one has spoken to you all evening. You have to almost hit someone over the head to even join this heavenly group.

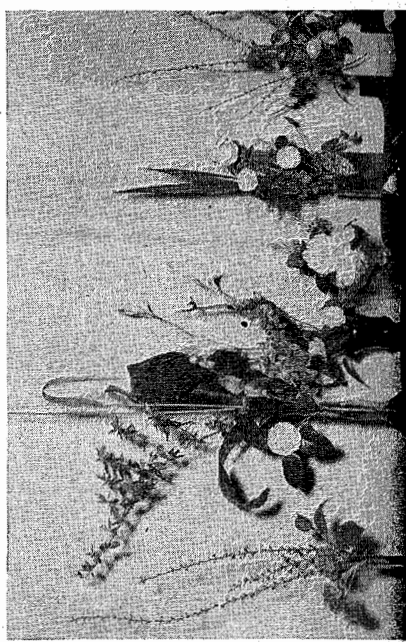
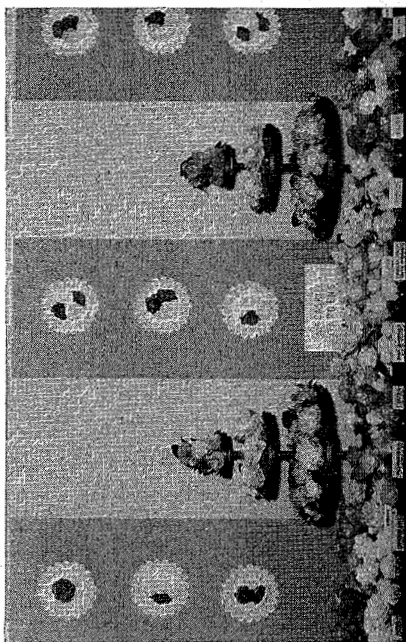
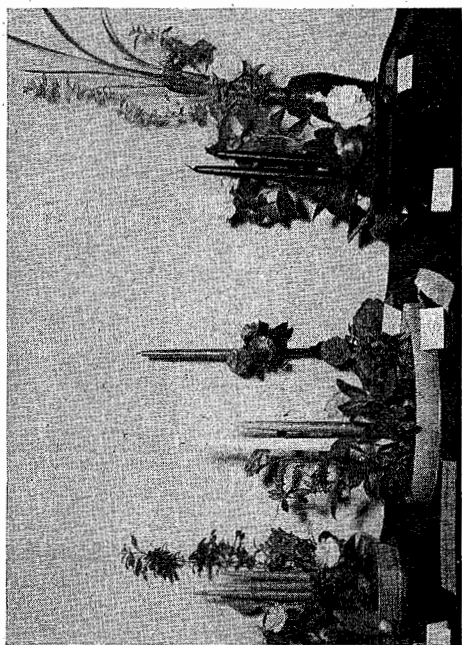
The reason you went to the meeting in the first place, was to swap experiences, get news about new fertilizers, seedlings and so forth. Did you? No, a thousand times No! Instead, you were treated very coldly by the members, lectured "at" by the Mr. Bigs, and learned nothing that you couldn't have read about in the comfort of your own home.

This next is for the benefit of all the "Experts," because, I say, the amateurs do a good job of raising camellias too. Did you ever hear of putting an old mayonnaise jar over a 3 inch pot, in which you have inserted a cutting? Did you know that we amateurs also put cuttings in the ground with an old jelly glass over them? And they root. We don't sterilize a thing, because we never heard about it. We also put cuttings in an old lug box, first removing the fruit, with a pane of glass over it. That's what we do when we want a lot of cuttings. Of course, you will have to excuse us, we never heard of sterilized sand.

We had already planted our own camellias in the yard before we heard the lecture about gravel, peat-moss and sand. We are sorry to tell you about this horrible mistake, but we do take prizes at the shows, and our camellias look all right too.

A lot of us didn't know about the shade, either. We are moving into new homes every day and just can't afford to buy giant oak trees, so we plant our camellias in the sun, and they seem to love it. We have found out, all by ourselves, just from experience, that if you buy a camellia in the summer time and take it from a lath house into the full sun, it will sunburn, and quite badly, the first year. But by the following year, the leaves will be a

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SOCIETY'S SHOW

IF ANY of the Southern California Society's Show Committee had possessed a sufficiently powerful crystal ball this year, they might have chosen for the theme, "Camellias in the days of Noah," or "Japonicas Look Pretty Even in a Flood."

Inclement weather—or, in other words, about 4 inches of rain, during the week-end of March 15-16 practically ruined the attendance at the Southern California Camellia Society's show held on those dates at the Odd Fellows Temple on N. Robles in Pasadena. Those who braved the weather were rewarded by seeing a display of cut flowers and arrangements, in both the commercial and amateur sections, which outrivaled any displays of the past several years. The anteroom, foyer and main auditorium of the Temple were crowded with massed displays which caused admiring "Oh!" and "Ah!" from the visitors, as their eyes swept the view from the entrance doorways.

Best flower in the show award was won by E. C. Tourje, with a *Nagasaki*. Sweepstakes winner was Dr. Reuben Tellam, of Ramona, with 22 points. Dr. and Mrs. Tellam drove up from Ramona through the pouring rain Saturday morning with a car full of the loveliest flowers, and his win helped compensate their effort. Entries for the Margarete & William Hertrich Awards were judged, but no announcement of winners will be made, until results from all shows are tabulated, as entries in shows of affiliated societies are eligible this year for these awards.

The Show Committee wishes to thank particularly the three judges, Ronald Townsend, Bill Woodroof and Clifton Johnson, who performed an outstanding job of distributing awards in classes where fine distinctions had to be made to separate very close contenders. All in all, this year's displays of cut blossoms perhaps ranked higher in toto than has been the case in past competitions.

Commercial growers were well represented by striking displays in the auditorium installed by Don & Blanche Miller, Nuccio's Nurseries, Councilman's Camellia Acres, Vern O. McCaskill, Lodge Nursery, Tuttle's, and Mark Anthony.

Keen competition marked the various divisions of the arrangements section, with original and eye-filling groupings in both the amateur and professional classes.

While this year's show cannot be classed among the more financially successful enterprises of the society, those who saw it will remember, without question, the size and beauty of the blooms which graced the tables, and those who won awards will treasure them as fitting mementos of superiority in the closest kind of competition.

(Top, left) The Auditorium Stage, buried under massed blossoms and peach branches, arranged by Evelyn W. Johnson (Top, right) Winners in the arrangement division with candles featured (Bottom, left) A part of the arrangements featuring a vase (Bottom, right) Colonial bouquets, and cut flowers from McCaskill's Gardens

ORANGE COUNTY SOCIETY HOLDS ITS FIRST SHOW

Santa

The Camellia Society of Orange County held its First Annual Camellia Show on March 2, with an attendance of approximately 1000. The Show was held at Blanding's Nursery.

The award of Best Flower of the Show was given to R. W. Ragland for his Adolphe Audusson. First prize winners in the various classes for blooms were: R. J. Calhoun, R. W. Ragland, Mrs. Porter Luther, Fred Forgy, A. R. Snell. In the flower arrangement and corsage making divisions first prizes went to Miss Fern Irwin, Mrs. Harold Larson, Mrs. Duane Berge and Mrs. E. K. Burdick. Mrs. R. W. Ragland was given a Special Award for her arrangement for a bridal table.

Mrs. Perry Grout was Show Director and termed the show a complete success, judging from the comments of the spectators. Mrs. E. K. Burdick put on a continuous demonstration of corsage making and Mr. Allan Crooks and Arthur Wirtz conducted a demonstration in grafting.

Many thanks are due to Bill Woodroof and Clifton Johnson who not only acted as judges for the show but who provided hundreds of blooms under the name of the Southern California Camellia Society and Los Angeles Camellia Society which in themselves were of prize-winning quality and which got a great deal of attention from the crowd. Other non-competitive displays of great beauty were shown by Don and Blanche Miller, Arthur Wirtz and Art Blanding. The thanks of the society also go to Mrs. Vernon Shippee and Mrs. E. Eisenbraun for judging the flower arrangements and corsages.

SACRAMENTO SOCIETY'S SHOW

The 28th Annual Camellia Show held March 8th and 9th at Memorial Auditorium in Sacramento lived up to all expectations in being the most beautiful show Sacramento has yet staged. This seemed to be the unanimous opinion of all visitors.

The horticulture section consisted of some 1700 entries, and there were 148 flower arrangements. In the latter section, classes for juniors and novice arrangers received the most entries.

The trays of three, seven and eleven blossoms of one variety provided the most colorful spectacle of the show, and the entries in these classes were unusually large due to the limitation of one entry of a variety in all classes; those who would ordinarily have entered all blooms as single entries therefore made one entry each in classes for one, three, seven, and eleven.

Nurserymen's exhibits were outstanding, due in part to their cooperation with the Association of Landscape Architects, who designed the floor plan.

The Sacramento Camellia Show is proof of what can be done by a community when its citizens, businessmen, civic organizations, city, county and state departments get together in a sustained effort to produce an outstanding display for the benefit of all visitors free of charge. Camellia Society of Sacramento is proud of being privileged to sponsor such a show and will endeavor to continue to improve each future show.

CAMELLIAS IN SOUTH AFRICA

By RUTH W. WAGONER

IT WAS the 25th day of July at six in the morning when we left the dock, aboard the Dutch freighter *Limberg*. We were on our way on a trip to take us around the world and by the way of South Africa.

After smooth sailing down the coast, through the Panama Canal, with three Gulf port stops, playing tag with a hurricane, a brief stop at the lovely island of Trinidad, we sighted the southern tip of South Africa. It was late afternoon, Friday the seventh of September.

We were unprepared for the incomparable beauty of Table Mountain with its massive granite wall, the Cape Peninsula and the variations in scene and color will be ever present in our memory.

The city of Cape Town is a blend of old and new. Narrow thoroughways recall early Dutch days, where many Dutch houses are crowded by shops and modern buildings. The site of the Botanical Garden, in the center of the city was once a huge vegetable garden which was established in 1652 by the Dutch East India Company to supply the merchantmen with fresh vegetables.

It was while walking through this garden that we saw two camellia plants, an *Alba Plena* and a *Chandleri Elegans*, which led us to the greenhouses where we met Mr. L. B. Creasy, assistant superintendent of Public Gardens. Mr. Creasy, late of Kew Gardens, informed us that there was no general interest in camellias, but that some of the old gardens had old and beautiful camellia plants and that he was sorry that Mr. Scheltens, assistant director of Cape Town Public Parks was not available that day to arrange for us to see them.

The next day we enjoyed the spectacular Marine Drive, which gives a panoramic view of the Cape's scenic beauty. Inland is a magnificent stretch of country with avenues of heavy timber, where homes are hidden away on quiet lanes and gardens for which the peninsula is renowned. When we returned to the ship we found that Mr. Scheltens had tried to get in touch with us and left a message for us to meet him the next day if possible.

So on Monday morning at nine, we were escorted by Mr. A. M. J. Scheltens on one of the most interesting garden tours it has been our privilege to enjoy. Arrangements had been made for us to see the camellias at the Springfield Convent. The convent established in 1820 and the two camellia plants that we were to see were well over 80 years old. They were planted east of the main building on a slight slope, were about 40 feet tall and 35 feet wide, a small rose pink, peony form and were from Japan, the name unknown. There were about ten other camellias in the garden. These were smaller and with the few flowers showing we saw that they were *Alba Plena*.

Claremont Gardens was the next stop, having been laid out many years ago by an Englishman, who on his way to Australia was delayed in Cape

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To The Ladies!

By EVELYN W. JOHNSON

In my opinion the San Diego Camellia Show was a most beautiful one. It was held in Recital Hall in Balboa Park.

My first impression was of the over all color effect as I entered the doorway.

The soft pink grey of the walls was pleasing. As I looked toward the stage at the far end of the room I saw tall branches of flowering peach in pink tones; placed before draperies of grey and rose. The effect was Spring itself.

All tables were covered with crepe paper in the softest possible pale shades of grey blue. The camellias were beautiful in this harmonious color setting.

Mr. Harvey Short and Dr. Reuben Tellam and all the wonderful people who helped put on the show are to be congratulated for the fine effect they achieved.

I was much pleased to see the charming miniature camellia class displayed for the first time. Let us look for this class in future shows. It is delightful to see the "little ones" as well as the glamorous beauties of the camellia world.

* * *

Col. Gale, Walter Scott and Mr. D. Sullivan worked during the very severe storm to prepare the SCCS exhibit of named camellia blossoms for the Pasadena Spring Flower Show in Brookside Park.

The exhibit was cared for during the week by Sarah Jussen, Gulita Cooper and Col. Gale. It was a pleasure to work with these ardent friends of the camellia.

We all wish to thank Mr. E. Carter of Monterey Park, McCaskill Gardens, Don and Blanche Miller, Nuc-

cio's, Descanso Gardens, Mr. and Mrs. Lyte, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Carrington and Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Goertz of San Marino for their generous gifts of beautiful camellia blossoms for the SCCS exhibit.

We received very enthusiastic reports of great interest in the display and we were very pleased to see several people busily taking notes for their "want lists."

* * *

One of the most attractive coffee tables I have ever seen stands before the fireplace in the home of one of our SCCS members.

The table is of teak and through the glass top (edged with teak) you look upon a beautiful arrangement of camellias on the shelf below.

The space clearance between the shelf and top is seven inches.

A very handsome arrangement of *Teagarden Donckelari* was beautiful and decorative when viewed through the glass top of the table.

* * *

As Harold Dryden so rightly observed, "This is the season of the year when the ladies want to move plants to a new location!"

We have also removed several out of bounds, overgrown shrubs.

A fine *Elena Nobile* has been acquired for our garden as a landscape shrub, to replace a too large *Photinia*.

Don and Blanche Miller had established the plant in a six gallon can and had placed it in full sun where it flourished for a year.

We were very glad to find it and have planted it at the northwest corner of the house. It is a very floriferous variety, bright red and comes out in a brilliant splash of color from top to base late in the season when many other varieties are through.

Elena Nobile along with *Rainy Sun*, *Monjisu*, *Robert Casamajor* and *Covina* offer much satisfaction as

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Vice-President Ralph Peer Reports To The Members, From Granada, Spain

Let me bring you up to date as to my camellia adventures.

We spent two days at Nantes, and got well acquainted with the Guichard Sisters. Believe it or not, a camellia nursery which covers a great deal of ground, and which has on hand at all times 100,000 plants four years old or more is operated almost exclusively with varieties 100 years old or more. I think there are only five or six exceptions to this rule.

I was told that no camellia could be sold in France unless it was quite bushy and full of buds. Most of them are disposed of during the four months when the customers can count the number of blossoms which will appear later. They are taken out of the ground, put into pots and then "forced" just after the blossoming season by being put into a sort of temporary greenhouse. The net result is that the plants develop a great number of buds.

In order to insure very bushy plants, it is their practice to start trimming operations when the cutting grown specimens are two years old. The climate is terrible at Nantes, and after about eighteen months a cutting is very lively indeed if it has three leaves. If it reaches this stage of development the top leaf is snipped off and this policy of brutal trimming goes on as long as the plant remains with Guichard. When the plant is two years old it is removed from the cold frame and put into a special section which can be covered in the event of frost. When it is four years old it is planted in the ground and left on its own without fertilizing. All of the four year old plants are put into beds which have first been cleared out and equipped with new soil which is brought from a point about seventy-five miles away; a very rich acid soil highly suitable for camellias. When the plant is seven years old it is taken out of the ground and put into a pot. I do not mean that all of the seven year plants are taken up, but perhaps sixty percent of them. They then go through the "forcing" process and after the buds are showing are placed in a sort of "sales yard" under lath. The customers start coming in September and by the end of the year this stuff is pretty well cleared out.

There are plants, awaiting customers, ranging in size from four years old to seventy-five years. The average age of the plants being sold is twelve years. At that time they are from twenty-four inches to thirty inches high, depending upon the variety—very bushy and of course with many buds.

When we arrived at Biarritz we began to see camellias here and there, and as we continued along the northern Spanish coast we found quite a few plants in the towns along the seacoast. At one point we passed an enormous chemical factory owned by the Solvay Company. There was a large garden around the office building more or less completely filled with camellia trees perhaps fifty years old.

When we reached the extreme northwestern corner of Spain—La Coruna—more and more camellias were to be seen and finally as we went down the western side they became fairly common and at Vigo, a large port not far from the Portuguese border we were amazed to find small camellia trees planted on both sides of the principal downtown streets and the boulevards.

When we stopped at Santiago de la Campstela to visit the cathedral there (burial place of St. James) we found a couple of camellia trees which were in blossom not far from the church, and accordingly snipped off a couple of scions. One was a large peoniform pink and the other an even larger dark red. Of course they had no names, so I put a label on one "Campstela Pink" and on the other "Campstela Red." They will be interesting principally for historical reasons.

When I was in England I visited a chap who has the "lost" *reticulata flore pleno*—Mr. D. F. Leney of Haslemere. He told me that this was received amongst plants sent to him by a friend from Porto, a city in northern Portugal (home of Port wine). He had a hazy recollection of the name of the nursery from which the plants were shipped and I put the name in my follow-up file. With this meager information we found the nursery which has specialized in camellias for about seventy-five years. The original foundation was a planting of camellias made about 100 years ago by the grandfather of the present owner. This proved to be a gold mine indeed. Not only did I see *flore pleno* in blossom, but with Monique's assistance discovered *C. sasanqua anemoniflora*—the yellow camellia of Robert Fortune. This you will recall was brought back from Shanghai prior to 1850. The original plant was given to Kew Gardens, but it disappeared about 1870. Scions, however, had reached the Continent and the large nurseries in Belgium grew it under the name "*C. jaune*." From the description given by the nurseryman there was little doubt about the identification and when I checked the number against his catalog I found "*C. jaune*."

There are other items—about six more, I believe—of Portuguese origin which seemed to be interesting. There were two new fimbriated types and a sport of *MAGNOLIAFLORA* which is a deep rose color. There was also a sport of *MATHOTIANA*—lavender pink with edges of the petals margined in white.

I was able to mail home a couple of scions of the yellow camellia, and I ordered two plants each of sixteen varieties to be sent over by air express.

Since then we have run across camellias here and there—there are a great many at Lisbon and Estoril. The most interesting possibilities, however, lie in the south of France. We will be at Nice for four days and this will give me an opportunity for further investigations. I also intend to see the nursery at Genoa which specializes in camellias, and we are spending a night at Lago, Maggiore, with Captain McEacharn, who is said to have a large number of varieties not grown elsewhere. He has offered to give me whatever scions I may desire.

We will be back in England from March 23rd to April 1st, but I doubt that we will have time to visit many of the camellia gardens. There is one place, however, which we must reach—a garden about forty miles south of London where there is a variety which I have tentatively labeled "Portuguese Pink" which is probably a pink sport of *MATHOTIANA*.

NOTES, NOTICES and NEWS

SAN DIEGO MEETING

The San Diego Camellia Society met on March 14 in the Floral Association Building, Balboa Park. A follow-up report of the 1952 Show emphasized its success, even financially, and that the attendance exceeded 2500.

The program featured Mr. Roy T. Thompson, President of the Pacific Camellia Society, who spoke on the unique and interesting topic, "Building a Camellia Collection." Mr. Thompson, a camellia collector for twenty-five years, gave timely advice in suggesting advance planning and the grading of varieties.

The first prize of the raffle went to Mrs. F. E. Vensel. Results of the bloom display competition were: best seedling, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley W. Miller; best reticulata, Mr. Virgil Stark; best competitive bloom, Sweetivera, Mr. Byron Lindsley; best flower of the evening, Lady Clare, Mr. Harvey F. Short.

Capt. F. E. Vensel, program chairman, announced that our speaker for the April meeting will be Mr. Victor J. Wagoner who will discuss "Camellias in South Africa." His remarks will be illustrated (and backed up) by colored slides. Visitors are always cordially welcomed to participate in the evening's events.

LIQUID MEASURE N.G.? — A Communication

From FRANK GRIFFIN and *The Camellian*

It will interest the readers of your Review to know that beginning with the September issue of the *Camellian* we prefer not to run advertisements for nurseries who advertise camellias for sale on a "liquid" measure basis. Most of our subscribers are not familiar with the size of plants when described as one gallon, two gallon, three gallon, or five gallon size. When plants are ordered from such descriptions they are usually disappointing to those who buy them. Recently, many plants were shipped by a certain California nursery to many people throughout the south and southeast. The understock used for grafting these plants were not much larger than what we term as liners.

We believe it would be to the best interests of the western nurseries and also the unfamiliar camellia buying public for all camellias offered for sale to specify age of the understock—whether sasanqua or japonica—and the age of the graft. Purchasers would then know what they are buying and what they may expect. We also believe it best for the nurseries to include the same information in their catalogs.

OUR COVER FLOWER

Four-color plates of one of the Chinese Reticulatas, scheduled to arrive from England for this month's cover, did not show up. We were unable to borrow any color plates on such short notice, so we have substituted the black and white picture of Hi-Hat. Hope you like it.

CERES SPONGE-ROK

The New, Amazing

ARTIFICIAL EARTHWORM



PROVIDES *free entry of air.*

GIVES *excellent drainage.*

ASSURES *a spongy, loose compost.*



SPONGE-ROK does not break down or crumble in compost. Keeps it in excellent condition over a long period.

SPONGE-ROK is an inert material with a water retaining capacity as high as 28 %. Cuts watering to a minimum.

SPONGE-ROK is non-chemical. Approximately 95% aluminum silicate.

SPONGE-ROK is light weight and porous.

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THE CAMELLIA JAPONICA

By GEORGE GLENNY

PART 2

MANAGEMENT OF LARGER PLANTS

The Camellia is one of the least difficult to manage of any half-hardy evergreen shrub. They require attention of the most ordinary kind, and not much of it. Their routine is to bloom, to commence a new growth all over, which, when completed, exhibits the bloom buds at the ends of all the shoots, to rest awhile, or do nothing but very gradually swell the buds, flower, and grow again. Many complain that their Camellias do not set well for bloom. There is one thing that will prevent them from doing so; and that is, a check while they are making their growth. This check may be occasioned several ways. Too great a change in the temperature they are growing in, want of pot room, want of moisture, want of good drainage, poor, exhausted soil: all, or any of these, will occasion an imperfect development of the growing plant, and prevent it from forming bloom buds. It is not wise to make any changes of the pots while the plant is rapidly growing, because unless it be done with more care than is generally bestowed upon the operation, it gives a great check. When the plants are in a state of rest, that is, when the foliage has completed its growth, and before the buds begin to swell, it may be done, with care; but the safest time, and when the plant derives the most benefit from it, is when the bloom has declined, and the plant is about to grow. By giving good pot room at this time, the plant is enabled to make strong, healthy growth. Turn out the balls of earth whole, remove such of the crocks or drainage as will come away without disturbing the roots; and take off as much of the surface mould as will come off without damaging the fibres. Then use a pot that is a good inch wider across than the old one. Put in plenty of crocks, next a little of the compost, then place the ball so that it will be nearly even with the edge of the pot; fill up all round, pressing the compost between the ball and the sides of the pot, very carefully, with the finger, or hand, or a piece of wood; but on no account disturb any of the fibres that are outside the ball. When this is properly adjusted, water, to settle the compost about the roots, and place them in a protected place—a pit, under glass, is the best; and shut them up two days, without opening them to the wind, or allowing the sun to shine on them. They may then be left to make their growth, either in the greenhouse, the conservatory, or the pit, which should be opened on mild days, to admit air and prevent them from drawing, and constantly watched, that they never want water; for while the growth is making they require a good deal of it.

In our practice we thought it worth while to have a canvas house, into which all the Camellias were removed the beginning of June, where they had all the benefit of the full air on warm days, though perfectly shaded from the sun by the canvas roof, which rolled up or down as required, and the side blinds, which opened outwards, and could be set horizontally.

(To be continued)

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

Please send all contributions of material for publication, publicity, notices, etc., direct to the editor at 544 West Colorado, Glendale 4, California. If these are sent to other members of the Society they are only delayed, must be re-mailed which adds to postage costs, and sometimes are held until too late for publication. Affiliate Societies in particular, please attend this notice.

CAMELLIA SPECIAL

CLOSE OUT ON OVER 40 VARIETIES

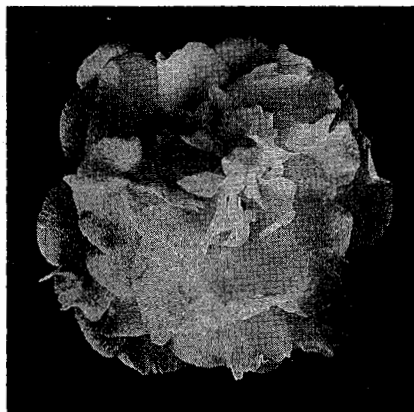
LARGE PLANTS — 1 gal. \$1.00 ea. 6 for \$5.00

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MARSHALL'S CAMELLIA NURSERY

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Featuring

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and other Daiks. See them.

Spectacular

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California Redwood Plant Tubs

There is more fun in gardening—better results, too, when you can control the soil, shade and water conditions. Doubling in duty and decoration.

Octagonal tubs from 12 to 24 inches — Square tubs from 8 to 18 inches. Designed and made especially for camellias and azaleas.

For Sale at your Neighborhood Nursery

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RECENT VARIETAL REGISTRATIONS

Coral Glow. Seedling of unknown parentage. Registration application by John R. Lodge of Altadena, California. "Coral watermelon" large semi-double. Average, compact growth. M.

Mary Thomas. Application of Clark W. Thomas of San Dimas. Seedling of Purity; other parent unknown. Large, Peony Form. White with green petaloids. Blooms M. to L.

Nan Crowell. Seedling of unknown parentage. Application by

Elizabeth Councilman, El Monte. Clear pink, Rose Form. M. to L.

Dragon Lady. Seedling of unknown parentage. Application by Elizabeth Councilman, El Monte. Anemone Form, bright pink with variegated pink and white petaloids. M. to L.

Miss Betty. Seedling of unknown parentage. Application by Elizabeth Councilman, El Monte. Semi-double to Anemone Form. White variegated with crimson and blush pink. M.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY,
c/o Secretary, 40 N. San Rafael Ave., Pasadena 2, California

I hereby make application for membership in your society and enclose \$5.00 for the current year's dues.

Name (please print or type) (Husband and wife combined same rate)
Street
City..... Zone..... State.....
Business
Sponsor (signature)

APPLICATION MAY BE MADE BY LETTER IF PREFERRED

nice dark green, and no more sunburn! From this we have learned to buy our plants in the winter time, so that they have time to get acclimated. This way, we do not get sunburned leaves the following summer.

Did any of you Experts ever ask us how we planted our camellia seeds? No? Well, we have news for you. We plant our seeds right under the camellia bushes. Then we just forget about them. Sometimes they don't come up for six or more months. Some amateurs have had seed lie there eight months before it germinated. But this never worries us. We have lots of time and fun.

Oh, about our seedlings. We raise some outstanding ones. I bet you experts never knew that. We raise some beautiful seedlings, better than anything that's won a prize in any of your shows in the last 10 years. Believe that or not. Do you know why you don't hear about our seedlings? We are afraid you Experts will look down your noses at us. You never seem to think much of us anyway, and never ask us how our seedlings are coming along. In fact, you never even asked us if we raised any. Please remember, gentlemen, we don't raise our seedlings by the thousands. Just a handful of seeds each year. But please, we have some very beautiful ones. We have had some bad experiences with them, thanks to you. So now, we just enjoy our beautiful seedlings and let our friends and neighbors admire them. Our bad times have been when someone told you about them. Then you have come over to see our pride and joy, and this is what happens. You run the plant down, and act like we are trying to put something over on you. Then, after you have reduced us to ashes, you offer us \$10.00 for a plant on which we have lavished at least 10 years of love and care, and proceed to tell us how much it will cost you to put it on the market, and anyway, to make any money you will have to sell it for \$25.00 per graft. And another thing, the plant, or blossom, is not very pretty, and you have lots of better seedlings at home. Well, gentlemen, we leave it and slink back into our yards, and are very careful ever after, to label our camellia seedlings with a name, so you can't run them down. And the next time you ask us about them we tell you they don't amount to much, or the bugs got them. We don't want another session of "who is its grandmother, who is its grandfather, where did you get the seed, are you sure you grew this funny looking thing, it's mighty peculiar that you know so little about this plant"—and so forth.

Oh, I forgot to tell you, Mr. Expert, we sometimes learn to graft plants too. This is the way we go about it. First we clean the knife off, on the seat of our britches, cut the top off the root stock, and then we proceed in the orthodox fashion. But, after this, all resemblance between us and you is completely lost. We tie the graft with anything handy, string, cloth, raffia or a rubber band, of which we seldom have any, because the kids use them to make sling shots. Then out comes our old stand-by, an empty mayonnaise jar, and we cover the graft. No one told us about sterilizing the knife soon enough, and we have never even heard about using a burlap sack. Who has a burlap sack anyway? We don't. Dear Mr. Expert, our grafts always take and grow beautifully. In fact, without all this pampering you advocate, they do lots better than a lot of those we see in your hot houses. If our grafts get mildew, do you know what we do? Why, we just wash the mildew off, very carefully, with a mild solution of vinegar and water. And the graft just keeps right on taking.

Please, gentlemen, stop talking down to us. There are some right smart

cookies in the amateur ranks. I have in mind an amateur who has invented, or rather improved on, an idea for a new fertilizer for camellia plants. Some professors at a university had a bright idea for a new type of fertilizer. It was wonderful, but it was too hot and it burned the plants. This amateur took the basic idea and made a fertilizer that really does amazing things. He has found a way to take all the heat out of it, and he is now using it, under controlled conditions, on his camellia plants. The reason for this is, one of the Experts might wander into his yard by mistake, and tell him it's no good. You should see the before and after plants, growing side by side in redwood tubs. It's perfectly amazing. They have made tremendous growth and not spindly growth either, Mr. Expert. He has been using it for a year, so now you can see the results. What are they? Big, beautiful flowers, big healthy plants, and loaded with big fat buds. The plant growth has not been at the expense of the flowers; if anything, it has improved the color, texture, and size of the blossoms. We amateurs know all about it and are having fun testing it. Mr. Expert, maybe the fertilizers we amateurs use are better than those you advocate. Maybe we can teach you something.

Maybe you can grow beautiful camellias in the sun. We do. Come down out of your towers and you will be in for some rare surprises. We amateurs make up your societies, we fill up the entry lists in your shows, and we are the back bone of your entire camellia industry. In spite of some of the tripe you have been feeding us, we are having fun raising camellias. Why don't you?

The Camellia is one of the most beautiful plants in the world. It is very easy to grow. We amateurs have found out that about all it needs is lots of water.

Stop trying to fool us. Put some fun back into the raising of camellias. Be reasonable, gentlemen, show us some encouragement and stop talking down to us. Greet us like the ladies and gentlemen, with brains, that we are.

For The Thrill of your Camellia Life

READ

THE WIDELY ACCLAIMED

Camellian

A MAGAZINE DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO CAMELLIAS. ISSUED IN JANUARY, MARCH, SEPTEMBER and NOVEMBER IN CO-OPERATION WITH THE SOUTH CAROLINA CAMELLIA SOCIETY. MEMBERSHIP INCLUDING 4 ISSUES OF CAMELLIAN \$3.00.

SAMPLE COPY FREE ON REQUEST

Make Application to

C. Norwood Hastie, Jr., Treasurer

Magnolia Gardens

Johns Island, S. C.

I promise you that we will reward you, in buying more of your plants and enlarging your societies. You will kindly notice that I have refrained from mentioning our sports. We have them too.

These pictures of new camellias, that you are sending around to the societies. They are simply beautiful. In fact, they are out of this world. How far out we discovered at the shows last year. We understand something wasn't right in the famous California atmosphere. It was either too hot, too cold, or the chickens got into the greenhouse. Something was wrong, gentlemen, because the poor little blossoms we saw, and weren't allowed to touch, didn't live up to their press-agent. What were those blossoms you exhibited? They certainly didn't live up to their pictures. Why, we amateurs raise better seedlings.

Now, you are spreading the word around to us, that, way in the future, five or more years from now, we are going to be allowed to buy some small grafts or some of your new varieties. Such snob appeal! Men! Where is your horse sense? Can only the "chosen few" buy a New Camellia? What are you trying to do, make the camellia a rich man's hobby? We amateurs are getting tired of being told what we can't buy. Only the very rich can own a New Camellia; you have made it impossible for us to buy one.

We, the little amateurs, are the ones who make it possible for your nurserymen, commercial growers and your camellia societies to exist. We are the true camellia lovers. Stop underestimating us. We have brains, and some of us can run rings around you experts, when it comes to planting, fertilizing, seedlings, sports, and growing camellias.

Before your big shows, we little guys are always told who is going to get the big prize. It's always between two of the "chosen few." Never must a little amateur raise his head to this rarified atmosphere—Never! We are the ones, gentlemen, who make it possible for you to sit on your thrones. Let us into the act. The camellia is no longer a mystery to us. We love them and are very successful in growing them too. Let's hear from a panel of amateurs.

This is a revolution, gentlemen. Maybe you had better treat us with a little more respect. Start by being a little more cordial to us. We have fun. Come down off your throne and enjoy yourselves.



California LIQUID
Fish Emulsion
Potent
All Organic
AT YOUR GARDEN STORE
California LIQUID FERTILIZER CO. 36 PICO ST. PASADENA

CAMELLIAS IN SOUTH AFRICA . . . from page 7

Town for repairs on his ship, and liking the climate bought this fine piece of land and developed it as a home garden. The garden is full of beautiful and rare trees and shrubs. We found the camellia trees planted in the formal garden, along the paths which formed a large circle. These plants were supposed to have come from Paul and Sons, England, in 1892. They were great spreading plants of uniform size, some were in bloom but again names unknown. We wished for some of the members of the Southern California Camellia Society who could have been helpful in establishing the identity of these fine plants. Mr. Scheltens said that these plants had been given no special care in recent years as this garden was now part of the Cape Town park system.

Enroute to the National Botanic Gardens of Kirstenbosch, one of the great gardens of the world. Here is grown and studied the astonishing native flora of the Cape. Kirstenbosch is a place of cool ravines, groves of Silver Leaf Trees and banks of Proteas, the national flower of South Africa. We encountered some unusual weather, rain, but went on to the University of Cape Town, where on a hill slope in full sun were planted about five acres of camellias. These plants were about 35 to 40 years old and 10 to 15 feet high and many appeared to be seedlings. Adjoining the gardens is the historic Groote Schuur Estate, now the residence of the South African Prime Minister. Higher up the slope is the national memorial to Cecil Rhodes.

As it was getting late we hurried past many private gardens where young plantings of camellias could be seen. It was with regret that we said goodbye to our very kind host, and the best we could do to show our appreciation was to give him our copy of *Camellia Research*, a few copies of *Camellia Review* and a much marked *Nomenclature*. Thus ended our introduction to camellias of the Cape.

After short stops in Port Elizabeth and East London on the Indian Ocean, we arrived at Durban September twenty-third, leaving immediately by train for Johannesburg, which is a modern city 6,000 feet above sea level.

As we were enroute to Kruger Park, the great game sanctuary, we were short of time, for more than a superficial inspection of a few gardens, where we saw camellias looking very happy indeed.

Our route led us through Pretoria, third largest city and capital of South Africa. It is called the flower of the Transvaal and it is indeed a garden spot situated among gentle rolling hills and rich in its parks and gardens, so we were not surprised to learn that it also had some plantings of camellias. In driving from Pretoria to Kruger Park we passed through the citrus belt of the Transvaal where fine oranges are grown.

We spent five interesting days in the Park and Swaziland, returning to Durban by way of the coast road passing through miles of sugar cane. On October third we enjoyed a trip to the Botanical Gardens of Durban where we met Mr. Berry, superintendent in charge of the Botanical Garden Nursery. We found that because of the climatic conditions of Durban, camellias were not generally grown, but he was most enthusiastic about the city of Pietermaritzburg, telling us that Mr. Lemon was the person to contact as he had been the Director of Parks for many years.

Next morning we were on a bus headed for Pietermaritzburg, which is on

the main national road between Durban and Johannesburg and although but fifty-six miles is entirely different from her seaport sister, being 2218 feet above sea level, having thirty inches of rain per year (some every month) and a temperature maximum of 78.69 and a minimum of 54.48 with an average humidity of 71.

Much to our surprise, Mr. Berry had telephoned and Mr. Watkins of the Botanical Gardens met us at the station and in a few moments we were on our way to his lovely garden, where about twenty large camellias vied for attention with such flowering beauty as Japanese cherry trees and Azaleas. We rested here a few minutes and enjoyed a cup of tea with Mrs. Watkins while seated on the front terrace overlooking the garden.

The McIntosh 90 acre estate on Hilton Road was our next stop, situated 1500 feet above the city with a view over green hills, and surrounding gardens. A winding avenue lined with camellias led us to the house. Mrs. McIntosh told us that there were about 75 camellias in the drive, all of them well over 40 years old. We were taken through the main garden where many other camellias were planted. They were ten to twenty feet tall. The blooming season was about over, but many blossoms were still hanging and we recognized a few such favorites as *Alba Plena*, *Te Deum* and *Warratah*. One new to us, a deep purple, with form and flower size of *Vedrine* really held our attention. The time went all too quickly and we bade goodbye to Mr. and Mrs. McIntosh, and with my arms filled with branches of camellias we left this beautiful garden.

We drove down the hillside to the city stopping briefly at several gardens; we were indeed fortunate to have such a guide as Mr. Watkins and to see the Azaleas at the peak of their bloom. It was not long before we reached the Botanical Garden where Mr. T. C. Lemon greeted us. We found that he had plans for us to see, under his guidance Alexander Park which was brilliant with blooming Azaleas and about 60 large camellia trees many over thirty feet tall. Arrangements had been made to see the camellias at the Todd garden. Here a double line of camellias on an open hillside, forty-two in all, had been planted by Mr. Todd's grandfather and a careful record had been made of varieties and where purchased but with the passing years and lack of interest these papers were destroyed and the plants sadly neglected. Again as elsewhere in South Africa, we saw only *Camellia Japonica* and with rare exceptions only formal double or peony form.

A rain forced us to end our inspection of gardens and we drove to Mr. Lemon's one hundred year old home for tea. It was an interesting house and an appropriate finish of our trip to Pietermaritzburg. Unfortunately all good things must end and we arrived in Durban to find that our ship was sailing in the morning for Portuguese East Africa.

It was not until we returned home in early January, after traveling some 40,000 miles that we realized the lasting impression which the people and the country of South Africa had made upon us and our great desire to return.

AMATEURS ATTENTION!

You timid creatures who are reluctant about entering your camellia blooms at the different shows, for fear that there may be better ones entered by others, are invited to know this:

At one of the recent camellia shows in California, the person who won the gold cup for the best flower in the show has but ONE camellia plant!

of "dilute solutions of sulphate ammonia," and "pH formula No. XYZ," then the poor amateur is crazy if he doesn't go get some advice before he starts using such heady stuff without a chaser. Maybe us camellia publications' editors ought to get up a board of strategy, and run a sort of a "Consensus of Opinion," like Racing Form, and say only "This kind of stuff is good on this kind of a camellia plant in thus and such a location . . . maybe." I don't like to keep on referring to this, but every month somebody tells me that Joe (the dope) tried something or other on his camellias because somebody had an article in the Review or the Camellian or Home Gardening, and now Joe's camellias are dying out like May flies in June. Final Advice: If you read that ginger beer is good for camellias, and you, of your own knowledge, don't know whether it is or not, DON'T pour any on your camellias until you have contacted the nearest SUCCESSFUL camellia raiser, and learned whether he ever used it or not.

* * *

The Montsano Chemical Company's "Kriliun" — the miracle soil conditioner, appears to be the answer to the camellia lovers soil problem, particularly to the people who live in the adobe and clay land areas.

S. H. Keller, 143 N. Pine Street, San Gabriel, has set up a test rack consisting of 20 glass containers arranged so that the different soil combinations may be tried side by side in the same container.

A small camellia plant will be planted in the center of the line where the soils meet. This arrangement will allow the plant roots to choose which they prefer. One half of the container will be filled with the usual soil medium, consisting of 1/3rd peat moss, 1/3rd sand and

Bamico Says...

For the very best in Camellias shop at Bamico, your one stop Garden Center.

For the finest in House Plants we suggest a visit through our greenhouses.



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can have larger and more luxuriant blooms if you feed your plants with

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a specially formulated Camellia Food. Give it a trial and your camellias a treat. Each Bet-er Growe food is a special mix for a particular plant.

A trial will convince you.

— BET-ER GROWE —

ROSE — AZALEA
CAMELLIA — GARDENIA
SWEET PEA

COAST AGRICULTURAL FERTILIZER CO.

Pasadena 8, California

TO THE LADIES . . . from page 8

free blooming landscape varieties which will stand a surprising amount of sun.

My hope is to be able, eventually, to look through any window of the house and see a lovely camellia plant in blossom during the season.

HELP!

Your Society build up its newly created stock of Kodachrome color slides in the

KODACHROME LIBRARY

This is an undertaking which will benefit all affiliates in putting on programs, as well as forming a valuable archive.

Give what you now have or make arrangements to have kodachromes taken of your prettiest blooms.

CALL ON

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Send Post Card now for trial package of SPOONIT fertilizer. Try before you buy.

PLANTSMITH

Box 818

Palo Alto, Calif.

AS I SEE IT . . . from page 21

1/3rd loam. The other half will be filled with Krilium-treated adobe, clay or regular soil.

He hopes to have a preliminary report on this experiment for the members this fall.

Any member who has an adobe or clay soil problem may write him and, when and if he receives a limited amount of Krilium for testing, he will endeavor to furnish enough for you to test the benefits of Krilium on your own plants in your own soil.

More later.

* * *

Rufus, my carrier pigeon, is nursing a bruise on what the fashion magazines refer to as his "derriere." All caused by someone popping him with a slingshot. And why? Because Rufus, in the well-known way that pigeons have of poking about among things that do not concern them, revealed the name of a camellia that was supposed to be listed as only an "experimental number." "Okay," I told him, "you see what you get for poking that beak of yours into other people's business. You'd better stick to carrying messages, instead of gossip." Rufus replied in rather strong terms for him—"Nuts! Secrecy is for the military."

* * *

Leafing through a dozen books of house plans, searching for the dream cottage I want to build, in the not too distant future, I was surprised and delighted to find that those of them which also gave lay-outs for the landscape gardening, had frequent mention of camellia plantings. In particular, Sunset Magazine's Book of Western Ranch Homes features "espaliereed camellias," or camellias used as hedge material, in quite a number of the plans.

(Turn to Page 24)

SERENADE TO A WILLING WORKER

(Dawgone it! This here now masterpiece of a pome was supposed to be a part of my As I See It colyume, but the dawgone thing won't go into that short space and still look right—dawgone it! So you'll have to take it this way.)

The earthworm is a lowly beast . . . but willing,
He thinks a compost heap's a feast, and thrilling.
He doesn't think that work's a crime,
(And never strikes for overtime)
But through the soil in any clime he's drilling.

When fishes gobble him as bait, he's filling.
He's not caught by the bird who's late, or trilling.
While farmers sleep and horses doze,
This worm keeps plowing with his nose.
Under the soil—unless it's froze, he's tilling.

He'll give camellia plants some zing, by filling
The ground with air-conditioning, and chilling
Those pests, who all in fettle fine,
On leaf and flower petal dine;
He runs them through his grinders nine; he's milling.

Sometimes he meets a lady friend, who's spilling
A coo or two: He usually ends by billing.
He bores the earth but not the she,
For she likes he, it's plain to see—
What happens next is destiny fulfilling.

BOORMAN'S CAMELLIA GARDENS

Featuring Your Favorite New & Standard Varieties
SPECIMEN PLANTS REDUCED 25 TO 50 PER CENT

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The "BIG MOMENT" for your Camellias comes at the end of the blooming season. Having done their work, they look forward to food and rest. Fertilize and mulch and give them *comfort* in the form of a clean-up spray with SUPER DESTRUXOL, with 2 teaspoons of Destruxol's PYRENONE added to each diluted gallon. This mixture controls the many infestations prevalent on Camellias at this time of year, without injury to plant or soil. You may have our Complete Care of Camellias Bulletin FREE on Request.

Dorothy Johnson
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1 gal. graft \$15.00

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AS I SEE IT . . . from page 22

If you happened to be listening last Thursday night to TV, and were tuned into the Gene Norman show, you heard Patty Taylor give her address in North Hollywood as Camellia Avenue. And then a little later on "Success Story" we all got a chance to visit the International Flower Show via TV. Flowers seem to be doing right well, this season, in the way of publicity, particularly via the newest medium, TV.

* * *

Mrs. E. L. Korts brought me a couple of beautiful blossoms of *Red Wonder*, one day last week, and Tom Long and Steven Wright, both of our print shop, have been keeping a bowl on the front counter filled with lovely blooms all winter long. Makes the place look very showy and attractive. And causes comment by the customers.

* * *

Thinking I would work myself up a symposium on "If you could have only one camellia, which one would it be?" I asked the question of five of my favorite camellia growers. Being the low-brow type that I am, I think Pink Perfection is simply double-George. Well, I asked the question, I got five different answers, and not one of them liked Pink Perfection. No symposium. Sorry.

* * *

Ah, well! Here we are again, about to go into the snoozy season for camellias. It's been almost what we could call a "vintage" year, I think, from the abundance and brilliance of the blooms. I've a hunch that many of you will look back in future years to the winter of 1951-52 with a great deal of pleasure in your camellia growing experiences. But Time jogs along his merry way, and so now, with a jingle of bells, I doff my cap to you all, and say, "Adios, amigos, hasta pronto."

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