

THE

Camellia Review

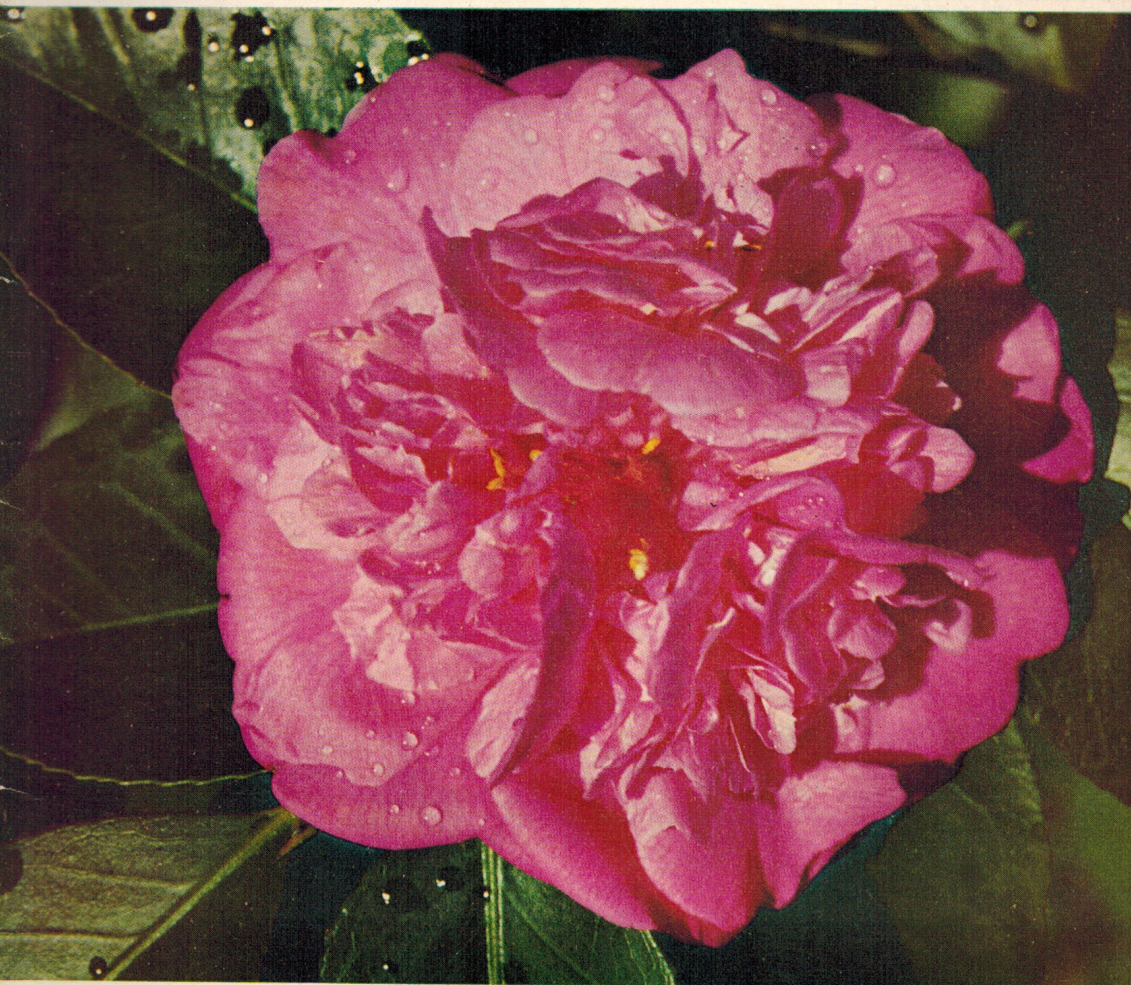


Photo by Billy Lavendar

Camellia japonica 'WALTER D. BELLINGRATH'

Courtesy originators,

Cliff Harris' Longview Nursery, Mobile, Ala.

Official Bulletin of the Southern California Camellia Society

Vol. 16

October 1954

No. 1

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN

ELIZABETH BEEBE, 706 S. Fair Oaks, Pasadena.....SYcamore 9-8097

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The Society holds open meetings on the Second Tuesday of every month, November to April, inclusive at the San Marino Women's Club House, 1800 Huntington Drive. A cut-camellia blossom exhibit at 7:30 o'clock regularly precedes the program which starts at 8:00.

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

DIRECTORY OF AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

- Central California Camellia Society Fresno, 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 County Bakersfield, 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 Society San Diego, Calif
 Meeting Place: Floral Association Building, Balboa Park
 Secretary: Mrs. L. B. Goodall, 3036 Suncrest Dr., San Diego 16
 Date of Meeting: 2nd Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
- Pomona Valley Camellia Society Pomona, Calif
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 Secretary: C. D. Cothran, 1105 San Dimas Ave., San Dimas
 Date of Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of each month
- Temple City Camellia Society Temple City, Calif.
 Meeting Place: Women's Club Auditorium, Woodruff at Kauffman, Temple City
 Secretary: Gertrude S. Rose, 6025 North Muscatel, San Gabriel
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- Camellia Society of Orange County Santa Ana, Calif.
 Meeting Place: YWCA Building, 1411 North Broadway, Santa Ana
 Secretary: Mrs. Geo. T. Butler, 1121 Orange Ave., Santa Ana
 3rd Tuesday, Nov. to April
- Huntington Camellia Garden San Marino, Calif.
 Huntington Library and Art Gallery, Oxford Rd., San Marino
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Camellia Reviewer

ELIZABETH BEEBE

The 1954 Camellia Curtain Rises

With buds on every Camellia bush we have the sure and wonderful conviction that beauty is once again to burst forth everywhere. In the Camellia Calendar, New Year's Day is about here. Happy New Year, then, Camellia friends! May we all turn over the new leaves of our plants and enjoy all the surprises that Camellias invariably offer.

What a New Year this is going to be! With the first sweep of bloomings, Mr. Hertrich's wonderful, new Camellia book will be out—our own Society is surging with new plans and projects—and this magazine, Number One of our Volume Sixteen, ushers in a year of Camellia Reviews of which we hope we can be proud.

* * *

Camellias of Welcome to

Bill Wylam who joined the Huntington Botanical Garden staff in September and will be giving special attention to the Southern California Camellia Garden there. Better look sharp all you beauties alazyin' there in the shade of the pretty canyon. Ol' Bill's not agoin' to take no nonsense from *you*.

David L. Feathers who became Editor of the Northern California Camellia Bulletin this July. From one Camellia Editor to another—let us warn you that it's a hard job but an interesting one. The delays, emergencies and frustrations never seem to be evident once the magazine is out so—here's hands across the ink pot.

* * *

And Come Again

So very pleased to have an unexpected friendly visit with Dr. and Mrs. Reuben Tellam. Having made sure that each one of their hundreds

and hundreds of camellias was properly tucked in so that they could be left for a couple of days the Tellams came up to Pasadena—to see more camellias of course.

Another unexpected visitor was Mr. J. O. Henry. When we congratulated him on his winning "firsts" last season he muttered modestly that it was just "beginner's luck." It sounded easy at the time but later we concluded that the trick would consist in being that kind of a beginner.

* * *

In Answer

No. Dr. Womack — and alas. "Eleanor of Fair Oaks" and "Liz of Fair Oaks" have little in common. *She* sounds like a stately creature of a park-like forest. We on the other hand are busier than the b's in our name and as for *our* Fair Oaks—it's a rat race of traffic where we edit in a corner of *Mister B's* office. We never have seen an oak, fair or foul, on this street.

Lastly—we are not "red, marbled white."

* * *

Anyone for Seeds?

Well, naturally as once again seeds are for sale by the Society. Better hurry your order in—last year the seeds didn't last out the word about them in this magazine. Isn't it wonderful that there isn't a chance in the world of camellias ever becoming extinct?

* * *

Paging Just One Bloom

A newspaper photograph of a very attractive woman with hose in hand and obviously backed up against a mass of camellia plants came to our attention recently. The subject was no other than Mrs. C. DeWitt Cothran, wife of the Secretary of the Pomona Valley Camellia Society.

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1954 HERTRICH AWARD WINNERS

WILLIAM HERTRICH AWARD

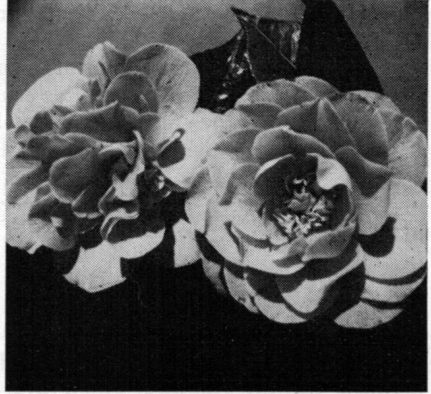
To

McCASKILL CAMELLIA GARDENS

The winning variety was named "Jack McCaskill," and on the application for registration it is described as a peony form blooming from February to May. Billie McCaskill says of it, quote: "This autumn we are introducing our striking new camellia which is a mutation of *C. japonica* 'Te Deum.' The flower is antique rose, veined with amethyst, shading to a rich burgundy at the center, each petal edged with silver.

"In 1943 the sport appeared on a stock plant in our garden. A tiny twig, growing from the body of the plant, had produced this unbelievably lovely flower. We grafted the small weak wand, half-heartedly hoping that it would grow, and if it did grow, praying that it would come true.

"Our Jack, in the true family tradition, has always loved camellias. In fact he finds them almost as fascinating as girls. His first graft was 'Te Deum,' and 'Te Deum' has always been a favorite with him. It was



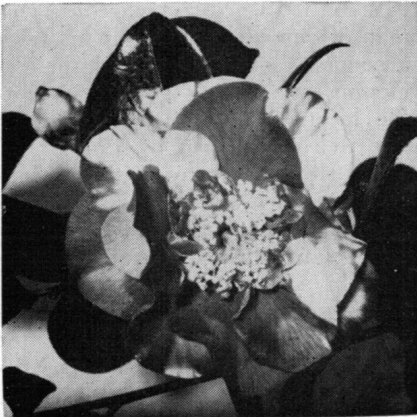
natural, then, that this 'Te Deum' sport should bear his name—Jack McCaskill."

MARGARETE HERTRICH AWARD

To

WILLIAM E. WOODROOF

The fine seedling which won the coveted award this year is the *Camellia japonica* 'Red Ragland,' and of it Mr. Woodroof says, quote: "The parentage of this flower is unknown but I am sure that it is a seedling of *C. japonica*



'J. J. Pringle Smith.' It bloomed when it was five years old and I observed it very carefully over three years, both the parent and grafts made from the parent. The parent blooms solid red but practically all grafts made from the parent are variegated. It is a very large, full semi-double with smaller upright center petals and has every thing a good camellia should have — substance, texture, size, and form. It is long lasting, blooming over a long period from mid-season until late and opens well in all kinds of weather.

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CAMELLIANA WELCOMES THE NEWEST CAMELLIA CLASSIC

Seldom have the elements necessary to the production of a great book been so happily combined as in the "Camellias in the Huntington Gardens," by William Hertrich, which is offered to the public this fall.

Time, opportunity and genius have banded together here. A background of 60 years working with, loving and studying the genus *Camellia*; an opportunity (which the author in most part had produced himself) of having the choicest types of Camellias for specimens; the backing and sponsoring of the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery and finally that "infinite capacity for taking pains" which the genius William Hertrich, Curator Emeritus of the Huntington Botanical Gardens has in full part. These are all combined in a work on camellias which will inevitably rank with the classics of camellia literature and be a necessity in the library of every camellia lover.

The attractive ten and one half inch by seven inch volume with gray green binding opens to a frontispiece of the *Camellia japonica* 'Hana Fuki' in full color.

The Plan

In the Introduction the author explains that over the years he had planned several volumes which were to be, in essence, informal catalogs of all the plant items of the Huntington Botanical Gardens. Two, published some years since by the Huntington Library have had wide sales. The first was the "Guide to the Cactus and Succulent Collection," and the second, "Palms and Cycads." The subject for the third portion of this major undertaking is the Camellia, and so extensive is this that there will probably be three and perhaps four volumes devoted to the camellia alone.

One of the chief purposes of the Huntington Botanical Gardens was to establish in Southern California such exotic plants as are indigenous to great sources of plant material; sources, such as the far east. Camellias were found particularly in the category as weather conditions in Southern California duplicate those of their own homes in China and Japan.

Camellia History

A brief but comprehensive history

of the camellia accenting the Japanese species forms a proper prelude to this work on camellias.

The history of the camellia is sketched in a general way, progressing to 1905 when William Hertrich started his career on the Huntington estate, finding at that time two camellia shrubs already planted there which had been acquired by the former owners, the J. de Barth Shorb family. Mr. Hertrich judged them to be fifteen or 20 years old. He made his first purchase of camellias for the gardens in 1908 when he bought out the collection of a nearby nursery which was discontinuing the growing of camellias for cut flower trade. More camellias were bought with the purchase of an entire Japanese tea house and surrounding plantings in 1912. In 1915 a direct purchase was made of camellias from Japan. With subsequent acquisitions and the developing of seedling growth in suitable locations, over 1,000 seedlings were well established by 1942.

Mr. Hertrich states with pardonable pride that today there is a collection of approximately 1,000 cultivars (plants maintained in cultivation) in a ten-acre area, the difference in soil, shade and slope affording excellent test conditions for Southern California camellias. Be-

(Continued on Next Page)

cause of the natural variances in the flowering habit of the many varieties, blooms beautify this Camellia Garden six months of the year.

A Distinctive Feature

The ever increasing importance of the Huntington Camellia Garden gained recognition from the Friends of the Huntington Library, a cultural group, and in 1942 this group allocated funds for the acquisition of new plants. In 1944 the Southern California Camellia Society became interested to the extent that it cooperated with the Trustees and Director of the Huntington Estate toward developing the Camellia Garden as a distinctive feature of the Botanical Gardens. With the appointment of a Garden Committee the aim has been to procure fine scions and plants not represented in the gardens. The ultimate goal embraces the selection of cultivars best suited to Southern California climate, the experimentation in methods of propagation with recorded results; an attempt at a more satisfactory classification than has been in use hitherto and the establishment of a display garden open to the public during the camellia flowering season.

Camellia Culture

From this background data, the author proceeds to practical cultural notes including planting procedure, transplanting, watering, mulching, fertilizing, pruning, seeding, cuttings, grafting, pathology and pest control, budding and disbudding. Behavior patterns are discussed as are fruits and seed, types of foliage, vagues of certain varieties and suggestions on the use of camellias in landscaping.

One exceedingly noteworthy feature is the extensive index in which the synonyms of the variety names are cross referenced. These include synonyms in use in the South which are not found in our nomenclature book but which are accepted in some parts of the county. Without doubt this book is the only one in which

such an index could be found.

There are also many helpful notes on classification and a detailed explanation of how the color of the varieties was judged. A glossary of terms used in the technical examinations and descriptions of camellias will prove of great assistance to many camellia students, also.

Photographs and Descriptions

This book will undoubtedly gain its greatest distinction from the marvelous black and white photographs—250 full page artistic and accurate photographs of Camellia japonicas; 250 varieties carefully chosen from the records of over 1,000; 250 varieties that represent the best time-tested and long loved as well as new varieties the author considers worthy to take their places among fine camellias. Adding a lilt are three full page color photographs.

Each of the above varieties is minutely described and classified. And for easy reference a page of three descriptions is followed by three pages of photographs of the varieties described. And so on for the total of 250.

The camellia, a plant which has offered itself for food, fuel and beauty for so many hundreds of years, is a subject well qualified to be treated in the worthy manner of this book. The production raises both itself and the camellia to a high plane offering camelliaphiles its same qualities through food for thought, fuel for the imagination of the readers and beauty spilling from its pages into their lives.

"Camellias in the Huntington Gardens," is a Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery publication. It may be ordered either through the Secretary of the Southern California Camellia Society or from the publications office, Huntington Library, San Marino 9, California. See inside of back cover of this magazine for details.

THE MAN BEHIND THE BOOK

By ELIZABETH BEEBE

A book review is one thing—the review of a man is something else again. You may read the review of William Hertrich's "Camellias in the Huntington Gardens" to catch a glimpse of the book which of course you will want to own. But the man behind it—how did he write it—why did he write it and what qualities and background and personality are focused into this volume which cannot escape becoming the Camellia classic of the 20th century?

From the authenticity of every statement you will know the author is never satisfied with general knowledge but must trace all questions to the one correct answer. From the Camellias described, you will be aware that these have been carefully chosen from many with a single purpose in their choosing. In short, from the book just as a whole, it is inevitably obvious that the author is a person who not only knows Camellias through working with them intimately for many years, but from reading about them, discussing them with hundreds of persons and finally from such an enduring interest in them that the subject never, to him, has become hackneyed.

Stepping from the role of Editor to reporter, this sidelight on the author aims to give some of the human side of William Hertrich near whom and with whom I have had the privilege of working over two years.

Background of a Book

Just how did the book take shape? One way was that morning after morning during the camellia blooming seasons Mr. Hertrich was out scrambling up and down the cool damp hillsides as he chose the finest specimens on the bushes, and by nine o'clock he would come triumphantly in to the office bearing the large shallow trays lined with cotton on which the beautiful blooms were carefully arranged—no two touching. Then came another choosing as with deft artistic touch he made up arrangements of different varieties to be photographed; photographed *just so* to show the form—the foliage, the characteristic points of each individual variety. And after the photographs were taken, then the indefatigable Mr. Hertrich would settle down at his desk which now resembled some fabulous disarranged rainbow, to tear apart the finest of the blooms and describe them minutely on the form chart, place the petals by the color chart and sometimes delay his decision of shade until other opinions in the office were called in to consultation. Then the leaves were considered, studied under the microscope, turned about and talked about until they too were described and charted. With the addition of notes about the entire variety, the nomenclature was fixed through consultation of his own notes and various nomenclature authorities.

This went on and on and on—my own desk usually brightened by blooms that Mr. Hertrich was about to throw in the waste basket and which I regularly rescued from such awful fate. When the urgency of working with the fresh flowers was gone, there was the author, concentrated on the writing of the culture—the history and all of the fore part of the book.

If anyone ever looks at home in the midst of such melanges of camellias in all states of their beauty—of books and pamphlets opened to certain pages—of scissors, knives—microscope, papers and assorted miscellany of camellia travail—that person is William Hertrich. Solemn in concentration, there is

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Courtesy Huntington Botanical Gardens

William Hertrich, Curator Emeritus of the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, pictured here overshadowed (which he declared was proper) by a *C. japonica* 'Pink Perfection', a plant which he found growing on the estate when he arrived there in 1905. He judges it to be around 70 years old.

Mr. Hertrich's book "Camellias in the Huntington Gardens" is reviewed in this issue.

always a ready smile as someone comes in and he peers over his glasses to see who it is.

Sixty Years With Camellias

On one occasion I sat down by his desk and said, "Tell me, how long have you worked with camellias."

"Sixty years," he returned promptly, with emphasis.

"Do you remember the first camellia you ever saw?"

"Perhaps not one certain one but I am sure my Grandmother had at least one camellia plant. My first real contact with camellias was in 1893 when I was serving as an apprentice in a large horticultural establishment in Dornbirn, Austria."

"How did you happen to go to work there, were your parents horticulturally minded?" we queried further.

He looked across his desk as if he were looking across the years.

"No, my father was in the government service and the family had to move around. It may be that I inherited my love of plants from my grandmother who loved her garden. Then my grandparents had vineyards and fruit orchards and I had studied this culture for two years before I signed up as an apprentice for three years to the Dornbirn firm."

"What pay did you get?" I enquired.

"Not a cent," said Mr. Hertrich with a chuckle and the twinkle coming back into his eyes. "That first year I was paid nothing except my board and room. Later I received three dollars a month. I put in ten hours a day and more in the winter when I had to alternate firing the greenhouse. This was done by feeding peat to a large, boxy type stove which was at one end of the greenhouse. Its heat went through long tiled flues that were built beneath the benches and ended in a chimney.

"The culture of camellias, rhododendrons and azaleas was part of my assignment among many other types of plants grown for the retail trade. Such plants were propagated from cuttings and sold mostly in small four and five inch pots. All plants were grown under glass. We did not have the camellias named—they were sold as white, pink or red.

"We had to have good flower production," Mr. Hertrich went on, as the remembrance of those early days became vivid to him. "It was essential in order to meet competition. We specialized in the small specimens because the larger ones were more difficult to dispose of. Sometimes some of the large commercial establishments had large specimens planted out in their greenhouses for show purposes. Private estates and city and state establishments cultivated many large specimens in conservatories—some in containers and others planted in the ground. Camellias ten and fifteen feet high and fifty or more years old would still be in containers. Many of the large private estates maintained by the nobility often provided special houses for large specimens of this sort including citrus trees. Such houses are generally known as 'Orangeries,' and a good many of the camellia plants were wintered in these houses along with the citrus trees."

"What happened after your three apprentice years?" I prompted.

"Two years in the Germany army," said this amazing man, in an off-hand way.

"And then?"

"I was given charge of a range of greenhouses in a large horticultural establishment in Stuttgart. I was all of twenty-one years old then. In 1901 I

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met a young American in the same firm who invited me to come to America with him. I accepted and we are still friends. I went to work in his father's firm in Bridgeport, Connecticut and was there for two years and learned a good deal more there about ornamental horticulture."

Camellias Begin to Be Special

"With all of this horticultural work when did you begin to single out camellias for your real interest?" I asked.

"It began in 1903 shortly after I came to California, for I quickly noticed their relatively easy culture either under lath for the commercial flower trade, or in conjunction with other plants for landscape effect such as was evident around homes along Figueroa Street in Los Angeles. When in 1905 I undertook the assignment of developing the Huntington Estate, I felt the opportunity had arrived to explore the possibility of including in the first planting plan such companion plants as camellias, azaleas and rhododendrons. However, after convincing Mr. Huntington of the worth of the scheme, it was another question to find the material since such plants were not very plentiful fifty years ago."

How Mr. Hertrich acquired these camellias he tells in his book, along with his observations on the Huntington camellias. From my observations on Mr. Hertrich, I would know without his telling me that he did manage to acquire the plants and carry out his scheme. The main point is that through all these years he has always had schemes—visions of future beauty. Just camellias on the estate were not enough for him. In 1912 he surveyed a canyon—one end of which was dammed. Here he envisioned a Camellia Garden. The dam was removed so that water once again gently flowed through the canyon. More oaks were planted for the shade camellias love, and today this canyon has become the beautiful and distinctive Camellia Garden which Mr. Hertrich dreamed of—forty years ago.

Active Retirement

Today, although officially "retired" on paper, Mr. Hertrich leads a life more vigorous and more full of interest than the majority of persons. Known world-wide as an authority in the world of palms and cycads, cacti and other succulents and camellias, his correspondents are located all over the world. As they say if one stands long enough at Broadway and 42nd Street in New York all his friends will pass by, so all camellia minded persons sooner or later turn up in Mr. Hertrich's office—all to be received with a smile of welcome—a hearty handclasp and friendly attention. As Camellias are eternally democratic, so William Hertrich is equally natural as an honored guest at a dinner in England with royalty or sharing a sandwich with a gardener.

A real profile of William Hertrich could make a long and fascinating book. Not possible here is any elaboration of the horticultural expeditions he has headed, of the camellia and other societies of which he is a member and which have all given him signal honors; and finally of Margarete Hertrich the gentle wife of many years whose influence has been one of the great factors in making the man William Hertrich is today.

Recently on leaving the office, Mr. Hertrich paused a moment by my desk to say something that had evidently just struck him forcibly. "After all is said and done," he declared, "the fact remains that after these many years, my enthusiasm about camellias and their use in Southern California as decorative plants, with or without flowers, is as great if not greater than at any

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time since I have become acquainted with them."

Herein, I thought, must lie the secret of that sense of boundless energy and well being that this man radiates so unconsciously. Older people often live in the past. Here is a man who always is looking to the future for more beauty—newer and finer camellias—another book to write. Ponce de Leon looked in the wrong place for the fountain of youth.

What, may I ask, is nearer to it than the genus *Camellia*?

NEW APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATIONS

***Camellia japonica* 'Alice Morrison.'**

This is a seedling originated by Miss Morrison, now being propagated by Robert E. Craig of 8738 E. Duarte Road, San Gabriel, California. The flower is six years old and blooms in February and March. It is a compact, upright plant of rapid growth. The flowers are a very light shell pink from 4 to 5 inches in diameter and have 10 petals. The leaves are smooth and medium heavy. One of the parents is *C. japonica* 'Finlandia.'

***Camellia japonica* 'Arlene Marshall.'**

Originated by M. Leslie Marshall of 6747 N. Rosemead Boulevard, of San Gabriel, California, this plant first bloomed in 1933, a seedling of 'Lotus.' It is seven years old and blooms in February and March, a rapid grower. The white flowers are semi-double and of anemone form from five to 5½ inches in diameter and have from 15 to 18 petals. It is being propagated by the Marshalls Camellia Nursery.

***Camellia japonica* 'Carolyn Tuttle.'**

Originated by the Tuttle Brothers Nursery of 729 W. Atlanta Street in Altadena, California, this plant first bloomed in 1947. Although the plant is 12 years old, the parents are unknown. A compact, upright plant it is very dense and symmetrical, growing successfully in half-day sun and distinguished by the bronze coloring of the new leaves, which changes to a dark, glossy green with reverse side

of pale green. Blooming from December through March, the flowers are of peony form, a rose-opal pink about three inches in diameter but with more petals than the 'Debutante.'

***Camellia japonica* 'Maylene Wong.'**

This seedling of unknown parents was originated by Homer C. Wilson of 734 University Avenue, Fresno 4, California, and first bloomed in 1952, now being seven years old. Of upright growth, it is a hardy plant and prolific bloomer. The flower is loose, peony form of glowing crimson whose bud shows color weeks before opening. The blooms average 4 inches in diameter and 2 inches in depth with 21 to 28 petals. The flower drops as a unit. The leaves are of thick, leathery texture, ovate and serrate with heavy veining. The buds never fail to open.

***Camellia japonica* 'Onetia Holland.'**

This seedling was originated by J. A. Holland of 1650 W. Foothill in Upland, California. It is a compact, average-growing plant, 8 years old. The leaves are ovate, serrate and a very dark green. The flowers which bloom in February and March are of peony form, white, from four to five inches in diameter and with 34 petals.

***Camellia japonica* 'Richard Nixon.'**

This seedling originated by Urban B. Stair of 14819 Janine Drive in

(Continued on Page 12)



SO OLD YET EVER NEW

Even before Columbus discovered America, this Camellia tree was blooming, for it is reportedly 500 years old. Located in the courtyard of the Buddhist "Camellia Temple," it is one of the interesting sights of Kyoto Japan.

The photograph was brought back from the Orient recently by Mr. Ralph Peer who tells us that scions from the tree are being propagated at his Park Hill residence in Los Angeles.

Legend has it that when the Camellia Temple was first established, a traveling monk brought this grafted plant from Korea. Actually the tree has four main branches, each bearing a different variety of Camellia.

Camelliana

The Camellia Annual

The newest camellia magazine to cross our desk is the "Camellia Annual," the very first number of which is dated June 1954. This annual is published by the Australian and New Zealand Camellia Research Society whose objects are, quote "to make and to encourage investigation and research in matters connected with the genus camellia, to collect information thereon and to publish and distribute its findings."

The President of the Society is A. W. Jessup of the Botanic Gardens,

(Continued on Page 17)

In Memoriam

Clifton W. Johnson

Whose sudden passing on July 6, 1954, bereft the Camellia world of a loyal supporter and genuine personality. The fruits of his efforts live on through the blooming beauty of his own beloved Camellias as his memory remains ever bright in the hearts of those who knew him.

Our Cover Flower

This lovely *Camellia japonica* 'Walter D. Bellingrath' is a semi-double of peony form and often has as many as 152 petals. The flower is a brilliant pink with exceptional keeping qualities. It first bloomed in 1938 from a 1932 seedling but was first publicly displayed in January 1954 at the non-competitive Mobile Men's Club Camellia Show.

Given the name by Cliff Harris, a very old friend of Mr. Bellingrath, it honors the man whose beautiful gardens are known world-wide.

On the occasion of Mr. Bellingrath's 85th birthday, August 6, 1954, the first plant of this *Camellia* was planted in his famous gardens and dedicated to him, a bronze plaque at the base of the plant marking the event.

The 'Walter D. Bellingrath' holds the nineteenth *Camellia* patent and some plants will be available this fall.

REGISTRATION from Page 10 Whittier, California, is 7 years old and of unknown parents. It is compact, growing in east exposure, with thick, high-gloss leaves of dark green. The buds never fail to open. The white flower with pink shading and rose pink stripes blooms from early November to March. The flower form as described by Mr. Stair is as follows, quote: "Two rows of outer petals, a third row stand upright and are very crinkly. The center is a mass of mixed petals, petaloids and stamens, and in some blossoms the stamens are completely hidden. The center averages $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches in diameter and the whole flower from 4 to $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. The depth of the blossom from top of

petals to bud is considerably over 2 inches."

Mr. Stair enclosed a letter from Richard Nixon in which Mr. Nixon said in part, quote: "I am glad to grant permission for the use of my name for this new *Camellia*. I was particularly pleased to learn that the parent plant had been set out in your garden in the fall of 1951 right next to the General Dwight Eisenhower *Camellia*."

Camellia japonica 'Stephanie.'

This seedling was originated by Mrs. Fred W. Fitzpatrick of 4167 Ohio Street, San Diego 4, California. It is 5 years old and claims the 'Queen of Hearts' as parent. It first bloomed in October, 1953, and regularly blooms from October to February. The leaves are very dark green, serrate and sharply pointed. The bud opens slowly and does not open further after picking. The flower is a formal double, pure white with creamy center when fully open. It attains a diameter of three and five-eighths inches with from 63 to 65 petals.

WOODROOF from Page 3

The plant is vigorous, compact and upright with large, dark green foliage, and grafts and grows well. It spaces its buds over the plant more or less uniformly.

"The flower is named for R. W. Ragland, affectionately known to his many friends as "Reg," who is Vice President of the Richfield Oil Corporation. Mr. Ragland is a member of the S C C S the American *Camellia* Society and is one of the founders of the Orange County *Camellia* Society. He is a resident of Orange, California and has one of the largest amateur *camellia* collections in the State. Also, I might add that he is one of the most enthusiastic *camellia* collectors that I know. So you can see that the flower could not have a better name."

CAMELLIA FLOWER BLIGHT CONTROL PROGRAM

By D. G. MILBRATH

Pathologist, State Department of Agriculture

The method of control which is recommended herein is a logical procedure in disrupting the continuity of the course of development of the casual fungus. It is a direct attack on the fungus and not a protective measure of the flower.

The disease is caused by the fungus known as *Sclerotinia camelliae*. The petals of the flowers are the only parts of the whole camellia plant which are attacked and affected by the fungus.

The attack commences through the falling of a spore of the fungus on the surface of a petal. There the spore germinates; the created mycelium invades the tissues of the petal; it causes these tissues to turn brown and soft; and the fungus moves down to the base of the petal.

At the base of the petal the fungus establishes a sclerotium. The sclerotium is a hard, black mass of mycelium destined to carry the fungus over till the succeeding year, or till the second succeeding year if conditions for its germination are not favorable during the first succeeding year.

Most usually the sclerotia of several bases of petals of a single flower interlock, causing a cycle of bases to adhere together and to form a club of sclerotia.

The decaying flower drops to the surface of the ground. The upper parts of the petals soon become detached from the hard, black mass of club sclerotia. This club gravitates into the soil and often becomes covered with plant debris, as leaves.

In the succeeding year, when conditions are favorable, the buried sclerotia will produce mushroom-like bodies known technically as apothecia. These apothecia produce uncountable numbers of spores which are carried by air-currents to the

petals of camellia flowers and thus commence again the life's course of the fungus.

No spread of the fungus has been found to take place between flowers. The infection of each flower takes place by means of a spore carried upward from an apothecium on the ground.

Now, the most logical reasoning in finding a control of the disease points toward intercepting the spores before they reach the flower rather than covering the flower with some fungicide which will prevent invasion of the petals. Since flower opening occurs successively and over a long period of time, spraying the flowers would be a hit-and-miss method of control. In addition the flowers would be constantly disfigured with spray material. Moreover, spraying has not appeared to be a successful method in actual practice.

The method of control which has been highly successful where it has been faithfully applied consists of preventing the apothecia from developing fully and producing spores. This method consists of spraying the surface of the ground with a chemical.

By surface of the ground is meant every square inch of surface of soil in the container of the plant and of soil forming the floor of the greenhouse or lath house or open garden in which the camellia plant may be standing. Every square inch of soil within a radius of ten feet from the base of the plant must be regarded as a probable abode of the apothecia.

In selecting a chemical the following specifications should be followed:

1. It must retain toxic properties during a reasonable period of time. Copper and mercury

(Continued on Page 16)

CAMELLIAS UNDER GLASS IN MASSACHUSETTS

By JOHN T. COOLIDGE

In this climate camellias do well in a pit without artificial heat. I have found it useful to design the pit with part of the inside unlighted by the sun. This provides a volume of air which does not heat or chill quickly with changing weather and tends to keep the temperature more uniform, as well as serving for a utility space.

When new plants arrive from a nursery the roots are usually in a container or ball of soil of different nature from the soil available here. Repotted and surrounded with different soil, the water may bypass the central ball. For this reason I bare-root new plants to avoid putting them in two incompatible kinds of soil. This often gives the new plant a severe shock and it may have to be screened from the sun for several months, but it seems, after its recovery to benefit from this treatment. When the roots are disturbed in this way, a little trimming of the top serves the double purpose of restoring the balance and providing scions for grafting. I keep understocks on hand for this, and have new purchases shipped in January to arrive at the proper season for grafting.

My soil is a mixture of rotted sods, rotted oak leaves, and enough imported peat to make one third of the whole, also a small amount of raw bone meal. About one sixth of the mixture is osmunda root. Orchid growers say that this provides complete fare for orchids and tends to keep the acidity of the soil uniform. The addition of osmunda is just an experiment and I have made no careful comparisons to test its value.

In summer I have had best results with camellias set outdoors in full sun where they grow compact and vigorous, though it is necessary to watch them closely to be sure they get enough water. In warm weather they are sprayed lightly with a hose in the evening, taking care to hose both sides of the leaves.

As to the choice of camellias, I am afraid I am out of step with the pres-

ent trend. It is unfortunate that the popularity of certain kinds goes in waves of fashion. A hundred years ago it was the imbricated type. Now the loose, irregularly marked, irregularly petaled varieties are preferred, and no doubt, still other kinds will be in vogue in the future. It seems to my personal taste that Nature designed camellias with certain qualities not found in other flowers; an orderly arrangement of petals, a simple and neat grouping of stamens, traits which are found in those varieties which have preserved the wild flower charm of their ancestral stock. To take such plants and breed them to look like roses or peonies, or anything other than camellias, is, in my opinion, to lose the subtle loveliness which gives typical camellias a beauty all their own.

Camellia MAIL BAG

From Australia

Recent mail contained two letters addressed to our Secretary, Col. C. M. Gale which we thought should be shared with Review readers. One was from Dr. Crichton Merrillees of Australia. Quote: "Your slides stole the show. It was intended to give a five minutes talk on the Friday and repeat it on the Saturday. These talks go on from time to time and are supposed to help the tedium of going round endless rows of flowers which all look alike to the uninitiated. Instead of the two talks arranged, the slides had to be repeated ten (yes, 10)

(Continued on Page 22)

REPORT FROM SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA

By DR. R. K. WOMACK

Interest in Camellias in this area has grown by leaps and bounds in the past two decades, and shows no signs of diminishing. This enthusiasm has been paralleled by the rapid growth of the Shreveport Men's Camellia club which began five years ago with a nucleus of about fifteen men, and now has a membership of two hundred and thirty-six.

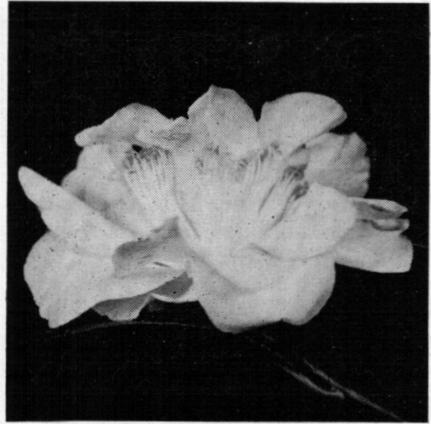
It should be noted that this city is near the Northern limits of the Southern Camellia Belt. Neither our climate nor soil can compare to the Gulf Coast area. In spite of this, many thousands of camellias are planted here each year.

Very few new varieties have originated here 'Betty Neild,' shown in the accompanying photograph is a nice semi-double blush pink. This seedling was raised by the late Mr. Cahagan Pugh, and presented unbloomed to Mr. Ed Neild. This camellia was recently registered by the American Camellia Society. It is an interesting camellia in this respect—the base color is blush pink, but changeable with weather conditions. On cold days the blossoms will have deeper tints of pink and orchid.

The American Camellia Society has also recently registered 'Frederick Beck,' a large red single of nice texture and 'Lillie Brewster,' a large incomplete double white. 'Jewel Bowden,' is a fine semi-double white with pink throat. This plant was purchased by Mrs. Bowden from a local retail nursery, labeled 'Tri-Color Seiboldi.' It is apparently a sport of 'Tri-Color.'

Due credit should be given Mr. Pugh for stimulating interest here in camellias. Around 1932 he began importing many varieties from abroad. Among his importations that later became popular under other names are: "Shiro-Byoshi" (September Morn), "Fleur de Peche" (Peach Blossom or English Magnoliaflora), "Shuchuka" (Kishu-Tsukasa or Admiral Nimitz) and "Dai-Hassu" (Daiterin).

Very few camellias are grown here



C. japonica Betty Neild

for sale. Propagation is done mostly by amateurs, usually by grafting (cleft method), or rooting in sand. The growing of seedlings is becoming increasingly popular. During the Fall and Winter months the local nurserymen do a brisk business in retail sale of plants that are brought in from the large commercial growers around the Gulf Coast and elsewhere. Field-grown plants, properly balled and burlapped, are preferred. Container-grown plants are quite satisfactory, provided they have not been forced too rapidly or are not root-bound. It is not possible, with our rigorous climate, to duplicate in outdoor culture, the environment of a plant that has been forced into rapid growth either in a container or otherwise.

The most popular varieties are the early blooming Daikagura family, 'Joshua Youtz', 'September Morn',

(Continued on Page 17)

CLEARING HOUSE

John T. Coolidge of 1355 Brush Hill Road, Milton 86, Massachusetts writes: "I welcome the new feature in the *Camellia Review*, 'Clearing House.' In the past it has often taken a long time to locate camellias I wanted.

"I would now like to know where I can obtain DuPont's Pink Perfection. This is not in the *Nomenclature Book* but I once saw one exhibited."

Ed Note: We have not been able to trace this variety. Has some reader any information about it?

Mervin T. Wine, M.D. of the Professional Building, Gordon Avenue, Thomasville, Georgia, writes: "Will you kindly send me information where I can obtain the following Camellias: 'Island Echo,' 'Pink Shadows,' 'Camellia Bradford,' and 'Star Bright.'"

Ed. Note: It is suggested that Dave Strother of Fort Valley, Georgia, may have information of 'Island Echo.' The other three are contained in the catalogue of the Coolidge Rare Plant Gardens of Pasadena, which Mr. Harvey Short is forwarding to you. Incidentally, the proper spelling is 'Camille Bradford.'

It is a great pleasure to report that Mrs. John Clairmont is forwarding a plant of *C. japonica* 'Biho' to Dr. A. Scott Hamilton of Monroe, Louisiana, who had only asked for the source of this variety. We are sure that Dr. Hamilton will be quite surprised and delighted at this generous gesture.

BLIGHT CONTROL from P. 13

- quickly combine with elements in soil.
2. It must not change unfavorably the pH of the soil.
 3. It must not injure the roots of the camellia.

As stated previously, the sclerotia will produce apothecia when conditions for production are favorable. Those conditions coincide with seasonal conditions which bring on the flowers of the plant. It is true that sclerotia produce apothecia quickly during and directly after a warm rainfall and for that reason a treatment should be made directly after or even during a rainfall. It is not overstated when it is said that apothecia are produced very quickly after rainfall, such as mushrooms are produced in a pasture. The surface of soil between containers should not be overlooked in applying any fungicide. As sclerotia may remain dormant for at least two years, it cannot be expected the eradication may be achieved in one year.

FURTHER NOTES

A number of curative measures are recommended for the petal blight.

A fungicide based on the chemical Ferbam which may be found at many nurseries, is effective as it has toxic retention properties.

Another good remedy is a fungicide of the copper group such as one put out by the Destruxol firm.

Some of our southern California nurserymen rely simply on good housekeeping; that is the clearing away of all fallen flowers. After fresh mulchings are applied, a coat of fine pine shavings to the depth of three inches is laid lightly over the top. One advantage of this method is that the plant and flowers are not colored in any way by chemical sprayings.

The reader is also referred to the very helpful article on Petal Blight which appeared in "*Camellia Notes*," the official publication of the Pacific Camellia Society for March, 1954. A copy will be sent on application to the editor, Roy T. Thompson, 2723 Hermosita Drive, Glendale 8, California.

We learn from the experience of others.

CAMELLIANA from Page 11

South Yarra, S.E. 1, Victoria, Australia. Honorary Secretary is E. G. Waterhouse and Honorary Treasurer Walter G. Hazlewood, an Honorary member of the Southern California Camellia Society. Mr. Gordon Adams and Dr. C. R. Merrillees are also on the Council, the latter well represented at the Huntington Camellia Garden as he contributed many scions to it this spring.

The attractive 18-page magazine contains various interesting articles on such subjects as Colour Variants on Camellia Plants; a detailed exposition of the nomenclature of *C. japonica* 'Sode-Gakushi,' an appeal to nurserymen to use trade names accepted as valid by camellia researchers and articles on camellia mites and the significance of iron in camellia culture. These in addition to other features make up a magazine whose first issue is a very promising one.

A subscription to the magazine is included in membership in the Society which costs one guinea per annum. Overseas members are invited to join.

LOUISIANA from Page 15

'Debutante', the hardy loose semi-doubles such as 'Audusson', 'Empress', 'Ville de Nantes', 'Berenice Boddy', and the old reliable 'Herme' and her sports as well as the old favorites 'Elegans' and 'Tri-Color Seiboldi' and their sports.

This city has many enthusiastic amateur camellia collectors who are always eager for the new varieties as they appear on the market. I dare say that here one can find more different varieties of camellias than in most cities of comparable size. Among these new varieties that have proven popular here are: 'R. L. Wheeler', 'Wildwood', 'Ethel David', 'Dr. Tinsley', 'Dr. John D. Bell', 'Joseph' and 'Emmett Pfingstl', 'Lena'

(Continued on Page 25)

Harvey F. Short's

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FOR SALE

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

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

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

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

Our own book, "The Camellia, Its Culture and Nomenclature," a 1954 revision \$1.25 or \$.75 each in lots of not less than 12.

"Camellias in the Huntington Gardens," by William Hertrich. \$10.00.

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CAMELLIAN

BOX 715

COLUMBIA, S. C.

THE SCCS PLANS A BANNER YEAR

Starting out with a flourish at its first meeting on November 9th all reports indicate that the Southern California Camellia Society is going to get off to a fine year filled with activities that will touch far places. Programs are already well scheduled and for the benefit of many members who are too far distant to be able to attend them, the Review will endeavor to summarize their highlights for perpetuation.

One of the most important points to be noted by our Southern California members is that both meeting date and place have been changed. This year the Society will meet on the second Tuesday of each month instead of Thursdays and the place of meeting will be the San Marino Women's Club House, 1800 Huntington Drive in San Marino. This was such a satisfactory location for the Flower Show last year that we look forward with pleasure to monthly visits there. One extra pleasant feature of this meeting place is that there are ample parking facilities on the school parking lot immediately adjacent to the Club house.

Just for your notebook, the following are the dates of the meetings:

November 9th
December 14th
January 11th
February 8th
March 8th
April 12th

The Camellia Show will be held in the same place and the dates for it have already been set as Saturday, March 5th, and Sunday, March 6th.

Outstanding programs for the year have been planned by the Chairman of the Program Committee, Edwards Metcalf. Mr. Metcalf announces that Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Miller will talk at the first meeting on "Camellias on Four Continents" from notes taken on their long journey last spring. Mr. and Mrs. Vern McCaskill will present "Sasanquas Today" and both talks will be illustrated by colored slides. And then of course a very special feature will be the presentation of the two Hertrich awards.

Other coming meetings will feature a talk by Dr. James Bonner of the California Institute of Technology on "Camellia Culture and Research," a talk by Ralph Peer on "Search of Camellias in Southeast Asia," "Propagation and Grafting by E. W. "Doc" Miller, "New Camellias this Year" by Harvey Short, "The Latest Findings on Reticulatas," by Howard Asper and a talk on flower blight and disease. Along with these serious talks will be short slants on the Society from different angles of its activities and of course the wonderful exhibits of blooms—awards and plant sales.

These with other interesting features that develop add up to what sounds like a tremendous year. This means of course that you must belong and cinch your interest and qualifications by sending or giving Col. Gale the dues of \$5.00 which are payable with the November meeting. These dues include a copy of the Nomenclature Book—and a subscription to the Camellia Review which, if you do not live close enough to attend the meetings will try to give you a faithful report of them. Take note, too, through the magazine of the Camellia books which may be purchased through the Secretary.

If you are interested in camellias, and you must be or you would not have read this far, the prompt paying of your dues will be evidence of your interest and sponsorship of the Society in its constructive efforts toward both amateur and professional culture of camellias.

A membership in SCCS would make an ideal Xmas gift

COMMERCIAL SUMMER GRAFTING

By ED. McNEILL

Summer grafting on a large scale is proving very successful for the Tuttle Brothers Nursery of Altadena.

The program was primarily designed to build up stock of the beautiful new japonica seedling CAROLYN TUTTLE that will be introduced this fall, rather than an experimental or research project.

Since this brilliant new rose-opal pink peony variety is relatively easy to reproduce, the success of summer grafting with other varieties is not necessarily guaranteed, but Mr. Rogers believes that no particular problems with others need be expected.

Less than one per-cent loss was experienced in the grafting of 1800 plants in 1 gal. cans. This loss was attributed almost entirely to the demise of the rootstock rather than from the process or the season. A few scions, as a matter of course, were broken off in handling after a successful graft union. Young vigorous understock such as Pink Perfection or Purity proved to be the most adaptable as in other seasons.

The grafting project was undertaken shortly after the first of June and extended through two weeks. Hardened wood following the primary growth cycle was cut whenever possible, yet many semi-soft or "green" scions were utilized with no loss. Using the cleft method with a taper for moisture run-off and no wax, the mechanics of the operation were basically the same as the normal winter grafting job.

To insure closer climatic control and thus accelerate the graft take, the unions were made and stored in the firm's glasshouses. One house was maintained between a low of 60 and a high of 80 degrees F.—less maximum if at all possible—with high humidity encouraged by frequent misting during the warmer days. The results noted in the other house with less controls available, gave definite indications that these factors were

important in stimulating not only callusing but also the bud break-out.

On the average the bottles were removed in thirty days, or whenever the growth buds swelled to double the dormant size. Mr. Rogers believes that waiting for the leaflets to actually open is unnecessary. Curiously, the young flower buds swelled more rapidly than the growth buds so considerable time was spent in their removal.

Some experimentation was undertaken with grafts on 5 gal. understock with very unsatisfactory results. We conclude that too much surface exists on the large rootstock stump for quick callusing.

After six weeks of observation we are convinced that summer grafts will callus as rapidly but are definitely slower to break. Further, it was apparent that the initial growth after the break-out lagged somewhat behind the winter-grafted plants.

Therefore we would not hesitate, whenever the occasion requires, to graft at any time during the year. Since we utilize our greenhouse facilities for growing other broad-leaved ornamentals, we expect in the future to do our camellia grafting whenever the space is best available.

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REVIEW ADVERTISERS**

MY CAMELIAS ARE BUSY PLANTS

By DR. REUBEN TELLAM

The increasing interest shown in seedlings during the past few years must be felt by the plants themselves, at least it would seem so in my garden, if I were to judge by the number of plants that have set seed pods. This year of our own varieties, 126 have set seeds. I specify our own varieties because when Harvey Short moved to Pasadena he left some of his seedlings in our lath house and of these seedlings 8 have produced seeds.

Our camellia garden is one mile from Harvey Short's nursery and if the honey bees have helped to produce those beautiful seedlings for Harvey I am hoping that Tellman's camellias will have a little appeal for those bees and that they will do some equally good work for him. (Herb Swim, don't "pan" me too hard if I let the bees do the work.)

But enough of this wishful hoping. I shall just have to grow some of my seedlings to blooming size plants and hope for the best.

The following are the varieties that have set seeds this year. They are named at random as location does not seem to have had any bearing on the set.

Berenice Boddy	Anita
Mme. de Maintenon	Lady Vansittart,
Dr. Tinsley	Var.
Blush Hibiscus	Lindsay Neill
Star Dust	Lady Ruth
Arlene Lee Shepp	Magnolia Queen
Kumasaka	Creme Rosette
Pink Lady	Kishu-Tsukasa or
Bessie McArthur	Admiral Nimitz
Elegans Pink-or	Rosary F.N.
Francine	Arthur Middleton,
Pink Star	Var.
General George Patton	Strawberry Blonde
Mrs. Baldwin Wood	Dr. Max
Pink Poppy	Big Beauty
Mme. Hahn	Lady Jane Grey
Smiling Beauty	Kenny
Lurie's Favorite	Cho-No-Hanagata
Mrs. Freeman Weiss	Sierra Spring
Magnoliaeflora	Emperor of Russia,
Finlandia, Var.	Var.

Donckelari (Southern & English strains)	Fantasia
Colletti	Mount Shasta
Marion Mitchell,	C. M. Wilson
Var.	Clara Brooks
King Lear	Clarice Carlton
Souvenir	Tiara
Gigantea	Large red semi-
Ville de Nantes	double
Jessica, Var.	(label lost)
Iwane	Covina
Campbell Ashley	Mme. Hovey
J. J. Pringle Smith,	Nagasaki
Var.	Louise McClay or
Letitia Schrader	Grandiflora Rosea
Dr. John Bell	Sweeti Vera
Robert E. Lee	Claudia Phelps
Governor Mouton	Latifolia Var. or
Mathotiana	Fanny Bolis
Audusson Red	Gaiety
Kimberley	Olive Lee Shepp
Flame	Jenny Jones
Mrs. Charles Cobb	Purity
Blood of China	Princess Murat
Vedrine	Firebrand
Dorothy Mac	Orchard Pink
Triphosa	(Herme Sport)
Meredith Lake	Lallarook
Paeoniaeflora	Gov. Earl Warren
Elizabeth Boardman	Heningham Smith
Duchess of Sutherland	High Hat
Lady of the Lake	Monjisu Red
Frizzle White	Sweet Delight
Pride of Descanso	Colonial Lady
Yohei-Haku or	Victory White
September Morn	Betty Sheffield
Showa-No-Homare	Lady Mary
Imura	Cromartie Var.
Finlandia	Melody Lane
Emperor of Russia	H. A. Downing,
Chandleri Elegans	Var.
Pink Ball	Alba Superba
Amabilis	Lady Sadie
Princess Baciocchi	Professor Sargent
Oranda-Gasa	Elena Nobile
Pearl Harbor	Mrs. Charles
Glenn Allan	Simons
Mrs. Bertha A. Harms	Monjisu Var.
Josephine Duell	Clower No. 2
Bessie Morse	Queen Bessie
Bellingrath	Chastity
	Simeon

Harvey Short's Seedlings

My Fair Lady	Julia's Favorite
Heart of Gold	Margaret McDill
Mahogany Glow	Spring Triumph
Sunset Glory	Pink Shadows

I should like to know if any of the readers of the Camellia Review have

(Continued on Page 24)

CAMELLIA SEEDS

A good crop of
Camellia Seeds from
the **CAMELLIA GARDEN**
at the famed
Huntington Botanic Gardens
to Society members who
place early orders.

So long as the supply lasts members have the option of seeds from white variety plants, solid color and variegates or sasanquas. Late orders will be filled from whichever group remains.

PRICE THIS YEAR
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\$2.00 — 100 seeds for orders in excess of 100 seeds. No orders will be accepted in less than 100 seed lots.

A packing and shipping charge of 25 cents must be included with the price of each order. All remittances should be made to

COL. C. M. GALE, Treasurer
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MAIL BAG from Page 14

times to a literally packed lantern room. We cannot thank you sufficient for making the series a success."

And in the same connection came a second letter from the Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria, quote: "I have to inform you on behalf of the Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria, how greatly we appreciate your kindness in sending the colour slides for viewing at the Camellia Show. They were viewed by 800 people or more and excited much admiration and pleasure."

Ed Note: And on behalf of the S C C S we also congratulate Col. Gale on making such a cooperative gesture of Camellias-across-the-sea.

* * *

From Japan

The following excerpts are from a most charming letter received by Elizabeth Councilman who was kind enough to let us have a glimpse of it, quote:

Dear Mrs. Councilman: You never imagine how your most interesting and unconventionally styled book gave me the most pleasant surprise when arrived. I have not yet read the last chapter but often reread some other chapters, finding that you and your sister were born on the island as we were born on the islets (me here on Shodoshima and my wife on Oki island.)

Don't be "nervous," but tell Mr. X that Kingyo Tsubaki means Goldfish (Kingyo) Camellia as the leaf looks like the goldfish's tail. If the foreigner call it Fish Tail (Gyobi) it is not so suitable name to the shape of the leaf and mistranslation. You agree that it is pedantry to tell and I know that you are familiar that there are Nokogiriba Tsubaki (Saw-teeth Camellia), Sakazukiba Tsubaki (Cup-shaped Leaved Camellia), Shichihenge (heterophyllous Camellia —

(Continued on Page 24)

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NEWS NOTES AND NOTICES

SAN DIEGO

The 1954-55 officers of the San Diego Camellia Society are as follows:

President, George Ellis, 1036 Tarento Dr., San Diego 7, Calif. Vice President, Willis H. Miller, 4366 Altamirano Way, San Diego 3. Treasurer, Harry Hargreaves, 4261 Randolph St., San Diego 3, and Secretary, Mrs. L. B. Goodall, 3036 Suncrest Drive, San Diego 16.

The Society has set the date for its 1955 Camellia Show for February 26 and 27th.

GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI

The first annual Camellia Show of the Gulfport Men's Camellia Society will be held January 15 and 16, 1955 in Gulfport, Mississippi. Mr. F. M. Dobbs is Secretary of that active Society.

POMONA

Please note correction of last sentence in last paragraph about Dee Cothran's special mix as published on p. 27 in the July Review. The sentence should read, "This mixture, iron sulphate and sulphuric acid run through a proportioner making a pH6 result, is slowly washing the alkali out of the cans."

New officers as announced by the publicity chairman, Kimi Yamamoto are Floyd Bunnelle, President; Oliver S. Hein, Vice President; J. A. Holland, Treasurer and C. D. Cothran, Secretary. The Camellia Show chairman is Max England.

TEMPLE CITY

Attendance at meetings of the Temple City Camellia Society is certainly going to jump this coming season as in addition to planned programs, members are going to have a chance at being recipients of any one or more of a minimum of 13 items. A redwood tub will be one of the items offered at every meeting; a pair of Corona curved shears and also—take note—a reticulata. Besides these very choice items, eight growers have been approached for plants—in fact the specialties of each and a partial list as given by Ernest Pieri, Plant Procurement Chairman includes: 'White Empress' from Rose's Nursery; 'Donckelarii' from Vincent's; 'My Darling,' 'Ann Miller,' and 'Mrs. Tingley,' from Don and Blanche Miller; 'Audusson' from Boorman's; 'Gigantea' from Strohmyer; 'Dragon Lady,' 'Undaunted,' and 'Enchantress,' from Councilman's; 'Mattie O'Reilly' from Marshall's and various Sasanquas from McCaskill's. This is truly an imposing list and represents a great deal of future pleasure for fortunate persons. The Big Moment will arrive with a Grand Prize that may be won by anyone who has bought a ticket during the year.

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MAIL BAG from Page 22

literally "Seven-Changing"), etc., and in the old literatures I see that Sakuraba (Cherry-leaved), Yuriba (Lily-leaved), Hiiragiba (Holly-leaved), Biwaba (Eriobotrya-leaved — Japanese loquat), etc. are mentioned and were grown.

I am sure you are growing at a corner of your wonderful Camellia Nursery, *Actinidia polygama* (Silvervine actinidia; Japanese name Matatabi), the vine known well in your country and others as the beautiful silvery white color of the young leaves of the staminate plant is so conspicuous and fine. In Japan there is a proverb of this Japanese plant that Neko ni Matatabi, Nakuko ni Chichi (Silvervine to Cat and Milk to Crying Baby). For you cat's sake be an uncontrollable believer on Matatabi! As a plant lover I am so much fond of *Actinidia*.

I like to write more about your

BUSY PLANTS from Page 21

had seeds from any of the following: Joshua E. Youtz, Haku-Tsura (White Crane), White Princess, Duncan Bell, Florence Stratton, Bride's Bouquet, Dessa Thompson, Te Deum, Mary Charlotte, Lady Lucille, Margaret Walker, Woodville Red, Rosea Superba, Senator Duncan U. Fletcher, Joseph Pfingstl, Mrs. Marie Keating.

I figure that I shall have from 1800 to 2000 seeds when I gather in my crop.

book, but the space is limited and I fear you are tired already of my poor writings, somewhat pedantic too. Sorry. Your Camellia friend, Kan Yashiroda, the Acclimatization Garden, Tonosho-kyoku, Kagawa-ken, Japan.

Ed. Note: Of course you all know that the book referred to is Mrs. Councilman's "Two Cats and Forty Camellias."

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LOUISIANA from Page 17

Johnson,' 'Simeon,' and 'Mathotiana Supreme.'

Increasing appreciation of sasanquas is noted here. This handsome ornamental shrub is used extensively here for hedges, foundation and group plantings, as well as specimens.

Our greatest menace to Camellias is scale, red spider, die-back and improper culture. Petal blight is known to exist in several yards, but with proper sanitation this is not noticed.

For Camellia Beginners

Camellias must have sunshine for lots of flowers but like to be shaded from the hottest sun. Leaves of some varieties sunburn badly. This gives them a bronzed or reddish upper surface which might be mistaken for insect damage or mineral deficiency. Deciduous trees and shrubs such as dogwood, crepe myrtle oak and even pecan trees furnish ideal conditions.

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CAMELLIA REVIEWER

from Page 2

The accompanying article called her a woman who "never lacks for a cor-sage." The article went on to say that her husband's hobby was growing and propagating some 5,000 camellia plants at their home in San Dimas and that Mrs. Cothran does her part by wearing the blooms everywhere she goes and by watering them during the summertime. As she was pictured bloomless, it did seem with all the buildup that she should have found at least one teensy bloom somewhere—even if only artificial. We'll bet that somewhere on all those plants there was some camellia that just couldn't stand it any longer without blooming. It has been happening all around us—in the Huntington Camellia Garden and even way last July Billie McCaskill told us there were some Professor Sargents out. However, even without a camellia Mrs. Cothran looked mighty sweet.

* * *

His Postmark is Massachusetts

There is an old cliché to the effect that journalists, editors and various persons of the "fourth estate," are always meeting the "most interesting people." We support this hackneyed belief and especially now that we are a small part of the Camellia world. We have a liaison with a new lot of "most interesting people" across the miles—newest of whom is John T. Coolidge whom we met through correspondence about our "Clearing House," and who contributes to this issue of the Review for the first time. Incidentally you might look up the Horticulture magazine for February 1954 in which he had a charming story "Birds Live in my Pit Garden." He warns you that the photograph of the wood duck sunning himself under a camellia plant was a "most unscrupulous deception" as he had to manu-

facture the right background by burying a small container-grown camellia and digging it up again after the picture was taken. We forgive this as it is merely author-license of this distant cousin of the late Calvin Coolidge.

* * *

The Daisy Loses Out

A long time ago we read a story about a man who thought he had reached the depths of despair and flung himself down a hillside ready to end it all. Then somehow from the utter obsession with himself his eyes gradually focused and he realized that he was looking at a field daisy growing wild there in the tall grass. In spite of himself he became so aware of the humble little flower and all that it represented that through its unconscious influence he became rejuvenated and his faith in life was restored.

Now this story seemed pretty fantastic to us for a long time but we are coming around to the belief that it really was not so far fetched after all. We are convinced that a Camellia could do the trick, probably faster and more efficiently than a daisy. In fact we know of several true instances where Camellias have restored men both mentally and physically. A lot of us are sure that a Camellia is better than a doctor's medical prescription anyday. For proof look at the many doctors who are Camelliaphiles. *They* know the beneficial value of Camellias. And doctors who know Camellias really have an ace in the hole. If they are uncertain as to the ailment of a patient he can always write on the little pad, "Rx—Take one Camellia whenever disturbance arises." Bet you it would work more often than not.

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