

THE

# Camellia Review



*C. japonica* 'Yuki-Botan' ('Pride of Descanso')  
Courtesy Descanso Distributors

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society

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# *Southern California Camellia Society Inc.*

An organization devoted to the advancement of the Camellia for the benefit of mankind—physically, mentally, and inspirationally.

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, San Marino. 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.

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## **THE CAMELLIA REVIEW**

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 Meetings held 1st Monday of month, October through April, alternating between  
 Alexandria, Virginia; Washington, D.C., and Chevy Chase, Maryland
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# Camellia Reviewer

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ELIZABETH BEEBE

## On to the Show

"All roads lead to Rome," they used to say. But that was long ago and far away for today and maybe at this very moment that you are reading this, around here all roads are leading to the Descanso Gardens in La Canada where the four southern California Camellia Societies have collaborated on one grand and mammoth Camellia Show. From Northern California to our affiliate the San Diego Camellia Society, camellia blooms and their growers and admirers are gathering. What more beautiful background than Descanso Gardens with their wide spreading live oaks through which a clear stream wanders and reflects camellia plantings and spring flowers? It is impossible not to state flatly that nowhere are finer camellias to be seen than here at this 1957 Camellia Show.

## On to Spring

The best part of musing at this moment is that this is only February and as some comedian used to say, "It's only the begining, folks." Spring is barely here and after a slow start in most capricious California winter (?) weather, camellia buds are everywhere as eagerly waiting to burst out as puppies on leashes.

## Old but Not Antique

We were interested in hearing a discussion the other day about old Camellias. Unlike old soldiers, they usually don't just "fade away," but keep on growing and growing. The first container is outgrown, the second container is outgrown and now what? With the inevitable new camellias that make their way to every grower there comes a time when there is definitely no more ground space. The camellia-philes we heard talking about this problem didn't have much solution.

What do you do with yours — dear readers? After all one can't be overgrown by beauty pleasant or not. And with the big surge of interest in "companion planting" to dramatize the camellias, there is less space left than ever. We'll expect your solutions to this — a real problem.

## They Go Patriotic

And did you notice that the President's Reviewing Stand was banked with Camellias? A good omen for the new term.

## As Fitting as a Petal on a Camellia

The most appropriate name we have become aware of lately is that borne by Mrs. Handy, Editor of the Golden Gardens Magazine. Her first name is "Fern." We presume it is also very appropriate that she has been honored by the official "thanks and appreciation" of the Redwood Empire Association for her contribution to the "progressive development of the Redwood Empire, both sides of the Golden Gate Bridge during 1955-56." We'd like to add our congratulations.

## How Many Now?

An interesting item was brought out by the S C C S program chairman recently. In glancing over an 1875 City Directory of the city of Los Angeles he noted that it consisted of 13,000 inhabitants with 65 saloon keepers listed and one nurseryman. The latter seems to have dropped from sight as his name was unfamiliar. O, it all doesn't prove much except that if the nurseryman represented one seed he certainly fostered a world of horticulture.

## What — No "I"?

Asking Holland where his lovely wife "O-neesha" was brought out the information that we were pronouncing her name wrongly and that most people who spoke of the flower named for her also called it "O-neesha." Seems that the real pronunciation is "O-neeta." Mrs. Holland was named

(Continued on Page 24)

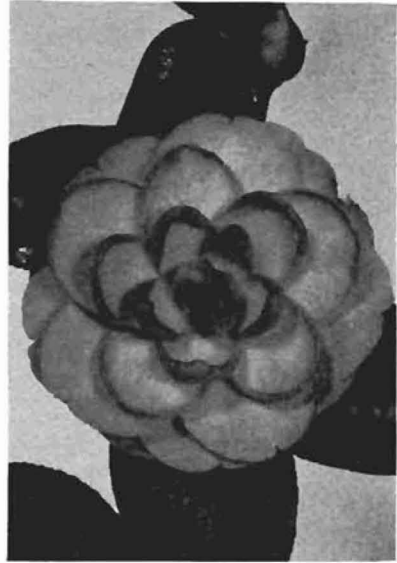
## HUNTINGTON GARDENS PRODUCE A NEW BEAUTY

A chance seedling that will go far to encourage camellia seed propagators is one developed at the Huntington Camellia Gardens by William Hertrich, Curator Emeritus, and whose bloom has inspired him to name the plant 'Contrast.'

The flower is startlingly outstanding and interesting. The inrolled margins of its petals are of deep rose creating a vivid contrast with the pale pink face of the petals and underside of the flower. The photograph shows a young bloom. As it ages, the tight center unfolds until there is a mass of small petals all with tip edges of deep rose turning inward, while the outer larger petals remain a pale pink with only their rims the rose color.

'Contrast' is blooming now for its third year, a graft already about two-and-one-half feet in height. The blooming season begins early in December. It has the excellent qualities of being self-cleaning and also lasting, as blooms remain in excellent condition on the plant at least a week.

'Contrast' has not yet been regis-



*C. japonica* 'Contrast'

tered. Mr. Hertrich prophesies that as a formal double of medium size and with its beauty and long-lasting characteristics 'Contrast' should make an elegant cut flower.

## NEW REGISTRATIONS

*Approved by the Registration Committee of the SCCS*

*C. japonica* 'Cardinal' was originated by E. H. Carter of Monterey Park, California. A seedling, the first bloom occurred in 1952, the plant now being eight years old. One of its parents is 'Paeoniaeflora' the other unknown. The flower is bright red, of peony form ranging from 3½" to 4", blooming in January. The plant is upright of rapid growth with large, dark green leaves.

*C. japonica* 'Carter's Cardinal' is also an origination of E. H. Carter of Monterey Park, California. The seedling is eight years old, bloomed for

the first time in 1952 and claims 'Paeoniaeflora' as a parent. The flower is of peony form, of blush white with stripes of deep pink which are sometimes broad. It measures from 4" to 4½" and blooms in December. The plant is compact and upright in growth, of average growing time and has large, dark green leaves.

*C. japonica* 'Miss Hollywood' is also an origination of E. H. Carter of Monterey Park, California. This is a seedling of 'Strawberry Blonde,' is nine years old and first bloomed in

*(Continued on Page 24)*

# INTERNATIONAL INTEREST IN HYBRIDS

by RALPH PEER

The camellia hybridizing experiments which in modern times were initiated in England by John C. Williams about the year 1930, have now spread to many countries. Probably the first controlled crosses between camellia species occurred in Buddhist Temple Gardens in Southern China and Tonkin, more than one thousand years ago, but we have no exact information and little knowledge of the results. The theory has been advanced that some very old varieties of the Kunming *reticulatas* are actually hybrids of *C. reticulata* and *C. pitardii* or other species.

There are many varieties and several "species" whose existence has been known for a hundred years or more which may possibly be hybrids of completely unknown origin. In Japan for example, the "species" *wabisuke* of which there are at least five different varieties does not bear seed, has not been found in the wild form and has all of the characteristics of a hybrid. From that country we also have *C. vernalis* (Dawn) which originally was listed by Japanese botanists as *C. japonica* x *sasanqua*, but in more recent years we think it most likely that this is a hybrid of unknown origin. Another Japanese importation *C. sukiya* has hybrid characteristics, but is of unknown origin. There are at least five other Japanese items falling into similar categories.

A camellia found growing in a Buddhist Temple Garden in Tonkin bearing yellow flowers five inches in diameter may be a hybrid, but is still listed as a separate species.

About 1924, Mr. George Forrest, famous British plant explorer, sent back to his friends in England seeds labeled *camellia speciosia*. Some of these seeds were germinated in 1927 and it at once became apparent to the English gardeners that not one but several species were involved. From these seeds were obtained plants which later were identified as:

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*saluenensis*  
*reticulata*  
*pitardii*  
*tsaii*  
*taliensis*

The name "speciosia" was abandoned because it actually comprised several identifiable species.

The first hybrids from this lot of seeds occurred at Caerhays Castle, the estate of John C. Williams, Esq, in Cornwall. Two important varieties resulted—'J. C. Williams' and 'Mary Christian.' Many years later, crosses of *saluenensis* x *japonica* were given the name *camellia* 'williamsii' to honor the originator.

Mr. Williams was also responsible for *saluenensis* x *cuspidata* which produced the variety 'Cornish Snow' and the lesser known 'Winton.' During the 1930's, hybrids of *saluenensis* x *japonica* and *saluenensis* x *reticulata* were produced in England at Exbury, Borde Hill, and Bodnant.

Since 1948, hybridizing experiments have been carried on in England, Australia, additional *C. williamsii* have been named, notably: 'Barbara Hillier' and 'Elizabeth Rothschild' in England, and 'Margaret Waterhouse' in Australia. In new Zealand, Dr. B. Doak, has produced a series of hybrids thought to be *saluenensis* x *reticulata*, the principal named variety being 'Phil Doak.'

In the United States, activity along this line has centered in California. The Armstrong Nursery, known principally for their highly successful

production of new roses has, during the past seven or eight years, conducted camellia hybridizing experiments. A *saluenensis* cross is currently being tested and may be introduced commercially. Dr. W. E. Lammerts produced at Descanso Gardens, successful crosses of *japonica x reticulata* and *japonica x cuspidata*. Mr. Vernon James of Campbell, California, has offered commercially, three hybrids: *saluenensis x cuspidata x japonica*. Mr. David Feathers of Lafayette, California, has produced many crosses experimentally. He has seedling plants of *japonica x reticulata* and is presently working with *saluenensis*. Mr. Ronnie Carr of Tulare, California, has struck out for himself in an entirely new direction and has crosses which he believes to be *oleifera x sasanqua*.

Mr. Donald Stryker of Langlois, Oregon, has produced new varieties of *C. williamsii*, one of which is destined for commercial introduction.

Mr. Felix Jury of Waitara, New Zealand, has crossed successfully, *reticulata x sasanqua*. The resultant seedlings have not yet blossomed.

*Camellia pitardii* will soon become available to experimenters in this country, and should be of particular interest because its chromosome count is 45, the same as *reticulata*, *oleifera* and *sasanqua*. In 1950, Dr. T. T. Yu, a Chinese botanist, reported during a meeting in London, that *pitardii x reticulata* crosses had been made

successfully in Kunming, China. Shortly afterward, however, the Bamboo Curtain descended and no confirmation has been possible.

From the Garden Department in Hong Kong, has come the startling announcement of the new species *C. granthamiana*, producing single flowers having a diameter of more than 4½ inches. The chromosome count has not been determined, but this species will certainly be the subject of hybridizing experiments as soon as it can be made generally available.

Although we have been unable to contact Chinese botanists during the last few years, reports have filtered in through London that the Chinese have discovered a large number of new camellia species and, in addition, a new genus of plants allied to camellia. These new discoveries emphasize the additional possibilities to be available in future years.

Combining species to produce hybrids, will require many years of intensive investigation. The burden of this work will fall mostly on amateur growers—the results from camellia hybridizing experiments have little commercial importance. In the long run, however, the most important developments will result from combining the good qualities of two or more species. Let us hope that interest in this subject all over the world will, at least, keep pace with revived international interest in camellias generally.

## OUR MOST BEAUTIFUL JAPONICA SEEDLING

### **BILLIE McCASKILL**

Deeply fimbriated, exquisitely shaded soft pink semi-double. Extremely floriferous, compact bush.

**Grafts — 12-18"—\$10.00; 18-24"—\$12.50 and \$15.00**

## **McCASKILL GARDENS**

25 SOUTH MICHILLINDA AVE.

EAST PASADENA, CALIF.

## THE JANUARY S C C S MEETING BURSTS INTO BLOOM

Camellias came into their own again at the January meeting of the SCCS with the familiar sight of fine blooms rainbowing over several tables and daring the judges to choose among them.

A very large attendance once again affirmed the magnetic power of the plant with many of the audience making long trips to be present. President Edwards Metcalf welcomed all graciously while special mention was made of the many visitors. President Metcalf announced the invitation of the San Diego Society of the SCCS for the latter to participate in the Camellia Show at San Diego scheduled for February 16th and 17th.

Ralph Peer, Chairman of the Nominating Committee was called on for the report on the decisions of that committee which includes William Wylam, Al Dekker and Edward Sinnot. Nominated for a one-year term of service on the Executive Board were Mrs. Vern McCaskill, Edwards Metcalf and Eleanor Hayward. For a two-year term, Caryll Pitkin, Joe Kapp and Merle Gish. If no other nominations are received which conform to the By laws of the Society, the above members will elect officers from these Board members.

The program was then turned over to its Chairman, William Cuzner, who commented that the speaker needed no introduction and merely announced that C. Jacques Hahn, landscape architect and horticulturist would speak.

With pots of healthy camellias on the table by him, Mr. Hahn commenced by saying that he was not going to give any cut and dried and boring lecture. He kept his word, holding the Society enthralled with pertinent and interesting information on ways with Camellias.

Mr. Hahn is partial to the use of camellias as accent plants—potted for the terrace and for Bonsai, of which he is a recognized expert. He suggested that by proper pruning, a formal type to use on either side of a door was preferable to most any

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other type of plant. Indeed he declared that the Greek laurel is the only other shrub that lasts as long as the camellia. He spoke of the variety 'Covina' that will thrive in pots in the sun while, on the other hand, the camellia is unique in affording rich color in deep shade. He mentioned its use for hedges, deploring the practice of clipping them as a camellia hedge is much more attractive when foliage is pinched off in proper shaping and pruned not oftener than twice a year.

The larger part of Mr. Hahn's talk related to Bonsai and he gave much information for the development of them. Japanese in origin, many types of trees and plants can be used for this fascinating objective but in choosing there are many considerations. For the camellia for instance it is wisest to choose a variety that naturally has a smallish bloom; the *sasanqua* species lends itself admirably on this point. A small bloom *japonica* that is pendulous in growth with leaves of small type is also good to use, for a most important consideration is the proportionate small size of leaf and flower. The smaller the plant can be grown, the more valuable it becomes. Thickness of stem and an aged look are very important with size of leaf and flower in proportion to it. "It is amazing what you can do in Bonsai," remarked Mr. Hahn, "And," he added, "amazing the time they take."

All Bonsai have a three-point shape and are to be looked at from



one side only, two goals to keep in mind. A third and perhaps surprising one to many of the audience was Mr. Hahn's emphatic declaration that Bonsai are not indoor plants at all; that it is dangerous to even put one in a house for an afternoon. The dry air of a house will wreck any Bonsai in a very short time.

On the cultural side of potted camellias Mr. Hahn said he repots the equivalent of 7-inch pots every three years. Potting mixture for Bonsai is the same as that for ordinary potted camellias—that of a good commercial mixture. Mr. Hahn recommends that compost be at least two years old and be very rich, at least 18% nitrogen. For Bonsai, cut the feeding at least one third, and feed only when new growth starts.

True Bonsai show to their best advantage in shallow pots in which

there must be perfect drainage. Place pieces of crockery on the bottom with curve upward, over holes, then pebbles or sharp sand and compost. The well-rooted plant can then be placed properly in the pot and the compost pressed very, very firmly down. The form of plant must be well established and the plant wired in proper shape.

The most exciting and dramatic climax of Mr. Hahn's talk was his demonstration of his above-described technique. Taking a fine luxuriant potted *sasanqua*, he first placed it in a shallow container and then with apparent ruthlessness but with a deft hand, cut away large parts of it, soon exhibiting a proper form of Bonsai. The accompanying photograph shows this plant.

One of the high moments of every

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Before the eyes of the interested audience, Mr. Hahn took the large bush *sasanqua* from McCaskill Gardens and transplanted to a shallow container at an angle, slashed and trimmed with definite shape in mind. The result is to all purposes a beautiful Bonsai camellia, which seems to surprise Mrs. Vern McCaskill. For this to be a true Bonsai, however, it will have to be grown and kept in this shape for many years.

## TO THE LADIES

by CHARLOTTE HOAK

February is the planting month for deciduous material and hardy evergreens both broad-leaved ones and conifers. I am often amazed that in our zeal for adding more and more camellias to our overstocked gardens, we neglect to plant any amount at all of the wealth of good material which comes to us from the homeland of the camellia.

Over and over again we heard the significant phrase, "China, the Mother of Gardens." E. H. Wilson, plant explorer, lovingly called "Chinese Wilson," found it so, and in his extensive treks into Western China, especially Yunnan, he brought a wealth of splendid plant material which was hitherto unknown to the gardening world. Read through his fascinating books and whom can you find of all the explorers who opened up our garden vistas for us more? One of the most beautiful lilies from that region, the stately Regal Lily which has graced our gardens so many years and is the forerunner of the new Olympic Hybrids came from these inaccessible wilds. In fact he risked his life to get it and the limp which he carried until he died was acquired on the last journey into this wilderness of rugged mountains and rushing rivers.

At this season of the year, when deciduous materials can be set out so easily with bare roots, add a few desirable ones to your gardens. They take the same slightly acid soil, thrive in leaf-moldy mixtures, and add touches of color to your otherwise monotonous gardens of nothing but camellias. If you are a devotee to flower arrangements, you can find nothing more charming and colorful than some of these radiant blooms which herald our late winter and early spring.

Now don't rush out and buy a bridal-wreath or an Eastern lilac because your Aunt Jenny had them in Pennsylvania, when there are hundreds of other plants which you can use more effectively. The grace of young spring is in the flowering almonds, the flowering peaches and the apples.

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Years ago I had a lovely flowering almond, *Prunus triloba* in my garden. It stood close by the entrance gate and never seemed to grow and get ungainly and straggly as so many flowering trees do. Early in the spring it was literally loaded with double blush-pink sprays, beautiful for cutting. It was backed by a heavy evergreen. I think it was the evergreen which is overlooked in our gardens for its background value, *Pittosporum tobira*. Then there are the smaller bush almonds, pink and white and rose, which are attractive to put in just for old times' sake. Our grandmothers called them "Aaron's Rod," and many a root or cutting came West in the packing trunks of pioneer brides.

Chinese magnolias are costly, but once installed in your garden they are long lived and beautiful. Of course we are all familiar with *Magnolia soulangeana*, the garden hybrid, but unless you have a large garden space it gets out of bounds, attaining a veritable tree size with age. Only Descanso Gardens or the Huntington Botanical Gardens have space enough for such wide spreaders. My favorite is *M. liliiflora*. It keeps a bush form. By the way, it is the one which Lafayette brought to Mt. Vernon in 1824 and planted near the Conservatory. Twice it suffered from fire but it survived because it stump-sprouted. I found it there when I visited Mt. Vernon and asked the director to make a picture of it. If you are con-

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# THE 1957 CAMELLIA SHOW

Place: Descanso Gardens, La Canada, California.

Time: Cut Flower Show, March 2nd and 3rd—Flower Arrangements, March 9th and 10th.

Caryll Pitkin, Chairman of the Camellia Show says, "Why be modest about it? This is going to be the world's greatest camellia display."

This seems to be the consensus of opinion as the best of old show traditions and the introduction of new ideas are blending into a mammoth project of beauty.

"New on the coast," says Mr. Pitkin, "and probably an innovation anywhere is the plan whereby we will have the various divisions and departments housed in several tents connected by covered walkways winding through the beautiful plantings at Descanso. Commercial growers will have their choice of exhibiting in a tent or along the walkways connecting the tents."

A total of 17 beautiful trophies will be awarded various winners in the cut flower and arrangements shows and many rosettes with the usual Blue, Red and White and Special Awards. A new type of entry card is being used which is simpler for the exhibitor to fill out, easier for the viewer to identify and will be much handier for the accounting committee.

The multi-bloom division has been expanded (see Show Regulations) and it should be especially noted that growers may enter as many entries in a class as they wish. Everyone is urged to bring their choice blooms. Of course everyone can't win but remember that the public loves to see a Big Display and perhaps the non-winning blooms may be more of an encouragement to the general grower than so many super-super flowers.

Mr. Pitkin makes a special plea for anyone who can spare the time to come and help. Contact the Chairman you want to aid. The list follows:

## Committee Chairmen

Mr. Caryll Pitkin .....	<i>Show Chairman</i>
Mr. Frank Ramsey .....	<i>Assistant Chairman</i>
Mr. Joseph Kapp .....	<i>Receiving</i>
Mr. John Robinson .....	<i>Registration</i>
Mr. Wilbur Foss .....	<i>Placement</i>
Mr. William Wylam .....	<i>Judges</i>
Mr. August Kapp .....	<i>Judges' Clerks</i>
Mr. I. M. Kreighbaum .....	<i>Trophies</i>
Mr. Andrew Calderwood .....	<i>Trophy Display</i>
Mr. Edwards Metcalf .....	<i>Commercial Displays</i>
Mr. Harold Dryden .....	<i>Coordination</i>
Mr. Dan Roberts .....	<i>Accounting</i>
Mr. Alton Parker .....	<i>Adviser</i>
Mr. R. F. Dickson .....	<i>Publications</i>

## Show Regulations

### Los Angeles Camellia Council Ltd.

- (1) Registration will start at 7:00 A.M. and will close at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, March 2, 1957. Entry cards may be obtained from any member of the Registration Committee. Nomenclature is subject to the review of the Registration Committee.
- (2) No exhibit will be dismantled prior to 6:00 P.M. on Sunday, March 3.
- (3) The exhibit area will be closed from 10:00 A.M. and remain closed until approximately 1:30 on March 2, dependent upon completion of

## THE 1957 CAMELLIA SHOW

the judging. Only those connected with the judging will be permitted in the exhibit area during these hours. Judging will start promptly at 11:00 A.M.

- (4) All entries must be made according to schedule. No awards or ribbons will be given unless the exhibits are sufficiently meritorious and up to standard. In Division No. 1 exhibitors are permitted only one bloom of each variety.
- (5) All blooms entered must have been grown by the exhibitor.
- (6) All blooms with multiple names will be exhibited as representative of one variety. The latest edition of the Southern California Camellia Society's "Camellia Nomenclature" will be the authority for classification.
- (7) All exhibits from registration time to the close of the show are under the control of the Exhibits Committee and exhibitors are subject to these rules as a condition of entry. This Committee reserves the right to exclude any unsuitable material. All blooms will be held by this Committee for destruction after the show. All exhibitors using returnable properties will be present at 6:00 P.M., March 3 to claim their properties. This Committee will not be responsible for these properties.



Discussing plans for the Camellia Show to be held in Descanso Gardens from March 2-10 are Frank Ramsey, Jr. (Alhambra), Assistant Show Chairman; Mrs. Rose Gish (Riverside), Flower Arrangements Chairman; and Caryl Pitkin (San Marino), Show Chairman. The Camellia Show is being co-sponsored by the Los Angeles Camellia Council, Ltd., and the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. Cut Flowers, in competition, will be featured March 2-8; Flower Arrangements will highlight March 9 and 10.

# THE 1957 CAMELLIA SHOW

- (8) No signs, placards or such material will be permitted on any exhibit except those supplied or approved by the Chairman.
- (9) The Show Committee will provide as much protection as possible but will not assume any responsibility for loss or damage to any exhibit regardless of cause.
- (10) Containers for all exhibits will be furnished by the Exhibits Committee.
- (11) No one may enter exhibits as an amateur who engages in the sale of plants or flowers for any part of his livelihood, or a supplementary income, or receives pay as a gardener, garden consultant or landscape architect, etc.
- (12) Exhibitors need not be members of any of the sponsoring Camellia Societies.
- (13) Judges will disqualify themselves while their exhibits are being judged.
- (14) Camellias grown under glass must be entered in Division 7.
- (15) All blooms will be placed on exhibit tables by the Placement Committee and exhibitors will not be permitted in the exhibit area until the show is opened to the public except when prior arrangement has been made with the Registration Chairman.

## Schedule

- (1) Specimen blooms will be arranged according to the variety in alphabetical order. Varieties that produce variegated and self colored flowers will be placed in separate classes.
- (2) No exhibitor may show more than one entry of a variety (cultivar) in each class except in Division 3. All members of any one family will be considered as a single exhibitor.
- (3) Stems up to one inch and as many as two leaves will be permitted on blooms.
- (4) Sweepstakes winner will be awarded on the highest number of points received in Divisions 1, 2, 3 and Class 1 of Division 4. However, no points will be considered toward sweepstakes from classifications in which there are less than three entries.

1st place .....	three (3) points
2nd place .....	two (2) points
3rd place .....	one (1) point
Special award .....	no (0) points

## Judging Scale

Size according to variety .....	10%
Form .....	25%
Color .....	25%
Substance and texture .....	25%
Condition .....	10%
Distinctiveness .....	5%

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## Errata

Under "Chromosome Counts of Camellia Species and Hybrids," p. 7, January 1957 Review, please note following corrections:

'Cornish Snow' is *C. saluenensis* x *C. cuspidata*.  
*C. 'williamsii'* is *saluenensis* x *japonica*.

# CAMELLIAS IN CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

By RONNIE CARR

There have been numerous articles written on the hardiness of camellias, along with the colorful description of many varieties. However, this information has pertained to Camellias, either grown in the Southern States, or of those raised in Northern and Southern California. Nothing to very little has ever been published in regard to the Camellia as seen by those who treasure it in Central California. Most of all people are not well informed as to what varieties do best in Central California along with those that are not desirable. Since Central California covers much territory, there are vast amounts of camellias planted in this area and the planting has not finished. There are countless people desiring more plants for their gardens. With the thousands of new homes going up each year there will be more and more new camellia fanciers. These people, and the old collectors, will want only the best for their perhaps limited space. It is up to the local nurserymen to be able to recommend the suitable varieties. Most of the literature in the hands of the nurserymen is based on conditions elsewhere. Practically all color pictures of camellias are from flowers grown in the Southern States.

What makes growing camellias in Central California so different than any other part of the State? For one thing, a blistering summer that gives many a day of over 105 degrees and up to a roasting point of 115 degrees. In Central California the peak of the blooming season is usually in February and March. If early warm weather hits, the flowers are forced open quickly and swiftly wilt and fade under the warm sun and exhausting humidity. On the other hand, if the season is early, then old man winter will "frost" our blooms and turn them brown. Then in many cases the first flowers are damaged by rain. It seems that two elements play a big role in the quality of season to be had in Central California. Early frost and rain at one end and old hot summer at the other. To overcome some of

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the weather complexities, I suggest what I consider the ideal camellia setting. Under these conditions few camellias will pass on to where ever camellias go when they die. If growing good camellias is your goal and you want to fight back at mother nature, then plant your specimens or the little ones on the East side of the house. This gives them all the healthful morning sun and protects them from those dangerous afternoon hours of between one and four. Make sure that your plants are set two feet or more out from the house. This eliminates to some degree the rain water from dripping off the roof onto your early blossoms and causing damage. Also as the plants become older they will not be crowded against the wall, giving them a lopsided appearance. A good drainage is always a must if your soil is hard and holds water for any length of time. Camellias thrive in a rich top sandy soil. With a sandy soil you never will over-water. One of the most important features in growing good camellias is watering sufficiently in the summer months. Your plants must never dry out to the point where they wilt. So many times you will see a person go on a two-week vacation in the middle of summer and come home to camellias that are in a state of shock and dehydration. This type of person will then immediately call the local nurseryman and ask why his camellias look like they are dying. The only way the camellias, owned by the type of person mentioned above, can get

even with their negligent owner, is to bloom so that they can do nothing but embarrass him or her.

More articles on camellias, a la Central California experience, are needed to aid the newcomers in selecting their plants. Such data will also help greatly the Central California nurseryman, for it will make it much easier to sell camellias and help eliminate the sale of varieties that will only result in a customer being not fully satisfied.

For nearly twenty years I have been observing some thousand or so varieties of *Camellia japonica*. This has taken place in Tulare, where it can get as hot as you want it. From my association with these plants I have been able to make many worthy deductions. Mainly I have been interested in seeing what varieties would withstand the elements the best year in and year out, for it is the dependable varieties each season that we are looking for.

Space will not permit me to mention all the favorites of mine. I shall instead, describe the top thirteen varieties, to my way of thinking.

#### *Cardinal Richelieu*

Here is truly a superb flower that has received very little attention among collectors. In our area the flowers are large, rose red, irregular semi-double to full peony. The petals are twisted and fluted and some stamens are visible. The flowers are heavy and often times will weigh the branches downward. Most attractive and dependable. Mid-season. Hardy grower.

#### *C. M. Wilson (Grace Burkhard)*

Flowers usually of medium size, anemone form, with clusters of stamens and petaloids in the center. The color is light pink with the outer petals almost white. Deeper pink near the center of flower. Veining in petals is very noticeable in this variety. On older plants the flowers become larger

and resemble more its parent, 'Elegans'. There is an inferior flower on the market under the same name that is not to be confused with the true 'C. M. Wilson'. The foliage is identical; however, the flower is much smaller and more semi-double. Slow spreading grower.

#### *Finlandia Variegated (Aurora Borealis)*

This is one of the top varieties. Large, semi-double with swirled and fluted petals. Beautiful golden stamens. The color is white streaked crimson and sometimes pink. A fast hardy grower that blooms in profusion. Early to mid-season.

#### *General George Patton (Pink Purity)*

Another beauty. Large flowers of choice bright pink. Rose form double. Shows stamens when the weather is warm. Will sometimes have flowers that are star-shaped. Tall grower with light green foliage. Mid-season.

#### *Gigantea (Emperor Wilhelm)*

One of the very best variegated type. Flowers large, semi-double of dark red marbled white. Will often show all forms of flowers. Single, anemone and peony. Makes a poor specimen plant. Foliage large and dark green. Mid-season.

#### *Herme (Jordan's Pride)*

This is one of the old timers. Medium size flowers. Pink petals with irregular white border and streaked pink and red. Form semi-double with golden stamens. This variety has been the parent of countless offsprings. Has produced many sports and seedlings. A very choice example is in 'Colonial Lady'. Mid-season.

#### *Lady Mary Cromartie*

One of my favorites. Very large flowers of deep rose pink. Semi-double to loose peony form with intermixed stamens. The variegated form of this is also very desirable. A strong grower and makes a beautiful specimen. Mid-season.

*Lallarook (Laurel Leaf)*

Truly a show piece. Medium to large flowers of pink with occasional marble of white. Formal double. On many plants there will appear flowers that are rather flat and have incurved petals. The foliage is very similar to that of a laurel. Good grower and makes a wonderful specimen. Mid-season.

*Lila Lee (Plant Patent No. 891)*

Here is a good white that has not found its way into most gardens. Medium size, peony form. The flowers have a tufted center and last well even in rain. Upright grower. Early to mid-season.

*Mathotiana (Julia Drayton)*

Probably the "Queen" of the garden. Very large flowers of rose color. Deep veining in each flower petal. Rose form to formal double. Strong grower and hardy under all conditions. A show piece on the plant or as cut flowers. Mid-season to late.

*Monjisu (California)*

*Donckelari Variegated)*

This is my favorite of the variegated type. Medium size flowers of vivid red marbled white. Rose form double with golden stamens. Slow grower with dark green foliage. Dependable every season. Mid-season. A must for any collection.

*Orchid Pink (Sport of Colonial Lady)*

Here is another favorite of mine. Medium size flowers of delicate orchid pink, often spotted with white. Each petal is bordered a deeper and richer pink. Heavy veining in each flower petal. Truly a must and here is one with a slight fragrance. Habit of growth is that of the 'Herme' family. Mid-season.

*Victory White*

Without a doubt the best white camellia for Central California. Very large flowers of semi-double to loose peony with stamens intermixed. Vigorous, upright grower. Dark green foliage. A free bloomer. Mid-season.

The following are all splendid varieties and highly recommended. Each is suitable for the weather conditions of Central California. Adolphe Audusson Special, Anita, Baronne de Bleichroeder, Berenice Boddy, California, Claudia Phelps, Covina, Donckelarii (Tea Garden), Dr. W. G. Lee Red, Eugene Lize (Lady Jane Grey), Firebrand, Florence Daniell, Glenn Allan Variegated, Iwane, Jessica, Lurie's Favorite, Marchioness of Salisbury, Margaret Higdon, Martha Brice, Minnie Maddern Fiske, Mme. Hahn, Morning Glow, Mrs. Bertha A. Harms, Mrs. Freeman Weiss, Senator Duncan Fletcher, St. Andre, Tiara Variegated, K. Sawada.

The following I would consider as being suited for other locations, however, in my experience they have not done well in Central California. Napoleon D'Italie, Anna Bruneau, Uncle Sam, Blood of China, Conflagration, Countess of Orkney, Duchesse de Caze, Duncan Bell, Elizabeth, Eureka Variegated, Lady Hume's Blush, Mrs. K. Sawada, Margarete Hertrich, Pope Pius IX.

The next group I have found on occasion to be lovely, but they will have as many bad years as good. You will undoubtedly find some in this list that do well for you. In my opinion they have two good years out of five. Black Prince, Arrabella, Lotus, C. M. Hovey (Col. Firey), Eleanor Hagood, Panache, Paeoniaeflora, Pax, Sov. De Bahuaud Litou.

*Ed. note: Mr. Carr roughly defines the area of Central California as that between Sacramento and Bakersfield. His personal experiences in the form of flowers covers the area fifty miles north of and fifteen miles south of Tulare. He points out that a few miles makes a difference in time of blooming and also sometimes in form. However, his observations should apply to camellia propagation in other locations having similar climatic conditions.*



## QUALITY IS MORE DESIRABLE THAN QUANTITY

by MILO E. ROWELL, Sacramento

In 1947 "The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature", 50 pages, single column, large print, listed the varieties of clones of *Camellia japonica* then known to be in cultivation to its highly skilled and knowledgeable editors. Roughly, this included 620 varieties. Nine years later, in the 1956 issue, 73 pages, double column, smaller print was required to list approximately 1900 varieties and rumor has it there are now in excess of 3000 varieties.

As every camellia enthusiast knows, each year more homemakers are planting a few camellias and in a few years many become enthusiasts, of which many become society members. Even when advised by speakers at meetings, writers in Reviews or Annuals, conversation with enthusiasts and advice by nurserymen, it is difficult for the novice or advanced enthusiast to avoid acquiring an undue number of fine grafting stocks at substantial cost. Under such circumstances, any guide of assistance to all of us in selection of new acquisitions should be welcome.

One possible assistance could be based on a technique used by the Rhododendron Group of the The Royal Horticultural Society. The members of the group are requested to rate the various species and hybrids grown by them into five classifications from no stars to four stars. In addition to the five classes so graded, a special list of those considered "no longer up to the standard worthy of growing" is included. Such a list would seriously discourage further propagation of such camellias. This could be done

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by including ballots in the various camellia publications to all of their memberships, thus getting a very broad opinion. The compilation of answers by each society and again in averaging all the societies' results might be an excessive burden to place on our volunteers. One decided advantage, however, would be that each area would have a local preference list of those varieties thriving best in the area.

Should this broad coverage be too great an undertaking at the beginning, it would be possible to start the rating by a compilation of the opinions of the various show judges or a group selected by some other means. If this succeeds and assists in solving the problem, the demand of fanciers would soon cause the techniques of the survey to be improved and perhaps localized.

Various local societies have carried on limited surveys. One that readily comes to mind is the report of the Northern California Society in January 1955 under a committee headed by Harold L. Paige, where 100 ca-

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mellias were reported on by twenty growers, both amateur and commercial, as to their satisfactory growth in Northern California and sun tolerance. This, however, did not cover the field which is becoming more important as the number of cultivars increases. Such a survey should include desirable growth, characteristics, form, leafage, vigor, and similar classifications; perhaps there is marked similarity in the flower, in color, form, and season of bloom, and the elimination of the poorer examples would be helpful.

It may well be that the group listed in the classification "no longer up to the standard worthy of growing" would be the most valuable and as personal taste would have considerable bearing on the selection of the more satisfactory varieties.

## Camelliana

One of the best booklets containing all-around authentic information on camellias and camellia culture to cross our desk is the Bulletin No. 391 entitled "Camellias for the Yard" written by W. D. Kimbrough, R. H. Hanchey and J. S. Roussel and published by the Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College from the Agricultural Experiment Station whose Director is J. N. Efferson.

The bright color of the 'Ville de Nantes' on the cover extends through the booklet whose subject matter ranges from elementary classification of flower forms to Tables of scientific results of experiments of applying various materials on Soil pH of Plots in Lath house, and Spraying and Dusting Schedules.

Titles of articles include Planting, Soils, Fertilizer, Mulching, Pruning, Buds, Propagation, Layering, Cuttings, Grafting. There is also much information on diseases and pests.

This particular Bulletin is the 1956 revision and although written from the angle of southern camellia culture would be a worthwhile addition to any camellia library. The Bulletin may be obtained by requesting it.

### The Ins and Outs of Pruning

How, when and why to prune camellias will be discussed by Leslie Marshall at the February 12th meeting of the SCCS. Mr. Marshall will demonstrate with camellia subject materials and as a well known authority on camellia pruning his talk will undoubtedly be of great interest to all.

Bring your blooms — now is the time to work for points leading to the fine awards at year's end.

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# HIGO CAMELLIA

by EIKICHI SATOMI, Tokyo, and RALPH PEER, Los Angeles

During the recent war, the United States Air Force dropped bombs on Kumamoto City, a railroad center very close to the middle of the island of Kyushu, famous in camellia history as the ancestral home of *C. sasanqua*. These bombs did a tremendous amount of damage to the railroad yards and, unfortunately, wiped out the special camellia nurseries, for which this city has been famous during the last two hundred years. For centuries this city has been the center of BONSAI (miniature tree) culture, and the American bombs destroyed many outstanding examples of this art.

During the last one hundred and fifty years, the camellia nurseries of this Japanese city have specialized in, what are known as, HIGO CAMELLIAS. This is a general name for a special garden form of *C. japonica*, which has been grown in the nurseries of Kumamoto since about 1800. Most of the varieties are single, but a few of them can be described as slightly semidouble. The petals are comparatively thick, round and broad. The principal characteristic is, that each stamen is separate from other stamens instead of being joined at the base. In this respect, such camellias resemble the apricot flower and, in fact, the Japanese refer to Higo Camellias as being of the "Apricot Stamen Form."

These stamens are classified as to color; White, Soft Pink and Pale Yellow.

The principal nurseries having been destroyed, the only sources of Higos are the old trees still existing in private gardens in Kumamoto. Most of them appear to be from 60 to 100 years old. The "Higo Cult" reached its peak 50 to 60 years ago, after which, interest declined. Now Japanese camellia amateurs are again interested in Higos and an effort is being made to discover as many as possible of the old varieties.

Herewith, is a list of varieties taken from the catalogues of the Taniguchi and Yoshimura Nurseries, in Kumamoto, issued between the years 1865

and 1934. There is no doubt that many of these varieties are "lost," in the sense that they are not available in any nursery.

Only five or six of these varieties have been brought to the USA but, because of the great beauty of camellias of this type, there is no doubt that more different sorts will arrive eventually. In the nomenclature list, which follows, the Japanese name is given first and then the approximate English translation in parenthesis:

- ASAGAO (Morning Glory)  
Very Soft Pink. Very Large.
- ASAHI-NO-MAI (Dancing in the light of the dawn)  
Red. Very large.
- ASAHI-NO-MINATO (Harbor in the light of Dawn)  
Pink. Medium.
- ASAHI-ZURU (Crane at Dawn)  
Pink spotted. Medium.
- AYA-NISHIKI (Figured Brocade)  
White streaked Purplish Pink.  
Medium.
- BANYO (Setting Sun)  
Soft Rose Pink. Large.
- BENI-OSARAKU (Chief's Hobby, Red)  
Light Rose Pink. Large.
- CHOJU-RAKU (Pleasure of Longevity)  
Cherry Pink. Large.
- CHOSHO (Laughter)  
White blotched and striped Pink.  
Medium.
- CHUJO-SHIRO (Lieutenant General, White)  
White. Medium.
- EGAO (Smiling Face)  
Light Pink. Large.
- EZO (Northern People)  
Pink. Large.
- GEKKA-NO-MAI (Dance in the Moonlight)  
White. Large, leaves variegated.
- GINGA (Milky Way)  
White slightly striped Pink. Medium.
- GOSHO-KAGAMI (Royal Mirror)  
Rose Pink. Medium.

- GOSHO-ZAKURA (Cherry in the Royal Garden)  
Light Pink with White bottom. Small.
- HAFOROMO (Angel's Robe)  
Dark Pink. Medium.
- HAKU-TSURU (White Crane)  
Pure White. Large.
- HARU-NO-YUKI (Spring Snow)  
Greenish White. Medium.
- HATSU-WARAI (New Year Greeting)  
Light Pink with Darker Pink base.
- HI-NO-HAKAMA (Scarlet Skirt)  
Vermilion Red. Large.
- HI-NO-MARU (Japanese Flag)  
Dark Pink. Medium.
- HI-NO-TSUKASA (Scarlet Coated Lord)  
Scarlet. Large.
- HIODOSHI (Suit of Armour Threaded Scarlet)  
Scarlet.
- IMA-KUMAGAYA (Modern Kumagaya)  
Pure Pink. Large.
- JITSU-GETSU (Sun & Moon)  
Pink spotted Pinkish White. Large.
- KAKE-HASHI (Arched Bridge)  
White streaked Pink. Medium.
- KARA-NISHIKI (Chinese Brocade)  
White blushed Pink. Small.
- KINSHI-KO (A type of incense)  
Pink splashed and edged White. Large, semi-double.
- KIYO (Shining Sun)  
Light Pink. Medium.
- KOBAI (Pink Apricot)  
White with Pink stamens. Medium.
- KURAI-NO-HIMO (Badge indicating Royal Rank)  
Bright Red. Large.
- KYO-NISHIKI (Brocade from Kyoto)  
White streaked and spotted Pink. Medium.
- MAI-ZURU (Flying Crane)  
Greenish White. Very large.
- MANGETSU (Full Moon)  
Pure White. Medium.
- MASAYOSHI (Name of a person)  
Pink Spotted White. Large. Semi-double.
- MINE-NO-YUKI (Snow on the Peak)  
Large Pink with Darker Pink stripes which appear on each side of petals, edged White. Medium.  
(This is not the same as the sasanqua of the same name.)
- MISU-NO-UCHI (Behind the bamboo curtain)  
White slightly striped Pink. Medium.
- MIYAKO-NISHIKI (Brocade)  
Light Pink. Small.
- MOMIJI-GARI (View of Maple Trees)  
Vermilion Red. Large.
- MURAKUMO (Dense Cloud)  
Soft Pink and Darker Pink mottled by each other, edged White. Large.
- NANA-KOMACHI (Lovely girl)  
Rose Pink streaked Darker Pink. Medium.
- NARUTAKI (Place name)  
Pure White. Very large.
- OSARAKU (Chief's Hobby)  
Soft Pink. Large.
- OHTA-SHIRO (Ohta's White)  
White. Medium.
- SAKURA-GARI (View of Cherry Trees)  
Cherry Pink. Large.
- SAKURA-KOMACHI (Lovely girl with complexion of cherry blossom)  
Soft Pink. Medium.
- OZORA (Heaven's Vault)  
Light Pink. Small.
- SAKURA-TSUKASA (Lord of Cherry Blossoms)  
Cherry Pink. Large.
- SHIGURE-DAKI (Name of a waterfall)  
Soft Rose Pink spotted Darker Pink. Large.
- SHIN-NIPPON (New Japan)  
White with Pure Pink streaks on each side of petals. Large.
- SHINONOME (Dawn)  
Bright Red. Medium.
- SHIN-TSUKASA-NISHIKI (New Brocade made for a nobleman)  
White spotted Pink. Medium.
- SHIRANUHI (Phosphorescent light)  
Bright Red. Medium.
- SHIROJI-SHOKKO (Rouge made in Old China)  
White striped Pink. Medium.
- SHIRO-KOMACHI (Lovely Girl, White)  
White. Small.
- SHIRO-OSARAKU (Chief's Hobby, White)  
White. Large.
- SHOKKO (Rouge from Old China)  
White striped Pink. Medium. Pink striped White.
- SHOO (Smiling Old Man)  
Soft Pink. Medium.
- SUISHO-HAKU (Crystal White)  
Pure White. Very large.
- TAKASAGO (Old name for Formosa)  
Soft Pink. Very large.
- TANCHO (White crane with red crown)  
White. Medium.
- TSUKASA-NISHIKI (Brocade for a nobleman)  
Pink and White mottled by each other. Medium.
- UMEGAKI (Screen of apricot blossoms)  
Pink. Large.
- YAMATO-NISHIKI (Ancient Japanese Brocade)  
White streaked Pink. Large.

## FOR SALE

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

Our own book, "The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature," a 1956 revision. \$1.50 or \$.90 each in lots of not less than 12.

"Camellias in the Huntington Gardens," by William Hertrich. Vol. I and II, \$10.00 each.

"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.

"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 H. Harold Hume. \$6.00.

"Camellias in America. 1955." by H. Harold Hume. \$25.50.

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

Rare Species and Hybrids issue of the Camellia Review. 75¢ postpaid.

Sasanqua issue of the Camellia Review, 75c postpaid. 57c in orders of 25 or more.

"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.

"Camellia Varieties in Japan," edited by Eikichi Satomi, 40¢.

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## NEWS, NOTES AND NOTICES

### Pomona Valley Camellia Society

The Pomona Society members are looking forward to their meeting on Thursday evening, February 14th, when Oliver A. Batcheller will discuss "Camellias and Their Usage in Landscaping."

Final plans will be made for our Eleventh Annual Show, to be held March 9th and 10th at the Holt Avenue Branch of the California Bank.

### Temple City Society

The subject of camellia arranging is very much in the foreground now when Camellia Shows are soon to be staged and much attention focused on disposition of the beautiful blooms. Thus camellia lovers will be out in full force on the evening of Monday, February 25th to hear Rose Gish of Riverside talk on flower arranging and see her demonstrate with many types of materials that lend themselves to background for the camellias. This promises to be a gala meeting.

### TEMPLE CITY CAMELLIA SOCIETY SHOW

The Temple City Camellia Society is sponsoring its Eighth Annual Camellia Show in cooperation with the American Camellia Society and the Southern California Camellia Society. It will be held Saturday and Sunday, February 23rd and 24th in the First Western Bank and Trust Company Building on the corner of Las Tunas Boulevard and Camellia Avenue, Temple City. Admission is free to the show, but a silver donation will be accepted. This new location is in the center of Temple City and is convenient to all post parade activities of the Temple City Camellia Festival Parade and Barbeque.

The bloom competition is open to anyone who grows camellias. Blossoms for the show will be accepted Friday evening from 7:30 to 9:00 P.M., and Saturday morning from 6:30 to 9:30 A.M. Judging will start at 10:00 A.M. If you are interested in entering blooms in competition write to Ernest Pieri, Show Chairman, 601 East Elm Avenue in San Gabriel, or phone Atlantic 7-5977 for entry blanks and competition schedules.

There will be special Gold and Silver Certificate Awards from both the American Camellia and Southern California Camellia Societies. Engraved trophies will be awarded winners in Division I through V as well as Sweepstakes Winner and Best Flower of the Show, by the Temple City Camellia Society and members of the Temple City Camellia Society.

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**SCCS MEETING** (from Page 7)  
 meeting is the announcement of winners of the monthly cut flower display. For January H. L. Cutler carried off honors with his 'Doncklari' in the Novice Class with the 'Adolph Audusson' of Martin Johnson winning second and the 'Joshua Youtz' of L. L. Ramsey taking third place. Of blooms over 4 inches in diameter,

Mrs. Bonner's 'Flame' was first, the 'Reg Ragland' of Dr. Hubbs placing second and Mrs. Harold Dryden's 'Jessie Katz' judged third. In the Blooms under 4 inches Class, Carl Lennig carried off first with his 'Alba Plena,' Eleanore Hayward won second with her 'Daikagura' and Caryl Pitkin took third with his 'General Patton.'

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

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City..... Zone..... State.....

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 (signature)

**APPLICATION MAY BE MADE BY LETTER IF PREFERRED**

## Our Cover Flower

'Pride of Descanso' is an appropriately named *C. japonica* variety which was introduced by Rancho del Descanso several years ago. It is a Japanese variety properly named 'Yuki-Botan' or 'Snowish Peony.'

It is described as a white, very large, semi-double to loose peony form. It reaches peak bloom in mid-season. However, it does begin blooming sparsely in January and increases slowly until it is in full bloom in February and March.

One of the most beautiful characteristics of the plant is its large, beautiful foliage. The growth habit is vigorous and rather loose, adapting itself perfectly to mid-ground planting. It is used rather extensively in basic planting in Descanso Gardens where it can be viewed all during the camellia season.

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## **New! New! New!**

The beauty of the Camellia Gardens of the Huntington Botanical Gardens bids fair to be widely disseminated as the Huntington announces that correspondence notes are now available bearing hand-colored photographs of a scene in the Camellia Gardens there. The photograph shows a section of the garden massed with the lovely red, pink and white blooms as it is every year but caught here in its glory to inspire uncaptured viewers.

A brand new project, the Correspondence Notes are available, ten in a box with envelopes, for a dollar bill plus ten cents handling charge. Your order sent to the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, Oxford Road, San Marino, California will be promptly taken care of and afford you and your fortunate friends much pleasure.

## **JUMPING JACK!**

Grafting camellias is a routine activity for Judge Arthur Solomon of Savannah, Georgia. Occasionally however, some graft produces an unexpected result. Such was this *japonica* 'Jack McCaskill' which the good judge grafted on a three inch understock.

Apparently the name could appropriately have been changed to 'Jack and the Beanstalk' for Jack grew up to a height of six feet in a single season.

Maybe it was the climate — maybe it was the selected understock — maybe the Judge's cunning hand, maybe its heritage; anyhow here is the picture to prove what Judge Solomon can produce in a single season.

Can anyone top this?

## **Camellias of Tomorrow**

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Judge Arthur Solomon stares up unbelievably at his single-season graft.

## REGISTRATION (from Page 3)

1951. The flower is a formal double, of light pink with occasional narrow stripes speckled a darker pink. The blooms range in diameter from 3½" to 4". The compact plant is of average growth with medium sized leaves. It blooms in November.

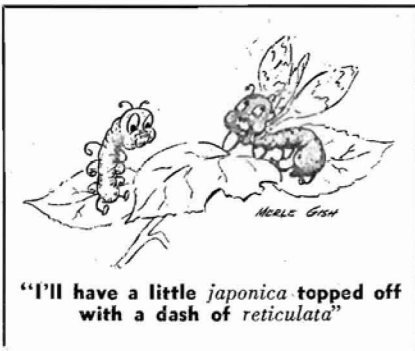
*C. japonica* 'Betty Robinson' is an origination of John C. Robinson of 3932 Alta Vista, Pasadena, California. A seedling of unknown parents, it bloomed first in 1954, being eight years old. The flower of anemone form is dark red, measuring from 4¾" in diameter to 6" and blooms from January through March. The plant is compact, upright and grows rapidly having large, dark green leaves.

## REVIEWER (from Page 2)

after an Indian maiden of that name and even after having done some research on the subject, Mr. Holland assured us that "O-neeta" was the correct version. He was unable to answer our question of what becomes of the extra "i." Usually the "i" is pretty important. It's unusual to find anyone who wants to forget one.

## Plain — Not Fancy

Although this is Valentine month, all Valentines don't have to be lace-papered to be heart warming. Our best one was the plain bit of information that memberships to the Southern California Camellia Society have increased to the point that the Society



## TO THE LADIES (from Page 8)

templating planting a Chinese magnolia, see Wilford Hagen, the tree man and tree broker, who is situated at the old Milliken Iris Garden in Arcadia. It would pay you to get in touch with him for he knows where you can find much of this fine material. At Arnold Arboretum you have one of the finest plantings in the world of the deciduous. You can order anything you want through the Armstrong Nursery.

There—I nearly forgot the beautiful Chinese flower which should be planted here, the tree peony. Contact Domoto of Hayward. He has some beautiful ones priced very reasonably.

In making these additions to your plantings you can find places in your gardens where the only work entailed will be digging a hole in already well prepared soil. Let's resolve to plant a good companion plant with our camellias. There are thousands coming from "China, Mother of Gardens."

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is now larger than it has ever been in its existence and more memberships are being sent in every day. Ah — that camellia is the "most."

## Camellia Court

Like many another motorist, we found ourselves at a traffic court window the other morning. What is light-some about that office, we enquire? Ah, but there was something that particular morning. Among the clerks who came to work was one unknown but most commendable maiden who thrust a bulky bundle at another and suddenly we heard her cry delightedly "It's camellia time." And within a space of seconds those happy flowers bloomed as corsages or blobs of color on desks and just made us feel that a camellia can bring a lift to life anywhere, even to a traffic court.

But we'll take our camellias next time without a fine

says

Liz.

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