

THE

Camellia Review



Camellia sasanqua 'BILL WYLAM'

Courtesy McCaskill Gardens

Official Bulletin of the Southern California Camellia Society

Vol. 16

December 1954

No. 3

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PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY, INC.

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
 3rd Tuesday, Nov. to April
- Huntington Camellia Garden San Marino, Calif.
 Huntington Library and Art Gallery, Oxford Rd., San Marino
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Camellia Reviewer

ELIZABETH BEEBE

Happy Holidays

A Merry Camellia Christmas to everybody. What a pleasant trick of fate (or was it planned in the stars?) that Camellias are getting into their blossoming stride by Christmastime.

What pleasanter way to celebrate than to use Camellias in your house decorations—to wear or even let them get in your hair? We suggest that everyone owning a blooming plant bestow at least one flower on someone they know who is either a shut-in or doesn't own a Camellia. Spreading Camellias is far superior to spreading a lot of other things we can think about.

For a faraway friend send one of the interesting books on Camellias that our Secretary has for sale—or how about a subscription to the Society?

It is easy to see that we are an ardent devotee of the Camellia Cult—that inspired way that opens the door on beauty—and life. It is quite synonymous to the Christmas spirit which also symbolizes beauty—and life.

We Love to be Dog-Eared

Mr. Stanley Miller, who with Mrs. Miller recently returned from a round-the-world Camellia circle, and whose pictures of that circle enchanted the S. C. C. S. members the other night, told us that when they visited the beautiful Bodnant Gardens of North Wales they were shown about by the head gardener. This was a Mr. Charles Puddle and he was carrying around in his pocket the latest issue of the *Review*, well dog-eared from frequent thumbing. We feel gratified beyond measure but it's a challenge to make *all* of the *Reviews* interesting enough to be dog-eared all over the world.

Hint to Housewives

Adding to the long list of uses of Our Flower, the latest one came from a friend whose husband has lately felt the Call of the Camellia strongly enough that he has invested in a lot of plants. "I'm going to keep encouraging him," remarked our friend confidentially. "Most of the girls I know are 'golf widows' or their husbands have other hobbies that take them away from home. It's not that way with us. My husband rushes home madly to get in the garden with his Camellias." Men, have you ever noticed a certain gleam in the eye of the little woman when she gives you a new Camellia to fuss over? It's really the nicest way of being a wee bit underhanded that we know.

Island Echoes

It was very gratifying to receive a note from Carl Weston of Charlotte, North Carolina to the effect that he had written Dr. Wine that he could find a *C. japonica* 'Island Echo' at the McDonald Nursery in Beech Island, South Carolina. Perhaps the "Clearing House" will become a Clearing House for new friends as well as Camellias.

More Yet

Speaking of another use for the endless varying Camellia—one of our Society members has for some years preserved the memory of fine plants by curing the wood and fashioning gavels from it. These he turns out on a home workshop lathe and has bestowed the gavels on various presidents of our Society, on Hollywood Mayors, and more lately has sent one to his friend Vice-President Richard Nixon. A busy man, this Herbert Shirley, who finds time from his dental work not only for gavel making but for experimenting with his many Camellias and writing about them for the edification of our readers
(Continued on Page 28)

MIXED-UP BEAUTY



Courtesy Huntington Botanical Gardens

How good are you at identification? Check your answers on page 10.

The Camellia Review

Presents a Report of

THE ORANGE COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY

The second in a series featuring our affiliated societies

HISTORY OF THE SOCIETY

By HAROLD LARSEN

Greetings to all camellia enthusiasts throughout the world from the Camellia Society of Orange County, California. We believe our society occupies a unique position because it is the youngest affiliate of the Southern California Camellia Society. Because our society is only four years old, the early experiences in our history still remain vivid in our memory. Our history is by no means unusual. Perhaps a little reminiscing will recall fond memories buried somewhere in the past of many of the readers.

First — Just an Idea

My first experience with the Camellia Society of Orange County happened at the Southern California Camellia Society Show in 1950. While talking to the late Mr. Clifton W. Johnson and Mr. Carl Tourje, I innocently mentioned that I wished there were a society in Orange County where camellia growers in that area could meet and share experience in camellia propagation. Little did I realize at the time the meaning of the gleam in the eyes of these gentlemen as they casually mentioned that two other men — Mr. Arthur Wirtz and Mr. Fred Forgy — had recently expressed a similar wish. That incident seemed to set off a chain of letters of advice and encouragement during the next several months.

In August, 1950 seventeen people from Orange and Santa Ana who had expressed an interest in camellias met at the home of Mr. Wirtz. The enthusiasm shown at this meeting led to the formulation of plans for a society organizational meeting on the

third Thursday of the following November.

Then a Reality

The evening of November 19, 1950 was an auspicious date in our history, for it was the night that the Camellia Society of Orange County was born. Since the society had no funds, the Santa Ana Recreation Department generously permitted us to use the Round-house in Santiago Park for our meeting without charge. We like to think that a gleaming halo of light surrounded that small building that night; certainly, the enthusiasm of the fifty persons attending the meeting could have made such a phenomenon possible. Mr. W. L. Rifenberick, President of the Southern California Camellia Society extended the congratulations of that society to us. Ralph Peer and Bill Woodroof, distinguished authorities of the camellia world to us, gave interesting and entertaining talks. Everyone was sure that our society was a big success. Why not? We had a total of nineteen memberships and a treasury of thirty-eight dollars.

Every meeting during the first year was a new and thrilling experience. Our members still talk about the

(Continued on Next Page)

grafting workshop conducted by Mr. Johnson, and the "off-the-cuff" talks given by Bill Woodroof on all phases of camellia culture. By the end of the season, we had a whopping total of thirty-four members.

Growing Pains

The next three years were a period of trial for our society. Needing larger quarters, we moved to the Santa Ana Community Center Clubhouse, where we have met ever since. We have experienced our share of troubles. Rains and winds have ruined our camellia displays. Planned programs have had to be cancelled suddenly. We have even had to use windows as entrances to our meeting place because someone forgot to unlock the door.

Our most disappointing problem has been our membership drives. No matter what we did, our membership seemd to remain around thirty-five. Many of our members thought the past season might be our last. Fortunately the addition of several new members this season seems to have injected new enthusiasm into our society which has been needed. Now we feel that nothing can stop us.

We have experienced the trials and tribulations of three camellia shows. Our first show held at Blanding's Nursery in Santa Ana, was so crowded that some of our own members could not get in. Our second show coincided with one of the heavy rains of an otherwise very dry season. Our third show was preceded by a week of "unusual" hot weather. In spite of these difficulties, we feel that our shows have been commendable, with the generous and considerable aid of such people as Bill Woodroof, Cecil Eshelman and Harvey Short.

Now Happily Permanent

Our society is a very typical society. Our members have trouble making Pink Perfections bloom properly, getting a Mathotiana with a bud

center. We are constantly battling aphids and scale, and any meeting will include a good argument on ideal fertilization methods. One of our members — Mr. R. W. Ragland — has what we believe to be one of the outstanding amateur collections of camellia plants in California. Our area includes its share of amazing camellia plants which have thrived for over seventy-five years.

Our society could not have survived without the generous help of a list of persons too long to mention here. We owe a deep debt of gratitude to many men who have interrupted busy schedules and come considerable distances to put on programs for us. Anyone who says that camellia growers are a selfish group should come to Southern California for a little education.

Our members are not interested in developing a large society. We believe that one of the primary advantages is that each member is acquainted with practically every other member. Some of our most pleasant experiences come from "gab-sessions" over a cup of coffee after a particularly stimulating program.

To anyone contemplating ideas of starting a local camellia society, we can guarantee that it involves a lot of work and difficulties. We can also guarantee that the enjoyable memories you will have and the wonderful friendships you will acquire are a thousand times worth all the trouble.

LOOK FOR

News about the Temple City Camellia Society which will be featured in the January *Review*. This will shortly precede their Annual Camellia Show which is held in conjunction with the Temple City Camellia Festival, famed world wide.

PRESIDENT HAROLD E. DRYDEN PRESENTS



Mrs. Vern McCaskill happily accepts a beautiful silver bowl, the William Hertrich award for the best new Camellia variety. Mr. Vern McCaskill looks on delightedly as does son Jack McCaskill after whom the Camellia was named.

THE CAMELLIA SEASON IS FORMALLY LAUNCHED

The 1954-55 year of the Southern California Camellia Society started out most auspiciously as 250 Camellia enthusiasts gathered to launch the Camellia season.

A large table was gay with early blooming japonicas but sasanquas were the toast of the evening and wide flat baskets brimmed with their beauty. The fragile perkiness of 'Gosamer Wings,' contrasted with the beautiful shell pink 'Jean Mays,' both crowding against the large 'Mine-No-Yuki' whose petals in peony form were as snowy white as the English name, 'White Doves.'

The president, Harold E. Dryden, welcomed the group and gave a short talk on how the Society functions, naming its executives who were all

present except one. Program Chairman Edwards Metcalf then introduced Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Miller who recently returned from observing Camellias around the world.

Mr. Miller's talk, accompanied by many colored slides, gave the group a glimpse of Camellias on four continents. The audience could only gasp at the pictures of so many huge trees of Camellias, these growing however where sea dampness constantly pervades the areas and makes exacting culture unnecessary. One view taken from a plane about 300 miles north of Calcutta, India, showed seemingly endless acres of *Thea sinensis*, and another picture making a sensation was that of a girl the Millers met along the road in the British Isles

THE HERTRICH AWARDS FOR 1954



William Woodroof reads the inscription on the placque presented him as the Margarete Hertrich Award for 1954 for the best seedling submitted for registration. Named the 'Reg Ragland,' Mr. Ragland in person is also honored in the presentation.

nonchalantly carrying a bouquet of 'Captain Rawes,' whose huge red blossoms we would consider all Show Flowers here.

After this talk everyone joined in a bit of refreshments and then their eyes again were privileged to feast on beauty. This time it took the shape of many brilliant slides of sasanquas from the McCaskill's gardens, with Vern McCaskill naming them, his tongue tripping lightly over the involved Japanese nomenclature.

The opening meeting of each season is the occasion for award presentation and it was with much pleasure that Mr. Dryden gave a silver bowl, the William Hertrich Award, to Mrs. Vern McCaskill for the fine mutation, 'Jack McCaskill.' Namesake Jack and Mr. Vern McCaskill were also a part of the presentation.

The Margarete Hertrich Award for the best seedling was presented to William Woodroof by Mr. Dryden, honoring the seedling, 'Reg Ragland.' Mr. Woodroof in accepting said "I consider a Camellia a human being and feel that the 'Reg Ragland' is proud to bear that name." Mr. Ragland, happily present, declared in response that it was indeed an honor to have the fine flower named for him.

The *japonica* 'Daikagura' had been announced as flower of the month and taking first honors with her blossom was Mrs. W. H. Bonner. Second best went to Mrs. Harry Busby and third to Ida May Shrode. In the open class, H. E. Bergstrom took first with his 'Alba Plena,' Katherine Koykendall won second with her

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A SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT

By HERBERT SHIRLEY

Four years ago a friend offered me a sixteen year old Camellia because it took up too much room in her garden. She wanted a smaller, slower growing variety. I did not have room for that large a plant, either, but being of Scotch descent I couldn't refuse it.

Learning that it was a 'Eureka' variegated, I decided to experiment in moving it. If it survived I would graft something good on it. I decided to move it bare root and waited until a cloudy day in December to do it. The tree was about eight feet tall and six feet in circumference.

Digging a trench about a foot deep, I used the soil to build up a wall to hold in the water. I dug the trench a little beyond the drip line of the branches.

Using a nozzle with a small opening, so as to get a pretty hard force, I started in at the outer edge and washed the soil away from the roots. Working in gradually toward the center I loosened up all the roots. When I could move the tree back and forth and see that only the tap root remained tight, I reached down as far as I could with a shovel and cut the root.

The tree then lifted out of the mud hole easily.

Covering the roots over with a wet sack, I put it in my car and took it home.

Digging a hole amply large, I filled it with water and set the plant in the hole, and filled in the soil; with the hole filled with water I avoided air pockets and also kept the top of the roots above the ground level, so as to allow for settling. I then covered the ground with three inches of wet peat moss.

To allow for the injury in cutting the tap root and damaging some of the smaller roots I cut back the top of the plant by one fourth. I got about a hundred cuttings from the tree. I never lost a leaf and in the spring new growth began.

Since then I have bare-rooted a 'Pink Perfection,' 'Uncle Sam,' 'Princess Baciocchi,' and an 'Ella Drayton.' They have all survived.

I would not advise moving all varieties in this manner but the more hardy ones seem to survive. I believe that the most important step is cutting back the top to compensate for injury to the roots.



OUR NEW SASANQUAS

BILL WYLAM (See Cover) — CHERIE (Soft Pink Double)
GOSSAMER WINGS (High Wing-like Petals)

Strong Grafts—12-18" — \$6.00 18-24" — \$7.00

NO PACKING CHARGE

NO CATALOG

McCASKILL GARDENS

25 S. MICHILLINDA AVE.

E. PASADENA 10, CALIFORNIA

NOTES FOR NEW GROWERS OF CAMELLIAS

On Species: Their Habit of Growth and Flowering

By WILLIAM HERTRICH

In response to the many inquiries that have come to the Botanical Offices at the Huntington Gardens, regarding the landscaping use of the different species of camellias appearing in the trade, the following notes have been briefly compiled. It is hoped that they may be of casual guidance to the recent initiate in camellia culture toward wise selections of these flowering plants, especially for the home garden.

Sasanqua Traits

C. Sasanqua and most of its cultivars and varieties are prolific bloomers, a factor which compensates for the comparatively short blooming period, as well as for a certain fragile quality of the flowers themselves. Sasanqua shrubs generally have a spreading habit of growth, lending themselves, therefore, to espalier training more readily than almost any other type. Furthermore, they are more sun tolerant, by far, than most of the japonica and reticulata cultivars and varieties. This trait makes them highly prized among the inland-area growers in Southern California. Sasanquas are sometimes mentioned as evergreen hedge material in the landscaping scheme. If camellias are ever used for this purpose, the sasanquas are the most likely subjects, both because of their sun tolerance, and for their small-leaved foliage, coupled with a quick growing habit during the season when new growth is taking place. The latter growth habit is a particular advantage where pruning to specified height is required; pruning should be done immediately after the flowering period is over. Generally speaking, the use of camellias, of any type, for hedging is discouraged, for frequently the hedge must be in open exposure to sun and relative dryness — two conditions not to the liking of many of the camellias. Moreover, there are many other evergreen shrubs which have added advantages for this purpose and which are more amenable to trimming and to withstanding of various garden vicissitudes.

Differences to Note

The flowers of *C. sasanqua* are consistently smaller than the average run of *C. japonica* and *reticulata*, and they are also less inclined to fullness, usually falling into the classification of single or semi-double, very seldom taking on a full double form.

Typical aspects of the species *reticulata* include: a more open habit of growth than other species, comparatively dull green leaves that are generally narrower than the more familiar *japonica* leaves, and fine to sharply serrate margins, which gives the foliage a more austere appearance than the glossy-leaved japonicas with often rolled margins to soften the contour. Reticulata flowers are usually large size, with very few exceptions; they range from the single type of Wild Form, through semi-double to full double, some of them attaining a diameter of six inches or more. Petals are large and undulate, with a curiously luminescent quality to them, giving a very showy appearance when in full bloom. The flowering is mid-season, as a rule. Some of the reticulatas are tolerant to a reasonable amount of exposure to sun.

Japonicas Offer the Most

C. japonica and its numerous culti-
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NEW GROWERS from Page 9

vars—literally a thousand and more—enjoys a long flowering period, perhaps longer than any other species, often extending from October to May. The growth habit is mostly upright, a few being semi-pendulous especially when mature. Dense to loose branching habit is characteristic; foliage varies from long two- to four-inch leaves, occasionally even longer, with serrate margins, and long to short pointed tips or apices. Flowers range from single to semi-double to very full double, the latter both formal and informal, some imbricated. The color range, too, is great, from pure white through widely varied shades of pink and red, with an exceptional number of variegated or marbled types. This color range is in no way matched by any of the other species now under cultivation. In time, japonicas may reach a height of twenty feet, depending upon the variety, the environment, and climate conditions. Altogether, the variation in form, color, and to some extent their habit, give to japonicas a diversity wide enough to suit almost any taste and to accommodate almost any garden situation.

Ed. Note: As you may have guessed the "Mixed Up Beauty" illustrates the above article, as it shows graphically basic differences in the foliage of different species.

Answers to Mixed-Up Beauty

- a. *C. japonica* foliage
- b. *C. japonica* single flower
- c. *C. sasanqua* foliage, both axillary and terminal budding
- d. *C. Pitardii* flower bud, both axillary and terminal
- e. *Thea sinensis* or tea plant. Stemmed bud.
- f. *C. reticulata*, foliage and single terminal bud.

DO YOU AGREE?

Settling yourself in your easiest chair please run your eyes over this list of Camellia varieties.

High Hat
Masterpiece
Pink Clouds
Gov. Earl Warren
Joshua E. Youtz
Mattie O'Reilly
Frosty Morn
Drama Girl
Sunset Glory

Do you agree that this represents the best of the WEST COAST INTRODUCTIONS?

We have the nerve to publish this list but maintain our neutrality and hoist a white flag, for all we did in response to an insistent demand was to send out requests to quite a number of western camellia growers and ask for their choices. Some, we might remark did not respond although we made it clear we would publish no names. (Not for us to lead anyone to a guillotine however flowery.) From the lists we received we compiled the varieties appearing the oftenest, in no particular numbering. One response I quote from: "It would seem to me that from the standpoint of West Coast introduction that the most outstanding list would contain about 14 of the Chinese hybrids *C. reticulata* varieties. I guess I would have to crowd out one of these latter in favor of *Camellia x Williamsii* var. *J. C. Williams* and perhaps *Joshua E. Youtz* would crowd out another."

There it is. We agree that every one on the above list has a right to be there but what about all these other wonderful ones too? Well if Camellias have a sense of humor we are sure a lot of them are snickering in their petals.

Give a subscription to the S C C S for a Christmas present.

EAST AND WEST MEET IN OUR COVER FLOWER

Confounding the old adage that "Never the twain shall meet," East has met the west in lovely success in the *Camellia sasanqua* 'Bill Wylam.'

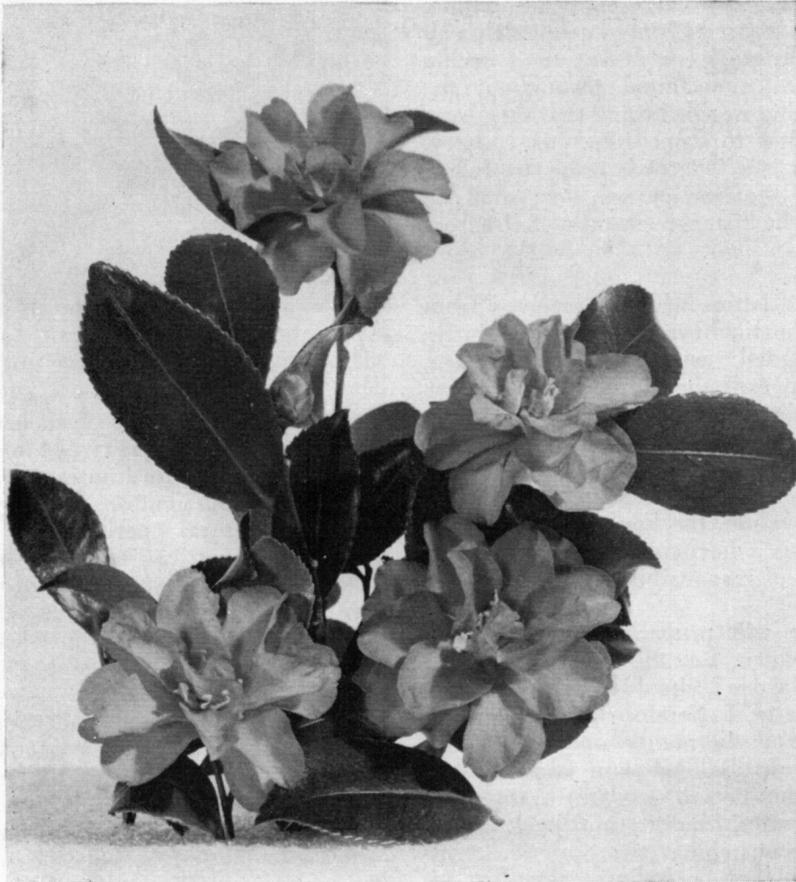
With the Japanese Mother, 'Shishi-Gashira' and the very western namesake, William Wylam, Vern and Billie McCaskill have produced an extraordinarily distinctive sasanqua.

Mutual friends for many years and especially mutual admirers of the species sasanqua, it was only a natural result that when the McCaskills fostered this particularly distinctive

seedling which Bill admired greatly, they should give it the name of their good friend.

The parent plant is about six years old and with two and three year old grafts the habits of the 'Bill Wylam' are well established. The bushes are large and upright. The foliage rich, with leaves darker than usually found among sasanquas. The blooms are prolific, large for sasanquas being around three inches across, semi-double with petals beautifully fluted

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Courtesy Huntington Botanical Gardens

The *Camellia sasanqua* 'Shishi-Gashira,' a Japanese importation and the Mother parent of the 'Bill Wylam.'

WILLIAM E. WYLAM, KEEPER OF THE GARDEN

By E. C. TOURJE

Chairman, Camellia Garden Committee

William E. Wylam has recently been appointed to the post of management of the Oriental Garden, of the Huntington Botanical Gardens which, of course, includes the Camellia Garden. 'Tis indeed a happy day for all concerned—not excepting the Camellia Garden Committee.

One of the most interesting contacts I have had since my attention to camellias was aroused many years ago was my correspondence with a very cultured Chinese gentleman who sent to me seeds of various camellia species now found throughout the camellia world. I think that they were the first to come into this country. Other species seeds were to follow when the iron curtain—or, shall we say, the bamboo curtain—fell across China.

The letters which I received from this horticultural friend were always concluded with the termination, "Keeper of the Garden". There was humility and dignity in this termination which will live with me as long as does life. His letters, in quaint but perfect English, bear the pride of one upon whom the honor of his profession as a horticulturist rested with a sense of responsibility.

We will probably never see this gentleman, but the title, "Keeper of the Garden", should be preserved for posterity. I therefore am placing the title and the mantle upon the shoulders of "Bill" Wylam knowing full well that he will wear it with the sense of dignity, humility and pride which the term implies.

Bill Wylam's nationally known interest in horticulture is something that did not recently mushroom. It

THE WEST



William E. Wylam

was with him as a boy—even before his years at the University of Florida. It has continued with him ever since, as his many contributions to the various horticultural periodicals will prove. The American camellia world is indebted to Bill for the importation of the Australian varieties which caught his attention while on "leave" from his ship during the war.

It is fortunate indeed that Superintendent Howard Asper was able to bring Bill Wylam into his organization at the Huntington institution, and most gratifying to Bill's many camellia friends—especially the members of the Camellia Garden Committee—that Bill heard and heeded the call. May he live long to bear the title "Keeper of the Garden".

NEWS OF ALL-AMERICA CAMELLIA SELECTIONS

By RALPH M. DASHER

Executive Secretary-Treasurer; Florence, Alabama

Why

All-America Camellia Selections, or AACCS as it familiarly is known, was established in 1950-51 and incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 1952, by a group of America's leading camellia growers. Its primary function is to provide for the scientific pre-testing of new camellia varieties and to encourage only the introduction of varieties with quality and distinction, garden proved and sure to perform well anywhere camellias may be grown in the United States.

Where

To do this, AACCS has established eight official test gardens and, as the occasion arises, may increase this number. Existing gardens are located at Charleston, S. C.; Atlanta, Ga.; Fort Valley, Ga.; Semmes, Alabama WASHINGTON, D.C.; Lafayette, Louisiana; San Fernando, California; Sacramento, California, and Portland, Oregon, and afford a good cross-section of soil types and differing climates. Where possible, gardens are at educational institutions or on private grounds; a few, of necessity, have been placed at nurseries. To comply with government regulations regarding the patentability of prospective new introductions, the test gardens are not open to the public, since entrants wish to safeguard both their plants and their future right to apply for patents if desired.

How

Each garden is under the supervision of a Director. The three gardens at nurseries are supervised by prominent nurserymen, none of whom may act as an official judge. Indeed, qualified judges must be amateurs, completely disassociated from any commercial nursery firm. Three judges serve at each garden and are requested to evaluate competing entries independently, thus providing a broad basis for comparing the merits or demerits of an entry. These judges were chosen for their knowledge of and devotion to camellias, from the roster of the American Camellia So-

ciety and many local societies. The services of these impartial experts is a cornerstone of the AACCS program and much appreciation is due them for their contributions to its success.

Plants are studied and scored under actual growing conditions in each area. A uniform point system, differing slightly for the several types of camellias, is used to evaluate such important factors as hardiness, growth characteristics, foliage, profusion, duration, and quality of bloom, and novelty. Entries are neither pampered nor neglected during their test period but receive care similar to that given the average home planting.

When

The test period lasts three years, during which interim scores and comments are recorded by the judges for each entry. The first trials began in 1952, a second set of entries began their tests in 1953, and a new series will start with the next planting season. Increased interest in and support of the AACCS program is evidenced by a larger number of entries for each succeeding Trial, by an expanding list of entrants, and by the enter-

(Continued on Page 14)

Dr. Bonner to Highlight 2nd Meeting of SCCS

Society members residing in Southern California must be sure to mark December 14th on their memo pads as this is the date of the second meeting of the Society.

The program chairman, Edwards Metcalf, announces that Dr. James Bonner of the California Institute of Technology will speak on the subject "The Science of the Camellia." This promises to be a real treat.

The second part of the program will be given over to a panel, the members of which will answer written questions turned in by Society members after which questions from the floor will be answered. This will give all local Society members an opportunity to find possible answers to knotty problems in relationship to the ever-changing Camellia. The panel will consist of Mr. Al Decker of Glendale; Bill Wylam of Pasadena; Mark Anthony of San Gabriel and Julius Nuccio of Altadena. Mr. Edwards Metcalf will be the Moderator. Get your questions ready for you will not often have such a group of qualified Camellia experts to answer questions.

Another short talk on "Know Your Society" will be given by Elizabeth Beebe who will inform the members on some of the tribulations of an Editor in preparing the *Camellia Review* from manuscript to printed page.

The usual flower show will be held at 7:30.

AACS from Page 13

ing of several kinds of camellias. To date, the overall list of entries includes specimens of Japonica, Sasanqua, Reticulata, and Hybrid Saluenensis types.

To Enter Write the Secretary

There are no restrictions upon an entry other than it be new and previously undisseminated, and an entrant agrees only to cooperative production of a winning entry. Any new variety, be it from a novice or a professional hybridizer, from an individual or a large firm, from a member of AACS or a non-member, is eligible to compete toward proving its worth as an AACS Award Winner. The 1954 Trials still are open and anyone with a new seedling or sport is urged to enter it in competition. To supply the eight test gardens, sixteen plants are needed, which may be 2-year grafts on 3-year understock or the same number of 3-year old cutting grown plants. Should anyone have a potential candidate for future testing and wish to be relieved of propagating problems, it is possible to arrange for this by agreement with one of the nursery firms cooperating with AACS, whose names are available on request from the Secretary. Full details concerning the procedure for making entry also will be sent to those interested. Only through open competition against a field of the world's finest new camellias, in one of the most thorough and accurate horticultural testing systems yet designed, where the exacting standards of excellence demanded will eliminate all but the best, may a new variety prove truly worthy of the country's highest camellia honor—an All-America Camellia Selections Award.

Central California

New President of the Central California Camellia Society is Dr. Lynn W. Fawns, 956 N. Fulton, Fresno, California. Secretary-Treasurer is the same but it seems she has changed her name; the former Frances Lennox becoming Frances Wheaton.

Camelliana

From Shreveport, Louisiana

The following excerpts were taken from an article on sasanquas in one of the newspaper columns "Around the Camellia Bush," which are authored by members of the Men's Camellia Club. Charles Barrios of Semmes, Alabama was kind enough to send it to us and we thought several points were well worth noting in our *Review*. Quote:

Sasanquas are easy to handle and may be pruned severely with good results. They blend well with other plants. They are not what we call "gross feeders"—we mean by this that other plants can be planted next to them and not have the substance and moisture in the soil robbed by the greedy roots such as are found in the Ligustrums and the privet hedge.

Home owners need to be admonished not to lose sight of the fact that the color of the building should influence the choice in the variety of sasanquas they plant around their homes. The white ruffled 'Mine-no-Yuki' is perfect in front of a red brick wall yet there are shades of lavender and rose which would look terrible there. Lighter shades of sasanquas look wonderful with red brick.

If you have a white house you can go the limit in colors if, of course, you don't combine the lavender and salmon shades; yet here you wouldn't use the white flowers as they can't be noticed when they bloom. The colorful 'Pink Snow,' 'Maiden's Blush' and 'Narumi-Gata' are at their best here.

The architecture of the house should also be considered. For instance, if the house is low and rambling, it is better to select varieties which do not grow too tall. The com-

pact-growing 'Cleopatra' with its semi-double rosy-pink blossoms would be fine.

It would be well to use several plants of the same variety in planning your groupings to make the most pleasing effect both as to height and conformation. Avoid using too many different varieties in the same area and in a hedge or screen we certainly should use all of one variety. For this latter purpose, 'Texas Star' takes up very little space and yet makes a most creditable screen if space is at a premium.

From San Diego

The attractive Bulletin of the San Diego Camellia Society for November sported a hand drawn sasanqua cover and contained much of interest. The President, George Ellis, wrote a pleasant welcome and announced three important decisions of the Society: to purchase a duplicating device, to reduce the meetings from seven to six and to authorize the purchase of only top-grade Camellias.

Listed activities of the various Committee chairmen indicate that the society is wide awake.

EAST AND WEST from Page 11

and edges scalloped. The color ranges from deep rose to a deeper clear rosy red when the bloom is fully opened, and the blooming period lasts over three months' period; in Southern California from October through December although that might vary with locality.

Best of all, with its beauty the 'Bill Wylam' is so tractable that it can be used for most any type of landscaping.

Bill, himself, is of course very proud that this particularly dramatic sasanqua was named after him. Seeing it first at its best, Bill said, quote "The flowers look like shimmering sequins against dark green satin."

A 21-Camellia salute to the *Camellia sasanqua* 'Bill Wylam.'

TO THE LADIES

By CHARLOTTE HOAK

"Apples of Gold in Baskets of Silver," has been flashing through my mind for several days and its subtle teasing harmony I am using for my theme suggestion.

We are far too careless about our containers for flowers; too negligent about their bases, too hurried in our combination of flower materials and too crude in our color combinations.

From China, the Mother of Gardens, come the age old camellias which now in the heyday of their Western Popularity, have taken on new beauty through the creative art of our hybridizers.

We have a rich heritage of oriental pottery, priceless choice wares, Chinese pewters, rare brasses with teak wood and ebony bases. Happy is the lucky owner of such treasures. If fortune has left you such a rich inheritance, gather your vases together and plan to use them in our next Camellia Show.

We are rather careless about our miniature arrangements, containers as well as the material we select. We should give this matter more careful consideration when there are so many beautiful containers available. Replenish your shelf immediately if you expect to win the coveted blue ribbons.

We hope you have at hand Carl Starker's "Album of Arrangements." Open it and read the Prelude. Consider carefully what he says about containers, and subject yours to his acid test. The brief page on bases should not be overlooked and you will see that my text selected at the beginning is not too far fetched.

Having read the assignment and absorbed its substance, set your creative genius to the task which few flower arrangers seldom do. Don't say that you have no native ability. The veriest beginners can develop a fine artistic sense if they will but forego all copying and *create*.

Of course you are very fortunate if you possess some of these priceless art treasures, but art is still abroad in the land and today we can collect a basic array of containers; and in

your popular wood-working shops you can make scores of home made bases which will serve as the proper platforms to enhance your compositions. Do not scorn bits of Masonite. Discarded blocks of wood can take on marvellous beauty and you will be surprised at what low cost you can get your desired effects either in Chinese adaptations or in modern free forms. Visit a shop if possible and pick up the stray bits of hardwood which will take such beautiful polishes when you set yourself to the task of revealing their natural color, beauty and texture. A block of ordinary blackwood acacia can become a bit of priceless beauty. There are all sorts of wood both native and imported. Develop your skill in handling them.

Baskets have long been taboo; but, before you eliminate them from your collections look at a few of the hand-woven Italian ones in some of our best flower shops. They are wonderful not only for miniatures, but are most charming for old-fashioned nosegay bouquets.

Compotes are in style again. Some of us are compote conscious for we were trained in those days when compotes were a part of the general tableware. At home we never ate a dinner without two compote dishes on the table. It was my duty in those days (still bright on memories pages) to keep the large glass compote bright and shining and properly filled with

TO THE LADIES from Page 16

seasonable material. You can find these old-time compote dishes in remote antique shops and there are modern adaptations in pottery, wood and glass.

Many of our ceramic artists (mind you I said "artists") are doing most beautiful work. Do you ever go out to Padua Hills, for instance? There are many other sources but wherever you go be careful not to be misled by the fad of the moment.

There also are workers in brass and metals as well now as there were in ancient China and Phoenicia. Bring yourself up to date. Know who is who among the moderns.

Color is incorporated in our modern way of life. Everything is in color now from a woman's toe-nails to her blueing-tinted hair, so you can see my text is applicable even to containers.

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S C C S MEMBERS FOR 1954

Ed note: This concludes the entire list of new members and renewals for 1954 as of April, 1954. Lists as they came in were published in the following numbers: November 1953, December 1953, January 1954, February 1954, March 1954, July 1954, November 1954 and the current number. The list is valid as of April 1954 as it became impossible to allot the requisite space to keep up with new members and applications. Indulgence of the members is asked as to the very unorthodox non-alphabetting, of the names.

Mrs. L. Allen Kerr, 1632 E. Beach, Gulfport, Miss.
Mr. and Mrs. Victor H. King, 710 Pinehurst Drive, Pasadena 5, Calif.
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Mr. and Mrs. Karl F. Leitz, 2005 Los Amigos, La Canada, Calif.
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Mrs. W. Z. McDonald, 131 W. 74th St., Savannah, Ga.
Eileen Magee, 905 Louiseana Ave., Bogalusa, La.
Mr. A. L. Markham, Moncks Corner, S. C.
Mr. F. D. Marshall, Sr., 112 E. Main St., Rock Hill, S. C.
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Mr. Charles E. Moorman, 1149 Moorview Road, Jacksonville 7, Fla.
Mr. Fred P. Moreton, Chinquapin Farm, Ocean Springs, Miss.
Mr. George B. Morgan, Box 2969, Beaumont, Texas

(Continued on Page 18)

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(Continued on Page 20)

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NEWS, NOTES AND NOTICES

The All-America Selections

The new President of the All-America Camellia Selections is David Cook, whose address is 13531 Fenton Avenue, San Fernando, California. Vice President is Mr. George Sawada and Ralph Dasher is Secretary Treasurer. Address of the latter is Florence, Alabama. The roster now includes two new members, namely Mr. John Wight of the John Wight Nurseries of Cairo, Georgia, and Mr. Jacques Legendre of the Gulf Stream Nurseries, Wachapreague, Virginia. For further information about entering specimens, write to the Secretary.

Kern County

New officers for 1954-55 for the Kern County Camellia Society are as follows: President, Harry Davis, 303 Pine Street; Vice-President, Dr. L. Almklov, 2609 Bank Street; Secretary, Mrs. Yale Langworthy, 2029 Esther Drive; Treasurer, Mrs. Jean Davis, 303 Pine Street and Director, Mr. Yale Langworthy, 2029 Esther Drive, all of Bakersfield.

The Kern County Society will be featured in the March 1955 *Review* and Mr. Davis writes, "Thank you for this chance to take an active part in the *Camellia Review*."

TEMPLE CITY

With the opening breakfast and the October meeting, at which Mr. William E. Wylam of the Huntington Botanical Gardens gave a very interesting and informative talk on SASANQUAS, successfully completed, the Temple City Camellia Society is looking forward to other attractions which appeal to so many people during the Camellia blooming season.

The December meeting, which will be held on December 13th at the Women's Club Auditorium, Woodruff at Kauffman, Temple City, will feature Mr. Frank Williams with his "out of this world" color slides of what is newest and best in fine Camellias. This is always one of the "must" programs of the year. Flower display at 7:30 p.m.

Plant sale Camellias will be from the Don and Blanche Miller's Nursery. They are Bessie Morse Bellingrath, Eleanor Hagood Var., Laurel Leaf, Margarete Hertrich, Margaret Jack, Mrs. Freeman Weiss, Mrs. Howard Asper, Mrs. Tingley, My Darling and White Empress. Also included will be the usual Chinese Reticulata from Howard Asper, Sasanqua from Vern McCaskill, redwood tub and a pair of curved blade shears.

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

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(Continued on Page 23)

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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:
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Your natural impulse, particularly

as regards some non-performing or otherwise unsatisfactory camellia, is to avenge yourself by "wringing" the offending camellia's neck. If the plant has stubbornly refused to grow or if it has otherwise been unsatisfactory why not whack it off about two or three inches above the ground and tie on a scion you can mooch from some source and gain for yourself at little or no expense something new and desirable? Well, go ahead and see what happens and then next year

(Continued on Page 26)

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Mr. Stephen Pace, Macon Road, Americus, Ga.

Pleasant Oaks Plantation, Box 779, Wilmington, N. C.

Mr. W. D. Pleasant, 2480 Buchanan, Beaumont, Texas

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FOR SALE

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

"Camellias and Common Sense," by Claude Chidamian, \$4.00.

"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.

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.

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.



CAMELLIA SEASON from P. 7

'Arejishi' and the 'Alba Plena' of Don Moorhusen was judged third.

Quite a few out-of-towners attended the meeting. The Bradfords drove the Millers up from San Diego. A number of individuals had come from Temple City including that Society's new president, Arthur Krumm, and the Society's member Lawrence Bryant. Coming as the Howard Asper's guest was Mrs. Fannie Tracy of the fabulous Buttonwillow Ranch, a grande dame who planted both camellias and oak trees to shade them years ago and lives to love them.

Most everybody turned out — doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief — all bound by one flowery tie.

Start Plans Now For Our Annual Camellia Show

It is not too early for you to be planning for the Society's Camellia Show slated for March 5 and 6, 1955.

Whether you expect to try for ribbons with your finest blooms or submit your own individually styled corsages or arrangements, it is time for you to be planning; choosing the plants whose blossoms you expect to exhibit, doing some research on types of corsages and of course planning *way ahead* on your containers and just the flowers for your arrangements.

Plans for the Show itself are already under way with some exciting developments and novel features.

Keep the dates in mind—

March 5th and 6th.

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REVIEW ADVERTISERS

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WRITE FOR OUR CATALOGUE

BARRIOS NURSERY

DEPT. CR

SEMMES, ALABAMA

SELECTING UNDERSTOCK from Page 23

you can come around to me and buy the plant that you tried to make a graft of for yourself.

You try for some overgrown sleepers, great big one and five-gallon plants with thick trunks on 'em. Triumphant, you relieve the nurseryman of some of his overgrown material in rusted-out containers, and scurry about trying to make contacts for some "hot swaps."

You may possibly succeed passably well but you have chosen for that part of the union that must perform the most important duties the weakest, sickliest, scrawniest plant you could lay your hands on. A plant that nobody wanted. But don't feel that you're the only one who has committed this error. You're just one of the brotherhood now, brother we've all done it.

We came to the conclusion a few years back that the variety 'Sarah Frost' for one made excellent under-

stock. Here are several reasons; easy to propagate from cuttings, vigorous grower, long lived, wide cambium layer easily worked wood, ability to callus quickly, not strongly inclined toward virus influence. Another variety suitable for practically identical reasons, is 'Blood of China.' These two of names varies serve admirably. As for seedling material, most of this would likewise fit into the category very neatly. Better yet, cuttings grown from seedlings.

Understock material should be grown as carefully as the finest named variety. Regular feedings, sprayings, transplanting, root expansion, all the practices commonly observed in the production of varieties grown to be sold as names plants, are necessary for maximum success with grafted camellias.

These notes taken from an article by David Cook which appeared in the Camellia Review for 1948.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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

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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.

CAMELLIA REVIEWER

from Page 2

ers. And if you (who read) will only follow his example, the *Review* will be crammed full of interesting experiments and other uses of the Camellia. And don't say you haven't time—because there are still 24 hours a day for everybody.

Arkansas Traveler

Had a very interesting chat with Dorothy Johnson of the Destruxol Corporation who recently returned from a business trip east and south. She gave many talks to horticultural groups based on the main subject "The Most Important Thing in Your Garden," which is namely, soil.

She noted much interest in the growing of Camellias but said perhaps the place which seemed to have the greatest surge of enthusiasm was in Little Rock, Arkansas where she talked to the Garden Club and its members were most interested in her soil talk as it pertained to Camellias. She reports that there seems to be a lot of oil money there and new home projects all of which helps with the fostering of Camellias.

Seeds Go Every Which Way

Have you started your new seedlings yet? Camellia seeds are being requested by the hundreds—and even by the thousands this year in fresh enthusiasm. Who wouldn't have hope that somewhere among his seeds another 'Reg Ragland' would develop or an entirely new exotic beauty? The interesting thing about requests this year is that so many are coming in from gardens considered outside of Camellia-growing localities. From these we expect to have reports; so keep on reading—or, if you are among these indicated, please send on information about your experiences with the seeds even before we get around to writing you.

What Do You See?

We are often fascinated by speculating on what different people see when they look at a fine blooming Camellia plant. Perhaps their ideas would run something like this:

The nurseryman—"Will it sell?"

The botanist—"Is this a true peony form?"

The florist—"Will these blooms make good corsage material?"

The landscape architect — "That foliage would look well against the fieldstone on the east side of Smith's house."

A Japanese—"I will write a poem."

The photographer—"Now if I can get just the right light—"

And your Editor see words and words and words. Who can we inveigle into writing the best words about the plant so that *Review* readers can enjoy it?

Wonder what the Camellia thinks about these people who pass before it? Probably it is not nearly as inspired as the viewers. We'll say this about it for sure. Without rancor, without jealousy it minds its own business and blooms its best.

A Bright, Bright Camellia

To Betty Councilman whose days have been hospital days for several months, but whose 1,000's of Camellias welcomed her home recently to surround her with vigorous encouragement.

She Can't Be 80

But a fine big 'Pink Perfection' to our contributor Charlotte Hoak who belies the 80 years she celebrated last month. Didn't we say recently that Horticulture furnished the Fountain of Youth? Plentifully sprinkled with Camellias, that is.

'Tis the Season to be Jolly

And here's a Christmas wish tucked into every petal of every one of your Camellias from your friend

Liz

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Camellias
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