THE

Camellia Review



Camellia japonica 'Elisabeth Pink' Courtesy Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery

Official Bulletin of the Southern California Camellia Society

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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		Fre	sno, (Calif.
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Camellia Society of Kern County	Ва	kersf	ield, (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	S	an Di	ego, (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		.Pom	ona, (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	Ten	nple (City, (Calif.
Meeting Place: Women's Club Auditorium, Woodruff at Kauffman, Secretary: Gertrude S. Rose, 6025 North Muscatel, San Gabriel Date of Meeting: 2nd Monday of each month, Nov. thru March	, Ten	nple (City	•
Camellia Society of Orange County		anta A	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				į
Huntington Camellia Garden	Sar	n Mar	ino, (Calif.
Huntington Library and Art Gallery, Oxford Rd., San Marino				
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Camellia Reviewer

ELIZABETH BEEBE

The Unforgetable

The Show is over, but the memory lingers on, to paraphrase the old saying. And what a memory—the tables and tables of camellia radiance with a background setting on the stage of massed branches of the vivid rose flowering peach in greenery- of good fellowship of never ending curiosity of exhibitors and plain visitors of delighted meetings of old friends and delightful meetings with new friends. A Camellia Show in short that will be long remembered for its splendid execution, its lovely, lovely specimens and its blessing by Mother Nature who turned on all her California sunshine charm.

Aha or Hey-hey!

Charting a middle-of-the road course of pronounciation between Cameel-ya and Camell-ya, we are now faced with the necessity of decision between reticulay-ta or reticulah-ta. This confusion was caused by the southern camellia experts who were in Pasadena for our Show. It comes down to the fact that even though they can't grow reticulay-tas they insist that they pronounce them correctly. Between the two of course we feel that growing them is the most important but we are never one to argue against the correct pronunciation of the English language. Still, as a westerner who enjoys the blunt talk of the west (even though loving by proxy the Southern drawl) we may continue to enjoy our reticulah-tas and let the quips fall where they may. Besides, it makes us feel a bit pleasantly la-de-da to do it.

South Comes West

Declaring that they were just "hungry for Camellias," several Camelliaphiles traveled from the deep

So'th and, we believe, were almost sated with Southern California Camellias before they finished their rounds. These well-known individuals including John P. Ilges of Atlanta, Georgia; Aubrey Harris of Shreveport, Louisiana; Judge Arthur Solomon of Savannah, Georgia, and D. C. Strother and Mr. R. Murray both of Fort Valley, Georgia, were among the judges for the S C C S Show and it was very pleasant to match their personalities against those known to us only through correspondence. They were responsible for bringing reticulay-tas in to confuse us, but there was nothing confusing about their admiration of the wonderful display of these blooms they saw at the S C C S Show. "We haven't been able to grow them," admitted Judge Solomon. However, adaptable as Camellias are and ingenuous as these expert Camellia growers are, we have no doubt that eventually reticulay tas will flourish down South.

A gratifying incident of their visit was when, as one of an impromptu panel at the Pacific Society's meeting in Glendale, Mr. Ilges, in answer to the question "What do you consider the best flowers you have seen from the west," declared with no hesitation, "Angel and Reg Ragland." An extra bright Camellia to our Society as these were developed by our own members, namely Elizabeth Councilman and William Woodroof.

Sasanquas To Take Over

The short article by Bill Wylam in this issue is just to whet your appetite for the spread of sasanqua information which is going to take over the July CAMELLIA REVIEW. Having been brought up with japonicas and bowled over by the reticulatas (long "a") at our show you will be further utterly confused by the preponderance of reasons why sasanquas should come first in your esteem. If you'll just tell us now how to choose be-

(Continued on Page 26)

NEW PRESIDENT OF SCCS

"We are going to try to equal the efforts of the Society in the past and with the fine, strong Board of Directors hope to have a good year, building up to our part as Co-Host with the American Camellia Society for the Camellia Convention to be held in Pasadena in 1956."

This was part of the first statement made by the new President of the Southern California Camellia Society, Edwards Metcalf.

Mr. Metcalf, finishing a brilliant year as Program Chairman, was the logical candidate for President. He has been vitally interested in Camellias for many years, at present perhaps more concerned with Miniatures and reticulatas than other species, his wonderful reticulata blooms winning honors at the local Camellia Shows.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Metcalf are thoroughly Californian, and their families before them. They have been residents of San Marino for nearly twenty years. Mr. Metcalf left his home only for service duty, being a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy during World War II and serving a period of time in Korea in 1951.



A yellow camellia from the parent bush, C. japonica 'Jaune.' This was propagated by Moreira da Silva of Porto, Portugal.



Edwards Metcalf displays his really super reticulata 'Tali Queen' which was judged the best amateur reticulata of the S.C.C.S. Show.

The new President states that he hopes more society members will take an active part in society activities and that he wants to hear all suggestions members may have as to programs or projects. He is working on committee personnel, saying that he expects to name many "small" committees soon.



Harold Pearson (Show Publicity) and Floyd Bunnelle, President of the Pomona Society, struggle into their Show headquarters.

WHY PLANT LIGUSTRUM?

By WILLIAM E. WYLAM

Why DO you plant Ligustrum, Euonymus, Buxus, Coprosma or any number of similar shrubs which have nothing to recommend them but their foliage? Why plant these when you can plant something with equally satisfatory foliage PLUS beautiful flowers for fall bloom, when we have so little to brighten the garden? I would like all of you to seriously ask yourselves this question because I have the answer.

It is simply "Plant Sasanquas."
Right away I know you will say
"But I want something that will grow
well in sun." The answer is still

"Plant Sasanguas."

Now, mind you—I am not advocating that you grab the first Sasanqua at hand and slap it against a south wall to catch all the reflected heat from an adjacent driveway. Some of the whites and beautiful soft pinks, such as Minina, have flowers that are best in light shade. However, there are Sasanquas such as Cleopatra, and the new Colleen, that will take such situations in full stride.

Milo Rowell, of Fresno, recently wrote an interesting article for the Camellia Society of Sacramento. In it he mentioned a successful planting of Hugh Evans against a south porch where other shrubs had failed because of the heat.

My own experience with Hugh Evans, and Cleopatra, is that they produce more large flowers, of better texture and color, in sun than when

grown in shade.

Among some of the sasanquas which I have seen happily growing in full sun, in the Pasadena area, are Tanya, Briar Rose, Rosea, Showa-No-Sakae, Shishigashira, Negishi-Ko and Brilliancy.

So far I have only seen the fine Sasanqua, which I imported from Australia as "Hiryu," and the beautiful McCaskill seedling, "Bill Wylam," growing under lath but I feel certain both of them will prove at home in sunny situations. Other dark Sasanquas that wil probably do well in sun are—Velvety, Crimson Queen

and Hinode-No-Umi.

Mr. Rowell lists Gulf Glory, Hinode-Kumo, Ko-Gyoku, Mine-No-Yuki and Setsugekka as having been grown successfully in three-fourth sun and Brilliancy, Jean May, Papaver, Shichifukujin, Shichi-Hoden, Showa-No-Sakae, Splendor, Hana-Jiman and Ocean Springs as doing well in three-fourth to full sun. This, it must be remembered, is in Fresno where conditions are more severe than in Pasadena.

One other Camellia which Mr. Rowell mentioned is the Vernalis "Dawn." This wonderful shrub seems to do equally well in sun or shade and the masses of bloom make fine cut flowers. While this is not a Sasanqua, it has the appearance and many of the best characteristics of Sasanquas. A hedge of this will not only reward you with clouds of bloom, in milwinter, but the glossy, dark green foliage will beautify your home all year.

Again I ask—"Why bother to plant such a mediocre shrub as Ligustrum when it is so easy to enjoy beautiful

flowering Sasanquas?"

SEED REPORT

Mr. Arnold Burr of "Troubles Enough," in Rockville, Maryland, writes that his seedlings from our seeds which he planted in 1953 have come through temperatures of 5°, 6°, 12° and 16° very well. They were planted and grown outdoors, even withstanding heavy winds with the cold.

Ed. Note: This should be encouraging to our seed purchasers.

The SCCS 1955 Camellia Show

Set a stage with graceful branches of deep flowering peach nestled in feathery green, overlooking tables and and tables of Show camellias with the incredible "bests" highlighted on their silver trays; add throngs of Camellia lovers and you will have a slight idea of the extremely successful Camellia Show of 1955 staged by the S C C S.

The judges including Camellia experts from the South took long deliberation before being able to agree on winners. Space not permitting the publication of names of all those who won ribbons, the highest honors were awarded as follows:

Best Flower Japonica, amateur: 'R. L. Wheeler' entered by Dr. R. W. Tellam.

Best Flower, Reticulata, amateur: 'Tali Queen,' entered by Edwards Metcalf. Best Flower Japonica, Professional: 'Glen 40', entered by Coolidge Gardens.

Best Flower Reticulata, Professional: 'Moutancha,' entered by Descanso Gardens.

Sweepstakes Trophy: R. W. Ragland.

Arrangements Sweepstakes: Clara Melovidoff.

This was the first year that the S C C S gave American Camellia Society Awards. These were as follows:

Gold Certificate for Sweepstakes winner in Divisions I, II, III and IV went to R. W. Ragland.

Silver Certificate for Sweepstakes Runner-up went to Dr. E. C. Hubbs.

Highly Commended Certificate for seedling when Judges consider it clearly distinct from and notably superior to any variety in commerce was awarded to Harvey F. Short for his 'Guest of Honor' developed at Coolidge Nurseries.



Mrs. Reg Ragland proudly holds two of the gorgeous, bold 'Reg Ragland' blossoms named for her husband by its developer, William Woodroof.

"AFTER THE SHOW" MARCH MEETING OF S C C S PROVES VERY INFORMATIVE

Unflagging interest in the Camellia was well demonstrated this month when, only two days after the society's show, a sizable crowd turned out for the March meeting. One wondered, too, how it was possible for plants to continue yielding such specimen flowers after the plants had been so thoroughly robbed for the Show.

Pleasant to behold were the long tables laden with the beauty one expects from this wonder plan and Camellia lovers bent over them as enthusiastically

as if it was the first time they had ever seen such flowery tables.

In his brief remarks, as President Dryden called the meeting to order, he announced as new directors, Clifford Argue, Joseph Kapp and Mrs. Vern McCaskill.

Edwards Metcalf introduced the first speaker on the program, Howard Asper, who scarcely needed an introduction.

Mr. Asper stood in front of two tables frothing with the radiant color of reticulata blooms. The display was outstanding in that all but three of the entire 18 varieties of reticulatas now propagated in this country were represented on those tables. Mr. Asper began by saying that the 18th of March this year would mark the 7th anniversary of the arrival in America of the reticulatas. He repeated the story of their arrival, known to many; the arguments with the customs officials in San Francisco to keep the plants from being thrown into the Bay with their foreign soil about their roots. After this soil had been washed off and the plants themselves had to undergo fumigation chemicals, the prospect had not been very encouraging. Looking at the flowers now, Mr. Asper recalled that during the first bloomings he had been one of three men asked to designate which reticulatas he would consider favorable for growing. A flower set aside was Moutancha which is now known as a prize winner. Mr. Asper remarked that it was indeed presumptuous even to think of forming such a snap judgment on plants whose origin is really lost in antiquity although known from 900 A.D. Even now his opinion keeps changing as he sees these remarkable camellias develop.

One of the reasons for Mr. Asper's talk was for him to help his audience distinguish between the reticulatas so in describing them he also compared them. One reason for confusion, he stated, was that as some of the flowers opened, the color changed. For instance, it takes 'Purple Gown' almost two weeks before it is fully opened and when that time comes, it has lost some of its color. Also it becomes an almost complete pom pom when in full flower.

In aiding growers to distinguish between varieties of reticulatas, Mr. Asper gave some specific characteristics as follows: Large Osmanthus Leaf and Moutancha are inclined to be more dwarf in their growing habits: Butterfly Wings Reticulate is a very early bloomer: Crimson Robe grafts easily: Shot Silk, Willow Wand and Small Osmanthus Leaf are easy to grow: Crimson Robe and Willow Wand grow rapidly: the starting flowers of Shot Silk Reticulate resemble those of Moutancha: Great resemblance between Queen of Tali and Noble Pearl: Similarity between Cornelian, Lion's Head and Chang's Temple: Confucius is always marked by stamens in 5 distinct groups: Variety of hues includes the deep, unusual shade of pink characterizing Moutancha, the iridescence of the pink of Shot Silk, the orchid tone of pink of Willow Wand and the shrimp

pink of Chrysanthemum Petal.

To illustrate these differences, Mr. Asper showed blooms of Moutancha, Butterfly Wings Reticulate, Crimson Robe, Shot Silk, Purple Gown, Large Osmanthus Leaf, Small Osmanthus Leaf, Pagoda, Willow Wand, Queen of Tali, Noble Pearl, Cornelian, Lion's Head, Chang's Temple, Butterfly Wings, Wild Reticulata (Forest Strain), Buddha and Confucius.

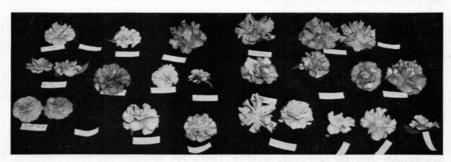
The second speaker of the evening was Dr. C. A. Hanson who is well known for his research work in crop disease and especially for his part in the development of a fungicide to further the eradication of flower blight. Dr. Hanson began by stating that before petal blight was brought into the states sometime in the late '30's, Camellias had always been relatively pest free and the disease became very widespread before it was recognized and understood. It has become a serious problem now in many of the camellia growing areas of the United States and is reported from Oregon, Georgia, Louisiana, Texas and in California.

As it happened, one of the chemists involved in research was a Camellia grower so camellias were chosen for experimentation and study.

It was discovered that the disease is caused by a fungus Sclerotinia camelliae and is specific on camellia flowers. The diseased flowers become spotted, blotched, generally discolored and shatter or fall off prematurely. Blossom life is materially shortened and cut blooms may become spotted and discolored within a few hours after cutting if kept in a warm environment.

Because of its specificity the fungus is dependent on camellia flowers for its survival. Therefore environmental conditions favorable for camellia flowering are also very favorable to the sporulation of the fungus. All varieties of *C. japonica* are susceptible and some late flowering varieties of *C. sasanqua* have been found diseased.

The disease appears first as one or more small, tan or brownish spots. usually on a petal. The spot enlarges rather rapidly until the entire petal becomes discolored. The blighted area may have "veins" or filaments of a darker tone running through it. Usually the entire base of the flower becomes infected and often the whole flower. The blossom does not rot or wilt but remains somewhat firm in appearance. A completely blighted bloom may retain its shape perfectly yet be overall light brown in color. The petals often shatter easily and when the blight reaches the receptacle or base of the flower the slightest shock may drop the bloom. The base of such blooms is brownish and discolored, as contrasted with a nor-



These exquisite examples of the reticulata species of Camellias were the graphic illustrations for the talk given by J. Howard Asper for the March meeting of the S.C.C.S. All but three of the eighteen varieties of reticulatas now propagated in this country are represented here.

mal blight free blossom. Flowers injured by weather usually have the injury confined to the outer edges of the petals and the injured area is a strawvellow or much lighter in color

than a blighted flower.

The fallen petals or flowers gradually shrivel and dry. During this period the fungus forms a hard, black, seedlike body in the thicker, fleshier portions of the petal or flower. This is the carryover or resting stage, sclerotium, of the fungus and serves to carry the disease over to a succeeding camellia blooming season. The sclerotia are very resistant to environmental conditions and vary considerably in size and shape. The presence of sclerotia in a dried flower can be determined by squeezing the base of the bloom. The hard sclerotia are easily located in this manner.

During some succeeding blooming season, when the weather is favorable, after a rain perhaps, with a temperature of 60-70° F., the sclerotium puts up one or more inverted mushroom like, apothecia. These are the sporulating structures of the fungus and as many as 33 have been observed coming from one large sclerotium. When the apothecium is mature it puffs out a cloud of spores, any one of which can start the disease cycle again.

The disease can be controlled by interrupting this cycle at one or more points. By picking off and destroying all infected flowers the formation of sclerotia can be prevented. This would have to be continued for at least 3 years since sclerotia have been found to remain viable for that long. In many camellia plantings, especially large nurseries, this is not always possible, particularly during the busy season. One blighted bloom falling unnoticed between containers can start the infection in a coming season. The picking of diseased blossoms combined with the application of a three inch thick sawdust mulch to prevent apothecial development has also been recommended. While effective, this is not practicable or possible for many growers. Chemical control affords another means of in-

terrupting the cycle.

series of slides graphically showed the complete cycle of the disease. Blooms with their brown spots were shown in various stages, and the manner in which the disease eats into the base of the flowers. Pictures were also shown of the sclerotia themselves and how they may be located in the dried flowers.

Dr. Hanson of course recommends spraying with the chemical Captan which he has had a part in developing. Other chemicals such as sulfur and fermate are also used although no one can say yet positively that any one of them is the absolute answer to this pertinent problem. Dr. Hanson claims much for his product and results are encouraging. It is known positively that the disease does not travel from flower to flower but that the spores may blow from garden to garden or may be transported by wind and rain or, especially that plants having sclerotia may infect a garden. It is not known how far spores, themselves can travel.

Dr. Hanson's talk was of vital interest to the audience. A clinic was held after the break for refreshments in which Dr. Hanson answered questions along with Howard Asper with Edwards Metcalf as Moderator. So, all around, it was an extremely "informing" evening for the society meeting.

C. japonica 'Mathotiana' had been chosen as flower of the evening and winning most points for bringing the best bloom was Dr. Lloyd Taylor with that of W. F. Goertz winning second and James Findley's bloom winning third. Mrs. W. H. Bonner carried off both first and second honors with her 'Gigantea' and 'Lady Charlotte,' while Caryll Pitkin was acclaimed third with his 'Lotus.'

It was rather pleasing to have "foreign" members the recipients of two

(Continued on Page 20)

THE LINTON SEEDLINGS

By WALTER G. HAZLEWOOD

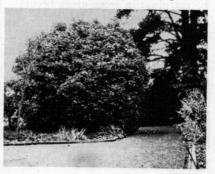
In 1884, Alexander Hunter, who owned the Camellia Grove Nursery situated in Liverpool Road, Ashfield, a suburb of Sydney, Australia, sold his business and he took up a large area of new land at Somersby on Mangrove Mountain near the town of Gosford, some 50 miles north of Sydney. Here he built his home and planted a citrus orchard. He also established a garden around the house and this is the place where the Linton seedlings were in later years developed. Hunter was one of the earliest pioneers of this district, and although he had a tremendous job ahead of him in getting the ground cleared of timber and planting his orchard, he still found time to lay out a garden.

Amongst the shrubs he planted were four small camellia sedlings. These he put together in the one hole, probably as a temporary measure, meaning to plant them out separately at some future date when he had more time. This never happened and the four plants grew up as one bush and at the present time form a clump twenty-five feet high with a diameter of twenty feet.

George Linton, returning from World War I in 1920 was looking for a property within reasonable distance of Sydney and one with a good water supply to enable him to irrigate his orchard. About this time Hunter was getting on in years and found the place too much for him and looked around for a buyer. Mr. Linton seeing the place was so taken with it that he immediately made arrangements to buy it.

I do not know when Mr. Linton contracted Camelliatis, but sometime in the 1930's he came to me and asked if I would propagate and distribute a number of camellias which he had just named. What he had previously thought to be one camellia bush turned out to be on close examination, not one plant but four and the explanation of this I have already mentioned.

These plants he named 'Alexander Hunter,' after the original owner, a semi-double crimson with a cluster of golden stamens in the center: 'Constance,' a semi-double deep rose vein-



Source of the "Linton Seedlings." This mass of camellias measuring twenty-five feet in height and at least twenty feet in diameter is the result of four seedlings planted in 1884 near Sydney, Australia.

ed crimson; 'Jean Lyne' a semi-double white with pink stripes which has two sports, (one) Edith Linton, a silvery pink and (two) Nancy Bird; the fourth seedling, 'Ruth Kemp' is a semi-double light rose. This latter is favored by florists for make up work as it is rather small.

Of these six seedlings, I consider 'Jean Lyne' and 'Edith Linton' to be the best.

Professor Waterhouse, in his first book "Camellia Quest," has credited these varieties to Alexander Hunter but it was Mr. Linton who first thought them worth naming. In Hunter's time these would not have been considered camellias at all, as the only ones in favor at that time were the formal doubles with some of the (Continued on Page 10)

Our Cover Flower

The *C. japonica* 'Elisabeth Pink' is a distinctly feminine camellia; a bit variable, some years flowering more satisfactorily than others, but over all to be considered desirable and beautiful.

The heart of the flower is Carmine Rose shading gradually lighter toward the petal margins; in some areas becoming almost white. The habit of the petals to recurve on the outer rows and incurve on the center, gives a distinctive form to the bloom.

The foliage is a glossy green while the plant itself is loosely branched. The 'Elisabeth Pink' flowers in mid-season.

LINTON SEEDLINGS from page 9 peony and warratah types just allowed in on sufferance.

From this group Mr. Linton raised a number of seedlings of which he named two; 'G. C. Linton,' after himself, a semi-double bright red, and 'Virginal.' These seedlings were first listed in Hazlewood Brothers 1941 catalogue.

Apart from these seedlings, Mr. Linton planted out many other varieties and now has a very choice collection. Kewita is the name of his property and it is a must for all interstate and overseas visitors who are at all interested in Camellias.

Adding a nice effect in the garden are also a number of camellias growing in large concrete tubs, among them a sasanqua trained as a standard with the stem about six feet high and the branches trailing downward.

Some eight or ten years ago Mr. Linton planted a number of seeds collected at random from plants in his garden. Some of these flowered for the first time in 1949. Parentage of

some can be traced from their foliage such as No. 29 which is definitely a 'Sode-Gakushi' seedling.

Of those which have flowered to date, Mr. Linton and I considerd the following to be the best of them:

No. 10—An improved 'Ruth Kemp' but slightly deeper, reflexes better and holds well either as cut flower or on the bush. First flowered in 1951. Comes into bloom end of May (November in America) and flowers over a long period.

No. 12—Brilliant orange red single, about ten petals: strong, erect grower. First bloomed June, 1951. In 1954 started to flower in April and was still blooming in mid-August.

No. 15—Probable seedling of Edith Linton. Semi-double with similar color but more glowing. First flowered May 1951. Splendid keeper and flowers to end of July.

No. 19—Lovely formal double, deep pink, paler in center. Medium size, free blooming. First flower mid-May 1952. In 1954 flowered from mid-May until end of July.

No. 20—Came up under plant of 'Edith Linton.' First flowered June 6 1952. Color pink with paler shadings; semi-double with petals spaced and ruffled. It has 14 petals and lasted in water 6 days in good condition. Tentative name 'Laurie Bray.'

No. 23—Miniature, about two inches in diameter and an absolute gem. Formal double, crimson, heavily veined. First flowered July 8th 1952. Would be excellent for corsage work.

No. 24—Very large single white with pink and red stripes. First flowered July 6th 1952. Size about five inches in diameter and shaped like a full moon. Has splendid keeping qualities and is very free blooming.

No. 29—Seedling of 'Sode-Gakushi' with the same foliage but flower is a brilliant scarlet crimson. Mostly single but some bloomers are semi-double with a few petaloids. Five inches in diameter and first bloomed June 1953. Has been named 'Red Ensign.'

No. 52 — Brilliant scarlet semi-double, flowers over a long period from May to end of September. First bloom May 1953. Keeps well.

No. 54—Delicate pink bud, paling to near white when fully out. Lasts very well on plant. Was undamaged for two full weeks in very windy and frosty weather. Flower size four inches across and two inches deep. First bloom June 1, 1954.

The Camellia Review

Presents a Report of

THE CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

The sixth in a series featuring our affiliated societies

SIX YEARS ARE BUT THE BEGINNING

By RUTH E. PETTEY

In 1948 Mr. and Mrs. Milo Rowell and Mrs. Pettey combined business and pleasure and made a trip to Southern California during which time they attended the Camellia Show of the Southern California Camellia Society. Mr. Carl Tourje, super salesman, had extended a cordial invitation offering to be our guide, hence we decided to see just how interesting a show of one kind of flower could be.

Mr. Tourje was very sure that Fresno should have a camellia society and we were so enthusiastic after seeing such a display of beauty that we decided to find, out how many people of

Fresno would be interested in a society.

Enthusiasm Spreads

A meeting was called for March 10, 1949, at the California Hotel, and about a dozen Camellia enthusiastics came. We decided that others could also be interested, so a little publicity was given the idea through the Fresno Bee and numerous telephone calls. The first meeting was held on April 2, 1948. The Southern California Society sent its president, Dr. L. J. Taylor and a number of its members to assist in the organization. The Kern County Society also sent a delegation. This was our beginning.

Each year since its organization, the society has held a show with the exception of 1953. This year's show was held at the cafeteria of the Fresno County Fair Grounds on February 27th. We had a very nice show with many fine quality blossoms and a good attendance. The fact that it is raining or hailing does not seem to dampen the enthusiasm of a true Camellia lover.

Awards

The flower which won first place in the show was the *C. japonica* 'Margaret Higdon' grown by Mr. Homer Wilson. Second was *C. japonica* 'Rainy Sun' shown by Mrs. H. H. Courtright. The honors for the greatest number of blue ribbons went to Mr. Homer Wilson, while Mr. Manyard Munger was the runner-up.

There were many blossoms of outstanding quality in the show. To mention only a few, 'Gigantea,' 'Joshua E. Youtz,' 'Lady Clare,' 'Debutante'

and others.

Camellia Garden Tour

A garden tour was held Sunday, March 13th, when members of the society visited a number of gardens among them being the gardens of Mrs. Paul Keane, Mr. Manyard Munger, Mr. Milo Rowell and Mr. Homer Wilson. Mr. Rowell and Mr. Wilson have been interested in and growing Camellias longer than others in the Society. We believe Fresno is especially suited to growing Camellias and more interest in them is being evinced each year.

TO THE LADIES

By CHARLOTTE HOAK

To write about all the highlights of the last meeting of the S C C S would be impossible. We had our thrills while we listened to Mr. Asper talk about his cherished reticulatas and like bees around a honey pot we crowded about the display set down for us to examine close-up with all the intriguing names. Would we ever be able to own such treasures as 'Purple Gown,' with its wonderful texture and incomparable coloring? Long ago in China the Mother of Gardens, the richly-robed monarchs paid homage to this same flower.

Next we had a good chuckle at the emphasized "reticulay-ta." Memories go back fifty years and we hear Dr. Getchell speaking to his graduate students in our Botany Seminar. "You should always remember we do not use the Latin pronunciation but rather the continental one, for instance "sublay-ta' not 'sublah-ta."

With genuine amusement we noted that Mr. Asper has entered into the province of the ladies in the late clean-up at the Huntington Gardens. even down to the clean fir shaving mulch. Of course somebody would pop up with the question, How about redwood shavings? Those who have lived long in the Land of Living Giants know that fresh redwood shavings are taboo except to clean your

paths of weedy growth.

Later in the evening another matter came up for discussion. It was about that Corsican immigrant, Helxine Solerolii, which conscientious gardeners call Baby's Tears because it has often caused them to weep. I take the feminine prerogative to differ with the fifty-fifty voters and condemn most roundly this insidious soil robber which is a surface feeder like the camellias, themselves. It makes dense mats shutting out air, a catch-all for spore-propagated diseases such as the dread petal blight, etc. If allowed to romp on uninterrupted, it climbs the trunks of your larger camellias. It makes excellent comfort, however, and at show time you can get rid of your surpluses by giving it by flats to your friends to build up a quick carpet which is much cheaper than

expensive sod. Unwittingly I got this pest years ago from the present of a tiny two-inch pot of it which made a get-away in my garden. It always raises my ire, and the pet name I have for it, I leave you to guess.

The pests are on the move. Everything in that line which destroys the beauty of your garden is awakening into life. Hungry insects are voracious for food. Get them while they are young for in a few days they will be beyond your control. Your last year's mulches have been the winter resting places of the astronomical numbers of spores. You spray on top of your shrubs but forget to rake off the infested mulches underneath and drench the soil beneath before you apply a new mulch. You will uncover the source of many of the tiny snails which appear so suddenly, the jellylike white bunches looking like tapioca are the eggs. A good slug and snail poison if you are averse to the poisons of the "scorch the earth" type is one whose active ingredient is Metaldehyde and it contains no arsenic. Women are good housekeepers. They have the patience to pursue all garden troubles to the end. Trips, rusts and mildew issue from careless garden management. Use a good cleanup spray, keep your plants healthy and you will not have to stand and spray and SPRAY.

For years women have dealt with feeding formulas. Plants like humans thrive on proper food. The commercial grower however would go broke

(Continued on Page 20)

IMPRESSIONS OF NEW FAVORITES

(speaking of Camellias)

By HARVEY F. SHORT

The recent series of Camellia Shows over the past six weeks have brought the following camellias into more prominent perspective with regard to collector and gardener alike. The incomparable reticulatas probably held the spotlight as superior flowers made their way to the display tables this season in a fashion of arrayed artistry and quality that none could resist. More of Crimson Robe, Noble Pearl and Tali Queen at another time.

In the japonicas, the **R. L. Wheeler** was spectacular and nicely colored, fulfilling its promise as a superb variety.

Big Beauty gave excellent performance in size, beauty and vitality and the clear deep rose Mollie Moore Davis held its own as a companion flower.

Spring Sonnet was in good form and caught the eye of most visitors. Enough size, unusual mellow coloring and vitality are its merits.

Frances McLanahan, almost a counterpart of Spring Sonnet, other than styling of flower and probably habit of growth, should make it equally popular.

Dr. Tinsley, much more in evidence with its delicate coloring and excellent vitality will surely make the 1955 list for most people.

Dr. John Bell, each flower striking with its fine balance of white marking through rich rose pink. It can be notated excellent.

Charlotte Bradford made a pleasing appeal to all admirers, good in both form and color. Will prove an excellent flowering type.

Truly Fair a delicately built, fimbriated flower in a pleasing shade of pink made a hit and some of its good points are contained in its small artistic form.

Reg Ragland of course was immediately pronounced a must with its high coloring and nicely formed bloom, mottled or clear in tone, it is good.

Frosty Morn has entered the picture as a flower of most artistic beauty. It seemed to be a favorite with its styling, size and vitality.

NEWS, NOTES AND NOTICES

From Oregon

The Oregon Camellia Society voted C. japonica 'Chandler Elegans' the Camellia of 1955. (Wonder if that Camellia would be chosen as the most

popular here in Southern California?)

An interesting idea adopted by the Oregon Camellia Society for their Show was a table for Camellias propagated in Portland and vicinity. The list mentioned included 'Doreen' by the Bradleys; 'Bertha A. Harms,' by the Harms; 'Alba Queen,' 'Sweet Bonaire,' 'Barney's Pride,' and 'Monte Carlo,' all by Barney Goletto; 'Mrs. Martha Proppe,' by Proppe; 'Hannah C. Blue,' by Mr. Strauss; 'Susan,' and 'Selina Louise,' by Mr. Grischow; 'Lover's Seedling,' by Mr. Plover and 'Margaret Willey,' by Mrs. Willey. Further information on any of these varieties may be obtained by writing to Andrew F. Sears, 10145 N. Smith Street, Portland 3, Oregon.

From Gulfport, Mississippi

C. japonica 'Lindsay Neill' entered by Ray Hatten, was judged the best flower of the 2nd annual Camellia Show of the Gulfport Men's Society. Although having to be postponed from its original January scheduling the Show was a great success, staged in the beautiful Yacht Club Pavilion overlooking the waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

Temple City, California

The last meeting of the season of the Temple City Camellia Society was held April 11th and was a dinner meeting. Mr. Stanley Miller talked on "Camellias on Four Continents," illustrating the talk with kodachromes.

Following were top award winners at the recent Temple City Society Camellia Show.

S.C.C.S. AWARDS:

Gold Certificate (Sweepstakes): Earl S. Gorton

Silver Certificate (Best japonica): 'Adolphe Audusson, Special,' entered by R. H. Hertenstein

TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY AWARDS

Sweepstakes: Earl S. Gorton

Best japonica, Amateur: 'Adolphe Audusson, Special,' entered by R. H. Hertenstein

Best japonica, professional: 'Lotus,' entered by Tuttle Nurseries

Best reticulata: 'Lion's Head' entered by Howard Asper

Best Boutonniere: 'Hishi Karaito' entered by Vern McCaskill Best Seedling: 'Onetia Holland,' entered by J. R. Holland

AMERICAN CAMELLIA SOCIETY AWARDS

Gold Certificate (Sweepstakes): Earl S. Gorton Silver Certificate (Runner-up): E. C. Bengston

Pomona, California

The Pomona Valley Society's 8th Annual Show was attended by over 4,000 persons and was considered tremendously successful. Some of the awards are as follows:

Sweepstakes winner, Mrs. Herbert Milliken

Best Flower: 'Frizzle White' entered by Mrs. Herbert Milliken

Best arrangement: Mrs. Merle Gish

Best blooming plant not over 3 feet: 'Princess Baciocchi' entered by B. M. Pace

Best blooming plant over 3 feet: 'Finlandia' entered by Floyd Bunnelle Best Boutonniere: 'Tinsie' entered by Merle Gish

Kern County

More than 13,000 persons attended the Annual Show and this meant that over \$3,000.00 was raised for the Bakersfield Memorial Hospital. (Ed. note: Sincere congratulations.)

HARDY CAMELLIAS IN BELGIUM

By Roger de Bisschop

Tronchiennes, Belgium

It is natural that my nursery should be interested in hardy Camellias, because we are always trying to enlarge our sales territory. During the last three or four years, I have been trying to find Camellias which will grow in our country, outside in the open during the winter time. At the present moment I consider the results of my experiments as very encouraging.

I have about two thousand plants growing outside around our nursery of

many different ages and many varieties.

During the first year of the experiment, I set out one year grafts in cement beds with a top made of heavy planks two inches thick. The soil around the plants was covered with dead leaves. The next year I transferred these plants to well drained beds and during the winter again used dead leaves as a mulch. The heavy planks were removed, but the plants were wrapped in straw as a protection. During the third year and thereafter all protection was removed, except of course that the beds are in the best possible position to avoid icy winds. The varieties CONTESSA LAVINIA MAGGI, LATIFOLIA, MATHO-TIANA, CHANDLERII, ADOLPHE AUDUSSON and some others resist the cold quite well. Others are not so good.

We have no trouble with the roots, which always remain healthy, but frequently the stem will burst open during a heavy freeze. My experience to date indicates that the late flowering varieties, that is those due to blossom in April and May, are the best. Usually the earlier varieties are not satisfactory. Camellias which were three to four feet high when I planted them outside in the garden of a friend, have flowered every year—each year bigger and better than before. These were all late varieties and the buds were not injured. Quite often though the buds are destroyed on Camellias which open too early. Last year we had a cold spell lasting twelve days with the temperature running 9 degrees (F.).

In general, I conclude that for successful growing out of doors in the wintertime, it is necessary to be in a section not too far from the sea. There must be plenty of humidity. Camellias may be expected to grow in the cold of Western France, Belgium and Holland, but will not survive in Germany for example. Considerable humidity is necessary for winter growing out of doors.

I look forward to receiving C. rusticana so that I may make further experiments. If as reported it will grow in the snow, I can enlarge my market in Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Norway and England.

NEWS, NOTES AND NOTICES

Pacific Society

(Continued from Page 14)

The Pacific Camellia Society held their annual show on February 19 and 20 in Glendale and reports the following award winners:

Sweepstakes: Dr. C. H. Eshelman.

Best japonica, amateur: 'C. M. Wilson' entered by Dr. E. C. Hubbs. Best reticulata, amateur: 'Lion's Head' entered by J. O. Henry.

Best Arrangement: Bob Jensen

Best plant: 'Iwane' entered by Mrs. J. W. Robinson.

Finest Pacific Coast Introduction: 'Guest of Honor', seedling entered by Harvey F. Short. (Continued on Page 16)

NEWS from Page 15

Best Miniature: 'Hishi-Karaito' entered by Vern McCaskill.

Best reticulata, professional: 'Crimson Robe,' entered by Julius Nuccio. Best japonica, professional: 'Big Beauty' entered by Coolidge Rare Plant Nursery.

The American Camellia Society Gold Certificate was awarded to Dr. C. H. Eshelman while the Silver Certificate was won by Dr. E. C. Hubbs.

San Diego

The San Diego Camellia Society reports the following winners in their 8th Annual Camellia Show:

Sweepstakes: Dr. R. W. Tellam. Best japonica, amateur: 'Bride's Bouquet,' entered by Dr. E. C. Hubbs.

Best reticulata, amateur: 'Noble Pearl,' entered by Dr. E. C. Hubbs.

Best flowering plant: 'Finlandia,' entered by Mr. and Mrs. Byron Lindsley. Best amateur reticulata courtesy exhibit: 'Noble Pearl,' entered by Mr. and

Mrs. Stanley Miller.

Best amateur japonica courtesy exhibit: 'Ville de Nantes,' entered by Mrs. Albert Dekker.

Best graft: 'Mrs. Charles Simons,' entered by Les Goodall.

Best japonica, commercial: 'Frizzle White,' entered by Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bradford.

Best reticulata, commercial: 'Butterfly Wings,' entered by Green Valley Nursery (Howard Asper, Jr.).

G. Scott Campbell Memorial Award: Mr. Lester Goodall for best graft. The American Camellia Society Gold Certificate was awarded to Dr. R. W. Tellam while Dr. E. C. Hubbs was awarded the Silver Certificate.

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CONTROLLING SOIL SALINITY IN CAMELLIA CULTURE

By HAROLD E. PEARSON

Before discussing the tolerance of Camellias to soil salinity, the differences between alkaline and saline soils must be clearly understood. Camellia growers are more or less familiar with the term alkaline as opposed to acid soils. The degree of alkalinity or acidity is measured in pH units. An acid soil has a pH below 7, neutral soils have a pH near 7, and soils with a pH above 7 are alkaline. Southern California soils are usually neutral or slightly alkaline, and the camellia grower has given considerable attention to the problem of providing a slightly acid environment by the use of acid-peat, sulfur and other acid soil conditioners. In spite of these precautions, camellias on acid soils

have not always thrived. Sometimes irrigation or fertilization methods give rise to a saline soil. The various mineral salts contained in irrigation waters and fertilizers may accumulate in the soil due to insufficient use of water or overdoses of fertilizers. These salts in the soil may have no appreciable effect on the pH of the soil, or in some cases they may cause the soil to become either more acid or more alkaline. Thus it is possible to have acid and alkaline soils which are non-saline, acid-saline soils and alkaline-saline soils.

Since the relative importance of these various soil conditions on camellia growth had not been thoroughly investigated, it was believed that controlled studies on pH effects and salinity effects would be useful to camellia growers. The following report summarizes the results of experiments with camellias grown with culture solutions at various salinity levels. Dr. James Bonner has reported on the effects of pH on camellia culture, and the control of pH will not be discussed in this report except to illustrate where confusion exists in trying to control alkalinity and salinity.

Young Pink Perfection camellias, propagated from cuttings, were planted in a medium consisting of 3 parts of No. 4 gravel and 1 part of acid peat. The plants were watered daily with a culture solution containing the required nutrient minerals and vari-

ous amounts of added salts, principally sodium sulfate, sodium chloride, and calcium sulfate (gypsum). In most cases these salts were mixed in several proportions to vary the relative amounts of calcium and sodium in the solution. The total amount of nutrients and added minerals ranged from 800 parts per million to 8400 parts per million (ppm). Seventeen different treatments were established and observations were made on growth rates and the appearance of abnormal symptoms in the foliage. It is important to remember that the entire root system was drawing water and minerals for its nutrition from these solutions which were maintained at the desired concentration throughout the experiment.

After 3 or 4 months some response was noted in the plants grown with the more saline solutions. The leaves showed minor tipburn on a few plants treated with culture solutions containing 3500 and 4300 ppm. of total dissolved salts. The amount of tipburn increased progressively as the salinity of the cultures increased to 8400 ppm. in those cultures containing a mixture of sulfates and chlorides in a ratio of approximately three to one. respectively. The most severely injured plants were grown in a culture containing 1750 ppm. of sodium chloride added to the nutrient medium making a total of 2700 ppm. During

(Continued on Next Page)

this period, there was relatively little difference in the growth and appearance of plants growing in media with a high calcium and low calcium status in relation to the amount of sodium

present.

With the advent of the next growing season, those plants in cultures containing more than 4300 ppm. total salts failed to initiate new growth or in some cases the buds swelled and subsequently withered. Plants treated with culture solutions containing 3100 and 3500 ppm. were normal as evidenced by the absence of tipburn, but the growth was a little slower than in the nutrient cultures with no sodium sulfate or sodium chloride additions.

Many factors such as light intensity, temperature, and relative humidity of the air influence the response of plants to saline soils. Under the conditions of this experiment, the tolerance of the Pink Perfection camellia to salinity due principally to sodium sulfate was in the neighborhood of 3000 to 3500 ppm. The tolerance to sodium chloride was much lower, but the range of concentrations chosen does not give a precise figure. The presence of chloride, expressed as sodium chloride probably should not exceed 1000 to 15000 ppm. If the conditions for growth had been more favorable the degree of injury at a prescribed salinity level would have been less manifest. Contrariwise, with a less favorable environment, a lower range of tolerance might have been indicated. Different camellia varieties display individual response with respect to soil salinity just as they show difference in sensitivity to sunburn or frost injury.

From the camellia grower's point of view, the recognition of symptoms of saline injury and the means of controlling salinity is of greater importance than the exact degree of tolerance under some set of conditions which might be different than his. The most typical symptom of salinity is the browning of the tip or margins of old, mature leaves. Following the initial appearance of the dead area, it spreads over a larger portion of the leaf until it drops. Slow growth may also indicate the presence of salts in the soil, lack of fertilizer or haphazard watering methods.

Another abnormal leaf symptom is marked by gradual loss of color at marginal areas on young foliage followed by collapse and drying which causes a cupping under the leaf. Leaves showing this type of injury usually drop prematurely. This condition is not specifically related to high salinity for it seems to be associated with more than one form of malnutrition of camellias. In certain cases the calcium absorbed by the leaf is subnormal and an excess of potassium or sodium is found in the leaf. This suggests the need of an adequate calcium supply to maintain a balanced nutritional status and to prevent the absorption of too much sodium and potassium by the camellia roots. Sodium can accumulate in the soil from irrigation waters, and manure applications may also introduce sodium chloride. High amounts of potassium may be introduced by fertilizers.

The mineral salts dissolved in the irrigation waters used extensively in Southern California are not present in large enough quantities to cause direct injury to plants. The total salines in these waters varies from 250 ppm. to 800 ppm. If irrigation methods do not provide for the movement of some water below the root zone it is apparent that the minerals contained in the water will multiply in concentration as the evaporation and transpiration removes much of the water between irrigations. It will merely take longer for the concentration of these minerals to reach critical levels when using waters of lower mineral content. For example, if a camellia uses one half of the soil moisture each week between irrigations, the 800 ppm. water in the absence of any drainage would have increased the concentration of the soil solution to 3200 ppm. after 7 weeks, and the 250 ppm. water would produce the same result in 25 weeks.

Fortunately, most camellia growers have provided good drainage for their plants in order to remove excess water during the period of heavy rainfall. By applying extra irrigation water to move mineral salts below the root zone, the good drainage can be made to serve a dual purpose. As indicated in the previous paragraph the frequency of these heavy irrigations to prevent the accumulation of salts in the root zone depends on the degree of mineralization of the water.

Part of the constituents of irrigation waters contribute more to making the soil alkaline than they do to increasing soil salinity. Calcium bicarbonate and sodium bicarbonate fall into the former category. Sulfur and other acidifiers are beneficial in offsetting this effect of alkalinity. When the sulfur or soil acidifier is added, the instructions suggest that the material be watered in thoroughly. If these instructions are followed, the plant often makes improved growth.

If through failure to water heavily, the plant failed to respond even though the soil was now acid, the original trouble may have been due to soil salinity rather than soil alkalinity. The combination of acidification and heavy irrigation has probably solved a considerable number of cases diagnosed as alkalinity problems which were in reality salinity problems. The copious use of irrigation water cures most salinity problems without additional treatment. When leaching with soft waters which are low in calcium and magnesium, it is sometimes necessary to add sufficient calcium or magnesium to the soil to maintain a balanced nutritional for the camellia. Liberal applications of gypsum will not harm the soil, and it can be used to restore the calcium supply to an adequate level.

The relative amounts of the saline and alkaline constituents in waters can vary widely. The saline portion may vary from one-fourth of the total dissolved solids to three-fourths of the total. In the case of the softened Colorado River water in which the writer is especially interested, about 77% of the elements present out of the total of 740 ppm. contribute to soil salinity if inadequate leaching methods permit an accumulation of these salines in the soil. In order to prevent the accumulation of sodium sulfate, the principal constituent of the softened Colorado Aqueduct water, in the root zone of camellias, an extra heavy irrigation is desirable at least once every 6 to 8 weeks for field-grown plants. Plants in containers require more frequent irrigation; therefore, the leaching process should receive attention at shorter intervals.

It must be borne in mind that heavy irrigation tends to leach away some of the valuable fertilizer elements, especially the nitrate nitrogen. In order to maintain soil fertility, water soluble fertilizers should be applied after the leaching process is completed. The use of slowly-soluble organic fertilizers can overcome this difficulty very satisfactorily. The organics referred to are cottonseed meal, bone meal and fishmeal.

Camellias came originally from regions of heavy rainfall and high humidity. Under these conditions they were accustomed to well-leached, well-drained soils of low saline content. To obtain maximum growth of camellias, salinity levels should be kept as low as possible. This can only be done by proper attention to fertilization and irrigation methods.

Reprinted from Camellia Research, published by the Southern California Camellia Society.

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TO THE LADIES from Page 12

if he was compelled to use some of your favorite formulas such as redwood snow-line leaf mold, Georgia and Idaho peat, to say nothing of the trace minerals and carefully prepared composts which go into your mixtures.

I know a camellia fan who improves every visit she makes to the mountains; and boxes and bags of Mother Nature's choicest mixtures along with crushed gravel for minerals and drainage come back with each trip.

After all the things at the meeting which inspired us, instructed us and amused us were over, there were some other items which sent the chill of fear down our spinal columns. We sat and listened to Dr. Hanson, wondering if our beloved camellias could be affected with that dread fungus disease, Petal Blight. We went home to have a mushroom nightmare and got up at the break of dawn to hunt these terrible "mushrooms" (sclerotia). If you have obsreved a good program of prevention, you found sun-scorched petals from unusual winter heat, and frozen petals due to the heavy black frosts after a warm spell, but breaking the bloom apart you did not find these miniature mushrooms, the seat of the fungus.

Some of us have been following this program of prevention which was outlined for us by the late Dr. William Jonson of the Destruxol Corporation. Ask for their Bulletin No. 101. This gives the treatment Dr. Jonson advised when he was called in consultation in the south around the New Orleans area before 1948.

SCCS from Page 8

of the sale plants as Miss Alice Tinkham of the Los Angeles Society carried one home and another went to LaVerne with Floyd Bunnelle president of the Pomona Society.

Camelliana

From Greenville, S. C.

The Greenville News of March 6th published a very interesting article by David Tillinghast about the camellia season in that vicinity which resulted in the cancellation of most of the scheduled Camellia Shows owing to the freakish cold which blighted the blooms.

The first blow fell in November when the mercury dropped to 19° catching the plants before dormancy had started. Then in February the mercury went down to 12° and this was the killing blow for the shows.

Of course, Camellia plants have enough resilience so that they themselves will for the most part escape dangerous damage.

In order to ascertain which Camellia varieties best can withstand this great temperature change in the Greenville area, Dick Lashly, a Camellia fancier who grows Camellias both outdoors and under glass, made a check on nearly 100 varieties grown out of doors there. Feeling that his findings may be of real constructive interest to many of our readers, we reprint his lists.

Mr. Lashly found that the four Camellias withstanding the cold very well were General George Patton, Francine, Debutante and Pink Perfection. His four classifications follow:

UNDAMAGED: Monarch, Fanny Bolis, Marquis D'Exeter, Governor Mouton, (red), Vedrine, Tri Color Sieboldi, Professor Sargent, Dixie, Mrs. Chas. Simons, Berenice Boddy and some Pink Perfection.

SLIGHTLY DAMAGED (will open and show brown): Francine, Concordia, Sara Frost, Herme, Eugene Bolen, Adolphe Audusson variant, Pope Pius, Chandler's Elegans, Panache, Elena Nobile, Rose Dawn, Debutante, Mathotiana Variant, Col. Firey, Kellingtonia, Eleanor Hagood, Marchioness of Exeter, Rev. John Drayton, Imperator, Gen. Patton, September Morn, Magnoliaeflora, Admiral Nimitz, Mathotiana Alba, Firebrand, Amabilis, Kumasaka, Purity and Leucantha.

COMPLETELY DAMAGED, (still carried by plant, will not open): Augusta Wilson, Pride of Descanso, White Queen, Laurel Leaf, Ella Drayton, Haku Tsuri, Shira Botan, Cameo Pink, Longview 67, Countess of Orkney, Audusson, Florence Stratton and Rainy Sun.

DROPPED ALL BUDS: Gigantea, Elizabeth, Lady Van Sittart, Daikagura Variant, Daikagua red, Margaret Madsen, Black Dragon, Mathotiana, Brilliant, Mrs. Charles Cobb, Pink Star, Blood of China, Eugene Lize, Mary Charlotte, Mildred Seydel, Ethlington White, Alba Plena, Latifolia, Ville de Nantes, Elizabeth Boardman and Rev. John Bennett.

Mr. Lashly does not believe in special efforts to protect plants in the open from cold spells such as wrapping burlap around them. If this touches the foliage, it fails to do the job and if it is airtight and is left on the plant for any length of time, the sun may heat the enclosed air to detriment of both shrub and blooms.

Hardy varieties, believes Mr. Lashly, properly located and kept vigorous and not allowed to get dry in danger periods, will take a lot of adverse weather without any protection.

Mr. Lashly is furnishing some of his finest Camellias to the South Carolina Camellia Society for its part in the 1955 Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, D. C., where Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower or her representative will be presented with some of them.

THE BEAUTIFUL ONETIA



Entered for the first time in any show, the C. japonica 'Onetia Holland' is modeled by the real-life Onetia Holland and took a blue ribbon at the Pomona Society's Show. This flower was also judged best seedling at the Temple City Show.

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND CAMELLIA RESEARCH SOCIETY

The inaugural meeting of the New South Wales Branch of this organization was held March 14th in Sydney, Australia. Branch Societies will be organized in each province and in New Zealand.

Fifty members attended the first meeting.

FOR SALE

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

Our own book, "The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature," a 1954 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¢.

"Old Camellia Varieties," a list with brief descriptions compiled at the request of the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society of the R.H.S. and the British Museum, by A. I. Ellis. A 374 page, 9x11 book, reprinted by permission by Mr. Ralph Peer. \$5.00.

"Two Cats and Forty Camellias," a 136 page story form about the growing of Camellias mixed up with cats and cooking by our own member Elizabeth Councilman of Councilman Acres. \$3.00.

"Flower Arrangements of the Ohara School" the 1952 edition. Printed in English in Japan in folder form this book has six pages of descriptive matter and twenty-four colored prints in the Japanese manner. \$4.60, from \$10.00 to \$12.00 in bookstores.

"Camellias, Kinds and Culture," by M. Harold Hume. \$6.00.

"The Camellia, What to Do," published by the Oregon Camellia Society. 35¢ postpaid.

"Camellias, Illustrated," by Morrie Sharp. \$5.00.

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Camellia MAIL BAG

From Columbia, S. C. Frank Griffin Writes:

Our tour composed of 300 Camellia lovers will leave about May 10, 1956 for London. Will go to Scotland and back to London for Chelsea Flower Show. After seeing gardens in Britain, including the Royal Gardens at Windsor Castle, we will go to Paris, Belgium and Holland. We will fly to and from England via B.O.A.C. and will be gone 30 days. A side trip will be made to Bodnant Gardens in North Wales. Any Camellian wishing to make a reservation should write me.

Ed. Note: It sounds like a wonderful prospect and something to dream about. Any stowaways accepted?

From Alexandria, Virginia Charles F. Holden Writes:

I think you will find the enclosed clipping from the Washington, D.C. Star of considerable interest when you learn that the booklet referred to in the article is none other than the S.C.C.S's excellent book on "The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature."

Our Society was organized in January of this year with sixty seven charter members and at our first meeting, 106 people turned up. At our organization meeting it was determined

to give to each member as part of the membership fee, the finest book we know anything about for the beginner as well as for the better informed amateur.

On top of all this excitement, we are going to put on a Camellia Show April 13-14th at Bethesda-Chevy Chase which will be the first annual show sponsored by the Society.

Norfolk is generally regarded as the Northern outpost in Camellia culture in these parts but we hope in a few years to give some of the private gardens a run for their money although it will not be possible ever to equal the wonderful planting in the Norfolk Municipal Gardens. At home Mrs. Holden and I have about 100 varieties which is an indication of what can happen when the bug hits hard.

Permit me to personally congratulae you on the splendid job you are doing with the "Review," and our regret is that it does not come each month throughout the year.

The clipping enclosed was most attractively illustrated by fine reproducitons of 'Kumasaka' and "Magnoliaflora' and 'Alba Plena' enhanced by Miss America of 1954 (Lee Ann Meriwether). The article described the formation of the Camellia Society of the Potomac Valley with Milton H. Brown as President and Mr. Holden as Vice President.

(Continued on Page 25)

A Brand New Camellia Color In Our Te Deum Sport

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MAIL BAG from Page 23

Emphasis is to be placed on use of the Camellia as an out-of-doors plant and the choice of varieties that bloom either early or late as these periods are more amenable to Camellia blooms in that territory.

For some years the Glenwood Road Garden Club has devoted much time and effort to Camellia culture and the first Camellia show for this area was sponsored last year by the Takoma Horticultural Club.

Ed. Note: The above letter and the clipping were certainly very welcome and we hope to hear a lot more about Camellias in the Potomac Valley. We are sure that the new members will find our Nomenclature Book full of answers to their Camellia problems and we venture to hope that the Review will be of service to them too.

AT THE SCCS SHOW



"Talking through your hat with Camellias" might be the title for this delightful arrangement by Clara Melovidoff which won first in the class of basket arrangements.

We wish unlimited good fortune and happiness to the new Society—with Camellias as its inspiration (and nonpolitical) Cult, how could it be otherwise?

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New Sport Announced

A new sport of Elegans (Chandler) Var. is in the offing. It has the same form as the parent, with outer guard petals a very light blush pink and center petaloids of cream white, some of which petaloids are occasionally marked deep pink. It has been named "Barbara Woodroof." Needless to say, it will be well worth waiting for."

CAMELLIA REVIEWER from P. 2 tween all such charmers we'll be grateful.

Oh What's Money When Camellias Beckon

An all-too familiar problem was stated by an S C C S member who the other evening practically denuded his wallet and pockets of money to buy Camellia books and an intriguing Camellia. "It's an endless circle," he sighed. "Once more I'll have to borrow money from my boss for bus fare tomorrow to get to work to earn money to buy more Camellias."

Colorado Has Camellias, Too

Among people who attempt what appears to be the impossible, meet the Kindels, who grow and sell Camellias in Denver, Colorado. That high city with its cold beauty overlooked by the higher chill of Camellia-less Pike's Peak is the home of Mr. George Kindel and sister Miss Margie Kindel. Mr. Kindel dashed in and out of Southern California recently.

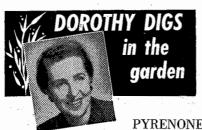
A business that is the outgrowth of a hobby is always interesting, and such is the case with the Kindels. Their father in his days of retirement built himself a hobby greenhouse, and among the many plants he grew were a few Camellias. The Camellias grew and grew becoming larger with more beautiful blooms each year, and in their quietly insidious way their blooming beauty fired the Kindels' imagination. In the past Denver flo-

rists had sold few Camellias owing to the fact that importation of the blossoms was expensive and risky. The imported blooms, which can not be so fresh as locally grown blooms, had the very bad habit of falling apart when the Denver damsels had chosen them to wear for an evening of dancing. And often they would fall apart before the florist could manage to make them into a corsage. This problem has now been solved by the Kindels. From their 700 plants, greenhouse, Camellia corsages are not only possible for the Denver damsels, but are becoming popular with many folk who had never seen Camellias before.

Mr. Kindel says that even when Camellias are greenhouse grown with temperature and humidity "controls, the blooming season of Camellias in Denver varies from year to year, depending on climatic conditions. Ordinarily the blooming season begins in earnest in mid-October and continues until mid-April. However, the season can vary as much as a month in either direction, and it is always hoped that the season continues through Easter and Mother's Day when the demand for corsage flowers is heavy.

As to varieties of Camellias grown, the Kindels are growing nearly eighty different Japonica varieties—so many different kinds because the Denver public is learning that there is a Camellia to match any gown the lady may choose to wear, and as wholesalers of Camellias, the Kindels want to supply "just the thing" to the florists. Just as in California, the Debutante is probably the most widely used for corsage wear, but this, too, depends on how the flower is to be worn. For hairdos and wristlets the smaller flat flowers are preferable, and for casual wear the bright stamened flowers find their place.

Mr. Kindel was sorry not to be able to stay long enough to see our (Continued on Page 28)



mixture controls the many infestations prevalent on Camellias at this time of year, without injury to plant or soil. You may have our Complete Care of Camellias Bulletin FREE on Request.

The "Big Moment" for your Camellias comes at the end of the blooming season. Having done their work, they look forward to food and rest. Fertilize and mulch and give them comfort in the form of a clean-up spray with SUPER DESTRUXOL, with 2 teaspoons of Destruxol's PYRENONE added to each diluted gallon. This

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Society's show especially since he has been a S.C.C.S. member for several years. Duties were pressing—among them guets. "I have 10,000 cmap

years. Duties were pressing—among them, quote, "I have 10,000 snap-dragons to transplant right away."

Privately, we think he was missing his Camellias just a teeny bit—too.

Camellia Triangle

Getting one's husband interested in Camellias is pleasant but what if he gets too interested? A couple of wives of our most avid Camelliaphiles were comparing marital notes at the show and in spite of the fact that both husbands were blue ribbon winners, the wives were complaining that all the attention at home was being paid to Camellias. "I've been practically on the point of getting a divorce," said one while the other admitted, "Well, I have too." At this juncture we had to suggest, "Maybe you'll just have to give an ultimatum-Camellias or you." They both looked at us in horror, "Oh, we'd never dare do that -" they chorused as we broke up laughing.

They're Even In Print

Camellias are quite in the news around here these days. Old camellias get their pictures in the papers regularly such as the C. japonica 'Covina' on Los Robles in Pasadena which measures 20 feet around and sixteen feet high. It is reported to be from 25 to 30 years old. However no sooner than this came out, there appeared the picture of a twentyeight foot C. japonica 'California' which was purchased seventy years ago from a Japanese sailor. It is reported to have grown for nearly thirty years unprotected from the sun. Then its owner put a lath framework over it and on one side, but this was removed some years ago so it has continued upward and outward with no special care other than a yearly fertilizing and regular watering. After this story appeared one columnist picked up the deluge of mail that

was received boasting of much older camellias, and wrote up the old history of camellias in America, quickly putting in their places those who think of a thirty-year old camellia as being old. Well, nothing like spreading camellia information through this newsworthy flower.

Traveler's Tale

E. W. "Doc" Miller paused in our vicinity long enough in his travels to visit our show and tell us how well Camellias of the northwest withstand cold there. Being familiar with that territory we know of the long periods of damp chill to which they are exposed, which of course conditions them to drops in temperature. While Mr. Miller was in Seattle, that city experienced a "silver-sleet" as they call their cold after-rain freezes. And Mr. Miller reported to us that he saw Kumasaka blooms entirely encased in ice for several days duration from which the flowers emerged unscathed. Well anyhow, that's what Mr. Miller told us. Perhaps it is only a coincidence that he left immediately afterwards for a trip to Europe.

Variegated Maybe?

It's a well known fact that things, including people, that are intimately associated for a long period of time sometimes grow to resemble each other, and in this connection, have you noticed Harvey Short's ears? Don't you think they are commencing to look like Camellia petals just a weeny bit? Well, true or not, as far as we are concerned, if we ourselves are going to resemble somebody or something we wouldn't at all mind growing to look like a gorgeous Camellia

says

Liz

For record, reference and convenience, we print the list of current members of the SCCS in this issue of the Review. Are you there?

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