

THE

Camellia Review

A Publication of the Southern California Camellia Society



'Tomorrow's Dawn'
Courtesy Tick Toek Nurseries

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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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CONTENTS

VOL. 23

NOVEMBER 1961

NO. 2

Camellia Hybrid 'Carl Tourje' Available to Nurserymen	24
Camellia Personalities — Ebon Carl Tourje. <i>Wilber W. Foss</i>	5
Camellias for Corsages. <i>Mrs. Elsie Dryden</i>	8
Camellias on the Move. <i>Mrs. Mary Johnson</i>	28
How I Became Interested in Camellias and How I Am Building My Collection. <i>Frank Stormont</i>	15
Know Your Southern California Nurserymen; Part 2 — Les Marshall <i>Ernest (Ernie) Pieri</i>	3
Lazy Man's Perfect Hobby: The Camellia	31
Looking at Azaleas. <i>R. F. Dickson, Sr.</i>	20
Los Angeles Camellia Council. <i>Harold E. Dryden</i>	6
'Lotus' — A Happy Hunting Ground. <i>Harvey F. Short</i>	18
New 1962 Nomenclature Book Will Be Off Press in January. <i>Caryll W. Pitkin</i>	11
News of Societies	26
Shreveport, Louisiana Will Host A. C. S. Convention March 1, 2, and 3, 1962. <i>J. C. Ohrt</i>	13
The New 'Tomorrow' Dynasty	23
Thoughts From the Editor	2
When? Why? How? <i>R. Flinn Dickson, Sr.</i>	12

THE COVER FLOWER

C. Japonica 'Tomorrow's Dawn'

This month's cover flower is a sport of 'Tomorrow', which has set such fabulous records as a show flower since its introduction in 1954. It has the characteristics of 'Tomorrow' with respect to size. In color, however, it has light pink petals which become deeper pink toward the center of the bloom; then, to soften any harshness of overall flower it carries white blotches or streaks on the margins of the petals. Strong yellow stamens set the flower off like candles on a Christmas tree. It is being introduced to the trade this year by Tick Tock Nurseries and Powell's Nurseries of Thomasville, Georgia. It will be available in Southern California nurseries in the fall of 1962.



THOUGHTS

from the editor

As I talk with camellia people, I am impressed by the wide range of interests that have caused people to adopt camellia growing as a hobby. All people, of course, grow them for the beauty of the flower. For many, this is the principal reason. Some go a step farther and want their flowers to be good enough for competition in flower shows. It is surprising, however, when one compares the number of participants in camellia shows with the number of camellia society members, to learn how many people do not have this competitive urge. Some people derive their pleasure from just seeing things grow.

There is an increasing number of people whose interests are going beyond the growth of the plant and the development of beautiful blooms. The first step, of course, is grafting. Then follows, or comes simultaneously, the planting of seeds. There's nothing like the pleasure of watching for the first bloom on a seedling, or of seeing the bloom on a graft that was made two years ago. But little by little the ranks are filling with people who want really to create, to bring into being something entirely different from what now exists. This means hand pollinating and ends naturally in inter-specific hybridizing.

Now the whole point of this is not so much the breadth of interest in camellia growing as a hobby, important as this is in these days of increasing time for hobbies. The point I want to lead to is that a person can best develop and benefit from these interests when he belongs to a group where all have similar interests, even though the specific interests may vary within the limits discussed above. Members of camellia societies know this, otherwise they would not be members. What better way to help others who like and grow camellias to enjoy themselves more, than by inviting them to attend camellia society meetings, then encouraging them to become members of your camellia society. You'd really be doing something for that person in adding to his pleasure. Someone in the society will match his own individual interests, whether they be growing, grafting or hybridizing, and thus he adds to his own knowledge and enthusiasm the sum total of those of the society membership. The new 1962 Nomenclature Book, which goes with membership in S. C. C. S. and affiliated societies, will be an added inducement to join a society now.

Harold E. Oyler

KNOW YOUR SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA NURSERYMEN

PART 2 — LES MARSHALL

Ernest (Ernie) Pieri

San Gabriel, California

Les Marshal, of Marshall's Camellia Nursery on Rosemead Boulevard, San Gabriel, California, is a native of Nebraska. You might say that he learned to walk in a nursery. His dad and uncles ran a large nursery in Arlington, Nebraska, growing and selling fruit trees and roses. His relatives still operate nurseries in Arlington and Omaha, Nebraska, and in Denver, Colorado. The family have been members of the American Nurserymen's Association for years. In fact, it might be said about the family tradition, that one of the male members of each family must be a nurseryman.

Les Marshall and a friend came out to California in August of 1923, with the idea of growing roses in Southern California and shipping them back to the main nursery instead of having to buy roses from other rose growers. While in California Les lived in El Monte where he drove a milk truck for a while and also worked in a restaurant.

By July of 1924 he decided that he had had enough of California, and on the Fourth of July started back to Nebraska. He had spent three years in the University of Nebraska, studying to be a horticulturist. He hoped that when he got back home he could find a part time job and return to the University to complete his course of study and graduate. When he got back to Nebraska, he found that the depression had hit the college area and that there wasn't a job to be found so that he could work and go to school. He decided to return to Arlington and go to work in the family nursery grafting apple trees.

But the spell of a year in California was too much for Les, so in January of 1925, with the temperature 19 below zero, he left the family nursery and returned to California. He lived in El Monte while he was looking for work. On the recommendation of a cousin, who was the president and owner of what is now known as the Security First National Bank, he went to work for Mr. Rust, a nurseryman in South Pasadena. The Rust Nursery was located on the property that is now occupied by the South Pasadena Junior High School, on Fair Oaks. After this property was sold, Mr. Rust bought and started a new nursery where the Bamico Nursery is now located on Glenarm in Pasadena. At that time there were about 125 employees at the nursery including Les and our friend Mark Anthony.

Les became interested in the few camellias that were at the nursery and at the home of Mr. Rust. About this time they were building a new wing to the Huntington Library and in clearing the area for the building they had to get rid of some camellia plants. The Library wanted some palms, and the nursery, through Les' efforts, wanted some camellias, so they bartered. One of the plants that was secured by the nursery through the trade was a seedling later to be known as 'Huntington Pink'. Les started making cuttings for the nursery and later to making grafts of the camellia plants.

In the meantime, Les met and married Elsie, who at that time was the private secretary for Mr. Rust. After they had become settled in their own

(Continued on next page)



"Ernie" Pieri
Author of "Know Your Nurserymen"
Series

home, their back yard began to take on the appearance of a camellia growing ground. During his stay with Mr. Rust, Les became the yard foreman when the regular foreman was on his vacation. When the regular foreman returned to work, Les became the relief foreman, and later the assistant manager of the nursery. Mr. Rust had purchased some camellia plants from the Cottage Gardens, in Eureka, and they were being shipped to Los Angeles to increase the number of camellia plants that were to be found in this area. They also were being sent to California from France and Belgium. Mr. Jannock, Coolidge, Armstrong and Rust were the buyers.

Les had become so enthused about camellias that he also imparted some of this enthusiasm to Mark Anthony. Mark began to use the camellia plants in his landscape work. Many of the camellia plants were not named, but Les, using Rust Nursery stationery, was able to write for and get camellia catalogues from the southern nurserymen. Les and Mark then prevailed

upon Mr. Rust to buy some of these camellia plants from the southern nurserymen, pay for and split the plants three ways. By this time, about 1936, Les had acquired a considerable number of camellia plants in his back yard on Stratford Avenue, in South Pasadena, and he decided it was about time to start looking for and buying a place large enough to hold his collection. In 1939, Les and Elsie purchased the property on Sultana Street in San Gabriel and started to move their nursery stock.

Mark Anthony had, in 1942, started a nursery on Huntington Drive, on the property where the Sunny Slope Chrysanthemum Gardens is now located. When Mark went into the service in 1942 Les took over the care of Mark's plants. This in addition to caring for his own plants and working for Mr. Rust. In 1943 Les quit the Rust Nursery to go into business for himself.

Camellias were still a scarce nursery item during this time, and the public was willing to buy all that were available for sale. Les was maintaining his nursery on a half-wholesale and half-retail business. He also taught landscaping in the evening schools at Bell and Franklin Adult Schools in the Los Angeles Adult School program during the 40's.

Les has had several seedlings and mutations that he has developed and put on the camellia market. His first, 'Sharon Rae Pearson', was named after the queen of the first camellia festival to be held in Temple City. It is a sport of 'Otome Pink'. While Les was seeking a name for this sport, he thought perhaps he might name it for the new queen of the festival. He asked permission of Sharon's mother, who gave her consent and was delighted to have her daughter so honored. Later he introduced another seedling, 'Arlene Marshall', named after his daughter. The one

(Continued on page 25)

CAMELLIA PERSONALITIES — EBON CARL TOURJE

Wilber W. Foss

San Marino, California

A well known figure in the camellia world and in Southern California in particular is E. C. Tourje, known to his friends as Carl. Born in Michigan and a graduate in law from the University of Michigan, Mr. Tourje is now a writer and lecturer. He is an Honorary life member of Southern California Camellia Society; former vice-president of the American Horticultural Society; long time chairman of the S. C. C. S. Garden Committee which collaborated with the Huntington Botanical Gardens in the development of their world-famous camellia garden; organizing chairman of the Hertrich Awards Committee; editor of the authoritative book "Camellia Culture"; and retired Chicago and California attorney.

Carl Tourje has long been a lover of camellias, but before there were many camellias in California to love his favorite flower was the rose. In 1937 he lived in La Canada, California and in his garden he had 96 rose bushes, and in between the roses were 600 delphiniums. It was at this period that Mr. Manchester Boddy bought a large quantity of camellia plants and had them moved into and planted under the oak trees at his home "Descanso." Mr. Tourje, having spent 21 years as a lawyer in Chicago, came naturally by an inquisitive mind. He met Mr. Howard Asper at Descanso and inquired about the newly acquired plants. It was through Mr. Asper, a friend Anne Galli (also an honorary life member of S. C. C. S.), and another friend, Joshua Youtz, that Mr. Tourje added to his love of roses the enduring love for camellias. He bought his first camellia plant, 'Aurora Borealis' ('Finlandia Variegated') from Joshua Youtz in 1938.

Mr. Tourje is now retired from the active practice of law but his time is fully occupied, much of it on the subject of camellias. He makes many speeches on camellias to a variety of groups. He carries on a heavy correspondence concerning camellias with people all over the world. Had he done nothing else to establish himself among camellia people, he made his mark as editor of the book "Camellia Culture," in which he collaborated with and coordinated camellia experts in the publication of what is accepted as an authoritative source book on the subject of camellias.

In 1947 he wrote the original show rules and regulations around which all later shows in Southern California were organized. By accident he is the originator of the process of germinating camellia seeds by putting them in covered jars in peat moss. He was given some seeds and then had to be away. He put the seeds in a jar of peat moss to preserve them and put them on a high shelf. When he returned about three weeks later and checked the seeds, he found that some of them had produced long tap roots.

Mr. and Mrs. Tourje have one daughter in Texas and twin sons in the Southern California area, with eight grandchildren of which they are justly proud.

When asked to name his five favorite camellias, Mr. Tourje refused to do so on the grounds that this is an impossible task for him as he is a lover of all camellias. (However, see in the January 1961 issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW Mr. Tourje's article "Camellias — Ten Outstanding Varieties in the Last Ten Years."—Ed.)

THE LOS ANGELES CAMELLIA COUNCIL

Harold E. Dryden

The Los Angeles Camellia Council, Ltd. was formed in the fall of 1955 in order that a single organization, representative of camellia people in the Los Angeles area, could invite members of the American Camellia Society to an annual meeting of that Society in Southern California. Representatives of the Los Angeles Camellia Society, Pacific Camellia Society, Southern California Camellia Society and Temple City Camellia Society, the four camellia societies in and adjacent to Los Angeles, met at the home of the late Ralph Peer and effected the organization of the Council. Mr. Peer was elected the Council's first president.

The success of the A. C. S. meeting and of the "one big show" at Descanso Gardens in February 1956 under the direction of the Council caused the member societies to conclude that the Council should be continued as an active body, if for no other reason than to sponsor and direct an annual camellia show in which all the societies would participate. It was agreed, also, that such an organization could serve in a coordinating capacity with regard to many matters of interest to all the societies in the area. In line with this decision, the Pacific and Southern California Societies agreed to discontinue their own individual camellia shows which they had held previous to the first Descanso Show in February 1956. The Temple City Society retained its show because of the close association between this show and the Temple City Camellia Festival. Since the Los Angeles Society had held no shows of their own, they were glad to join this joint undertaking for the "one big show of the year." The Los Angeles Camellia Council, Ltd. thus became a going concern.



Caryll W. Pitkin

President

L. A. Camellia Council

Subsequently, the Camellia Society of Orange County and the Pomona Valley Camellia Society indicated their interest in becoming members of the Council. They were invited by the Council to become members, and the Council now includes as members all the camellia societies in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area. Its affairs are managed by a Board of Directors consisting of two representatives of each member society, three elected at large, and ex officio, the immediate past president, the immediate past show chairman, the show chairman of the current year's show, and the editor of CAMELLIA REVIEW. Caryll W. Pitkin is Council president for the year 1961-1962.

The Council's principal activities have been the management of the annual camellia shows at Descanso

(Continued on page 27)



Descanso Gardens Flower Pavilion

HAC R. CAYON CHIEF ARCHITECT
DEPARTMENT OF COUNTY ENGINEER
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA

Above is an engineering drawing of a building in Descanso Gardens which would provide facilities for outdoor flower shows and other events in keeping with the purposes of the Gardens. In this building, approximately 15,000 square feet would be available for the annual Descanso Gardens camellia show. The construction of such a building is a project of the Los Angeles Camellia Council.

CAMELLIAS FOR CORSAGES

Mrs. Elsie Dryden

Camellias as corsage material are highly desirable. Not only are they beautiful to look at, but they are particularly desirable because they bloom at a time when there are few flowers in the yard. There are so many uses for corsages that I often wonder why more women do not make them. Christmas is coming, and what is prettier than a Christmas package decorated with a camellia corsage? Young sons have dates, and I found in my own experience that the camellia corsages that I made for my two sons during their high school and college days were very acceptable. Maybe one reason why more corsages are not made is the belief by some that they are hard to make, or possibly that once made they may not last out an evening. I shall try in this article to cover some of the principles of corsage making as they relate to the use of camellias, hoping that I may thus stimulate some interest and remove some of the uncertainty in the minds of those who have hesitated to take the first step.

First, what kind of camellias are appropriate for corsage making? My answer to this question is that almost all kinds of camellias are appropriate, except that one makes the task easier when she chooses one that does not shatter too easily. To lessen the chance of shattering, the flower should be picked before it reaches full bloom, then with proper treatment as I shall describe later, it should present no problem. Sasanquas have not been as satisfactory as japonicas because of this problem of shattering. Some of the newer varieties, however, seem to have good holding qualities. I plan to make a corsage using the new sasanqua 'Interlude' as soon as we have enough blooms on our plant. I picked the first 'Dazzler' that bloomed

in our yard and after shaking it decided it also is worth a try. McCaskill's 'Elfin Rose', the one that Vern McCaskill wears in his buttonhole at S. C. C. S. meetings, seems to meet this test. I shall use more sasanquas in corsages than I have in the past, being careful to pick half bloomed out flowers and buds.

Among japonicas, almost all varieties are satisfactory. I have not had occasion to use large blooms such as 'Drama Girl', 'Guilio Nuccio', 'Coronation' and 'Tomorrow', although there might be occasions when such blooms would be appropriate. Remember that I am talking about corsages, not single blooms attractively tailored. Some varieties seem to be better than others to "fit the occasion." For example, one would use 'Angel' in a corsage for a formal occasion, while 'Pax' would be good for less formal as well as formal affairs. 'Pax', incidentally, should always be picked before it has fully opened to avoid shattering. Following are some of the varieties that I have used more than once in corsages: 'Lotus', 'Virgin's Blush', 'Shin-Shioko', 'Queen Bessie', 'White Empress', 'Frizzle White', 'Joshua Youtz', 'Dr. Tinsley', 'Hana Fuki', 'Spring Sonnet', 'Alba Plena', and 'My Darling'. I shall certainly use 'Betty Sheffield Blush' this year, since we seem to be able to supply blooms for both shows and corsages. Note that the varieties I have listed are whites and pale pinks that do not conflict with other costume colors. Reds would be used, of course, when they harmonize with the costume, but one should avoid clashes and the safe way to do this is by using the neutral shades and whites.

Among the reticulatas I have used 'Confucius' successfully. 'Chryseum Petal' and 'Pagoda' are good,

as is 'Buddha' when the flower is not too large.

The choice of the flower to use ties in with the design of the corsage and the materials that will be used with it. Will it be for a formal or informal occasion; worn on the wrist, on the shoulder or in the hair, or to accent a neck line? A corsage can be considered a flower arrangement, to be worn instead of displayed in a bowl. Therefore, principles used in flower arrangement are applicable to corsage making. Just as one has a concept before starting an arrangement, likewise she should have a design in mind before going to work on a corsage. Corollary to choice of the flower, therefore, is the selection of companion materials — foliage, ribbons and companion flowers. I believe that the beauty of a corsage is enhanced by the use of these "transition materials." For example, I would use with a freshly opened bloom of 'Virgin's Blush' a half opened bud, a tight pointed bud, the pink blossoms of Raphiolepis Springtime or soft pink azaleas, the green foliage of 'Virgin's Blush', and pale pink or moss green

ribbon. I have used as transition material the variegated foliage of sasanqua 'Okina-Goromo', fine pointed ivy, the rounded variegated begonia leaf, and the chartreuse centered foliage of 'Mary Christian Variegated', to provide added interest in the corsage.

What makes corsage making a continuing joy is the number of combinations that can be made. It will be fun to try some of the new sasanquas and the miniature japonicas with the larger flowers. The miniatures particularly will add to the beauty of the corsage when used as supplemental material. As you walk through your garden, plan in your mind's eye delightful combinations of foliage and flowers. You will get fun out of this and will design corsages that will please you.

We are now ready to make the corsage. No matter how hard I would try, I could not describe in writing the techniques of corsage making. That requires demonstration, and classes are available for that purpose. I do have some suggestions, however,

(Continued on next page)

INTRODUCING THE GLAMOROUS

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(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.

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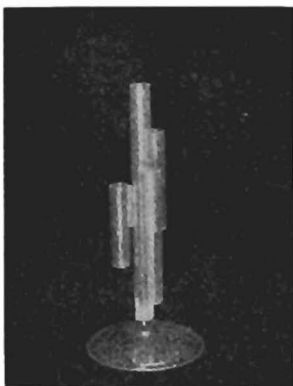
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on points that might not be emphasized in a class, that are based on my own experience. These are:

1. To make the flowers last well in the corsage, put them in water at least an hour before starting to work. Then use a thin strip of wet cotton around the stem before taping. The damp cotton and the floral tape keep the moisture in the stem.

2. Shattering is avoided by wiring the bloom. In wiring, use the finest wire that will support the flower. Coarse wire only makes a stiff looking flower, which means, of course, a stiff looking corsage.

3. In wiring some of the difficult flowers, I find it better to leave on some of the leaves that are supporting the flower until after the flower is wired. Then clip off the leaves after the floral tape has been put on.

4. Trim the stem *after* the flower has been wired.

5. Each stem should be wired *separately* and taped with floral tape. Doing two or more together creates a bulky appearance.

6. The corsage will look lighter when all of the wire stems are joined at one spot, not up and down the stems. After the stems are joined at this spot, they should be feather edged to give a less bulky line.

Finally, some things I dislike in corsages. I call them my "pet peeves."

1. Heavy wires that make the corsage straight and stiff.

2. Artificial flowers and foliage as transition material. With so many flowers and so much beautiful foliage, I can find no excuse for the use of artificial materials.

3. Ribbon that overpowers and detracts from the flowers. The ribbon should be used to enhance the flowers, not as the center of interest.

Corsage making is fun. It is a satisfying way of using the flowers and foliage in one's garden for her own pleasure and for the happiness of others. After all, what better reasons can one want for having a garden?

NEW 1962 NOMENCLATURE BOOK WILL BE OFF PRESS IN JANUARY

Caryll W. Pitkin

January 1962 will bring the eighth revised edition of the Nomenclature Book, bigger and better than ever. Bigger, with about twenty more pages. Better with a new binding. Previously there have been some complaints about the middle pages falling out. Actually this was due to hard use and not faulty workmanship.

But keeping in mind the increased size and with the desire to make the Nomenclature Book as attractive and functional as possible it was decided to go to stitch and glue binding, a much more expensive method. However, the price will still be kept at \$1.75 per copy.

Except for the binding change and the increased size readers will find only minor changes. It will be the familiar standard upon which everyone depends.

Back in 1946, Dr. Lloyd John Taylor, then President of Southern California Camellia Society, asked Bill Woodroof to assume responsibility for compiling and publishing a list of the correct names and synonyms of all the varieties of camellias then being sold in the United States. This was done because Dr. Taylor and others on the Board of S.C.C.S. realized the chaotic condition of camellia nomenclature had to be cleared up and what better organization to tackle the job than young, vigorous and enthusiastic "Southern Cal".

Following and extending the same rules laid down for the first edition the 1962 book will endeavor to list the names and synonyms of all varieties sold in the United States and other principal camellia growing areas of the world. It follows with only minor exceptions the International rules for nomenclature and will attempt to cover every species current in the world (admittedly not quite



The late Dr. L. J. Taylor

complete).

No name or synonym will be dropped even though it may no longer be in commerce. It is written for the benefit and protection of the camellia amateur. Scientific terms such as are used for leaf descriptions and references to color charts will not be used. They are primarily for the use of the scientist and have little meaning for the average grower.

In addition to the beautiful flower on the cover six color plates of newer varieties will be found in the book. There will also be six black and white plates illustrating flower form.

Because Camellia Nomenclature became a reality largely through the initiative of John Taylor and because of the high regard in which we held him, this new edition will for the first time be dedicated to a person, Dr. Lloyd John Taylor.

When? Why? How?

R. FLINN DICKSON SR.

Grooming

Here the term is being used in a meaning broader than "to clean;" it is "attend to the needs of". I suggest that thorough grooming now will greatly enhance the plant's ability to give you finer flowers throughout its blooming period. First, let's consider bud set. No doubt but that you did some disbudding during late September and most of October. That was good, but some varieties then set more buds almost immediately. It is up to you to control this effect of nature to produce in quantity. I am now going over all of my plants again taking off any buds that I think are in excess of what a plant should be carrying to produce real good blooms.

Then there is another phase of grooming which some of us are prone to treat lightly; let's call it thinning or light pruning. Often during the summer growth cycle we get new growth (especially on our older plants) that will be a liability. It may interfere with the full opening of

blooms on nearby branches. Further than this, you get more buds on the new wood. Take off the surplus buds and the excess wood, then your growing buds receive more food from the plant.

Camellia Plantings

From a few things that I have learned the hard way, experience, I want to try to assist those who may be about to do some planting. There are several vital factors to consider. First, of course, is location as it relates to sun and wind, since it is being taken for granted that you would plant only where soil and drainage are suitable. When you consider exposure to sun, a good basic rule is to figure that reds are more tolerant than whites, pinks and variegated. There are a few of the whites and pale colors that can be considered exceptions and it would be well to take the advice of your local nurseryman as it relates to your specific location. Better still is a visit to a large

(Continued on page 14)

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J. C. Ohrt
Shreveport, Louisiana

Do you want to have three days of Camellia fun? Of course you do and the American Camellia Society Convention in Shreveport, Louisiana is going to be the place. The Society has been invited by the Men's Camellia Club of Shreveport to hold its convention in Shreveport on March 1, 2 and 3, 1962, and a really big and interesting program has been prepared.

Things are always done in Shreveport in a big way by the Men's Camellia Club and the convention chairman has promised to show the conventioners Camellias in a big way. The emphasis of this year's convention is going to be on camellia gardens, both large and small.

Shreveport is a backyard camellia grower's paradise, everyone in Shreveport has a few camellias and some have extensive plantings. By and large, your hosts are backyard gardeners who are proud of what they have. On Thursday, March 1, the opening day of the convention, there will be both a morning and afternoon garden tour featuring eight gardens within the city limits and all within 15 minutes of your hotel headquarters. Just because some of the gardens are small don't think that they won't be full of the latest varieties because they think nothing of cutting down a good bush to try something new.

Perhaps it is the challenge of Shreveport's climate, on the edge of the "camellia belt" that makes Shreveport a city of camellias. An active educational program has been conducted through the newspapers and television so that most Shreveporters can talk learnedly on root pruning, varieties and viruses. Another reason is the generosity of the camellia lovers

to aid others in the enjoyment of their hobby. You will see the results of this camellia fascination all during your stay in Shreveport but especially on the opening day garden tour.

The second day of the convention will feature an all day tour to the fabulous Hodges Gardens, the "Garden in the Wilderness." This extensive planting of camellias, azaleas and roses is 4,000 acres out of the 55,000 acre tract of timberland. It contains sparkling clear lakes, hard surface roads, gorgeous scenery and landscaping in which the camellia is featured.

The terrain which gives Hodges Gardens its rugged beauty also provides a precise duplication of the natural habitat of camellias, which came to us from the rock hillsides of the Orient. Here, camellias in delicate pink, brilliant red, waxy white and multi-colors thrive in the cool shadows of tall trees. You will walk down beautifully sloping paths where more than 60 years ago stone masons were busy mining the site for material to build jetties for the Texas Gulf Coast. But it took the vision of Mr. A. J. Hodges to create the beauty that is rapidly becoming internationally famous. After a morning stroll on the three levels of garden beauty, a hot lunch will be served in the shadow of the lodge. In addition to the gardens you will see the extensive greenhouses where jungles of tropical plants amaze the viewer. Also for those who are interested, there is an experimental pine forest with numerous hybrid pines, a wild life refuge and thousands of roses.

On Saturday morning we will digress momentarily from camellias to accept the invitation of the United

(Continued on next page)

SHREVEPORT WILL HOST A C S CONVENTION (Cont.)

States Air Force to inspect its largest Strategic Air Command Base, Barksdale Field and eat lunch at the Officer's Club. Here our hosts will take us to the flight line for an intimate inspection of the giant intercontinental B-52 bomber and the jet tanker that enables the bomber to stay in the air for globe circling flights.

Then back to the hotel where buses will be waiting to take you to your preview of the fabulous Men's Camellia Club Annual Show. This is the show that so many of you have seen in the ACS film and which has become a model for shows throughout the world. This show has held as many as 14,000 blooms and had as many as 60,000 viewers during its two day span. One of the outstanding features of the show is the strength of colors in the blooms resulting from the colder weather; however, size is not sacrificed. Other features will be the lavishly decorated rotunda and the quarter mile around donut shaped building. The conventioners will have the show all to themselves for two hours immediately following the judging when the blooms are at their freshest.

Have we forgotten something? Yes, you are going to be entertained at receptions and the annual banquet in a lavish and unprecedented manner. You will also attend forums, slide sessions showing new varieties, a

flower arrangement forum and other features that no camellia enthusiast would want to miss.

Pack your bag and plan to join in the fun and frolic in Shreveport when A. C. S. holds its annual meeting on March 1, 2 and 3, 1962.

WHEN? HOW? WHY? (Cont.)

garden like Descanso Gardens or Huntington Botanical Gardens during blooming time. And take your note book. A visit in January, February, March and April should give you some ideas on what varieties are doing well in the various sun exposures through the whole season. Now a word of warning. If you are in a location that gets drying winds, move with caution and try to plan appropriate wind breaks. It is generally considered best to set out plants during the late fall or early winter months because they adjust better than during the warmer seasons. Never forget the ground rule that camellias do their best when they are growing in light shade. In all locations try to give them plenty of light and protect them from the midday sun.

Buying Plants?

Unless you want to buy plants in bloom, now is the time to do it. Our grower friends have their maximum inventory which affords you the widest choice, whether you are selecting a rare specimen from a small group or "standard" varieties that are available in goodly quantities.

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HOW I BECAME INTERESTED IN CAMELLIAS AND HOW I AM BUILDING MY COLLECTION

by
Frank L. Stormont



Frank Stormont

My first interest in camellias began when I was six years old, when my father gave me a very small 'Pink Perfection' plant and told me it was mine if I would take good care of it. I planted it in the middle of our front lawn where we lived in Pomona, in full sun (it was a southern exposure). And believe it or not, it grew and eventually became a beautiful plant. When I was about fourteen years old, we moved to another location — and of course left the plant behind. Many a time, long after we had moved away from Pomona, in later years, I would drive past our old home just to take a look at my plant — now a tree! It was a typical 'Pink Perfection' in that it had its good years and bad. I stopped by one time during blooming season, and caught it at its very best ever. The people who lived there then were very proud of it, and told me

that for weeks the neighbors had been coming by to see it — and that it was fast becoming a "much-talked-of" camellia. Some years later, on one of my trips to Pomona, I went by to see it, and it was gone — the people who had lived there had moved away and had taken the tree with them. Since then I have tried many times to trace it, but to no avail. The place where I once lived is now a nursery; and the people who own it and live there are still trying to locate my tree for me. I would love to find out where it is, and I am hoping some day the word will come that this very beautiful and rather early 'Pink Perfection' has been found. Yes, if the plant is alive today, it will soon be celebrating its fifty-seventh birthday!!

The next interest I had camellia-wise, happened when I was about twelve years old. I had a Los Angeles Times paper route, and every month I used to collect 50¢ from my subscribers (Oh those good old days). I always looked forward to stopping by and visiting with one of my very good customers who happened to be the town's Postmaster — and by far and away its leading camellia fancier. He would always take me back to see his camellias — especially during the blooming season. He and his wife belonged to our church, and I can close my eyes and still see them on a Sunday morning walking down the aisle to their seats near the front of the church — both wearing—boutonniere and corsage—the newest, best, and brightest camellias, and always with a proud expression and happy smile in accompaniment. One day when I stopped by to collect for The Times, he beckoned me back to show me

(Continued on next page)

something "very special"! It was a very large and beautiful red formal camellia — the likes of which I had never seen before. "I want you to see," he said, "the new and beautiful camellia which I have propagated, and which will bear my name." His name? Of course, it had to be and was, Colonel Firey. Years later when I started on my camellia collection, the first plant I purchased was a 'Colonel Firey'. Oh I know, Bill Woodroof's Nomenclature Book lists this plant as 'C. M. Hovey' which is undoubtedly correct. But to me it will always be named for my friend — for those many, many years ago when the Colonel showed me his own true creation, the real 'Colonel Firey'.

College days, and many years of apartment-house living afterward, occupied the Storments' time, during which there were no horticultural projects of any kind in the making. And then there came the big day when for the first time we had a place of our own in which to live — yes, large enough that we could start on any reasonable kind of a horticultural project — and of course it was camellias. We planted our first camellias even before we moved in. This was eight years ago and the varieties were just about the ones you would expect a person to buy who had been away from the camellia world for so long a time. Yes, 'Colonel Firey', 'Pink Perfection', 'Alba Plena', 'Debutante', 'Are-jishi', 'Otome Pink',

'Bella Romana', 'Blood of China', 'Daikagura Red', 'Glen 40', 'Pope Pius IX', 'Purity', 'Nagasaki', and 'Victory White' — not many "stop-the-show" winners of today in that list, but those were our original purchases — and we loved them.

Then one day I was attending an Occidental College Alumni luncheon, and next to me sat an old friend of mine, a man whom everyone in our camellia groups knows, and well — his name, Mr. Ye Editor, Harold Dryden. And Harold was telling me that I should join a camellia group called the Southern California Camellia Society — only \$5.00. It sounded good, so I peeled off a five dollar bill, and gave it to him. And *that* was the beginning of a new and delightful experience for the Storments. When meeting time came, we attended our first meeting — liked what we saw — both flowers and people — and came back for more of the same.

Two years went by, and finally I was persuaded to bring my first flower to one of the shows. Then came the day — as it must to all exhibitors — when we won our first ribbon — and that was the day that "Camelliaitis" set in for keeps.

The word soon got out that we were real camellia fans. Some friends presented us with twenty-five camellia plants — all of which were planted and are doing well today in our garden.

When we attended camellia shows,

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I found myself particularly interested and may I say, awestruck at the reticulata exhibits. To me there is nothing more beautiful in the camellia world than a great big luscious 'Noble Pearl', or 'Tali Queen', or 'Purple Gown' — well let's say any of these big glorious reticulatas — I love them all! So my next project camellia-wise was to get, and as soon as possible, all the varieties of these plants that were available. This was not easy to do, for very few were available at any one nursery at that time — and most of the nurseries had none of them. I will always be most grateful to the Nuccios, for it was there that I found the best assortment of reticulatas, and it was through them that I was given the very best of advice possible on how to select proper plants, etc. Yes, they put me through Courses 1A and 1B, in every facet of reticulata culture. And let me say right now — Don't we owe our nursery people everything? The good advice and council they all give us, with hardly any exceptions — well, you just can't repay them in kind for what they do to make our hobby the most delightful one of all.

So we soon had all of the reticulata camellias growing in our garden — some in the ground and the rest in wooden tubs — some thirty plants, and nineteen varieties. They grew and they prospered. And finally three years ago at the February show in 1959 at Descanso Gardens, we hit the so-called "jack pot". That is the day we will never forget — the day our retics became of age — #1. Best Single Bloom ('Tali Queen'); #2. Best 3 Blooms of One Variety ('Noble Pearl'); and #3. Best 5 Blooms of One Variety ('Tali Queen') — What a thrill!! It is still hard for us to believe that it really happened — but it did.

With the Descanso Show results as an impetus, we started out to build our camellia collection by adding

some of the new varieties of sasanquas and japonicas — both large and small. Also, we then became interested in miniatures — and now have twenty or more of these that will be producing blooms this season. Then last Spring, Bill Woodroof taught me the art of grafting — as only he can — and as a result of this, I now have some sixty of the very latest varieties of japonicas, that will by next season be producing the choicest of blooms — at least I sincerely hope so. Also this year we will see our first seedling bloom — and we are waiting with bated breath for that to happen. So we now have approximately 250 camellia plants (not including seedlings) in our collection, including many of the new varieties such as 'Betty Sheffield Supreme', 'Lady Macon', 'Alice Wood', 'Elizabeth Dowd', 'Disneyland', 'Julia France', 'Faith', 'Cardinal's Cap', 'Lady in Red', 'Ballet Dancer', and Sasanquas 'Dazzler', 'Interlude', etc. — and if the past is any criteria, I'm sure that there will be many more to follow in the future.

Currently we are becoming interested in Hybrids — and several of these plants will be the next addition to our collection. Also I have no doubt at all that one of these days we will be entering the field of hybridization. That could be and undoubtedly is the most fascinating field of all, in the world of camellia culture.

What are the ingredients that go into the making of a camellia fan? I would say they are just about the same ones that made a fan of me. I don't for one moment think I am a bit unusual in this regard. First, you must have the love of gardens and flowers in your soul — and if you have *this*, the rest will surely follow. And to those who are now old-timers, in the camellia realm, please remember that to those who are just beginning to grow camellias, a pat on

(Continued on page 25)

'LOTUS' — A HAPPY HUNTING GROUND*

Harvey F. Short

Editor's note: I asked Mr. Short to write this article because people have expressed a desire to know the long list of descendents from this beautiful flower.

Little did the owner realize that the Camellia 'Sode-gakushi' or 'Lotus' as we happily know this beautiful cultivar, placed so smugly in his new lath house in the year 1938 at Ramona, California, was to bring forth so many pleasant surprises in the next several years. In fact, its propensity for ever developing a seed pod was practically unheard of. But, the fact was to be punctuated by "never a miss" in the yearly event of collecting the exciting treasure that followed. Each season it produced from one to as many as six pods for the harvest. I believe twenty-nine seeds one year was the bumper crop from this mother plant.

A second plant of this same variety was planted shortly after and it too decided to bear fruit. Of course, time for both plants to get established was allowed.

The first three seeds were planted in 1942 or 1943 and of the first three plants to flower, one appeared with a sizeable fimbriated bloom known as 'Pink Shadows'. The other two pals were ordinary and of the usual seedling standard. However, a notable

factor in this group of seedlings was the strong and unusual vigor displayed in their growth habit, which time has proven in the majority of seedlings that followed as a definite trait from this parent. The 'Masterpiece' seedling from the start truly indicated the fact that "it wanted to go places and do things." I can well remember Vern McCaskill remarking that the large leaf would not be retained in its maturity. However, this was also refuted by his own fine seedling 'Coronation', bearing the same characteristics identifying it with 'Lotus'.

The ensuing six or seven years produced fifteen to eighteen young seedlings and of that date (1950-1952) I had selected several interesting flowers and plants to test and distribute to the trade. As I said before, 'Pink Shadows' was the first. Then 'Masterpiece' with its startling bold foliage and heavy petalled flowers of excellent substance; the 'Bride's Bouquet' of delicate beauty, also slender delicate growth, a habit which in maturity is entirely overcome; the 'Frosty Morn', a flower of exciting style coupled with a truly distinctive foliage. Also in 'Fairest Day', 'Deep Drift', and 'Sun-up' with its coral glow, much variety is noted both in

* Sodi-gakushi (Lotus) means happiness.

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style of flower, size of bloom and variations in colors. At this point 'Guest of Honor' spoke its piece, not to be outdone in either beauty or size of flower, a truly handsome and vigorous ornament.

As you note, the percentage of good flowers is approximately eight selected out of eighteen. Of the remaining ten, three or four were large flowers.

Each succeeding year brought "new recruits". To mention some of the younger children meriting some study are 'Grandeur', a large trumpet formed flower in clear pink; 'Love-light', a large semi-double white; 'Dream Awhile', a large soft lavender pink of 'Bride's Bouquet' styling; 'Streamliner', a large semi-double white with narrow pencillings of deep rose; and the latest introduction 'Extravaganza', a large anemone style flower with striking variegation.

In summing up this block of seedlings, I have been impressed with the range in form and colors and particularly of vigor being dominant. Most varieties outgrow the parent plant. This lends much speculation as to what the true story of the lineage and background of this fascinating parent may be.

What did I do to get the response on setting seed? Only these factors: The placing and planting of desired crosses near each other (such as 'Kuro-Tsubake' near 'Lotus') and allowing the bees and insects to do the rest. All were open pollinated. The abundant flowering shrubs and trees that surrounded my lath houses were definitely the drawing card for much activity. Elevation (1440 feet) played its part by delaying bloom until the warmer Spring days were at hand. But, one word sums it up easily and truly.

Location, and a fortunate one!

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LOOKING AT AZALEAS

R. F. Dickson, Sr.
Pasadena, California

This article is one of much more reporting than a story based on personal experience. In my own garden, made up largely of camellias, the azaleas are a definite minority population. As I learn more about them I am adding to the collection for color effects in the spots that they fit into.

Some of my early experiences with them were not happy. Here is an illustration and the reason for the disappointment will appear as you read on. A dear friend of mine, now departed, started giving us at Easter times gorgeous pots of blooming azaleas, and always with a note saying to plant them in our garden. This we did, of course; and never let her know that none of those she gave us lived and did well. As soon as one of our nurserymen friends set us straight on what to plant we began to enjoy our azaleas.

Because of the close relationship of the flora of North America (our eastern seaboard region in particular) and Eastern Asia, many fine plants in our landscapes have come from China and Japan and the adjacent regions. Many plants are represented by related species in both regions. This is why so many plants are enjoyed here as well as in the Orient where they originated.

Before any azaleas were imported, America knew them. In Dr. Hume's 1931 Book on Azaleas and Camellias he names and describes fifteen of them. Two important items should be noted. These American natives are all deciduous and they are found from Labrador to southern Florida and along the Gulf of Mexico. Only one is found in the west, and it is *Azalea occidentalis*. It is less hardy than some of the native Eastern species. It blooms in June and July and can be found in the Sequoia and Yosemite regions. The best display that I have seen of native azaleas was in the mountains of North Carolina, a few miles east of Asheville. These deciduous azaleas all have brilliant colored foliage in the early fall.

A very large percentage of those species brought to America are evergreen and this tends to make them fit well when used with camellias. The same applies to a large portion of the hybrids.

If one were going into full detail of species and varieties, more space would be needed than an entire issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW. Just as with our camellias there are many, many hybrids, some of chance crosses, others deliberate. And too, there are those coming from sports. In our

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limited space we shall take a look at but two groups, the Indian Azaleas and the Kurume Azaleas.

Perhaps the Indian Azaleas are the most widely used since from this group come those species, single and double flowers, grown as pot plants that can be forced by florists for seasons such as Easter and Christmas. No azaleas come from the present day India. They got their name when all of southern Asia was called India. The group as a whole is considered to be tender, so if you have a tender plant that has been forced for seasonal bloom and plant it out in your garden, you might end up with me; disappointed.

In areas suited to this tender type they do very well. Many fine gardens in the Southern States are "loaded with them" and they are spectacular when in full bloom in places like Magnolia Gardens and Middleton Gardens in South Carolina. Let me emphasize the importance of location. Think what your result might be if you happened to try to grow in California the plum-leaved azalea that grows only in southwest Georgia and nearby Alabama. (This is a native, not an Indian type.)

In scanning the nomenclature of the Indian Azaleas growing in America we find that they separate into six rather broad color groups, which are lavender-lilac, orange-red, rose-pink and rose-red, salmon, white, and variegated. Plant growth is from dwarf to large and from tall growing down to the low spreading species. Although the Indian Azaleas as a group are considered tender, some growing in a good environment are hardy.

Kurume Azaleas, I feel, might be thought of in a vein similar to our *Reticulata* camellias. They were first publicly shown in the United States at the 1920 spring flower show at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in Boston. They began from a native

azalea found on Mt. Kirishima in Japan. They take their name from the home city, Kurume, where the wild plant was developed over a long stretch of time by a Mr. Motozo Sakamoto. Upon his death his plants went to one Kijiro Akashi who continued with their development.

It appears that about a hundred years following the start of Mr. Sakamoto's work these azaleas came to the notice of the late E. H. Wilson of the Arnold Arboretum, Boston. At his suggestion some were imported in 1917 by John S. Ames, living in Massachusetts, who got satisfactory results with his efforts. I believe that some were shown in San Francisco about 1915, but that lot was all lost. A few years later Arnold Arboretum acquired two each of about 25 varieties and soon they were becoming another great asset to garden shrubs for America.

The group of Kurume Azaleas are all considered to be evergreen. There are many single flowers with the balance of the list consisting of the "hose-in-hose" type. Many of the flowers are small as compared with some of the Indian group. However, they really make up in profuse blooming what they may lack in size. When one begins to check on their colors we find them listed white, pink, rose-purple, dark purple, mauve, bright salmon, rose-salmon, deep red, vermilion-red, madder-red, brick-red, salmon-red and crimson-red. In the pinks we have many shades from pale to orange. There are a number of tinted colors listed and 'Amoena Superba' is classed as bi-colored red.

Nearly everyone thinks of Kurume Azaleas as being more hardy than the Indian Azaleas. They are less affected by changes in temperature and will stand more frost. Some are of the low compact type while others have been known to put on five feet of growth in eight years.

(Continued on next page)

LOOKING AT AZALEAS (Cont.)

Now just a few words on culture. Water — it is the most vital. All of our fine azalea gardens are in areas where they get mostly rain water. The less pure your water supply, the more limited will be your success in growing azaleas if you do not restrict yourself to those varieties found to be tolerant of your water. The same circumstance holds true as regards exposure to sunshine. None are sun loving but some tolerate sun to the extent that they will grow without shade in many places. If you ask what to plant where, the answer is "consult your local nurseryman." He respects your confidence in his judgment and knows what does best in your locality.

Perhaps a good way to pin-point the importance of water is to compare the vast numbers of azaleas doing well in Descanso Gardens, where they have their own water supply, with the same varieties growing where the water is from the Colorado River.

I consider Mr. Mark Anthony at Descanso Gardens to be very wise in the ways of azaleas and camellias, and here is a word from him on soil and fertilizer. Plant only in peat moss from Holland or Germany; but, if unattainable use highest grade Canadian peat moss. Fertilize once in May, July and October. He uses one part sulphate of ammonium with four parts of cotton seed meal. As he puts it, "used with our Descanso water the plants just love it. They have beautiful green leaves and lots of nice flowers." Many people use regular camellia fertilizer for their azaleas.

During May there is quite a display of azaleas just off of route 101 in Oregon, not very far from the California-Oregon state line. This is Oregon's Azalea State Park. It is quite a sight when in full bloom, but hard to photograph except from high places as many of the plants are much taller than a person. It is close to the

coast and I am sure that dampness from the ocean plays a large part in the splendid growth they make here. Should you be there during the blooming season and it is not too cloudy, take time to stop. You will enjoy it.

One way for a camellia society to develop and maintain vitality is for it to have a project that is endorsed and supported by the entire membership. We learn from the Oregon Camellia Society's Bulletin they have as a project the planting of a camellia garden on the grounds of the Shrine Hospital in Portland. The camellias will be planted among scattered fir trees. The members of the Oregon Society have been asked to take part in making a success of the garden by donating plants themselves and by getting donations of plants from persons who would like to give.



'TINY PRINCESS'

New hybrid seedling (*C. japonica* 'Akebono' x *C. fraterna*), a creation of K. Sawada of Mobile, Alabama. See the article in the May 1961 issue of **CAMELLIA REVIEW**, "Tiny Princess', Another Step Forward in Inter-Specific Hybridizing" for the story of this new hybrid.

THE NEW 'TOMORROW' DYNASTY*

The introduction of 'Tomorrow's Dawn' to the trade this year by Tick Tock Nurseries of Thomasville, Georgia (see Cover Flower) may be the beginning of a new camellia dynasty, similar in this respect to the 'Betty Sheffield' group which came from the same area. It creates interest in the woman who is the mother of 'Tomorrow' and by logical deduction, the grandmother of 'Tomorrow's Dawn'. It also illustrates how most of the beautiful things of Camellialand are the result of chance rather than of man's deliberate planning.

Mrs. Ross Hayes (Rhea to her friends) is the moving force behind Tick Tock Nurseries. She has not always been in the nursery business; in fact, she "grew up" in hospital work. She met her husband in the hospital in Thomasville and he persuaded her that working full time as Mrs. Hayes would be better than hospital work. But he did not give her the urge to go into the nursery business. That is her own personal interest. He is connected with the Veterans Hospital in Thomasville and she is the mistress of a 30-acre tract of pines and camellias on the edge of town. She has said, facetiously, that as long as Ross continues to work, she will be able to continue her work with camellias because he provides the funds to meet her own deficit. She will face this reality rather soon when he retires to the pleasures of their wooded home.

The seed of 'Tomorrow' was planted in 1943. It bloomed in 1950 and the freeze that year, said Mrs. Hayes, "turned it the most unholy color I have ever seen in my life, a deadly purple." She promptly moved it over to another bed to be cut down and used as understock for grafting. The next year when Willie Moore, her helper, started to graft it he discovered a bloom and said, "us ain't go-



Mrs. Ross Hayes

ing to graft that — it's the most beautiful thing I ever saw!" Mrs. Hayes says "I didn't do any cross pollinating to get it. It's just one of those things the good Lord dumps in your lap. I feel we've sort of been entrusted with 'Tomorrow' and that it belongs to everybody who loves camellias." The first plants were sold in 1954.

'Tomorrow's Dawn' was discovered in Mississippi. Bill Ruffin of Ellisville, Mississippi got a scion of 'Tomorrow' from Mrs. Hayes and grafted it. When his new plant grew, he and his neighbor, R. E. Allum, each grafted a scion from it. These two plants were both pink sports. "At Christmas time of 1958 I saw the first bloom and bid on the propagating rights," said Mrs. Hayes. "Mr. Allum

* The editor of CAMELLIA REVIEW is indebted to the "Journal Constitution Magazine" of Atlanta, Georgia for the background for this article and the picture of Mrs. Hayes.

(Continued on page 30)

CAMELLIA HYBRID 'CARL TOURJE' AVAILABLE TO NURSERYMEN

One of the most interesting announcements the CAMELLIA REVIEW has made in several years is this which comes jointly from Huntington Botanical Gardens and Camellia Research Advisory Committee. The Huntington Botanical Gardens have made available to the Camellia Research Advisory Committee the Camellia hybrid 'Carl Tourje'. Scions of this heretofore unreleased new hybrid will be available for distribution free of charge by the Committee to nurserymen whose advertisements for camellia plants or scions appeared in any issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW during the period beginning July 1, 1960, and ending June 30, 1961. Quotas not subscribed by nurserymen so advertising will be available to other nurserymen.

On or after January 1, 1962, each nurseryman who qualifies will receive at least eight scions and as many more as may then be available, provided request for same is made before that date. Further distribution will be made thereafter during the life of the agreement.

A condition of distribution is that each qualifying nurseryman receiving scions agrees that he will purchase license tags from the Committee at seventy-five cents (75¢) per tag and affix such tags to each plant and/or scion of such hybrid sold or given by such nurseryman prior to July 1, 1966.

This offer is available first to advertisers in CAMELLIA REVIEW,

The new 1962 Nomenclature Book will be sent, promptly after publication which will be about January 1st, to all SCCS members who have paid their 1962 dues.

Camellian and Camellia Journal.

Proceeds of the sale of tags will be used to aid in the payment of expense of the Committee. This Committee, composed of nationally famous scientists and horticulturists*, is engaged in plant breeding and other kindred activities all designed to improve the camellia through the introduction of greater cold-hardiness and fragrance as well as broader color range. Results of the efforts of the Committee to accomplish these objectives will be made available to nurserymen and others without cost or expense.

All checks for tags will be made payable to California Arboretum Foundation.

Nurserymen should write for further details to Camellia Research Advisory Committee, P. O. Box 688, Arcadia, California.

People who own the book "Camellia Culture," which was edited by Carl Tourje on behalf of the Southern California Camellia Society, can refresh their memory of the hybrid 'Carl Tourje' by looking at the jacket or the frontispiece of the book. It is a large, semi-double with wavy petals, soft pink with shadings of deeper pink. It first appeared on a seedling that originated in the Camellia Garden unit of the Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino, California. The hybrid resulted from crossing a variant of *C. pitardii* with pollen of *C. reticulata* 'Chang's Temple'. The *Pitardii* parent came from seed imported from China by Mr. Tourje.

* Present membership in the Committee include Dr. David Armstrong, Mr. J. H. Asper, Dr. James Bonner, Dr. Francis de Vos, Dr. Samuel L. Emsweller, Mr. Frederic Heutte, Dr. Walter E. Lammerts, Dr. Albert E. Longley, Dr. Harlan Lewis, Dr. A. G. Plakidas, Mr. R. W. Ragland, Vice Chairman, Dr. William S. Stewart, Mr. E. C. Tourje, Chairman.

HOW I BECAME INTERESTED

(Continued)

the back, such as urging them to join a Camellia Society, encouraging them to show their blossoms at a show, getting them interested in the art of grafting, and the raising of seedlings — all of these things and of course many more, will produce for us other converts in one of the most fascinating and absorbing, and rewarding of all hobbies — the Art of Growing Camellias. And what will our converts get out of all this? A new life — new interests — new horizons — new friends — lots of good exercise and a healthier body — and a longer and more purposeful life. These are but a few of the good things that come out of such an endeavor. So why not share just a few of these blessings we enjoy, with a friend or neighbor. If he or she has any of the ingredients that made you a camellia fan, he or she will some day love you for what you did in getting a real interest started in Camellia Culture.

Think what is ahead for all of us, say in the next twenty years — 1. The yellow camellia will undoubtedly be a reality, and with that event will come many new and exciting color combinations. 2. Camellias will be grown that will withstand temperatures anywhere in the United States, and the new camellia fans this will attract in other parts of the country is almost beyond comprehension. 3. Camellias will be developed with such delightful fragrances that even the most blasé Parisians will succumb to them. 4. And for the Storms, our every day wish is for the cold war to stop long enough for the remaining fifty or so Yunnan Reticulatas that supposedly are still there, to find their way to the United States. All of these things, and more, can and undoubtedly will happen in these next twenty years. What fun it will be to be a part of all this!!! What wonderful camellia years we all have ahead of us!!!

NURSERYMEN *(Continued)*

he thinks is his best introduction is a seedling of 'Magnoliaflora', called 'Royal Trumpeteer'. Originally he wanted to call it 'Trumpeter', but found that that name had already been registered for a single red seedling. Billie McCaskill suggested he name it 'Royal Trumpeter'. Les liked the name, but decided to really do it up proper and added another "e" to "Trumpeter" and called it 'Royal Trumpeteer'.

In 1947 he introduced 'Fiesta', a seedling of 'California'. He also introduced 'Richard Nixon'. This seedling was one of a group of seedlings that had been purchased from Mark Anthony by two gentlemen in Whittier. One of the men found that he did not have time to spend caring for the camellia seedlings, but the other, W. B. Stair, took care of them and was given the sole rights to the seedlings. 'Richard Nixon' was one of these seedlings. Les propagated and introduced the camellia to the public.

His latest introduction, 'April Showers', is a seedling of unknown parentage. A visit to his nursery is a must. One may see masses of color from the azalea blossoms, when they are in bloom as well as the many beautiful camellia blooms. In addition to Les' renown as a camellia grower, he is also a fisherman and hunter of some repute. Each year, during the hunting or fishing season, he leaves the care of the nursery in the tender hands of his hospitable wife and takes off for a week of hunting or fishing. Seldom does he come home empty handed. His nursery is also the scene of the Annual Camellia Breakfast, sponsored by the Temple City Camellia Society. Every other year, he turns his patio over to the Camellia Society for this event, where camellia enthusiasts may not eat camellias but they certainly can talk about and walk through the Marshall Nursery.



NEWS OF SOCIETIES

Central California (Fresno) Society

The Central California Camellia Society held its annual camellia kick-off breakfast at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Munger on October 7, 1961. The breakfast was presided over by the new president, Edwin H. Hiber. The Society expresses its thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Munger for the use of their beautiful home and for their hospitality.

Pomona Society

Marvin E. Stephens of Los Angeles, representative of the Metropolitan Water District, will be the speaker at the Pomona Valley Camellia Society's first meeting of the season on November 9. He will also show a film, "Colorado River Lifeline."

Please note the society's meeting location has been changed to the Ganesha Community Building in Ganesha Park, Pomona. There is ample parking space near the building, across the bridge from the picnic area.

Directions:

1. From Los Angeles and Covina—Via Freeway to White Avenue, north to McKinley Avenue. Left to entrance of parking lot.
2. From Ontario and East—Via Freeway to Garey Avenue, west on McKinley Avenue to parking lot just across White Avenue.
3. From Orange County and South—Via Brea Canyon or Santa Ana

Canyon to Garey Avenue (Highway 71), north to Freeway and McKinley Avenue, west to parking lot just across White Avenue.

4. From Glendora, Claremont and North — Via Foothill Boulevard (Highway 66) to Garey Avenue (Highway 71), south to McKinley and west to parking lot just across White Avenue.

McKinley Avenue is just north of Freeway at Garey Avenue. William E. Woodroof of Sherman Oaks will present the program at the December 14th meeting. He will talk on nomenclature.

Southern California Society

The first meeting of the Southern California Camellia Society will be held the second Tuesday of November at the usual place, the San Marino Woman's Club, 1800 Huntington Drive, San Marino. Many of the newer members of the Society have wondered how and when S. C. C. S. was started and who the organizers and early members and officers were. The November meeting will be "old timers night" and will answer these questions as well as get everyone started on the new camellia season. While blooms will not be too plentiful, the season's bloom competition will start with this meeting and everyone should bring such blooms as he has.

The December meeting will be a panel discussion of "do's" and "don'ts" of camellia culture which

eventually produce satisfactory prize winning blooms. The meeting will be geared particularly to the amateurs who feel they need more knowledge in the growing of prize blooms. All members are urged to bring camellia growing friends to this meeting.

Temple City Society

The Temple City Camellia Society held its annual kickoff breakfast of the 1961-1962 camellia season on Sunday morning, October 15, 1961 at the home and gardens of Les Marshall, local camellia grower and nurseryman, 1742 N. Sultana Ave., San Gabriel. More than 100 camellia enthusiasts and friends attended this breakfast. Most of the local Southern California camellia societies were represented, as well as the San Diego, Kern County and Central California societies.

The Temple City Society chefs served a very tasty breakfast of bacon and eggs, fried potatoes, biscuits, orange juice and coffee, which despite the heat and humidity of the day proved most appetizing.

Plant procurement chairman Pete Folino raffled off 12 fine camellia plants at the breakfast, adding a bit of zest and spice to the meal. For many, the breakfast was the first opportunity to renew friendships after the summer vacation season and to shop talk the latest camellia introductions, grafting and hybridizing techniques.

The Temple City Society will hold its initial meeting of the year on Monday evening, November 27th, in the Temple City Woman's Club House, located at Kauffman and Woodruff Avenues, Temple City. The December meeting will be held on Wednesday evening, December 27th, at the same location. Our able program chairman, Ernie Pieri, will be in charge of programs for these meetings as well as those held later in the season.

L. A. CAMELLIA COUNCIL

(Continued)

Gardens and the entertainment of the American Camellia Society members and the sponsorship of the camellia show at Disneyland in February 1961. The 1962 show at Descanso Gardens will be held February 24th and 25th. This will be the seventh consecutive annual camellia show to be sponsored by the Council in these beautiful gardens.

This close association of the Council with Descanso Gardens has created a desire on the part of the Council that this relationship be perpetuated, particularly to the extent that the Gardens will be the permanent home of the Council's annual camellia show. Despite the beautiful surroundings for the outdoor show, weather problems have been troublesome. We were almost rained out one year. In other years the temperature has been such that blooms wilted. These problems have caused the Council to conclude that the practical solution will be the erection of a permanent building at Descanso Gardens which can be used for flower shows (camellia, rose, orchid, daffodil and all flowers for which shows are held) as well as for other functions which would be in keeping with the Gardens. This subject has been adopted by the Council as a major project, to be pursued until such a building is scheduled for construction.

Since Descanso Gardens is owned and operated by Los Angeles County through the Los Angeles County Arboretum, the normal procedure would be to persuade the County Board of Supervisors that there is need for such a building and, therefore, the building should be built with tax money. The Board of Supervisors is doing an excellent job in managing County finances and in these days of high taxes and efficient management by elected representatives, it takes

(Continued on page 32)

CAMELLIAS ON THE MOVE*

by Mrs. Mary Johnson
Beaverton, Oregon

Lest we forget the many problems facing our newer camellia growing members or even for that matter, our neighbors, who so often come to us with questions, it would seem helpful to give a few hints on the MOVING or TRANSPLANTING of both small and larger camellia plants. Fall is thought by many of the so-called "experts" to be the ideal time in the northwest to move camellia plants, large or small; others prefer to wait until the early spring when the most severe portion of our winter has passed. At either time, the procedure is pretty much the same and may vary with the individual, depending primarily on the amount of success that he (or she) has had in the past and also the amount of research or investigation into the subject the particular person may have done.

Camellias are really quite easy plants to move, since their roots are fibrous and close to the surface of the soil. (Rhododendron and azaleas and many other plants fall into this same class.) This is particularly true of the smaller sized plants. Larger plants that have remained in the same location for many years will be slightly more difficult to transplant successfully, but this may also be done, providing one understands the necessity of careful handling, proper pruning of the root structure as well as the leaf system and above all . . . the provision of ample moisture both before and after the anticipated move.

Water: Since we feel that water is possibly at the top of the list of importance for successfully transplanting camellias, it will be dealt with first. If it becomes necessary to move plants before the natural fall rains have arrived, one should thoroughly soak the soil several days before any digging is attempted, being sure that

the moisture has penetrated to at least a depth of 12 inches . . . this, of course, depending upon the size of the plant, a much greater penetration will be required for larger, older camellia plants. The moisture will insure easier digging and will also assist in keeping the earth in a ball, rather than falling away from the roots.

Digging: The actual root severance should NOT be attempted in WARM weather, even in the fall, but should be started only when the weather has become cooler. The reduction of roots must never be too severe. Camellias have an amazing capacity to produce an abundance of new "feeder" roots after the larger segments have been severed, as long as this severance has been done with thoughtful consideration of the plant balance as a whole. For the novice, we would recommend a larger root ball than may seem necessary, but he would be sure to be happier in success, than sad from failure. SHARP TOOLS are a "must." Cutting cleanly through the roots not only provides little or no disturbance to the earth around the roots, but insures little damage to the roots themselves. BEGIN by forcing the sharp shovel or spade vertically into the ground in a circle of NOT LESS than 12 inches in diameter for a plant approximately 2½ feet or a little more in height. The root ball should be of about the same depth as the diameter when it has been lifted from the original location.

Moving: Place the plant immediately into the previously prepared NEW LOCATION, where a hole has been dug considerably larger than the

* This article has been reprinted from the Oregon Camellia Society's October 1961 Bulletin.

(Continued on page 30)

IT'S TIME NOW

TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Dues for 1962 (\$6.00) are now payable to the Secretary

SPECIAL OFFER for RENEWAL or NEW MEMBER

Dues for 1962	\$ 6.00
"Camellia Culture" by Tourje	11.50
<hr/>	
Regular price	\$17.50
Special offer, both for	\$13.50

A MEMBER OF S.C.C.S.

RECEIVES the latest revised 1962 Nomenclature Book; more than 100 pages of classified varieties. The standard reference for camelliaphiles everywhere.

The new Nomenclature Book, to be mailed about January 1st, will be sent only to members whose 1962 dues have been paid.

ENJOYS the CAMELLIA REVIEW (6 issues per year). The magazine that gives the serious and light side of camellias and camellia people all over the world; that is full of news of new varieties, new camellia products and new and proper methods of propagation and cultivation.

ATTENDS the Society meetings monthly November through April if he lives in Southern California. If not, reads reports of them in the Review.

Follow the easy way to Camellia loving and living

SEND YOUR CHECK FOR RENEWAL AND NEW MEMBER TO:

Mrs. Mildred Pitkin, Secretary
Southern California Camellia Society
2465 Sherwood Rd.
San Marino, California

CAMELIAS ON THE MOVE

(Continued)

estimated size of the root ball. Keep in mind that the longer a plant remains out of the ground exposed, the slower its recovery from transplanting will be. Remember also, that the soil in the new location was disturbed and will settle somewhat, so it will be wise to have the newly placed root ball about two inches or more higher than the ground level on *completion* of the planting, back filling, etc.; so that when it settles during the year, it will then still be no deeper than it was in its original location. Puddle the plant in, using ample water, as you complete filling in the dirt around the root ball.

Pruning: Be sure to prune the plant immediately, and in doing so, attempt to **BALANCE** what was removed from the root system as you dug the root ball.

Fertilize?: NEVER HEAVILY . . . Just slightly, with a *very DILUTE* solution containing nitrogen. Some successful growers do not fertilize following transplanting, but a sufficiently *dilute* application will be helpful.

Larger Plants: In this fast moving world in which we live, it is rather frequently necessary to **MOVE** with it, due to business or other reasons. In the northwest, where few camellias may be grown in containers, this may present what would seem to be an unsurmountable problem if one would wish to move large camellia plants. However, this may be done and has been done successfully. The procedure is much the same as with the smaller plants, except that more time will be required to move the large plants successfully. In the first place, if one knows in advance, the large plants may be root pruned in their present location some months in advance, and this is to be desired.

Ten to fifteen year old plants may be expected to require a two to three foot root ball (diameter) and are quite likely to be more sensitive to the obvious disturbance, due to transplanting. It is highly desirable to root prune, by digging down vertically just as if one were going to dig the plant immediately, just completely circle the plant to a depth of approximately two feet. Sharp tools are essential here, and depending upon the size of the roots, it may also be necessary to use a heavy sharp pruning implement to sever larger roots without damage. When the circle has been completed, **DO NOT** complete the lifting of the ball, **BUT** instead, fill back all of the soil into the trench around the plant, and do not further disturb it until several months later, when it may be moved to the new location. Just as in the case of moving a plant . . . the root pruned plant should be watered regularly and should not be permitted to become too dry at any time.

THE NEW 'TOMORROW' DYNASTY (Continued)

said he wouldn't dream of letting anyone else have it. He put his whole plant in the back of my car and I brought it home two years ago in February. We want everybody to have it just as quickly as they can. We'll even sell scions for people to graft their own. If they can afford to support a single camellia plant, they can afford 'Tomorrow's Dawn'.

Camellia people from Southern California who have seen 'Tomorrow's Dawn' say it is all that Mrs. Hayes claims for it and is worthy to follow in the foot steps of its parent 'Tomorrow'.

LAZY MAN'S PERFECT HOBBY: THE CAMELLIA

After reading so much about the techniques of raising camellias—soil mix, pruning, fertilizing, etc.—an article such as the following reprint from the July 1950 issue of CAMELLIA REVIEW is an appropriate relaxation. Possibly the author, whose name unfortunately was not shown, raised camellias for his own pleasure and not primarily for show flowers. We bet he had a good time at it.—Ed.

Life is a lot more interesting when we can be frank and honest with ourselves even though we don't like to always express that same frankness to our friends. Which all leads to one thing. We are all somewhat lazy. The degree varies with different people. Some are just naturally lazier than others but I am just plain lazy in many things. That is why camellias are my hobby. This may or may not be the reason so many other people have adopted the camellia for theirs.

You can enjoy and have the most beautiful camellia plants and flowers with so little effort. Of course you must get into the ground. It is good to put a little leaf mold and peat moss into the ground when planting but that is only a temporary help. It decays and the roots eventually reach way out beyond the benefit of the materials put into the soil originally. Many good plants are planted without the benefit of anything but the native soil. Many of mine are planted with nothing more than the virgin sandy soil. They are doing well probably because they do get some fertilizer once in a while.

When one gets over being too lazy, you can feed them a little good food. Latest research seems to clearly indicate that it makes very little difference whether the soil is slightly acid or slightly alkaline. Some people feed their camellias a couple of times a

year. Others seldom ever and others quite often. I know of one plant about 10 feet high that grew wonderfully well without benefit of fertilizer for several years. It grew well but this is not to be construed that you should not feed your plants because they should definitely be fed.

Another thing in my lazy makeup that makes the camellia appeal to me is that the roots grow near the surface of the ground. Therefore do not cultivate around them. That's what I like. Don't dig around them. Just plant, feed, water and let grow. Of course you can pick lots of blossoms.

You can plant the camellias in almost any part of your yard. I have them on the north, south, and east and west side of our house. In deep shade and in full sun. They seem to grow equally well. Don't be so lazy that you fail to consult your favorite nurseryman to get his advice on which to plant where or consult the Nomenclature Book. In general, just plant the lighter shades in the shade and the darker in the sunnier locations. Another thing is to also consult your nurseryman to be certain you do not get a plant that drops its buds most of the time.

In order to save additional work, you can plant a ground covering to keep the weeds out. Thus you see the camellia is really the Lazy Man's plant. You can grow them in very heavy soil or exceedingly sandy. In very hot climate such as the San Joaquin Valley, Imperial Valley, Sacramento Valley or in the colder climates of Washington and Oregon as well as the Southern States. At this time the main growing of the camellia seems to be restricted to certain areas but it is believed they can be grown in most other sections of the

(Continued on next page)

LAZY MAN'S PERFECT HOBBY *(Continued)*

United States. One thing is to get other Lazy Men who are willing to try them.

One thing about the hot desert areas is that in many cases the blossoms are even prettier than in the Los Angeles area. The hot climate does something for some plants and their flowers. Remember you can grow beautiful flowers in almost any part of California. You never have to get up in the night to smudge or cover your camellias. They have survived the coldest freezes we have had in California. One thing of which you can be certain — you will have your camellia plants irrespective of the weather or temperature.

Don't worry about the bugs and aphids. Once in a while you might get a few aphids on some of your young leaves. Just wash them off with the hose or squash them with your fingers. This is a very effective way of getting rid of them. You don't have to spray them. Once in a while you might get a bug on them but don't let it disturb you. Pick them off or just let them alone. Camellias so seldom ever get buggy that you can almost forget about them. Just sit in your lazy chair and let them grow.

Maybe you can be like Huckleberry Finn and get someone to trim or espalier some of your plants into interesting patterns and designs. You can grow a wall of camellias against your house or fence. Prune them if you like to give a flat effect if you haven't much space. You can have a beautiful tree or a hedge which can be pruned to shape. Better get Huck to ask your nurseryman which plants to use if

you want to produce certain desired effects.

The principal thing is to be sure and let the "Camellia Bug" get a good bite on you, then you can plant as many plants as your pocket book will permit, water and fertilize them, then watch them grow and flower. They are really a "Lazy Man's Plant." That's for me!

L. A. CAMELLIA COUNCIL

(Continued)

more than a request to obtain an appropriation for such a purpose. Support among other flower organizations must be secured, because such a building could be justified only because of wide public requirement. Council President Caryll Pitkin has appointed a committee to pursue the subject, under the chairmanship of Frank Storment, assisted by Dr. Cecil Eshelman, Judge Bayard Rhone, R. W. (Reg) Ragland, and Harold Dryden. This committee has met in a preliminary meeting with representatives of the Gardens, the Descanso Guild and the County Engineer's office, where views were exchanged and an artist's concept of a building for this purpose was reviewed. Camellia people will hear more about this project as work by the committee gets actively under way.

I expect to pass through this world
but once;

Any good thing, therefore, that I
can do,

Or any kindness that I can show to
any fellow-creature,

Let me do it now; let me not defer
or neglect it;

For I shall not pass this way again.

—Henry Drummond

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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INDEX TO ADVERTISERS

Bolton Industries	10	Nuccio's Nurseries	12
Kramer Bros. Nursery	9	Patio Wood Products	16
Marshall's Camellia Nursery	18	Southern California Camellia Society	19 & 29
McCaskill Gardens	14		

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