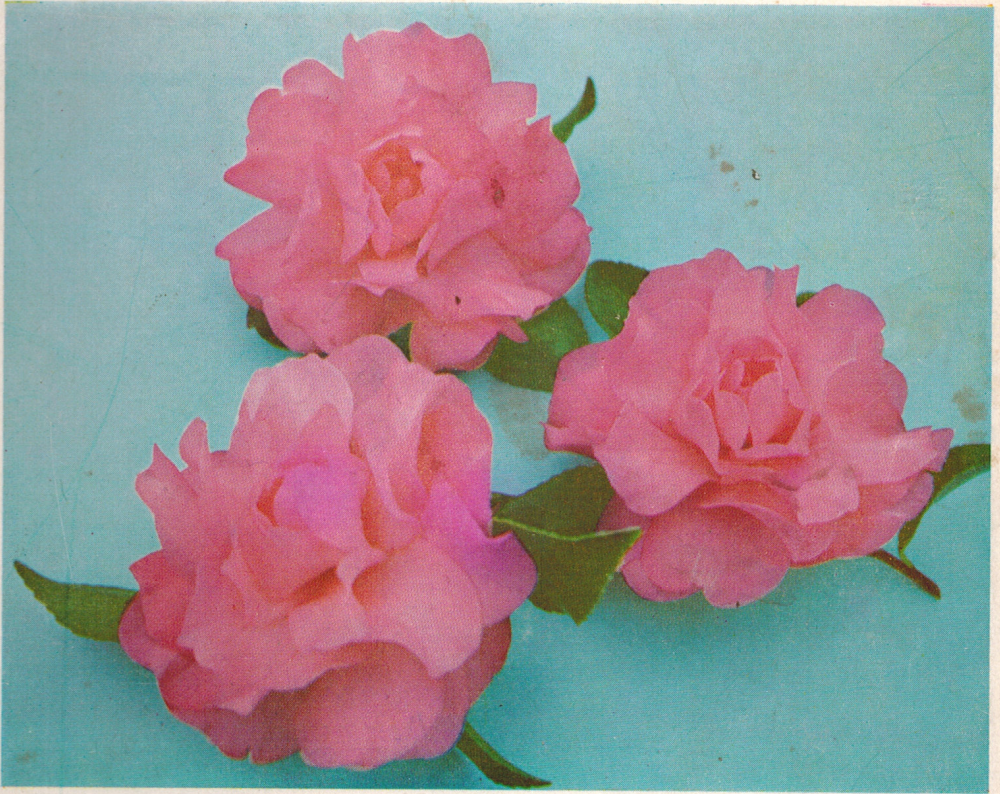




THE

Camellia Review

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



C. sasanqua "Chansonette"
Courtesy Nuccio's Nurseries

C. SASANGUA Chansonette

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One Dollar

*C. sasanqua
Chansonette*

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: \$6.00

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CONTENTS

VOL. 21

JANUARY, 1960

NO. 3

Advertiser's Index	31
Camellia Surprises Galore, <i>Edward H. Metcalf</i>	14
Historical Notes on Camellias, <i>Douglas G. Thompson</i>	5
Hugh Shackelford, The Prince of Camellias, <i>Merle Gish</i>	22
In Memoriam — Dr. Clark Hubbs	7
Mathotiana Or Is It? <i>William E. Woodroof</i>	11
Predictions of Things to Come, <i>Mary Johnson</i>	28
Presentation of Illges Award, <i>R. W. Ragland</i>	2
Sasanquas in Huntington Gardens, <i>William E. Wylam</i>	8
Scions of the Times, <i>Merle S. Gish</i>	6
Will They Bloom the Year 'Around? <i>Frank F. Reed</i>	3
Wonderful Friends! We Are Grateful, <i>L. C. Wannamaker</i>	9
Y'All Come to Birmingham, <i>George S. Wheeler</i>	23



THE COVER FLOWER

C. sasanqua "CHANSONETTE"

The lovely bright pink flower shown on the cover is the Ralph Peer Sasanqua Award Winner "Chansonette." This flower, judged as one of the finest seedlings, is bound to be a favorite in its field.

The flowers are described as being formal double, fully imbricated, with 45 to 50 petals, varying in size from 3 to 3½ inches in diameter and one inch or more in depth. The rosebud center never opens. The petals become ruffled or fluted, after the flower has been open a day or two. The color is bright, strong pink, something like the seed parent, Shishi-gashira. The flowers last well, usually from 5 to 7 days, as the petals do not shatter easily. Blooming period is normally October through December.

"Chansonette" will be introduced to commerce on the Pacific Coast by Nuccio's Nurseries in the fall of 1960. This fine nursery is propagating it in quantity numbers now.



PRESENTATION OF JOHN P. ILLGES MEDAL AT MEETING OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY, NOVEMBER 10, 1959*

R. W. Ragland

As Vice President for the Pacific Coast of the American Camellia Society, I have a duty to perform tonight so pleasant that it is a privilege — the presentation on behalf of the Society of the John P. Illges medal to Julius and Joe Nuccio, awarded to them for their fine seedling, named in honor of their father, Guilio Nuccio.

First, a word or two to refresh your memory about the Illges medal.

John Paul Illges was one of the Founders and Patrons of the American Camellia Society when it was organized in 1945, and he was a Director-at-Large for the Atlantic Coast territory from 1949 until his death about two years ago. He was well known and greatly respected throughout the South, and his many notable contributions to the Society and to camellias were recognized by the dedication of the 1955 Year Book to him.

It was in 1947 that Mr. Illges, then a Vice-President of the Society, announced that he would offer a special medal each year for the most outstanding new seedling camellia. His motive was to encourage the development of new seedlings, to bring about a means for the evaluation of the most worthy new introductions, and to reward and honor the originators. Incidentally, he had some very fine seedlings himself. The camellia sculptured on the medal resembles one of them which was called "Plumfield White." I do not know whether this was intended or not. We are more familiar with his beautiful "Pink Champagne."

To be eligible for the Illges medal a seedling must have been registered with the American Camellia Society; it must have been introduced or offered for sale not earlier than four years prior to the award; and it must have won the Society's "Highly Commended Seedling Certificate." The competition extends throughout the whole camellia belt — the Atlantic Coast, the South and the Pacific Coast. That plus the fact that each year the competition covers four years of new introductions makes the competitive field the largest for

(Continued on Page 30)

WILL THEY BLOOM THE YEAR AROUND?

Frank F. Reed*

I hope so. Granted that this proposition is possible we should inject the proviso that these early and late camellias must be really good.

During the past three and one-half years, the 125 varieties that I have put in redwood tubs represent a spread in color and in blooming season. Since September 1956, the only months in which I have failed to get a bloom were August 1957 and July 1958.

The blooms in May and October have been credible but this obviously does not cover the period June to September when the quality leaves something to be desired. (Up comes the usual loser's wail, "wait til next year."). For the future, it may be well to forget some of the folk lore and depend more on the methods of Marshall, Wylam, Short, Bonner, North et al.

I will now regale you with several factors which may have some bearing on lengthening the camellia season in the past. You may classify any one of them as folk lore if you wish.

Selection of Varieties

The list below gives some early and late varieties which do fairly well on Howard Street in Pasadena. There is a normal expectancy of getting a bloom during the month under which they are listed. A number in parenthesis indicates the number of blooms counted in 1959. When number is followed by a month like '(3) July', the blooms were in this month.

September probables

Sasanquas
September Morn
Arejishi
Daikagura
High Hat
Conrad Hilton

October probables

September probables
Hiryu
Hiryu-Nishiki
Showa Supreme
Dessa Thompson
Fimbriata
Alba Plena
My Fair Lady
Daitairin
White Empress
Indian Summer
Debutante
Masterpiece

May probables

June probables
Herme (2)
Spring Sonnet (2)
Scented Treasure (2) June
ChowChow (2)
Break O'Day (2) June
Fircone (1) June
Lallarook (2) June
Mathotiana (2) June
Masterpiece (2)
Mathotiana Supreme
Rosea Superba
Sultana
Hishi Karaito
Morning Glow (2)
Kumasaki (2)
Grand Finale
Jack McCaskill
Dr. John D. Bell
Guest of Honor

June probables

Purity (3) July
TeDeum (2) July
Glen 40 (2)
Elena Nobile
Maid of Honor
Glen 40 Varieg.
Eleanor Hagood
Nuccio No. 5647

For excellent advice on early blooms, see Bill Wylam's article on Sasanquas and kindred species in the October 1959 issue of the Camellia Bulletin.

Pruning or Pinching Back

I have pruned or pinched back on the first growth, leaving only two growth buds. Les Marshall believes that this will induce a second growth which produces late blooms. This scheme apparently has been successful with my Royal Trumpeter, Mrs. Tingley, Pink Clouds, Frosty Morn, Mattie O'Reilly, Masterpiece, TeDeum (this brings along Jack McCaskill and his twin Portuguesees)

(Continued)

WILL THEY BLOOM THE YEAR AROUND? *(Continued from Page 3,*

Pink). There is one variety that apparently does not lend itself to this horticultural trick — Billie McCaskill. She just won't play but as usual it is well worthwhile to await her pleasure.

This early pruning can also serve to make the bushes more shapely and keep the larger ones in due bounds.

Disbudding

With early varieties I disbud most terminals by leaving only the largest bud in order to get early blooms. However, I leave a few small buds. With late varieties I leave more small buds on terminals and take off the larger ones in order to encourage late blooming.

Old Chinese proverb say that knocking off the growth bud adjacent to a bloom bud showing color will result in an earlier and richer flower. If this vegetative bud were nipped too early, the bush might try to replace it in kind thus taking nourishment from the bloom.

Abnormal Weather

During the 1958-59 season we had hot spells in October, December, January, March, April and June. These abnormally hot spells could be the reason for having extremely early blooms on 1959 buds. I had blooms from my mid-season California on 11 June, 24 June and 27 August. The mid-season Gigantea bloomed on 7 July and 19 August from 1959 buds. Other mid-season and late camellias are blooming before Christmas.

Mark Twain says that we can't do anything about the weather, but it is about time that someone pointed out the ease with which the amount of light and heat in a lathe house can be controlled. Discussion of this scheme is not the purpose of this article.

Plant Location with Respect to Sun

My California and Gigantea are among the 15 camellias on the West side where they start getting full sun at noon Standard Time. This is the locale of my first bloomer in previous years:

Ko-gyoku (Little Gem)	28 Sept. '56
Break O'Day	26 Sept. '57
September Morn	15 Aug. '58

In addition to the direct sunlight there has been reflected sunlight from my neighbor's driveway which is approximately 6 feet from the row of camellias. The light from the "long day" during the summer would definitely speed up the flower bud initiation but I can not guess any conditions approximating the "short day" conditions which are usually so helpful later in expediting the opening of the floral buds. However, it should be pointed out before being called down that the relatively high heat does assist materially in the bud development but not necessarily in the opening.

Trickery

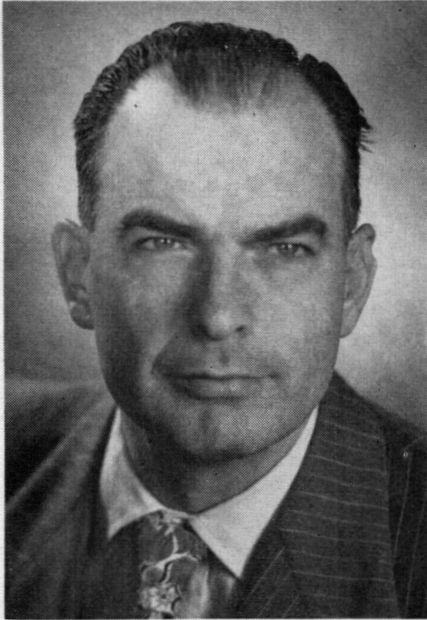
I am now convinced that my Break O'Day bloomed early in '57 due to the fact that I treated the terminals with Gibberellic acid. The buds on this and other plants were showing color when I treated them with various concentrations of Gibberellic with indifferent success. Apparently, none of the other plants bloomed earlier due to these applications. In view of later knowledge, the concentrations were too low that year.

I tried to get Maid of Honor to bloom late. About 20 June 1959 I put it inside the cow shed and I thought that I had closed the door enough to in-

(Continued on Page 12)

HISTORICAL NOTES ON CAMELLIAS

Douglas G. Thompson



Douglas G. Thompson is an Aeronautical Engineer by training, and he's a Research Engineer at Lockheed, but his heart belongs to Margaret and camellias.

He first became interested in camellias when he used to take camellia corsages to the young lady whom he was courting, and who became his wife. Each time the florist made up the corsage, the camellia was a delicate pink blossom which to Doug represented "camellia" in the same way that an orange blossom always represents the flower of the orange tree. After his service in the war, he met Dr. Cecil Eshelman, and in the course of their conversation discovered that Cece's hobby was the raising of camellias, and that he had several hundred plants. Doug related this odd hobby to Margaret, and told her that he must go over to see this collection: "Imagine anyone having several hundred, all with that little pink flower!" This was when he dis-

In curious poetic allegory, borrowing on Roman mythology, Roberto di Grand many years ago wrote of the lost fragrance of the camellia. He told of Venus, goddess of bloom and beauty, protectress of gardens, surprised by Vulcan in dalliance with Mars, and of Cupid reprimanding his mother on her unseemly conduct. Venus, in retaliation, ordered Cupid whipped with the stems of roses. Flora, goddess of flowers, moved by pity for Cupid, dispatched the West wind, Zephyr, to Japan to bring the stems of the thornless rose, known to the gods as Anacanthus — to men as Susanqua — and the whipping of Cupid was carried out in painless formality. Then Venus hated the camellia, took away its fragrance and ordered banishment out of sight and mind behind the impenetrable monsoon curtain of southeastern Asia. There it languished in the sunwarmed, semi-tropical rain forest; fed by the soft damp carpet of deep rich forest mold; mottled in leafy shade; watered by filtered rain mists; sur-

(Continued on Page 10)

covered that there are many camellias other than the Pink Perfection of his early corsages. Doug now has his own notable collection of camellias, and he has become a source of information on their propagation and care.

He has won many honors in the camellia world, having been a past president of the Los Angeles Camellia Society (1954). He is a camellia judge accredited by the American Camellia Society, and his services are in demand at shows throughout the state. This year he is Vice President of the Pacific Camellia Society and the member of the Camellia Council who is in charge of the big annual Camellia Show at Descanso Gardens next February.

SCIONS
OF THE



TIMES

MERLE
GISH

“Sawada’s Dream”

So many fine reports have reached our camellia ears regarding a new introduction from Mobile, Alabama.

Mrs. Gish and I had the most wonderful privilege and pleasure of visiting with Mr. K. Sawada in his home of camellias at the Overlook Nursery in Mobile. A genuine and most generous gentleman in sharing his time and enthusiasm with camellias and I can assure you it was a treat for two weary travelling Californians and he certainly outdid himself to make our visit homey.

On this visit Mr. Sawada commented on his efforts to make hand controlled crosses and stated further that “Imura” seemed to be his more successful flower.

The flower that he may have always dreamed about came as a result of crossing Dr. W. E. Lee x Imura. A full double flower (no stamens or pistils showing). Fimbriated, 4 inches in diameter, consists of between 80 - 90 petals which are usually pointed at tips. Mr. Sawada feels that in general appearance it somewhat resembles a waterlily flower.

Another fine camellia authority described “Sawada’s Dream” as follows: “a mighty nice flower, not too large, perhaps, 4 inches would be a big bloom but the form and color are elegant. A formal double but the center petals stand up as crisp and perky as a petticoat that has been starched and the color shades from

the white center to petal border of a clear lovely pink.” The plant is a medium upright grower with rather slender branches which carry dark glossy green, medium to large foliage of 3½” to 4” in length and 1½” to 2” in width, sharply pointed and finely serrated leaves. “Sawada’s Dream” blooms from the latter part of December to February, but mostly for the Christmas and New Years holidays. The holding quality of this flower reportedly is much superior to most camellias both on the branch or after being cut.

Mr. Sawada wrote, “I have had many dreams for future camellias and this is my dream for commercial cut flower.”

“Irene Rester”

Mr. A. Rester of Bogalusa, Louisiana has introduced, registered and is propagating a seedling he has named for his wife Mrs. Irene Rester.

It is a seedling from “Lindsay Neill” is currant red for color and the blooms are all forms of “Mattie O’Reilly” with flower size from 4½ - 5 inches in diameter and an average depth of 2½ inches. Normally shows 10 outer guard petals and up to 175 petaloids. “Irene Rester” usually begins to flower in late September and has reportedly never flowered later than 15th of November. The only

(Continued on Page 24)

Dr. Clark Hubbs

In Memoriam

Dr. Clark Hubbs of Glendale died December 31, 1959. Through his enthusiasm for camellias and his warm friendliness for people, he became one of the best known and best liked members of Southern California's camellia fraternity. His death at 71 brought a sense of deep loss to everyone who knew him. His profession was that of dentistry, but his other activities, which were many, seemed to be concentrated on friendliness and helpfulness to others.

He was born in 1888 in Kentucky, lived as a young man in Tennessee where he received his education and met and married Miss Myrtle Howse. After serving in World War I he came to California, set up dental offices in Los Angeles and practiced there until his death. During the last decade of his practice his son, Dr. Clark Hubbs, Jr., was associated with him. During this long practice he built up a clientele of patients who invariably became his friends and his outstanding sense of community service was recognized by his election to

the presidency of the Los Angeles Kiwanis Club. Later, when he became a resident of Glendale, he joined the Pacific Camellia Society and, in the course of time, served two highly successful terms as its president. He further expressed his camellia enthusiasm by joining the Southern Cali-

fornia Camellia Society and the American Camellia Society. He was a valued member of all these organizations and in 1956 the American Camellia Society made him its Vice - President for the Pacific Coast.

In all his camellia activities he enjoyed the enthusiastic cooperation of his wife, Mrs. Myrtle Hubbs; both were faithful participants in most every camellia

function from Fresno to San Diego, and in 1957 they enjoyed an extended trip through the South. Dr. Hubbs was one of the most generous and outgoing of men; one of his typical activities was to graft several dozen camellia plants each year for the express purpose of making gifts to his friends.



SASANQUAS IN THE HUNTINGTON GARDENS

William E. Wylam

Many *Sasanqua* type camellias have been planted in the Huntington Botanic Gardens. These include clones of *Sasanqua*, *Hiemalis* and *Vernalis*. Superficially they all appear to belong to one large group and in this short account it may well be best to so regard them.

To the general public, *Sasanquas* are newly discovered plants which people are only now beginning to appreciate. However *Sasanquas* are not new at the Huntington. In the Oriental Garden, and along the service drive between the Library and the North Vista, are many magnificent old specimens planted by Mr. Hertrich, in the early nineteen hundreds. The tallest of these are now approximately fifteen feet high. Some of these are unnamed seedlings but many show the beautiful foliage and graceful growth of *Mine-No-Yuki*.

About ten years ago planting was begun in the area that I call the *Sasanqua Slope*. This is situated on the east side of the *Camellia Canyon* lying to the north of the Oriental Garden. Many of the clones planted at that time have become specimens of sufficient size to produce the mass effects that are the primary value of *Sasanquas* as landscape subjects. Among the most spectacular of these is a graceful, spreading plant of *Shinonome*, although the tall *Fukuzutsumi* next to it is almost as stunning. While not as large, plants of *Dawn* and *Shishigashira* are covered with such a profusion of flowers that they are truly eye stoppers. Several shapely plants of *Setsugekka* compete with *Hana-Jiman* for the attention of the visitor, as well as with such beauties as the true *Hiryu*, *Ko-Gyoku*, *Papaver*, *Yae-Arare*, *Snowflake*, *Narumigata*, *Momozono-Nishiki* and the strong growing, two toned, rose-red

that I imported from Australia as *Hiryu*.

Good sized plants of *Beni-Zuru*, *Hugh Evans*, *Taimei-Nishiki*, *Momozono*, *Brilliancy*, *Hiotoshi*, *Minnina*, *Onigoromo*, *Rosea* and *Crimson Bride* are not as spectacular but are well deserving of the visitor's attention.

In the north sections of the plantings (to the east of the North Vista) are a number of specimens which, while not comparable in size to the older plants, are large enough so that they have begun to exhibit their real possibilities. Outstanding among these are *Jean May*, *Navajo*, *Cherie*, *Splendor*, *Hana-Daijin*, *Pink Snow*, *Showa-No-Sakae*, *Nodami-Ushiro* and the ruffled beauty which the McCaskills so kindly named *Bill Wylam*. One that might be overlooked in this showy group, but deserves closer attention, is the delicately lovely *Choji-Guruma*.

The Oriental Garden has several groupings which are beginning to attract considerable attention. These include a hedge of the sun tolerant *Tanya*, with large mass ground cover plantings of *Cleopatra* and *Colleen* on the steep slope immediately below the hedge.

To the north of the *Wisteria Terrace* and *Steps* (supplementing the outstanding group of old *Mine-No-Yuki* which spill down the slope) is an all white planting of such fine *Sasanquas* as *White Queen*, *Kenkyo*, *Moon Moth*, *Friiled White*, *Autumn Snow*, *Hinode-Gumo* and *Snowflake*. Close to the steps, where it can be seen and appreciated, is a gracefully weeping plant of *Gin-No-Sai* with delicately beautiful, small, anemone-like flowers.

Beside the brilliant red bridge,
(Continued on Page 27)

WONDERFUL FRIENDS! WE ARE GRATEFUL

To speak to the members of the Southern California Camellia Society through the Review is an opportunity for the president of the national society and a courtesy to him not soon to be forgotten. Mrs. Wannamaker and I have received countless benefits



over the years by reason of membership in the SCCS. Not only have we adopted the Nomenclature Book as our Camellia Bible, but through the Review have come to know many of your camellia personalities, and as to those whom it has been our privilege to know personally, we have found many wonderful friends.

The American Camellia Society must largely perform its services to the camellia cause through the printed word. We appreciate the many contributions to our publications made by the members of your society. We rejoice that the publications of all of our camellia organizations are un-

selfishly dedicated to the cause of camellias. We declare it to be our desire that each member of the American Camellia Society in your area, not already on your membership roll, also become a member of your society, and we are sure that you have the same desire as to members of your society becoming members of the American Camellia Society. We propose on the national scale to render important and needed services to the cause which will make our society worthy of the membership of all of those in your organization.

We hope to meet each of you who will attend our annual meeting at Jacksonville, Florida, in late January, 1960. We trust that those whose attendance may not be practical on account of the long journey involved may await with patience the time when our annual meeting will be held in their locale.

Please know of the dependence of your national society on the individuals as well as the local organizations which further the cause of camellias, and be assured that it is the purpose of your American Camellia Society to render services on the national scale which will justify your support. We are grateful for the support given the American Camellia Society by the officers and members of SCCS, and we pledge continued cooperation toward the goal of our increased and mutual happiness in the promotion of the "Genus Camellia."

Sincerely yours,

L. C. WANNAMAKER
President, A.C.S.

HISTORICAL NOTES ON CAMELLIAS *(from Page 5)*

rounded by azaleas, rhododendrons, roses, peonies, daylilies, hollies, and magnolias. Originating somewhere near Kunming Province in the shelter of the majestic Himalaya foothills, the world's most prolific source of ornamental flowers, the camellia emerged to become the treasure bloom of the Orient for centuries and pride of Occidental greenhouse and garden for 200 years . . . as old as the East . . . as new as tomorrow.

Out of banishment by Venus, into favor with men came *C. Sinensis*, prized for the beverage brew of its leaf, so many ages ago that no record remains of its occurrence in strictly wild state. Some have said that Confucius taught the drinking of CHA or TEE to ensure the boiling of foul water. Others point to Emperor Shen Tung divinely led to the beverage in 2737 BC. Then there is the provocative legend of the Eyelids of Dharma, of a Buddhist priest of India, Bohidharma, and how 14 centuries ago he undertook a missionary journey into China. For the success of his venture, he vowed to forgo sleep and remain in waking vigil for nine years in religious contemplation. After three years, nearly overpowered by sleep, disgusted at his weakness, he cut off his eyelids and flung them to the ground. They took root; a bush sprang up; its leaves curled like eyelids . . . the Eyelids of Dharma. From the leaves he made a brew enabling him to complete his vow.

We know that by the 7th century tea drinking was an important social custom in China; and by the 8th, Japan had borrowed and refined the art of making and serving tea into an esthetic, indeed religious rite. For centuries too, China and Japan have

harvested *C. Oleifera*, *C. Sasanqua* and *C. Japonica* seeds for domestic oil, a practice which still continues.

The history of the camellia in our western world begins with tea nearly 1000 years later. There is record of a letter written in 1615 from one member of the East India Company in Macao to another in Japan mentioning ". . . a pot of the best sort of CHAW." In 1659 the London journal, *Mercurius Politicus*, proclaimed in an advertisement ". . . that excellent and by all physicians approved China drink called by the Chineans TCHA, and by all other nations TAY alias TEE, is sold at Sultanes Head Coffee-House, Sweetings Rent by the Royal Exchange." In 1660 Thomas Garway, proprietor of a London coffee house, offered this new drink as ". . . good against crudities, strengthening the weakness of ventricle and stomach, causing good appetite and digestion, and particularly for men of corpulent body and such as are great eaters of flesh." Also in 1660, there is an entry in the diary of Samuel Pepys against September 25 ". . . I did send for a cup of tee a China drink of which I never had drunk before." Disappointingly, Pepys failed to note his reaction to this historic event.

Tea had come to England with such impact that by 1700 close to 20,000 pounds per year were being imported, purchased initially from plantations on the island of Amoy in the China Sea and later from Madras, Surat, and Java. By 1750 American colonists were drinking tea and not much later were protesting imposts of the privilege. In those days, tea sold in

(Continued on Page 21)

MATHOTIANA OR IS IT?

William E. Woodroof

MATHOTIANA was listed in Verschaffelt in 1849 as a large, cherry red, formal double originated by H. Mathot of Belgium.

In 1941 Mr. E. A. McIlhenny of Jungle Gardens, Avery Island, Louisiana, listed three varieties as follows: JULIA DRAYTON, as a large, rose red, formal double obtained from Bobbink and Atkins of Rutherford, New Jersey; MATHOTIANA RUBRA, as a large, fire red, formal double obtained from Guichard Soeurs of Nantes, France; and PURPLE DAWN, as a large, deep red, formal double with a purple cast, his own seedling. MATHOTIANA was not listed.

On or about 1945 it was determined and agreed upon by many camellia growers that JULIA DRAYTON, MATHOTIANA RUBRA and PURPLE DAWN were all the same variety and that the name JULIA DRAYTON had priority.

Subsequent to 1945 and on or about 1947 it was determined and agreed upon by many camellia growers that JULIA DRAYTON was probably the true MATHOTIANA as listed in Verschaffelt in 1849, and priority of name was given to MATHOTIANA. However, in the late 1940s and early 1950s it was believed by many camellia growers that JULIA DRAYTON was not the same as MATHOTIANA, which latter variety was probably lost.

During the years 1954 to 1956 Ralph Peer imported GRAND SULTAN from Italy, PORTUGUESE PINK from Portugal, and the alleged true MATHOTIANA from Caerhays in England, and during this same period McCaskill Gardens introduced JACK McCASKILL, a sport of TE

DEUM. About 1957 AUGUSTO PINTO, listed as a sport of MATHOTIANA, was imported from Portugal.

On or about 1954 or 1955 it was reported that GRAND SULTAN was probably the same as and the priority name for JULIA DRAYTON, which latter variety was not the true MATHOTIANA.

The following conclusions have now been reached by many camellia growers:

1. JULIA DRAYTON, MATHOTIANA RUBRA, PURPLE DAWN, PURPLE EMPEROR and WILLIAM S. HASTIE are the same variety, but are not identical with the true MATHOTIANA.

2. GRAND SULTAN is not the same as JULIA DRAYTON and is probably TE DEUM.

3. MATHOTIANA (Caerhays) is probably TE DEUM.

4. JACK McCASKILL and PORTUGUESE PINK are the same and also probably AUGUSTO PINTO, and all are apparently sports of TE DEUM.

5. The true MATHOTIANA is probably the same as TE DEUM, which would result in the true MATHOTIANA, GRAND SULTAN and TE DEUM being the same variety. (It should be noted that GRAND SULTAN was separately listed in Verschaffelt in 1849 as a large, cardinal red, formal double of Italian origin, but in this field even Verschaffelt can make mistakes.)

Needless to say, this situation is somewhat confused and the varieties should be observed by everyone so that definite conclusions can be reached as soon as possible.

WILL THEY BLOOM THE YEAR AROUND (from Page 4)

crease the darkness by 3 or 4 hours. There were approximately 15 full sized buds but none opened during the treatment. "The operation was a success. The patient died." Now they tell me that cutting off the light must be absolute to be effective.

Deserting Folk Lore

It seems certain that you can bloom camellias early by using the Gibberellin infusion method outlined by Chandler North in the Nov. '59 Review. I gave a modest dose of 12 drops of 1000 ppm (parts per million) Gibberellic acid several weeks before some camellias were due to bloom. Generally this amount was injected into a 2 foot main branch with normal side branches.

In most plants, the blooms on treated branches were ahead of the blooms on the untreated branches. This was a matter of weeks. Heavier dosages used by North have resulted in normal flowers opening months before their usual season.

The following varieties were susceptible to my modest treatment: May Ingram, Forrest Green, My Fair Lady, Fimbriata, Indian Summer, Debutante, Cinderella, Carolyn Tuttle, and Masterpiece. Gibberellic appears to be effective in breaking dormancy in some of the toughies of our community without loss of bloom quality.

"Wait Til Next Year"

Except for the weather, all of the above factors will be in effect next year. It is my earnest desire to have good blooms during the summer of 1960. Other than some Gibberellic treatment, I will follow the cultural advice of Harvey Short on most affairs Camellia except the pruning of Frosty Morn. In spite of his exhortations, this camellia will be thoroughly pruned for ventilation, better blooms, etc.

With an assumed blessing of Chandler North, I will give a Christmas present of 80 drops of 1000 ppm (commercially available concentration) Gibberellic to 2 foot branches of the following listed camellias: Dr. John D. Bell, Indian Summer, Carolyn Tuttle, Cinderella, Masterpiece, Debutante, My Fair Lady, Sparkling Burgundy, and Capt. Rawes. I dare to call the shots ahead of time. Here we go!

* Col. Frank Reed has had such success in raising ribbon winning blooms that his observations are always worthy of note. He has been requested especially to write this article. EDITOR.

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Camellia Culture — Published by Southern California Camellia Society—Editor, E. C. Tourje, \$11.50.

How to Grow Camellias — published by Sunset, \$1.75.

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CAMELLIA SURPRISES GALORE

Edwards H. Metcalf

When contemplating a journey abroad, we have found it a good idea to study and plan an itinerary which seems quite complete and inclusive of the best. This we did, and were very sure we would be visiting a beautiful country when we reached New Zealand. However, Mrs. Metcalf and I were happily captivated by the many wonders of New Zealand, as they unfolded before us during our 3,100-mile drive through the beautiful and ever-changing countryside.

Then, too, we were impressed by the friendly wave of passing motorists and the cheery greetings called to us by young and old all along our way. These acts certainly gave us a welcome and the feel of belonging, which we had not expected but sincerely appreciated. I realise that this does not directly relate to camellias, but I soon learned that it is a background in which they have held their own for many, many years.

For quite some time I had been looking forward to seeing the hybrids of Brian Doak, in Auckland, and Leslie Jury in New Plymouth, as well as other camellias I had heard of through correspondence. However, I must admit that I had not been overly impressed with the majority of blooms in Bill Wylam's large collection of Australian and New Zealand camellias which I had the opportunity of seeing several years ago. Of course, this was purely a personal view, based on what an individual expects from a flower or any other object; which is why I never feel really competent to answer the question that is inevitably asked: "What is the best camellia?" To begin with, one must first determine under what qualifications a bloom is to be judged, such as style, colour, size, substance, lasting

quality, purpose for which it is grown, distinctiveness, etc. Even with these various points answered the personal equation and preference will come into play and one can inherently change from time to time. Therefore, I say that the best camellia is the one you individually like and enjoy, regardless of what your neighbour or John Doe thinks. I have many which I consider outstandingly beautiful, because they have characteristics that appeal to me, while others which I would use mainly as understock, are highly prized by friends of mine. So it goes. Now to get down to the purpose of this article.

On arriving at Auckland I called Brian Doak, who kindly started our introduction to the gardens and camellias of New Zealand, by first visiting the lovely garden of Mrs. Mervyn Adams, where we saw several excellent plants of Captain Rawes, and the Czar. This hillside garden I felt would be perfect for growing camellias as everything looked ideal, such as light, water, drainage, etc. But there was to be the first surprise, as here on the hillside a hole had been dug to plant a nice camellia. Lo and behold, the two feet deep hole had a foot of water standing in it, which meant no drainage and artificial means must be taken to provide drainage with each planting. There is always some problem to overcome, but when you do, what pleasures you can have as a result. This garden also had a lovely rock garden and this was later found to be quite usual in our visits to gardens of New Zealand. This feature certainly added to the beauty and attractiveness in the gardens. Now to the Brian Doak's garden out in Papatoetoe, which in

(Continued)

a few years time will be beautiful, too, with the planting grown up. Here again we found another attractive and colourful rock garden in the front. Our camellia surprises here were Phyl Doak, Brian, Barbara Clark, Bettie Durrant, Otara Rose, and several others which Brian has coming along. May I say here to Brian Doak, keep up the good work. Next morning we started southward and it wasn't long before we were amazed to see the huge rhododendrons and magnolia trees bursting into bloom. Not only were these some of the largest rhododendrons we had ever seen, but we were interested to find that in nearly every case there were trees of old camellias right alongside. I do not know the age of these trees, but the size of the trunks would indicate several score years at least. We not only saw this a few times, but it was observed throughout the entire country right down to the tip of the South Island and on both coasts. This surprise caused some conclusions to be reached which will be mentioned later.

We next visited the garden at Tirau of Tom and Bettie Durrant. Here again, even with the intense interest of the Durrants in camellias, we found a garden *with* camellias and not *of* camellias and I hope it will always remain this way as the garden expands. Maybe if container culture requires too much time and attention, then this increasing collection can be planted out on some of the slopes of the hill with a winding path amongst them. I have seen this done in several other sections of the world such as at Lorraine Farms of the Wittmans, out of Macon, Georgia. With thought and planning, what a beautiful sight can be developed. Some of the varieties which I liked here are Waiwhetu Beauty, Pukekura, Mrs. H. Boyce, Plantation Pink sasanqua, and Australis. Inci-

dentally, the finest bloom of *reticulata* Osmanthus Leaf was viewed here. We only wished we had taken more time at the Durrants' lovely garden, as was the case actually in all the gardens visited. We headed southward from here and did not concentrate on camellias for some weeks, but we continually observed the large camellias. Many times, we found trees right out in the full sun and weather, often around the old homes or on the old home sites with the houses long since gone, but the camellias living on with the only care being the trimming by cows or other domesticated animals. After touring the South Island we arrived back in Wellington.

At our hotel we received several messages regarding camellias and flower shows. What did surprise us in our room was a beautiful bouquet of camellias from the newly-formed Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Camellia Society. Shortly Mr. S. C. Bradley, its chairman, showed up and more surprises and pleasures were in store. Wellington was having its annual flower show and most interesting was a special showing of camellias by the newly-formed Wellington Branch of the New Zealand Camellia Society. (Note: This branch was less than two weeks old at the time of the show). On such short notice, with little time for planning, a very flowerful display was presented through the co-operation of its members, who brought quantities of blooms for display. With the lack of time and experience, the amount of area allotted and available was not sufficient to display all of the blooms to their best advantage, but I must compliment the persons responsible as it was a very good beginning and a lot of interest from the public was created. This ultimately means more members in the Society
(Continued)

CAMELLIA SURPRISES GALORE *(from Page 15)*

and more people growing and enjoying camellias. The Wellington flower show was my first experience in viewing a flower display in New Zealand (Note: We had missed the one in Hamilton due to mix-up of our dates). It was a very nice and interesting display very well arranged with additional thought being given to its staging and decoration. I did meet some of the people responsible for the show as a whole, and the camellias, namely J. C. Sterling, Mr. Shayle-George, Mr. Galloway, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley. I regretted I did not have a flashlight camera so that I would have coloured slides to let our friends in the U.S. enjoy it on the screen. The great variety of flowers and the competition which went on was to me fine. I only wished I could grow some of the flowers and grow them as well here in California.

Our visit to the Botanical Gardens in Wellington was very rewarding and anyone interested in gardens and flowers certainly will enjoy their time spent wandering along its paths viewing its colourful plantings and vistas.

Another opportunity presented itself as a result of our mentioning camellias and rhododendrons while we were speaking with Mr. Wheeler, who at once suggested his calling Mr. Tom Seddon for permission to view his collection. This resulted in our proceeding to Mr. Seddon's office, picking him up on our way to his home, and garden. After driving up one of the many hillside streets around Wellington, we stopped at the bottom of a ravine. After going through the gate the ravine revealed a gorgeous colour display of rhododendrons which in colour and variety we had not seen elsewhere; then, as we climbed the path and steps toward the Seddon home, the camellias began to show themselves, many blooming profusely. We next had the pleas-

ure to meet Mrs. Seddon, who welcomed us into her home. We noticed several excellent flower paintings in the living room and we were told the artist was none other than our hostess. These paintings were so lovely that we asked to see more and were obliged. This visit with the Seddons will long be remembered.

Our next stop was Wanganui where again our time was all too short, but that evening the Roland Youngs invited us to their attractive home and garden so we might meet a few camellia people of the area and such a pleasant evening was had talking with our hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Young, and their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Wally Stevens, Mrs. Pierce, Mr. Noel Ginn, Mr. Gordon Dicker, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Burnet, Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Bethwaite. Then the next day we spent visiting a few of the gardens and the Stevens' Nursery. Again it was so rewarding to see how well the camellias had been planted as part of the garden, which certainly showed the keen interest, loving care and thought of their owners. They also provided a very interesting display of plant material with thought being given particularly to the blooming seasons of the different plant material and the colour combinations. Also the use of camellias in the landscape instead of a camellia patch.

Our next surprise occurred here in Wanganui when we visited the home and garden of Mrs. Hussey. Here was a fine old garden which had grown up over many decades and had been cared for during all these years. Some of the largest camellia trees were on display here, such as Elizabeth, Leviathan, Lady Loch, in its various forms and others, many of which I could only recognise as being examples I had seen illustrated in Verschaffelt, Berlese or old prints from Botanical Magazines and litera-

ture. Here it is known that these camellias were planted many decades ago and at the same time as the pines, firs and conifers which are also good specimens today. Thus we know the approximate age of the camellias and, comparing them to others about New Zealand, I would not be surprised if New Zealand has some of the oldest camellias in Oceania. I only regret at this time I cannot give more substantiating proof to back up this opinion. Maybe others will find this proof. When visiting Wanganui even though only interested in camellias, one should not fail to visit the Stevens Bros. Nursery, which is unique. This nursery can furnish a great deal of plant material most suitable and interesting for one's garden, as this nursery specialises in natives of South Africa, Australia and New Zealand, plus interesting Iris hybrids, the work of Mrs. Jean Stevens. This nursery certainly produces many plants with exotic and beautifully coloured flowers.

Our trip now continues northward to Hawera, more gardens and the annual flower shows. This turned out to be still another surprise, for here in a community which we would class as small, was a flower show which was very outstanding, both as to size and quality. With the exception of the staging, it was equal, I believe, to the Wellington Show in variety of flowers and the competitive classes. First the building was quite suited for displaying the flowers and had good lighting facilities which is so often lacking, but is quite necessary. In a second room, there was a camellia display which was nicely arranged and displayed. It differed from the majority of camellia shows in the United States, inasmuch as there was not the very active competition. This is understandable because it has only been within the last few years that a real renaissance has occurred in the

case of camellias. This renaissance is going to grow as a result of these displays. It can only be called a renaissance inasmuch as all the old camellia plants throughout New Zealand testify to the fact that for years New Zealand has loved its camellias. I can see the day coming, in the not too distant future, where special competitive shows will be held. This will, I believe, start at the monthly meetings, held by the branches; then perhaps with a show during the annual meeting. I realise that many are against this competition, but only in a competitive show can one find all the variants of each cultivar and it will also help to straighten out the very confused state of nomenclature within New Zealand. Time, with hard work and effort on many people's part, will have to be expended before all of this can come about but it will be a fact one of these days. Another rather different atmosphere was present at the Hawera show which was particularly noted by Mrs. Metcalf and that was the music which was played. It took away the funeral feeling of a flower show.

The next day we were met by Roland Barry, who acted as our guide to a few of the beautiful gardens of the area. The first one was that of Mr. and Mrs. James Edmonston, with its camellias, rhododendrons, magnolias, etc.; from here to the sunken and terraced garden of Mr. and Mrs. Rod Syme, which again showed the loving care which the owners of these gardens have given. Each of the gardens visited were individual, with specialties being displayed, but no one type of plant dominating the whole. The next garden visited was that of Mrs. Williams; which perhaps was the most beautiful of all those visited. It was really several gardens put together for a beautiful horticultural display with sunken

(Continued)

CAMELLIA SURPRISES GALORE (from Page 17)

gardens, formal and rock gardens, and many native plants and trees being used. There was a fine collection of camellias which were located throughout the premises. One has to see this floral display to really appreciate it. Inasmuch as the weather was not the best (wind and rain) we could not linger in the gardens as we would have liked. We now desired to view one of the really old garden areas which we did by driving about eight miles south to Manutahi and, by taking some side roads, we came to the home of Mrs. E. A. Hamilton. The view of the coast from here is really breath-taking and on a clear day one would also have a view of Mt. Egmont, a picture indeed. We walked through this old garden with its old camellia trees, many of which I did not know. There was a beautiful specimen plant here of Captain Rawes from which the three winning blooms in the Hawera show had come. Our next stop was the nursery of Roland Barry, as I wanted to see how camellias were being propagated. It again was a surprise and pleasure to visit such a well-kept and orderly nursery; besides this they were doing a very creditable job of propagating camellias with care being taken in the labelling of each cultivar. Being that it was really raining hard we felt we should not attempt any more gardens.

Thus we left for New Plymouth. That evening we had another camellia session with Colonel and Mrs. Durrant, whom we had joined at the Hawera show. The weather still being poor, the next morning we realised we could not go to Mt. Egmont or the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust Gardens, so we confined ourselves to two gardens. The first of which was the garden of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Fairbrother. This was different from the others, inasmuch as it was on a steep hillside

with winding paths down the slopes to a river below; quite a unique setting. Here was quite a collection of camellias, including many of the new ones. I was quite taken with Imperator. The average bloom on this bush was a show winner. Incidentally, this variety in the United States is called Imperator (French). Another bloom we liked here was Dr. King. Our only regret these last few days was the rain which we brought with us from the South Island, but this was enjoyed by the local populace as the water was needed. (Note: In the U.S. most of us depend on hoses or irrigation instead of the heavens. How we envy you in New Zealand!) The next garden was that of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Jury, which I want to see in the sunshine, so I might take some coloured slides of its beauty and colouring. This sunken and terraced garden reminded me most of the Butchard Gardens of Victoria, Canada. The hybridising work of Mr. Jury has brought forth some beautiful new camellias and there are quite a few more to come. It was here that I viewed the camellia species *Purpurea*. The single one is the same as I had seen in Australia, however, the double variety which was in bloom, I know, and have growing in the United States as *Kuro-Tsubaki*. This camellia has been under quite a bit of discussion in the United States, as to whether it was a species, hybrid or japonica. Now with this information as a clue, further inquiry and investigation will be made.

Besides the camellias already named, we were, in various places, interested in the following:

Mitchell's White, Thompsonii, Myrtifolia, Hana-tachi-bana, Fairlass, Lesley, La Graciola or Odoratissima, Yedo-no-asahi, and Prof. E. G. Waterhouse.

From a nomenclature point of view,

it was evident that a great deal of work must be done to straighten out the names in New Zealand. Different names for the same cultivar are being used in different sections of the country. On top of this, local names have been adopted for some of the real old varieties that are illustrated in old horticultural publications, or as illustrated by Berlese and Verschaffelt. As a matter of interest, having inspected many old plants or trees in various areas of New Zealand, I feel sure when you get to making up a proper nomenclature record and identifying many of the old plants, you will find some of the so-called "lost camellias" right in your own back yard, so to speak. This could be a very worthwhile project for the society, although a lot of time and argument will have to be devoted to it.

Some examples I found of possible improper names are as follows: (Note: What is correct, I am not saying here, but they are incorrect as I know them in the U.S.).

Mathotiana-Grand Sultan, is known in the United States as Te Deum, an old camellia with many sports and variations of bloom. Mathotiana-Julia Drayton, this is same as the United States, but I did not view any of the tight bud centre form, only the open form. New Zealand Imperator equals the U.S. Imperator (French); New Zealand has two magnolia-floras, one of which is what is known in the U.S. as Magnoliaflora English (seen most often on our visit), and the other Magnoliaflora (Southern). Martha Tina is very similar to, if not the same as, C. H. Hovey, and so on.

This article must close, but before doing so, I would like to list some of my other conclusions from visiting and seeing camellias in New Zealand.

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(1) Intensity of colour will vary greatly from one area to another or from the United States, due to soil, water, fertiliser used and climatic conditions.

(2) There must sooner or later be a standardisation of names for various cultivars or varieties.

(3) Many old camellias will be rediscovered in New Zealand.

(4) Experience and time will eliminate many of the mediocre camellias by using them for understock, in grafting the really good or new varieties, which have quality, style, distinctiveness, and the other good qualities for an outstanding flower.

(5) Do not collect names because they are new or scarce. Many of the ones coming on to the United States market are not as good as some of

(Continued on Page 20)

CAMELLIA SURPRISES GALORE (from Page 19)

the older varieties and in New Zealand, be sure it is not one you already know under a different name. Try and see a bloom under similar conditions to your own.

(6) Competitive shows will come to New Zealand, in the not too distant future.

(7) New Zealand is a "natural" for growing good camellias, as most cultivars do well in the open and exceptional growth is experienced in most districts.

(8) I believe the New Zealand Camellia Society is and has been the fastest growing camellia society in the world when population, area and time factors are all calculated. There

are reasons for this and I hope it can and will continue that way. The healthy plans of the National Society with autonomous area groups will give most to the members and assure continuation of the present interest in camellias. It is also necessary to have a publication of high calibre, such as the Bulletin, in order to maintain your position and extend your knowledge, which assures development.

In closing, may I thank all the fine camellia people whom we met, and those who showed us their gardens, which certainly added to our pleasure and delight while in New Zealand. We can only look forward to returning to this very beautiful and unique country of delightful and friendly people.

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HISTORICAL NOTES ON CAMELLIAS (from Page 10)

England at \$4 to \$15 the pound depending on its quality — dear indeed by the standards of the day, within reach of only the more affluent, precious cargo for the clipper fleets in competition in the China trade. With tea came the camellia plant, introduced in the hope that domestic tea culture might yield a surer source and vast reward. For the story goes

that sea captains, no botanists, largely unwittingly introduced the ornamental species into Europe; no match either for wily, monopoly-conscious merchant Chinese, who substituted flowering *C. Sasanquas* and *C. Japonicas* for the coveted *C. Sinensis*.

The fascinating historical notes on Camellias by Mr. Thompson will be continued in numbers to come. Editor.

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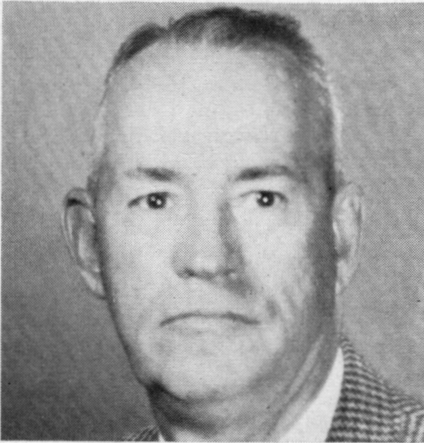
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HUGH SHACKELFORD, THE PRINCE OF CAMELLIAS

Merle Gish



Hugh Shackelford

To me it is nip and tuck as to which offers the most, the flower camellia or the people the flower reflects. You could almost place the situation as our age old problem of which came first the chicken or the egg.

Many times Rose and I have discussed, and even sometimes with friends, how fortunate we are to have camellias for had it not been for the flower we would never have had the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful people.

Many years ago when I was an inspiring artist attending one of our West Coast schools of art I studied with a young chap by the name of "Bud" Shackelford. This was in the late thirties and just before World War II. Upon developing a deep and sincere interest for the camellia I read of Mr. Hugh Shackelford so wrote asking if he was the one and same fellow who studied at Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles or maybe a relative. Through our correspondence I learned he was no kinfolk of the chap I knew of in school days, but at least it started our correspondence. I more or less visualized my new pen pal as being an older person

who was approaching the ripe age of retirement, therefore you can guess my surprise when my wife Rose and I first met Hugh Shackelford at the A. C. S. Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana. He was a much younger man than I had surmised and he was handsome and athletic.

We were so impressed with Mr. Shackelford we had to stop in for a short visit and see some of his camellias at their home in Albany, Georgia. His lovely home and warm hospitality really won our hearts and our interest in them grew.

Mrs. Mercer Sherman of Albany, Georgia wrote an excellent and most interesting article for the "Camellia Bulletin" published by the Northern California Camellia Society, Inc., titled "The Shackelford Seedlings." In this writing the comments, family, and history of Hugh Shackelford's interesting camellia story are most complete. Along with his talent of growing fine seedlings Mr. Shackelford has the gift and knack of finding fitting and interesting names for his offspring camellia seedlings.

On the West Coast we have Mr. Harvey Short who has introduced many fine seedlings and I have been tempted to identify Mr. Shackelford as the 'Harvey Short of the South,' then after thinking it over maybe I should say Mr. Short is the Hugh Shackelford of the West for their ability, interest, and love of camellias is so parallel. Both have the magic gift of growing many fine seedlings, each have a similar love and appreciation of the flower and certainly the uncanny ability to name the new seedling.

Hugh has always had a deep interest in flowers and his first green thumb experience was not with camellias but with gladiolias and that

(Continued on Page 28)

Y'ALL COME TO BIRMINGHAM. ALABAMA, THAT IS!

We know a great many of our friends and friends-to-be from the West Coast are going to the ACS annual meeting in Jacksonville this coming January. Please consider this an invitation to you all, whether we know you, know you are coming, or whether you decide at the last moment you can't stand missing it, to visit with us here in Birmingham.

Our show will be February 6 and 7, the weekend after Jacksonville. If at all possible plan to visit with us during that weekend, help us judge, be our guests at the party that Saturday night, and see over 3000 greenhouse blooms as well as several thousand outdoor and the arrangements. We will have over 30,000 people come to see it. If other plans make it impossible for you to be here at that time, by all means plan your itinerary so that you can visit with us on the way to Jacksonville or on the way home. Just call me or any of the local ACS members in the annual when you get to town and we'll take it from there. Better still, let us know ahead of time and we will suggest where to stop so as to be near most of the greenhouses and fellow nuts.

If we have never had the pleasure of meeting you, don't let that stop you. We down here ain't never met a Camellia lover yet we didn't like or feel was a friend. See you in Jacksonville and Birmingham too, I hope.

GEORGE M. WHEELER
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WINNERS!

Viewing the winning blooms at a recent Southern California Camellia Society meeting are Left to Right Alton Parker, Reg Ragland, William "Bill" Woodroof, and President Al Dekker.

SCIIONS OF THE TIMES (from Page 6)

regret I have heard of the flower "Irene Rester" is that it blooms so early for our Southern friends that it has finished or near the end of its flower cycle when their shows are being held.

We camellia lovers of the West Coast should grab this one for most of us are looking for the early blooming varieties and to find one a very nice deep red, some with rabbit ears and others with many yellow stamens, fits my menu for the day.

"Cooper Powers"

About three years ago we heard of a real fine camellia named "Cooper Powers." One report mentioned a six inch flower and this more than stimulated a desire to learn more of this new camellia.

This seedling first flowered for Mr. and Mrs. Cooper Powers seven years ago and at that time Mr. Powers intended to name it "Miss Bessie" (this being a nickname for Mrs. Beth W. Powers), but after his untimely death the following year Mrs. Powers began to call the seedling "Cooper Powers" in his honor.

Mrs. Powers says she is a lazy gardener and plants hundreds of seeds each year, but never keeps seed separated so this flower is a chance seedling.

"Cooper Powers" is a large 5 inch, shell pink, full centered flower with petaloids interspersed among the stamens giving the blossom considerable depth. It is unusually hardy, has a long blooming season and when hit by a hard freeze open blossoms are ruined, but buds showing color are not damaged.

Mrs. Powers feels flattered that anyone wants a "Cooper Powers," in fact each year she grafts between twenty and thirty plants and gives them away to friends as gifts.

What finer gesture toward your

friends than to give a camellia grown by one's own efforts and honoring some one very dear to you. It is my one hope that I will someday meet this very fine lady and all of us, as lovers of the camellia, should take off our hats to Mrs. Beth W. Powers.

"Juanita Smith"

This one is now on my want list and after seeing a color slide I am wondering if it will raise the blood pressure of others. It is a seedling grown by Mrs. Smith from a seed pod of "Dr. Tinsley." It is identified as being medium to large for size but with its marking I doubt if size will be of too great importance.

It's a white to blush semi-double with a narrow old rose border on each notched petal. Full upright grower with dark green foliage that sets buds easily.

This seedling is named for the lady who grew it in a pot on her kitchen window and it is said that almost weekly dumped it out of the pot to watch its development. (I must make a note for the Mrs. to plant a seed in a pot and place it on her sill to see if we have the magic touch.)

Mrs. Ferol Zerkowsky of Tammia Nursery, Slidell, Louisiana is the one who is propagating and growing this lovely flower "Juanita Smith."

"Joyce Butler"

Mrs. H. H. Butler was so kind to fill me in with a little data regarding a seedling that flowered for them in Columbia, Mississippi. An incomplete double with numerous rabbit ears, yellow stamens in the center and some intermingled with rabbit ears nearest the center.

The flower, cerise in color, will reach the size of 4 to 5 inches in diameter and 2 to 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in depth.

(Continued on Page 26)

SCIIONS OF THE TIMES

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SCIONS OF THE TIMES (from Page 24)

The bloom will remain on the plant for days then when it drops it falls in its entirety. Reported to be very cold hardy and blooms over a long period.

The Butler family was so thrilled over this chance seedling with its beautiful formation and color that they named it after their only child "Joyce Butler."

"Julia France"

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Ashby of Charleston, South Carolina who are growing and introducing many fine and interesting seedlings have released one that they feel may possibly be their best flower.

The flower in form compares to "Elizabeth Boardman" which is a large semi-double of hemispherical form with fluted petals but instead of being white this Ashby seedling is Debutante pink. "Julia France" measures from 5 - 5½ inches, seems to be cold hardy, holds well on the plant and does not shatter.

One very outstanding characteristic is the exceptionally large foliage this seedling carries for in some areas it is said to match and even exceed for size the leaves of a well known West Coast introduction named "Masterpiece."

The Ashbys named this flower for the wife of a business associate of Mr. Ashby's, Mrs. Joseph France of Baltimore, Maryland.

"Eleanor Grant"

From the Dothan, Alabama area we learn of a new seedling with a delicate shade of rose semi-double that has bloomed with two different flowers. One has petaloids with stamens intermingled and the other prominent stamens in the center with one or more petaloids at the base of the stamens. The stamens are a very showy bright yellow.

The very large blooms measure

from 5 to 6 inches in diameter. This new seedling which they hope to release in December 1960 has been opening its first buds about the middle of October. Mrs. Adam Grant wrote that the seedlings she was watching were growing so fast she was forced to either find a new home for them or to locate and find a new spot in their garden as these seedlings were growing out of their beds so it was decided to make a camellia hedge of camellia seedlings.

Although her hedge plan did not completely materialize the few that were planted grew and from this small group they found this seedling and Mr. Grant honored his wife by naming it "Eleanor Grant." This chance seedling apparently has extra fine habits as Mrs. Grant commented that some of the one year grafts are 36 inches high.

A flower of this size, form and color with such a long continued blooming season from October 15th through March will certainly be in great demand by our loving, hungry camellia friends.

"Dorothy Peet"

Last January my wife Rose and I, with the wonderful company of two very fine friends, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Asper, had the pleasure and privilege of visiting the home and gardens of Mr. and Mrs. David Feathers in Lafayette, California. It was an opportunity to see many of Dave's hybrids and an occasional seedling from one known parent.

One that caught my eye was a seedling of "Bernice Boddy" which he has named "Dorothy Peet" honoring a wonderful person and fine neighbor of the Feathers.

A flower with blush center shading to deeper pink margins carries color very close to that of "Bernice Boddy." Blossoms are semi-double, 4½ inches

(Continued on Next Page)

SASANQUAS IN HUNTINGTON GARDENS (from Page 8)

leading to the garden shelter and placed so they show through the arch of the Full Moon Bridge, the ruffled white flowers and shining foliage of Dawn provide a startlingly effective contrast with the vivid bridges.

By comparison the quiet loveliness of the little bridge, formed by plants of Hinode-Gumo and Mine-No-Yuki, reflected in the still pool gives the garden an even more exotic touch.

On the island there is a colorful mass of Shishigashira and, in the pool beyond, a large granite boulder over which are draped the sprawling branches of Hana-Jiman.

Crossing to the west slope of the garden the visitor sees several Sasanquas. My favorite among these is a compact plant of Elfin Rose with its multiflowered branches clasping an antique Oriental statue.

To the immediate north of the Tea House a number of sasanquas have been espaliered against a wall and help greatly in defining the character of the surrounding landscape.

On the slopes to the east and south of the Tea House are several large Sasanquas. Of these, my favorite is the ancient tree which arches over the steps on the south slope. The gnarled roots, twisting among the rocks at the base of the stone lantern, and the airy branches, spilling their flowers on the steps, make a picture which adds immeasurably to the feeling of age and peace which one senses as the prevailing mood of this garden.

Recent plantings on the Sasanqua Slope have been made with the idea of providing displays of masses of color rather than single specimens. This, I believe, is the proper way to obtain the most from Sasanquas which are essentially superb mass effect plants.

Many of the newest clones are in this planting and while most of these are still too young to furnish the

effects that may be expected in years to come, many have already begun to give an indication of their tremendous possibilities.

Among newer Sasanquas, some that I have found especially attractive include Showa Supreme, Cotton Candy, Elfin Rose, Miss Ed, Winsome, Bright Shadows, Satin Pink, Christmas Candles, Crimson King, Jennie Erd, Crimson Tide, Godaishu, Lillie Le Jeune and Memere.

I find it difficult to pick any Sasanqua as being better than another because I am becoming increasingly aware that all may be used to advantage if carefully chosen for the proper place. To illustrate my point—the large specimens of wild, small flowered, single whites growing in the Huntington Gardens are terrific when seen with the trees displaying myriad blooms, sparkling like sequins, sprinkled over handsome, tiered branches or spilling from trailing trees like falling stars.

In the Huntington Gardens, Sasanquas are being used in many ways and as new uses are found and new clones secured the improved quality and color tones of these newer introductions supplement, but do not necessarily supplant, the old familiar flowers to which we have become accustomed.

SCIONS OF TIMES (from Page 26)

in diameter and 1½ inches high with eleven petals and three central creped petals.

It is a bushy but rather slow grower with dark green foliage. This is really a larger version of its famed parent "Bernice Boddy" with the addition of interestingly creped central petals. At the time we saw the flower I felt that it might have been even a larger flower than 4½ inches and seemed to be a flatter bloom but with no tape in my pocket I may have been dreaming and it is still fun.

HUGH SHACKELFORD (from Page 22)

was about 20 years ago our friend was infected with the camelliavirus.

If I may quote Mr. Shackelford as follows: "Casting about for the more or less perfect plant for this location, camellias and azaleas both appealed to me. Camellias, particularly from the collector's standpoint because of the many varieties and also because you would start with a small plant and each year your plant would increase in size and value as well as the percentage of bloom.

This plant also appealed to me because of its unique winter blooming habit and its fine quality as an evergreen shrub. Started to grow camellias about 20 years ago and my interest was increased through a friend, Mrs. Sam Bennett, who owned a nice collection and gave me cuttings as well as seed from time to time. Her beautiful plants inspired me to work toward a camellia garden for the future and I began planting seed from every source I could obtain them and have planted seed every year since that time, a few each year when seed was scarce to several thousand when seed were plentiful."

It seems Hugh may have been a neighbor to Southern Californians for after receiving his BS degree from Georgia Tech he attended the University of Southern California for one semester to see the country, then transferred to Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia where he received his LLB degree.

As a professional man Mr. Shackelford is an attorney, real-estate developer, editor of a Men's Garden Club publication "Garden Spotter." As I understand his real estate venture came more or less as a result of his initiative to find the best and ideal spot to grow camellias.

Perhaps it may be of interest to list names of many of Hugh's introductions.

Anne Shackelford Apple Queen

Atomic Red	Nick Adams
Circus Girl	Queen of the
Elizabeth Carroll	South
High Society	Ragged Robin
Indian Chief	Red Giant
Jean Pace	Red Wings
King Cotton	Renee Claire
King of Hearts	Roman Soldier
King Size	Ruffled Princess
Landscape Beauty	Silver Lining
Laura Lamb	Snow Princess
Marie Shackelford	The Bride
Maid of the Mist	5 Star General

We may find many of the above mentioned on our show tables throughout this coming season.

Some of the named seedlings Hugh is holding back are the following: China Doll, Mr. Wonderful, Wings of Song, Remember, Singing Waters and Star Fire.

I do know that Mr. Hugh Shackelford numbers his seedlings as they flower and feels it is worthy to set aside for further observation and I believe this group now carries up into the 500 number that he is watching. Many of those mentioned in the named and registered list carry numbers down among the 100's, 200's and 300's and as I recall his "Roman Soldier" has his number as #315. This being true and the trend, imagine what we may find when we see those seedlings from his 500 series.

The adverse weather experienced by so many growing camellias in the South and Southeast the past few seasons has held up the chance to evaluate these seedlings, particularly when growing so many and they are forced to grow and flower out of doors for lack of green house protection.

We are watching with great anticipation for new things from Shackelford's Nurseries and we know Hugh gets as much of a thrill today from his first bloom of a seedling as he did fifteen years ago when his first came into bloom.

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PRESENTATION OF ILLGES MEDAL (from Page 2)

that of any camellia award. Yet the requirement that the seedling must have won the ACS "Highly Commended Seedling Certificate" results in only the most outstanding new seedlings reaching the final competition for the medal. The judging has been so severe that from the time the medal was first awarded in 1949 to Beau Harp until it was awarded to Giulio Nuccio in 1959, there were only five other flowers deemed worthy of the honor: Joseph Pfingstl, R. L. Wheeler, Mrs. D. W. Davis, Reg Ragland and Tomorrow. Thus, the John P. Illges medal is a high honor indeed, and the greatest that the American Camellia Society can bestow upon a flower.

The 1959 winner, Giulio Nuccio, we all know, and we know that it fully merits such an honor. It is a wonderful, beautiful flower.

I have spoken of the medal itself, the donor, and the flower that won it for 1959. Now let's talk for a minute about the originators of the flower.

The Nuccios started a nursery in the backyard at their home in Alhambra somewhere around 1935. It was a sort of family project where every member pitched in to help run the business. After the war they moved to their present location in Altadena. There Julius and Joe doing their own bulldozing and building transformed a wild foothill area into the beautiful nursery that all of us delight to visit.

I am not going to embarrass them by telling them how much all of us in this audience esteem them. That goes without saying, and they well know it. Rather, I am going to tell you about something which I believe is indicative of the kind of folks that the Nuccios are. When, last month, the great brush fire north of La Canada and Altadena threatened them, coming within 300 yards of the nursery, practically all of the big nurseries that operate trucks, including Germaine, Rosedale, Coolidge, Ed. Arneson and Kramers called the Nuccios to say that they were standing by with their trucks to help them move out their stock in case it should become necessary. When their competitors think that much of them, what can we add by way of tribute?

Only this, Julius and Joe! You have done much for camellias and for all camellia hobbyists in Southern California. We think it most fitting that your first Illges medal should go to Giulio Nuccio. The flower and you richly deserve this honor. We love you and we rejoice with you on this occasion.

It is my great pleasure on behalf of the American Camellia Society to present you with the John P. Illges medal for 1959. Heartiest congratulations!

** The honor bestowed was so outstanding and the presentation so beautifully and well done that Mr. Ragland's remarks are printed exactly as he spoke them.* EDITOR

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 Meetings held 2nd Wednesday of the month, Oct. through April at Cunningham
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- Camellia Society of Orange County Santa Ana
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INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

Al Johnsons	30	McCaskill Gardens	20
Bamico Gardens	19	Meridian Nursery	20
Cannon	Inside Back Cover	Nuccio's Nurseries	12
Halcyon Plantation	25	Patio Wood Products	29
Kramer Bros. Nursery	21	S.C.C.S.	13
Marshall's Camellia Nursery.....	21	S.C.C.S.....	32

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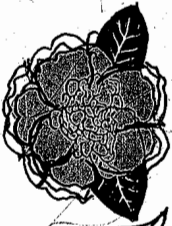
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