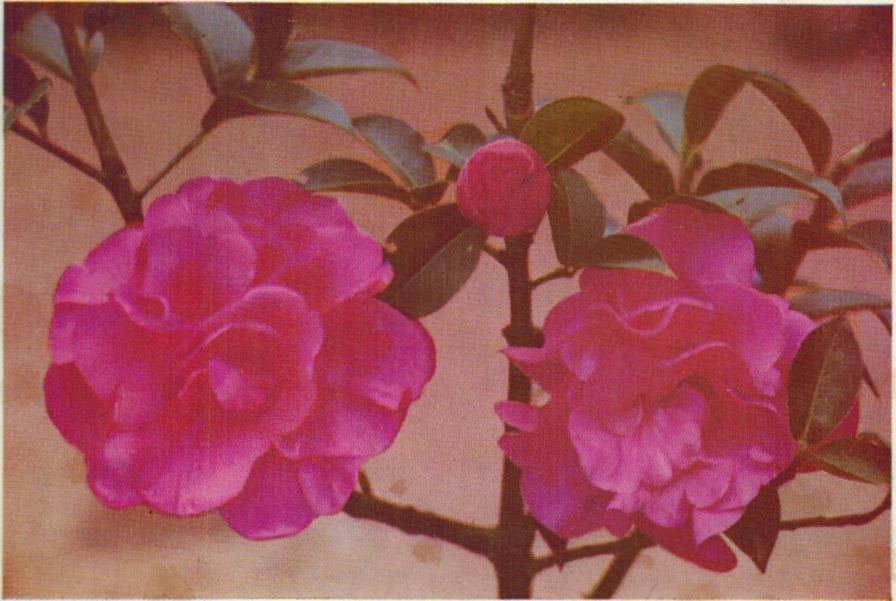


THE

Camellia Review



Camellia Reticulata 'BUTTERFLY WINGS'

Courtesy Royal Horticultural Society of London

Official Bulletin of the Southern California Camellia Society

Vol. 15

March, 1954

No. 6

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The Society holds open meetings on the Second Thursday of every month, November to April, inclusive. A cut-camellia blossom exhibit at 7:30 o'clock regularly precedes the program which starts at 8:00.

Application for membership may be made by letter. Annual dues: \$5.00.

DIRECTORY OF AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

- Central California Camellia SocietyFresno, Calif.
 Meeting Place: Elementary School Auditorium, Fresno State College
 Secretary: Frances F. Lennox, 2040 Hunter Ave., Fresno 3
 Date of Meeting: 3rd Friday of the month
- Camellia Society of Kern CountyBakersfield, Calif.
 Meeting Place: Fiesta Room, El Adobe Motel, Union Ave.
 Secretary: Louise J. Haberfelde, 1800 2nd St., Bakersfield
 Date of Meeting: 2nd Monday of the month, Oct. thru May
- San Diego Camellia SocietySan Diego, Calif
 Meeting Place: Floral Association Building, Balboa Park
 Secretary: Mrs. L. B. Goodall, 3036 Suncrest Dr., San Diego 16
 Date of Meeting: 2nd Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
- Pomona Valley Camellia SocietyPomona, Calif
 Meeting Place: Claremont Women's Club, 345 W. 12th, Claremont
 Secretary-Treasurer: J. M. Hartke, 1372 Caswell, Pomona
 Date of Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of each month
- Temple City Camellia SocietyTemple City, Calif.
 Meeting Place: Women's Club Auditorium, Woodruff at Kauffman, Temple City
 Secretary: June Manson Schroth, 432 N. Alhambra St., San Gabriel
 Date of Meeting: 2nd Monday of each month, Oct. thru May
- Camellia Society of Orange CountySanta Ana, Calif.
 Meeting Place: Community Center, West 8th St., Santa Ana
 Secretary: Harold Larson, 212 S. Orange St., Orange
 Date of Meeting: 3rd Thursday of the month
- Huntington Camellia GardenSan Marino, Calif.
 Huntington Library and Art Gallery, Oxford Rd., San Marino
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Camellia Reviewer

ELIZABETH BEEBE

There's A Good Reason

The show's the Thing this month and we are hoping that everyone within traveling distance will come out to see our own Society's show. Of course Camellias are grown for all sorts of reasons—for a living—for research—for a hobby but never as far as we know to be kept secret—at least after they are stabilized. For Camellias were made to be admired and where can they be better admired than at a Show? It is a constant source of amazement and wonder to us (when we have those infrequent periods just to meditate) the hold that Camellias have over intelligent people. The real secret of that hold, we do believe is the eternal satisfaction of personally being able to bring about Beauty. Blooms long gone still are remembered by the photographs taken of them, or the remembered vicissitudes of their creation.

And beautiful blooms brought to a Camellia Show whether or not they wear a blue ribbon across their petals still are admired and treasured by their owners. "My Camellias," say their owners as the Englishman says "My tea," and even with all the tea in China and all the Camellias in the world there is a personal satisfaction of ownership that cannot be gained.

Yes, we'll be seeing *your* Camellias at the Show.

* * *

Business is Bettered By a Feminine Touch

The friendly smile of Dorothy Jonson has greeted Review readers from the "Destruxol" advertisement for a long time. The friendly smile and manner are real and are in evidence in the pleasant building on South Arroyo in Pasadena where Mrs.

Jonson carries on a business started by her husband, the late Dr. William Jonson.

Dr. Jonson's research was concerned with methods to stop the impoverishment of the soil so that it could produce food crops with real food value. His research continues through the establishment of a foundation that will support research in soil analysis and nematology.

Mrs. Jonson manages the Destruxol Corporation which manufactures a full line of insecticides and fungicides. She also publishes various bulletins and brochures and we advise you to ask for Bulletin 101 on the subject of Camellias and Azaleas which is authoritative and very helpful. A Spray Chart is also yours for the asking.

We offer the Camellia of the month to Dorothy Jonson for her services in the advancement of better food products, and more beauty, through her aids to Camellia culture.

* * *

What Next?

We see by a Mobile, Alabama paper that the Bellingrath Gardens has a social hostess. Can it be that the deep south has something that the California south has not? We would like the idea of being hostess (social) among Camellias. Any offers?

* * *

Accent on Camellias

Interesting visitors to the Southern California Camellia Garden at the Huntington Gardens this month included Major Frank Polan of Beverly Hills and his two guests from South Carolina, Mark Boatwright and Maynard Watson. Mr. Boatwright comes from Johnston and Mr. Watson from Ridge Spring.

Major Polan lives in Beverly Hills and is well known in the Camellia world. Mr. Boatwright and Mr. Watson are peach growers and were on

(Continued on Page 28)



A FORE TASTE OF OUR ANNUAL SHOW

Enthusiasts crowd around one of the tables of exhibition Camellias before the February meeting of the S.C.C.S. is called to order.

CAMELLIA BEAUTIES TAKE SPOTLIGHT AT FEBRUARY MEETING OF SCCS

With enthusiasm mounting toward the annual Camellia Show of the S.C.C.S. which will be held March 6th, the February meeting of the Society was marked by announcements about the show and a real foretaste of the beauty that will be the climax of the year's Camellia culture.

With the unprecedented days of hot weather preceding the meeting, Camellias just couldn't wait to open up, with the result that growers had difficulty in choosing the best of all their blooms available. Consequently there were hundreds of wonderful blossoms brought to the meeting and the half hour allotted to their arrangement and discussion was all too short.

Spectacular specimens included the dainty and intriguing reticulata plant dotted with blooms brought for exhibition purposes only (and firmly taken home again) by Mrs. Albert Dekker; the huge seedling 'Reg Ragland' of William Woodroof's which is competing for the Margarete Hertrich

award and the lovely white seedlings 'Fairest Day,' and 'Frosty Morn,' of Harvey Short's displayed dramatically in crystal bowls on black velvet.

Calling the meeting to order, President Dryden spoke of the new Nom-
(Continued on Next Page)

FEBRUARY MEETING S.C.C.S. from Page 3

enclature Book already being rapidly mailed to many parts of the world. Giving credit to William Woodroof who "mixed up the names," and to Ronald Townsend, Editor whom he called "Mr. Author," he spoke about the worth of the publication and gave the suggestion of its being considered as a pleasant Christmas present or gift.



Mother and daughter are winners of the Camellias judged first and second best blooms brought to the February S.C.C.S. meeting. Left, Mrs. W. H. Bonner holds her beautiful 'Adolphe Audusson' which took second place to the 'Jessie Katz' which won first place for her daughter, Eleanor Hayward.

President Dryden then called on representatives of different societies who were present and those who responded were Mr. Pearson of the Pomona Valley Society who announced time and plans for their Camellia Show; Roy Thompson of Glendale who did the same of the Pacific Society's Show; and Lawrence Bryant who enlarged on plans of the Temple City Society for its Camellia Show and Temple City Camellia Festival.

The meeting then was turned over to Dan Sullivan Program Chairman and also Chairman of the S.C.C.S. Show. First Mr. Sullivan introduced Martin Usrey, speaker of the evening.

Mr. Usrey is General Manager of the Monrovia Nursery and also one

of the directors of the All America Camellia Selections.

Mr. Usrey reminded his audience that naturally each grower considers his own creation the finest and prettiest Camellia produced, but stated that the A A C S had been created to prove which camellias were the best and then to push them. The idea of the Selections originated in Southern California in September 1950 with its first meeting in Santa Cruz. It was officially organized in New Orleans the next year. About 16 firms are now a part of the project and must attend the annual meeting, bringing scion wood. There are three judges for each of the seven test locations and Mr. Usrey emphasized that the judges chosen are of the highest caliber not only with a wide knowledge of Camellias but with extensive horticultural backgrounds. The Test Garden situated in San Fernando Valley is represented by Ronald Townsend, Cecil Eshelman and Robert Casamajor as judges.

Any grower can submit specimens but in order to qualify he must furnish 14 plants, either two-year grafts or 3 year cutting stock. The first year, there were three entries, now there are about six. The originator will receive a royalty on every one of his Camellias sold if it becomes an All America Camellia Selection. As each Camellia must be tested for 3 years before it is even eligible for selection, the first selections will not be made until 1955.

Mr. Usrey concluded his talk with a few generalities on Camellia culture summing them up by stating that 75% of the success of Camellia growing lay in the way the Camellia is planted. It then should have drainage away from its roots, and be sprayed lightly.

Mr. Dan Sullivan then made show announcements, exhibiting one of the

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THE STORY OF ONE TAP ROOT

By WILLIAM HERTRICH

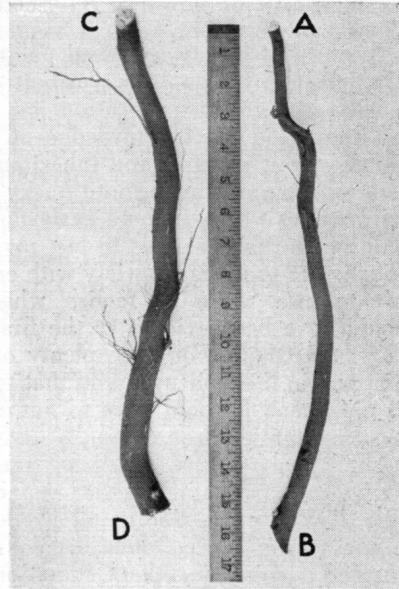
The accompanying illustration shows part of the tap root of a recently transplanted *Camellia* specimen which originated as a volunteer seedling in the Huntington Botanical Gardens. When about ten or twelve inches tall, this seedling was transplanted from its place of origin without injuring its tap root. This was about seven years ago.

This plant was one of many seedlings placed about the gardens to be used eventually for understock to graft new acquisitions and so to enlarge the collections. Usually many of such seedlings are held long enough to produce new flowers, or to determine any possible new cultivars (flowers new in form or color or combination of colors).

This particular seedling promised to be different and worthy of a name and after three years of flowering, it was christened 'Marjorie Townsend.'

We found it necessary to transplant the specimen to a more favorable location and in so doing discovered the long tap root, which of course had to be cut. Cutting the severed root in two pieces for better photographing it will be noted that these two 16-inch pieces are still only a portion of the original length of the root. The 7-foot specimen was transplanted in a box 16-inches deep at the bottom of which the tap root was cut. There also was left in the ground the deepest part of the root estimated to be about 12 inches long making a total estimated length of 5 feet which was only two feet shorter than the height of the plant.

The purpose of this article is to prove graphically that the method best suited to the successful raising of camellia plants from seed is by planting the seed in containers or flats following tap root pinching. This method has been explained at various



Courtesy Hunt. Bot. Gard.

By joining "C" on to "B" it will be seen that the cut portion of this tap root measures about 32 inches. See story.

times in the Review as against using volunteer seedlings from the field, without pinching the tap root. It is easy to cut too much off from the tap root after which it is very difficult to establish the plant.

In the case of the 'Marjorie Townsend' we shall keep a close watch to see if any injurious effects result from such a drastic clipping of the root.

Paging All Gardens—

The City of Escondido, San Diego County, celebrated "Camellia Week" February 8 through 13, according to a proclamation issued by Mayor A. F. Andreasen. Members of the Escondido Garden Club and the nurseries in that community are cooperating in a campaign to see that each garden has at least one Camellia plant. Newspaper publicity outlined simple instructions for the planting and care of Camellias.

SOME EXPERIMENTING IN THE CROSSING OF POLLINATED CAMELLIA SEEDLINGS

By ELMER MUELLER

Having watched two crossed pollinated seedlings develop into fine camellia varieties in my own back yard, it encouraged me to make the growing of camellia crossing my avocation.

Without too much knowledge of the techniques involved and a few wild notions about genetics and inheritance, I was lucky to set a good number of seeds which are growing into husky plants. Not having afforded the artificial environment which induces early flowering of seedlings, I am still anxiously awaiting the first blooms to test my original concepts and the success of my objective to produce a variety with excellent fragrance.

It took a while to realize what should have been evident in the first place: that there would be plenty of company in this endeavor and that to get out ahead I would have to figure the unconventional angles.

About this time colchicine was coming into general public notice and naive I was, to imagine that I would be pioneering a new field, when I sent for a colchicine plant mutation experiment kit complete with instructions.

Of more than thirty plants, seedlings and rooted cuttings treated in the fall of 1951, seven seedlings (perhaps a couple less or a few more) show increased leaf size and vigor indicating that the treatment was effective. As the plants vary so much anyway, it is hard to tell exactly which are affected. From these I hope to have at least a few plants fit to use as parent stock.

The following spring treatment, of growing bud tips on mature plants, has failed to develop any general alteration, but there was the tendency of an occasional leaf to fishtail; to have a forked midrib. Fishtail leaves have appeared in three varieties of which one is a sasanqua and in two seedlings. One mature plant produced flowers this winter on two treated branches showing a fishtail leaf, and I was able to use the pollen. As I already have cross seedlings of the same parentage, it will be interesting to compare results, if indeed this

symptom is the result of colchicine treatment.

The treatment of sprouted seeds was unsatisfactory, the mortality was high and there was little indication of any alteration. The technique may have been wrong and a little experimentation might develop better methods. Anyhow it is more practical to use plants of known genetic character.

While the more dramatic phase (to smear colchicine salve on a few bud tips and then sit back and await an xenogenesis) has been glamorized, obscure references indicate what might be the more practical use of colchicine.

The instructions tells us that, quote, "very frequently it has been found that treated plants produce forms that are sterile, that is they do not produce fertile seed. Such plants have to be propagated vegetatively. However, when the chromosome number of a sterile species hybrid is doubled, the resulting plants are usually fertile."

We read that hybridizers were frustrated in their attempts to cross various species of lilies until they were able to control the chromosome structure. We learn that when very dissimilar species are crossed, in the resulting hybrid the affinity of the chromosomes is poor and they do not attract and repel properly and are reluctant to pair. During the mitosis

(Continued on Page 24)

Alabama Produces New Camellia



Courtesy Press Register

Mr. Walter D. Bellingrath, well known for his untiring efforts in the spread of horticultural beauty.

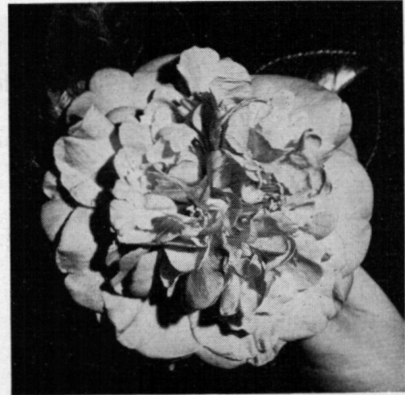
As one means of honoring a man whose interest in flowers and horticulture has contributed much to Mobile, Alabama through the beautiful Bellingrath Gardens, a new variety of Camellia, the 'Walter D. Bellingrath' has been perfected.

The flowers are semi-double blooms of brilliant pink, and in peony form. The perfect bloom has 152 petals and

the flower has exceptional keeping qualities, well able to withstand prolonged dryness and cold weather. The first bloom was obtained in 1938 from seeds planted in 1932.

This Camellia was named by one of Mr. Bellingrath's admirers, Cliff Harris, a nurseryman of Mobile and was developed by Robert O. Reubel at Mr. Harris' nursery. It will be accorded patent No. 19, being only the 19th Camellia patented in the United States.

Mr. Harris said that he had made his selection in a desire to perpetuate Mr. Bellingrath's name.



Courtesy Press Register

C. japonica 'Walter D. Bellingrath,' a new variety named for the founder of the famous Bellingrath Gardens of Mobile, Alabama.

Camellia MAIL BAG

From South Carolina

Mr. Wendell M. Levi, Executive Vice President of the South Carolina Society, Incorporated sends his check for a subscription renewal with the suggestion to "please hurry and send the new nomenclature book—" and then goes on to say, quote—

"By the way, on page 8 of the Camellia Review for January, Sig-

mund Katz said that 'Barbara Morgan' is an introduction of Mr. Bradford at Ocean Springs. I am sorry to hear this for the Aichele's near Charleston are prouder of this seedling which they claim to be theirs than anything else."

Thank you, Mr. Levi for the information about 'Barbara Morgan.' Please note that Mr. Katz hastily corrected the slip in the February Review but we are pleased to hear news of 'Barbara Morgan.'

(Continued on Page 17)

THE DIVINE HERB

By KAY BETTS

The Greeks, noted for their appropriate appellations, translated their version of *Thea* — the tea plant genus — as “the divine herb”. Subsequently, Linneus accredited *Camellia japonica* to the Jesuit priest, Camellus, and included this exquisite bloom under the hallowed genus *Thea*, a name later changed to *Camellia sinensis*.

The tea plant, *Camellia sinensis*, belongs to the same family as our garden camellia. There are *C. sinensis* plants growing in Southern California—vigorous plants with white, single blossoms. Their homeland is doubtful, though it could be India or China—or both. During the last century, the tea plant was discovered growing wild in the forests of Assam, East India, so it may be native of that region.

In China the *Camellia sasanqua*, known as “Flower of Tea,” is cultivated and the dried petals are mixed with other tea to give a fragrance. Perhaps in its native climate it emits some perfume, or this might be imparted by some special process. In other lands, however, neither *sasanqua* nor its sisters exhale any perfume, if one excepts the *Myrtifolia*, which shows some trace.

Tea propagation became general in the 6th century, but not until 780 A.D. were horticultural and other aspects of tea-growing published by Lu Yu, a noted Chinese author and tea expert. With his *Tea Book*, he became the first apostle of this herb, for he saw in tea service the same harmony and order that rule in all things, and thereby was formed the first Code of Tea.

The tea-time ceremonial of Cha-no-yu is peculiar to Japan. Originally a monastic custom, it was introduced by Japanese Buddhists who had gone to China for study. As an aesthetic pastime, Cha-no-yu represents a cult in which the beverage is idealized. Devotees appreciate Art and worship Nature through the medium of the delicate and refreshing aroma of powdered green tea.

In the north east corner of Kyoto the famous Japanese tea-room built as specified by Shuko, the Father of the Tea Ceremony, is still preserved

and known to foreign tourists as the Silver Pavilion. Principles of refined and chaste simplicity as taught by Shuko remain basic practices of various schools teaching this ancient mode of serving, with utensils carefully selected and arranged. Cha-no-yu etiquette enables one to cultivate poise, grace, tranquility and urbanity — all accomplishments promoting gentility in manners.

Empirically, it has been proved that any kind of tea drunk regularly in moderate measure is conducive to good health. All kinds, alkaline in a high degree, are effectual to counteract undesirable acidity in fish and meat. The manganese contained in tea kills microbes, and the iron in which tea is rich has an important role to play in purifying the blood. It has also been discovered that Japanese green tea contains vitamins A and C in liberal amounts. The ancient *Materia Medica* which set forth these salutary virtues of tea has sound scientific basis, according to Fukikita in his fascinating story, *Tea Cult of Japan*.

Fukikita also informs us that only a true cha-jin, or one devoted to Cha-no-yu, knows how to entertain guests “with a twig of the *Camellia* having one bud half open and few leaves in a small vase which is severely plain.”

The Chinese dramatize the advent
(Continued on Page 11)

Preview of New Seedlings



Mrs. Harold Dryden, wife of the Society's President, points delightedly to the beautiful seedlings 'Fairest Day,' and 'Frosty Morn,' brought to the meeting by Harvey Short. Admiring companions are (left) Mrs. Clifton Johnson and (right) Mrs. Harold C. Hill, whose husband was former President of the S.C.C.S.

You Are All Invited

Show of Shows!

The Southern California Camellia Society will hold its Annual Camellia Show at the San Marino Women's Club House Saturday, March 6th from one to ten P.M. The show is free to the public.

There is no entry fee for amateurs and anyone who grows camellias may submit an entry and is urged to do so. You do not have to be a member of the Society to participate and everyone has a chance to win. If you are doing this for a first time, it is suggested that you refer to Erna Thurnher's article

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YOU ARE INVITED from Page 9

"How to Handle Blooms" which appeared in last November's Review.

This is particularly true if you are going to enter a flower arrangement. A complete schedule with a long list of different type arrangements is available from the flower arrangement chairman, Mary Pulliam, 217 S. San Rafael Avenue in Pasadena. Her telephone is Sycamore 6-7292. A silver trophy will be awarded to the sweepstakes winner in this division.

The Bloom's the Thing

For the exhibitions of cut blooms, a new schedule has been planned to allow more classes for competition and to withdraw some of the consistent winners from their usual classes and put them in classes by themselves which will afford some of the less boldly colored Camellias a chance to win their rightful places in the show. For example, 'Gigantea' which has been a consistent winner in the anemone variety class will have to be shown only in competition with other blooms of 'Gigantea.'

Following is the new schedule for single cut blooms:

SCHEDULE

Amateur

One Blossom

Classes 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 13 are divided according to color:

- P Pink
- R Red
- W White
- V Variegated

Class 1 Single. One row of not over eight petals. Example: Amabilis.

Class 2 Semi-double. Two or more rows of petals with conspicuous stamens.

Note: New Color Classes

LP — Light Pink (Blush Pink or Shell Pink). Examples: Magnoliaeflora, Berenice Boddy.

MP — Medium Pink. Example: Mme. Hahn.

DP — Dark Pink. Example: Lady Clare.

R — Red. Example: Adolphe Audusson.

W — White. Example: Finlandia.

VP — Variegated Pink and White. Examples: Mrs. Freeman Weiss Variegated, Nagasaki.

VR — Variegated Red and White. Examples: Finlandia Variegated, Flame Variegated.

Class 3 Anemone Form. One or more rows of large outer petals, the center a convex mass composed of petaloids and stamens intermingled. Example: Chandleri Elegans.

Class 4 Peony Form. A deep, rounded flower with several rows of outer petals, the center a large, convex mass of petaloids. Example: Professor Charles S. Sargent.

Class 5 Rose Form. Petals large, round, imbricated, turned back from a rose-like bud and showing stamens in a concave center when fully open. Example: Mathotiana.

Class 6 Formal Double. Regularly and fully imbricated from center to outer circumference and never showing stamens. Example: Alba Plena.

(Continued on Next Page)

SCHEDULE from Page 10

- | | | | |
|----------|---|----------|------------------|
| Class 7 | Adolphe Audusson Variegated or "Special." | Class 11 | Gigantea. |
| Class 8 | Debutante. | Class 12 | Ville De Nantes. |
| Class 9 | Donckelari. | Class 13 | Reticulata. |
| Class 10 | Glen No. 40. | | |

Important Note to Exhibitors

Where a class is created for a specific variety, it must be exhibited in that special class only. Example: Debutante must be exhibited in Class 8 only and not in class 4P.

Classes & Trophies!

Classes are also provided this year for Camellia plants in containers both under three feet in height and over three feet in height.

Classes for three or six camellias of one variety will be displayed in owner's container—also listed.

The Sweepstakes winner and winner of Best Flower in Show will receive a silver trophy.

All of the trophies this year will be beautiful silver bowls which will not only be lovely in their proud winner's home but serve for displaying Camellias and other flowers.

Schedules may be obtained from the Show Chairman by writing or calling Dan Sullivan, 1231 Armada Drive, Pasadena 3, Calif. Telephone Ryan 1-8310.

Get Your Entry Blanks In.

All persons intending to exhibit blooms or plants are urged to fill in the entry blanks printed on the last page of the schedule and mail to the Secretary of the Society by March 4th if possible. This will greatly reduce the amount of time required to enter your blooms at the show. If you are not sure as to the number of Camellias you will have on the day of the Show, check the spaces provided on the blanks for all the classes for which you might have blooms with the thought in mind that it is easier on the entry committee to throw away cards not needed than to make them up on the day of the show.

Entries may be made at the clubhouse the night before the show after 10 P.M. or on the morning of the show before 10 A.M.

All This & Beauty Too

Cake, doughnuts, cookies and coffee will be served to the public and each hour one of the rarest Camellias obtainable together with Patio Wood Products redwood tubs for each plant will be offered to the lucky winner.

A beautiful Camellia in bloom in redwood tub with a redwood roller will be awarded to the person holding the winning door prize ticket. No charge for these tickets.

THE DIVINE HERB from Page 8 of tea by ascribing it to the reign of a fabulous emperor, Shen Nung, called the "Divine Healer" who lived about 2700 B.C. In the medical monograph—purportedly his—there is a reference to tea, prescribing it "to

quench thirst, lessen desire for sleep, gladden and cheer the heart!"

To meditate on the beauty of a *Camellia japonica* while sipping the fragrant *Camellia sinensis* is to combine the spiritual with the practical and fuse the senses in utter harmony.

TO THE LADIES

By CHARLOTTE HOAK

Now is the appointed time for the ladies to get out their choicest containers, heirlooms of silver, pewter, and rare pieces of Chinese pottery which have been treasured since the mid-Victorian days. Perhaps on the top shelf of your cupboard there are priceless pieces purchased long before there were ceramic stands along the highways from Chico to San Diego with the towns of any size boasting of one to several.

Since Tierney's eye-opening demonstrations at our January meeting, we are going to be able to use the above treasures to better advantage in following the true Oriental theme in our arrangements. Since this last meeting, too, many of us doubtless have been devising ways and means to duplicate some of the easily constructed containers shown.

Some of us happen to be Overseas Fellows of the Royal Horticultural Society and we have read with considerable interest the report of the 1950 Camellia and Magnolia Report and we still have fresh in our minds the exquisite color plates which will furnish us with further suggestions for other arrangements. It is to be hoped that the recent period exceeding all records of a February "hot spell" has not forced out prematurely the best of our seasonable Camellias.

Not yet having succumbed to "driftwooditis" I sincerely hope that blackened and grayed down wooden deformities will not be in evidence, and that nobody will be brash enough to put succulents out on a limb and stick in a camellia or two for color as they did our last flower show.

We are going to hurry some this year if we take in all the camellia shows. There is going to be one grand rush from early February to

the middle of March for there are now an amazing number of Camellia Societies each one boasting of its own excellence and achievements. In the last few years many new creations have been shown and the center of every show are the first fruits of our hybridists whose beauty and variety hold us spellbound. We go to marvel and applaud these winners of awards.

This year we are going to look for many innovations. Glendale used a new simplified flower classification for the first time, all blooms being classified by variety rather than form, competing with other blossoms of their variety. Our Society's schedule lists seven new color classes. The very compact entry blank at the end of the schedule is certainly a time saver. Your attention is called to the notation stating that where a class has been created for a specific variety, it must be exhibited in this special class only. For example: 'Debutante' must be exhibited in Class 8 only and not in Class 4P.

Camellias are ideal corsage flowers and in this field the ladies excel almost exclusively. An interesting article "Grow Your Own Corsages," appeared in the Golden Gardens Magazine some little while ago written by one of the pioneer growers and hybridizers, Mr. E. H. Carter. From his years of experience he tells how to grow camellias over the longest period of time and selects for you, the best varieties for corsages.

Time marches on with the century milestone well passed. The *Camellia japonica* is strongly entrenched in our gardens and we are destined to widen our knowledge of camellias in general becoming more and more familiar with other fine species.

LET'S SUPPORT OUR AFFILIATE SOCIETIES

By LAWRENCE R. BRYANT, *Chairman*

Inter-Society Relations Committee

On Sunday, February 7th, we drove out to the Y M C A building in Santa Ana to see the first Camellia Show of the 1954 season put on by the Camellia Society of Orange County, California. This was their third annual show and in spite of the early date, the unusually long spell of hot weather and the Santa Ana wind which blew up the day before, they had a very creditable showing on blooms in competition. The plants in containers were fine and the arrangements were really Camellia arrangements. They do not seem to be afraid to cut wood with the blooms.

The special exhibits were very fine. Harvey Short who was one of the show judges, had a wonderful display of some of his new seedlings and other blooms from Coolidge Gardens. The Blanding Nurseries of Santa Ana had a table full of fine blooms. Bill Woodroof and Dr. Eshelman had a beautiful display of many of the newer numbers. For the first time Bill showed a new seedling. One of its blooms was selected by the judges as the best seedling and also the best flower in the show. The name of this seedling is 'Reg Ragland' and 'Reg Ragland, variegated.'

There was also a display of blooms sent from the Temple City Camellia Society. These blooms were donated by our good nursery friends Nuccio, McCaskill, Marshall, Rose, Sense and Councilman. What would we do without them?

The Camellia Society of Orange County is a small society but what they lack in numbers they make up in pep and enthusiasm. They would like to grow in numbers, also. Members of the S C C S who live in Full-

OUR COVER FLOWER

This issue is proud to present as its cover flower the charming *Camellia reticulata* 'Butterfly Wings'. The plates were made available to us through this Society's long time member Ralph Peer, now on tour abroad. Mr. Peer is a Fellow of the Royal Horticultural Society of London and sent us the plates on loan from that Society.

'Butterfly Wings' is described as a very large, irregular, semi-double, with broad wavy petals resembling the wings of a butterfly in shape. It is rose pink and its plant slender in form.

The Chinese name is 'Hoyeh-tieh-chich.'

erton, Anaheim, Corona Del Mar and other locations near Santa Ana would be doing themselves a favor by driving into Santa Ana and attending the meetings of this fine affiliate of ours.

The same goes for our other affiliates who meet in Fresno, Bakersfield, Pomona, Temple City and San Diego. If you are within driving distance of these locations, look up the meeting place and dates in the Camellia Review and treat yourself to some good meetings and new friends. One member of the Temple City Society drives in from Oxnard every meeting night. If he can do it, why not you?

Let's support our affiliate societies.

THE VERSATILITY OF THE CAMELLIA

By ELIZABETH COUNCILMAN

CHAPTER VI

THE ESPALIERED PLANT

The word "Espalier" is from the French. The Italian word "Spalliera," a support for the shoulder, comes from "spalla", the shoulder, in turn comes from the Latin "spatula", a broad piece or a blade. The English definition of this word is: A lattice work of wood, on which to train fruit trees and ornamental shrubs.

There are a good many shrubs and trees that lend themselves very nicely to both the formal and informal type espalier and among the best of these is the genus *Camellia*. The specie, *sasanqua*, has been considered excellent espalier material for some time, which is understandable with its arched manner of growth, its sun tolerance, its shiny small leaves and its delicate flowers. Less has been written about the many possibilities of the specie *japonica* as an espaliered plant and this and some of the best suited varieties of *japonica* for this work are what we will discuss here.

To begin with, when you set out to purchase a plant for this purpose, it is best to keep in mind how the plant will be placed and trained on your trellis or wall. Choose one that is rather fan shaped and will naturally fall into this training, which is accomplished by fastening the limbs of the plant where you wish them to grow with staples (on walls) and plant ties, and pruning away the excess or limbs that do not add to the beauty of the espaliered plant as a whole. Most any variety of *japonica*, if you look for a fan shaped plant, will lend itself to this work, but I believe the open, rapid growing varieties are generally considered best. Here are a few that have been successfully used as espaliered plants.

1. 'Arejishi' or 'Aloha,' with its dark salmon red, full peony type

flower, and open rapid growth has been successfully and beautifully used as an espalier, both in tubs with a trellis and in the ground. 'Arejishi' is one of the early blooming varieties and when it becomes a large plant, will produce its lovely blossoms during the entire *Camellia* blooming season.

2. 'Debutante,' also an early blooming variety, with its delicate, lovely large pink peony type blossom, is another variety of *japonica* which makes an excellent espaliered plant. It is a rapid grower and lends itself willingly to this type of training. The results when 'Debutante' is used for espaliering are very gratifying.

3. 'Marchioness of Exeter,' a lovely old English variety of *japonica*, is exceedingly good for this use due to its very rapid open type growth. It produces a large full peony type flower which is a warm shade of pink and pretty with good lasting qualities.

4. 'Mathotiana,' with its gorgeous red blossom, is probably as good espalier material as you could find within the *japonica* specie. This variety has a natural tendency to grow in this fashion and makes a beautiful espalier.

5. 'Gigantea,' with its dark shiny large green foliage and its truly magnificent flower of vari-form, perhaps would require a little more patience to espalier, but has the possibilities of becoming one of the most handsome espaliers you could imagine. As a garden shrub, this variety is not considered one of the best looking plants, and training in this manner would enhance the beauty of the bush as the beauty of its flower ranks high among the finest of the species.

(Continued on Page 27)

NEWS, NOTES AND NOTICES

SAN DIEGO

The Seventh Annual Camellia Show, February 13 and 14th was largely attended despite very inclement weather and was considered one of the best given by the San Diego Camellia Society, co-sponsored by S.C.C.S. and A.C.S.

A beautiful table of blossoms was graciously contributed by the Huntington Botanical Gardens. Several other out of town individuals brought lovely blooms to add to the large list of entries from San Diego County.

One of the most popular features of the Show was the corsage making booth. Members of the Society worked faithfully to make this Show an outstanding affair in every way. Newspapers, Radio and Television cooperated closely.

Dr. Reubel Tellam receives congratulations from President F. E. Vensel of the San Diego Camellia Society for the best Amateur Exhibit of a single blossom, 'Ville de Nantes,' at the San Diego Camellia Show, February 13 and 14.



Judges Dr. Lloyd J. Taylor, Pasadena; Mrs. William Viney, Covina; and Clifford W. Johnson, San Marino, made the following awards:

SWEEPSTAKES — Dr. Reuben Tellam

MOST OUTSTANDING FLOWER IN SHOW — Reticulata 'Butterfly Wings'
— Descanso Distributing Company, Chino, Calif.

BEST AMATEUR FLOWER — 'Ville de Nantes' — Dr. Reuben W. Tellam,
Ramona

BEST COMMERCIAL FLOWER — 'Frizzle White' — Bradford Camellia
Gardens, San Diego

BEST FLOWER AMATEUR EXHIBITS — 'Elizabeth La Bey' — Mrs.
William Viney, Covina, Calif.

BEST SEEDLING — 'Mrs. Carl Anderson' — Mrs. A. P. Carlton, San Diego

BEST GRAFT — 'Joseph Pffingstl' — Captain F. E. Vensel, La Mesa

BEST FLOWERING PLANT — 'Magnoliaeflora' — Mrs. Mary Blottin,
Lemon Grove

BEST ARRANGEMENT — Mrs. Roland Hoyt, San Diego

C. SCOTT CAMPBELL MEMORIAL, for best graft — 'Joseph Pffingstl' —
Captain F. E. Vensel, La Mesa

A.C.S. GOLD CERTIFICATE — Dr. Reuben Tellam, Ramona

(Continued on Next Page)

SAN DIEGO from Page 15

A.C.S. SILVER CERTIFICATE — J. O. Henry, Ramona

HIGHLY COMMENDED CERTIFICATE — Mrs. A. P. Carlton, San Diego

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY GOLD CERTIFICATE

— Dr. Reuben Tellam, Ramona

S. C. C. S. SILVER CERTIFICATE — Dr. Reuben Tellam, Ramona

Dr. Reuben Tellam has announced that henceforth he will not compete for honors but will continue to display his blossoms. He has delighted the public and members of the Society with his beautiful flowers through the years. His collection is considered one of the finest in this section.

FROM FLORIDA

A full page spread from the Florida Times-Union for January 24th gives pictures of the big Camellia Show put on by the Garden Club and the Men's Garden Club. The theme of the show was "Symphony to Camellias" and from the pictures of beautiful femininity and flowers, the show was perfectly named. It is interesting to note that the best flower from the women's division was the 'Charles Hyde Potter,' which is not even listed in our new Nomenclature book. Men's first place was won by 'Thelma Sanford.'

This was Jacksonville's 18th annual show.

Camelliana

The Quarterly

The American Camellia Quarterly for January 1954 comes out with an exceptionally fine color reproduction of *Camellia japonica* 'Jarvis Red', the green of the leaves and red of the blossom of quite authentic shades.

It is interesting to note that California plays quite a part in the contents of this issue with Roy Wiegand of Sacramento and Elizabeth Councilman contributing articles. Erna Thurnher's article on handling camellia blooms was reprinted from the November 1953 Review, and David W. McLean, Chairman of the Garden Committee of the Southern California Camellia Society has quite a comprehensive article on the Huntington Botanical Gardens and Camellia Garden.

Other contributions on phases of camellia culture make a very interesting magazine while the partial list

of contents of year books from 1948 to 1952 will be a handy reference for camellia growers.

Nomenclature Book

The long looked-for and eagerly awaited Nomenclature book in its 1954 revision has been out now for a little over a week at this writing, but its instant recognition is realized by the report of the Secretary that about 3,000 copies, mostly single ones have already been mailed.

A book of 96 pages, 55 of these are devoted to descriptions of *japonicas* with over 200 varieties of *sasanquas* following, as well as other species. The cultural portion containing articles on pollinating techniques, seedling culture and a comprehensive outline of general camellia culture rounds out a book that should most certainly be a part of every *Camellia* library. Illustrations are both black and white and in color. Much credit is due to its editors, Ronald Townsend who was responsible for the cultural portion and William Woodroof for the classifications.

MAIL BAG from Page 7

From Alabama

Dear Editor:

I have coined a name for these Camellia enthusiasts. Instead of "Alcoholics," they are "Camelliaolics." Yes, it's truly a disease, but a pleasant one.

Mrs. E. A. H., Birmingham, Ala.
Well, "itis" or "ic" it's mighty contagious.

Dear Editor:

Mr. Andrew F. Sears of Portland, Oregon had a very interesting article in the March 1951 "Camellian" concerning the effect of light on Camellia growth. I have been minded to write him ever since, and recently did so.

His article was of interest both because of the comments on light influence and the fact that some of the seeds used were from Japan and germinated in the month of May. This has an important bearing on the subject of duration of seed viability which has been under discussion for some time. However, there has been little factual data available concerning viability and for this reason, a review of the article together with the accompanying letter from Mr. Sears dated January 6, 1954, seems most timely.

Obviously, Mr. Sears is a close observer and his views and conclusions are worthy of serious consideration; several of the opinions expressed are debatable, however, and do not necessarily express my own thoughts on the subjects involved.

I offer the foregoing and Mr. Sears' excellent letter in the hope that they may prove to be of interest to some of our readers.

Sincerely, E. C. Tourje.

Dear Mr. Tourje:

I am sorry to say that due to ill health and pressure of too many other duties I have been unable to continue my experimenting with the
(Continued on Next Page)

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MAIL BAG from Page 17

use of light in producing rapid growth of seedling Camellias. However, my experiments agree with your statement that light is the predominating influence in producing rapid growth and although light without the use of foliar feeding does produce some extra growth, in order to get the maximum amount of new growth, it is necessary to use high nutrient fertilizer based upon urea along with the light.

It has been my experience that in urea fertilizer, other fertilizing elements contained in the fertilizer are also made available at least to a limited degree. I have found that the addition of a small amount of blood meal has been exceptionally beneficial, that the new growth was much larger, more vigorous and healthy, and that the leaves had a much better deep green color than with any other fertilizer combination used.

I obtained the best results from the use of 250 watt General Electric reflector flood lights placed about two feet above the plants, although I had a little trouble from too much heat, and especially from the light globes getting too hot and burning themselves out of the sockets in which they were placed. It was necessary to use a metal reflector above these globes to keep the moisture condensation from dripping on them and cracking them, and this confined the heat around the globes too much.

I also had good results from the use of Westinghouse 40-watt *Warm white* fluorescent tubes. The growth under these lights was not quite as great but seemed to be more normal even though it did cause the plants to put out as many new growths as the other lights.

I would have liked to conduct more experiments with other types of lights, and particularly the fluorescent lights, but about that time I got to the point that even the plants that I already had were suffering from

neglect and I didn't have time to devote to the new experiments. Also I found it quite difficult to obtain the necessary technical information about the light qualities of the various fluorescent light tubes, and the effects of different color temperatures on plant growth without going into considerable highly technical study and figuring it out for myself, as my technical knowledge of electricity was rather limited and I just did not have the time to devote to it.

I did not carry on my experiments long enough to be sure, but I am inclined to believe that constant light is not necessary for maximum results, but that the length of time between the periods of lightness and darkness and the ratio of the amount of time in the dark and in the light were probably a determining factor although the amount of actual light received also would have an important bearing on the plant reaction. In other words, one hour of light of high intensity would perhaps cause as much effect as five or six hours' light of a lower intensity. Of course, I have no actual proof of these ideas. They are merely surmises that I have made from the results I obtained from my experiments, and from what I have read about other experiments in photoperiodism. I am of the opinion that the best results could probably be obtained with a number of intermittent periods of light (at high intensity) and darkness for periods of an hour or two duration for each.

As for my Japanese seedlings, I obtained 100 seeds from which I grew 37 plants to the age of one year. Through lack of repotting at the proper times, drying out, etc., I only had 31 left at the end of the second year. Since that time I have used some of these plants for understock, have lost some through neglect and have perhaps 15 or 20 left.

These seeds from Japan were sent to Mr. Morris L. Sharp by the fam-

(Continued on Next Page)

Gardening Course Starts 2nd Term

Planned for the green-thumb par-dener who is interested in new meth-ods of making his home garden more attractive, an evening course is an-nounced by the Extension Division of the University of Southern Cali-fornia.

Beginning March 16, the class will meet each Tuesday for a period of 12 weeks in room 121 Founders Hall on campus from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Claude Chidamian, garden-maga-zine editor and authority on orna-mental horticulture who is author of the best-seller "Camellias and Com-mon Sense," will be instructor of the course.

Detailed information concerning registration is available from the SC Extension Division or by calling Richmond 2311, station 216.

MAIL BAG from Page 18

ous Japanese botanist, Wada, and al-though I do not know what kind of care these seeds had prior to the time I obtained them, I do know they were in very good shape in May for being as old as they were. They were supposed to be hand-pollinated seeds from selected garden varieties, and among seedlings that have bloomed so far, there were two that had quite interesting flowers. So far, they have not proven to be quite as good as many of our choicest varieties, but I am continuing to keep them to see what develops from them.

Yours for more and better Ca-mellias,

Andrew F. Sears.

Ed. Note: The subject of the effect of light on Camellia growing is such a provocative one, that we were very glad to print Mr. Sears' letter. We would welcome further letters on this subject.

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EXPERIMENTING from Page 6
their migration is irregular, resulting in unstable plants prone to sport. In the last stage of the meiosis the chromosome pairs do not separate and move to opposite nuclei so that seldom is there a gamete formed with a full set of chromosomes. Plants so affected are self-sterile though usually the pollen will be effective on one or both of the parent species.

When such hybrids are treated with colchicine the chromosomes are duplicated and tend to pair identically. The gametes will then contain all of the chromosomes inherited from both parents and the hybrid variety will be stabilized in the next filial generation.

The effect of colchicine is not constant with all varieties and will even vary within one variety. We can expect surprise and failures so we should duplicate our trials over and over. These references suggest several avenues of exploration to determine the effect of colchicine on the camellia.

Most of the camellia species including japonica are diploid having 30 chromosomes in two sets of 15 each, forming 15 pairs. The camellia species reticulata, sasanqua and oleifera are hexaploid having 90 chromosomes in 6 sets of 15 each forming 45 pairs. There are also a few triploid and tetraploid varieties which may be either irregular forms of the par-

ent species or hybrids. Some varieties are hyperploids having one or more extra unpaired chromosomes.

Reports reach us of the successful hybridization of the japonica and reticulata species. This has been accomplished with difficulty and the results have been somewhat disappointing. If such hybrids are to be more than a novelty and they are to enjoy popular favor, further crossing and development will be necessary.

These hybrids would theoretically be tetraploid in form. Would the colchicine induced tetraploid forms of japonica varieties cross readily with them? The few triploid varieties of the japonica are fine, outstanding varieties plants with large flowers of fine coloring. If we are to cross tetraploid varieties with diploid varieties would they produce progeny with similar characteristics? Even though these triploid varieties have well developed genital parts, because of their unbalance they are very sterile. Would they then cross readily with any of the hexaploid species? Would colchicine activate the extra chromosomes in the hyperploids, bringing out the qualities of their latent genes?

Following a program along the lines suggested would be speculative but holds the promise of broadening the varietal range of the camellia. Who knows but that in the meantime we might cause an excellent mutation to appear?

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VERSATILITY from Page 14

6. 'Beau Harp,' the rather new variety of the Wilkinson's of Pensacola, Florida, with its very large red peony blossom and its large deep green foliage, is another variety of japonica which is par excellent to espalier.

7. 'Enchantress,' with its delicate beautiful single pink flower and its gracious way of growing, can not be left out when speaking of varieties of japonica adaptable for espaliering. In my mind this is the most beautiful single *Camellia japonica* flower and with its naturally beautiful growth tendencies, it should make a conversation piece as a *Camellia* espalier in your garden.

I have mentioned but a few of the many varieties of the species japonica which can be used successfully as espaliered plants in your garden. The main thing to keep in mind, when choosing a plant for this purpose, is to choose one that tends to fan, and therefore responds willingly to the training necessary to perfect a handsome espalier.

Chapter VII, The *Camellia* Thicket, will appear in the April Review.

MEETING from Page 4

beautiful silver bowls which will be awarded some lucky exhibitor of a fine *Camellia* and introduced Mary Pulliam who will have charge of flower arrangements at the show.

After the brief intermission for coffee and sweets William Woodroof gave a very entertaining "run-down" of the flowers exhibited. With quick comments he spoke of the 'C. M. Wilson' as a wonderful flower many will want; of 'Debutante,' the "finest peony of them all;" of Harvey Short's seedlings, "Where does he get such wonderful names? He must get his wife to name them;" of the 'Ville de Nantes', he had been "trying to get a real white one and the bloom turned out to be almost red."

A happy incident of the evening was the Mother daughter combination that won first and second for best blooms. Eleanor Hayward's 'Jessie Katz' was awarded the blue ribbon as the best bloom brought to the meeting and her Mother Mrs. W. H. Bonner was awarded second for her 'Adolphe Audusson.' Third went to Dan Sullivan for his 'Morning Glow.'

Flower of the month was 'Chandleri' and first and second award went to C. S. van Benschoten. Third was awarded to L. W. Strohmeyer.

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Advertising rates in the *Camellia* Review are as follows: Inside back cover, \$30.00. Full page, \$25.00. Half page, \$15.00. Quarter page, \$8.00. Advertisements may be sent direct to the Editor, Elizabeth Beebe, 537 Mount Curve, Altadena, California.

CAMELLIA REVIEWER

from Page 2

their way to a Peach Convention in Fresno.

We were interested of course to hear about South Carolina Camellias first hand as Mr. Boatwright is a member of our Society and while growing peaches for bread, grows camellias for beauty, and confided that his 'Ville de Nantes' ranked highest in his affections.

Both he and Mr. Watson of course claimed that South Carolina peaches were much superior to those of Georgia in spite of the catch phrase "Georgia peaches," and in commenting on the difference between camellias here and in the southern states stated that down south one would see acres and acres of blooming camellias in the fields. If acreages of camellias were thus planted out in the open here in southern California, we in our forthright way would be hovering about anxiously anticipating injurious effects from sun or smog. Down in So-th Car-linah the soft southern accent that must permeate the entire camellian environment undoubtedly has a salubrious influence on the plants, not to forget tingeing the blooms with further glamor.

* * *

What Is Time to a Camellia?

We quote from the February 1954 "American Rose Magazine"—

"This rose (illustrated) is said to be about 150 years old and the oldest in Japan." My-my. From the standpoint of oriental Camellias whose known lineage extends over 5 and 600 years of beauty, this "old" rose is a mere infant. Who's bragging now?

* * *

San Diego Speaks

One of our very favorite indoor sports is reading the publications of other Societies. You never know when you'll discover something that hits a mark somewhere. In the February

Bulletin of the San Diego Society for instance, there is a list of ten new favorite Camellias. We print this merely to start discussion (maybe you'll send in *your* list to us). The list as printed is as follows: 'Joshua Youtz,' 'Letitia Schrader,' 'Edwin Folk,' 'Charlotte Bradford,' 'Flamingo,' 'Emmett Barnes,' 'Marjorie Magnificent,' 'Mrs. Clark,' (does he mean 'Mrs. Lyman Clarke?'), 'Elizabeth Le Bey,' and 'Dr. John D. Bell.' Well, when so much beauty runs rampant, who can choose? The Bulletin ends however, with what we consider a nice bit of philosophy. It is headed, "A Plan for Camellia Growers," and goes as follows: 1. Plant Camellias in a proper location. 2. Use a medium amount of fertilizer. 3. Water regularly. 4. Choose your plants so as to have 50% old standbys. 5. Join a friendly society (that's us). 6. Make friends, keep friends, never grow old.

We Note

Ralph Peer, as one of the Fellows of the Royal Horticultural Society is being included in plans to celebrate the 150th birthday of the Society in London immediately following the Chelsea Flower Show which will be held May 26 to 28 of this year. Both events are of world wide importance.

* * *

Over the Hills And—

If you (well you must have read this far so keep on going) consider this issue pretty local in character, watch for our World Number. Camellias watch out, too—you are being stalked in far places.

* * *

Any Queens Around?

Who wants to be Queen of the May? We are looking for a Camellia Queen so if you see someone at the Camellia Show with a searching look in her green eyes and a pencil handy you'll know it will be

just plain

Liz

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