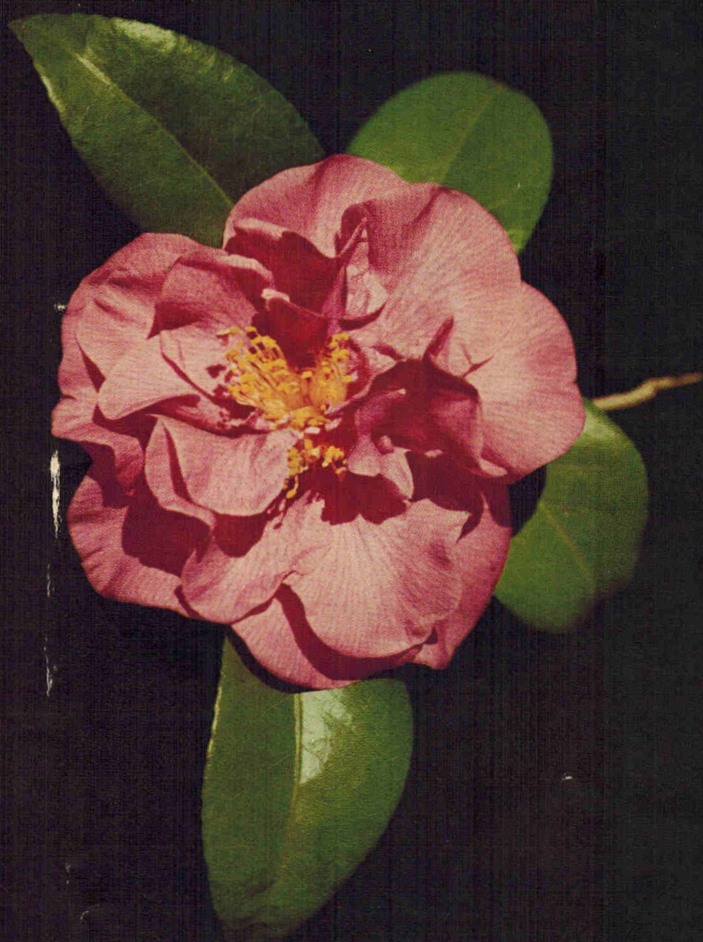


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Camellia Review



C. JAPONICA WILDWOOD

Courtesy of Wildwood Nurseries, Walterboro, South Carolina

Official Bulletin of the Southern California Camellia Society

Vol. 15

October, 1953

No. 1

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN

ELIZABETH BEEBE, 537 Mount Curve, Altadena.....SYcamore 7-22

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The Society holds open meetings on the Second Thursday of every month, November to April, inclusive, at the Jefferson School Auditorium, 1500 block, East Villa Street in Pasadena. A cut-camellia blossom exhibit at 7:30 o'clock regular precedes the program, which starts at 8:00.

Application for membership may be made by letter. Annual dues: \$5.00.

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Secretary: Frances F. Lennox, 2040 Hunter Ave., Fresno 3	
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Camellia Society of Kern County.....	Bakersfield, Calif.
Meeting Place: Fiesta Room, El Adobe Motel, Union Ave.	
Secretary: Mr. W. J. Haberfelde, 1800 2nd Street, 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. L. B. Goodall, 3036 Suncrest Dr., San Diego 16	
Date of meeting: 2nd Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.	
Pomona Valley Camellia Society.....	Pomona, Calif.
Meeting Place: Claremont Women's Club, Claremont	
Secretary-Treasurer: J. M. Hartke, 874 Paige Drive, Pomona	
Date of meeting: 2nd Tuesday of each month	
Temple City Camellia Society.....	Temple City, Calif.
Meeting Place: Women's Club Auditorium, Woodruff at Kauffman Avenue, Temple City	
Secretary: June Manson Schroth, 432 N. Alabama St., San Gabriel	
Date of meeting: 2nd Monday of each month, October through May	
Camellia Society of Orange County.....	Santa Ana, Calif.
Meeting Place: Community Center, West 8th Street, Santa Ana	
Secretary: Harold Larson, 212 S. Orange St., Orange	
Date of meeting: 3rd Thursday of the month	

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Camellia Reviewer

ELIZABETH BEEBE

They're on the Way!

October. The Jacarandas have shed their last, lovely, lavender tear; the petals of the roses have fallen; the dahlia heads are heavy with fatigue, but the Camellias, bless 'em, like actors hustling to take their places before the theatre curtains part, are eagerly preparing to shower their beauty upon us. The poet who felt the chill of autumn and wrote glumly, "The melancholy days are come," must never have heard of a Camellia. How unthinkable! There is something almost frightening in letting the imagination dwell on those thousands and thousands of Camellias so soon to be in bloom, but how pleasing to have a magazine to tell about them.

* * *

Surprise!

One of the most endearing characteristics of the Camellia is its unexpectedness. One of our summer thrills was the present of a brave little rosy C. Arejishi which didn't know it wasn't supposed to bloom until fall.

* * *

Any Slogan Ideas?

We note that the motto of the Oregon Camellia Society is "Know, Grow and Show Camellias." Can't someone think up a good slogan for our Society?

* * *

Iced Beauty

An interesting item that we came across in the July 1953 issue of the Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society was the photograph of a spray of Eucalyptus ficifolia (or the beautiful flowering Eucalyptus as it is usually called by us common mortals) encased in a large cone of ice. This had been sent to the Commonwealth Exhibit at Chelsea by the Western Australian Government, quote "permitting visitors to see these effectively months after their period of

blooming." This set us to wondering if some of our Camellia growers wouldn't like to experiment this coming season, to preserve Camellias in the same way. Bringing these out for, say, some summer evening would be positively spectacular. Undoubtedly get your name in the paper, too.

* * *

The Flowery Path

August saw Joe Nuccio (of the Altadena Nuccio Nurseries) making his semi-annual trip to San Francisco with a truck load of potential beauty to supply wholesalers. He carried many of the newer Camellias: Reticulatas including Lion Head, Chang Temple, Noble Pearl and Butterfly Wings; new Japonicas including Dr. John Bell, R. L. Wheeler (remember our gorgeous July cover?), Jessie Katz, Elizabeth le Bey and Sweet Vera as well as a lot of the newer Sasanquas.

Just think how the Bay Area will be a-flowering through the Nuccios!

* * *

Our New Feature

Over a cup of coffee in Elizabeth Councilman's sunny kitchen we (the two Lizzies), shared with 10 (or was it 12?) cats of assorted sizes, and assorted intriguing bids for attention, our discussion ran from cats (inevitably) to Camellias, to writing, and to Mrs. C's plans for future chapters on the Versatility of the Camellia which commences in this issue. Some of her material will, of course, not be new to long-time students of Camellias. As organized, however, we feel that her exposition of the many facets of Camellias will be very worthwhile and find its own niche in Camelliana.

* * *

100 Years Ago!

Popping up like impish little suns among the staid pictures of registered Camellias are stories of the yellow Camellia, goal of many a Camellia-ophile, the very mention of which ex-

(Continued on Page 28)

NEW REGISTRATIONS



Margie Dee Fisher

Margie Dee Fisher. Seedling of unknown parents. Registration application by Dr. Gilbert E. Fisher, Birmingham, Alabama. Semi-double, similar to *Lotus* in shape when fully open. Soft pink, variegated with white, prominent moire markings. Blooms November, January.

* * *

Marjorie Townsend. Seedling, Parents, unnamed semi-double and lavender pink seedling. Registration application by Huntington Botanic Gardens, San Marino, California. Irregular semi-double to incomplete double anemone form. White, from 9 cm to 12 cm. Blooms January, February, March.

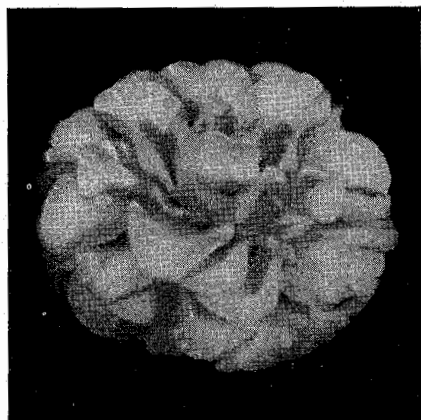
* * *

Lady Erma. Seedling of unknown parents. Registration application by Maynard Munger, Fresno, California. Double formal into Peony form. Soft pink, from 3 to 4 inches. Blooms December into March.

* * *

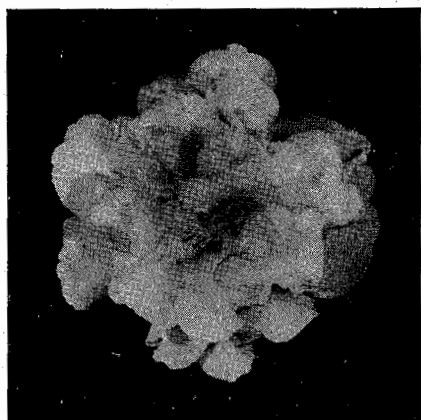
Eleanor Nichols. Seedling of unknown parents. Registration application by Walter E. Nichols, Pasadena, California. Formal double, pinkish white with pink spots and pink lines, from 2½ to 3½ inches.

June McCaskill. Seedling of unknown parents. Registration application by McCaskill Gardens, Pasadena, California. Semi-double, clear pink with light tubular center, 3½ to 4. Blooms February and March.



Confederate

Confederate. Seedling. Parent, Cameo Pink. Registration application by Dr. Gilbert E. Fisher, Birmingham, Alabama. Rose form, soft phlox pink. Blooms early to midseason.



Mitissa

Mitissa. Seedling of unknown parents. Registration application by Dr. Gilbert E. Fisher, Birmingham, Alabama. Peony form, white, 4½ to 5½. Blooms November through January.

(Continued on Page 16)

The Story of the Meredith Lakes

The exact date when Meredith Lake (herself) first wore the exquisite Camellia (Japonica Meredith Lake) is not known. The blossom of delicate pink however, caused an immediate sensation in the Camellia circles



Meredith Lake (herself) overshadowed by the original C. japonica Meredith Lake which dominates the patio of the Lake home. The C. japonica Pink Perfection on the right has tried for years to attract more attention.

Southern California, with its principles of interest that soon extended to far distant places.

The engaging history of Meredith Lake (the Camellia) has now firmly established itself in the hearts of Camellia lovers, and definitely proved its worth as to beauty, cultivation and performance.

The engaging history of Meredith Lake (the Camellia) begins, as far as this history has been able to trace it, in 1922 when Mrs. N. C. Sweet, a San Marinan, during some experimenting for the Department of Agriculture had the opportunity of sending to Germany for some Camellia seeds. These she propagated, transplanting the more successful growths to various locations on her property. In 1934 the Sweets sold their San Marin home to the William Lakes. Although Mrs. Sweet had given a number of the Camellia seedlings to friends, she left one vigorous bush, then about three feet high, growing in the patio against one of the walls of the house.

"The plant did not bloom for several years, as I recall," says Meredith Lake (herself), "but after it started, it has

been a most prolific bloomer. I have almost been able to set my watch by the first blooms around the middle of each January, and from then until in April there will be as many as 5,000 blossoms produced every season. Why, sometimes I pick two or three hundred flowers every day to give to my friends.

Meredith Lake (herself) also recalls that she was unprepared for the sensation she caused by her first wearing of the Camellia. "I did not know much about Camellias then," she remarks, "and had not thought about this one lacking a name. Some of the nurseries wanted cuttings right away, and it was in 1937 or 1938 that the McCaskill Nursery named the Camellia after me."

(Continued on next page)

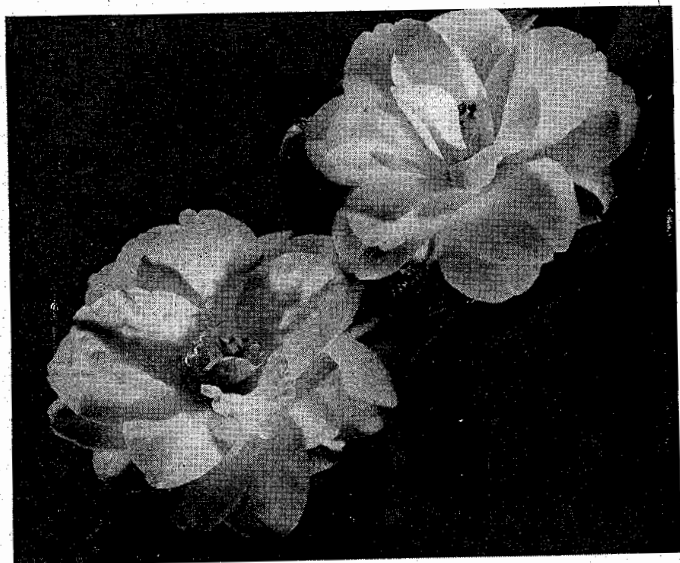
THE MEREDITH LAKES

Now, *Camellia Japonica* Meredith Lake is to be found in many nursery catalogues and the plants maintain their true characteristics shown in the original plant.

The photograph of blossoms from a six foot bush growing in the Huntington Gardens reveals even in black and white the beauty of this *Camellia*. It is a semi-double flower. The lovely pale pink petals have overtones of a faint lac, the delicacy accented by a few dark golden-anthered stamens. Narrow, laceful leaves of dark green, glossy on both sides, form a dramatic background for the soft blush hues that are of such appealing distinction.

Of all the seeds Mrs. Sweet received, only two outstanding plants developed. Besides the Meredith Lake, Dr. Bradford Fox of Pasadena has the other. This growing also to a large size produces flowers of a deep rose, unlike the Meredith Lake. Dr. Fox calls it the "Muriel Sweet" although he never has registered the bloom.

Meredith Lake (herself) is justly proud and thrilled over her beautiful namesake which is 30 years old this year and at present, like all good *Camellias*, is preparing itself for another blooming season.



Blossoms of *Camellia Japonica* Meredith Lake from a grafted plant in the Huntington Botanical Gardens. The plant is about ten years old and has grown to a height of six feet.

William Hertrich, Curator Emeritus of the Huntington Botanical Gardens and an outstanding authority in the *Camellia* field lists the following characteristics of *Camellia Japonica* Meredith Lake, quote:

It is a prolific bloomer, its production of flowers three to five times over that of more double flowering varieties with its flowering period extending over several months.

Its foliage, of medium size, is beautifully shaped and colored. Its habit of growth is compact and upright.

(Continued on Page 27)

THE POMONA VALLEY CAMELLIA SOCIETY SHOW GARDEN

By O. A. BATCHELLER

Head, Horticultural Department, California Polytechnic College

It is not often that a local camellia society can combine a top notch group activity with a permanent community educational display. Stimulated by the possibilities of the Huntington Camellia Gardens, the Pomona Society began formulating plans for a show garden of its own in 1949. It was felt by the society that a centrally located garden where the community could enjoy the flowers, where members would have easy access, where conditions would be favorable for growth, and where the maintenance would be taken care of by some permanent organization would be the best arrangement, such a situation could be found.

Located near San Dimas is the Voorhis Unit of the California State Polytechnic College, with a very active Ornamental Horticultural Department. It was found that the college in its long range planning had selected the outstanding hillside that curves around the entrance road, as the site for a show garden with the emphasis on Camellias. It was seen immediately that a joint venture of the two organizations would produce desirable results for both, with a resulting beauty spot that the people in the community could really enjoy.

General considerations were discussed, and the first layout plans were drawn up by the college in December 1950. The writer believes that it is well to discuss some of the considerations that were presented, in that they may be of value to other societies in the formation of similar display gardens.

The first consideration was to interest the general public in camellias, their beauty, and their uses; second, the members all were interested in more varieties than they could possibly use in their own garden, and third a worthwhile group project is always good for a growing society. On the other hand the College was interested in the beautification of the entrance of the campus; it was interested in adequate material for the students in the Ornamental Horticulture Department to get proper training in the various cultural phases on the camellia; planting, shaping, fertilizing, watering, disbudding, and preparation of the plants and blooms for shows. It could not afford to purchase large numbers and varieties, nor could it do too much in the purchase of necessary pipe and sprinklers. Further the Ornamental Horticultural Students were much interested in the prospects of plant breeding work, and the garden would always provide an opportunity for other classes such as tree surgery and landscape construction to make improvements.

With this understanding an agreement was reached, and the first official planting took place February 7th, 1951. Five plants were placed that cold foggy day, soon to be followed by more donations until on April the 4th, 1951, over 150 plants were nestled in their new hillside home. Although most of the specimens were of gallon can size, many were much larger. Fourteen of the plants were 20 year old field grown specimens, and were balled and burlapped in a joint operation by both the Society and the students in the horticultural classes. It is interesting to note that none of the large specimens were lost in the transplanting. The writer wishes it were possible to list all

(Continued on Page 27)

IN MEMORIAM LORD ABERCONWAY (1879 - 1953)

Through the death on May 23rd of Lord Aberconway, President of the Royal Horticultural Society of London, the camellia world lost a great friend and a tireless gardener.

Fifty-four years ago, at the age of twenty, his mother placed him in charge of the hilly property surrounding the ancestral home at Bodnant in the northeastern corner of Wales. He developed this property into the famous Bodnant Gardens, and a few years ago deeded it to the British National Trust with a fund sufficient for maintenance for the foreseeable future. Thousands of persons now visit Bodnant annually to see the wonderful collection of rhododendrons, azaleas, magnolias, camellias and conifers.

The trees of *C. reticulata*, Captain Rawes, at Bodnant—many more than fifty years old—are a wonderful sight. Lord Aberconway was the first person in the British Commonwealth to acquire a complete set of Kunming *reticulatas*, and in a letter written a few days before his death he was happy to report that they were doing well in this far northern paradise.

Lord Aberconway is buried in the family vault located on a promontory in the midst of his beloved Gardens.

Because of the wise provisions which he made for the preservation and developemnt of Bodnant, it is certain to be a shrine for all camellia lovers who visit the British Isles.

RALPH PEER

CAMELLIA DICTIONARY

Continued

Ed. Note: The following English translations of Japanese names of Camellia japonicas will be included in the new nomenclature book now in preparation.

Akebono	Dawn	Gosho-Guruma	Royal Carriage
Aka-Korako	Red Anemone	Hassaku.....	The 1st Day of the 8th Month
Aki-No-Sarasa	Chintz of Autumn	Haku-O	White King
Aki-No-Yama	Autumn of Mountain	Hagoromo	Robe of Feathers
Ama-No-Kawa	Milky Way	Haku-Bai	White Apricot
Aya-Nishiki	Figured Brocade	Haku-Botan	White Peony
Beni-Karako	Pink Anemone	Haku-Cho	White Butterfly
Beni-Jishi	Pink Lion	Haku-Ho	White Phoenix
Beni-Otome	Pink Virgin	Hana-Curuma	Carriage of Flower
Biho	Beautiful Phoenix	Haru-No-Akebono.....	Dawn in Spring
Chitose-Giku	Eternal Chrysanthemum	Hikari-Genji	Romantic Hero
Chiyoda-Nishiki	Myriad Brocade	Hishi-Karaito	Thread of Diamond
Cho-No-Hanagata	Butterfly Style	Hatsu-Arashi	First Storm
Chosen-Tsubaki	Korean Camellia	Hatsu-Zakura	First Cherry
Choyo-No-Nishiki.....	Brocade of Rising Sun	Hatsu-Tsubaki	
Fuiri-Otome.....	Oriental Leaved Virgin		Camellia Bloomed in First of Season
Fuyajo	Nightless Quarter	Hi-Otome	Scarlet Virgin
Genji-Guruma	Red Flag Carriage	Hi-Ohsho	Scarlet King

THE VERSATILITY OF THE CAMELLIA

By ELIZABETH COUNCILMAN

CHAPTER I

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CAMELLIA

The most commonly known species of the between sixty-five and seventy known species of the genus *Camellia*, is the *japonica* (meaning of or from Japan) which is composed of about three thousand varieties. Two more species that are fast becoming popular are the *C. Sasanqua* (origin Japan) and the *C. Reticulata* (origin China). In the latter two species there are not as many varieties as there are in the species *japonica* but notwithstanding, they also hold a high place of favor in the American garden of today.

In early literature the *Camellia* was referred to as the "Japan Rose" or "Rose of Japan." *Tsubaki* is the Japanese name for *Camellia*. In 1735, Carl Linnaeus, the great Swedish botanist, in his "Systema Naturae", gave the *Tsubaki* plant group its Latin generic name, "*Camellia*," in honor of George Joseph Kamel, a Jesuit missionary, whose name in Latin was "*Camellus*."

It is only fitting, in compiling a work on the *Camellia*, to turn first to its ancestral home in Eastern Asia; principally China, South of Shanghai; Japan, South of Tokyo; India, Indochina, Korea and the adjacent islands.

The Chinese and Japanese people, since time immemorial, have used the *Camellia* plants as gifts to cement friendships. It is said in the old legends that the Buddhist priests and monks traveling to and from Japan to Tibet, usually through Korea, invariably brought special varieties to China and on their return journeys took Chinese varieties into Japan. In the courtyards of many Buddhist temples in China, Korea and Japan, one may find many fine old *Camellia* trees growing as evidence of this

friendly intercourse. This practice goes back to about 552 A.D., as far as can be ascertained.

The first gardening book published in Japan, Mizuno Motokatu's "Kwadau Komoku," 1681, listed sixty-six varieties of *japonica* and no varieties of *Sasanqua*. The first mention of the species *Sasanqua* was found in Saranojo's "Kwadan Chikinsho" published in 1695 and listing fifty varieties of *C. Sasanqua* (Kan Yashiroda, Superintendent, Acclimatization Gardens, Tonosho-kyokie, Kagawaken, Japan).

The species, *C. Sinensis*, sometimes called *C. Thea Sinensis*, should also be mentioned for we are all familiar with the beverage Tea, which is *Thea Sinensis* and a species of the genus *Camellia*.

From Eighteenth Century translations of the stories of Arabian travelers who visited China, it is known that tea was in common use among the Chinese in 850 A.D. It was first referred to in European literature in 1559 in the works of Ramusio, who relates his conversation with a Persian Merchant in Venice in which he extolled the virtues of a drink derived from the leaves of a plant known as Chai-Catai. It is believed that the first tea taken to Europe was by the Dutch in 1610.

It is said, and generally accepted, that the first *Camellias* to migrate from the Orient to Europe, went to England. It is certain that the early English varieties have a great bearing on our *Camellia* of today, for it is a fact that the species, *Reticulata*, *Sasanqua*, *Maliflora*, *Cuspidata*, and *Saluenensis* went first to England as it is believed the *Japonica* did also. The tea plant (*Camellia Thea Sinensis*) was prevalent in Holland gardens as early as 1689, but was not introduced

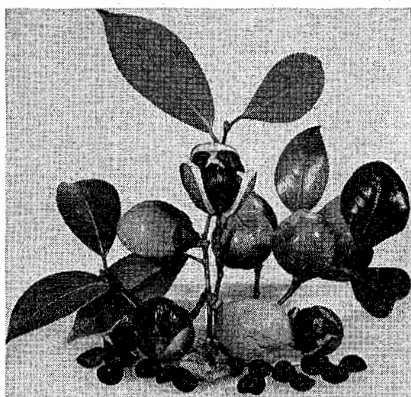
(Continued on Page 20)

THERE IS BEAUTY TOO IN CAMELLIA SEEDS AND FRUITS

This is the time of year when Camellia fruits approach maturity. They vary in size and shape from lobular to elliptic, and are from one as far as one-half inches long, by about one inch in diameter.

As soon as the outer capsule begins to crack open, the seeds are exposed and then should be gathered if otherwise they become lost. The wind and birds scatter them and also they are a tempting tidbit for certain rodents such as ground and tree squirrels.

Seeds will germinate best if planted soon after maturity. If it is desired to use them at some later date they should be stored in a cool place,



Courtesy Huntington Botanical Gardens

either in damp but not wet peat moss, or in sponge-rock, or some similar material.

Camellia MAIL BAG

We are indebted to Mr. Carl Tourje for loaning us a letter written first to him by Herbert Swim of the Armstrong Nurseries containing the following pertinent information:

Per "Yes, we very definitely have determined that the wild form of *Camellia Reticulata* can be crossed with *C. Japonica*. We have had quite a lot of seedlings from such crosses over the past several years. I flowered the first ones this past summer. These first generation seedlings are, however, quite disappointing because of their relatively small flower size.

Early "Difference in chromosome count is not necessarily a bar to compatible crossings between different species of the same genus. Such differences usually make crossing more difficult but are usually not impossible. In the case of triploids, however, we usually find them highly sterile—to such an extent that they do not cross readily or at all with other triploids or other individuals at any chromosome level.

The *C. reticulata* variety Captain Rawes is a good example of this latter. It seems to be so highly sterile that it is for all practical purposes impossible to use for either a pollen parent or a seed parent. It is a triploid."

* * *

FROM JAPAN

The following letter was received by the Secretary of the S.C.C.S., quote:

I very much appreciate for your letter and the publications which are issued by your Society.

We, Japanese Camellia lovers, organized Japanese Camellia Society last April. Mr. Shinji Yoshino, who is former Minister of Industry and Commerce, is selected as the President. He has studied in your country when he was young.

It is very grateful for Japanese Camellia Society to have your information to place our Society on your complimentary membership list, of course we would like to welcome your

(Continued on Page 25)

ROCK MULCH

By JANE BRADFORD

When our interest in Camellias is aroused after learning what beautiful and hardy evergreen shrubs they are, we purchase a plant perhaps two or three, and then are told that whether they are left in containers or planted in the ground, a mulch of peat moss, leaf mold or compost should be kept at the base of each plant to retain moisture and protect the small surface roots from exposure.

If one has a large area to cover when watering, the inclination is to use a strong spray and then some of the mulch is washed away, especially if the plant is in the ground, or on a slope or hillside. Place a circle of rocks around the Camellia, making the circle about two feet in diameter or larger if the plant is a large one. Outside the circle place more rocks or pieces of flagstone and it will surprise you to find that it is not necessary to water as often as before the rocks were used, and your leaf mold or compost will not be washed away.

Worms will become active and remain where there is decaying matter for them to feed upon. Worms are most important to plant life because they will work to a depth of thirty inches, thereby letting air, water and fertilizer deep into the soil.

Some people may not agree with me about using compost but I have used it for years with excellent results. Results are what we work for regardless of how they are attained and an abundance of beautiful Camellias is what Camellia enthusiasts want. Beautiful flowers are what make a Camellia Show a success, and finding a ribbon in front of a flower you have raised is a real satisfaction.

At present I am using a mulch of bricks around four Sasanquas that are planted in front of our lath house and get full morning sun. The leaf mold or compost which was contin-

DATE SET FOR CAMELLIA SHOW

Dan L. Sullivan announces that the Society will hold its annual Camellia Show on Feb. 13th and 14th of 1954.

Mr. Sullivan urges all members to be thinking of the coming show and start planning their entries for it so that the 1954 Show will be bigger, better and bonnier than any previous show.

ually being washed away remains at the base of the plants and the brick add an atmosphere of neatness. Another Camellia which is planted in the ground and on a slight slope, had a rock mulch for several months and has noticeably improved.

Long ago I read an article about rock mulching in the magazine "Organic Garden" and had forgotten about it until I visited friends who have a walled brick patio at the front entrance to their house. About one and one-half feet of soil were left at the base of the wall for planting and several Camellias are interspersed with other plants. Near the door a large and beautifully shaped Pink Perfection is planted, and a two foot square of soil was left in the brick floor of the patio for the plant. These people are not gardeners, and once a week when the brick floor is washed the plants are watered; yet they are thriving and their splendid condition and abundance of flowers last winter must be attributed to the brick floor or rock mulch. This surely is evidence of how hardy Camellias are. They will grow under almost adverse conditions, but give them proper care and you will have luxuriant shrubs and flowers for eight months of the year.

ACHIEVING PRIZE WINNERS

By HARVEY F. SHORT

When asked to tell how one gains the honor of prize winning flowers, I will be honest and say that my collection of new seedling Camellias "has not fallen in my lap."

After repeated winnings, with decisions scored by 18 or 20 of our finest judges over the past 3 or 4 years, I rub my eyes and wonder what "Dame of Good Fortune" could be hovering near.

My first analysis brought to mind that the new flowers were from outstanding parentage. Lotus, as you well know, is a shy seed bearer in most localities. I have had the good fortune to have some seed each year from few plants. I had also selected very good varieties to plant near so the bees could not have to wander far without a chance of mixing the pollen frequently. The crosses from this variety brought forth an interesting range of beautiful foliage and later followed through with striking flowers.

"Masterpiece" alone sets one agog with its striking foliage. Equally beautiful are "Frosty Morn," "Pink Shadows" and "Break O' Day."

Going back to parentage, I found my Elegans seedlings showing up prominently. "Sunset Glory" found its mark in 1951 and this year the lovely "Pink Clouds" of the same seed group was recognized.

In that same group a third member is excellent, "Seventh Heaven," as yet not shown and very distinctive.

Size is of course emphasized for show blossoms, but I can assure anyone my interests are as well poised in the development of new and beautiful small flower types, exceedingly handsome foliage, with always the highest decorative value measured for the home garden and their landscape setting.

Of the thousands of seedlings appearing, one of course has to learn to be somewhat discriminating as to their distribution into the trade channels, and there will be many who never have the opportunity to test or try them all. Without doubt, the flower has to eventually win on its own merit. Again the behavior over wide territory will take years to determine. Test gardens will do much there, but not all.

The foregoing is all based on chance seedlings without any real effort made to control breeding lines.

The parties so equipped to hand pollinize with a definite idea in mind, have a field of course of unlimited possibilities. The percentage rate of prize winners may not be any greater than has been my good fortune to date, but new styles and colors of flowers will undoubtedly continue to flow into the channels where the collector will continue to eagerly wait.

A word in care of show flowers. If you can, give weather protection at the point of opening, to keep your flowers from being marred in any respect. A shower of rain or gusty wind or a nippy frost often take their toll on a prize winning beauty.

Keep your flower with as much humidity as possible after cutting. "Ice-box flowers" usually look the part. Fresh cut, starchy flowers please the judge's eye. A handsome leaf or two nicely polished are the perfect foil also.

Individualize your flowers. Let them stand apart. *Do not crowd*. Good showmanship is silently rewarding.

Ed. Note: Mr. Short will receive the Margarete Hertrich Award Plaque for his seedling Pink Clouds at the first fall meeting of the S.C.C.S. to be held November 12th.

Camelliana

The Camellia — Japanese View

The other day our attention was called to a photograph on the inside cover of a 1950 issue of a Japanese Magazine called "Natural Science and Museum." Although the caption below the picture was printed in Japanese, the picture was instantly recognizable as a reproduction of a photograph of the Camellia Show of our own Southern California Camellia Society held in 1949.

After this surprise we looked through the little magazine, seeing an occasional English word or figure darting out through the Japanese characters; being able to distinguish an article on grafting; one that spoke of C. Richard Raws, C. J. Lindley, C. Alfred Chandler, C. W. B. Booth and C. L'Abbe Berlese as Camellias introduced to Japan from abroad. There was an article on Camellia tea plants and one headed by the picture of a bottle which undoubtedly was on the subject of Camellia oil.

In the back of the magazine was a "Resume", an English translation of the magazine articles, and too intriguing not to be quoted here in part. On the article "Tsubaki Oil," we quote: "It is a fascinating scenery of Japan to see a maiden with rich long hair working at pressing oil out of seeds of tsubaki tree in a mild climate island, before its forest of dark green foliage and scarlet flower."

From the article on "Hokku" or seventeen-syllabled verse, quote: "In Hokku, Camellia Japonica plays important role as seasonal material. The verses which touch on Camellia Japonica would be no less than a million. This due to the fact that Camellia Japonica is growing wild in Japan ever where go, and its flowering season lasts several month long. The most powerful reason why Camellia

entices poets, are its rurality, elegance and solemnity. The cleanness of flowerbuds emerging out of shining deep green foliages, and the charming aspect under windy sunshine are need to mention. However, deep emotional tone of falling flowers falling down one by one amidst wind stillness along mountain woodsway, inestimable problem of Hokku." Following are among several Hokku translated:

"Offered the hat of nightingale pulled
thus flower of Camellia fell.

"Yesterday's rain is spilled
When flower of Camellia dropped

"Made its fall white Camellia
with mate of red Camellia.

"Looking Camellia upward
stepped on forward.

And one more, quote: "I instantly recollect Camellia hills of Kisju where black warm current is roaring in front, whenever this verse passes lips—

"Hills of Kamakura early spring
flowers of Camellia flowering."

* * *

The Camellia — Chinese View

In the June 1953 number of Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society there is the reproduction of an exquisite Chinese painting of white Camellia. The accompanying article, "Chinese Flower Painting" by Patrick Syngé, tells of the reproduction by the Royal Horticultural Society of 3 large volumes of flower paintings. These paintings were commissioned by the Horticultural Society of London early in the 19th century through John Reeves, an English merchant in Canton and had been feared lost. There are some hundreds of sheets of drawings in the collection devoted almost entirely to the three genera, Camellia, Chrysanthemum and Paeony.

There are 63 sheets of Camellia drawings and Mr. Syngé remarks that it is difficult to identify with certainty many of the flowers with

(Continued on Page 27)

A NEW NAME FOR A VERY OLD CAMELLIA

By RALPH PEER

While attending the Conference on Magnolias and Camellias at the Royal Horticultural Society in London during the spring of 1950 I became acquainted with Mr. Roy Hay of the GARDENER'S CHRONICLE. Mr. Hay spoke to me about a camellia owned by Mr. D. F. Leney which apparently is a reticulata except for the remarkable fact that the flowers were almost fully double. Unfortunately, Mr. Leney lived at some distance south of London, my time was limited and I did not see this plant until more than a year later. In the meantime, I received a photograph from Mr. Leney and a complete description of the color of the flower and other characteristics.

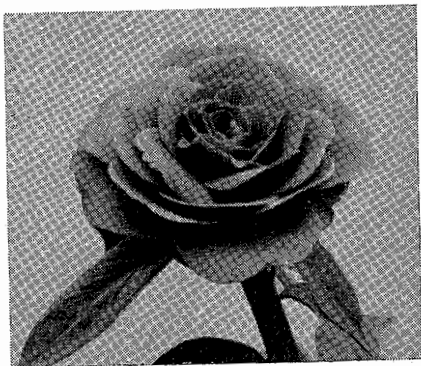
The history of the plant was most unusual. A friend of Mr. Leney's father had ordered twelve camellia plants sent as a present from a nursery in Portugal. Amongst the lot was an extraordinary reticulata. During the intervening fifteen years the plant had prospered and bloomed regularly in Mr. Leney's garden.

I recalled the legendary double reticulata which is pictured in old records, and found upon investigation that Robert Fortune, famous British plant explorer, had brought such a variety back from China in the 1850's.

While seeking old photographs or color plates of this "lost" variety, I learned that there was a completely double reticulata growing at Leonardslee, the famous estate of Sir Giles Boder, likewise south of London.

By this time I had convinced myself that the reticulata under investigation must be the variety named upon arrival in England "flore pleno" and arranged that Mr. Leney would visit Leonardslee for a direct comparison. This established the fact that the two plants were entirely identical, and further investigation disclosed that the plant at Leonardslee had been purchased many years ago from the old Caledonia Nursery on the Isle of Guernsey.

When Mrs. Peer and I visited Portugal early in 1952, we found the nursery which had shipped the plant to Mr. Leney's father, and were fortunate enough to see C. reticulata, flore pleno in blossom. A comparison



Courtesy of D. F. Leney, Esq.

Camellia reticulata Robert Fortune

of leaves, color of the flower, growth habit, etc., indicated quite clearly that this variety, supposed to be completely lost, was then growing in at least four localities.

After reading an article written for the 1952 Yearbook of the American Camellia Society, Mr. Austin Griffiths, Jr. appended a footnote suggesting that it would be a fitting tribute to a great plant explorer to christen the re-discovered variety ROBERT FORTUNE. This suggestion met with my enthusiastic approval, but I thought it best to communicate with the Royal Horticultural Society, the predecessor of which financed Fortune's trips to China. They, likewise, feel that this is a logical and well deserved tribute, and the "new" variety will, therefore, be listed in the 1954 edition of our Nomenclature Book.

I have successfully propagated this reticulata, but do not expect blossoms

(Continued on Page 24)

HOW TO PLANT CONTAINER-GROWN CAMELLIAS

By ELMER MUELLER

"It sounds easy, but—"

"Just cut away the can and plant so that the root ball is even with the top of the ground, water it in and your plant will never know that it has been moved."

You bring home a large vigorous shrub that you have long ached to own and plant it in your garden according to the nurseryman's directions. In a couple of days it wilts, so you water it again but it will not revive, so desperately you let the hose trickle overnight right at the base of the plant. This works but it must be repeated often. When you come home from your fishing trip your plant is dried up. You pull it up to find a raddled mass of roots which have not ventured beyond the limits of the three inch flower pot that the cutting was originally planted in.

Perhaps a plant needs to be reminded that it is being moved, that it is in the garden now, no longer to be pampered in the nursery, that the roots must now hustle for the living. Or perhaps there is some defect in the root structure which can be corrected if it is found at planting time.

Starting garden shrubs in containers is both practical and convenient but all too often difficulties arise which could be guarded against with a little applied ingenuity.

Straighten the Roots

When the soil in the container is very different in texture than that in the garden the roots are reluctant to venture forth. Washing or breaking away the soil from the outside of the ball so that the root ends will be in new soil will start them in the right direction.

Confined to a small soil volume the roots squirm into every manner of curls, angles and knots and the crown roots may join the plant at an acute upward angle. As the plant grows, these angles compress the cambium layer, obstructing the flow of plant fluids. Often the roots circle around the plant stem, tightening as the plant grows, finally strangling it. Sometimes where strong rooting hormones or chemicals have been used, the cutting ends in a knob from which a mass of fine feeder roots is growing but lacking any large roots for structural support.

These defects can be found at planting time by removing the outer soil from the root ball and probing the root crown with the fingers. The crown roots should leave the plant

stem in an outward and downward direction. Usually when the roots have been straightened and spread out they will have the advantage of a much greater soil space. If no large structural roots have yet developed a stake will be necessary.

Some varieties however, as wistaria, will not tolerate the removal of soil from their roots. While a restricted cambium flow might even be an advantage causing some of the more vigorous genera to flower or fruit or increase fruit quality, it is very detrimental to most plants; the twigs will be weak and the foliage sparse, the new growth will die back and the few buds that stick will develop into poor flowers.

Encourage New Roots

When these root obstructions or an incompatible scion union appears in large garden shrubs, these varieties in which cuttings root readily can often be helped by starting new roots above the defective part. This is accomplished by cutting notches deep into the wood, dusting the cut with a rooting hormone powder if desirable and covering with soil and

(Continued on Page 21)

A CAMELLIA-MINDED COMMUNITY

By ISABELL WILKERSON

An ever-growing tribute to camellias is Temple City's Annual Camellia Festival and parade. Again in 1954, on February 27th, over 5,000 children will take part in the annual Festival Parade with its Tiny Royalty, colorful floats and outstanding youth bands.

Climaxing this event will be the annual Camellia Show at Temple City's Masonic Hall, February 27th and 28th with Mr. Lawrence Bryant, president of Temple City's Camellia Society, in charge.

This year's theme for the Festival will be "God Bless America," chosen following a contest earlier in the summer. The four by six floats, scaled to fit the children, will be based on this general theme. With each Festival, the floats have become more colorful, intricate and imaginative. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Camp Fire Girls all know how to handle camellias and arrange them to advantage. Last year over 900,000 camellias were used, many of them provided through the generosity of local growers.

(Continued on Page 26)



Margaret Vernaci of the Temple City Camellia Society and Harvey Rogers, Parade Line-up Chairman from the Lion's Club, talk over tentative plans for the '54 Festival.

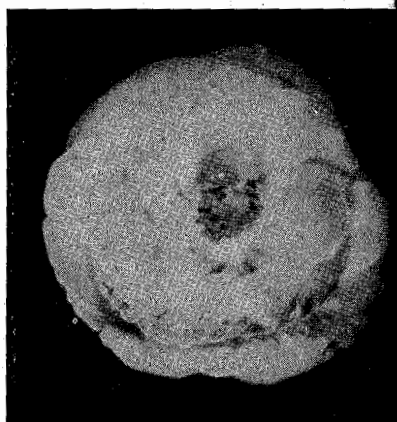
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in the
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* * *

Mar-Vel Murray. Seedling of unknown parents. Registration application by F. K. Murray, San Marino, California. Peony form, pink, from 3 to 4 inches. Blooms January and February.

One Hundred Years Ago

Quoted from "Hedges and Evergreens," by John A. Warder, M.D. and published in 1859— "The Camellia is characterized by the remarkable beauty of its flowers which occur during the winter." It was listed among Evergreens as hedge material.

* * *

Three varieties of roses as listed in the "Amateur's Guide and Flower Garden Directory" by John Clark and published in 1856 were:

"Camellia Blanc— large, globular and very double, a free bloomer," and "Camelliaflora— Rosy red, large and very perfect, changing to a dark red."

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THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR ONE MORE CAMELLIA

By JOE LITTLEFIELD

Camellias will last for as long as you want them, provided they are given care, such as for average ornamental plants. Some camellia fans have a garden full of them already, and wish they had more because some of those new varieties are simply out of this world. If such is your case, so more space to plant them, then grow some camellias in redwood tubs!

Grow them on for four or five years. Cut the flowers for table use but cut them with the thought in mind of pruning and shaping those plants at the same time. A few years later, they are large enough to make an effective showing when planted out in the garden. In fact, you can dig out some of the old varieties and replace them with these well established, shapely formed new varieties. Those old ones you dig out may be most welcome by your neighbor, friend, relative, club, or church and may fit their garden needs.

Maybe you don't want to dig out the old ones. You wish to keep them. In that event, you can make more room for more tubbed camellias, by giving those four or five year old shapely tubbed camellias as gift plants to that close friend, or relative. Perhaps one of your friends is having a house-warming, showing off his new home or a renewed one. Choice plants are always welcome gifts for that garden. Possibly, you've forgotten to buy a Christmas gift for that dear friend, and its too late to get it. Simply pick up one of your choice camellias, load it in your car, tie a gift card to it, and deliver it personally. It may be like giving away one of your children. But—honestly now— isn't that the true spirit of giving—giving something that is almost a part of you? You've had the pleasure of growing that camellia, training it,

and harvesting the flowers. Now, some one else will enjoy that plant for years to come, and will remember you each year that plant blooms.

So you see—a garden full of camellias needn't keep us from growing more of those gorgeous new varieties.

Report on Summer Grafts

By DR. HERBERT SHIRLEY

On the 24th of June, I summer grafted ten Camellias. Mr. Sigmund Katz of Covington, Louisiana airmailed eight scions to me, which arrived in perfect condition, the other two were my own.

At the end of seven days the leaves dropped off two of them; in another week one more lost its leaves. They were grafted on seedling stock.

At the end of two months six had calluses over, the seventh had not. New leaves have started to unfold on two, the others are dormant.

I grafted a High Hat last summer. It has grown over two feet and is loaded with buds.

On the whole I have not had as good a percentage of takes as before, but I believe that even the dormant plants will be ready to "go" and have a head start on the ones grafted next spring.

The following books are available from the Secretary of the S.C.C.S., 40 N. San Rafael Ave., Pasadena, Calif.:

"Camellias As A Hobby," 1952-53 edition by the Oregon Camellia Society. \$1.00 (postpaid).

"Camellias And Common Sense," by Claude Chidamian, \$4.00 (postpaid).

It Pays to Belong

Are you a member of the Southern California Camellia Society? The following are some of the advantages membership in the Society brings:

Recognition in the Camellia world.

Copies of the Society publications, including the brochure "Camellia Research" and the Camellia Nomenclature Book which is revised every two years. The one now in preparation is to be published early next year, and more details of it will be found on this page of this magazine. Your membership also includes a subscription to the Camellia Review issued eight times a year, the clearing house for articles on many phases of camelliana from authentic sources.

If you are a Southern Californian you will enjoy the meetings of the Society held the second Thursday of each month starting in November and continuing through April. Here you can participate in a monthly flower show from 7:30 until eight, with monthly prizes being awarded. A worthwhile program follows the flower show.

Society members are privileged to have access to the Camellia library of the Society by application to the Society Librarian, Mrs. C. M. Gale. The collection includes:

AMERICAN CAMELLIA CATALOG
published by Robert P. Erdman

NEW NOMENCLATURE BOOK

The Camellia world is eagerly awaiting the next edition of the Nomenclature Book to be published by the Southern California Camellia Society, shortly after the first of 1954.

According to William Woodroof, Chairman of the Committee of experts preparing the book, this next issue will be larger than the 1951 issue by at least 20 pages. The cultural information is being revised, added to, and brought up to date, with the newest in authentic cultural practices. Many new varieties of Camellias will be described including between 250 and 300 varieties of Sasanquas alone.

Diagrams and photographs will add informational interest to the new book which will constitute a "must" for Camellia growers. The book will, of course, be sent immediately on publication to each member of the S.C.C.S. and additional copies will be available to the general public at a nominal price to be announced later.

AZALEAS AND CAMELLIAS by

Harold H. Hume

AZALEAS, CAMELLIAS AND GARDENS

DENIAS by Arthur Davis

THE CAMELLIA by G. B. Tirocco

CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE

1946, issued by the Pacific Camellia Society

CAMELLIAS by Gustav Gerbing
1943 and 1945

CAMELLIAS AND COMMON

SENSE by Claud Chidamian

CAMELLIAS AND MAGNOLIAS
issued by the Royal Horticultural Society

CAMELLIAS AS A HOBBY, issued
by the Oregon Camellia Society
1952, 1953

CAMELLIAS ILLUSTRATED, issued
by the Oregon Camellia Society
1948

MONOGRAPHY OF THE GENUS
CAMELLIA by Abbe Lorenzo Berlese

NEW ICONOGRAPHY OF THE
CAMELLIA, Alexandre Verschaffelt

Various publications including the **AMERICAN CAMELLIA QUARTERLY**, the **CAMELLIAN**, a complete file of the **CAMELLIA REVIEW**, all publications of the SCCS and bulletins and booklets from Camellia societies.

The Society also own a Kodachrome Library and it is planned
(Continued on Page 20)

Chidamian To Offer Course

Claude Chidamian is to be instructor of a course in Home Gardening as announced by the Extension Division of the University of Southern California.

Beginning November 10, the Tuesday class will meet for a period of 16 weeks in room 335 Founders Hall on the campus from 7 to 9:30 P.M.

Mr. Chidamian is well known to the S.C.C.S. as garden-magazine editor, speaker and writer on horticultural subjects. His latest book is "Camellias and Common Sense."

The course offers new methods for making the home garden more attractive. Information concerning registration fee may be obtained by calling Richmond 2311, station 216 or writing SC Extension Division.

Versatility from Page 8

duced into English gardens with success until 1768.

It was with great difficulty that trade was established between Europe and the Orient in those early days of the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The credit for the introduction of the Camellia into the western world should justly go to the Doctors, Botanists, Horticulturists and Merchantmen of that time. To combat the treachery of the long and tedious voyages around the Cape of Good Hope, to and from the Orient, the different European countries formed companies which were called the East India Companies. In this manner they could better cope with the piracy which went on, for the trade was a very lucrative one. Outposts or trading posts were established by these companies and the Doctors attached to them studied and collected the plant life of the Orient, for the Doctors of that day were also botanists, and into their hands naturally fell the genus Camellia.

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In the nineteenth century the Camellia enjoyed its greatest popularity in Britain. It was in great fashion and grown in the conservatories which were a part of many of the fine estates of the country. Many varieties of *C. japonica* were introduced during this time.

Abbe Berlese, in his "Monography of the Genus Camellia," says, quote: "The Camellia japonica, as has been stated, was introduced into Europe in 1739, and first ornamented the gardens of England; soon after it passed into Italy, then into France, and at a much later period into Germany."

Early Italian varieties that are still being propagated today include, Bella Romana, Collettii, Elisabeth, Elena Nobile, Enrico Bettoni, Il Tramonto, Margherita Coloni and Sacco. Early English varieties include Elegans (Chandler), Chandleri Rubea, Lady

(Continued on Page 20)

Versatility from Page 19

Hume's Blush, Tricolor (Seibold) Sweeti Vera, Leana Superba, Altheaeflora and Anemonaeflora Alba, to name a few.

In this first era of its popularity, the Camellia also found its way to Belgium, Greece, Portugal, Australia and New Zealand, and of course, to the United States.

It is said that the first Camellias to come to this country were the Single Red to John Stevens of Hoboken, New Jersey, imported in 1797 or 1798 from England; and the Double White to Michael Floy of New York City. The New York City area was, in all probability, the site of the first popularity of the Camellia in America with the Boston area second. Other early areas where the Camellia held high favor were Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Baltimore and Charleston, South Carolina.

The first recorded shipment of Camellias to California was consigned to a Mr. James L. L. F. Warren and received by him in Sacramento in 1852. He had come to Sacramento from Boston a year or so prior.

Today, throughout California, particularly in the Sacramento and Los Angeles areas, there are many fine old plants still to be found as evidence of the early popularity of the Camellia here.

In about 1860 the popularity of the Camellia waned, but today, some hundred years later, the Camellia is

again enjoying great favor, although formerly it was thought to be a rather delicate plant and in many cases was housed in-doors or, in green houses or conservatories, but now it is known to be a healthy, hardy out-of-door plant, which will tolerate heat, cold, frost, snow, wind and sun.

Avid Camellia enthusiasts are to be found from British Columbia to Mexico on the Pacific Coast, from Virginia to Florida on the East Coast, all through the Deep South, Texas, and various other parts of the country. It seems that the more that people become familiar with this beautiful flowering shrub, the more popular it becomes. Perhaps its versatility, as well as its beauty has something to do with this renewed popularity.

Ed. Note: A second chapter on general culture of the Camellia will appear in our next issue.

It Pays to Belong from Page 1

that members may borrow from it in the near future.

As a member of the Society you can be a part of the annual Society Camellia Show which will be held this next February 13th and 14th.

So if you are a Camellia lover (and what intelligent person isn't?) quick, turn to page 24, clip out your subscription blank and send it in with a mere slip of paper and a small sum that will bring you a year of Camellia inspiration.

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Container Grown from Page 14
 keeping it moist. Roots will form from the calluses of the cut in the same manner as when layering. At least half of the circumference of the plant should be left unnotched so that the plant will not be too greatly harmed in case this method fails. Inarching with proper root stocks is another method and can be used when notching is impracticable.

Plants in the lath house or under glass, fed and watered regularly are not subject to the stresses found in the garden. Hence they do not need or develop so extensive a root system. It is important that planting should be at the beginning of a period of mild weather so that plants can establish new roots and harden before extreme weather sets in, usually early spring or mid autumn.

Give the Cuttings Enough Space

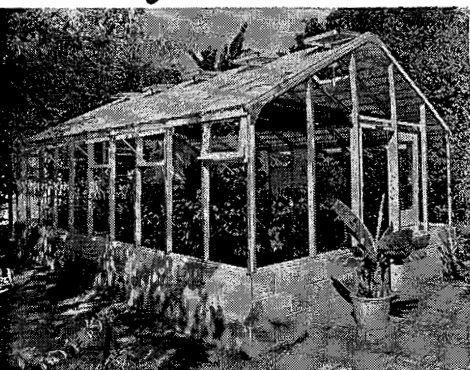
By carefully planting according to these suggestions, the thrifty buyer can secure oversize plants at nursery

sales or small plants in two or three inch pots with a good chance that they will grow successfully.

How much better it would be if these defects could be avoided from the first! They are mostly caused by planting rooted cuttings in too small a container: the roots are jammed in and after the soil is in place the plant stem is pushed down to make it stand, causing the crown roots to angle sharply upward, or the cutting is spun, spiralling the roots around the stem which will finally form a noose to choke the plant.

By forming a cone of soil in a large enough container, placing the butt of the cutting on the tip of the cone, spacing the roots and filling in we will avoid most of these troubles. The plant will stand firm and there will be no air pockets about the roots. Seedlings where the root sprouts have been clipped may be planted in this way as well as rooting cuttings. (ref. Seed Culture by E. C. Tourje, Camellia Research, 1950.)

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NEWS, NOTES and NOTICES

SAN DIEGO

The San Diego Camellia Society has announced that its Seventh Annual Show will be held Saturday, February 13th, 1954 from 1:00 to 9:00 P.M. and Sunday, February 14th from 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. in the Recital Hall in Balboa Park. The theme of the show is "Camellia Time in San Diego."

Mr. J. O. Henry, Publicity Chairman of the Society issues a cordial invitation for Camellia growers to submit their display blossoms.

Officers for the 1953-54 season are Capt. F. E. Vensel, President; Dr. Robert F. Brown, Vice-President; Mr. Harry Hargreaves, Treasurer and Mrs. L. B. Goodall, Secretary.

* * *

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

The Camellia Show Committee of the Garden Club of Charleston, South Carolina has announced that Charleston's Eleventh Annual Camellia Show will be staged in that city's Agricultural Building on January 30 and 31st, 1954. The show promises to be exceptionally interesting as the American Camellia Society is to hold its meeting in Charleston at that time also.

* * *

POMONA

The Pomona Valley Camellia Society announces the following officers for the 1953-54 season: Max England, President; Floyd Bunnelle, Vice-President and John Hartke, Secretary-Treasurer. Harold Pearson was named Show Committee Chairman.

' ' CAMELLIAN ' '

A magazine devoted exclusively to

— CAMELLIAS —

Published January, March, September & November

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SYcamore 4-3383

OUR COVER FLOWER

The magnificent bloom that graces our cover this month is the *C. Japonica* Wildwood, which is a *Mathotiana* seedling developed by W. R. Marvin of the Wildwood Nurseries, Walterboro, South Carolina.

It is a semi-double to peony form with quite thin petals, with very large flower of unusual coloring. The plant is upright and compact and its outstanding characteristics are attested by the fact that it has already won seven awards of merit of the American Camellia Society. Further top honors are assured.

C. Wildwood is being released for sale for the first time this season and will undoubtedly find its place on every collector's list.

New Name from Page 13

in less than three years. As soon as additional plants are ready, they will be given to various interested nurseries.

The blossoms are similar in texture and size to those of the ordinary garden *reticulata*—CAPTAIN RAWES. The color of the flower is somewhat darker, and it is fully double. The leaves are similar to but not identical with the leaves of CAPTAIN RAWES. It has the same "lanky" growth habit, but fills out quite well if given a good deal of sun. The plant at Leonardslee has grown on the side of a building which sheltered it to a height of about twelve feet.

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.

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(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

Mail Bag from Page 9

city as our complimentary membership.

They are forming plans to publish their own seasonally which is partly written in English, but now I am sorry that they have not publications to send you.

Please allow me for delaying in writing to you because I was unwell.

Yours sincerely
Eikichi Satomi

Pat on the Back

A pleasant paragraph from a letter from Mr. H. P. Windbigler of the Dalea Glen Nurseries of Loxley, Alabama, quote: "We are always glad to be in the Review. It is that bit of cheer and sunshine that helps you forget the clouds that hover around over the good old U.S.A."

Love of Camellias!

The casual reader who flicks the pages of a magazine seldom has much conception of the labor involved in production. Particularly is this true of books such as the American Camellia Catalog. A hint as to the great amount of time and knowledge that has gone into the accomplishment of the latter is revealed in a letter your Editor received from Robert Erdman, publisher of the Catalog.

Quote: We realized that no prose description would ever be adequate to describe these wonderful flowers. We wanted to include pictures of each in full color and if possible in life size. It soon appeared that this ambitious project was impossible at prices that would fit the pocketbooks of the average camellia lover . . . I had made the acquaintance of Athos Anaboni, the famous bird painter. He interested him in our dream and

he decided to join us on a partnership basis. It looks as if his principal reward will be the honor and realization of a labor of love well done."

As to the actual method of reproducing Camellia beauty, Mr. Erdman says, "Our artist draws from life during the blooming season. His pencil originals are then lithographed in pencil tones. Then we color them by the silk screen process of hand printing, supplying some details by hand brushing. The basic colors are water-mixed to get soft tones in the petals. The leaves are done with oil paints in order to approximate the natural gloss. One type of paint base is used for underleaf color, another for top color. We find it necessary to make 7 or 9 separate color runs for each picture. It takes half a day for each run to dry. And, it takes about half a day to apply the color on a run of 500. Our issue is 1000. Multiply these factors and you see that there are about 192,000 operations involved, taking the better part of the year."

Mr. Erdman goes on to say that the fifth and last volume will probably not be ready for distribution until late 1954. With this volume 550 varieties of Camellias will have been described in detail and some 4,000 indexed and classified. He concludes with just pride, "Our Catalog has been accepted as standard by the Royal Horticultural Society and the French Institute."

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CAMELLIA-MINDED from Page 15

None of this would be possible, however, if it were not for a town that believes in its youngsters and likes to work with them. The Festival is run on an amazingly limited budget with all the various civic organizations doing their share to make it a success.

The Camellia Show, of which Temple City is very proud, is handled by the local Camellia Society. Other organizations such as Lions Club, Kiwanis, Business and Professional Women, Quota Club, etc. handle all the various phases of the event beginning with the Theme Contest, carrying through the Coronation ceremonies, in which the tiny six-year-old King and Queen of the Festival are crowned; and climaxing with the parade line-up, Carnival and all the things which make the Festival an outstanding event. The merchants decorate their windows in keeping with the general theme of "God Bless America."

It Is Ten Years Old

All this started ten years ago when a group of citizens interested in promoting youth activities decided to have a parade just for children. The first year a tiny toddler rode in a camellia-bedecked car while her small subjects scattered blossoms among the passers-by.

The idea caught hold, the next year the children decorated the store windows with camellias. By 1947 youth groups and service clubs had joined efforts to build small camellia-decorated floats. The number of floats increased rapidly and improved tremendously in appearance. During the last three years one of these floats has been a regular feature of KTLA's "Magazine of the Week."

Also in 1947 a coronation pageant, which has become traditional, was written for the occasion. It is a fantasy in which the King and Queen of the Camellias is crowned by the King of Never-never-land. Last year the coronation attracted the attention of an outstanding T.V. puppet show, and "Jump-Jump" of Holiday House was part of the Coronation. There was even a song about camellias presented by a well-known Hollywood script writer and dedicated to Temple City's Camellia Festival.

During the year, the Camellia Show too has grown until it has been tabbed by both the press and hobbyists as a "must" for flower lovers. All of this adds up to an attraction that has created state-wide interest, making more and more people "Camellia-minded."

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THE MEREDITH LAKES from Page 5

Perhaps its most outstanding and pleasing characteristic is its delicate tinge of pink with faint lilac overtones.

The plant is an excellent item for landscape effect, is tolerant to considerable sun exposure and does not require pruning.

As wilted flowers do not persist on the plant, the shrub is self-cleaning.

* * *

This historian salutes Meredith Lake (herself) and Meredith Lake, Camellia Queen of distinction.

SOCIETY GARDEN from Page 6

the persons that have been generous enough to donate plants to Show Garden, but time and space does not permit.

Now that two years have elapsed, it is interesting to see the results of this venture. The garden now numbers over 280 well shaped, heavily budded plants, and covers nearly a half an acre, or about a third of the available acre. All of the original considerations have been met, and a good many more that were not at first contemplated. Blooms are available for college sections, the Society has available blooms to enter in other camellia shows without robbing the individual gardens of the member. College and community interest is greater than expected and all members are well pleased in the venture. Interesting plant material will be added to give the garden a round interest, but the main emphasis will remain on camellias.

It should be stated that the proceeds from the Pomona Valley Camellia Society Annual Show has been expended each year for the addition of sprinklers, pipes and valves to make the care and maintenance easier.

CAMELLIANA from Page 12

present day varieties. He speaks of one, quote: "rather extraordinary semi-double striped variety labeled 'Cha.' It is a white flower flushed salmon at the base of the petals and regularly along the edge." He also describes a semi-double white bloom labeled "The Eighteen Teachers."

Other pictured plants are described as Mr. Synge cannot classify them.

The entire article is interesting reading and the portion about Camellias concludes, quote, "the Camellia enthusiast cannot fail to be interested in the great variety of the flowers shown."

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Advertising rates in the Camellia Review are as follows: Inside back cover, \$0.00. Full page, \$25.00. Half page, \$15.00. Quarter page, \$8.00. Advertisements may be sent direct to the Editor, Elizabeth Beebe, 537 Mount Curve, Pasadena, California.

NOVEMBER 12th SET AS 1st MEETING DATE

The S.C.C.S. will hold its first winter season meeting on November 12 at 7:30—the meeting place to be announced later. The new President, Har E. Dryden, will outline plans for the coming year including preliminary preparations for the February Camellia Show.

The treasurer states that the new Nomenclature Book will be sent only paid-up members of the Society so it is urged that all get their dues in soon as possible.

Camellia Review from Page 2

cites the imagination. The stories often have some foundation in fact and come from creditable sources. One of these we quote from no less an august magazine than the Gardeners' Chronicle, issue of February 2nd, 1850: "Letters received from Mr. Fortune by the last mail announce the unexpected discovery by him of a real Yellow Camellia. It proves to be one of the Anemone-flowered race, the exterior petals being french white and the central ones of a rich primrose yellow. He found it in blossom in a nursery garden in one of the towns in the north of China which he had visited in his search after tea plants."

Adding further interest is the beautiful drawing of Camellia Sasanqua, var. *anemoniflora* in the Curtis Botanical Magazine for December, 1859. There indeed is the Camellia with a full cup of primrose yellow petals surrounded by a border of larger white petals. The description says in part, quote: . . . "the yellow color is certainly quite a new feature in this genus, deserving the greatest

attention of Horticulturists."

But alas, who grows the Yellow Camellia now?

* * *

New Director

Too late to make the inside cover of this issue was the announcement of the election of Dan L. Sullivan as a Director of the Society. We'll put you in your proper place next month Mr. Sullivan.

* * *

New Names

Notice all the new names among our authors? Choosing the busiest people we could find who had something to say of importance about Camellias we kept on prodding them till manuscripts came through. We are grateful to all of them. How about some readers' comments through the Mail Bag?

* * *

But enough of our chatter—and how we must rush away to plan for next month. And so, as the Japanese poem has it,

"Looking Camellia upward,
we step forward"

till November

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