

HE

Camellia Review



Photo—DR. C. O. SCHNEIDER

Camellia japonica 'BESSIE MORSE BELLINGRATH'
Courtesy Cliff Harris' Longview Nursery, Mobile, Ala.

Official Bulletin of the Southern California Camellia Society

Vol. 16

February 1955

No. 5

Southern California Camellia Society Inc.

PRESIDENT

HAROLD E. DRYDEN
820 Winston Ave., San Marino 9
SYcamore 3-4214

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

AUGUST F. KAPP
4201 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena 2
SYcamore 0-2636

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

RALPH S. PEER
8159 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles 46
Hollywood 7-8831

SECRETARY-TREASURER

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

DIRECTORS

EDWARDS H. METCALF
745 Canterbury Rd., San Marino
CARYLL W. PITKIN
2465 Sherwood Rd., San Marino
JOHN F. LAMB
400 W. Foothill, Arcadia
HARVEY F. SHORT
781 N. Foothill Blvd., Pasadena
DR. HERBERT SHIRLEY
136 N. Valley St., Burbank
DAN M. SULLIVAN
1231 Armada Dr., Pasadena
SYcamore 7-7645

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

SOCIETY MEETINGS

Program
EDWARDS H. METCALF
SYcamore 6-7450
Vice Chairman, HARVEY F. SHORT
SYcamore 7-8698
Table Arrangements
ELEANOR HAYWARD
Refreshments
CARYLL W. PITKIN
ATlantic 1-5852
Awards
AUGUST F. KAPP
SYcamore 0-2636
Plant Procurement
JOSEPH KAPP
SYcamore 7-4237

MEMBERSHIP AND RECEPTION

DR. HERBERT SHIRLEY
CHarleston 6-1522
JOHN F. LAMB
DOuglas 6-3218

BUDGET AND FINANCE

AUGUST F. KAPP
SYlvan 0-2636

SO. CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA GARDEN

E. C. TOURJE
ATlantic 4-0907

NOMENCLATURE

WM. WOODROOF

CAMELLIA REVIEW

DR. JOHN H. CLAIRMONT
Citrus 3-4611

INTER SOCIETY RELATIONS

LAWRENCE R. BRYANT
CUmberland 3-5405

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

J. HOWARD ASPER
1405 Flanders Road, La Canada
SYlvan 0-1998

GROWERS RELATIONS

HARVEY F. SHORT
SYcamore 7-8698

LIBRARIAN

MRS. C. M. GALE
SYcamore 6-3740

HERTRICH AWARDS

AUGUST F. KAPP

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

ELIZABETH BEEBE, 706 S. Fair Oaks, Pasadena.....SYcamore 9-805

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

DR. H. HAROLD HUME, Provost, Division of Agriculture, University of Florida
MR. WILLIAM HERTRICH, Curator Emeritus, Huntington Botanic Gardens,
San Marino, Calif.
MR. WALTER G. HAZLEWOOD, Epping, New South Wales, Australia
MRS. ANNE GALLI, 505 Bradford St., Pasadena 2, Calif.

PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY, INC.
Copyright, 1955

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Notify the Secretary at once. Magazines are not forwarded by the Post Office.
Republication permitted, if due credit is given this magazine and author.
All manuscript for publication should be sent direct to the Editor.
Published monthly from October through April, and in July.
The Society holds open meetings on the Second Tuesday of every month, November to April, inclusive at the San Marino Women's Club House, 1800 Huntington Drive. A cut-camellia blossom exhibit at 7:30 o'clock regularly precedes the program which starts 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. Wheaton, 3695 Van Ness Blvd., Fresno	
Date of Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the month	
Camellia Society of Kern County	Bakersfield, Calif.
Meeting Place: Fiesta Room, El Adobe Motel, Union Ave.	
Secretary: Mrs. Yale Langworthy, 2029 Esther 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. 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, 345 W. 12th, Claremont	
Secretary: C. D. Cothran, 1105 San Dimas Ave., San Dimas	
Date of Meeting: 2nd Thursday of each month	
Temple City Camellia Society	Temple City, Calif.
Meeting Place: Women's Club Auditorium, Woodruff at Kauffman, Temple City	
Secretary: Gertrude S. Rose, 6025 North Muscatel, San Gabriel	
Date of Meeting: 2nd Monday of each month, Nov. thru March	
Camellia Society of Orange County	Santa Ana, Calif.
Meeting Place: YWCA Building, 1411 North Broadway, Santa Ana	
Secretary: Mrs. Geo. T. Butler, 1121 Orange Ave., Santa Ana	
4th Wednesday, Nov. to April	
Huntington Camellia Garden	San Marino, Calif.
Huntington Library and Art Gallery, Oxford Rd., San Marino	

CONTENTS

NO. 16	FEBRUARY, 1955	NO. 5
Camellia Reviewer, <i>Elizabeth Beebe</i>		2
Southern California Camellia Garden Opens		3
Escanso Gardens Feature New Attraction		3
Report of the San Diego Camellia Society		4
Science of the Camellia — Conclusion, <i>James Bonner</i>		11
Camellias Present Fascinating Futures, <i>Paul Dennison</i>		13
S. C. C. S. Annual Camellia Show		15
Background of 5th Annual Show in Sumter, S. C., <i>Mrs. J. M. Napier</i>		17
List of Accredited Judges, S C C S		18

Camellia Reviewer

ELIZABETH BEEBE

The Sun Rises. Also The Show

For looming large enough on the horizon to rival even the sun is our Annual Camellia Show. The magic dates are

March 5th and 6th

The place, San Marino Women's Club House—1800 Huntington Drive. For particulars contact President Harold Dryden.

It is to be the loveliest show ever so enjoy this free beauty treatment if you are within walking, air or jet plane distance.

We're A Comin'

Dr. Thomas Wheeldon's invitation to come and visit him and his camellia garden in Richmond, Virginia, is doubly enticing by his address, which is "Three Chopt Road." Though we had doubted that this was correct, Dr. Wheeldon explains that the road gets its name from a winding trail marked by the Indians with three chops on the trees. And he says, "The road is still just as winding and just as interesting." Well, let's go—where's that little ol' magic carpet?

Are You A Camellia Sniffer?

If you should suddenly come on someone among your favorite Yunnan reticulatas or Captain Rawes plants and find him busily breaking off the wood and sniffing—don't be too hasty for the person can simply look at you with a guileless smile and tell you he is smelling the wood to identify the plants. This procedure which will of course seem like sacrilege to many and absolutely ruled out by most is recommended by Mr. Frank DoMoicho of Hayward, California, as a real means of identifying the species. Mr. Edwards Metcalf busily sniffed seedling bark broken by Mr. Domoto—and reports that it

had a decided pungent odor not unlike that of eucalyptus. The method is used especially in the case of reticulata seedlings. We are wondering if the Chinese have ever incorporated this in incense—it wouldn't surprise us.

Camellias Are Pets, Too

This is to announce that Mr. M. Love is a member in good standing of the S.C.C.S. Mr. Love sells Camellias, Azaleas and Pets in Florence, South Carolina and by this we are definitely intrigued. If he has monkeys he had better keep them caged. We had a pet monkey once that would bide his chance near bouquets to tear every petal off every flower. Trouble was, he was so cute and looked so innocent doing it we found it hard to chastise him properly. We shudder imagining monkeys loose among Camellias but no doubt Mr. Love has the situation well in hand. May be he runs to Siamese—but they don't mix well with Camellias either.

Returning from the pet situation to Mr. Love—it seems he is not the only member whose name somehow did not get printed. Anyone else let us out please notify us. This is one of the new Camellia leaves we are turning over this 1955.

The Bees Aren't In It

The old axiom that a busier a man is the more he gets done is surely exemplified by Wendell M. Levi who combines an active law business with camellias and pigeons. Mr. Levi is a recognized authority on pigeons (as well as camellias) and his book "The Pigeon" has gone through three printings and he is about to revise it for the fourth. Recently relinquishing his office as President of the South Carolina Camellia Society it seems reasonable to surmise that this busy man finally found that 24 hours a day were unable to cope with all the three interests. We are sure however, that

(Continued on Page 25)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA GARDEN OPENS

The informal opening on January 15th of the Southern California Camellia Garden in the Botanical Gardens of the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery of San Marino marked another milestone in the forward progress of one of the most outstanding Camellia gardens of the world. Sponsored by the Garden Committee of the Southern California Camellia Society, the Garden contains not only a collection of the finest varieties of the different species of Camellias, but is yearly enhanced by new seedlings—among which the most promising are singled out and from these will probably eventually be developed some fine new varieties.

Under the supervision of Superintendent Howard Asper and the efforts of "Keeper of the Garden" William Wylam and assistants, visitors are noting many improvements this year. The canyon sides have been cleared of underbrush and floored with two to three inches of mulch consisting of shavings which serve the purpose of warding erosion, and also aid in sanitation. The main trail has been widened and regravelled, while a shoring-up of the inside of the trail with artistic masonry work prevents the

soil on the embankment from washing down on the trail. For the safety and convenience of visitors, benches have been cut into the masonry space on the inside of the main trail, while redwood rails are placed all along the main trail and a large and solid hand-rail-pipe along the upper trail for added security. The entire new effect is very attractive.

In the North Vista Area where the older named Camellias retain their permanent, dignified positions, many of the smaller, miscellaneous plantings have been cleared out, and the shavings spread so that this area too presents a neater appearance.

The Camellia Garden along with the rest of the Botanical Gardens, the Library and Art Gallery, is open every day except Monday from one to four-thirty.

THE DESCANSO GARDENS FEATURE NEW ATTRACTION

Inaugurated last month for the first time was the "White Arrow Trail" at Descanso Gardens in La Canada, California. These gardens, long noted for their beauty and of late years for their beautiful Camellias, are of such scope that many of their visitors, left to their own devices in wandering about have often been disappointed to find after their pilgrimage that they had not seen some of the main features of the gardens. To correct this, visitors now may follow the white arrows and be lead to all the main points of interest, with added information for their intelligent appreciation.

Among interesting features along this White Arrow Trail is the block containing the original seedling Camellias and the section where Camellia amateur growers will find 22 different species of Camellias plainly marked, and will be able to detect the main differences between them. The White Arrows will lead the Camelliaphiles also to the section where

later introductions are blooming, and to one section where one each of the most outstanding of the Camellias is planted.

Old sections of the Descanso Gardens are opened now for the first time so that visitors may climb the hillside to see the new *Reticulatas*, and the *Rhododendrons*, *Azaleas*, and other

(Continued on Page 18)

The Camellia Review

Presents a Report of

THE SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

The fourth in a series featuring our affiliated societies

They Are Busy Camellia-philes

The San Diego Camellia Society is an active, enthusiastic organization with members from all parts of the County. 1954-55 officers are: Mr. George Ellis, President; Dr. Willis H. Miller, Vice President; Mr. Harry Hargreave, Treasurer; and Mrs. Lester B. Goodall, Secretary. The Board of Directors consists of the officers and Captain F. E. Vensel, Mrs. J. W. Bradford and Mr. Victor I. Wagner.

Regular meetings of the Society are held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Friday of each month November through March, inclusive, in the Floral Building in Balboa Park. The Floral Building is a splendid structure with a meeting hall which comfortably holds 200 people, a kitchen, rest rooms and locker storage space for the equipment of the several floral societies which make it their headquarters. Few other camellia societies enjoy such facilities for meetings as are provided at nominal cost by the City of San Diego. The annual Camellia Show is held in still larger quarters elsewhere in Balboa Park.

Programs of the Society are typical. Usually they include a speaker who illustrates his lecture with pictures, a short business session, a competitive bloom display with ribbons awarded to the best flowers in each class, a social period with refreshments, and a plant sale. This year, interest in the plant sale has been stimulated by offering only choice specimens. At the November 1954, meeting three lucky members took home a Changs Temple, a Pin Clouds and an R. L. Wheeler.

The last meeting of each season is the annual dinner meeting held in a private dining room at one of the leading restaurants. Features of this meeting are a presentation of wanted camellia plants to members who have won the most blue ribbons for bloom displays during the year and a showing of colored pictures of the prize-winning blooms.

As a special attraction, the Society this year is to charter a bus and take an interested group on a tour of some of our finest camellia gardens where they are in full bloom.

History of the Society

There had been camellia growers and lovely camellia gardens in San Diego city and county long before the San Diego Camellia Society was organized, for it was not until November 10, 1945, that the society came into being.

On that date a group of enthusiastic local camellia growers met with representatives of the Southern California Camellia Society — including Mr. and Mrs. Thor Petersen, Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Ward, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Casamajor and Mr. Henry Prucha — to organize our society. Mr. Petersen, Secretary of the Southern California Camellia Society, presented a charter to the initial group of twenty-four who thus became charter members. This group had banded together for the purpose of pooling their knowledge

camellias, of enjoying the company of others interested in growing camellias, and of undertaking educational projects having to do with these fascinating plants.

Inspiration Came From Individual Growers

During that first year our members, some of whom were very small growers, had the privilege of visiting the beautiful garden of L. H. Boyle of Del Mar, and Harvey Short's Nursery at Ramona. His display of cut blooms in his patio was really a camellia show in itself. These trips proved a powerful incentive to those who had a plant or two in their backyards to aspire to having a real camellia garden. By the end of the season, Society membership had increased to seventy-four under the able leadership of Mr. J. W. Sefton, Jr., our first president.



This beautiful Floral Building in Balboa Park, San Diego, is the permanent meeting place of the San Diego Camellia Society.

In the following years, our members became familiar with Mr. J. W. Sefton's very lovely garden, the Reynard Way Nursery owned by Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Carlton, the beautiful plantings of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Miller, Mr. and Mrs. C. Scott Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hebert and Dr. and Mrs. Reuben Tellam and others. Many of our small growers became larger growers, and enthusiasm grew apace.

In looking back over our baby days, our little group was most fortunate in securing men who really knew camellias to share their knowledge with us. The members of the Southern California Society were extremely generous in giving us of their time, wisdom and experience. At our various meetings we had such wonderful speakers as Wm. Woodroof, Howard Asper, C. D.

Cothran, Dr. Lloyd Taylor, Julius Nuccio, Harry Wammack, Herbert Swin, Bill Wylam, Dr. Walter Lammerts, Mr. William Hertrich, the late Dr. David McLean and others who made the trip to San Diego to talk to our amateur members.

It was in our third year at our annual dinner meeting that we first saw Frank Williams' beautiful camellia pictures. All present were so delighted that we have made it almost traditional to have Mr. Williams show his wonderful collection of exquisite pictures at the first meeting of our society each year. So far, he has never failed us, and we all experience that big thrill at seeing all the new varieties and so many of our old favorites. We do appreciate the fact that it sometimes meant a real hardship for Mr. Williams to make the trip to San Diego.

New Ideas Take Over

By the middle of its third year, our Society boldly decided to stage a Camellia show. There were very few who had had any experience in setting up a camellia show, or, in fact, who had ever seen a show. Fortunately, Harvey Short's professional experience and artistic ability provided the "know how" to put on a show. What we lacked in experience and knowledge we made up for in enthusiasm, willingness to work, strong arms and awkwardness, and our first, one-day show in 1948 was a decided success. It was held on February 14th which provided us with a theme. Since then, our annual show has become bigger and more elaborate, and, we think, one of the most beautiful in Southern California.

Our first bulletin was published in 1949. It was the brain child of Mrs. Stanley Miller of El Cajon, and was a real contribution to our society. Recently we purchased a duplicating machine so that our bulletin now has a greatly improved format.

In 1951, our society affiliated with the Floral Association of San Diego. With this affiliation went the use of its attractive building in Balboa Park and the Floral Association Building is now our permanent meeting place. About this time, the American Camellia Society approved five of our members as accredited judges.

We also introduced a new method of displaying blooms at our monthly meetings. Exhibitors were divided into three classes: (1) novice, those who had never received a blue ribbon; (2) amateur, and (3) non-competitive which class included large growers and commercial growers. Those receiving blue ribbons in classes 1 and 2 were given a camellia plant donated by a member of the society. The best flower of the evening was chosen and the winning blooms were photographed and shown at the last meeting of the season. We felt that this method provided an incentive to the smallest grower to bring in his flowers.

The next season we modified this method of display to our present established system. Instead of classes we use divisions. Division 1 includes growers who have from 1-20 plants of blooming age, Division 2 those who have from 21-50 plants of blooming age, and Division 3 those who have over 50 plants of blooming age. Blooms are judged and blue, red and white ribbons are awarded. The ribbons bear points: blue, 3 points; red, 2 points; white, 1 point. These points are accumulative, and at the last meeting of the season the winner in each division is awarded a fine specimen plant, usually one of his own choice. There are also divisions for seedlings, other species, reticulatas, and for the large growers and nurserymen. The best flower and the best amateur flower of the evening are chosen. We continue to photograph the

winning flowers and show them at our last meetings.

As the program for our February meeting for the past few years we have had a "work shop." This comes before our show, and instructions are given on how to choose, cut and display show flowers, on arrangement making, on message making, and on grafting and making cuttings. This meeting also provides for a last minute checkup on show arrangements.

During 1948-49, Lucien Atherton saw a dream come true — a camellia garden in Balboa Park. This is a joint venture with the Park furnishing care, space and protection, while our society supplies the camellia plants and the annual labor of planting them. The first year 53 camellias were donated and planted. This number has been increased to several hundreds. The plants have grown and during the blooming season provide a lovely splash of color in the Park.

The membership of the San Diego Camellia Society at the present time is well above the 100 mark. We feel that the purpose of organizing such a society has been fully justified. We have some well-known and outstanding growers among our members, we produce some very beautiful flowers, our members are constantly learning and sharing that knowledge, and we have a friendly group of camellia lovers.

Camellia Shows in San Diego

As the history of the society shows, the first of the annual camellia shows sponsored by the San Diego Camellia Society, was held in 1948. Since that time the annual show has been a feature of the winter calendars of a good many San Diegans.

These shows generally have been the last two weeks in February, with a reference for the end of the month. Except for the first show, the dates have ranged a Saturday and Sunday, being open Saturday night and closing on Sunday afternoon. The earliest date ever selected was February 8 and the latest, a trial effort in 1951, was February 24-25.

Show chairmen have had to contend with two separate growing seasons in the San Diego area, that of the coastal belt, and that of the foothill district extending as far East as the famed Santa Maria Valley, in which Ramona is situated. The glory of some past Camellia shows has been that the two growing districts could supplement each other, but too often freezing temperatures or winds in the foothills or a poor growing season on the coast have severely handicapped the overall display.

A survey of winning blooms of past years has resulted in the following list of best flowers of the show: 1948, Glen 40, Stanley Miller; 1949, Fimbricata, Mrs. Ann Oatney; 1950, a six-inch Gov. Earl Warren, Mrs. Becky Campbell; 1951, an unnamed Chandleri seedling, Harvey Short; 1952, "Reticulata", Dr. Robert Brown; 1953, Shiratama, Dr. Reuben Tellam; 1954, Ville de Nantes, Dr. Reuben Tellam. Some notable winners in other divisions have been: 1950, first showing of Harvey Short's Masterpiece in competition; 1952, the appearance of two outstanding flowers — Bride's Bouquet by Harvey Short and Melody Lane by Doc. Miller — as a real puzzler for the judges; 1953, Harvey Short's Frosty Morn won best seedling.

Show attendance has ranged from 1500 for the first show given in a small American Legion Hall in 1948 (1 day show) to a high of over 4000 in the Conference Hall in Balboa Park in 1951. The most favored place for recent shows has been the Recital Hall in beautiful Balboa Park. This hall has over 1000 square feet of space in the main auditorium and much additional space in anterooms and on the stage.

After experimenting with a new theme each year — ranging from a Valentine Day motif through Spring-time, Oriental, Colonial and Winter themes — the society decided in 1953 to standardize on the successful theme of that year, "Camellia Time in San Diego."

In 1954, the society employed its first professional publicity agent for promoting the show, a step long contemplated, and has continued the practice for this year. Many of our signs and other advertising material — with our standard theme — can be used each year.

This year's show chairman, Les Goodall, is successor to a long line of veritable predecessors: Becky Campbell, Harvey Short, Lucien Atherton, Mrs. A. P. Carlton, Capt. F. E. Vensel, Cmdr. Charles Barnes and Ted Kohl. Date for this show are February 26 and 27, 1955. All shows are given under the auspices of the SCCS and the ACS, and awards and judging conforms to their standards.

Major Camellia Collections

San Diego County has camellias growing in costal areas, interior lowland and mountain valleys. This variety of climate and topography provides a wide range of blooming period, and permits some interesting camellia gardens. Most of our Society members are limited to a town lot and so must exercise both restraint in the number of plants they have, and ingenuity in making camellias the featured part of their landscaping plans. Many of these smaller collections are notable for their selection of varieties, for their attractive arrangement, and for the quality of blooms they produce.

However, San Diego also has a number of major camellia collections which can hold their own with the best in other parts of the country. Three of these — one on the coast and two inland — are of sufficient importance to be described here.



The first president of the San Diego Society, Mr. Joseph Sefton, compares notes on a Camellia blossom with the current Society President, Mr. George Ellis. This was a strictly candid shot.



One of the rustic paths in the extensive Camellia gardens of Joseph Sefton of the San Diego Society. Mr. Sefton started his garden over twenty years ago and has done most of the work in it himself.

Sefton Garden

Mr. Joseph W. Sefton, first President of San Diego Camellia Society and President of the San Diego Trust and Savings Bank, has two hobbies — marine biology and camellias. The latter he practices on his magnificent 10-acre estate at Point Loma where he has over 1,000 camellia plants. Some are arranged as formal gardens, but most are thriving on terraced slopes under the partial shade of towering eucalyptus, rubber, black locust, camphor and other trees including many giant tree ferns. With the help of only one man "to water and pull weeds," Mr. Sefton during the last twenty years has had trees, cleared brush, constructed terraces of logs with gnarled stumps set upside down as corner posts, built hundreds of feet of rustic path, and created a spectacular camellia garden. An eight-foot wall some fifty feet in length is entirely covered by one of the finest examples of espaliered Sasanquas to be found in the San Diego area. Scores of seedlings are planted in the ground. The lush growth and the fine blooms are evidence of Mr. Sefton's understanding of camellia culture, and support his philosophy which is "don't pamper camellias."

Tellam Garden

One of San Diego County's finest camellia collections is located in Ramona, approximately 37 miles northeast of San Diego. It is owned by Dr. and Mrs. Ruben Tellam, well-known figures in the camellia world. While they have used Japonicas in landscaping, their principal planting is in a large lath house covering 7000 square feet. Overhead sprinkling is used for irrigation. Dr. Tellam started his collection 18 years ago, and has continued to select varieties of unusual beauty. His blossoms speak for themselves for size, quality and extensive variety, wherever they are shown.

Miller Garden

Another outstanding local camellia collection is that developed by Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Miller at their El Cajon Valley ranch. Here there are camellias used in the landscaping plan, a big lath house part of which is devoted to over 2,000 seedlings and one of the largest and finest known camellia hedges. The Millers are flowering some seedlings from their own seedlings. Of special interest is the fact that for about twelve years Mr. Miller has successfully used coverings both in his soil mixtures and as a ground cover and mulch. They are conservative in their use of fertilizers and other artificial means of beating nature in its own game.

When asked how Camellias in Southern California compare with the Camellias they saw on their recent trip around the World, the Millers both feel that while New Zealand, Australia, India, Spain, Italy, Portugal, France, C.I. of Guernsey, Scotland and England, all have beautiful, very large and very old trees of camellias and that they saw beautiful blossoms while in foreign countries, no where did they see any finer camellias than are raised right here in Southern California.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA BULLETIN

The October number of this bulletin is devoted entirely to the Yunnan reticulatas and is a most outstanding issue. In addition to authoritative material supplied by foremost reticulata growers including Ralph Peer, Dr. Walter Lammerts, Howard Asper and Roy Thompson, there are sixteen full page photographs of the named reticulatas. All making a publication well worthy of preservation for its beauty as well as for reference.

Seedlings in San Diego County

Largely due to the expert work of Harvey Short and E. W. (Doc.) Miller, some of the outstanding new seedlings of recent years were "born" in San Diego County.

Following eleven years of responsible nursery work at the Coolidge Gardens in Pasadena, Harvey Short in 1937 established his own camellia gardens near Ramona. During the next fifteen years, Mr. Short there developed many outstanding new seedlings including Scented Treasure and Sun Dial in 1948, Pink Shadows in 1949, Masterpiece in 1950, Brides Bouquet, Frosty Morn, Sunset Glory and Pink Clouds in 1951, followed by Aristocrat, Spring Triumph, Julius Favorite and others. At the time of his recent return to the Coolidge Gardens as Production Manager, Mr. Short had about 10,000 plants in Ramona, and promising seedlings ahead for the next five years.

Doc. Miller produced some very fine seedlings at his nursery in Escondido, including Drama Girl, Melody Lane and others.

Balboa Park Camellia Garden

Balboa Park's largest flower planting, a 700-plant camellia garden was started in 1949 through an agreement between the San Diego Camellia Society and the City Park Department. The Department was to dig the holes and to provide all planting materials except the plants, as well as to give the plants proper maintenance. The lack of an adequate water system and shortage of help has been the chief cause of plant loss.

The society, for its part, agreed to obtain the plants, furnish the planting design and to do the actual work of planting and feeding the plants, all without expense to the city. The society has acquired most of the plants as donations from commercial growers.



Mr. Harvey Short beams over his ribbon of Merit Award which was won by beautiful japonica "Bride's Bouquet" the San Diego Camellia Show. The flower later won the Margarete Hertrich Award for 1952. Mr. Short now lives in the Pasadena area and is an active member of the S.C.C.S.

The purpose of this major city program is beautification of the Park and the introduction of camellias to the public as a suitable plant for landscape gardening. In addition to the main garden in a canyon to the rear of the House of Hospitality, accidental plantings have been made in the central area of the Park to supplement the existing landscape arrangement.

The society also has cooperated with the Park nursery in a program of grafting by furnishing scions and understock. The result is that the Park nursery has over one hundred camellias which are being planted throughout the Park independent of the society's project.

There are many problems and appointments in such a large project unrestricted to the public, but meanwhile the camellia is coming into its own in Balboa Park.

THE SCIENCE OF THE CAMELLIA

By JAMES BONNER

Professor of Biology, California Institute of Technology

CONCLUSION

The Question of Sun and Shade

We all know that camellias by and large do better in shade. This behavior is probably related to the sensitivity of the camellia to the accumulation of salt. When a plant is in the sun, it evaporates more water than it does if it is in the shade. Light causes more to increase rate of water loss from a plant than any other single factor except perhaps the temperature. The more light, the more water loss; the more water loss the more rapid the depletion of the water by irrigation and the more concentration of salt in the soil solution. The more light the camellia receives, the more difficult it will be to be sure that the salinity of the soil solution is kept at all times below the level which causes damage to the plant. The conclusion is then that the camellia is sensitive to high salt concentrations. It is not so particular about the hydrogen ion concentration—the acidity of the soil solution. We should distinguish between these two difficulties. We cannot cure soil salinity by making the soil more acid thru the application of sulfur or other acidifying agents; we can only cure the condition of soil salinity by leaching. And for myself, I would favor abolition of the term soil-alkalinity. It is a confusing term which confuses the concept of soil salinity with the secondary fact that saline soils are often alkaline.

Flower Production

Now let us turn to the production of flower buds and flowers. We are fortunate in having at the California Institute of Technology a greenhouse in which we can control the temperature, humidity and other environ-

mental factors in separate rooms. In this greenhouse we can then grow plants under conditions which simulate different climatic conditions. We can, for example, grow plants under conditions of temperature and humidity which simulate summer in Pasadena and simultaneously under other conditions which simulate the winter in Pasadena. We have applied this facility to the study of the flowering of the camellia. It has turned out that the flowering of our plant is controlled by two principal climatic factors: namely, the night temperature and the relative length of day and night. Many plants are controlled in their flowering by relative length of day and night and this matter has been much studied. With the camellia, as with other species, it is in fact the absolute length of the night period which controls the flowering response. Only when the night is shorter than a certain critical length the production of flower buds takes place. Superimposed upon this response to length of night, is an effect of temperature. It has been shown that camellia plants of several varieties studied only produce flower buds if the days are longer than about 15 hours and the nights correspondingly shorter than about 9 hours. And in addition, the nights must be warmer than about 65° in order for abundant flower bud formation to occur. If we maintain a plant under these summer conditions of relatively warm, short, nights, flower buds are formed but they do not open into flowers; they fall off. In order to get our flower buds to open and to produce flowers, we must supplant the short warm nights with a regime of cold long nights. The opti-

(Continued on Page 12)

SCIENCE from P. 11

num opening of flower buds and production of flowers has been shown to take place when the nights are 60° or colder, and longer than about nine hours. If, for example, we want to produce camellia flowers in the middle of our Pasadena summer, then what we would do would be to take a camellia plant, say on January 1, and put it in a greenhouse with warm nights and with artificial illumination at night to persuade the plant that the days are long and the nights short. After two months of such treatment flower buds will have been formed and we could then move the plant to conditions of colder nights. We should also mask the plants with dark cloths from say 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. to maintain a day length of ten hours. Under these conditions our plant will open normal flowers about May 1 to June 1.

The temperature relations of flower opening in the camellia as determined in the laboratory have an interesting relation to the normal time of flowering of our different varieties. Our night temperatures during the winter in Pasadena and in southern California generally are sufficiently low to greatly slow down the rate of flower opening. We have found by collection of temperature data from a series of growers in different spots in southern California that the earliness of flowering of each camellia is correlated with the temperature of the locality. The warmer the minimum night temperature, the earlier the flowering of each variety. If, for example, our climate should warm up and the winter nights become warmer, we would observe a correspondingly earlier date of flowering for each of our varieties.

How About Smog?

We hear a great deal now about the effect of smog not only on human

beings but on plants as well. It is interesting to note that the characteristically damaging effects of smog on living organisms was first demonstrated by Haagen-Smit on plants which are as a group remarkably sensitive and which can detect, by showing symptoms of damage, concentrations of smog which are lower than those which irritate humans. We know that a great many plants are severely damaged by smog. These include particularly our crop plants such as sugar beets, endive, barley, tobacco and others. The question has often arisen of whether smog does damage to camellias and whether this or that obscure symptom might be due to smog. I am prepared to answer this question, at least in a preliminary fashion. We have taken camellia plants of different varieties and exposed them to concentrated smog for varying periods of time and have then removed these plants to a smog-free greenhouse where they have been allowed to develop further. Fortunately for the members of the Southern California Society, it is clear that the camellia is an exceedingly smog-hardy plant and shows so far as we have been able to determine, no characteristic reactions to the pollution of our atmosphere.

More To Be Learned

In this talk we have reviewed some of the factors which are most important in controlling the vegetative growth of the camellia and in the determination of flowering behavior. We should not get the impression, however, that all of the science of the camellia is already known. As with the study of any plant or of any living thing, there is a great deal which remains to be discovered with the camellia and so I hope that in the future some new research committee of the Southern California Camellia Society will again take up the problems of the camellia.

CAMELLIAS PRESENT FASCINATING FUTURES

By PAUL DENNISON

This article will describe briefly the progress and results of the experiments listed in my article "Yellow Camellias—Why Not," which appeared in the *Camellia Review* for March, 1953.

So far, my attempts at artificially producing camellia mutations have not been successful. No yellow flowered camellia has yet appeared, but the possibility of that or of other unusual mutations remains.

Experiments Continue

Although "Control" plants have been used, actually no control plants or seeds can be used as such in the ordinary sense, since almost every camellia seed seizes the opportunity to develop into a plant different from its parent plants. However, even in large groups only a few out of say, 10,000, will show anything that really is new and different. With the herein mentioned experiments it is hoped to at least increase this number of mutations. As an amateur, without access to electron microscopes, high powered optical microscopes and the other tools of the plant scientist, cytologist or morphologist, any variations which occur must be of a visible nature permitting easy discovery.

Of the approximately 8,000 seeds and small seedlings treated since 1949 only about 10% have survived.

Interest in Radiation

Since around the end of World War II, interest in radiation and its effect on living things has increased tremendously.

Considerable research into the effects of relatively high amounts of radiation exposure (many times more than the overall uniform 500 to 600 r units¹ fatal to human beings) of varieties of edible plants (mainly corn, barley and wheat—plants

¹Radiation is measured in terms of a unit called the roentgen, symbol r, defined for our purposes as the amount of X radiation which produces in a 0.001293 gram of dry air, i.e., one cubic centimeter at 0°C and 1 atm. pressure, electrically charged particles carrying a total of one electrostatic unit of charge of either sign.

which cannot be vegetatively propagated) has been going on and many kinds of mutations have occurred. Mottling or "flecking" in the chlorophyll of the first seedling leaves has been found to occur in very heavily radiated seedlings for example. Loss of sense of root and top growth direction (geotropism) has also occurred.

Cause of Results Doubtful

After experimenting with many thousands of camellia seeds and plants subjected to X radiation, and after reading many articles on similar but more thorough and scientific experiments on other types of plants, the deducible conclusion is reached that it is not possible to predict accurately many results from radiation exposure of camellias. Both the natural tendency of camellia seedlings to "not come true to parent plant" and their relatively high natural mutation rate are always present, thus making doubtful the origin of any variation occurring in exposed plants.

Difficulties in Radiating Seed

It is very apparent from the experiments performed on camellia seed that dormant or dry seed can absorb considerable radiation with no apparent effect. Even soaking some seed in lead nitrate solution to increased production of secondary radiation and thus causing the seed to receive greater total radiation did not produce apparent effect. Various amounts of X radiation up to 15,000 units have been applied by use of 140,000 and 220,000 volt medical X ray machines.

(Continued on Page 14)

FUTURES *from Page 13*

The plants which survived from exposed seed and seedlings are equally as vigorous as plants grown from unexposed seed and morphologically indistinguishable from them. All plants have deep, uniform green foliage with no abnormalities of leaf, bud, stem or flower so far.

All indications are that radiation amounts tried up to now have been too small to cause mutations.

Difficulties in Duplicating Conditions

If and when any unusual results occur, reproducing the original conditions will be somewhat difficult because of the great many variables involved. Some of these are: age of seed, prevailing temperature, dryness of seed, type of radiation, length of time of radiation, voltage of X ray, current in X ray tube, original viability of seed, time lapse between radiation and planting seeds, distance from seed to source of radiation at time of exposure, effect on radiation due to type of material of seed container, type of filter used on the X ray machine. X rays are similar to visible light rays except that they have a much smaller wave length. The electromagnetic spectrum of radiations extends the X rays, being associated with gamma rays at their short wave length limit and ultraviolet at the long wave length end.

In all the various radiation experiments under way, the lack of any phenotypic (visible characteristics) changes in the variously exposed seedlings indicates that any somatic (body) mutations which may have occurred are not sufficiently dominant to be detected by the unaided eye. However, by growing progenies from self fed seed, some mutations may be recovered in an homozygous (reinforced degree of dominance) condition and so become visible. This

² See THE CAMELLIA REVIEW for March, 1953. Also CAMELLIA RESEARCH, 1950.

possible result is held in the future for us as no seeds have yet been sown by those treated plants that have bloomed.

The presence in the atmosphere above many of our city and urban areas of rather intense electromagnetic radiations of all types; radio, television, infra-red, ultraviolet, visible light and cosmic rays, some of which can cause plant mutations; and the presence of organic peroxides, ozone and other chemicals which can cause plant mutations, leads to the question of whether these conditions approach a biologically effective and dangerous situation as regards the heredity of all living things.

Short Cuts?

Of the plants treated with Colchicine definite effects occurred only on the standard Daikagura. These effects lasted only for one growth cycle, specifically a change from the normal heavily veined flat leaves to smooth almost glass-surfaced, strongly-curved downward-at-the-edges leaves. This effect did occur with Diakagura, a japonica variety having the minimum diploid chromosome number of 30 in each somatic cell, seems to bear out the chromosome doubling theory of effects due to use of Colchicine. Evidently the Colchicine acted on the epidermal cells only in this case.

Of the plants exposed to and planted with the acenaphthene, none showed visible effects. It may be that since this is a highly volatile chemical, the plants should be grown in an enclosure or container that maintains or traps some of the chemical fumes for effects to occur.

Unlimited Possibilities

For the amateur grower who wants to experiment with camellias, there is a wide open field. And perhaps most satisfying is that it is a field open to all; not even a politician can restrict or order a plant to react or perform

(Continued on Page 22)

S C C S ANNUAL CAMELLIA SHOW

The following schedule and set of rules and regulations have been adopted for the Southern California Camellia Society show to be held Saturday and Sunday, March 5 and 6, 1955, in the San Marino Women's Club House. The chief difference in the schedule from that of former years is that in single blossom competition, blooms will be arranged according to variety in alphabetical order and not by form classification.

SCHEDULE

Division I—One Blossom, Japonica

Specimen blooms will be arranged according to variety in alphabetical order, and not by form classification. Varieties that produce variegated and self-colored flowers will be placed in separate classes; for example, Adolphe Audusson, Adolphe Audusson Special, Adolphe Audusson Variegated.

"The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature", 1954 edition, will be the authority for correct nomenclature.

Division II—One Blossom, Reticulata

Specimen blooms will be arranged according to variety in alphabetical order.

Division III—More Than One Blossom, Japonica

Display will be in low containers supplied by exhibitors. There will be no distinction as to form, color or variety in judging.

Class 1 Display of three blossoms of one variety

Class 1 Display of three blossoms of different varieties

Class 3 Display of six blossoms of one variety

Class 4 Display of six blossoms of different varieties.

Division IV—More Than One Blossom, Reticulata

Class 1 Display of three blossoms of one variety

Class 2 Display of three blossoms of different varieties.

Division V—"Collectors' " Exhibits

Entries in this division are by invitation only and are limited to large collectors of Camellias. Entries will consist of twenty or more varieties.

Division VI—Organizations

Exhibits and displays by organizations.

Division VII—Arrangements

Camellias in arrangements need not be grown by exhibitors. Harmonious foliage, flowers, driftwood and other plant materials and accessories may be used, but Camellias should be predominate.

Classes for arrangements will be listed in the Schedule which will be distributed prior to the date of the Show.

AWARDS

Best Flower, Japonica—Amateur

The outstanding Camellia Japonica exhibited by an amateur will be chosen from Divisions I, III and V.

Best Flower, Reticulata—Amateur

The outstanding Camellia Reticulata exhibited by an amateur will be chosen from Divisions II, IV and V.

Best Flower, Japonica—Professional

The outstanding Camellia Japonica exhibited by a professional grower will be chosen from growers' displays.

Best Flower, Reticulata—Professional

The outstanding Camellia Reticulata exhibited by a professional grower will be chosen from growers' displays.

Sweepstakes Trophy

Most points in Divisions I, II, III, IV, based on first place 3 points, second place 2 points, third place 1 point. In case of tie, the winner of the most blue ribbons will be awarded the trophy.

Arrangements Sweepstakes

Most points, based on first place 3 points, second place 2 points, third place 1 point.

First, Second, Third place ribbons for each variety of Divisions I and II, and for each class of Divisions III, IV, and VII.

American Camellia Society Awards

1. Gold Certificates for Sweepstakes winner in Divisions I, II, III, and IV based on count of blue ribbons. In case of tie, red ribbons will be counted.
2. Silver Certificate for Sweepstakes runner-up, counted on same basis as for Gold Certificate.
3. Highly Commended Certificate for seedling when Judges consider it clearly distinct from and notably superior to any variety now in commerce. (See definition of seedling under "Hertrich Awards.")

HERTRICH AWARDS

Best unnamed seedling blossom, amateur or professional, in competition for annual Margarette Hertrich Award.

Best cut bloom of camellia mutant or sport, amateur or professional in competition for annual William Hertrich Award.

(Continued on Page 16)

OUR ANNUAL SHOW

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All judging shall be against the standard of perfection. If less than three specimens of a variety or classification are entered, appropriate ribbons shall be awarded nevertheless. An entry is not entitled to an award unless it has real merit. If no entry meets the requirement for a blue ribbon, none shall be awarded. The same is true for second and third place ribbons. Judges' decisions will be final.
2. Each exhibitor is permitted one entry only of each variety in Divisions I and III.
3. Registration opens Saturday, March 5, at 7:30 a.m. All exhibits must be in place ready for judging by 10:30 a.m. Registration blanks may be obtained and completed before time of registration, but classification will be subject to review by the committee.
4. All flowers in competitive classes must have been grown by the exhibitor, or have been in his own possession at least three months before exhibiting, excepting flowers used in Divisions VI and VII.
5. All exhibits are, from the commencement to the close of the show, in charge of the Show Committee. All camellia blooms entered will be held by the Show Committee at the close of the show for destruction. Exhibitors will claim containers and other personal material promptly after the close of the Show. The Show Committee will not be held responsible thereafter.
6. Flowers will be shown in containers furnished by the Society unless otherwise specified in the Schedule.
7. The Show Committee shall have authority to reject blooms of inferior quality.
8. Individual entries shall consist of individual blooms only. No unopened buds or leaves are permitted. Stems up to 1/2 inch optional.
9. Violation of any regulation will disqualify the entrant.
10. The building will be closed at 11 a.m. and will reopen at 2 p.m. Only officials connected with the Show may remain in the exhibit area between these hours.
11. Exhibitors need NOT be members of the Southern California Camellia Society.
12. The management assumes no responsibility for loss or injury to any exhibit regardless of cause. The Committee will provide as much care and protection as possible.

S C C S To Present Stars and Flowers

Come early to the February meeting on the 8th if you want to get a seat, as the program is slated to present two star performers.

Flanked by the most luscious blooms of the newest varieties of Camellias he can find, Mr. Harvey Short will talk on the new introductions of both the west and the east. Illustrating the talk with the above mentioned blossoms, Mr. Short will supplement these with slides of worthwhile and important new introductions whose flowers he could not obtain.

The other star on the program will be a surprise speaker whose subject will be "Grafting." This star speaker will not only explain grafting and give the different procedures and types but will have examples to demonstrate his subject.

This promises to be one of the most colorful programs of the year.

13. Divisions I, II, III, IV, V and VII are for amateur competition only. An amateur is defined as one who does not engage in the sale of plants or flowers for any part of his livelihood and who does not accept pay as a gardener, garden consultant or landscape architect or charge admission to his garden for personal gain.

The Oregon Camellia Society announces that Russell Gainer is its new President.

The Camellia Society of Orange County will hold its Annual Show February 20th.

The Central Camellia Society will hold its Annual Show in Fresno on February 27th.

BACKGROUND OF FIFTH ANNUAL SHOW IN SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA

By MRS. J. M. NAPIER

Camellias have been grown in South Carolina for more than one hundred years and we have many well known gardens, but the Camellia Show as we know it today had its beginning less than twenty-five years ago.

I had visited shows in other states and realizing that many more people would become interested if they could see a large collection of blooms I asked my garden club to sponsor a show.

Soon after launching that show I realized that in order to grow into a large show we would have to encourage more people to grow camellias and to plant varieties that would cover a long blooming period. Everywhere I turned I was met with the remark, "They cost too much money and we lose them." So I thought up the plan of giving them camellias at actual cost and teaching them how to plant and care for them so that the loss would be small in comparison to the satisfaction of growing these beautiful plants.

Over a period of two years we ordered more than five thousand (5,000) plants and let anyone who was interested have them. We placed them in many counties.

I made a definite educational plan to cover twenty years, by which time I hoped to see camellias grown from the coast to the mountains. That time is nearly up and I have seen my vision come true.

In buying these thousands of plants we brought in the first Daikaguras and many new Sasanquas. I stressed putting in many early blooming varieties so that our people would get blooms before severe cold and thus cut down discouragement. Most of the varieties grown here at that time were mid-season bloomers.

The educational plan included talks to many garden clubs, distributing much mimeographed material, grafting demonstrations, showing of col-

ored slides, and encouraging shows. My husband and I teamed up—he made the talks and I ran the slides. We gave more than five hundred (500) programs over a period of fifteen years (no charge for expenses)—and distributed much educational material prepared by us, and encouraging the sponsoring and attending of more shows. Our work covered the state and not just our locality.

When these early blooming varieties got enough age on them to begin to impress people the fall show, or State Show, was born. The State Society took the fall date in order to stay off the garden club shows which are all held in January, February and March.

The largest number of blooms in the Shows belong to the Daikagura family. Many new varieties have been developed and our people are quick to try them out. Of course the fall Show is not as large as the mid-season ones but it gives people enthusiasm to buy and plant at the season when camellias should be planted, so that they can make new roots before top growth starts.

Get your nurseryman to sell lots of early blooming varieties and before long California will be inviting us to a fall Camellia Show.

But that's in the future. Right now, meet me at our Show March 5th.

LIST OF ACCREDITED JUDGES, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY, AS OF JANUARY 1, 1955

Mr. J. Howard Asper
1405 Flanders Rd.
La Canada, Calif.

Mrs. F. W. Burcky
1375 Bellwood Rd.
San Marino, Calif.

Dr. John H. Clairmont
1818 Oak Knoll Rd.
Glendale, Calif.

Mr. C. D. Cothran
1105 No. San Dimas Ave.
San Dimas, Calif.

Mr. A. H. Dekker
2524 E. Glenoaks Blvd.
Glendale, Calif.

Mr. Harold Dryden
820 Winston Ave.
San Marino, Calif.

Dr. Cecil H. Eshelman
14287 Roblar St.
Sherman Oaks, Calif.

Mr. Arthur E. Falk
1124 Valencia Mesa Dr.
Fullerton, Calif.

Mr. D. L. Feathers
1 Camellia Lane
Lafayette, Calif.

Dr. George J. Hall
4022 Folsom Blvd.
Sacramento, Calif.

Mr. Wm. Hertrich
1800 Orlando Rd.
San Marino, Calif.

Mrs. Robert J. Johnson
1902 Niles St.
Bakersfield, Calif.

Dr. John D. Lawson
2920 Capitol Ave.
Sacramento, Calif.

Mr. M. Leslie Marshall
6742 Sultana Ave.
San Gabriel, Calif.

Mrs. V. O. McCaskill
25 So. Michillinda Ave.
Pasadena, Calif.

Mr. E. H. Metcalf
745 Canterbury Rd.
San Marino, Calif.

Mr. Stanley H. Miller
1590 E. Chase
El Cajon, Calif.

Mr. Julius Nuccio
3555 Chaney Trail
Altadena, Calif.

Mr. H. L. Paige
1212 Monticello Rd.
Lafayette, Calif.

Mr. Harold Pearson
178 E. Aliso
Pomona, Calif.

Mr. Ralph S. Peer
8159 Hollywood Blvd.
Los Angeles, Calif.

Mr. R. W. Ragland
555 So. Flower St.
Los Angeles, Calif.

Mr. Milo E. Rowell
Rowell Bldg.
Fresno, Calif.

Mrs. Emily Schweitzer
2931 San Emidio St.
Bakersfield, Calif.

Mr. Harvey F. Short
781 No. Foothill Blvd.
Pasadena, Calif.

Dr. Lloyd J. Taylor
810 Highland Dr.
Pasadena, Calif.

Dr. Reuben W. Tellam
621 Main St.
Ramona, Calif.

Mr. Douglas Thompson
3162 Lindo St.
Hollywood 28, Calif.

Mr. Roy T. Thompson
2723 Hermosita Dr.
Glendale, Calif.

Mr. E. C. Tourje
510 No. Del Mar Ave.
San Gabriel, Calif.

Mr. Ronald B. Townsend
2275 Monte Vista
Pasadena, Calif.

Mr. Homer C. Wilson
734 University Ave.
Fresno, Calif.

Mr. William E. Woodroof
4117 Davana Rd.
Sherman Oaks, Calif.

Mr. William E. Wylam
P.O. Box 156, Station C
Pasadena, Calif.

ADDITIONAL JUDGES

All persons who shall have been accredited by American Camellia Society as show judges, and remain in good standing as such, shall be considered from time to time to be judges duly accredited by Southern California Camellia Society for all purposes for which judges may be appointed.

DESCANSO GARDENS from P. 3
companion plants to the Camellias.

One of the charms of this new White Arrow Trail is that it not only leads to all the Camellia beauty spots but winds its way through the sump-

tious Lounge where trail followers may relax to talk over the lovely gardens, and it is also dotted by other relaxing spots.

The Gardens are open from 10 to 4 a.m. daily.

JANUARY MEETING OF THE S C C S

In spite of apparently unpropitious weather for Camellias to start blooming, table after table was laden with truly specimen flowers at the January meeting of the S.C.C.S. The "Oh's and Ah's" were like waves of soft applause as the large throng which gathered for the meeting filed by to admire and compare—choose and discover. Well over two hundred members and friends reluctantly took seats as President Harold Dryden called the meeting to order.

Among his first remarks, the President after greeting everyone, made some preliminary announcements about the forthcoming Show, giving a list of the Chairmen. In announcements about personalities he gave credit to the person who he felt all would agree as having done the most for the society, Mr. William Hertrich. As Mr. Hertrich was present, he rose and was given a hearty round of applause.

Taking over the program, Edwards Metcalf introduced Ralph Peer—a man really needing little introduction—who had consented to give the society a talk of his recent trip around the world in search of the yellow camellia. All were tremendously interested in hearing highlights of the travel which took Mr. and Mrs. Peer through England and Wales, the southern part of Europe, India, New Zealand and Australia, Japan, Formosa and China, interwoven with reports of camellias seen and personalities involved. The yellow camellia, however, remained practically aloof. That is, Mr. Peer states positively that there are Yellow camellias back in the interior of China but in inaccessible territory. He did see some dried ones—definitely yellow. And it is no doubt true that not a single camellia in all of their travels was any more beautiful than the *Reticulata* "Buddha" which Mrs. Peer

Our Cover Flower

This charming semi-double Camellia, the pale pink of its petal tops changing to a deeper pink on the under sides, was named *C. japonica* 'Bessie Morse Bellingrath'. Thus a beautiful flower honors the late Mrs. Bellingrath who with her husband founded the famous Bellingrath Gardens near Mobile, Georgia.

The original plant known as Toki-No-Hagasame was imported from Japan in 1939, and the 'Bessie Morse Bellingrath' became available in the States in 1942.

The plant blooms freely, does well in direct morning sun, grows compactly and has great charm and beauty.

wore in her blonde hair as she listened to her husband speak.

After the social intermission, Mr. Metcalf brought up Leo W. Davis, who spoke on "Soil Management." Mr. Davis is the Director of the Growers' Advisory Service for Swift and Company and gave authoritative, technical information about soil and its ingredients, illustrated by charts showing effect on different types of plant life by different types of soil.

It was difficult for the judges to select winning flowers from the fine exhibit but the winners were as follows: First with a 'C. M. Wilson' was Caryll Pitkin. Second was won by Mrs. M. E. Milliken with 'Ville de Nantes' and Mrs. William Viney was third with her 'Nagasaki.' With 'Debutante' as the bloom of the month, James Findley won first, Caryll Pitkin second and Al Hill third.

TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SHOW

The Seventh Annual Temple City Camellia Show, sponsored by the Temple City Camellia Society in cooperation with the American Camellia Society and the Southern California Camellia Society will be held February 26 and 27, 1955 at the Woman's Club Auditorium, Woodruff at Kauffman, Temple City. This will be a new location convenient to post parade activities of the Camellia Festival such as the barbeque, carnival and festival floats.

Also new to the show will be the Division I Schedule for single blooms which will be by variety alphabetically arranged in four classes, according to color. Each variety will be judged separately except that if fewer than three blooms are entered in any given variety, there will be no competition. If no entry in a group meets the requirements for a blue ribbon, none will be awarded. The same is true for second and third place awards.

There will also be four classes in Division II for more than one blossom. Class 1 for three and Class 3 for seven blossoms of one variety. Class 2 for three and Class 4 for seven blossoms of different varieties. Both Division I and II are for amateur growers only.

Division III, Reticulatas; Division IV, Boutonnieres and Miniatures. For small japonica blossoms up to two and one-half inches in diameter, and Division V, Seedlings, one blossom from any new variety which has not been awarded a prize prior to 1955 or offered for sale, will all be open to both professional and amateur growers.

Blossoms entered in all five competitive divisions will be displayed in low containers furnished by the Society. Flower arrangements will be non-competitive and by invitation only. There will also be courtesy exhibits and displays by Organizations, Exhibits by Professional Growers and Florists and Exhibits by noted collectors.

There will be special Gold and Silver Certificates Awards from both the American Camellia Society and the Southern California Camellia Society. Engraved cups will be awarded by the Temple City Camellia Society; for the Sweepstakes winner, best japonica blossom in Divisions I and II, best blossom in each of Divisions III, IV and V, best blossom by professional grower and for the Camellia Festival float making the most effective use of camellias.

Mr. K. E. Barley, Show Chairman, announces that competitive entries will be accepted Friday, February 25th, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 26th from 6:30 to 9:00 a.m. Show schedules and entry forms will be mailed to those requesting them from the Secretary, Gertrude S. Rose.

BOORMAN'S CAMELLIA GARDENS

Featuring the new Reticulatas, and Sasanquas
and the new and choice varieties in Japonicas.

9328 E. BROADWAY

TEMPLE CITY

AT. 6-3401

Camellia MAIL BAG

From Illinois

Camellias grow even in cold Chicago, it seems, or at least in its cold suburb, Winnetka. The following interesting letter comes from the busy lawyer Edward L. Vollers. Quote:

"A year ago I purchased seeds from SCCS. They were planted according to instructions and germination took approximately three months before they could be lifted. They were put in potting soil this summer in deep flats and have continued vigorous growth, notwithstanding the fact that my profession takes me away from home much of the time. In fact, they seem to thrive on neglect. I have not yet planted this year's seeds.

"This year I expect to soak the seeds for 24 hours and file or cut the shell to see if the germination period can be shortened.

"One of the largest commercial growers of camellias in the country is located at Crystal Lake, Illinois, about 40 miles from Chicago, but very few individual growers raise them. I have a collection of about 150 plants of all varieties, including ten reticulatas which are just beginning to blossom. They are housed in a detached greenhouse, heated with hot water through underground pipes from the residence boiler, using fin type pipes beneath the benches. All plants are in green glass tubs and are taken from the greenhouse and put in a lath house during the summer. I water manually as required but the house is equipped with a Lord and Burnham automatic ventilator. The thermostat and ventilator are set at 50. Lack of adequate sunshine in this area is most troublesome, and great care is needed to avoid overwatering.

"Most of my plants have been acquired from Southern and California growers, both bare root and in egg cartons. I find little difference in re-

Harvey F. Short's

"Camellias of Tomorrow"

This Trio Speak for Themselves!

"Pink Clouds"

1952-53 Margarete Hertrich Award
(An Elegans Seedling)

"Frosty Morn"

1953 Highly Commended Award
(A Lotus Seedling)

"Sunset Glory"

1951 Award of Merit
(An Elegans Seedling)

At your request, our new catalogue and price list will be sent to you.

Distributed through

Coolidge

Rare Plant Gardens, Inc.

889 N. Foothill Blvd. E. Pasadena 8, Cal.
Open Sundays Ample Parking

covery from the shock of transplanting, but I generally favor bare root because I use a lighter more porous soil than container grown bushes. I find a larger proportion of peat moss and leaf mold is helpful in growing under glass."

Bodnant Gardens, North Wales

Mr. Charles Puddle, Head Gardener of these famous gardens was a welcome contributor to the Mail Bag and excerpts from his letter follow:

"I have taken a great interest in Camellias since the war and have read as many publications as possible. I have always found the Camellia Review very interesting. There are no publications in this country devoted entirely to Camellias although numerous articles appear in the general gardening press.

"There is undoubtedly a renewed interest in Camellias here chiefly due to the popularity of the Saluenensis
(Continued on Page 23)

Camelliana

From South Carolina

A worthy little booklet that came to our desk recently is called "Growing Camellias as a Hobby" and is classified as "Circular 377" put out by the Clemson Agricultural College in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Extension Service, in Clemson, South Carolina.

The booklet is the outgrowth of a mimeographed article which was requested of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Napier of Darlington, South Carolina by A. E. Schilleter, Leader of the Horticulture Extension Work. About 30,000 of these booklets have been distributed and we are taking it for granted that the booklet will be available to our readers.

It is easy to see why this little booklet has met such public approval — especially after reading the interesting article by Mrs. Napier in this Review. For the ordinary home Camellia grower the booklet covers most all of the various problems amateurs encounter and gives practical directions for general culture.

Temple City

At the February 14th meeting, William Mulholland of the Mulholland Plant Nutritional Service will talk on Soils and Their Amendments.

FUTURES *from Page 14*

to a preconceived whim or notion — everyone has the same opportunity to create or discover a new camellia mutation. The plant will obey the basic laws of nature, yet it will adjust or change to survive after exposure to radiation or chemicals, or other agents, in its own unpredictable ways. Unlimited variations of external agents can be applied to try and cause camellia mutations.

One drawback to experimentation with the camellia is the length of time required for camellia plants to reach maturity. One advantage is that if any worthwhile mutation occurs and survives, it can be vegetatively propagated by cuttings or grafts.

Some of the surviving plants from the various experiments I have performed have of course bloomed, but so far no variations from the ordinary have been observed. More are coming to bloom this year and will continue to do so in the future. Perhaps one of these years something really new and unusual in the way of a camellia mutation can be reported to you. Meanwhile, remember that this is a slow and not spectacular type of experimentation.

Presenting for your gardening pleasure

CAMELLIA JAPONICA

CAROLYN TUTTLE

Exciting new seedling, a large rose opal-pink of the full peony form with the finest growth you have ever seen.

SEVEN-FIFTY EACH

TUTTLE BROS. NURSERIES

729 Atlanta St., Altadena, Calif.

SY. 7-1177

THE MEN'S CAMELLIA CLUB
OF
CHARLOTTE (N. C.)
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU
TO ENTER YOUR BLOSSOMS AND TO ATTEND
ITS ANNUAL
CAMELLIA SHOW
MARCH 12-13, 1955
MAIN LOBBY
AMERICAN TRUST COMPANY

This show is in cooperation with the American Camellia Society
and in conjunction with the
Spring Meeting of the
North Carolina Camellia Society

Schedule Upon Request To
Men's Camellia Club
Box 3007
Charlotte, N. C.

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.



MAIL BAG from Page 21

and Wild Reticulata varieties and the hybrids grouped under C. 'Williamsii.' This has led to some of the japonicas being more widely grown

"The late Lord Aberconway took a great interest in Camellias and regarded C. 'J. C. Williams' as the finest flowering shrub introduced this century. At Bodnant there is a large collection of Camellias including many of the Saluenensis hybrids, etc., in quantity and several of the form of Wild Reticulata. I think we were the first garden in Europe to have a collection of the Kunming Reticulates.

I wish you good luck and even better numbers of the Review. I am always pleased to see anyone interested in Camellias for I am sure we have a lot to learn from each other and we owe many American friends a great debt of gratitude.

Ed Note: Mr. Puddle has promised to write an article for the Review so watch for it.

American Camellia Yearbook for 1954

For interesting information about Camellias from seed to bloom, from the state of Washington to Louisiana and on around the world, no volume will be found that contains a greater variety than this Yearbook. The extensive coverage of the camellia situation is shown by the division of the book contents, as follows: Relatives, Species and Varieties, Pests and Diseases, General Culture; Plantings and Gardens, and Shows and Awards. In addition to the many black and white illustrations, there are eight full page beautiful color plates.

Announcing a new policy, the entire list of varieties of Camellias registered with the American Camellia Society to August 15, 1954 is given alphabetically with registration number and description.

A list of members of the Society is also printed.

COUNCILMAN CAMELLIA ACRES

Dragon Lady — Undaunted — Queen of the Acres

Dr. Ralph Gladen

CLOSED TUESDAYS

Wholesale and Retail Growers

Write for our Price Lists

11549 East Bryant Road
200 ft. West of Peck Road

El Monte, California
Phone: FOrest 8-6582

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

DON & BLANCHE MILLER CAMELLIAS WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROWERS

MARJORIE MAGNIFICENT
MRS. FREEMAN WEISS
MAGNOLIAEFLORA (Southern)

ANN MILLER
MRS. TINGLEY
ROSEA SUPERBA

Retail (In rear) 6212 San Gabriel Blvd. San Gabriel Phone AT. 7-7982

Wholesale & Retail — 331 W. Duarte Rd., Monrovia
(A.M. only) Phone EL. 8-5100

Fashions in Flowers" A Timely Theme of Pasadena Flower Show

Spring comes early to Southern California this year with the opening of the Pasadena Flower Show at Annie E. Morrison Horticultural Center in Pasadena's Brookside Park on February 26.

Mayor Clarence Winder of Pasadena, president of the Pasadena Flower Show Association, said the 27th annual show would be the most thrilling production in Pasadena Flower Show history.

The Pasadena Flower Show will open Feb. 26 for nine days. There will be 376 classes of competition with prizes awarded in each class.

Those desiring to exhibit may obtain further information by calling the Pasadena Flower Show Association, SY. 6-3159, or by writing Post Office Box 948-M, Pasadena 15.

CAMELLIA REVIEWER *from P. 2*

Mr. Levi will never be able to give up the camellias, themselves.

And busy—did you say? How about Joseph Sefton who combines his duties as a San Diego Bank President with research in Marine Biology and an outstanding camellia garden? He was the first president of the San Diego society and has developed the largest camellia garden of that area having around 1,100 named varieties. Mr. Sefton also finds time somehow to spend a few months each year at sea in his own ship studying marine life.

We offer bouquets of our best Camellias to these busy men, and bet that neither has ever had to consult a psychiatrist—he wouldn't have had time.

Forecast Of Excitement

We were permitted just a peep be-
(Continued on Page 28)

GARDENING IN CALIFORNIA IS DIFFERENT

That is why newcomers need an exclusive all-California garden magazine with planting calendar for different sections of the state. SUBSCRIBE TO —

"GOLDEN GARDENS"

An All-California Garden Magazine

Official Publication of California Garden Clubs, Inc.

ONE YEAR \$1.50 — TWO YEARS \$2.75

340 South San Pedro Street

Los Angeles 13, California

Telephone: MADison 6-8095

Best of the old . . .

Finest of the new . . .

Available Now!

The New Reticulatas: Frosty Morn, Drama Girl, Masquerade, Pink Shadows, Thomas D. Pitts and many others.

NUCCIO'S NURSERIES

3555 CHANEY TRAIL, ALTADENA, CALIF.

SYcamore 4-3383

Our Friends

By JOHN H. CLAIMONT

One sometimes wonders if we the amateur and collector realize just how much our nursery friends mean to ourselves with our hobbies and our Camellia Societies.

Much of our success with Camellias hinges on what our nursery friends have done in the past and are continuing to do for Camellias in general.

Many of the new seedlings and mutations have their origination with them. They are the ones who patiently care for them over a period of years until the plants reach the flowering stage and then wait a few more years to see if they are consistent and worthy of our consideration. These periods of years mean constant care and attention until the variety can be released for our pleasure and enjoyment.

Our nursery friends bring in most of the better ones from without the state, representing a cash outlay and

FOR SALE

The Secretary of the Society has the following books for sale:

Our own book, "The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature," a 1950 revision \$1.25 or \$.75 each in lots of not less than 12.

"Camellias in the Huntington Gardens," by William Hertrich. \$10.00

"The Yunnan Reticulatas," 50¢

then more care and time to determine if the new variety will measure up to the standard achieved at the place of origination. When finally sold to us at from 10.00 to 15.00 the profit can't be very large and profits are the things that keep them in business.

Our appreciation can best be shown by buying that next good number from them, a small token of appreciation for all of their efforts on our behalf.

Without the interest of our many nursery friends our Societies and flower shows would soon be in the doldrums.

A Brand New Camellia Color In Our Te Deum Sport

JACK McCASKILL

William Hertrich Award—1954

Te Deum's size and form in an antique rose, veined with amethyst, shading to a rich burgundy at the center, and each petal edged with silver.

GALLON GRAFTS: 12-18", \$12.50; 18-24", \$15.00

NO CATALOGUE

McCASKILL GARDENS

25 S. MICHILLINDA AVE.

E. PASADENA 10, CALIF.

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

PATIO WOOD PRODUCTS

835 Commercial Street

San Gabriel, California

**THE ATLANTA CAMELLIA SOCIETY and
THE NORTH GEORGIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY**

in cooperation with

THE BUCKHEAD LIONS CLUB

cordially invites you to the tenth consecutive

ATLANTA CAMELLIA SHOW

FEBRUARY 19-20, 1955

Biltmore Hotel

for the benefit

Henrietta Egleston Hospital for Children

Inquiries and Entries Invited

Schedule sent upon request to:

ATLANTA CAMELLIA SHOW

511-805 Peachtree Bldg.

Atlanta 5, Ga.

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

Atlanta Flower Show	27	McCaskill Gardens	26
Bamico Gardens	23	Membership Application	24
Boorman's	20	Nuccio's Nursery	25
Coolidge Rare Plant Gardens, Inc.	21	Pasadena Flower Show	Back Cover
Councilman Camellia Acres	24	Patio Wood Products	26
Golden Gardens	25	Tuttle Bros. Nursery	22
Marshall's Camellia Nursery Back Cover			

Advertising rates in the Camellia Review are as follows: Inside back cover, \$30.00. Full page, \$25.00. Half page, \$15.00. Quarter page, \$8.00. Advertisements may be sent direct to the Editor, Elizabeth Beebe, 706 S. Fair Oaks, Pasadena, Calif.

REVIEWER *from Page 25*

hind a flowery curtain which is screening a lot of preparation and activity concerning the March meeting of the Society. The highlight we learn will be a Petal Blight Clinic conducted by some experts and also the announcement of a new chemical which has absolutely proved its effectiveness for this camellia trouble. The Review will publish the findings of the scientists so if distance forbids your attendance at the meeting we'll try to pass on vital information to all our readers.

Universal Flower

Quite fitting that the sweepstakes float in the Pasadena Rose Parade on New Year's Day should have been beautified by Miriam Stevenson. This Miss Universe is also the namesake of the beautiful South Carolina Camellia but today alas — not a single Camellia was in sight. We needed a few too — it was so rainy and chilly.

It's Not Too Late

If any of you were irked by not finding the way to produce out-of-season Camellias we referred to last month, please look in the conclusion of Dr. Bonner's article in this issue. We hope you will write the error off as an out-of-season April Fool joke, although it really wasn't intended that way.

Seeds — Last Call

Although thousands of Camellia seeds have been dispatched to many parts of the country, the Garden Committee was blessed with such a plethora of them this year that there is yet time for a few seedling fanciers to get a supply. Just contact our Secretary. We are still on the trail of our 2,000-seed man and will get a report out of him yet.

The Indestructible

We wish to call your special attention to a fact brought out in Paul

Dennison's article that Camellia survived the ultimate radiation of a nuclear X ray machine remained inviolous. No wonder the Camellia survived for so long. No wonder Ralph Peer found forests of them in Japan, and camellia trees, once tenderly nurtured plants in England, towering blithely thirty or more feet high through the broken glass of abandoned greenhouses. It looks like, though, even if atomic bombs destroy us fragile mortals that the Camellia will contrive somehow to bloom in its own indomitable and unpredictable way, carrying its own immortal beauty even over human desolation.

The Arrows Point To Beauty

Gardens and especially Camellia gardens are never the spots for long conversations, and a conversation with John Threlkeld, Superintendent of the Los Angeles Canso Gardens, left us feeling that we really didn't have a thing to do. Threlkeld has plotted out a three-year plan, at the conclusion of which time he expects that the Descanso Gardens will be a blaze of camellias throughout the year. Of course this includes more than Camellias but we are terrifically interested right now in his White Arrow Trail, whose White Arrows with supplemental information will lead all visitors to the most beautiful beauties of the gardens. We were happy to learn that the severe cold (severe for Southern California, though) did little damage to the Camellias which were in the deeper woods of the parts of the gardens. The plants at the edges of the plots, not so sheltered, of course, lost their blossoms. And the wind was not so welcome.

To All Camellias

Bloom your prettiest now, and push your best petals forward, for how long over those Show tables where you'll all be claiming blue ribbon will be

Your ever and ever admiring
Liz

Pasadena Flower & Garden Show

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26 through MARCH 6

FANNIE E. MORRISON HORTICULTURAL CENTER

BROOKSIDE PARK — PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

GARDEN SHOW FILLED WITH

“TAKE-HOME IDEAS”

Flower Arrangements

Specimen Plants & Flowers

Nursery Exhibits and The Latest Garden Gadgets by Commercial Exhibitors

PLENTY OF FREE PARKING

Adults \$1.00

SPONSORED BY THE PASADENA FLOWER SHOW ASSOCIATION

AZALEAS CAMELLIAS **CYMBIDIUMS GARDENIAS**

PEAT MOSS — FERTILIZERS

Camellia and Azalea Lists Upon Request

MARSHALL'S CAMELLIA NURSERY

6747 NORTH ROSEMEAD BOULEVARD

At the sign of the Red Camellia

½ block south of Duarte Rd.

AT. 6-0452

San Gabriel, Calif.

WHICH WILL YOU CHOOSE?

Any one of the fine Camellias mentioned below will be sent to you as your reward for obtaining only . . .

5 New Members to the S. C. C. S.

Bryan Wright, Mrs. Clark, Elizabeth Le Bey, Crusader, St. Andre, Carolyn Tuttle, Dr. Tinsley, Nina Avery, Thomas D. Pitts, Dr. H. G. Mealing, Spring Sonnet, Betty Sheffield, Jessie Katz, Zachary Taylor, Drama Girl.

Harvey Short Seedlings—Frosty Morn: Pink Clouds; Sunset Glory:
Spring Triumph

WHICH WILL YOU CHOOSE?

Send your subscriptions for 5 new members to

Secretary S. C. C. S.

40 N. SAN RAFAEL

PASADENA, CALIF.

40 N. San Rafael Ave.
Pasadena 2, California

Forwarding and Return
Postage Guaranteed