

THE

Camellia REVIEW

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



'Miss Universe'

Courtesy Kramer Bros. Nurseries

Vol. 23

February, 1962

No. 4

One Dollar

Southern California Camellia Society Inc.

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

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

Application for membership may be made by letter. Annual dues: \$6.00.

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THE COVER FLOWER

C. Japonica 'Miss Universe'

(Patent Pending)

This month's cover flower is the latest introduction of Kramer Bros. Nurseries of Upland, California, who established their place in the camellia sun with the beautiful red 'Kramer's Supreme'. 'Miss Universe' is a glamorous, free flowering, large white sport of 'Purity'. The uniqueness of the flower lies in the fact that the reflection of the center stamens gives a yellow glow to the center petaloids. The large, rose to peony shaped flowers with silky white petals have excellent keeping qualities. Foliage is large oval pointed. Blooms mid-season to late.

FEBRUARY 24-25 IS DATE OF DESCANSO GARDENS CAMELLIA SHOW

W. F. (Bill) Goertz
Show Chairman

The 1962 Camellia Show at Descanso Gardens in La Canada will be held on Saturday and Sunday, February 24th and 25th. This is the annual show sponsored by the Los Angeles Camellia Council whose president this year is Caryll Pitkin. Weather permitting, it is hoped that this will be the "biggest and best" Camellia Show of all times. The very able people who make up the show committee are:

Frank Stormont, Show Vice Chairman and Staging
Mrs. Juanita Garat, Chairman of Arrangements Section
Ken Newerf, Publicity
Alvin L. Gunn, Registration
Reg W. Ragland, Reception
Douglas G. Thompson, Placement

Bill Woodroof, Judging
R. F. Dickson, Jr., Judges' Clerks
Ed Franklin, Results
Merle Gish, Trophies
Walter F. Harmsen, Information Booth

Those who haven't visited Descanso Gardens will find it worth their while to just walk around and drink in the natural beauty of one of California's most delightful spots. Last year the Gardens hosted 18,251 visitors during the two day Camellia Show.

The blooms will be displayed, as usual, on tables lining the shaded garden paths. The arrangements section will again be held in the Hospitality House on the hill. One innovation for arrangements will be a public vote — each visitor will be



The setting under the oak trees for the Descanso Gardens Camellia Show. The tables line the garden paths.

asked to cast a ballot for his favorite arrangement and a trophy will be awarded accordingly, in addition to the trophies awarded in accordance with the regular judging. Also, past sweepstakes winners will compete for a special trophy in an added division.

Show schedules, registration material and information will be mailed to all camellia enthusiasts who have entered blooms or arrangements in either of the last two years' Los Angeles Camellia Council shows.

Anyone who would like to have some real camellia fun should contact one of the show committee members and volunteer for a job.

Everyone who has at least one blooming camellia plant is invited to enter blooms. One does not need to own a plant to enter arrangements, provided, of course, she (they are nearly always "she") has a source for obtaining blooms. All who enter will be the guests of the Los Angeles Camellia Council for refreshments at

the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Robinson, 4261 Commonwealth, La Canada from 4 to 6 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, February 24th.

Please participate! This year we want to have at least 175 exhibitors instead of the usual 125 to 135. Save the date!

S. C. C. S. SECRETARY ACKNOWLEDGMENT

May I make this acknowledgment of all the personal notes that are sent to me?

At this time of year when the work is so heavy there just isn't time to answer them all individually.

Some of them are passed on to the editor of the CAMELLIA REVIEW. All of them are appreciated and please know that they are enjoyed and I shall answer all that I can.

—MILDRED PITKIN



Close up view of tables used at Descanso Gardens show. This picture was taken while show was being set up.

8th ANNUAL SACRAMENTO CAMELLIA FESTIVAL

Mary Louise Vaughan

Secretary, Sacramento Camellia Festival Assn.

The show again will be the focal point of a gala community celebration, a ten-day series of colorful events keyed to many different cultural and social interests.

The 8th Annual Camellia Festival will include among its major activities, in addition to the flower show itself, the Presentation Breakfast March 2; the Camellia Ball March 3; the Queen's Luncheon March 6; the Camellia Concert March 7; Cheer-Up Day March 8; Babies Day March 9; the Children's Camellia Parade March 10; the International Friendship Luncheon March 10, and the Camellia Folk Dance Pageant March 10 and 11.

The Festival is heralded by the selection of nine Camellia Princesses from three Sacramento area colleges. Coeds qualified as to character and scholastic standing are chosen on a basis of appearance, poise and personality to represent the Festival and reign over its activities.

The selection of one of the nine as the capital's 1962 Camellia Queen will be announced at the Presentation Breakfast in the Sacramento Inn, under sponsorship of the City-County Chamber of Commerce.

Meantime nine prominent business and civic leaders are being chosen to serve as official escorts for the queen and her princesses in the coronation ceremonies. Their names will be announced at the Escorts Dinner February 20 in the Sutter Club.

The coronation pageant is the highlight of the annual Camellia Ball in the Hotel El Dorado, sponsored by the Sutter Hospitals Auxiliary. The formal dinner dance will be a major event of the capital's social season.

Camellia Queens of former years will share honors with the 1962 royal court at the Queen's Luncheon in the

Sacramento Inn. The event, sponsored by the Mercy Children's Hospital Auxiliary, will feature an elaborate fashion show.

The second annual Camellia Concert in the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium will be an evening of Strauss waltzes presented by the Sacramento Symphony Orchestra, a chorus of 100 voices and the Sacramento Civic Ballet.

On Cheer-Up Day, hospital patients and shutins in the area will be given camellia blossoms, and on Babies Day each child born in the county during that 24-hour period will receive a camellia plant.

More than 1,000 young school children will take part in the colorful and heartwarming Camellia Parade, marching with their own flower-decorated entries or accompanying the elaborate and imaginative floats of school groups, organizations and business firms. Entry in the delightful procession is open to anyone, but all competitive floats must be manned entirely by elementary and junior high school youngsters.

Representatives of many ethnic groups which have contributed to the capital's growth also will take part in the parade, as a prelude to the International Friendship Luncheon. The luncheon, to be held in the Hotel El Mirador, will feature distinguished visitors from other nations.

The Festival will come to a colorful finale in the brilliant folk dance pageant in the Memorial Auditorium, the highlight of two days of festive dancing. The pageant, performed before the Camellia Queen and her court in an elaborately decorated setting, will feature expert dancers from many California cities, presenting a

(Continued on page 31)

38th ANNUAL SHOW OF THE CAMELLIA SOCIETY OF SACRAMENTO

J. Carroll Reiners
Sacramento, California

In 1852, the Camellia was first brought to Sacramento, the Camellia City. Today one may find camellia trees a century or more old in the ancestral residential area. The name CAMELLIA CITY was popularly adopted by Sacramento in 1910, and in 1941 was officially underwritten by act of the City Council. Camellia shows have been held annually since 1924, the 38th annual show to be held this year on March 3 and 4 in the Sacramento Memorial Auditorium. No admission is charged.

During the early history of the show, the blooms were displayed and classified by color. Plants were still sold as red, pink, white, or variegated, and nomenclature was a difficult prob-

lem. Later the flowers were classed by form (you can guess at the confused results in the overlapping of untypical flower shapes). Today, for better public enjoyment, all flowers on display are carefully named. Proper identification has been made possible by the Southern California Camellia Society's publication, "CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE," William E. Woodroof, Editor. All interested camellia owners should have a copy of this publication.

In 1954, Sacramento had its largest show of 10,002 blooms. Weather conditions that year were perfect; both early and late flowering plants contributed heavily. 1961 was second in

(Continued on next page)

1962 CAMELLIA SHOW SCHEDULE FOR CALIFORNIA

- February 10-11 — San Diego Camellia Society in Balboa Park, San Diego.
- February 10-11 — Peninsula Camellia Society in Veterans Memorial Building, Redwood City.
- February 17-18 — Pomona Valley Camellia Society at United California Bank, 321 E. Holt Ave., Pomona.
- February 24-25 — Los Angeles Camellia Council at Descanso Gardens, La Canada.
- February 25 — San Jose Camellia Society in San Jose Civic Auditorium, San Jose.
- March 3-4 — Temple City Camellia Society at Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia.
- March 3-4 — Sacramento Camellia Society in Sacramento Memorial Auditorium, Sacramento.
- March 4 — Central California Camellia Society in Fairgrounds Cafeteria, Fresno.
- March 10-11 — Camellia Society of Kern County in Kern County Tractor Building, Bakersfield.
- March 10-11 — Northern California Camellia Society in Hall of Flowers, Walnut Creek.

size with 8,413 specimen blooms. Each year I anxiously watch six months of show planning develop slowly but certainly to a frantic tempo of committee activity which culminates on the show date in the neat placing of nearly 10,000 classified blooms in their proper locations within the short time of four hours.

This year, our veteran planner, Architect Erwin E. Nowak, has space allotted for over 10,000 blooms. Show visitors will be greeted by colorful displays of the International Participation Committee under the chairmanship of John Holkko. The international flavor will be interwoven with the Camellia show theme of "MAGIC OF MAKE BELIEVE." New show visitors always reiterate that they "can't believe it." This year we are playing up this idea with colorful fountains of water in a landscaped background for the horticultural demonstration.

The visitor from out of town should be prepared to enjoy this spectacle. There will be professionally designed nursery displays and vivid international exhibits including dancing and music. Always we have a CAMELLIA CULTURE CORNER, dedicated to the memory of Roy Wiegand who spent so many years teaching camellia lore, so please bring your note book and camera. The flower arrangement section is always a show feature because of its direction under Iva Gard Shepard, author, lecturer and judge, who is also Director and Consultant for all of the Sacramento Garden and Arts Center Shows.

What will you look for in the Horticultural section? I suggest that you carry with you the "Camellia Nomenclature," (it will fit into a purse or hip pocket), and write your own personal views in the booklet. Note the size and color of the leaves with the blossom. May I interject a note of caution: Don't be deceived by the size of the flower. Some of these are

grown by experts and able amateurs who know how to make a "cabbage" out of an average size flower. Primarily, look for good form, good color, and substance. The latter quality would indicate by its thick petals a bloom which is not fragile, in other words, a flower with better endurance. Except for the very new varieties, you can easily judge the most popular by the quantities on display. Last year we had 425 entries in the Camellia Elegans complex.

The brilliant exposition of the trophy-winning blooms will enthrall you. And a new feature table this year will be a display of blooms deserving special merit, which were considered for trophy honors, but didn't quite make it.

Come to the Show but come comfortably. You will have to walk at least a half mile *in* the auditorium in order to see the 1500 lineal feet of table display.

Show Chairman Irwin K. Sibole solicits your comments on the Show. Stop at the information desk; we would like to make your acquaintance.

NOTE: If you care to enter blooms in the show, request a show schedule by writing to President S. Lawrence Bouque, 1437 Marian Way, Sacramento 18, California.

FREEZE KNOCKS OUT SHREVEPORT

A. C. S. SHOW

3 consecutive days of zero weather have knocked out the A. C. S. Convention and associated camellia show which was scheduled for March 1, 2 and 3 at Shreveport, Louisiana. Charleston, S. C., which was scheduled for the 1963 A. C. S. Convention, has agreed to exchange years with Shreveport. The meeting at Charleston will be held February 22, 23 and 24.

CAMELLIA PERSONALITIES — WILLIAM E. WOODROOF

Ken Newerf

Newport Beach, California

Trying to introduce someone “who needs no introduction” is a common enough problem that confronts many a president, chairman or toastmaster. The problem is even more difficult when it is a person as close to all of us as is William E. Woodroof.

His camellia philosophy is well-known — **BIG AND RED** — yes! small and striped — **NO!** And his good-natured dislike of the “little stinker” has become his trademark in the camellia world.

Although almost every camellia hobbyist is acquainted with Bill’s activities in connection with camellias during the past 15 years, not too many of us know of the details leading up to his camellia life.

Born in Merkel, Texas in 1907, Bill attended primary school in that city, which, by the way, is in west Texas near Abilene. Coming to California with his parents, he attended Orange High School and U.C.L.A. where he was a member of the varsity basketball team. After graduation, he continued his studies at Harvard Law School and eventually became a full-fledged barrister, hurrying back to Los Angeles to display his legal talents.

Some of you old-timers may remember the 1930’s. In the law profession, clients were many but collecting fees was another thing. Bill practiced law in his own office all day and worked most of the night to provide for his growing family. During this time, he also became involved with a new hobby — camellias! Whether it was the law practice, the lack of sleep or camellias, was never determined, but his nervous system suddenly blew up and doctors ordered



William E. (Bill) Woodroof

him to find an outdoor occupation where he could, using a military term, “re-group”!

He combined his love of growing things with his need and from 1946 to 1951 managed the California Camellia Gardens in North Hollywood. Fully recovered, he then joined the legal staff of Richfield Oil Corporation.

Shortly after his first contact with the virulent “camellia fever”, Bill became interested in bringing some order to the chaos of camellia nomenclature. His perseverance and research finally provided the Southern California Camellia Society with material for their first “Camellia Nomenclature” in 1947. This book, revised and edited, has been re-published in 1949, 1951, 1954, 1956, 1958, 1960 and 1962. It has become the “bible” of nomenclature of the American

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EARLY BLOOMS WITH GIBBERELIC ACID

Frank F. Reed

Pasadena, California

And bigger ones too!

We have made more comprehensive tests with Gibberellic acid effect on camellias since our article in the REVIEW of February 1961. Thirty-six different varieties covering the entire growing season were treated at various times between July 4 and November 5, 1961. Tests were conducted with Japonicas, Sasanquas, Vernalis, Heimalis, and Reticulatas.

Generally, two terminals of each plant were involved. Previously these terminals had been disbudded to one floral bud. Exceptions were EMMET BARNES, CORONATION, ROYAL TRUMPETER, GUILIO NUCCIO, which had another floral bud in the axial of the leaf below the terminal (this latter bud was not treated). More than two terminals of the Sasanquas were treated.

At each terminal the vegetative or growth bud was broken off as shown at A in Figure 1. In the recess or stump that remained a drop of the Gibberellic solution was introduced with an eye dropper. Obviously, there could be more or less than one drop in each case but on the average there would be approximately one-half milligram Gibberellic for each terminal.

Two other methods have been used by North of UCLA. He has applied Gibberellic between the floral bud and the leaf as shown at B. He has had success by cutting a slit in the stem at C and injecting the Gibberellic therein.

As reported in the February 1961 REVIEW, I used an aqueous solution of Gibberellic with a nominal strength of 10,000 ppm (parts per million) which is a 1% solution. This solution was prepared by dividing one gram of the powder into three

parts and placing $\frac{1}{3}$ gram in one ounce of distilled water in a two ounce bottle. Twelve to 15 drops of household ammonia added to this solution facilitated the dissolving pro-

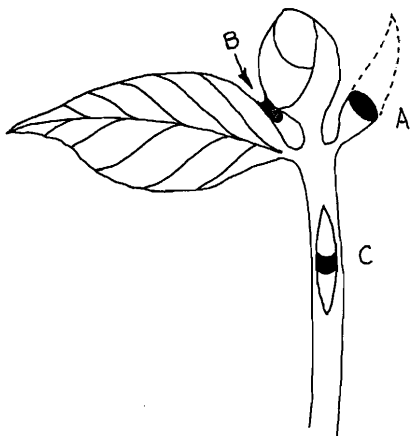


Figure 1.

cess. (Caution: — store solution in refrigerator — powder form needs no special storage).

Referring to the graph, the point on the diagonal line opposite the name of each camellia has been the normal starting date of the blooms in Pasadena for each variety. Examples are AREJISHI on October 3, HIRYU on October 15, ELEGANS VAR on December 16, JULIA'S FAVORITE on February 1, and CAPT. RAWES on February 20. The actual date this year for the first untreated bloom is indicated by a triangle. Examples are AREJISHI on September 28, INTERLUDE on November 18, ROYAL TRUMPETER on October 7, FLOR-ENCE DANIELL on December 5, etc.

The date on which each plant was treated with Gibberellic is indicated by a plus sign. For example, on the 4th of July, AREJISHI, INTER-

nor have some others bloomed normally on date of going to press.

The most marked forcing of blooms has been CAPT. RAWES (nearly five months), FLORENCE DANIELL (four months) and GIGANTEA. Many of the blooms were really outstanding. This was the case of EMMET BARNES, CINDERELLA, HIRYU, KRAMER'S SUPREME, NINA AVERY, SPECIAL TRIBUTE, CAPT. RAWES, FLORENCE DANIELL, etc. — all of which were equal or larger in size than the normal blooms. (My judgment in this regard has been adequately confirmed by the judges at monthly meetings of the Southern California and Temple City Camellia Societies.) Obviously, the treated blooms were much larger than the usual early blooms which are on the skimpy side.

The quality of these blooms may be partially attributed to normal dis-budding, and to knocking off of growth buds. As pointed out in the November 1961 issue of the "Northern California Camellia Bulletin" and elsewhere, this early dis-budding and knocking off of growth buds might

have the opposite effect since it could engender new growth instead of accelerating growth of the bud which was left. In my plants, there generally was no replacement bud (vegetative or flowering) appearing at treated terminals.

INTERLUDE had the largest buds of any of the Sasanquas in early July and at this time SPRING TRIUMPH had the largest floral buds of any Japonica. These two plants were given special treatment by being placed in the controlled temperature house at the Los Angeles County Arboretum and later moved to cool Descanso Gardens. This was done in order to have early blooms available for pollination with Tucheria Spectabilis. After the one bloom of SPRING TRIUMPH all other treated buds dried up. They couldn't stand prosperity!

Plant Care: Practically all of my camellias are in redwood tubs, and are mulched with spagnum moss. Generally, they have been pruned to give much better air circulation inside the bush and to fit them to the size of the tub when they are put in

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INTRODUCING THE GLAMOROUS

'MISS UNIVERSE'

(Patent Pending)

A new seedling, 'Miss Universe' is a glamorous, free flowering, large white seedling of 'Purity'. It is rose to peony in form, with 46 silky textured petals. The reflection of the center stamens lends a yellow glow to the center petaloids in a very pleasing effect.

Growth habit is vigorous, dense and erect.

One of the most prolific bloomers on the market today, setting buds on young plants. Midseason to late.

ANOTHER WINNER

by the originator of 'Kramer's Supreme'

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at reasonable prices through your nurseryman.

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CAMELLIA NURSERYMEN

PART 4 — BETTY COUNCILMAN

Ernest (Ernie) Pieri

Betty Councilman, as she is known to many of us, is a native of Alaska. Her mother left Norfolk, Virginia to go to Alaska to marry her father, who was a navy man stationed on an island in the Bay of Sitka. After Betty and her sister were born, the father was transferred to Mare Island in 1919 and bought a home in Burlingame. In 1922 her father was retired from the navy, and bought a place in Los Altos in the Santa Clara Valley. They then sold that place in 1935 and moved to Santa Barbara.

Betty actually got into the camellia business before she ever had a nursery. The camellia was the favorite flower of her mother. In 1939 her mother passed away and Betty vowed that some day she would name a camellia after her mother. While Betty was living in Santa Barbara, she got her first camellia plant.

In 1941 she moved to North Hollywood and took her one camellia with her. During the war years she worked for Lockheed. In 1946 she visited a nurseryman who grew a few camellia plants for sale in his back yard garden. She bought some of the plants. So Betty's first attempt in the nursery business started in Burbank. She and another Lockheed lady employee, who was interested in ceramics, decided to share a lot and building for the joint business venture. The nursery end of the partnership worked out fine, but the split care of the firm did not. Betty worked the swing shift at Lockheed so could work with the nursery and shop in the morning. The other girl took over in the afternoon. The other girl did not carry her end of the bargain so the venture failed.

In 1947 Betty met Curly who was

a trumpeter and drummer for a night club band (in fact Betty is no slouch on the drums herself). They soon were married, Betty sold her home in North Hollywood and they moved to Van Nuys. Betty rented a lot in Van Nuys where she could keep her camellia plants. There was no water on the lot, so Betty had to carry water from a neighbor to water the plants. She definitely wanted a camellia garden and nursery. The land out Van Nuys way was not conducive to growing camellias so Betty and Curly were on a lookout for a more desirable site.

In 1947 a friend of Curly's saw an ad in a local paper regarding a camellia nursery in El Monte that was for sale. They looked up the directions from Van Nuys and drove to the office of the real estate man who was offering it for sale. The Councilmans liked what they saw and so purchased the camellia nursery on Bryant Road in El Monte. It had been a back yard nursery and had two or three lath houses and lots of plants in the back of the place.

It was in 1949 that Betty began her nursery propagation in earnest. She put in Irish Yew, Holly and Gardenia cuttings, as the first plants she started to grow. She wanted to call her nursery "Councilman Camellia Acres and Yews Too," but finally settled for "Councilman's Camellia Acres." In 1950 she put out 4000 camellia cuttings. Really did it the hard way too. She followed the instructions for making cuttings literally. When it said use "washed sand," she would get a bucket of sand and wash it before putting the sand in the cutting box. Later, Mr. Clark from

(Continued on next page)

CAMELLIA VASE

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whom she had purchased the place, showed her how to make the cuttings and place them in the growing box. From this start Betty has propagated many thousands of camellia plants.

Betty was also interested in Camellia seedlings. She had a good start as there were many chance seedlings in the ground before she bought the place. The first of the seedlings that bloomed that showed promise of being a good flower was UNDAUNTED, which first bloomed in 1950. Also blooming in 1950 was a sport of ROSE QUEEN, which Betty named QUEEN OF THE ACRES. The seedling named DRAGON LADY was later given to Jerry Olrich, who planted it in the camellia garden on the State Capitol Grounds in Sacramento. MISS BETTY came next, then the seedling that she thought was worthy of being named after her mother, NAN CROWELL, thereby fulfilling the vow to name a camellia after her mother. Then in 1953, Betty showed one of the most beautiful semi-doubles among the white camellias to the public for the first time. It was named ANGEL.

Betty has sent the original plants of NAN CROWELL, MISS BETTY, and ANGEL to the municipal gardens in Norfolk, Virginia to be planted in the gardens in memory of her mother.

Betty is quite enthusiastic about some of her more recent seedlings that have bloomed, especially the miniatures. She also is watching a hybrid seedling with a reticulate leaf. In addition to her growing camellias, Betty has done quite a bit of writing. Her most famous book, "Two Cats and Forty Camellias," is full of wit as well as recipes, and has received very favorable comment. She has also written several articles on "The Versatility of Camellias," which appeared in CAMELLIA REVIEW some time ago. She has also had several articles

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When? Why? How?

R. FLINN DICKSON SR.

Sun Tolerance

As we pay more and more attention to the culture of our camellias we are finding that semi-shade is not an absolute must for some. An authority, William E. Wylam, with many years' experience with camellias in Southern California, has this to say: "It is a general rule that varieties bearing red flowers will tolerate more sun than those with pastel or variegated flowers." There are, however, some whites and pinks that will tolerate more sun than the average gardener realizes. I have found that some plants adjust to exposure. Two years ago we lost in a wind storm a rather large tree that shaded several camellias. We relocated all that were in containers but a big 'Mme. Jannock' in the ground was left to see if it would adjust. It did. The first season it had a rough time, but now is doing well. It is producing a big crop of light red flowers and the one difference that I notice is that the flowers in the sun do not last as long as when the plant was shaded.

Since humidity and drying winds have a direct bearing on the amount of sun exposure a plant can take it is suggested that you have to try them in your location. Varieties like 'Mathotiana', 'Sun-Up' and 'Sunset Glory' will make good starting points. Two of our older reds have been used for hedges in the sun. These are 'Covina' and 'Princess Baciocchi'. In hedge use, the bush when large shades the root system and helps prevent drying out. If all of your plants are in shade,

why not try to move some into semi-shade or sun?

Transplanting

Now is a good time to do it because the plant is dormant. Whether you are simply moving the plant to a larger or better container or going from a container to a ground planting or from one location to another in the ground, do it now and the root systems will be well "settled in" by the time the April growth cycle begins. A person using great care can transplant any month in the year — but — doing it when the plant is putting on growth is doing it the hard way. You also take the risk of setting back the growth when doing this except during the dormant stage. When you get the roots exposed give them a careful inspection. If any appear dead, prune them out. If the soil is spent, take a hose and wash it out of the roots. In an extreme case of bad soil you can hose it all away. Before doing this have your new soil mix ready and replant at once so that the exposed roots do not dry out. When I do this I water heavily for a day or two. This forces out air and settles soil in its place. If during the transplant you lose part of the root structure you should prune away a proportionate amount of the top.

Public Is Welcome

As I get around amongst gardening friends I am surprised at how many I find who have not visited one or more of the outstanding horticultural gardens that are open in the Los

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ON JUDGING FLOWERS

David L. Feathers

Lafayette, California

Editor's note: Reprinted from November 1961 issue of THE CAMELLIA BULLETIN, with permission of Northern California Camellia Society. This article is a complete reprint of "On Judging Camellias" with the addition of some paragraphs from "Random Thoughts".

It has happened to me, it has happened to you and, seemingly, it has happened to almost everybody. In fact, it is an almost universal lament where camellia shows are concerned. How is it that my "Lalapaloosa" got the red while that "ordinary flower" was given the blue ribbon?

While it is true that, in judging at camellia shows as well as in all other matters which involve the human element, mistakes may be made occasionally, in most cases it is simply the failure of the exhibitor to properly assess his bloom's worth in the light of the judging scales which are used. Unquestionably, the most common error on the part of the individual is to place undue emphasis on size which, after all, is supposed to carry no more weight than any of other four factors — color, form, substance and condition.

In the Northern California Camellia Society's 16th Annual Show held last March the Judging Scales for blooms were shown as follows:

Size for variety entered	20%
Color and Markings	20%
Form	20%
Texture and Substance	20%
Condition and Distinctiveness..	20%

The writer is going to attempt a rational interpretation and discussion of these five factors, each of which is given an identical value.

Size: Obviously, where a typically large flower is concerned, the bloom with the greatest dimensions should prevail over one smaller, all other

things being equal and, where smallness is an attribute (as with miniatures) the reverse would be true because these are the most significant characters of such camellias. In the A. C. S. Camellia Rating score card, we have an item "Size/Overall Effect" which is intended to convey to the judge that the size must be taken into consideration *in conjunction with the effect it produces*. This, it must be admitted, is a slightly different situation because it concerns the grading of that particular variety in relation to other varieties, rather than the quality of different blooms of the same variety. Nevertheless, in both cases the scale used relates to perfection of the flower as a whole and not to the independent judging of its separate parts. Consequently, consideration of the "Overall Effect" is absolutely essential to determination of the most completely esthetic or beautiful flower. Sometimes the immense size of a flower is actually to its own detriment because of malproportion in relation to other considerations.

Color and Markings: In bright colored flowers, vividness is, of course, most desirable and the degree of contrast and pattern of the markings is quite important in the case of variegated camellias. Vividness of color depends very largely upon the age of the bloom as colors have a tendency to dull as the bloom matures. Consequently, Color and Condition, which together constitute 40% of the flower value in the foregoing scale, depend largely upon the *freshness* of the flower. Therefore, it will be seen that this factor carries double the importance of Size alone. Even whites, or the white portion of a camellia bloom, will often tend to get a "dirty" look as they age.

Form: In the writer's opinion, this is one of the most difficult elements of the flower to judge correctly. The reason why hinges largely on the tendency of Form to be affected naturally by climate and environment and artificially by the use of fertilizer, particularly at blooming time. It therefore poses a problem for the out-of-town judges, in particular, and is another excellent reason why judging teams should always be composed of both local and "foreign" judges — preferably by a majority of two to one, respectively. Currently, there is great interest in flower height, hence a tendency to favor the higher over the flatter flower where this variation occurs.

**Texture and Substance:
Condition and Distinctiveness:**

Perhaps there may be a little overlapping here. There is some question in the writer's mind as to the propriety of the use of the word "Texture," which would seem to connote something that is inherent in the camellia and more likely to be variable as between different varieties than between flowers of the same variety. Consequently, "Texture" and even "Substance" to perhaps a lesser degree would seem to apply more to the rating of a camellia than to the determination of the "best grown" flower, although it is certainly true that the best grown flower should have the greatest substance. Some camellias

naturally possess good substance while others are typically fragile and even with the best of care will not keep well after cutting. Thus there is some element of doubt that "Substance" is a completely proper basis for judging competitive blooms.

Actually, "Condition" really seems broad enough to cover everything in this respect; in fact, it may be too broad a term because it relates not only to the keeping qualities of the flower and the vastly important "freshness" previously referred to but also covers the disfigurements which occur at all stages to so many show flowers. As a matter of fact, in the case of a two-day show such as the one cited herein, there is considerable question in the writer's mind that 20% is adequate to reflect the importance of "Condition." While it is widely accepted that judges should grade a flower on the basis of its condition at the time of judging — not as they expect it will look tomorrow — one wonders at the logic of this because nothing in a flower show looks more absurd than a flattened flower with a blue ribbon attached. It would therefore seem that, in two-day shows, the judging scales should give more weight to Condition and not necessarily be the same as for one-day shows.

The writer feels that what is variously termed "Condition," "Sub-

(Continued on next page)

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stance," "Texture," etc., should, collectively, merit 40% of the total value of a show flower but that more precise definition and a more universally fair scale is possible. As matters now stand, the term "Condition" and its actual point value seem to be the great variable in scoring because it is the habit of show chairmen to charge the judges to be liberal when weather conditions have been bad or when the flowers are scarce. This should have nothing to do with the *freshness* of the flower, however. Under conditions prevailing 90% of the time, the only allowances to be made should be for disfiguration due to wind and rain. It would seem, therefore, that because Freshness is so vital to a high-quality flower in all respects except perhaps Size, that this factor should carry a relatively greater number of points than any other. Actually, freshness of condition is not a distinct feature of a camellia but rather a concomitant of good color and form — or the other way around. If "Freshness" were the designation, then "Condition" could be given a more specific meaning, limited to external blemishes resulting from weather and handling. By making such distinction, the amount of leeway due to prevailing weather conditions would be quite restricted while the value for Freshness would always be constant. In such case, it would seem proper to assign 30% to Freshness and only 10% to Condition — at least insofar as two-day shows are concerned.

"Distinctiveness" is more difficult to define. It certainly does not mean "possessed of some distinguishing characteristic" because that would imply departure from the norm. Undoubtedly what is meant is "having outstanding qualities." This would come fairly close to the "Overall Effect" concept previously mentioned herein. The difficulty which this caption poses lies in distinguishing what

constitutes an outstanding or distinctive feature from what is freakish (distortion). Clearly the blue ribbon flower should be the one that is the most nearly "perfect" (meaning true to type), representing the optimum degree of development as to those factors set forth in the judging scale that is consistent with an over-all esthetic effect.

Some exhibitors and spectators seem to regard judges as totally lacking in discernment and, at best, a necessary evil. There are, of course, all kinds of judges just as there are all kinds of temperaments and degrees of ability, conscientiousness and acumen in human beings. The judging of horticultural exhibits certainly is not an exact science. Superimposed upon this acknowledged variable is the further inconstant factor of innate personal preference, which it is extremely difficult to subdue. Let us take the matter of ability. Even when two persons have equal knowledge and thus, presumably, judgment, there is a matter of physical ability — eyesight and the bending and stretching that conscientious judging entails for hours on end sometimes. (Many a person has silently cursed bifocals in this connection.) In the matter of conscientiousness, there are meticulous judges as well as those who stand back and are quite willing to let the other two fellows, or women, decide the issue. As to acumen, really there is a lot more to systematic judging of camellias, flowers *and* plants, than meets the eye. It has been one of the compensations of the countless hours I have spent in connection with camellia rating to learn a very great deal more about judging camellia values simply by reason of the fact I have been able to "look over the shoulder" of more than one hundred well qualified people and note their observations and evaluations of ca-

mellia flowers, plants and habits. Once in a while I have found that the difference in comparative scoring under like conditions is quite remarkable. It would be too much to expect that there would not be similar disparity as between individuals when judging a flower show.

I recall quite vividly an experience in judging at a well known show in the Deep South a few years ago. Working on a team of three, we were assigned to the A-C classes of the singles. The other two gentlemen in my team were of quite opposite temperament, one being quiet while the other was a "take charge" young man. There was a rather large *Audusson* section, with many magnificent blooms. The aggressive member of the team took a rather cursory glance at what seemed to the rest of us as quite an undertaking and, pointing to three blooms said "one, two, three" and proceeded to move on to the next variety. It so happened that his first choice, while a beautifully marked flower of adequate size and in good condition, had a center that was quite mixed up, with stamens going off in every direction, as will occasionally happen with an *Audusson* or almost any open-type bloom, especially if the grower has been too liberal with the fertilizer. Looking the situation over carefully, the other chap and I located a somewhat larger bloom with not quite so much white in it but

which had a perfectly formed cylinder of stamens which, of course, is the ideal *Audusson* form. A little discussion of this matter of flower form resulted in unanimous selection of the bloom with the perfect stamens as the blue-ribbon flower and we got along fine after that.

Another incident involving form happened to me a few years ago in Los Angeles when I was invited to act as one of the two judges of the informal flower display at a large meeting. This was when the magnificent large white, *Coronation*, was fairly new. The other judge and myself finally selected as the best flower a very large, perfect *Coronation* having a bud center. Before making the trip, I had just bloomed my own *Coronation* for the first time and all the flowers had opened with bud centers — they were immense, breathtaking formal. I believe it is the general rule that, where the form of a given variety will vary from bud-center to open, as in *Mathotiana*, for example, the bud-center flower is to be preferred. In the several years since, I have never had a formal *Coronation* and can imagine what the fellows who brought in the big *Drama Girls* and *Reg Raglands* thought of our selection.

I guess that, in the final analysis, there never was a perfectly judged camellia show and perhaps never will

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ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW AT JANUARY S. C. C. S. MEETING

For the third consecutive year, the main feature of the January meeting of Southern California Camellia Society was the flower show. While the gripes of "too warm weather?" and "desert winds" were heard on all sides, these causes for poor blooms were not evident in the large number of beautiful blooms from which prize winning selections were made. Two tables of the size shown in the accompanying picture and several smaller tables were covered with japonicas large, medium and miniature, some beautiful hybrids, and a few early blooming reticulatas.

As is customary at these flower show meetings, ten "judges" selected their nominations of large and med-

ium japonicas from the tables. It can be understood that these selections are not always the blue ribbon choice of the one selecting, because one of the others may have "gotten there first" to the bloom that the selector would have picked for first place. Nevertheless, all ten people presented their nominations to the audience with well chosen sales appeals to influence votes for their selections. Chairman Caryl Pitkin then explained that the votes were to be on the basis of what the voter liked best, and not necessarily according to the scale of judging used by judges at shows. Winners in the popular voting were as follows:

Large to very large: 1st, 'Tomorrow'; 2nd, 'Margaret Short';



One of the tables of japonicas at the January S. C. C. S. meeting. The man in the foreground with the "judge's stance" is Fred Hamilton of Santa Maria who is mentioned in the article in this issue, "Kern County Camellia Society Report."

3rd, 'Kramer's Supreme'; 4th, 'Richard Nixon'; 5th, 'Onetia Holland'.

Medium to large: 1st, 'Ballet Dancer'; 2nd, 'Spring Sonnet'; 3rd, 'Katherine Nuccio'; 4th, 'Spring Sonnet'; 5th, 'Fimbriata'.

Judging of miniatures, hybrids and reticulatas was conducted as normal with the following results:

Miniatures: 1st, 'Jingle Bells'; 2nd, 'Hopkin's Pink'; 3rd, 'Pearl's Pet'.

Hybrids: 1st, 'Glory of Canterbury' (a new hybrid originated by Edwards H. Metcalf); 2nd, 'Barbara Clark'; 3rd, 'E. G. Waterhouse'.

Reticulatas: 1st, 'Buddha'; 2nd, 'Buddha'; 3rd, 'Noble Pearl'.

An attraction of the meeting that was added after the flower show had been planned was a showing by Mr. Wendell M. Levy of Sumter, South Carolina of pictures he had taken of South Carolina blooms. Several of the pictures were taken last December following a freeze, and gave the people of Southern California an idea of what cold weather does to camellias. Unfortunately, curfew blew before Mr. Levy was able to show more than a sampling of his pictures.

GIBBERELIC ACID (*Continued*)
a 16-inch or larger tub. In 1961 they were fed with Camellia Grow or equivalent in quantities less than that recommended on the sack. The feedings were April 15, June 15, August 1 and September 1. With the first two feedings I added Nuccio's iron in a ratio of 1 to 4. I soaked each camellia by filling the tub every weekend. When the temperature went above 85° on any day, the leaves and mulch were sprayed with water. I disbudded practically all camellias down to one per terminal and on probably half of the stems I left an additional bud at the leaf axial just below the terminal.

I have had very poor results in previous years when I used an alcohol solution of Gibberellic. I was not very successful when I injected a Gibberellic solution into the wood of camellia plants. In my earlier attempts, I used solutions varying from 50 ppm to 500 ppm. Now I believe these are too weak. If anyone wishes to cover a large section of a camellia plant, the infusion (injection) or the spray method is the best to use. The literature should be searched. The references given in North's article in the 1959 American Camellia Society Yearbook will be very helpful.

Results and Conclusions

1. The blooms at treated terminals were generally larger than normal blooms.

2. Gibberellic definitely forces camellias to bloom early as shown on the chart. The effect of the time of application is not entirely clear.

3. At the treated terminals no growth bud came out to replace the one that had been treated with Gibberellic.

4. Floral buds at the leaf just below a treated terminal were not affected by the Gibberellic given the top bud.

5. No apparent damage was seen in any of the plants treated. This would be expected if the Gibberellic had no effect on buds or leaves only one and one-half inches below the terminal.

6. There is nothing to indicate that a stronger or a weaker solution than the nominal 10,000 ppm should be used. I expect to stay put temporarily on this strength.

7. The leaf at a treated terminal probably becomes larger than normal leaves. My observations are not exact in this regard.

8. The application of the Gibberellic to the recess of a broken vegetative bud is much easier than the infusion (injection) method.

KERN COUNTY CAMELLIA SOCIETY REPORT

Charlotte Johnson
Bakersfield, California

The Camellia Society of Kern County will hold its annual show on March 10th and 11th in the show rooms of the Kern County Tractor Building at Highway 99 and California Avenue, Bakersfield, across the street from the Bakersfield Inn. Frank Anderson, Show Chairman, has laid plans to produce a well organized smooth-running show.

Since the middle of November we have had such dense fog here in the San Joaquin Valley that there have been only a few brave 'Debutante' and 'Daikagura' blossoms peak out then promptly brown in the cold below freezing night-time temperatures. Then great happiness spread on January 9th as the sun came through for the first time. A smile was on everyone's face, camellias started to unfold, and WHAM! We produced the finest windstorm in history. For 24 hours it blew. T.V. antennas dropped like flies. My own azaleas and camellias looked like they had been out with a wind tunnel, but after sprinkling heavily and with a blessed sprinkle of three hundredths of rainfall the next day they looked surprisingly good. I think the sheaths surrounding the buds, that I am sure are made of cast iron to withstand the elements in this valley, protected the forthcoming flowers from too much damage.

Wednesday night, January 10th, we were all entertained by Fred Hamilton of Santa Maria and his boxes of fine flowers from his garden, also the blossom winners from the S. C. C. S. meeting of the previous evening. As the wind blew at 33 miles per hour outside the police hall where we hold our meetings, Fred calmly held up some 75 or 100 varieties before our amazed eyes and calmly told of the good and bad aspects of each. It

seemed utterly impossible, as the inside catch was blown from the hinges during our meeting, that such flowers could unfold. Amos Kleinsasser gave a fine graft demonstration and assisted those new members desiring to learn all the latest wrinkles of grafting, even to blowing Root-Tone antiseptic powder on the new grafts as Dr. Leland Chow placed the Pony Tail holders on the plastic bags which had been sterilized by Frank Anderson's nicotine breath, while Charlotte Johnson held the flashlight to see that all scions were in line with the cambium layer of the understock so kindly sent up by Julius Nuccio.

Our December meeting was outstanding and perhaps other societies might benefit from our experience. We had Bill Clow from Nippinawasee, California (near Yosemite) arrange some 500 camellia blossoms in some 20 different ways. Arrangements from wedding bouquets, to pine and camellia crosses for the door at holiday time, to children's parties, to stag parties with guns and camellias were produced. Bill Clow is a semi-retired professional florist and some of his work is fabulous.

It is our desire to produce such a fine Camellia Show this year that all members of the Southern California Society will want to enter their flowers and see our show. Flowers must be entered by 9:30 A.M. on Saturday, March 10th. We plan another camellia lunch across the street at the Bakersfield Inn, so all plan to join us as soon as the show is judged and before it opens at around 1:30 P.M. Show Manager Frank Anderson and President Lawrence Ellis extend a hearty welcome to participants in and visitors to our show.



Betty's Barbs

By Betty Robinson

Men are supposed to give up their "little black books" when they marry. But not camellia husbands! Ladies, may I warn you, always be careful to check the pockets in your husband's clothes before you send the clothes to the cleaners. Most men not only put the name and number of their plants but also where they keep the plants. Can you imagine having to claim a "little black book" (all right, Wilkins Garner, so yours *is* red) with such entries as Alice of Linwood (high white); Ann Sothern (must have); Big Beauty; Circus Girl; Esugata (Pictorial Figure); Feasti (Blushing Bride); Funny Face Betty; Helen of Troy; Lady in Red (graft 2-61); Maiden Lane; Magic Moments; Morning Blush (lower house); Most Precious; My Darling; Naughty Marietta; Obliging (upper house); Old Maid Taylor; Painted Lady (hot house); Pretty Pantelletes; Red Hot; Sweet and Low; The Flirt; Ticked Pink. The list really is endless of what might be in this book. Almost worse, would be the rainy Sunday when Friend Husband is working on said book and the neighbors come by. Be sure to hide it quickly! Just think what grist this would furnish for the neighborhood gossip mill. Ah well, we all have our skeletons in the closet.

Many of my friends are flower arrangers and I can only stand back and admire their creations. For years I have wondered why so many out side of camellia circles were only called "arrangers". Just before Christmas I attended a show given in the

auditorium of a woman's club by one of the highest paid arrangers in the area. It finally dawned on me why the "flower" had been dropped — there was not one flower in the entire show. She had cactus made into wreaths for the door, styrofoam cut in the shape of a Christmas tree with holes punched out by an orchid tube and marbles glued in to be used as lamp shades and many other odd things. Apparently one of the rules of the "arranger" is to never use anything as it was intended by the maker or the Lord. The creation she was obviously the most proud of was a center piece for a dining table. It consisted of two grapefruit (painted black) with candles impaled in them and fresh grapes which had been dipped in gold paint draped over all. Frankly my first thought was "Poor thing, she forgot to clean out the refrigerator and the grapefruit spoiled." Then I decided no, maybe there was method in her madness. Certainly no one could retain an appetite with this in front of them and maybe she wanted to save on the food bills. I never did find out the true story but I have filed this idea for the times when we unexpectedly have four dinner guests. Black grapefruit, ugh!

My flower arrangements are quite limited, mainly by my skill but also by the fact that there are not only five shows on consecutive weekends but there also are calls from local organizations for blooms during these weeks. We had a large bushy plant

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CAMELLIA RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A NEW APPROACH TO CAMELLIA RESEARCH

Harold E. Dryden

I had the recent privilege and pleasure of attending a meeting of the Camellia Research Advisory Committee. This group of scientists, horticulturists and lay camellia fanciers is embarking on a program which, if successful and there is every reason to believe that it will be, will bring about fundamental changes in camellias throughout the world. Chairman of the group is Carl Tourje, best known among camellia people as editor of the book *CAMELLIA CULTURE* which was published in 1958 by the Southern California Camellia Society. For many years, Mr. Tourje was chairman of the Southern California Society's Garden Committee, which cooperated with the Huntington Botanical Gardens in the development of its camellia areas. In his capacity as chairman, Mr. Tourje worked closely with the people at the Huntington. This close contact plus his independent studies of the camellia caused him to develop a strong desire for a scientific approach to studies involving the camellia which had never been attacked on an organized and sustained basis. Such a program obviously could not be local or sectional in character or objective.

Mr. Tourje broached his ideas to Dr. William S. Stewart of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum. Dr. Stewart concurred in Mr. Tourje's ideas and the two worked together in forming the Camellia Research Advisory Committee. It is affiliated with the California Arboretum Foundation, Inc., which makes available to the Committee and to its cyto-geneticists and investigators the library, offices, lath houses, greenhouses and laboratory facilities of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum. It will also have full access to and the

staff cooperation of two of the finest camellia gardens in the world: Descanso Gardens in La Canada which is operated as a division of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, and the famous Huntington Gardens in San Marino. In addition, the Committee investigators will have available to them the cooperation of the staff of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena and has been assured of the cooperation of scientists in the Botany Department of the University of California at Los Angeles.

Committee members in the field of botany are Dr. William S. Stewart, Director of the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum; Dr. Harlan Lewis, Chairman of the Botany Department of UCLA; and Dr. A. G. Plakidas, Professor of Botany, Louisiana State University, retired. The Committee includes two outstanding cyto-geneticists (a highly technical and specialized branch of the science of Genetics): Dr. Samuel L. Emsweller, Research Leader, Ornamental Investigations, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, Maryland; and Dr. Albert E. Longley, Crops Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, retired. Two eminent plant breeders and geneticists are members of the Committee: Dr. David Armstrong of Armstrong Nurseries, Ontario, California; and Dr. Walter Lammerts, Director of Horticultural Research, Germaines, Livermore, California. Dr. James Bonner, Professor of Biology, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, is a distinguished biochemist. There are three well-known horticulturists on the Com-

mittee: Dr. Francis de Vos, Assistant Director, United States National Arboretum at Washington, D. C.; Mr. Frederic Heutte, Director, Norfolk Botanical Gardens, Norfolk, Virginia; and Mr. Howard Asper, Superintendent, Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino, California. The two lay members of the Committee are Mr. Carl Tourje, previously mentioned, and Mr. R. W. Ragland, Vice President of Richfield Oil Company, Los Angeles and one of the leading camellia collectors in Southern California.

The Committee has an ambitious program, some of which may be spelled out as being under way. Of immediate interest are three broad objectives, as follows:

1. To add yellow to the basic camellia colors. As Dr. Lammerts, a member of the Committee, wrote in his article on "Interspecific Camellia Hybridizing Possibilities" in the book *CAMELLIA CULTURE*, "By introducing the factor for yellow into *Camellia japonica* varieties we could hope not only for yellow camellias but for colors varying from gold and sunset-gold through orange to scarlet and vermilion. There is, then, a strong probability of doing the same thing in camellias as was accomplished in roses when Pernet-Ducher finally successfully crossed the red Antoinne Ducher with pollen of Persian Yellow and thereby obtained Soleil d'Or." A start toward this ob-

jective has been made, working with *Tutcheria spectabilis* which bears a flower with yellow as a basic color. Cyto-geneticists on the Committee will work not only with *Tutcheria* but also with some varieties of japonicas such as 'Caprice' which seem to contain some yellow as a color base.

2. To seek camellias which have greater resistance to cold weather. This is particularly important for people in the colder sections of the camellia belt, who have only recently experienced another freezing cold spell. The Committee has therefore undertaken a project to breed cold hardiness into the more popular camellia species. As a part of this project, the Committee is building up stocks of a wild sub-species of *Camellia japonica* known as *Kominato* which was brought into this country from an area in Northern Japan where winter temperatures go to 5 degrees below zero. Genetic stocks will be obtained from other cold areas and when all the genetic material from the cold areas has been brought together, research experts will be in a better position to select the elite forms which will provide the greatest hardiness. Cold hardiness will be tested by sending progeny of the crosses made by the Research Committee to the National Arboretum in Washington, D. C., the Morton Arboretum in Chicago, the Arnold Ar-

(Continued on next page)

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boretum in Boston, the Longwood Arboretum near Philadelphia and the Botanical Gardens in Norfolk.

3. To develop fragrance in camellias. There is a species of camellia named *lutchuensis*, the flower of which has a pronounced and delightful fragrance. Howard Asper, a member of the Committee, has crossed *lutchuensis* with *saluenensis*. The Committee has received rooted cuttings of *lutchuensis* and tips of these have been grafted for rapid growth. A few japonicas such as 'Sweet Delight', 'Fragrant Jonquil', and 'Colonial Lady' have some fragrance and they bear seed. Cyto-geneticists of the Committee will use them and *saluenensis* 'Apple Blossom' in their work with *lutchuensis*.

These three projects indicate that the Research Committee will work on subjects that are of interest to all camellia people everywhere. Other projects will be added as financial support will make it possible to do so. As previously indicated, some of the staff work will be done by institutions with which the Committee is closely associated through membership on the Committee. This will cover only a part of the cost of research, however, and the major part of the expenses will have to be met through private subscriptions.

Most of the hybridizing work will be done in Southern California because of weather conditions. As Dr.

Lammerts stated in his article "Camellia Breeding, Influence of Climate and Temperature" in the AMERICAN CAMELLIA YEARBOOK for 1961, "It would therefore appear that in any hybridization program involving cross-pollination of several different species and varieties of camellias, and even intergeneric pollinations, a location should be selected which is not only free at all times from killing frosts but where temperatures approach the ideal range for flower development, and hence for camellia breeding. Southern California is such a location." This does not mean, however, that the program of the Research Committee is a Southern California project for Southern California people, although we can be pleased that the idea originated and germinated here. People of all parts of the camellia world will benefit from this work and will be interested in knowing how the work is progressing.

Camellia Garden Tours For S. C. C. S. Members On February 4th

The Reg Ragland gardens at Orange, the Alton Parker gardens in Temple City and the Caryll Pitkin gardens in San Marino will be open in the afternoon. All S. C. C. S. members are invited to visit these gardens.

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NEWS OF SOCIETIES

Kern County

See article in this issue "Camellia Society of Kern County Report."

Pomona Society Show

The Fifteenth Annual Camellia show will be held February 17-18 at the United California Bank, 321 E. Holt Avenue, Pomona. Registration will open at 9 A.M. and close at 12 A.M. This should allow ample time to pick flowers in daylight, transport and register from most camellia areas. Above the usual awards there will be trophy awards for the best 'Alice Wood', 'Kramer's Supreme', 'Billie McCaskill', Commercial Display and the Best Seedling. Inquiries for entries should be addressed to: Pomona Valley Camellia Society, P.O. Box 1025, Pomona, California.

S. C. C. S. Hosts Affiliated Societies

Members of the Camellia Society of Orange County were guests at the January 9th meeting of S. C. C. S. About 30 Orange Society members came in a bus from Santa Ana. Members of the Pomona Camellia Society will be guests at the February meeting on February 13th. The San Diego Camellia Society is giving consideration to accepting an invitation to drive the 125 miles and back in order to accept an invitation to be guests at the March meeting on March 13th.

Temple City

The Temple City Camellia Society will hold its next meeting on Monday evening, February 26th at 8 o'clock

in the Temple City Woman's Club House located at Kauffman and Woodruff Avenues, Temple City. Judges will select the blooms which in their opinion are the best at the show tables. Each member of the audience will then be permitted to secretly vote for the blooms which he or she feels are the finest on display. This program has been conducted by the Southern California Camellia Society on several occasions and has met with hearty and enthusiastic response from all who attended the meetings.

The Society's "Dime-a-Dip" January 22nd dinner meeting provided a tasty and very economical dinner for those in attendance. The meeting featured the sale of camellia understock for grafting and a scion grab bag. Grafting techniques were demonstrated by Society members.

SHOW ANNOUNCEMENT

The 13th annual camellia show of the Society will be held March 3rd and 4th, 1962 in the Lecture Hall of the Los Angeles County Arboretum, located at 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia. Hours of the show will be 2 P.M. until 9 P.M. on Saturday the 3rd and 9:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. on Sunday the 4th. The show will be known as the "San Gabriel Valley Camellia Show." Mr. Arthur E. Krumm is Chairman and under his able and experienced leadership the show will be one of the Society's finest efforts. Information and entry forms can be obtained from Mr. Krumm whose address is 2081 Summit, Altadena.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY RESUMES CAMELLIA REGISTRATIONS

As announced in the letter recently received from S. C. C. S. President Wilber Foss by all members, Southern California Camellia Society has resumed registration of new camellia varieties. This Society commenced the registration of new camellia varieties in 1944. American Camellia Society commenced registration of new varieties in 1948. In 1958 the two Societies agreed to conduct registrations jointly under the name of American Camellia Registration Bureau, with the office of American Camellia Society performing the clerical work. It has been decided that the plan in effect prior to 1958, with both Societies handling registrations, will be resumed.

This action should result in the registration of more varieties introduced by Southern California people than occurred under the former plan. The 1961 issue of the AMERICAN CAMELLIA YEARBOOK, published by the American Camellia Society, listed varieties that were registered during the years 1948 through 1961. A review of the list shows that Southern California people generally have not listed their new varieties during those years. The new plan should result in better representation of Southern California varieties in the list of registrations, because of ease of action to secure registration.

Applications for registration can be obtained from the Secretary of the Society's Nomenclature Committee, Mr. R. F. Dickson, 1494 Casa Grande, Pasadena, California. Registration service will be rendered without any fee or other charge. All varieties registered will be published currently in CAMELLIA REVIEW and will be included in the next following edition of CAMELLIA NOMENCLATURE. The following new varieties have

been registered under the new plan up to the time this issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW went to press.

Goldstone, W. F. Wilson, Jr., Hammond, Louisiana. (62-1). A 10-year old chance seedling that first bloomed in 1955. Flower of variable form, semi-double to anemone. White, 4½ to 5 inches in diameter, 2 to 2½ inches deep, with a large number of bright yellow stamens. Carries 10 to 15 petals with 125 to 200 petaloids. The large number of bright yellow stamens with many petaloids having a distinct yellow cast creates the effect of a flower of considerable yellow color.

Carol Dickerson, R. W. Ragland, Orange, Calif. (62-2). An 8 year old seedling, female parent 'Gigantea Alba', male parent unknown. The formal double flower is reported as looking like carved ivory, is 3 inches in diameter and 1½ inches deep. It is made up of 60 petals incurved 1½ by 1½ inches, arranged in 7 tiers.

The Flirt, R. W. Ragland, Orange, Calif. (62-3). An 8 year old seedling, female parent 'Berenice Boddy', male parent unknown. A semi-double blush pink with white stamens measuring 4 inches in diameter and 1½ inches deep, with 10 notched undulating petals and 2 or 3 petaloids among the stamens.

Maybelle Ragland, R. W. Ragland, Orange, Calif. (62-4). An 8 year old seedling, female parent 'Lady Charlotte', male parent unknown. Flower is semi-double to peony, 5 inches in diameter and 2 inches deep. Color is a soft light pink with salmon overtones. Flower is very distinctive because of white stamens, form and petal arrangement.

(Continued on page 31)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS AT SCCS DECEMBER PANEL DISCUSSION MEETING

Following are questions asked by the audience at the December 1961 meeting of the Southern California Camellia Society, with answers (briefed for brevity) given by the panel of Vern McCaskill, A. H. Dekker and Wilkins Garner.

Q. What is the best time of year to graft?

A. When glass house is not available, late January, February and March. While summer grafts are practical and some people make a regular practice of doing them, the disadvantage of making summer grafts is that so often the graft will heal over but will not put forth any growth until the following spring.

Q. What is the better method of grafting?

A. Cleft graft makes the strongest union.

Q. Why is it better than bark grafting?

A. Bark grafting can be done only when the bark will slip readily. Bark grafting is subject to later accidental breaking of the union. There is no particular advantage in bark grafting except that it is easy to match the cambium layer.

Q. Should grafts be watered before the scion has taken?

A. They should be given only sufficient water to keep the root system from drying up. Too much watering encourages mold under the jar.

Q. What is the best fertilizer for camellias?

A. There is much difference of opinion. Perhaps the best practice is to purchase a standard brand of camellia food and apply one-half the quantity recommended in the instructions by the manufacturer. Many hobbyists mix their own, using cotton seed meal mixed with about 10%

to 20% blood meal or "hoof and horn". Others use cotton seed meal plus mill organite, plus blood meal or hoof and horn. Still others use straight cotton seed meal.

Q. How often should fertilizer be applied?

A. Most growers seem to think three applications are adequate during the growing season. The first application should be made when the plants have finished blooming and the succeeding ones approximately 60 days apart. Some people also give a light feeding around the first of December.

Q. How should fertilizer be applied?

A. It should be scattered on top of the soil but avoid getting it on or too close to the trunk. The McCaskills use liquid fertilizer because of the convenience of applying it. Be sure the soil is damp before fertilizing, then water in afterwards.

Q. Are redwood tubs satisfactory for the planting of camellias?

A. Quite satisfactory. The inside and the bottoms should be treated with an asphalt paint (not creosote) to make them last longer — probable life of 5 or 6 years. (Editor's note: my redwood tubs have lasted over 6 years without such treating.)

Q. What about the so-called U. C. soil mix?

A. It is essentially a mixture of sand and peat moss (or substitutes) in varying proportions that provides very rapid drainage. There is no nourishment in the mixture whatever, therefore it requires a regular plan of frequent fertilization. Consensus: Not generally satisfactory for the average hobbyist. Requires water nearly every day in warm weather and fertilizer about every two weeks.

MERLE
GISH**'Judy Matthews'**

'Judy Matthews', a seedling originating in the garden of Mr. George Wheeler ("Honest" George Wheeler that is) of Birmingham, Alabama, comes from an environment where mighty fine camellias are grown. Actually "Honest" George is a specialist in greenhouse grown blooms and from what I have seen, second to none. Two years ago after the Birmingham Camellia Show and giving Mr. Wheeler time to contract Brinks (security risk) to care for and haul his silver winnings home, we were given a tour of his greenhouse and flowers. I was most amazed to see he had flowers, show flowers, to burn. I am certain he could have cut enough flowers to walk away with another show. George and his good wife Hilda do all of their own culture and primping of his flowers and I know they are past masters at growing greenhouse blossoms.

'Judy Matthews', as a friend of Mr. Wheeler's says, "is an 'honest blush'," a beautiful shade that does not fade and stays fresh on the plant for ten days. The flower does not shatter but drops in one piece. It is an incomplete double of full form, having 35 to 45 petals. The center petals stand erect and are fluted and twisted among the golden stamens. Occasionally a flower will have petaloids though they are not needed for it has a full center and a nice depth.

As to size I think it only fitting we quote the papa of this seedling: "I doubt that it will ever go over eight inches. In fact, I doubt it very much. In fact, I am sure it won't. The usual flower is 4½" to 5" with some flowers 5" to 5½"." When asked if he had any thoughts as to seed parentage his reply was, "Yes, two camellias or one doing double duty." Maybe he is getting close to hybridizing.

Limbs are small but never droop, and its growth habit is upright and never needs typing up. Foliage is dark green leaves four inches long and two inches wide.

Who is Judy Matthews? Judy is the daughter of Mr. Wheeler's cousin. She is a very beautiful girl and was a most talented dancer. Several years ago she (Judy) was in a tragic auto accident and is paralyzed. Just to show you how wonderful and grand our camellia relatives and friends can be Mr. Wheeler went on to say, "However, that (the accident) was not the reason I named it for her, simply that on our seeing the bloom for the first time, it reflected her beauty and personality. When in bloom it seems to shine out and is a flower for your very best girl. **It just had to be 'Judy Matthews'.**"

'Louisa Wilson'

This is one of two seedlings that came up under a bush of 'Elizabeth Boardman' which Mr. Leon Wilson of Macon, Georgia dug and planted

in pots. From the top of one of these potted seedlings he (Mr. Wilson) made a graft so as to get a flower within two years. (Note: it is interesting to learn that the original seedling has not flowered to date.)

The flower is a very faint blush, white semi-double made up of nineteen petals and yellow stamens. The petals have texture like porcelain, crisp in appearance and the flower stands up on its stem. It is said to be six inches or better for size. Mr. Wilson's son, who is also a camellia enthusiast, had been looking for a seedling worthy of the name of his mother. Flowers bloom mid-season, starting in January until March.

'Charlie Forte'

A purely chance seedling that originated in the garden of Dr. William Beasley of Hartsville, South Carolina and first bloomed after only four years is now catching the eyes of many camellia judges. A brilliant red semi-double with 7 to 8 smooth wide petals, a tight cluster of upright, deep pink stamens. Flowers can attain the size of 5 to 5½ inches in diameter and 2½ inches in depth.

All indications tend toward cold hardiness, for blooms have opened after consecutive night temperatures of 19 and 20 degrees. A fast and slightly pendulus grower with bright green, very serrated leaves. Flowers mid-season to late.

This seedling flowered for three or four years without attracting too much attention. Then it was brought to attention by a friend who noted and said, "They are so pretty they hang their heads in humility."

ON JUDGING (Continued)

be, simply because there are too many variables — among the individuals as well as the flowers. (What might seem perfect judging to me might appear otherwise to you.) And when it comes to selecting the *best* flower

or flowers, well — you and I have seen many instances where almost every judge had a different opinion and where there really was no *single* best flower and any one of two or three should have been so honored. But there, again, we have a case of *one man's* opinion while we should never forget that judging is a *consensus* proposition.

S. C. C. S. MEETING POLL OF FAVORITES

Football and camellia seasons are the times for polls to determine favorites. Now that all the All-American football teams have been selected, S. C. C. S. started the camellia polls at the December meeting by asking all present to name their favorite six, in order of preference. Following is the score, with first place receiving 6 points, second place 5 points, third place 4 points, etc. Only japonicas received enough votes for significance.

Variety	No. Ballots	Points
Debutante	30	132
Guilio Nuccio	26	112
Ballet Dancer	22	73
Kramer's Supreme	15	62
Glen 40	12	43
Reg Ragland	10	40
C. M. Wilson	12	39
Tomorrow	12	38
Billie McCaskill	8	36
Alba Plena	8	34
Coronation	11	31
Daikagura	9	31
Spring Sonnet	11	30
Adolphe Audusson	9	30
Silver Anniversary	8	26
Nina Avery	6	22

NURSERYMEN (Continued)

published in HORTICULTURE, a horticultural magazine published by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. In order to relax and get away from it all, Betty and Curly have a cabin out in Yucca Valley, where they can spend their weekends."

MINIATURES

W. M. Bills

Beaumont, Texas

Prior to 1958 I had given little thought to camellias of the small or miniature class. Most of the show winners were the very large bold type and being interested in building up my collection I naturally became interested in securing the winners.

In the 1958 American Camellia Year Book there appeared an article titled "Miniatures For The Masses" written by Mr. John Robinson of La Canada, California. This article helped to stimulate my interest in the small and miniature classes and I began to accumulate some of these little "stinkers" as they seemed to be termed.

My very good friend Mr. I. J. Feray also became interested in miniature camellias and he secured all the better ones that he could find. These varieties have been propagated and both scions and plants are for sale by him.

My wife and I attended the American Camellia Society Convention held at Disneyland, Anaheim, California last year and it was my privilege to meet and talk miniatures with Mr. John Robinson and I am happy to report that his enthusiasm for this smaller flower is higher than ever. Mr. Robinson being very generous later sent scions of the desirable ones not in this area.

I was happy to note that the show held at Disneyland devoted a large section solely to miniatures and some very fine specimens were displayed. Most all of the California Camellia Societies have classes for miniatures and I hope that in the future our Texas and Gulf Coast Societies will include this class in their show schedules.

The definitions of a miniature seems to be controversial. The Camel-

lia Nomenclature defines a miniature as a bloom 2 inches or less across and a small bloom as 2 to 3 inches. I agree with Mr. Robinson that this definition restricts the miniature classification to entirely too few varieties; and that a preferred definition of a miniature would be "A miniature is a flower (variety) more than 50 percent of the blooms of which are normally not over 2½ inches in diameter." Small varieties have a bad habit of producing larger flowers just as large varieties have the habit of producing exceptional blooms.

BILL WOODROOF (Continued)

Camellia Society and local societies throughout the entire country and in many parts of the world.

Because of his untiring efforts to make camellia growing and collecting a fascinating hobby, Bill has been showered with honors. He is one of only six persons to be named a Fellow of the American Camellia Society. He is a Director-at-Large of that organization. He has been named to the "Hall of Fame" of the Shreveport Camellia Society and in 1959 was made an Honorary Life Member of the Southern California Camellia Society. His introduction of 'Reg Ragland' has provided the camellia world with one of the truly great camellias and winner of the Margarete Hertrich Award in 1954 and the Ilges Medal in 1956.

Such honors have been well-deserved and we can all be proud and grateful that we have "Mr. Nomenclature" in our midst — one of "our boys"!

Visit your camellia nurseryman this month. You'll never have a better opportunity to see the mid-season varieties in bloom.

BETTY'S BARBS (Continued)

of 'Debutante' which always seemed to have branches growing in the right direction. So, I built a stock of black bowls and compotes plus candles to blend with its color. During the last pruning season I went down the hill and there was a lovely pile of branches *under* the plant. My "friend" had decided it was too large and would do better as a trunk with several laterals. Since then I have spent a few sleepless nights trying to find an adequate retaliation. I have discarded arsenic or ground glass as being too permanent but still haven't been able to decide on the correct measures. If any of you have any suggestions I would be very grateful. What I am really looking for is something painful but not fatal.

The time for the Girl Scout Garden Tours is almost here. There will once again be 15 beautiful gardens shown on three weekends in March. If you are longing to see a garden not composed of cans and lath houses, here is your opportunity. The tickets will be \$1 which will admit you to all of the gardens. The cause is a worthy one and the gardens delightful. I hope you will plan to see them.

Thought for the month: Wives are like camellias: they do their best for you when they receive "tender, loving care."

WHEN? WHY? HOW? (Con't.)

Angeles district. I have in mind Descanso Gardens, the Huntington Gardens and the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum. The common denominator of them is, all were originally private estates. Right now, for camellia displays, you should visit Descanso Gardens and Huntington Gardens. I could do pages just describing the plants which range from large trees of many old varieties to the newest of the new. And, if you happen to be one going into a new

home or one who plans, as I do, to alter some landscaping, please visit the Arboretum. Take your note book because you will get many ideas that you will want to use to augment any camellia planting. For those coming from out of town, here are the addresses: The Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia; Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada; Huntington Gardens and Library, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino. And, by the way, when going to Huntington Gardens, allow enough time to also see the Art Gallery and the Library.

REGISTRATIONS (Continued)

Dr. John Ragland, R. W. Ragland, Orange, Calif. (62-5). A 6 year old seedling, female parent 'Magnolia Queen', male parent unknown. Flower is semi-double, 5 inches in diameter, 2½ inches deep. Color is carmen red with white stamens.

Judge W. T. Ragland, R. W. Ragland, Orange, Calif. (62-6). An 8 year old seedling, female parent 'Donckelarii', male parent unknown. Flower is semi-double, 5 inches in diameter, 2½ inches deep. Color is rich vibrant red. Stamens are white with golden anthers.

SACRAMENTO

FESTIVAL (Continued)

colorful program in authentic folk costume.

The Festival is sponsored by the non-profit Camellia Festival Association. Its events are open to the public, and with each year are attracting greater participation from the entire Northern California area as well as visitors from all over the nation.

Directory of Affiliated Societies

- Camellia Society of Kern County.....Bakersfield
 President: Tom Stull; Secretary: Mrs. A. C. Adams, 2827 Sunset, Bakersfield.
 Meetings held 2nd Wednesday of the month, October through April, at Cunningham Memorial Art Gallery, 1930 R St., Bakersfield.
- Camellia Society of Orange County.....Santa Ana
 President: F. E. Kahen; Secretary: Mrs. George T. Butler, 1121 Orange, Santa Ana.
 Meetings held second Thursday of the month, October through April, in Spurgeon Memorial Room of New Santa Ana Public Library.
- Central California Camellia Society.....Fresno
 President: Edwin H. Hiber; Secretary: Mrs. Karen Lee Ahrens, 1144 E. Saginaw Way, Fresno.
 Meetings held at Heaton School, Del Mar Ave., Fresno, on the following dates: November 15th, December 13th, January 24th, February 28th, March 28th with barbecue at Fresno State Horticultural Building.
- Huntington Camellia Garden.....San Marino
 Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, Oxford Road, San Marino.
- Pomona Valley Camellia Society.....Pomona
 President: Bancroft Benner; Secretary: Mrs. Soby Yamamoto, 1081 Weber St., Pomona.
 Meetings held 2nd Thursday of each month, November through April, in the Ganesha Community Building in Ganesha Park, Pomona.
- San Diego Camellia Society.....San Diego
 President: Clive Pillsbury; Secretary: Mrs. Ferris H. Jones, 4545 Dana Drive, La Mesa.
 Meetings held 2nd Friday of the month, November through May, in Floral Association Building, Balboa Park, San Diego.
- Temple City Camellia Society.....Temple City
 President: Laurence S. Shuey; Secretary: Mrs. Peter Folino, 708 W. Pepper Dr., Arcadia.
 Meetings held 4th Monday of the month, October through April, at Women's Club Auditorium, Woodruff at Kaufman, Temple City.
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ATTENDS the Society meetings monthly November through April if he lives in Southern California. If not, reads reports of them in the Review.

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